Welcome to the Cross River Partnership monthly e-bulletin

A Winter Wonderland at CRP
Although we’re hard at work in the office, we get to see this pretty view of Trafalgar Square under a layer of snow. We hope you get to enjoy this snowy day in London whether you’re at home or in the office today!

Scroll further down to see what we’ve been up to here at CRP over the past month....

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London Plan Consultation

https://mailchi.mp/crossriverpartnership.org/cross-river-partnership-feb2018-bulletin-... 28/02/2018
CRP and ATCM held a joint London Plan consultation event on 24th January 2018 at London Bridge Hive. Many thanks to Team London Bridge for hosting us there.

We have since drafted our Collaborative Response to the London Plan, incorporating the comments submitted to us.

If you would like your organisation to be listed as a signatory to this Collaborative Response, please email us as soon as possible.

We look forward to submitting a well-supported London Plan Collaborative Response by 2nd March 2018 to the Mayor of London and playing our part in maintaining London’s position as a world class city.

With any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Susannah Wilks.

Response to London’s Night Time Strategy
To realise his vision of a 24-hour city, the Mayor of London requested feedback on London at night earlier this month. This included comments on the existing strengths and weaknesses of London at night, the opportunities and threats faced by its night time economy, as well as ideas for improving the city at night.

CRP submitted a comprehensive response addressing all these points and highlighting those aspects of our work that support London at night. The document is available here.

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**Legal Challenge to Government Air Quality Plan**
The High Court has ruled that the government’s air quality plan is “unlawful”.

Following the ruling last week, a supplementary plan forcing an additional 33 local authorities to address air pollution will need to be published.

The existing plan, adopted in 2017, remains in force while the supplement is produced to avoid any delay in its implementation.

The ruling follows a claim by environmental campaigners, ClientEarth, that the government’s proposals to tackle roadside nitrogen dioxide emissions “fell far short of what is needed”.

For further information, contact CRP’s Air Quality Project Manager, Brendon Harper.

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**ULEZ Consultation**
The Mayor of London is seeking feedback on his latest proposals to help improve London’s air quality.

Proposals include tougher emission standards for the London-wide Low Emission Zone and expansion of the Ultra Low Emission Zone to the North and South Circular roads.

See the TfL website for more information on the proposals and read CRP’s positive response here.

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**CRP response to EV Market and Infrastructure Inquiry Published**

CRP’s response to the Electric vehicles: developing the market and infrastructure inquiry has now been published on the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee website.

The Committee had invited written responses to questions around the impact of the uptake of electric vehicles on the electricity grid and actions needed. Based on findings from the FREVUE and SEUL projects, CRP provided written evidence stressing the importance to take into account the electrification of freight vehicles in the overarching strategy for developing the market and infrastructure for electric vehicles. Due to their particular deployment and charging patterns, these vehicles do not only present an additional challenge to electricity grid capacity but also an important opportunity for grid balancing and renewable energy use.
CRP meeting with HM Treasury's Infrastructure and Project Authority

The Autumn Budget included the intention to invest £200 million of Government money alongside the private sector into a £400 million Charging Infrastructure Investment Fund. On 20th February, CRP hosted a team from the HM Treasury Infrastructure and Project Authority (IPA) to talk electric freight vehicles, charging infrastructure and smart charging technology. The meeting included a site visit to the UPS central London depot to showcase our recent work in a business-as-usual environment. Many thanks to all for a very informative and useful exchange.

CRP’s Smart Electric Urban Logistics project shows that smart charging is likely to be a key facilitator to the uptake of electric fleets. Still, some element of physical grid infrastructure upgrades will be needed for the foreseeable future and as of now it remains unclear how these are to be financed. CRP looks forward to working with its partners and stakeholders on addressing this important barrier to better air quality in London.

