

Subject: Action Taken Under Delegated Authority

Report to: Environment Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 28 February 2019

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines recent actions taken by the Chair under delegated authority, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, in accordance with the delegations granted by the Environment Committee.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the recent action taken by the Chair of the Committee under delegated authority, in consultation with the party Group Lead Members, namely to agree:**
- a) **An output for the 8 November 2018 meeting's discussion on aviation;**
 - b) **A response to the Government's consultation on proposals to ban the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, plastic - stemmed cotton buds and plastic drink stirrers in England;**
 - c) **An output from the 20 September 2018 meeting's discussion on embodied carbon in buildings; and**
 - d) **An output from the 16 January 2019 meeting's discussion on air pollution in London.**

3. Background

Aviation

- 3.1 At its meeting on 8 November 2018, the Committee resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with Party Group Members, to agree any output arising from the discussion. [Aviation]

- 3.2 The Committee's report, *Aircraft noise*, was published on 23 January 2019.

Government's consultation on single use plastic

3.3 At its meeting on 23 May 2018, the Committee resolved:

That the following standing delegation of authority to the Chairman of the Committee, as agreed by the London Assembly at its Annual Meeting on 10 May 2018 and as set out below, be noted: To respond on the Committee's behalf, following consultation with the lead Members of the party Groups on the committee or sub-committee, where it is consulted on issues by organisations and there is insufficient time to consider the consultation at a committee meeting.

3.4 On 3 December 2018, the Committee responded to the Government's consultation on single use plastic: banning the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in England.

Embodied Carbon

3.5 At its meeting on 20 September 2018, the Committee resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with Party Group Members, to agree any output arising from the discussion. [Embodied Carbon]

3.6 A letter was sent to the Mayor on 30 January 2019.

Air pollution in London

3.7 At its meeting on 16 January 2019, the Committee resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chair, in consultation with Party Group Members, to agree any output arising from the discussion. [Air pollution in London]

3.6 A letter was sent on 13 February 2019 to Transport for London.

4. Issues for Consideration

4.1 A copy of the report, *Aircraft Noise*, is attached as **Appendix 1**.

4.2 The report makes the following calls for action:

- The Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise should regulate noise disturbance more stringently, using lower thresholds for disturbance (taking into account WHO guidelines and the need for residents to keep windows open) and mapping the combined effect of all London's airports, especially Heathrow and City. The Mayor should support this work;
- Air traffic using Heathrow and City airports should not increase, and the proposed third runway at Heathrow should not go ahead;
- Flight paths should be rotated to give respite for those living under concentrated flight paths. Flight paths should be designed to minimise noise impacts: stacking, low-level overflying, and overlapping flight paths should be minimised;
- There should be no night flights, and limits on early morning flights should be retained, and preferably strengthened; and

- The severe levels of noise disruption now being experienced by some of London’s residents are not acceptable, and urgent, decisive action is needed across the board to alleviate it.

4.3 The Committee is recommended to note the report.

4.4 A copy of the Committee’s response to the Government consultation on single use plastic is attached as **Appendix 2**.

4.5 A copy of the Committee’s letter to the Mayor on embodied carbon is attached as **Appendix 3**.

4.6 A copy of the Committee’s letter regarding tube dust sent to the Director of Health, Safety and Environment at Transport for London is attached as **Appendix 4**.

4.7 The Committee is recommended to note the above actions taken under delegated authority.

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 to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – *Aircraft Noise* report

Appendix 2 – Consultation response, dated 3 December 2018

Appendix 3 – Letter to the Mayor, dated 30 January 2019

Appendix 4 - Letter to the Director of Health, Safety and Environment at Transport for London

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers:

Member Delegated Authority Forms: 1017 [Aviation], 1039 [Embodied Carbon], 1038 [Government Response] 1037 [Air pollution in London]

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