

Greater London Freight Council minutes

Wednesday 17 May 2023

09:30 – 13:00

London Marriott County Hall, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7PB

INTRODUCTION

- The meeting was chaired by James Adcroft, Tesco, standing in for Norman Harding.
- The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
- Members were reminded by the Secretary about the competition law compliance guidance.

Report back from modal councils

- Members received a report back from Road, Rail, Air and Water Councils.

Secretary's report

- Members were updated on other issues including: The driver CPC review, Guide to Maintaining Roadworthiness and the Spring Budget submission.

GUEST SPEAKER – SERGEANT ROB BECKERS – METROPOLITAN POLICE

- The Met Police presented a tool kit that has been developed for drivers, to assist them in recalling their obligations as a professional driver in keeping them safe, their vehicle safe to use, and other road users safe.
- The presentation was well received by members, who asked several questions on topics such as load restraint guidance and if the Trading Places scheme was still available.
- Members asked if the Met Police would present at their base of operations and if the presentation could be incorporated into the Transport Manager programme for this year.

REGIONAL ITEMS

- Members were updated on lobbying work on the Direct Vision Standard and on new TfL plans to roll out a greater number of 20mph zones across several London boroughs.

AGENDA ITEMS

A1 MOT testing for Earned Recognition (ER) operators

- Logistics UK sought members' views on the DfT consultation that looked at making improvements to the testing scheme for ER operators and were asked to rank in order of preference the proposals listed in the consultation.
- Members by and large opted for Delegated Testing to be their first preference choice, especially if the operator has their own testing facility/workshops.
- Members warned about the risk of negative perception of increasing the time periods between test, e.g. every two years and remarked that if ER operators were already at such a high level, why would they need extra time between tests?
- One benefit for industry if large fleet operators were granted delegated testing would be the positive impact on overall capacity of workshops.

A2 Compliance standards for lighter trailers

- Members held a short discussion, with some outlining how they fare against the published statistics, and how they maintain their fleet of lighter trailers.
- No proposals were made following the discussion.

A3 Smart Motorways

- Members were asked to send comments to Jonathan Walker.

A4 Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Bill

- No comments from the Council.

A5 'Last mile' urban logistics – GUEST SPEAKER – JOHN OOSTERHUIZEN, TfL

- TfL presented the recently launched Cargo Bike Action Plan to members, alongside the discussion on Logistics UK's proposals for a policy paper on the subject. There will be 11 different actions that will be developed and worked on that were contained in the Plan.
- Members then held a discussion on their views for urban logistics. Kate Jennings offered further engagement with TfL and their working group on cargo bikes – it was recommended to widen the scope of the group as it is felt to be quite 'construction-heavy'.
- One large bike fleet operator confirmed that they were seeking regulator approval of their proposals, to 'mark our homework', and CLFQP was in favour of some form of regulation to avoid incidents in future by those who ignore good practice. This would create a negative public view of cargo bikes that would take a great deal of effort to repair.
- On regulation, there was an appeal for TfL to work with central government, and understand what is happening in wider European market, to avoid any damaging divergence in standards.
- One member asked if a cargo bike would be included in statistics as a Vulnerable Road User (VRU)?

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- A point on productivity levels in the capital, alongside access to the kerbside was raised. **Action Point** Kate Jennings agreed that Logistics UK should work on a city action plan that covers all aspects including emissions, deliveries, road safety, and the night economy.
- Abnormal load authorisations being problematic across the country, with police forces declining an increasing number of requests.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

- Thursday 12 October 09:30 – 13:00 (finishing with lunch) at the London Marriott, County Hall (TBC)

ATTENDEES

Chairman

James Adcroft Tesco

Members

Adam Drury	The Clancy Group
Lee Prentice	Greggs
David Smith	CPA
Hayley Berry	Crown Fine Art
Jim Valentine	Independent consultant
Robert McIlveen	Mineral Products Association
Darren Bell	DX Group Plc.
Jerry Ward	John Lewis Partnership

John Crosk	BLG & CLFQP
Michael Colbourne	Veolia
Mark Olden	Murphy Plant
David Wilson	Fleet Technology
Phil Huntington	Worldwide Fleet Services
Michael Sullivan	Worldwide Fleet Services
Nathan Cawley	Crozier Fine Arts
Mark Olden	Murphy Plant
Rob Nicolaou	Howdens Joinery Ltd.
Robert Gwynn	Volta Trucks Ltd.
David Winchcombe	DPD Group
Steve Moffat	Network Rail
Gary Jones	BOC Gases
Dominic Day	Day Aggregates
Ben Hodgson	DHL
Saad Miah	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Vlad Lakvell	London Borough of Tower Hamlets
Tony Lenihan	Wilson James Ltd.
Sarah Maxwell	City of London
Tom Parker	Amazon
Jacob Wallace	Royal Mail

Guests

Sgt Rob Beckers	Met Police
John Oosterhuizen	Transport for London

Staff

Chris Yarsley	Secretary to Council
Phil Lloyd	Head of Engineering Policy
Dom Fawls	Member Relations
Kate Jennings	Director of Policy