

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission

Monday 18 July 2022
7.00 pm
160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Margy Newens (Chair)
Councillor Graham Neale (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Ketzia Harper
Councillor Emily Hickson
Councillor Sarah King
Councillor Reginald Popoola
Councillor David Watson

Reserves

Councillor John Batteson
Councillor Rachel Bentley
Councillor Gavin Edwards
Councillor Natasha Ennin
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Adam Hood
Councillor Kimberly McIntosh

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Access to information You have the right to request to inspect copies of minutes and reports on this agenda as well as the background documents used in the preparation of these reports.

Babysitting/Carers allowances If you are a resident of the borough and have paid someone to look after your children, an elderly dependant or a dependant with disabilities so that you could attend this meeting, you may claim an allowance from the council. Please collect a claim form at the meeting.

Access The council is committed to making its meetings accessible. Further details on building access, translation, provision of signers etc for this meeting are on the council's web site: www.southwark.gov.uk or please contact the person below.

Contact

Julie Timbrell on 020 7525 0514 or email: julie.timbrell@southwar.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 9 July 2022



Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission

Monday 18 July 2022
7.00 pm
160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	PART A - OPEN BUSINESS	
1.	APOLOGIES	
	To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.	
3.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS	
	Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
4.	MINUTES	1 - 6
	To note the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2022.	
5.	PEDDLEMYWHEELS	7 - 13
	Alper Muduroglu, MD of Peddle My Wheels, will present the OurBike scheme. An email and supporting documents are attached. This item is part of a proposed review on Sustainable Freight.	
6.	STREAMLINING RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANNING APPLICATIONS	

Item No.	Title	Page No.
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Planning Policy will present and provide a briefing on streamlining renewable energy applications, to follow.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

14 - 22

A Work Programme cover report, Work Programme and a scope for the proposed review on Sustainable Freight is attached.

Date: 9 July 2022

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following motion should be moved, seconded and approved if the sub-committee wishes to exclude the press and public to deal with reports revealing exempt information:

“That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1-7, Access to Information Procedure rules of the Constitution.”



Environment Scrutiny Commission

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Environment Scrutiny Commission held on Tuesday 15 March 2022 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Margy Newens (Chair)
Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor Tom Flynn
Councillor Leo Pollak

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Catherine Rose, Cabinet Member for Transport, Parks and Sport,

OFFICER SUPPORT: Juliet Seymour, Planning Policy Manager
Julie Timbrell, Project Manager, Scrutiny

1. APOLOGIES

Councillors Leanne Werner, Graham Neale and James Coldwell sent apologies.

Cooptee Jon Bootland tried to contribute virtually but was not officially in attendance.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were none.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATION

There were none.

4. MINUTES

The full Minutes of meeting held in 29 November 2021 were agreed as an accurate

record.

5. AIR QUALITY SCRUTINY REVIEW UPDATE

The chair introduced this item by referring to the briefing note, prepared by officers, which was enclosed with the agenda and outlined progress with responding to Recommendation 8 of the second Air Quality scrutiny review report, which integrated outstanding recommendations from the first Air Quality scrutiny review report. The chair explained that these recommendations all focused on ways to reduce traffic, and emissions from traffic, other than by LTNs.

The chair introduced Councillor Catherine Rose, Cabinet Member for Transport, Parks and Sport, and invited members to discuss the initial recommendation and briefing response with the cabinet lead. The following points were made:

- Members brought up the principle in the recommendation of charging less for use of equivalent bicycle kerbside use; presently six bikes using the equivalent of one car space would be collectively charged more than one car. The cabinet member responded that there is process to procure and consult on increased provision and charging, however she agreed this is a good point, as a bicycle can serve six households rather than one car. This was reinforced by other members, who commented that there seem to be false incentives to drive in the council's charging practices. There was a follow up comment by a member that provision of cycle hangers does incur a cost as this means procuring additional infrastructure. Another member suggested that the setting cycle charging at right price point ought to guide decision making.
- Members commented that while there is much improved capacity for cycling parking, there is still not enough. It was suggested that the planned kerbside / CPZ consultation could be used to find out what people want and get a realistic estimate of need, and reallocate funds. The cabinet lead said the consultation will out a hierarchy of priorities. The importance of reprioritising the kerbside to walking and cycling was part of the Movement Plan.
- The issue of using car size to set a parking price was raised and if DVLA data could be used to set a category of weight. A member pointed out someone could have a small old car with higher emissions, but someone with an expensive, large, low emissions car and would pay less, even though the impact on the highway and emission of particulates from brake and tyre dust is significant. The member said that other boroughs are have taken this up. The cabinet member said she is mindful of this issue and added that there is the Road User Charging and ULEZ consultation that can

also look at the broader impacts in emissions.

