

Mayor's Infrastructure High Level Group (IHLG)

- Notes from the 18th December 2017 Meeting -

Attendees:

Please see Annex B

Recap:

- Round the table introductions were led by the chair. Each member outlined a number of opportunities and challenges for the group (a summary of which is provided in Annex A).
- Presentations were provided on:
 1. The new London Plan – Darren Richards & Jorn Peters, GLA
 2. The GLA's Infrastructure Work Programme – Madalina Ursu & Jeremy Skinner, GLA
- Open discussion where members commented on the proposed work programme and focus of the group (a summary of which is provided in Annex A).

Key actions arising and decisions made:

1. Infrastructure and Development Coordination Unit (IDCU)

- The group supported the proposal for the IDCU, and agreed to the development of a business case in the New Year.

2. Task and Finish Groups

- The group agreed with the need for 'task and finish groups' that focus on investigating and answering specific questions to support the activity of the IHLG.
- Regulatory issues, in particular investment ahead of demand was raised as a potential issue to be tackled through a task and finish group.
- Members agreed to send suggested task and finish group ideas. The GLA has made a few suggestions based on comments made by members during and after the meeting (please see Annex A).

3. Forward – looking agenda

- The GLA will work with participating organisations to develop a forward-looking agenda, to be presented at the next meeting of the IHLG in April 2018.

4. Terms of reference

- No comments were received on the proposed terms of reference.

Next steps:

1. The GLA will prepare the business case for the IDCU (working with consultants) – to be presented at the next meeting.
2. All members agreed to consider possible issues for task and finish groups to focus on.
3. All members to assign a relevant person within their organisation to liaise with the GLA on Infrastructure High Level Group outputs and activities.

4. Based on feedback from the meeting and further discussions with IHLC organisations, the GLA will propose an agenda and programme of work for the Infrastructure High Level Group.
5. Proposed agenda for the next meeting:
 - a. Infrastructure and development coordination unit – business case presentation
 - b. Infrastructure mapping application presentation
 - c. Forward-looking agenda

Annex A: Brief summary of discussion and GLA suggested actions:

Infrastructure priorities and challenges:

- The need to ensure the national regulatory system works for London – i.e. enabling investment ahead of demand to support growth.
- Demonstrating the benefits of infrastructure investment in London for the rest of the country.
- The challenge of transitioning to a low carbon economy and our collective response to that.
- Delivering a long-term plan for London’s flood risk management, where all beneficiaries pay fairly.
- Ensuring that standards of health and safety continue to rise, both for the users of infrastructure and for those building and maintaining it.
- Linking the delivery of housing to growth-driving and growth-enabling infrastructure.
- Ensuring that enabling infrastructure does not become a barrier to the viability of schemes.
- Investing in infrastructure to unlock land for development.
- Ensuring that across the infrastructure spectrum, we plan for growth in an integrated way.
- The risk of not having the skills to respond to London’s growth.
- The IHLG should be a space in which it is possible to foster rational decision making across the infrastructure spectrum in light of all the existing government policies and directives.
- Coordinating construction activity – particularly street works and major projects – to ensure that London remains on-track during the projected spike in construction activity, and to deliver better outcomes for Londoners.
- Ensuring that London invests in a world-class 5G communications network and unblocking the current barriers to more efficient digital connectivity provision.
- Capturing the lessons of major infrastructure projects – such as Crossrail 1, the Olympics, and the Thames Tideway Tunnel project – to inform best practice for future works.
- Using innovative data collection, monitoring and reporting methods to understand London’s existing infrastructure, with the purpose of improving how we maintain, reinforce and replace it.
- Having a checklist on when infrastructure providers need to engage in high growth areas/opportunity areas.
- Ensuring that London’s social infrastructure continues to support the city’s growing population.

Suggested actions:

- The GLA, with input from IHLG organisations and other relevant stakeholders, to prepare the business case for the Infrastructure and Development Coordination Unit – to be presented at the next meeting.
- The GLA to scope a potential study of regulatory aspects, including investment ahead of demand. We will conduct bilateral and group discussions with the relevant organisations. This will be presented for discussion at the next meeting of the IHLG (and could form the basis for a task and finish group).
- The GLA to capture the key issues and available data with regards to decarbonisation and skills, and assess the need for task and finish groups that would look to answer specific questions in these areas.
- The GLA to cover some of the sector specific comments raised at the IHLG meeting through other forums and activities such as the Mayor’s Homes for Londoners Board, the Mayor’s Water Advisory Group, Energy for Londoners, and the Mayor’s Connected London team.

Annex B: List of Attendees

Infrastructure and Projects Authority	Hala	Audi	Director of Strategy and Policy at the IPA
G15 Representative	Elaine	Bailey	CEO Hyde Housing
Ofgem	Jonathan	Brearley	Senior Partner, Networks
TfL	Mike	Brown	Commissioner
London Councils	Steve	Bullock	Executive Member for Housing
Environment Agency	Simon	Moody	Area Director London
Waste Representative	Robert	Hunt	Chief Corporate Officer Veolia
SGN	John	Morea	CEO
Contractor Representative	John	Murphy	CEO Murphy
SSE	Colin	Nicol	Managing Director of Networks
GLA	Jules	Pipe	Deputy Mayor - Planning Regeneration and Skills
ISPA Representative	Till	Sommers	Head of Public Affairs ISPA
Thames Water	Steve	Robertson	CEO
UKPN	Basil	Scarsella	CEO
Cadent Gas	Chris	Train	CEO
Ofcom	Steve	Unger	Group Director, Strategy
Network Rail	Rupert	Walker	Strategy and Planning Director (South)
ORR	Joanna	Whittington	CEO
INCA Representative	Tom	Williams	COO Hyperoptic