

# Subject: London TravelWatch Progress Report

**Report to: Transport Committee**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 22 July 2020**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the report of the Director of London TravelWatch on the organisation's annual performance for 2019/20 and the financial position as at 31 March 2020. It also sets out recruitment proposals for the LTW Board.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes London TravelWatch's annual performance and the financial position as at 31 March 2020, puts questions to invited guests and notes the discussion.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee agrees a one year extension to the period of appointment for the three London TravelWatch Board members whose terms of appointment are currently due to expire on 31 December 2020, as set out at paragraph 4.2 of the report, subject to satisfactory performance reviews.**

## 3. Background

### Performance Report

- 3.1 The GLA Act establishes London TravelWatch as an arms-length body of the London Assembly. London TravelWatch provides regular reports to the Transport Committee. This is the first update following the appointment of the new Director, Emma Gibson, and the implementation of the new Memorandum of Understanding with Transport Focus.
- 3.2 This paper presents the report of the Director of London TravelWatch setting out the organisation's annual performance report for 2019/20 and the financial position as at 31 March 2020.
- 3.3 The Committee is asked to note London TravelWatch's performance and financial position as at 31 March 2020.

## **Recruitment**

- 3.4 The Assembly's responsibility for discharging functions and responsibilities in respect of London TravelWatch has been delegated by the Assembly to the Transport Committee. This includes appointing the Chair and members of London TravelWatch (in consultation with the Department of Transport).
- 3.5 The terms of office for three of London TravelWatch's Board members, including the Deputy Chair, are due to expire on 31 December 2020.

## **4. Issues for Consideration**

- 4.1 The report of the Director of London TravelWatch setting out the organisation's annual performance for 2019/20 and the financial position as at 31 March 2020 is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 The following members of the London TravelWatch Board reach the end of their mandate on 31 December 2020 – Alan Benson (Deputy Chair); Jackie Ballard; and Abdi Osman. The Chair of the London TravelWatch Board has proposed a year's extension for these positions given the current health pandemic and noting the other Board appointments. The proposal to agree one year extensions for these appointments is subject to satisfactory performance reviews, which take place over the summer. The Chair of London TravelWatch will write formally to the Chair of the Transport Committee, after the performance reviews, to make a recommendation.
- 4.3 The following guests have been invited to today's meeting:
- Arthur Leathley, Chair, London TravelWatch; and
  - Anthony Smith, Chief Executive, Transport Focus.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 Under Schedule 18 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly has various powers and duties in respect of London TravelWatch. These include the powers to: agree London TravelWatch's budget, appoint members of the London TravelWatch Board, approve officer appointments made by London TravelWatch, receive London TravelWatch's accounts and audit and, under s.251 of the GLA Act, to issue guidance and directions as to the manner in which London TravelWatch shall exercise its functions.
- 5.2 The Assembly has delegated its functions in respect of London TravelWatch to the Transport Committee.
- 5.3 Under s.34 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly may do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any of the functions of the Assembly.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 London TravelWatch is a separate legal entity which is funded by the London Assembly in accordance with Schedule 19 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended).

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**List of appendices to this report:**

Appendix 1 – LTW Progress Report, July 2020

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

List of Background Papers: None

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