

Transport for London

Minutes of the Board

Committee Rooms 4-5, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London
10.00am, Wednesday 5 November 2008

Members

Boris Johnson	Chair, Board Member
Peter Anderson	Board Member
Charles Belcher	Board Member
Christopher Garnett	Board Member
Dame Tanni Grey-Thompson	Board Member
Sir Mike Hodgkinson	Board Member
Judith Hunt	Board Member
Eva Lindholm	Board Member
Daniel Moylan	Board Member
Steven Norris	Board Member
Bob Oddy	Board Member
Patrick O'Keeffe	Board Member
Tim Parker	Board Member
Kulveer Ranger	Board Member
Tony West	Board Member
Steve Wright	Board Member

Staff

Steve Allen	Managing Director, Finance
David Brown	Managing Director, Surface Transport
Ian Brown	Managing Director, London Rail
Howard Carter	General Counsel
Stephen Critchley	Chief Finance Officer
Vernon Everitt	Managing Director, Marketing and Communications
Mary Hardy	Director of Internal Audit
Peter Hendy	Commissioner
Ellen Howard	Director of Corporate Governance
Malcolm Murray-Clark	Managing Director, Planning
Douglas Oakervee	Executive Chairman, Crossrail
Tim O'Toole	Managing Director, London Underground
Valerie Todd	Managing Director, Group Services

57/11808 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence had been received from Keith Williams and Michèle Dix.

Bob Oddy and Steve Wright declared interests in relation to the paper on mid-year taxi inspections. Daniel Moylan declared an interest as Chairman of the London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee in relation to engagement with the London Boroughs and in his capacity as Deputy Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea with regard to the consultation on the western extension to the congestion charging zone. Christopher Garnett declared an interest as a member of the Olympic Delivery Authority.

58/11/08 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 September 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2008 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

59/11/08 **Matters Arising and Actions List**

The Board noted the Actions List.

60/11/08 **Way to Go!**

The Mayor commenced the meeting by launching his “Way to Go!” consultation document which sets the direction of travel in relation to transport and will help inform the preparation of the Mayor’s Transport Strategy.

Members welcomed the document, its focus on walking and cycling and the goal of achieving value for money while not compromising the delivery of a first class transport system. The consultation is open until 16 January 2009.

61/11/08 **The Commissioner’s Report**

Peter Hendy introduced his report.

The Commissioner advised of TfL’s progress in relation to a number of initiatives to fulfil key Mayoral policies. He advised the Board that the levels of crime in 2007/08 were 14 per cent lower on the bus network than in the previous year. There were 15 crimes per million passenger journeys over this period, the lowest rate since these figures have been recorded. Details of the breakdown of these statistics would be provided to Members. **[ACTION: David Brown]**

The Commissioner also drew the Board’s attention to the introduction of the cross modal two-tier penalty fare system made possible by the new powers in the Transport for London Act 2008. From 11 January 2009, the penalty fare will increase from £20 to £50 (reduced to £25 if paid within 21 days). This will deter fare evasion, encourage prompt payment and reduce prosecution activity focussing attention on more serious cases.

The Board welcomed the progress TfL had made with Government in relation to the outline specification for services for the South Central Franchise. The specification now included a number of improvements suggested by TfL including first and last trains which will be broadly aligned to London Underground times. TfL will be pressing for further improvements.

The Commissioner advised the Board that two new stations had recently been opened to serve the new Westfield Shopping Centre in Shepherd’s Bush. Wood Lane, on the Hammersmith and City line, is the first new station on the existing Tube network for 70 years. The London Overground station, Shepherd’s Bush joins the Clapham Junction to Willesden Junction line.

The Board was advised that in June 2008 TfL had deposited £40m with a UK bank, Kaupthing Singer and Friedlander. On 8 October the bank was placed into liquidation because of problems affecting its Icelandic parent bank. The Administrator is expected to make an announcement in relation to the assets of the bank by the middle of November. TfL is currently placing available funds on deposit in Government guaranteed accounts.

