

THAMES AND LONDON WATERWAYS FORUM

FREIGHT AND DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

Context

1. The Mayor of London has set up the Thames and London Waterways Forum to advise him on and address strategic waterway issues in London. The Forum has brought together the London Waterways Commission and the River Concordat.
2. The Freight and Development Working Group is one of three working groups, which will take its steer from and report to the Steering Group of the Forum. Its purpose is to address freight and development related priorities and produce agreed outputs linked to the objectives of the London Plan, the Mayor's Transport Strategy, the London Environment Strategy, as well as the PLA Thames Vision 2035.

Remit

3. The working group will
 - identify ways that the multifunctional benefits of London's waterways and the transformative potential of new development along them for London's communities can be maximised
 - identify how the planning of industrial/commercial, infrastructure and housing development, where water meets land, can facilitate different waterway uses and activities and/or protect waterways
 - identify opportunities to increase the levels of safe, efficient and sustainable waterborne freight across different cargoes and the interface with development including safeguarded wharves

Responsibilities

4. The working group will
 - advise the Steering Group on freight and development opportunities and risks related to London's waterways from a planning, transport, environmental and operational/industry perspective (members will draw on but not represent their personal perspective)
 - identify and escalate issues that require strategic consideration by the Mayor, and awareness by Government, industry, communities and/or regulatory bodies
 - deliver reports, findings and recommendations as directed by the Steering Group
 - identify relevant research, case studies and good practice
 - work with other strategic groupings to ensure that activities are coordinated and implemented efficiently

Working arrangements

5. The group meets up to four times a year. Meetings are not held in public. The group effectively consists of two sub-groups to ensure effective discussions. Some meetings will focus on development, the others on freight, and not all group members will attend all meetings (see membership below). Meeting agendas will be circulated at least one week in advance of each meeting. A brief note will be circulated after meetings and published on the GLA's website: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/transport/thames-and-london-waterways-forum>.
6. Annex A set out current priorities and Annex B the group's membership. The GLA, TfL and the PLA will regularly/jointly review these in agreement with the Steering Group.

Annex A

Current Priorities

The first tasks will include the consideration of the waterways policies of the draft London Plan and the new draft review of safeguarded wharves. The working group will also prioritise a number of key themes including:

- reactivation of vacant safeguarded wharves
- urban logistics and freight delivery hubs
- common user berths
- Air quality and noise issues arising from water freight operations
- industrial/commercial, infrastructure and housing development and integration appropriate in the context of water space incl. place making in Opportunity Areas – case studies and guidance
- addressing demand for moorings and associated services
- addressing demand for additional strategic boatyard facility

Annex B

Membership

The working group is chaired by a member of the GLA Planning Team. It includes representatives from the organisations listed below. Other organisations may be invited to attend specific meetings as and when required. The GLA will circulate agreed items to discuss at future meetings and invite group members to register, so that participation for each meeting can be managed.

Greater London Authority
Transport for London
Port of London Authority
Canal and River Trust
London Councils
London Boroughs, City of London and Mayoral Development Corporations
Waste Management Operator
Minerals Product Association
Tideway
Marine Industry representative
Freight Trade Association
Local Boroughs Commercial Boat Operators Association
London First
Development industry representatives
Thames Estuary Partnership
Inland Waterways Association
Environment Agency
Marine Management Organisation