

1 March 2016

Mr John Biggs AM
Rapporteur for the GLA Oversight Committee
City Hall
Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

Dear Mr Biggs

Transparency of the GLA Group and Family

Thank you for sending us a copy of your report on transparency among the GLA group and family. We are pleased to note your acknowledgement of our positive approach to transparency.

Of your seven recommendations, numbers five and six are particularly relevant to London TravelWatch. Our response is set out below:

Recommendation 5

As you noted, we have already published our transparency policy which highlights our positive approach towards transparency. However, we propose to review and update our policy in light of your report and hope to complete this by the end of May. The amended policy will be published on our website.

We routinely publish most Board and Committee papers although some reports are confidential. We are considering adopting a system of reviewing our confidential reports and minutes with a view to making public those no longer requiring confidentiality.

We will update our website to include a separate list of contracts in excess of £5,000. As you noted in your report, we do not currently have a transparency clause as standard in our contracts but will consider the inclusion of such clauses in future contracts as they are negotiated.

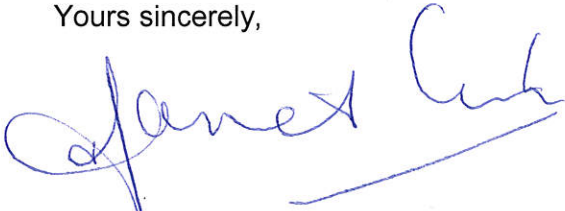
Recommendation 6

We receive very few Freedom of Information Act requests – for the year ending 31 March 2015 we responded to five requests and we have had four requests this year to date.

We will publish these numbers and our response times in our Annual Reports in future and will also publish details of FOI requests on our website. However, given the small number of requests involved, we do not propose to create a new dedicated search tool for this.

We hope the above is useful to you and wish you every success in your future roles.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Janet Cooke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janet Cooke
Chief Executive

cc Len Duvall, Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee