

Caroline Pidgeon AM, Chair of the Transport Committee

Hugh Sumner
Director of Transport
Olympic Delivery Authority
23rd Floor, 1 Churchill Place
Canary Wharf
London, E14 5LN

London Assembly
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London, SE1 2AA

20 January 2012

Dear Hugh

Recent 2012 transport update and Transport Committee meeting on 13 March 2012

Thank you for the recent update report on 2012 transport and the written response to the queries we raised at our meeting in November. Following consideration of these documents, we have identified a number of issues on 2012 transport which we want to pursue further and these are detailed below.

We are also writing to invite you to our meeting on Tuesday 13 March 2012 for our discussion on 2012 transport. As per our meeting in November, we would welcome hearing from you and representatives of the Mayor, TfL and LOCOG at this meeting which will take place at 10am in the Chamber at City Hall. In advance of the meeting it would be useful to receive a written response to the issues below along with the next written update report so that we may use this as the basis for our discussion. Please, therefore, could the response and next update report be provided by Thursday 1 March 2012.

Nearer the time of the meeting we will be in touch with further details. In the meantime, this letter has been copied to Isabel Dedring, Mark Evers and Richard George to notify them of our meeting and the issues we have raised at this stage.

Accessible shuttle bus service for Games spectators with reduced mobility

The recent update report refers to the ODA providing a network of accessible shuttle buses for use by disabled people only but, at our meeting in November, we were advised that shuttle buses would operate for any spectators who had difficulty walking. Please could you therefore confirm that this is the case and provide details of the eligibility criteria for users of the shuttle buses.

Emergency services vehicles' access to the Games lanes

The written response to our queries refers to emergency service vehicles only being able to use the Games lanes for blue-light calls but a recent letter from Peter Hendy to Victoria Borwick AM, dated 12 January 2012, suggests that TfL is now arranging for the emergency services to have access to the Games lanes for "other critical operational needs." Please could you therefore provide an update on progress in providing emergency service vehicles with unrestricted access to the Games lanes as we urged at our meeting in November.

On-street signage of the ORN for motorists

The written response sets out that the only on-street signage for the ORN will be for the Games lanes. However, at our meeting in November, we highlighted concerns from London Councils that there should be on-street signage for the ORN as well as the Games lanes to assist motorists and we appeared to receive an indication that such signage would be provided. Please could you, therefore,

confirm whether or not there will be on-street signage for the ORN as well as the Games lanes and if not, why not, and what action will be taken to ensure motorists are aware of the ORN.

Mitigating the impact of the ORN on air quality

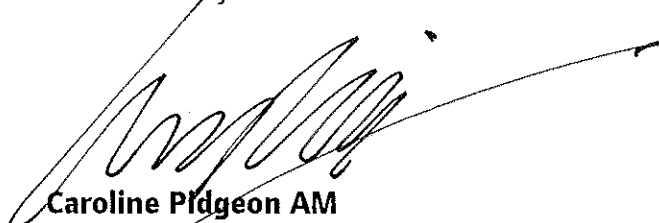
In our report on 2012 transport (April 2011), we highlighted the potential for traffic and congestion caused by the ORN to have a detrimental impact on air quality in London. This followed up issues raised by the Assembly's Environment Committee in December 2010 which suggested mitigation measures should be considered. Please could you, therefore, provide an update on what action is being taken to mitigate the impact of the ORN on air quality in London.

Contingency plans in the event of disruption on the Jubilee line

In our report on 2012 transport, we queried the contingency arrangements in the event of transport infrastructure such as the Jubilee line not working as planned during the Games. Recently there have been closures and delays on the Jubilee line which have adversely affected passengers travelling to the London Prepares events at the O2 Arena. In light of these problems, some passengers have queried the arrangements for the Games and if, in the event of a signal failure, it will be possible to operate the eastern section of the Jubilee line as a shuttle service with the aim of getting as many passengers as possible to stations near North Greenwich (such as Canary Wharf or Canning Town) and then run trains back and forth between these stations. In light of the recent disruption, please could you advise of the lessons learned both in terms of preventing such disruptions on the Jubilee line and dealing with the effects. Please could you also advise if the suggestion for running a shuttle service is possible and, if not, what contingency arrangements are proposed in the event of a disruption on the Jubilee line during the Games.

We look forward to receiving a response to these issues and the next update report by March and hearing from you at our meeting. If, in the meantime, there are any queries or any further information is required, please contact Laura Warren in the Scrutiny Team (telephone: 020 7983 6545 or email: laura.warren@london.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely



Caroline Pidgeon AM
Chair of the Transport Committee

Cc: Isabel Dedring, Deputy Mayor for Transport
Mark Evers, Director of Olympic Transport, TfL
Richard George, Director of Transport, LOCOG