- The cabinet member was asked about greening and rewilding and making best use of funds and programmes. The cabinet lead said the highways programme is picking up improving tree cover and rewilding, with different approaches to tree planting depending on south or north borough.

6. PLANNING BRIEFING: UPDATE ON URBAN GREENING FACTOR AND EARLY REVIEW OF THE SOUTHWARK PLAN

Juliet Seymour, Planning policy manager, attended virtually. She gave a summary of the paper, enclosed with the agenda, and then took questions.

The connection was poor and questioning could not be completed so a follow up email question and response exchange is included as well.

The following points were made in the discussion:

- Members commented that the council can have good policies in place, such as UGF, but there is a performance failure if developers do not deliver against these, and instead give cash to the council for the Green Building Fund, or another pot, particularly when it is as yet unclear what this fund will be delivering.
- A member asked if developers will be engaged to meet the UGF baseline factor. The officer responded that a recent review of implementation found most developers are doing it and achieving the required factor, but a couple did not as their sites had a poor existing habitat. She added there will be a further focus and training on this.
- Commission members commented that it is concerning that the UGF is not being applied to Brownfield sites as the UGF is aimed at achieving biodiversity net gains, regardless of start point, furthermore this is not just for human enrichment but also for nature as an entity.
- Members commented that biodiversity net gain is a complex issue and asked how much specialism and training the council is investing in this. The officer agreed and said that the council is employing specialists to assist with this.
- The officer told the commission that that the UGF will be considered in the Early Review of the Southwark Plan, along with topics including Air Quality and Embodied Carbon.
- Members asked how the Southwark Plan and planned Early Review will expand the present focus on allotment and also provide for vertical farming, which members indicated there is demand for. Officers said that there is

potential to look at ‘meanwhile uses’ when looking at expanding food growing. Allotments are protected in planning policy.

RESOLVED

- It was agreed that a letter summarising the discussion on UGF will be sent to cabinet with a recommendation that there is follow up on the UGF factor on all allocated sites.
- The Energy report will include a deadline for completion of Early Review by February 2023.

Additional questions and answers via email:

Question: It is good to see the selection of applications in your paper where the UGF has been calculated and is compliant with the London Plan. Meanwhile, could you please advise how often developers have been asked to revise their applications due to an insufficient UGF in the original application? It would be good to have a feel for whether we are only seeing the UGF on compliant applications and ignoring it on others that are non-compliant, or whether all applications are revised to meet the UGF required by the London Plan.

Officers will always push applicants to increase the UGF score of a proposed major development; even more so if it does not meet the minimum UGF scores for the proposed land use (residential – 0.4 score /commercial – 0.3 score). The multiple benefits of urban greening are well understood and under-provision is treated as a major issue, as the policy requirement in London Plan Policy G5 is clear and there is in depth guidance on the how to approach provision. Southwark Plan policy P59 also sets out our clear urban greening objectives.

To improve provision, officers meet the applicant’s team and review the public realm and landscaping design, terraces and roof tops, and site and building layout to identify opportunities in provision, alongside an assessment of other policy requirements: e.g. servicing, land use, drainage, cycle parking, and amenity space (private/communal). Officers find that opportunities can arise from the reconfiguration of site layout, changes in massing and through a thorough critique of the public realm.

Officers do not ignore non-complaint schemes and will push them as hard as they can through both the pre-application process when schemes are more high-level and again once submitted. The GLA also provides a second ‘push’ for greater UGF provision on Major referable schemes through the Stage 1 referral process and through a ‘backstop opportunity’ at Stage 2. Officers of the GLA and the council regularly discuss ways to try and improve schemes as they proceed through the planning process.

The challenge some schemes can have result from issues arising from either attempting to comply with other policy such as replacing all existing commercial

floor-space or small site area. For example, some mixed use schemes propose 'full site coverage' to deliver workspace and onsite servicing which is always our starting position for servicing. These approaches can result in limited public realm opportunities, with the ground floor/grade level having to work really hard to achieve all policy requirements. Opportunities for greening on roof spaces can be contested with the provision of amenity space (usually a good opportunity for some greening/planting that is always requested by officers), solar panels, lift plant, heat pump plant, etc. As such officers are balancing multiple policy objectives, but will always seek to secure new open space and urban greening. As London Plan Policy G5 is applicable to all major development, UGF scores will be applicable to any type of site where the proposed scheme meets the threshold for major development.

