

London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee

Chair's Report

Item no: 10

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Summary This report updates Members on transport and environment policy since the last TEC meeting on 23 March 2017 and provides a forward look until the next TEC meeting on 12 October 2017.

Recommendations Members to note this report.

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Introduction

1. This report updates Members on London Councils' work on transport and environment policy since the last TEC meeting on 23 March 2017 and provides a forward look until 12 October 2017.
2. The Mayor's Transport Strategy and Environment Strategy have been delayed by purdah for the general election.

Transport

Go Ultra Low City Scheme

Letter to Leaders of Boroughs joint with the Mayor of London

3. I, jointly with the Mayor of London, sent a letter to all London's borough leaders, highlighting the work undertaken and needs required for developing the rapid charging network in London. It asked borough leaders to support the efforts to:
 - Identify and unlock carriageway space for on-street rapid charge points;
 - Identify locations on borough or private land for off-street rapid charge 'hubs';
 - Prioritising the swift roll-out of charging infrastructure by fast-tracking planning permission, permits and traffic orders.
4. Rapid charging hubs are crucial to support London's plans to cut emissions from taxis in the coming years, as well as efforts to support private sector businesses to clean their fleets.

Engagement Event 26 April 2017

5. The GULCS project team held a borough engagement event on 26 April at City Hall. The event aimed to:
 - Provide more information on plans for the scheme and opportunities for boroughs to procure on street, electric vehicle charge points for residential and car club use;
 - Learn from a successful trial of lamp post electric vehicle charging technology in London;
 - Hear about the supporting policies being implemented that will drive an uptake of electric vehicles from the GLA;
 - Find out more about upcoming guidance to help boroughs plan where to put charging points.
6. The new rapid charging network framework suppliers were also announced at the event. These are the Centrica Consortium, BluepointLondon, Chargemaster, Electricity Supply Board (ESB) and Fastned.
7. I spoke on a panel that was chaired by London Councils Spencer Palmer and included Cllr Tim Coleridge, Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy and Lilli Matson from TfL. There were a number of elected members and officers from across the London boroughs in attendance, and the event has received much positive feedback.

TEC / TfL Commissioner meeting 23 May 2017

8. Together with the Vice-Chairs of TEC I met with Mike Brown, TfL Commissioner on 23 May. The meeting focused on buses, particularly bus planning and the responsiveness of the bus network to changing needs, air quality considerations and the integration of the different modes for a more holistic approach to public transport planning.
9. We also discussed the Mayor's Transport Strategy and LIP guidance, particularly around the implications of the timing of the general election and purdah. We discussed engagement with boroughs and draft LIP guidance. We will organise an event with TEC members on 20 July 2017 where TfL will present the strategy and members can give their

initial feedback. This feedback will also be used to inform London Councils formal response to the consultation draft.

10. The issue of membership on the Healthy Streets project board was raised again and the TfL Commissioner reassured members that this was a purely internal board, at which external membership was inappropriate. He reiterated the offer to meet with TEC members on a quarterly basis to discuss Healthy Streets progress and opportunities, which officers will now arrange.

Letter to Rt Hon Chris Grayling, Secretary of State for Transport, regarding Southern Rail performance

11. I sent a letter to the Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling MP, expressing London Councils' frustration with the ongoing negative impact the Southern rail situation is having on the boroughs affected, and the lack of a resolution.
12. I suggested a meeting to discuss potential solutions to this issue. At the time of writing the report, we have not had a response as yet.

Press work

13. I gave a supporting statement for the rapid vehicle charging points press release from TfL.

Environment

London Environment Strategy engagement event 13 April 2017

14. I chaired a pre-consultation borough engagement event on the London Environment Strategy on 13 April. The event was hosted by London Councils and the GLA. The event gave boroughs an opportunity to raise their key priorities and concerns with the GLA on their initial policy proposals for the draft London Environment Strategy.
15. Both elected members and senior officers from across the London boroughs and the GLA were in attendance, with the opening address provided by the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues.
16. The event went really well, and we received a lot of positive feedback. The outcomes of this event will feed into the draft Environment Strategy to be consulted on during the summer.

Meeting with Liz Goodwin, Chair of LWARB

17. I met Liz Goodwin, the new Chair of the London Waste and Recycling Board, on 10 May. We discussed a series of topical issues relating to waste and recycling, including harmonisation, landfill tax, the circular economy and borough commercial waste services.
18. We agreed to establish a more formal relationship based on the good practice established with the Chair of the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (Thames RFCC) and will meet at least once a year and receive an update report to TEC on LWARB activities annually.

Press work

19. I gave supporting statements for the launch of the Circular Economy Route Map, the Green Infrastructure library and commented on the Government's air quality plans. I also put out a press release highlighting the work the new Lead Local Flood Authorities Advisor Team is doing.

Forward Look

Forthcoming meetings and consultations between now and the next TEC meeting in October 2017.

June

8 – General election

14 – Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Programme Sub-Committee including farewell lunch for outgoing Chair, Amanda Nobbs

14 – London Assembly Investigation into Car Clubs, oral evidence session, Cllr Bell to attend

18 – Defra consultation on littering penalties closes

18 – Defra consultation on air quality strategy closes

23 – LWARB Board Meeting

25 – Mayoral ULEZ consultation closes

Tbc – Mayoral strategies launched with consultation

July

4-6 – LGA Conference, Birmingham

20 – TEC Executive

August

September

14 – TEC Executive

21 – Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Programme Sub-Committee

October

4 – Meeting with TfL Commissioner [tbc, meeting date may change]

11 – Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Main Committee

12 – TEC Main