

Subject: Elizabeth Line

Report to: Transport Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 12 September 2018

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the background to a discussion on the announcement of a delay in the opening of the Elizabeth line.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the report as background to a discussion with invited guests on the delayed opening of the Elizabeth line and notes the subsequent discussion.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Elizabeth line is a new railway for London and the South East, running from Reading and Heathrow in the west, through 26 miles of new tunnels under central London to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east. The Elizabeth line is being delivered by Crossrail Limited. New state-of-the-art trains will carry an estimated 200 million passengers a year. The new service will reduce journey times, increase the capital's rail capacity by 10 per cent and bring an extra 1.5 million people to within 45 minutes of central London.
- 3.2 The central section of the line was due to open in December 2018. On 31 August 2018, however, Crossrail announced that the opening was being delayed until Autumn 2019 as a result of further testing being required on railways software systems and more time being required for fit-out of the tunnels.
- 3.3 The Mayor of London appeared with representatives of Transport for London and Crossrail at the London Assembly plenary session on 6 September 2018 to discuss this issue.

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 The following guests have been invited to the meeting to discuss this issue:

- Heidi Alexander, Deputy Mayor for Transport;
- Mark Wild, Managing Director, London Underground;
- A representative of Crossrail Limited; and
- A representative of the Department for Transport.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None.
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