We will be monitoring all schemes in the future about whether they are meeting the London Plan UGF.

7. ENERGY SCRUTINY REVIEW

RESOLVED

The report was agreed with the following changes:

Add additional recommendations on:

- developing a technical pathfinder to deliver council New Homes to Passivhaus standards.
- promoting the continuation of rooftop building scheme for council New Homes
- Early Review of the Southwark Plan be completed February 2023

Amend recommendations:

- Expand the role of the dedicated Community Energy officer beyond schools to also work on Community Buildings and with TMOs on Housing Estates.
- Change the recommendation referring to Energy Sparks and RAFT to read 'We would encourage council officers to engage with Energy Sparks and RAFT, and any other relevant organisations with a specialist practice in energy reduction and retrofit'.

Jon Bootland's comments in the report circulated to the Commission by email will

be picked up in the amendments. If there is anything else substantive a new meeting will be called.

From: Peddle My Wheels
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 3:32 PM
To: Newens, Margy [and others]
Subject: Southwark OurBike community cargo bike

Hi all

Some of you I know and others I have not met yet so I apologise for emailing out of the blue but as the first council to support the new OurBike initiative I thought this might be of interest to you.

We have started to get some data from the 'OurBike community cargo scheme' which we launched in January of this year in Lordship Lane.

I know some of you are familiar with the scheme but for those that are not East Dulwich was the location for our first fleet of bikes (2 bikes) and we're now launching trials in six other boroughs. Here's a summary video - [OurBike video](#) and here are some of the reviews from the first members of the scheme - [reviews](#).

Please find attached:

1. Summary sheet for April and May
2. Tracker data for each bike for April and May

There is some interesting information on carbon savings that might be useful for the Council to review as the bikes are starting to have some impact on reducing the use of motor vehicles in the area and the two local businesses who host the bikes are enjoying some great publicity from them.

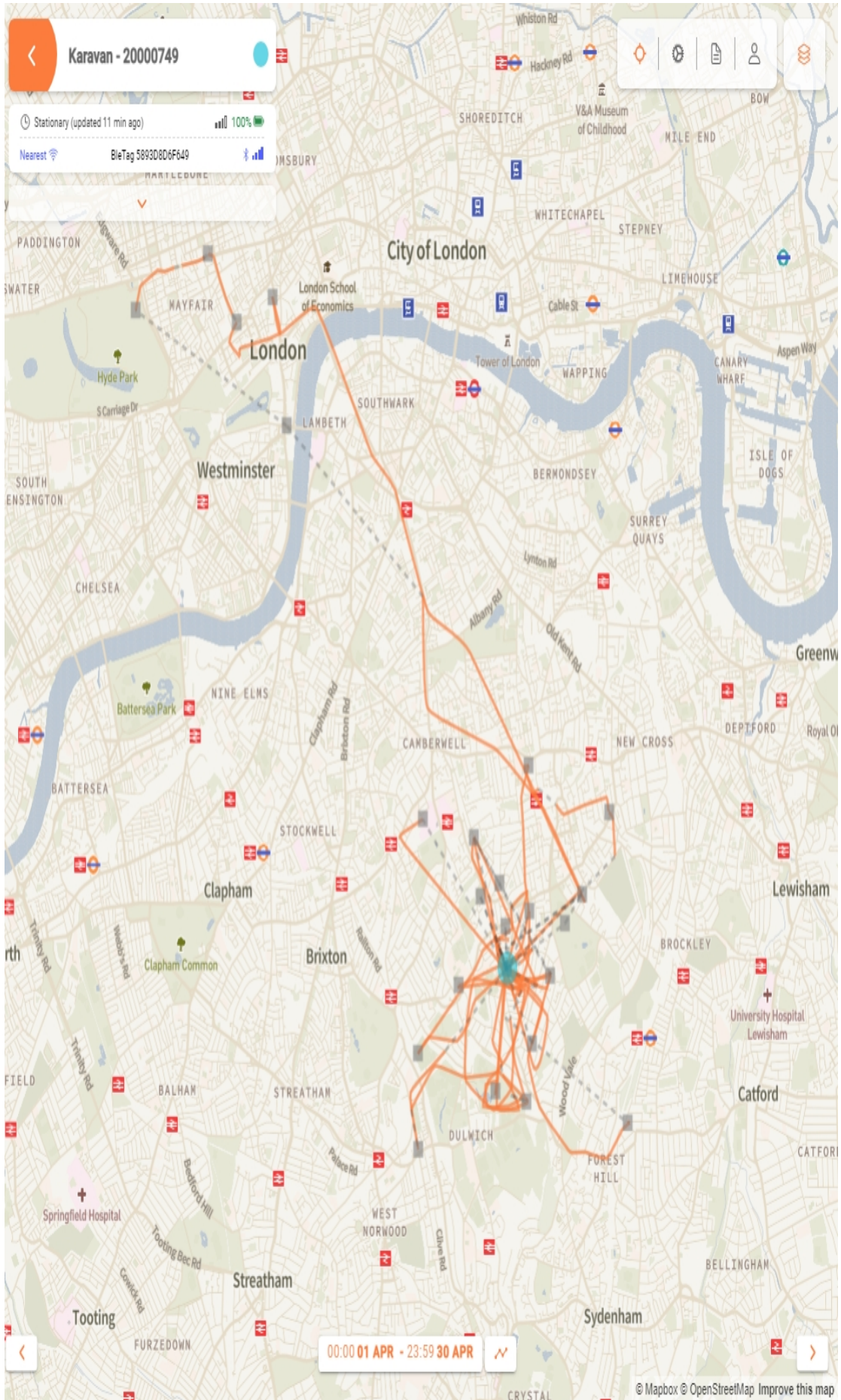
I would be happy to answer any questions.