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

A Deliveries & Servicing Action Plan for the West End
On Wednesday 21st February, Cross River Partnership delivered a workshop to further develop the draft Deliveries & Servicing Action Plan for the West End. In response to feedback from the West End Partnership (WEP) Board, the WEP Deliveries & Servicing Group has prioritised draft targets and actions including looking at different approaches to servicing buildings; improving resource management; improving efficiencies of deliveries and researching the possibility of more innovative, area-specific approaches.

The West End Deliveries & Servicing Group is formed of London Borough of Camden, City of Westminster, West End Business Improvement Districts; businesses; Estates; TfL; logistics operators and residents.

For more information on WEP Deliveries and Servicing visit www.crossriverpartnership.org/WEPFreight/ or contact Vicky Keeble.

Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood
Progress continues in the Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood (LEN), with preparations for the first school play street of 2018 taking shape. It will take place on Tuesday 20th March between 1 pm and 3 pm at the southern end of Seymour Place, in collaboration with Halcyon International School. It is planned to have a road safety theme as well as air quality, but it will be as exciting as ever and will even feature a disco bike for the first time in the LEN, so if you come along prepare to bring your best disco dancing moves!

The Marylebone LEN was established in 2016 after a successful bid by Westminster City Council to the Mayor’s Air Quality Fund. Since then, hundreds of children have taken part in previous play streets and have received air quality lessons as part of the LEN schools engagement programme, which recently featured in delivery partner Sustrans’ 2017 London Review. CRP is very pleased to be Programme Managing the Marylebone LEN over its lifetime.

The full LEN steering group also convened this month, with discussions including upcoming proposals for air quality interventions in the urban realm, as well as progress on identifying locations for taxi rapid chargers to help encourage new Zero Emission Taxis in the LEN.

For further information about the Marylebone LEN, visit the website at www.marylebonelen.org or contact CRP’s Vicky Keeble or Tom Linton-Smith.

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**Businesses in Bankside**
CRP and Better Bankside BID have been working with Bankside businesses to help them manage the number of deliveries they receive. Changing patterns in shopping habits have led to an increase in deliveries which can mean an increase in the number of and mileage travelled by delivery vans, with a knock on effect on the quality of the air we breathe, congestion and noise pollution.

Working with multi-tenanted and single-tenanted office buildings to review deliveries, we’ve noticed that personal deliveries made to the office are a prominent issue. We are bringing awareness and changing behaviour of office based staff by analysing and sharing information and nudging them to use parcel collection points nearer to home using CRP’s Click, Collect, Clean Air website.

Freight TAILS Cities Share Their Experiences
The Freight TAILS network is very pleased to publish reports on Urban Freight Transport and...

1. ... Regulation & Enforcement;
2. ... Voluntary Behaviour Change; and
3. ... Procurement.

These reports collate the experiences of our 10 Freight TAILS European cities in developing actions to tackle the impact of urban freight movements, alongside expertise from our experts Ian Wainwright and Philip Stein. Find all our Freight TAILS reports here.

For more information about Freight TAILS, contact CRP’s Charlotte Knell or Sefinat Otaru.

Lighting up Wandsworth
The CRP-managed Central London Sub Regional Transport Partnership (CLSRTP) is working with the London Borough of Wandsworth to deliver a Healthy Streets project on Ravenet Street. This was recently publicised by our project partners online on the Council’s website and on twitter.

By using the healthy streets check we will measure the impact of interventions to improve the walking and cycling experience. In addition to the physical changes, we have commissioned some local public art to add to the ‘things to see and do’ while using this route.

This is a great example of partnership working as the project has received support from the local Councillor. The Council’s transport and environment spokesman Councillor Jonathan Cook said: “This is an important local short cut for many people and these improvements will make it a lot more welcoming and a lot safer.”

For further information, please contact CRP’s Uto Patrick.

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Walkable London 2018 Event
Living Streets hosted the ‘Walkable London 2018’ event on 22nd February with an array of speakers sharing best practice.

