
Secretariat memorandum

Author: Tim Bellenger

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PC112

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Crossrail 2 update

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1. To inform members of any changes to the status of Crossrail 2.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1. Members are recommended to note this report.

3 Background

- 3.1. Crossrail 2 is a proposed rail link through central London, connecting the suburban lines of South West London and Surrey to the Lea Valley into Hertfordshire, with a branch to New Southgate for interchange with the Great Northern route. The scheme is needed to provide adequate capacity relief at Waterloo (amongst other stations) and enable housing and employment growth in the Lea Valley corridor and in Haringey. Members are referred to the presentation given by Michelle Dix of Transport for London (TfL), to a previous London TravelWatch board meeting that is attached to this report for more details.
- 3.2. Crossrail 2 has been through a number of public consultations, and with a few minor exceptions, the route is finalised. TfL has funding for scheme development, but the funding to construct the project is not yet confirmed. The scheme did not appear in the Conservative party manifesto at the recent general election. There is therefore concern whether there is a commitment to deliver this project as a priority.

4 Discussion

- 4.1. London TravelWatch has been supportive of this project because of the wide benefits to passengers that it gives. This includes the additional capacity released on existing routes such as the South West Main Line and to Stansted Airport. Both of these routes continue to experience growth in usage and are also net contributors of passenger revenue. This allows the Department for Transport (DfT) to cross subsidise other parts of the rail passenger network – largely outside of the London area.
- 4.2. Failure to progress the project would have a number of consequences. Firstly, delaying or cancelling the project would mean that problems of crowding on many

routes would continue or be exacerbated. Secondly, if housing developments were to go ahead without the project there would be serious issues with the ability of existing transport networks to cope with any increase in demand, both on road and rail networks.

5 London TravelWatch priority.

- 5.1. This project is a high priority for London TravelWatch due to the large numbers of passengers who would directly benefit from its construction.

6 Equalities and inclusion implications

- 6.1. There are no equalities or inclusion implications arising from this report.

7 Legal powers

- 7.1. Section 248 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 places upon London TravelWatch (as the London Transport Users Committee) a duty to consider - and where it appears to the Committee to be desirable, to make recommendations with respect to - any matter affecting the functions of the Greater London Authority or Transport for London which relate to transport (other than of freight).
- 7.2. Section 252A of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 places a duty upon London TravelWatch (as the London Transport Users Committee) to keep under review matters affecting the interests of the public in relation to railway passenger and station services provided wholly or partly within the London railway area, and to make representations about them to such persons as it thinks appropriate.

8 Financial implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications for London TravelWatch arising from this report.