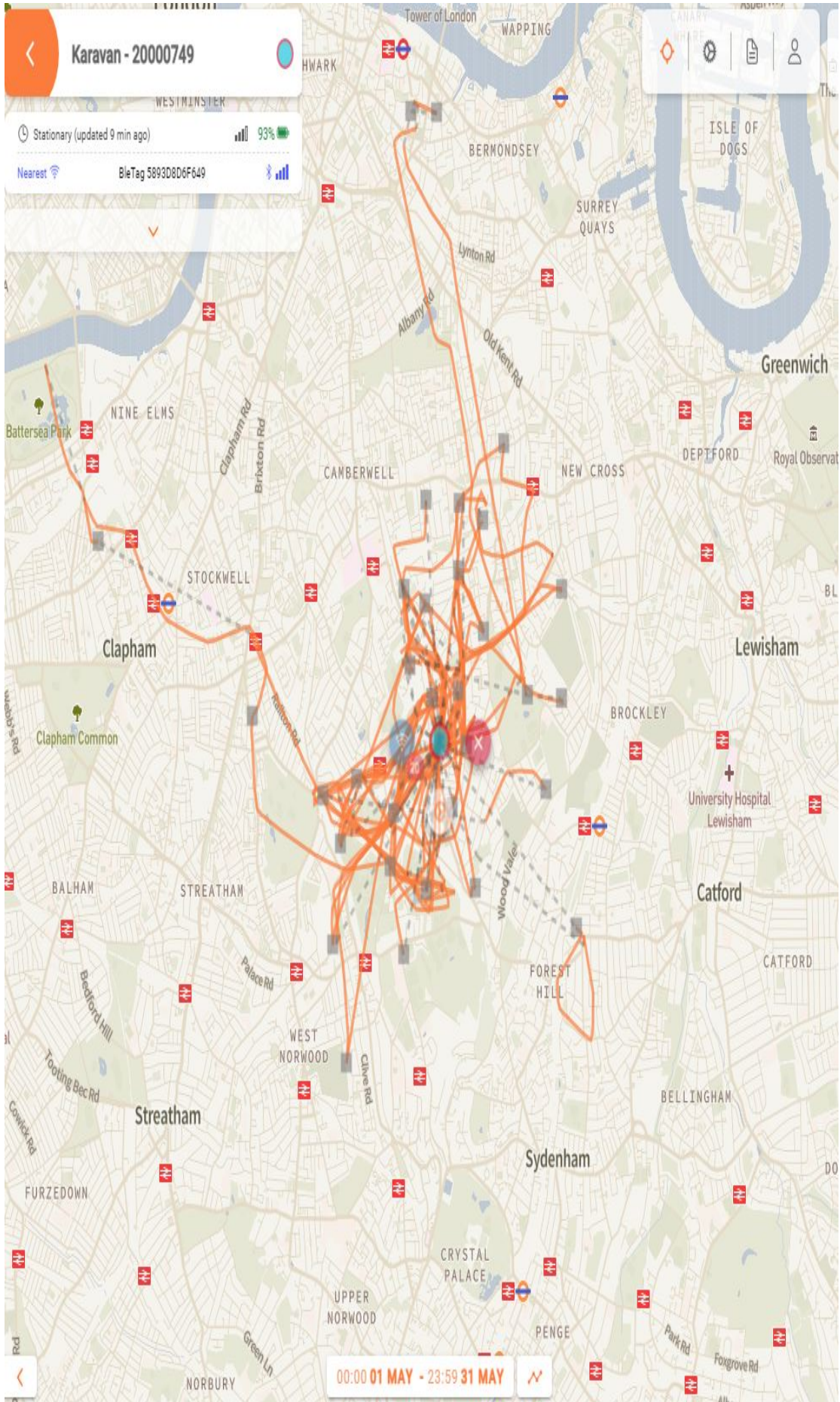
All the best

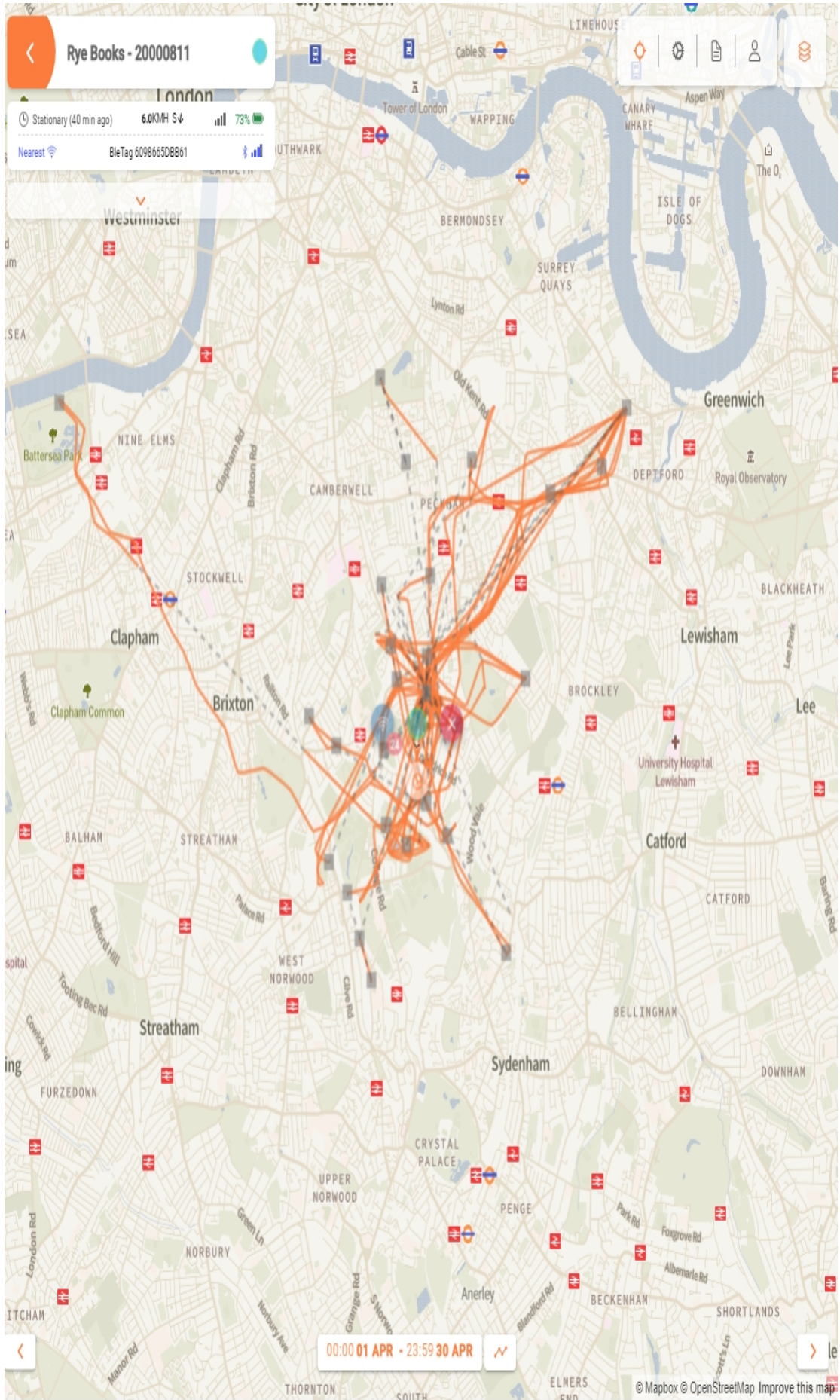
Alper Muduroglu

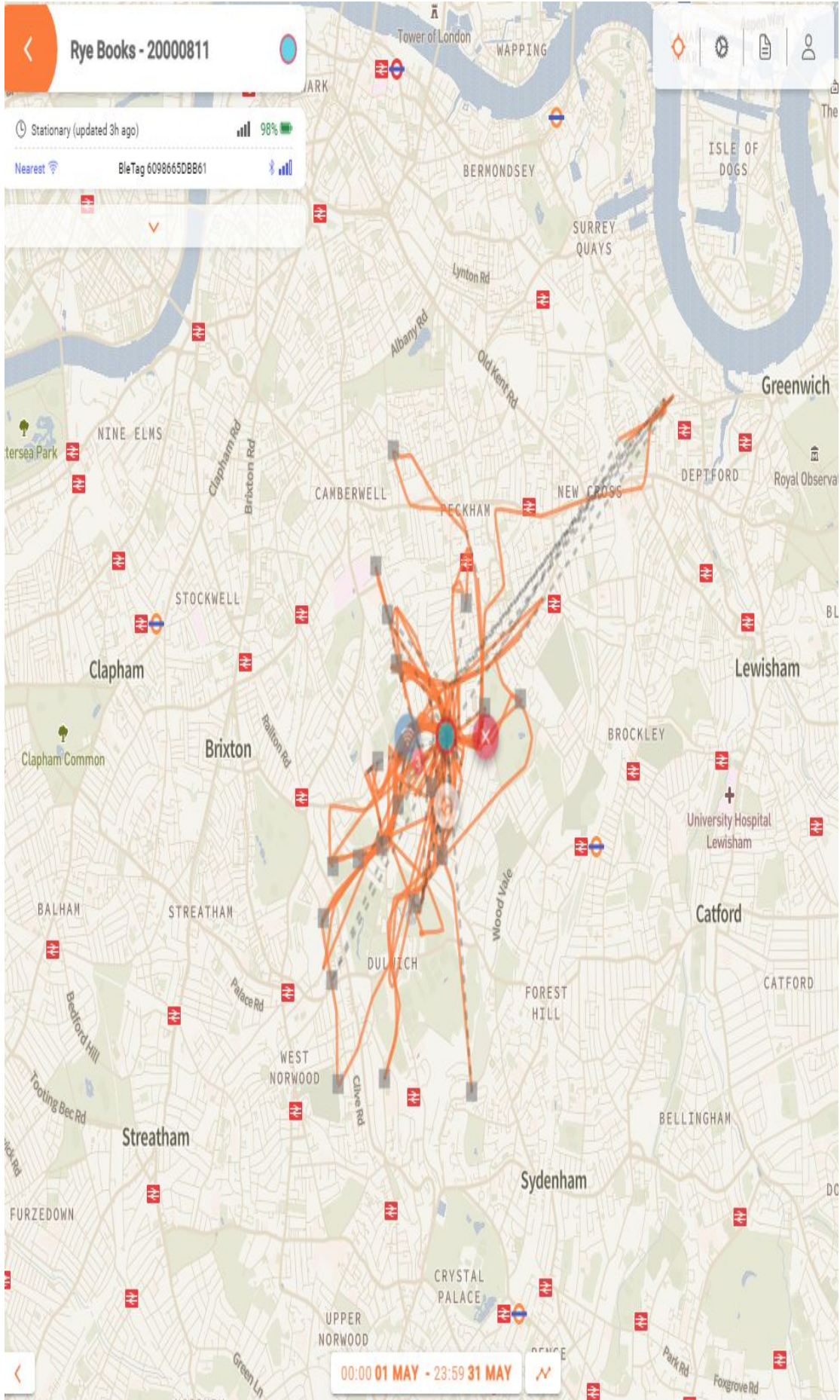
www.peddlemywheels.com

Insta, FB and Twitter @peddlemywheels









OurBike
E. Dulwich
Apr-22

Number of trips 42

Distance 136 km

Transport type replaced by OurBike

	%	Distance (km)
Bike pedal	3%	5
Car petrol	46%	62
Other	0%	-
Train/tube/bus	20%	27
Taxi	2%	3
Van diesel	12%	17
Walking	17%	23
	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> 136

Carbon savings 14 kg

Members joined 52 from start to end of April 2022

Notes

Members told us the type of transport that OurBike journeys would replace.

Distance is measured by electronic trackers fitted to the OurBikes, which record the location of the cargo bike at regular intervals. Because of this, the distance measured is typically less than the distance actually travelled.

Carbon savings are calculated using figures provided by the Energy Savings Trust.

