

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our reference: MGLA031221-9176

Date: 4 January 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 2 December 2021. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

You requested:

Can I request to see the Mayor's communications with Electric and Hydrogen Bus manufacturers named Irizar, Arrival, Alexander Dennis, BYD, Equipmake, Optare, Switch Mobility, Volvo, Ryse/Ryze Hydrogen, Wrightbus and Bamford Bus Company from January 2021 to present day under current Mayor Sadiq Khan.

Please find attached the information we hold within the scope of your request.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA031221-9176.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Officer
Greater London Authority

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

MAYOR OF LONDON

Buta Atwal
Chief Executive
Wrightbus and Ryse Hydrogen
[REDACTED]

Our ref: MGLA181220-2270

Date: 27 January 2021

Dear Buta,

Thank you for your letter of 18 December 2020 and congratulations on your success in delivering London's first hydrogen double decker buses. I am proud that London will be the first capital city in the world to have a fleet of zero emission hydrogen double decker buses in operation. I am grateful for the hard work of everyone at Wrightbus for making this happen.

Sourcing hydrogen from renewable energy is an essential step in our fight against the twin dangers of air pollution and climate change. It is fantastic that London's hydrogen buses will be fuelled on UK-produced green hydrogen, creating highly skilled green jobs and growing the green economy.

Thank you for your invitation to meet and attend the launch of our first double deck hydrogen bus. Under normal circumstances, I would be delighted to attend and be one of the first passengers to ride the new buses. However, as I am sure you can understand, the current ongoing situation across the UK, and in particular in London and South East England, means that I will not be able to attend the event in person. I am still keen to support the launch and have asked my officers to explore how I can do this virtually.

My officers organised a meeting with you ahead of the Perivale depot launch and I hope you found this a useful discussion.

Thank you again for your letter and invitation. I look forward to our continued collaboration as London transitions to a zero pollution and zero carbon city.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sadiq Khan', with a small '2' written below the name.

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London



Mayor Sadiq Khan
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

18 December 2020

Dear Mayor Khan

I am looking forward to London becoming the first capital city in the world to have a fleet of zero-emission hydrogen double decker buses in operation.

As things stand, we expect the refuelling infrastructure at the Perivale depot, Ealing, to be ready to support our buses from February. I hope that you will be able to visit the depot shortly after the buses arrive and be one of their first passengers.

I believe that hydrogen buses can play a major role in improving London's air quality, as part of a mix with EV buses. Hydrogen buses only emit water, can be refuelled in 7 minutes and have the same range as a diesel bus. This means they can enter service across all parts of London, covering short and long routes. The refuelling infrastructure is also significantly less intrusive compared to recharging requirements for EV buses, meaning hydrogen buses can help to minimise TfL's need to increase the overall volume of its bus fleet, create more depot space or recharge buses out on the roads.

The introduction of hydrogen buses can be quickly scaled up, potentially through the Government's commitment to buy 4,000 UK-made zero emission buses in England by 2024. We are actively involved with discussions with bus operators, the DfT and Treasury around a zero emission bus leasing model which can help accelerate the roll out of these buses. In addition, the refuelling infrastructure built through the introduction of hydrogen buses can support growth in the number of hydrogen taxis and emergency vehicles across the capital, as well as moves in hydrogen trains, boats and even planes from city airport within the next five years.

Finally, I am proud that the hydrogen used to power these buses will soon be made from renewable energy near to a windfarm in Herne Bay, Canterbury. The company producing this green hydrogen is Ryse Hydrogen, of which I am also the chief executive. This UK-produced green hydrogen will create jobs in the local economy, and help to reduce London's need to import fossil fuels from overseas. This site has been designed to be able to increase the production of hydrogen as demand grows, so I am confident we can grow a resilient supply of hydrogen to meet London's growing hydrogen mobility network in the coming years.



Company Registration no: 12214576
VAT Registration no: GB 333 9869 60





I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the role that UK-made hydrogen buses, and UK-produced hydrogen fuel, can play in improving London's air quality ahead of Wrightbus' first fleet entering service in February.

With best wishes

Buta Atwal
Chief Executive, Wrightbus and Ryse Hydrogen