Welcome to Cross River Partnership's monthly e-bulletin

Clean Air Together

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our Clean Air Together event 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm this Thursday 21 June. Led by Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for the Environment and Energy, the evening will celebrate and inspire collective action to clean London’s air. RSVP now if you haven’t already.

The event will be held at New London Architecture’s Store Street Galleries, WC1E 7BT, the location of CRP’s Clean Air Together Exhibition, on now until 30 July.

The Mayor’s Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Task Force
CRP has been invited to join the Mayor’s new Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure Taskforce chaired by Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy.

The 16-member Taskforce was launched on 31 May 2018. It will provide guidance on how to implement the Mayor’s vision of a zero emission transport network by 2050, focusing on the lack of electric vehicle charging infrastructure that remains an important barrier to the take-up of EVs.

Based on previous and ongoing work such as FREVUE, Smart Electric Urban Logistics as well as our recent report on Electric Freight Vehicles in Central London: Local Grid Capacity, CRP will be glad to contribute to the Taskforce discussions feeding into a shared EV Infrastructure Delivery Plan to be published next year.

For more information please see the GLA’s press release or contact CRP’s Programme Manager Electric Freight Tanja Dalle-Muenchmeyer.

What should the UK do to improve air quality?
CRP’s Air Quality Project Manager, Brendon Harper, is in this month’s ‘The Environment’ magazine answering the question, “What should the UK do to improve air quality?” On page 23, Brendon makes the case for tackling air pollution from every angle and involving everyone from the public sector, businesses and individuals. You can contact Brendon at brendonharper@crossriverpartnership.org.

West End Partnership
Freight and Servicing Strategy
CRP are pleased to have prepared a Freight and Servicing Strategy on behalf of the West End Partnership Board, following consultation with all key stakeholders in the West End. CRP have brought together public, private and community sector partners as part of our role coordinating the West End Partnership’s Deliveries and Servicing Group. Pooling this wealth of local knowledge and industry expertise, the strategy is aiming to address the movement of goods and servicing activity across the West End, acknowledging the diversity of this unique area and its importance in the London and UK economy.

The proposed strategy takes a long-term approach, setting ambitious targets and detailing actions to take in support of these targets. For more information contact CRP’s Tom Linton-Smith.
At the UPS Sustainable Logistics event on 19 June Smart Electric Urban Logistics (SEUL), partners invited stakeholders, funders and partners to officially launch the project. Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, opened the event underlining the importance of the electrification of fleets in addressing London’s air pollution and the role a unique project such as SEUL plays in paving the way.

Taking place in an operational logistics setting at the UPS central London depot in Camden, the event allowed stakeholders to fully explore the challenges and opportunities around the electrification of fleets and low impact city logistics. At three stands, partners presented and discussed various elements of this work: 1) The UPS EV journey; 2) The smarter use of our electricity grid to enable fleet electrification and 3) low impact city logistics through the use of an electrically assisted delivery trailer.

CRP will further share the SEUL learnings over the coming year through factsheets, events and webinars. For more information, please see the project webpage or contact CRP’s Programme Manager Electric Freight Tanja Dalle-Muenchmeyer.

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Clean Air Villages Launch Event
On 11 July 2018 CRP invite Councillors and officers from our Clean Air Villages project partners London boroughs of Lambeth, Hammersmith and Fulham, Islington, and Lewisham as well as Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to a launch event at our Clean Air Together Exhibition.

We look forward to an interesting discussion around local solutions to air pollution from business-related deliveries and servicing.

For more information please contact CRP’s Programme Manager Electric Freight, Tanja Dalle-Muenchmeyer.

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DEFRA 2017/18 Outcomes

Department for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Air quality
Over the past year, CRP has approached small-medium enterprises (SMEs) across Westminster and Camden to encourage them to take simple actions to make their deliveries processes more efficient, saving them time and money, while reducing negative impacts on local air quality and traffic congestion. Funded by DEFRA, the exercise is a 3-stage process that comprises:

1. having businesses complete a simple questionnaire to generate recommended actions;
2. engaging those businesses to take a closer look at their deliveries process; and, finally
3. supporting those businesses to implement one or more actions.

So far, the results have shown:

• More than the targeted number of 40 businesses have completed the questionnaire, raising their awareness of the general impact of deliveries of goods and servicing on local air quality;
• More than 90% of the targeted number of 40 business have engaged with CRP, improving their understanding of their business’s impact on local air quality;
• To date, approximately 20% of the targeted number of businesses have actually taken pro-active, meaningful action, highlighting that small businesses may need more of an incentive to change their behaviour and overcome barriers (usually perceived, rather than actual) to change their deliveries process.

