

# **Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee**



**Date of meeting: 19 December 2016**

**SCRUTINY**



**Subject:** Scrutiny of External Organisations - Central Line Services and Infrastructure

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## **Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

**That the Committee undertake appropriate external scrutiny of Transport for London, in respect of local Central Line Services and infrastructure.**

1. (Director of Governance) As included in the current work programme for the Committee, representatives of Transport for London will be attending the meeting to respond to the concerns of members in respect of aspects of local Central Line services and infrastructure. The following officers of Transport for London will be in attendance:

Chris Taggart (General Manager (Central Line)); and  
Mark Hart (Stakeholder Engagement Manager (Bakerloo, Central & Victoria Lines)).

2. The following overarching themes and specific issues of local Central Line services and infrastructure previously identified by the Committee, have been notified to Mr. Taggart and Mr. Hart as the emphasis for such external scrutiny, in order to ensure that maximum value is derived from this external scrutiny activity:

## **Operational Issues**

- (a) the current levels of staffing at local Central Line stations, particularly with regard to ticket offices;
- (b) the extension of all-night services on the Central Line, currently operating as far as Loughton Station on Fridays and Saturdays, to Epping;
- (c) the impact of the suspension of local Central Line services at weekends, to facilitate maintenance programmes;
- (d) the frequency of Central Line services eastbound to Epping;
- (e) the split of Central Line services operating eastbound from Leytonstone Station and the perception that fewer services run through to Epping than to Hainault;
- (f) the frequency of Central Line services for Chigwell and Roding Valley Stations, via the 'Hainault Loop' from Leytonstone Station to Woodford;
- (g) the provision of public toilet facilities at local Central Line stations;
- (h) the provision of Wi-Fi access in underground sections of the Central Line and at local stations;
- (i) the extension of car park facilities at local Central Line stations, particularly in view of previous proposals of Transport for London for additional car parking capacity at Epping Station;
- (j) the management of car parks at local Central Line stations and of the public areas in the vicinity of the stations;

## **Strategic Issues**

- (k) the provision of resources for the enhancement of the infrastructure of the Central Line, particularly in terms of increasing user capacity and the proposals contained in the Consultation Draft of the new Local Plan for the Epping Forest District;
  - (l) the ongoing concern of the Council with regard to platform access at local Central Line stations for people with disabilities;
  - (m) the position with regard to the rectification of signalling breakdowns that adversely affect Central Line services on a regular basis, particularly given the significant investment made by Transport for London in signalling infrastructure;
  - (n) the age of the rolling stock currently in use on the Central Line, particularly with regard to issues pertaining to the operation of automatic doors and unacceptably high temperatures in carriages;
  - (o) the introduction of new and air-conditioned rolling stock;
  - (p) the possible reinstatement of Central Line services between Epping and Ongar, as proposed by Boris Johnson, the former Mayor of London; and
  - (q) the current CCTV coverage of public areas in the vicinity of local Central Line stations and plans for the extension of such coverage.
3. In addressing some of the operational matters set out above, the Committee has also asked that Transport for London give consideration to making a short presentation on specific infrastructure and service improvement issues of particular relevance to Central Line services and stations within the Epping Forest District.
4. The identification of additional lines of questioning to be raised with Transport for London, were recently sought from members through the Council Bulletin.

### **Resource Implications:**

The recommendations of this report seek to enable scrutiny activity to more effectively meet work programme requirements.

### **Legal and Governance Implications:**

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities. Although external organisations are not generally required by legislation to attend before the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, it is hoped that most would be willing to engage constructively with the Council's scrutiny activity when invited to do so.

### **Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:**

There are no implications arising from the recommendations of this report in respect of the Council's commitment to the Climate Local Agreement, the corporate Safer, Cleaner, Greener initiative, or any crime and disorder issues within the district.

### **Consultation Undertaken:**

The scrutiny of a number of overarching themes and specific issues of local Central Line services and infrastructure were identified by the Committee at its meeting on 19 July 2016.

### **Background Papers:**

None

### **Impact Assessments:**

### ***Risk Management***

The Council's constitution sets out rules for the management of its overview and scrutiny responsibilities.

***Equality:***

There are no equality implications arising from the recommendations of this report.