

ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION DEPARTMENT
Chris Lee – Director



Ruthlyn Black

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London Borough of Merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX

Direct Line: 020 8545 4149
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My Ref : ES/BS/28534
Please Ask For: Samantha Footman
Your Ref:

Date: 4 February 2010

Dear Ruthlyn Black

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST

Your request for information has now been considered and the information is attached.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the

Information Governance Manager
The London Borough of Merton, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, SM4 5DX
or e-mail data.protection@merton.gov.uk.

You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 700
www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Samantha Footman

Samantha Footman
Business Performance Team

1) What publicity was undertaken across LB Merton by TfL and by LB Merton?

In this instance, the London Borough of Merton is purely a consultee. The council has no responsibility to consult residents about other public bodies' (ie TfL) documents but takes its role as a consultee seriously.

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their publicity campaign related to these documents. Please find their contact details below.

TfL Customer Relations
4th Floor, Zone Y4, 14 Pier Walk
North Greenwich
London SE10 0ES
Tel: 020 3283 6515
Email: enquire@tfl.gov.uk

The Public Liaison Unit
Greater London Authority
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA
Telephone: 020 7983 4100
Email: mayor@london.gov.uk

2) What was published that explained the Draft Strategy and the consultation process and how were these made available?

The letter from the Mayor of London received by Merton Council included executive summaries of the documents and provided details of the website link to enable full access.

Prior to this the Mayor of London had published a vision document "The Way to Go" Planning for better transport in November 2008 which also included a consultation period.

3) What steps were taken to try to ensure a balanced cross-section of the public was made aware of the process?

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their publicity campaign related to these documents. (Contact details above).

4) Where were leaflets distributed, and how was this decided? What analysis suggested this would lead to a fair and balanced distribution across the community?

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their publicity campaign related to these documents.

5) What steps were taken to ensure that hard-to-reach sections of the community, such as those who travel exclusively by private car, were made aware of the consultation process and encouraged to participate in it?

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their publicity campaign related to these documents.

6) What consultation discussions took place between LB Merton and TfL over how this process would operate? To what extent was the council consulted over the detail of the consultation, and what views did it express?

London Councils represents the borough in these issues and will be able to answer these questions more fully.

The address for London Councils is as follows:

London Councils
59½ Southwark Street, London, SE1 0AL
Tel 020 7934 9999
Email info@londoncouncils.gov.uk

7) Is the council happy with the consultation process? Was the council happy that the online questionnaire was so flagrantly biased? Was the council happy that responders allowed to pick as many as they chose from an uncoded wish-list?

Merton Council is happy that the consultation was conducted in a proper manner. Merton Council responded to the consultation by letter and therefore cannot comment on the on-line questionnaire.

8) What steps were taken to inform and involve organisations likely to have an interest?

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their communications related to these documents.

9) What programme of meetings was organised? Did Merton Council ask TfL to attend meetings of the council's Neighbourhood Partnerships, and how many did receive reports on the consultation from TfL?

The council enjoys a good working relationship with TfL and has had adequate opportunity to discuss issues in this consultation with the organisation. As the organisation which is actually carrying out the consultation, TfL will be able to give you more detail about any programme of meetings.

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their meetings related to these documents.

10) How many meetings took place within LB Merton between TfL and the council as part of the consultation process? What about with local groups in LB Merton?

The GLA and Transport for London will be able to furnish you with the details of their meetings related to these documents.

11) What pre-consultation took place with interested parties to ensure that the process was fair and balanced?

TfL is the organisation which carried out the consultation and is therefore better placed to furnish you with the details of its communications relating to these documents.

12) Does the council support a MTS consultation on the Draft Mayor of London Transport Strategy that offers so little for the driver - private motorist or professional driver of taxi, minicab, van, lorry or bus? How important are private drivers in the overall use of transport in Merton?

Has the council expressed concerns over this unfair and unbalanced aspect of the consultation process?

Merton Council would like to see a London where residents and visitors would choose to walk, cycle or use public transport rather than their own car because the experience would encourage them to do so, while continuing to recognise that the private car is still essential to many Londoners.

13) Does the council support a MTS in which the promotion of cycling within the draft MTS does not also include warnings on the dangers of this mode?

Does the council support the proposition that a mass switch to cycling would be beneficial justified, and on what evidence?

Merton Council supports national road safety policy for all modes.

14) Does the council support a MTS consultation in which costings of various suggestions were not put forward, so that the public could see how much tax each would entail?

Merton Council did not have an expectation of a strategic document providing that level of financial detail.

15) Does the council support a MTS consultation in which there was no question on the level of subsidy that each mode should receive?

Merton Council did not have an expectation of a strategic document providing that level of financial detail.

16) Does the council support a MTS consultation in which no question is asked as to whether the users of a mode should bear all, most, some or whatever proportion of the costs of providing that mode?

Merton Council did not have an expectation of a strategic document providing that level of financial detail. London Councils provides the liaison for London Boroughs in respect to funding and administration of the GLA.

17) What representations has or will the council make regarding the consultation process into the Draft MTS as a result of this

Merton Council has no representations to make, having responded to the consultation within the specified time period.