All of these lessons learnt are already being put into practice via CRP’s second DEFRA Air Quality programme, Clean Air Villages (please see previous article).

For more information, please contact CRP’s Business Engagement Officer, Sefinat Otaru.

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**CLSRTT and the LIP Process**

![Image of Cityscape with pedestrians and buildings]

London boroughs are currently in the process of drafting their Local Implementation Plans (LIPs). Each London borough is required to develop a LIP which sets out how the borough will deliver the 2018 Mayor’s Transport Strategy (MTS) at a local level.

This is the third round of LIP development and the guidance documents have been provided by Transport for London alongside the MTS.

The CRP-managed Central London Sub-regional Transport Partnership (CLSRTP) will be hosting a special collaborative LIP meeting in July. This will enable the group to identify cross boundary issues that cut across all the central London boroughs e.g. air quality, traffic reduction and network planning etc. The meeting will allow for robust discussions and identify any potential for aligning policies. We will extend the invitation to include the London Boroughs of Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

Borough partners will then have the opportunity after the meeting to view CRP’s Clean Air Together exhibition that is running until 30th July at the New London Architecture (NLA) exhibition centre. Officers will be encouraged to make pledges on how they can contribute towards improving London’s air quality.

For further information, contact CRP’s Uto Patrick.

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**Strategic Investment Pot Application**

Cross River Partnership recently submitted an application to the £52m Strategic Investment Pot (SIP), which is formed of retained, pooled London Business Rates. The SIP was made available to local authorities and multi-borough partnerships to apply.

We proposed bringing together the public and private sectors to help Londoners into good jobs in the Hospitality and Retail Sectors, support them to progress, and thereby support business productivity and growth across the central London sub-region. Westminster City Council kindly agreed to act as our accountable body.

Thank you to all our partners who supported our application. If you would like more information please contact our Development Manager, Elizabeth Harris.
Public Health England have just released a comprehensive study on the impact of employment on people with disabilities and health conditions.

There are many compelling reasons to regard work and worklessness as important public health issues both at local and national level. Some of these are:

- Having a decent job boosts our well-being and quality of life and protects against social exclusion.
- Conversely unemployment increases our risk of limiting illness and worsening mental health and impacts on families too.
- The longer we’re out of work, the more likely it is to impact on our health.
- Health isn’t just an individual issue and our communities and local businesses greatly benefit from a healthy and productive population.
- Helping people with health issues to obtain or retain work, and be happy and productive within the workplace, is a crucial part of the economic success and well-being of every community.
- The combined costs from worklessness and sickness absence amount to over £100b annually, which makes it very clear that there’s an economic, as well as moral and ethical case, for greater action.

Cross River Partnership delivers a number of projects to support unemployed disabled jobseekers into work, including two specialist employment initiatives working with Westminster residents, and our innovative Camden Council-funded CamdenAbility, which supports with disabled residents in Camden into work.

To find out more about any of our projects, please contact our Specialist Workplace Coordinator, [Parma](mailto:parma@crossriverpartnership.org.uk)
Recruit London Update

CRP’s Recruit London Team of Workplace Co-ordinators (WPCs) continue to be extremely busy supporting unemployed residents to bring them closer to the jobs market, and to continue supporting them once they have started work. Below is an update on the past month’s activities:

The Camden Specialist WPC who supports Camden residents with physical and learning disabilities has provided employment support to 19 new candidates; two candidates have secured employment in care work and as a glasswash technician, the latter following an employer site tour. Employer site tours such as the one recently organised with the Francis Crick Institute enable candidates to get a good insight into possible jobs they could do which they may not have otherwise considered. The WPC has also delivered four workshops to engage more candidates, signed up four new employers to the Camden Ability Network and secured work experience placements at UCL. For more information on the project or to refer candidates, please contact the Camden WPC, Parma Sira.
The Heart of London WPC has supported 53 candidates into employment in nine months and in the last month arranged two employer workshops with McDonalds - Capital Arches Group and The Ritz, who are Heart of London Business Alliance members.

12 candidates attended the workshop which enabled them to learn more about the Capital Arches Group expectations as an employer, training opportunities, benefits and career progression with McDonalds. Following the presentation all 12 candidates were interviewed and successfully passed the first stage interview and have progressed to the second stage interview with the employer. In addition, Natalie, who expressed an interest in sustainability issues, was helped to secure work as a Coffee Cup Ambassador with Veolia. For further information, please contact the Heart of London WPC, Ilona Wilk.

