
Secretariat memorandum

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Agenda item 9(i)

TS021

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Proposed London TravelWatch response to the consultation on the Department for Transport's Better Rail Stations report

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To recommend for the Transport Services Committee's endorsement and comment a response to the Department for Transport's Better Rail Stations report.

2 Background

- 2.1. The Department of Transport (DfT) commissioned an independent review of National Rail station in England and Wales from industry experts Chris Green and Sir Peter Hall. The Better Rail Stations report they have produced had the following remit from the DfT to cover :

(i) The minimum levels of service that should be set at stations, appropriate to their passenger flows, so that passengers feel confident that stations will meet set standards;

(ii) How developments such as better station management, future franchise agreements, Network Rail initiatives and longer term investment can help to deliver better stations; and

(iii) What else can be done to enhance stations as transport interchanges and community institutions?

- 2.2. London TravelWatch has been formally consulted on the report with a deadline to respond by the 29th January 2010. The Senior Policy Officer has written the enclosed response which is strongly supportive of the advice the report provides to Government. London TravelWatch urges that the report's recommendations are adopted as soon as possible in all rail franchises and by Network Rail. The Senior Policy Officer seeks the comments and support of the Transport Services Committee on the response to consultation prior to its submission to the DfT.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1. Members are asked to debate this report and agree a response to the Department for Transport.

4 Equalities and inclusion implications

- 4.1. There are no equalities and inclusion implications for London TravelWatch arise from this report.

5 Financial implications

- 5.1. Not applicable – report is for information only

6 Legal powers

- 6.1. 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). Section 252A of the same Act (as amended by Schedule 6 of the Railways Act 2005) places a similar duty upon the 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.