The amount of Co2 used to charge the eCargo bike battery is compared to the amount of Co2 produced by a car or a van for the given distance.

Carbon savings figures are available for cars and vans only, and these are what are shown above.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/EST0023-002-eCargo-Bus-case-ecargo-bikes-4pp-WEB.pdf>

OurBike
E. Dulwich
May-22

Number of trips		
Rye Books OurBike		63
Karavan OurBike		61
		<hr/> 124
Distance		
Rye Books OurBike		69 km
Karavan OurBike		98 km
		<hr/> 166 km
Transport type replaced by OurBike	%	Distance (km)
Bike pedal	20%	33
Car petrol	65%	108
Other	0%	-
Train/tube/bus	4%	6
Taxi	1%	1
Van diesel	6%	9
Walking	5%	9
	<hr/> 100%	<hr/> 166
Carbon savings		20 kg
Members		62

Notes

Members told us the type of transport that OurBike journeys would replace.

Distance is measured by electronic trackers fitted to the OurBikes, trip duration and average speed information. The electronic trackers record the location of the cargo bike at regular intervals. Because of this, the distance measured is typically less than the distance actually travelled.

Carbon savings are calculated using figures provided by the Energy Savings Trust.

The amount of Co2 used to charge the eCargo bike battery is compared to the amount of Co2 produced by a car or a van for the given distance. Carbon savings figures are available for cars and vans only, and these are what are shown above.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/EST0023-002-eCargo-Bus-case-ecargo-bikes-4pp-WEB.pdf>

Item No. 7	Classification: Open	Date: 18 July 2022	Meeting Name: Environment Scrutiny Commission
Report title:		Cover report for the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2022-23	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		N/a	
From:		Project Manager, scrutiny.	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission note the work programme attached as Appendix 1 Work Programme.
2. That the Environment Scrutiny Commission consider the addition of new items or allocation of previously identified items to specific meeting dates of the commission.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The general terms of reference of the scrutiny commissions are set out in the council's constitution (overview and scrutiny procedure rules - paragraph 5). The constitution states that:

Within their terms of reference, all scrutiny committees/commissions will:

- a) review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the council's functions
- b) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the cabinet and council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time in areas covered by its terms of reference
- c) review and scrutinise the performance of the council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas
- d) question members of the cabinet and officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects and about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area
- e) assist council assembly and the cabinet in the development of its

budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues

- f) make reports and recommendations to the cabinet and or council assembly arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process
 - g) consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants
 - h) liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
 - i) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the scrutiny committee and local people about their activities and performance
 - j) conduct research and consultation on the analysis of policy issues and possible options
 - k) question and gather evidence from any other person (with their consent)
 - l) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the scrutiny process and in the development of policy options
 - m) conclude inquiries promptly and normally within six months
4. The work programme document lists those items that have been or are to be considered in line with the commission's terms of reference.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 5. Set out in Appendix 1 (Work Programme) are the issues the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission is due to consider in 2022-23.
- 6. The work programme is a standing item on the Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Julie Timbrell Project Manager
Link: https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=518		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Work Programme 2022-23

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Everton Roberts, Head of Scrutiny	
Report Author	Julie Timbrell, Project Manager, Scrutiny.	
Version	Final	
Dated	8 July 2022	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team	8 July 2022	

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission work-plan 2022 / 23

Proposed reviews and topics:

- Review: Climate Emergency Finance
- Review: Sustainable Freight
- Mini review: Streamlining planning applications for retrofit and renewable energy

Standing item

Interview with the Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

Dates and items

Date	Items	Notes
18 July 2022	Mini Review: Streamlining planning applications for renewable energy Sustainable Freight review: PeddleMe Workplan	
11 October 2022	Sustainable Freight – council departments outlining plans with reference to the current and draft Air Quality Action Plan	
28 November 2022 * this one now needs to be changed due to a clash with Labour Group		
20 February 2023		
24 April 2023		

Membership

Seven seats: 5 Labour / 2 Liberal Democrats

	Labour (5)	Liberal Democrats (2)
1.	Margy Newens (Chair)	Graham Neale (Vice-Chair)
2.	Ketzia Harper	David Watson
3.	Emily Hickson	
4.	Reggie Popoola	
5.	Sarah King	
Reserves		
	Labour (5)	Liberal Democrats (2)
1.	John Batteson	Rachel Bentley
2.	Kimberly McIntosh	Adam Hood
3.	Natasha Ennin	
4.	Gavin Edwards	
5.	Renata Hamvas	
Non-voting co-opted places		
	To be considered at the discretion of the commission	

Scrutiny review scoping proposal

1 What is the review?

Sustainable Freight

2 What outcomes could realistically be achieved? Which agency does the review seek to influence?

Outcomes

That the Council has a coherent and realistic plan to deliver Sustainable Freight that dovetails with existing strategies and plans, including the Air Quality Action Plan and Climate Emergency Action Plan.