CRP presented our "Walkable London - Best practice guide for a walkable city" toolkit sharing the 9 case studies from our collaborative efforts with our project partners. We also promoted the walking projects we have recently delivered such as the Newington Estate Lighting project in Southwark.

The Transport for London City Planning team spoke about building the economic case for walking investment in London. Cross River Partnership has extensive experience in delivering projects that have also contributed to the economy and local business uplift through increased footfall and creating new community and business spaces.

For more information on building a business case for walking or cycling projects that create better streets and places; The pedestrian pound report by Living Street provides a great evidence base.

For further information on CRP’s walking projects, please contact Uto Patrick.

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Illuminated River Public Exhibitions
The Illuminated River Foundation are interested on hearing views on their proposals to light 15 of central London’s bridges as part of a major public artwork. They are hosting a series of exhibitions that will outline their proposals. For more information visit http://www.illuminatedriver.london/news/community-engagement.

Recruit London Event

Recruit London hosted a breakfast event on 6th February 2018 for Heart of London Business Alliance members to promote its free, bespoke recruitment service.
The Recruit London scheme helps businesses to achieve significant cost savings in recruitment. The event provided businesses with the opportunity to meet the Recruit London team and better their understanding of the initiative.

Councillor Robert Davis, Westminster City Council Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Business, Culture and Heritage said, “Recruit London is important to London and particularly to Westminster, as it supports people who are finding it difficult to get back into work”.

The Recruit London breakfast event was a great success, with more new business members joining Recruit London. One business member who was interviewed said, “It is important for us to work with initiatives like Recruit London so we are able to recruit people from the local community”.

For further information or to sign up, please contact Workplace Coordinator, Ilona Wilk.

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**Recruit London – Sustaining Jobs**

Our role at Recruit London is to support people into employment, but most importantly, we want to ensure that they remain working.

Our main support strategy is 6 months of mentoring. This includes ensuring we deal with any issues that may arise for people such as acclimatising to their first job/returning to employment and learning the etiquette required for the role, coming off benefits, accessing in-work benefits, and dealing with childcare.

The first week in a role is the most crucial for most of our candidates, so there is a text message or a telephone call at the end of every day, to ensure that any issues are dealt with straight away.

Once a candidate has been supported in a role for a full 6 months, sustainment evidence is collected.
Recruit London service is still available after that point for anybody who needs it.

Alex, age 27, a resident of Westminster is currently working as a Maintenance Assistant for Hamleys Toy Store on Regent Street. Alex left school at 19 years of age and got onto job seekers allowance. He was unemployed for 8 years before being referred to Recruit London. Alex hit 6 months sustained in October 2017. He is extremely happy in the role and is still in contact with Recruit London.

For further information about the Recruit London service, please contact CRP’s Sylvia Kankasa.

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**Free Support to London SMEs**

**Negotiating a Commercial Lease**

The London Growth Hub is offering free Masterclasses and one-to-one mentoring to London-based SMEs to help them understand commercial leases and negotiate the lease that works best for them. Running in January, February and March 2018, six Masterclasses and six Expert Panel sessions will take place across the capital. In addition, there will be 150 2-hour one-on-one mentoring sessions where individuals will be able to ask a property expert specific questions about a lease they are currently negotiating.

Delivered by Nwes and supported by the Mayor of London and the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), the free Masterclasses are open to any London-based SME thinking about moving premises or is currently negotiating a new lease on their business or commercial property.

For more information, or to register, visit [https://www.growthhub.london/property-advice-service/](https://www.growthhub.london/property-advice-service/).
Save the Date! Clean Air Day 2018

Following the success of the first ever UK-wide Clean Air Day in 2017, CRP will host an evening event in central London to mark Clean Air Day 2018 on 21 June 2018.

This event will celebrate CRP and partners' efforts to clean up London's air.

Hold this date in your diaries – more information will follow.

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