The ReStart WPC who supports residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness has engaged with a range of The Crown Estate business tenants to secure job opportunities for the client group. A case in point is Greg, a candidate who was homeless, and with support has been able to turn his life around and in turn help his family to improve their circumstances. For further information on the project or to refer candidates, please contact the ReStart WPC, Nathalie Lam.

Westminster & CapCo WPCs and Specialist WPCs support Westminster unemployed residents. The team have been busy screening candidates with a range of employers such as Dishoom, Venchi, Whittard, Daniel Galvin, Shake Shack and Hamleys. Maintaining a stream of work-ready candidate referrals is key to meeting employer demand and the team circulate the vacancies on offer on a weekly basis to referral partners such as Jobcentre Plus, Central & North-West London NHS Trust and to colleagues in other Westminster City Council departments. One candidate, Chloe who was supported to secure a seasonal role with Hamleys, has now through her hard work and determination successfully secured a permanent contract. For further information on the project or to refer candidates, please contact Westminster WPC, Chika Anyanwu or Specialist WPCs, Nikoletta Gjergji or Shalini Sawhney.

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Inquiry into High Streets and Town Centres

The retail headlines over the past few weeks make for pretty grim reading. It only serves to magnify the importance of the government’s High Street 2030 Inquiry which will examine the future role of the high
street in contributing to the local economy and the local community. It will also look into how local areas are planning for the future of their high streets and town centres. Getting views across is essential.

With this in mind, CRP is delighted to join IPM, The BID Foundation and ATCM in a collaborative response on the current state of town centres and the reform needed to promote healthy change.

The deadline for all Inquiry submissions is this Friday, 22nd June 2018.

Please contact Susannah Wilks with any ideas or queries.

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**Mayor’s Draft Cultural Strategy**

The Mayor of London’s draft Cultural Strategy has been out for consultation.

Cross River Partnership has submitted a response in general support of the strategy, which covers a range of exciting proposals for culture in London. The response was shared with CRP partners. The Mayor’s four priority areas are:
London Culture Forum

CRP recently attended the London Culture Forum workshop at London Councils with the GLA to discuss the recently launched Mayor’s draft Cultural Strategy. The GLA culture representatives presented the strategy, and facilitated discussions with attendees.

CRP is pleased to see that so many of the Mayor’s other strategies were raised at the Forum including the Skills for Londoners Strategy and the London Environment Strategy; showing that culture is really embedded into everything that Londoners do. In particular, CRP is keen to see more culture used to support the Mayor’s healthy streets agenda to create interesting things to see and do in our public spaces, encourage walking, and open up new areas of the city.

The London Culture Forum is a fantastic collaboration of boroughs and cultural organisations that bring together the capital’s expertise on culture.

The Forum’s aims are to:

• develop and promote local authority arts and cultural provision across the capital;
• share information and good practice;

If you have any questions on the CRP consultation responses; or to find out if we could support your organisation in developing your approach to culture, contact Susannah Wilks or Vicky Keeble.
• identify areas for collaboration;
• support advocacy work for local arts and culture services;
• embed a clear role for arts and culture in wider agenda.

The Forum's next meeting is 29th June 2018.

For more information on the London Culture Forum visit here. For information on CRP’s projects and partners supporting London’s culture, contact Susannah Wilks or Vicky Keeble.

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Art Night 2018

On Saturday, 7 July, the Art Night 2018 trail will run through Battersea, Vauxhall, Nine Elms and South Bank. Art Night is a free contemporary arts exhibition at unusual locations across central London, curated by the Hayward Gallery, coinciding with its golden anniversary. The festival will feature new commissions and exhibitions premiering in the UK by leading contemporary artists.

The main Festival Square will take place in Circus West Village at Battersea Power Station.

The festival runs from 6:00 pm – 6:00 am. However, a selection will be made available during the day and on Sunday from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. Visit here for more information.

CRP is very pleased to be supporting the Art Night exhibition.
The Mayor of London has released Round 2 of the Good Growth Fund (GGF), which supports innovative, best practice regeneration activities. Projects should enable Londoners to actively participate in their local community, deliver coordinated place-based strategies, help areas to realise their full potential and make London a place of opportunity for all.

£20m is being made available through this round, mainly in the form of capital grants and repayable capital grants. The GGF can fund up to 50% of the total project value. The application deadline is 4pm on 13 July 2018. Full details are available here.

Please do contact our Development Manager, Elizabeth Harris, for more information.
Cross River Partnership recently asked our partners to opt-in to continue receiving our e-bulletin, following the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations - GDPR. Thank you to everyone who confirmed that you want to continue receiving our news and events. If you have any colleagues you who would like to sign up for our e-bulletin, please do encourage them to register here.


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