Board Members welcomed the award of bronze accreditation to 23 Freight Operators under TfL's Freight Operator Recognition Scheme which awards good practice within the freight industry. Information in relation to the proportion of operators taking part in the Scheme will be provided to members. **[ACTION: David Brown]**

The Board noted the production of TfL's Skills and Employment Strategy, which seeks to guarantee that TfL and its supply chain continue to have the skilled workforce needed to deliver the Mayor's transport objectives. The Strategy will be considered at the next Board meeting. **[ACTION: Valerie Todd]**

Board Members welcomed the recent commissioning of the new Airwave radio system which allows police and other emergency services to communicate underground. Joint publicity with the Home Office was in the process of being arranged.

Bob Oddy asked for information in relation to the 'One Strike and you're out' policy for drivers of licensed private hire vehicles who are arrested for touting and how many of those had appealed their conviction. **[ACTION: David Brown]**

New cycling and walking initiatives are currently being discussed with the Mayor and information in relation to these will be included in the Commissioner's Report for the next meeting.

Board Members thanked TfL staff for the tour of operational sites which occurred on 16 October. Further visits could be arranged for other members if requested.

The Board noted the report.

62/11/08 Mid-Year Taxi Inspections

David Brown introduced the report which informed the Board on the outcome of the public consultation on taxi licensing mid-year inspections. The report also sought approval for changes to the taxi licensing mid-year inspection regime. It was noted that the proposals were self-funding.

Further information about the efficacy of the current on-street inspection regime will be provided to members of the Surface Transport Panel before the number of on-street inspections is increased. Once this information has been considered and the number (if any) of additional on street inspections determined, the quantum and timing of a reduction in licence fees for taxi drivers can be decided.

The Board:

- 1. approved the removal of the requirement that taxis undergo a mid-year inspection as a prescribed condition of licence and the making of a London Cab Order, to be signed by the Commissioner for TfL, which will give effect to this change;**

2. **subject to the discussions with the members of the Surface Transport Panel, agreed to increase as appropriate, on-street taxi inspections to ensure that safety standards are maintained;**
3. **noted the intention to reduce the cost of taxi licence fees to reflect the change in taxi licensing inspection arrangements; and**
4. **noted that it is intended to continue to require private hire vehicles to have a mid-year MoT test as part of the annual licensing inspection arrangements.**

63/11/08 Delegation of the TfL Highways Enforcement Powers on the TLRN to the London Borough of Wandsworth

David Brown introduced the report which sought approval for a six month pilot scheme delegating certain of TfL's highway enforcement functions in relation to obstructions to the London Borough of Wandsworth. If the pilot is successful, it may be rolled out to other interested London boroughs. Currently, three other London Boroughs have expressed interest in participating in similar schemes.

The Board welcomed the pilot as a useful first step in determining whether certain of TfL's highway functions could be better carried out by the London Boroughs in conjunction with the management of their own roads. However, no functions will be delegated which would compromise the ability of TfL to manage properly the strategic road network.

The Board:

1. **approved a six month trial of the delegation of TfL Highways Act 1980 enforcement powers in relation to the removal of pavement obstructions on that part of the Transport for London Road Network comprising the A24 Tooting High Street/Upper Tooting Road between Coverton Road and Lynwood Road to the London Borough of Wandsworth's Director of Technical Services (including the ability for the Director of Technical Services to delegate the discharge of the functions to officers within his or her team); and**
2. **authorised the Managing Director, Surface Transport, to agree the terms of an agreement under section 101(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 to enable the London Borough of Wandsworth's Director of Technical Services to exercise those highways enforcement powers on behalf of TfL for this trial.**

64/11/08 Report from the Meetings of the Finance Committee held on 8 October and 28 October 2008

Tim Parker introduced the report. A paper would be coming to the December meeting of the Board in relation to changes to financial authorities in Standing Orders recommended by the Committee.

The Board noted the report.

65/11/08 Any Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.05am. The next scheduled meeting would be held on Wednesday 10 December 2008 at 10.00am.

Chair: _____

Date: _____