

Consultations@tfl.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Mayor's draft Transport Strategy

London TravelWatch is the statutory body representing transport users in London. Thank you for consulting us on the Mayor's Transport Strategy and inviting our views. We were very grateful that the Deputy Mayor, Val Shawcross met us recently to discuss the strategy.

The strategy recognises the importance of improving London's streets for pedestrians and cyclists. It promotes a visionary approach to road safety with a target to reduce serious injury and death on London's streets to zero. This is clearly crucial for transport and societal reasons.

The strategy proposes investment in rail-based public transport and improved customer service that should mean less crowded, more attractive and easier travel. There are real incentives for drivers to switch to other modes to reduce congestion. This will allow for quicker bus travel and safer and more pleasant journeys by foot and cycle.

Passengers will welcome the commitment to more affordable fares - particularly those that have moved to outer London but still work in the central area. Disabled and older people could certainly benefit from the target to halve the additional journey time for those using the step-free network. We know from our research that improvements to access will be welcomed both by those passengers that need step-free facilities, but also other passengers who may occasionally need a step-free route or know others that do.

London TravelWatch very much welcomes this bold strategy. It has the potential to ensure London's transport leads the world. It provides Londoners and London's visitors with genuinely greener, cleaner, healthier and, most importantly for us, more efficient, quicker, affordable and safe ways of getting around the capital.

There are of course challenges to achieving all of this, particularly in making swift early progress to build public confidence that real change is happening. However, London TravelWatch believes it is an eminently achievable strategy if Londoners and London government work together and bold decisions are made as soon as practicable. London TravelWatch looks forward to playing its part in promoting the strategies, policies and plans needed to achieve these outcomes.

Below are responses to the questions posed in the consultation draft. Please contact Vincent Stops: Vincent.stops@londontravelwatch.org.uk, if anything is unclear.

Regards

Arthur Leathley
Chair, London TravelWatch