

Subject: London TravelWatch Business Plan and Budget Bid 2015/16

Report to: Transport Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 14 October 2014

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report presents the London TravelWatch¹ draft budget and business plan for 2015/16.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee considers London TravelWatch's proposed budget and business plan for the next financial year and recommends a budget for London TravelWatch for 2015/16.**

3. Background

- 3.1 London TravelWatch's budget forms part of the London Assembly's budget, and as such it will be included in the Assembly's budget submission to the Mayor. The Transport Committee is asked to consider and approve the proposed budget for London TravelWatch for 2015/16 which will form part of the Assembly's overall budget submission for consideration by the Assembly's GLA Oversight Committee in November 2014. Any comments from the Committee will be taken into account during the preparation of the budget submission to the Mayor.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The London TravelWatch draft Business Plan and Budget Bid 2015/16 is attached at **Appendix A**. In 2014/15 London TravelWatch received £1,056,400 from the GLA and used £44,200 from its reserves to meet its total budget requirement of £1,100,600. London TravelWatch is proposing a budget for 2015/16 that represents a cash reduction on the current year of £44,200 (4%) with most of the reduction being achieved on supplies and services and depreciation/asset replacement and also making a provisional allowance of £11,500 (1%) for a potential pay increase for Board Members and staff in 2015/16. As no contributions are proposed from London TravelWatch's reserves in 2015/16 the current proposal from London TravelWatch represents a standstill contribution from the GLA of £1,056,400.

¹ London TravelWatch is the operating name of the London Transport Users Committee.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Under paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 18 to the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly must provide London TravelWatch with funds to pay officers' and members' remuneration and other allowances as the Committee, with the approval of the Assembly, so determine. The Assembly must also provide such funding as it determines appropriate to London TravelWatch to defray expenses in connection with its functions (para 6(2), Sch 18, GLA Act). All the Assembly's functions regarding London TravelWatch are delegated to the Transport Committee.
- 5.2 By 1 February each year (or such other date as the Transport Committee determines) London TravelWatch must provide a formal "statement of expected expenses" relating to the expenses they expect to incur in connection with carrying out of their functions in the following financial year (para 6(3), Sch 18). The Transport Committee must consider that formal statement, and approve it with or without modifications (para 6(4), Sch 18). Once approved (with or without modifications) it then becomes London TravelWatch's budget for the following year.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 London TravelWatch is a separate legal entity which is funded by the London Assembly in accordance with Schedule 19 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended). London TravelWatch funding, therefore, forms part of the London Assembly and Secretariat budget and London TravelWatch's 2015/16 proposed budget will need to be contained within the Assembly and Secretariat's 2015/16 cash limited budget.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix A – London TravelWatch Draft Budget and Business Plan 2015/16

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: none
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