The Mayor  Answered 23-Sep-2002
Proposal 4K.3 in my Transport Strategy states that TfL would review the London Lorry Ban’s exempt network and access routes to it. As you know the Strategy also contained a proposal for the formation of the London Sustainable Distribution Partnership (LSDP). The Partnership came into effect in February this year and its membership includes the ALG, civic and amenity groups, business organisations, TfL, GLA and LDA. The review of the London Lorry Ban is at the top of LSDP’s agenda. The working group dealing with this issue has prepared the brief for the study and consultants have been appointed to take the review forward. Consultation on any proposed changes will take place once the LSDP has considered the recommendations arising from the initial work. The consultation will then involve all the main stakeholders including operators who have deliveries in London, the local authorities and residents and businesses within the affected areas. It is anticipated that the review will be completed by the summer of 2003.

The Mayor  Answered 23-Sep-2002
Almost all the roads in London are covered by an overnight and weekend ban on heavy (over 18T) lorries. The ban was introduced by the Greater London Council after the M25 opened to stop unnecessary lorry movements disturbing the peace of Londoners at night. At one stage it was known as the London Boroughs Transport Scheme. It is currently called the London Lorry Control Scheme. The ALG now maintains the ban, issues permits to those lorry operators with essential business in London (around 30,000 a year), issues a map of those roads affected by the ban and provide assistance to lorry operators with information on routing. The ALG Lorry Control team employs a team of officers to enforce the ban and they currently prosecute about 2,000 people under the ban each year. The ALG also have a complaints ‘hotline’ 020 7582 1038 which any member of the public can
ring to report any night time and weekend lorry disturbance. You can reach the ALG Lorry Control team at teu@tcfl.gov.uk, telephone (020 7747 4767) or fax (020 7930 2719).


505 / 2002 - Access for the deaf

Len Duvall

Sent To 01-Aug-2002 49 Working Days Since Sent To

Mayor

At MQT on 23 March 2002 the Mayor pledged the following:

Training in the needs of deaf and hard of hearing visitors for staff at tourist attractions

More captioning and sign language for theatres, and individual theatres and cinemas will be encouraged to install working loop systems

All GLA consultation documents will be available for use by sign language users.

Does the Mayor have a timescale to follow up these pledges?


The Mayor Answered 08-Oct-2002

I presume you are referring to the comments that I gave at the RNID Question Time session held on 13th March 2002 at which I was asked which specific measures are being taken to ensure that all tourist attractions can be accessed by deaf and hard of hearing people. As you are aware I recently published the 3-Year Strategic Plan for Tourism in London, which will be followed by a detailed action plan due for completion at the end of December in which we shall address the matter of access for deaf people at tourist attractions including the two areas you raised. In answer to your third point in regards to GLA consultation documents to be available for use by sign language users: The GLA adopted its accessible communications policy in July 2002. A copy of the document can be obtained from the Public Liaison Unit. The manager is Derek Richards Derek.Richards@london.gov.uk. A draft of the policy is also in appendix vi of the Equalities Framework. The policy has been extended following my commitment made at Deaf Question Time to acknowledge British Sign Language as a distinctive language and to produce sign language interpreted videos of key documents and document summaries. This would include requests for this format of any documents the GLA is consulting on. This policy applies to our work from July 2002. Staff are being informed about the policy and procedures to implement it through the Equalities Toolkit which has recently been published and distributed to all GLA staff.


642 / 2002 - Buses and Insurance

Jenny Jones

Sent To 16-Sep-2002 26 Working Days Since Sent To

Mayor

Have you considered approaching the insurance industry to discuss London buses being given immunity for payouts involving vehicles illegally using bus lanes?


The Mayor Answered 21-Oct-2002

No. I do not believe that it would be appropriate for the GLA or TfL to make such an approach to the insurance industry. Settlement of claims is a matter between the parties involved and their insurers, in accordance with the provisions of the law as it pertains to road accidents. My objective is to continue to tackle the illegal use of bus lanes with a range of initiatives for more and better enforcement, from enforcement cameras to the Transport Policing Initiative. TfL is now considering options for further policing and enforcement measures as part of the budget and business planning process.