That the energy, skills and experience of local groups delivering and advocating for Sustainable Freight are well utilised.

That TfL/ GLA plans to support Sustainable Freight are understood and that these bodies are lobbied effectively to support the Council's plans.

Agencies and partners

The review seeks principally to influence the Council, as well, potentially, as others such as TfL/ GLA to a lesser extent.

3 When should the review be carried out/completed? i.e. does the review need to take place before/after a certain time?

By the end of the administrative year.

4 What format would suit this review? (eg full investigation, q&a with executive member/partners, public meeting, one-off session)

Full investigation

5 What are some of the key issues that you would like the review to look at?

- Plans to ensure the Council's internal fleet of vehicles is zero or low emissions
- Plans to ensure that the Council's goods and services move around the borough in a way that minimises emissions
- How the Council ensures that the goods and services it procures are delivered by Sustainable Freight
- How Planning Policy, Highways and TfL are delivering the transport and road infrastructure required support Sustainable Freight
- How local organisations can work with the Council in encouraging and facilitating local businesses to use Sustainable Freight
- How large and small business are making the switch and what can be done to catalyse this
- How the Council and Business Improvement Districts can deliver Nests to enable hubs to receive, and then deliver the 'last mile' of online shopping by e cargo bikes.
- Encouraging and enabling citizens to make the switch to Sustainable Freight – for example opting for “click and collect” rather than door-to-door delivery.

6 Who would you like to receive evidence and advice from during the review?

The following council departments and units:

- Fleet Services
- Planning Policy
- Highways
- Procurement
- Environmental Protection (Air Quality)
- Climate Emergency

Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development

TfL / GLA

Companies and community groups providing or advocating sustainable freight, including

- PeddleMe

7 Any suggestions for background information? Are you aware of any best practice on this topic?

Previous recommendations made on Air Quality are summarised in the attached appendix one.

Leeds have pioneered the switch to electric vehicles:

<https://takeclimateaction.uk/climate-action/how-leeds-making-all-council-vehicles-electric>

Council Air Quality Action Plans

The current Air Quality Action Plan 2017 - 2022 and includes 'a freight consolidation solution for Southwark' see section 4 points 4.2- 4.5 – with specific actions for Procurement and Environmental Protection.

The Draft Air Quality Action Plan, for the period 2023 – 2027 . Two of its seven themes are relevant to 'sustainable freight':

- *Delivery servicing and freight: Goods and service vehicles are usually diesel powered and have high NO2 emissions. Low emission logistics requires alternatively fuelled vehicles to combat air pollution from this source;*
- *Borough fleet actions: Southwark's fleet includes light and heavy duty diesel-fuelled vehicles such as mini buses and refuse collection vehicles with high primary NO2 emissions. Southwark can review its own fleet procurement to lead by example;*

The current and draft Air Quality Action Plan will be used to frame the review and a session October, with the following departments, who have all been involved in drawing up current plans contained in the Draft Air Quality Action plans will be invited to attend on 11 October including :

- Fleet Services
- Procurement
- Environmental Protection
- Planning Policy

- Highways
- Climate Emergency

8 What approaches could be useful for gathering evidence? What can be done outside committee meetings?

e.g. verbal or written submissions, site visits, mystery-shopping, service observation, meeting with stakeholders, survey, consultation event

Environment and Community Engagement Scrutiny Commission

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23

AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)

NOTE: Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Julie Timbrell Tel: 020 7525 0514

Name	No of copies	Name	No of copies
		Julie Timbrell, Scrutiny Team SPARES External	10
<p>Electronic Copy</p> <p>Members</p> <p><u>Councillors:</u></p> <p>Councillor Margy Newens (Chair) Councillor Graham Neale (Vice-Chair) Councillor Ketzia Harper Councillor Emily Hickson Councillor Reggie Popoola Councillor Sarah King Councillor David Watson</p> <p><u>Coopted member:</u></p> <p>Reserves Members</p> <p>Councillor John Batteson Councillor Rachel Bentley Councillor Kimberly McIntosh Councillor Natasha Ennin Councillor Gavin Edwards Councillor Renata Hamvas Councillor Adam Hood</p>		<p>Total: 10</p> <p>Dated: May 2021</p>	