



CROSSRAIL INFORMATION PAPER

F4 – HIGH LEVEL FORUM

This paper explains the role of the High Level Forum and its various sub-groups in the development of Crossrail.

It will be of particular relevance to those interested in the formal arrangements in place for liaison with the local authorities, statutory agencies and other key stakeholders.

This is not intended to replace or alter the text of the paper itself and it is important that you read the paper in order to have a full understanding of the subject. If you have any queries about this paper, please contact either your regular Petition Negotiator at CLRL or the Crossrail helpdesk, who will be able to direct your query to the relevant person at CLRL. The helpdesk can be reached at:

Crossrail
FREEPOST
NAT6945
London
SW1H 0BR

Email: helpdesk@crossrail.co.uk
Telephone: 0845 602 3813

APPROVED

Version 2 – 20/11/07



F4 – HIGH LEVEL FORUM

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the High Level Forum is to act as the top tier of the consultative process during the development and implementation of the Crossrail project.
- 1.2 It is the principal forum for discussion with local authorities regarding the organisation, methods, objectives and timetable for the development of Crossrail and its consultative processes.
- 1.3 Two groups of the forum have been established underneath the High Level Forum, namely the Planning Forum and the Statutory Agencies Forum. Their function is to consider matters of more specialised detail and report back to the High Level Forum. The High Level Forum will deal with such matters only exceptionally when they have not been resolved through consultation at one of these two groups.
- 1.4 Although not linked to the High Level Forum, a Crossrail railway stakeholders forum has also been established, attended by senior figures within the rail industry, to deal with matters affecting their interests.

2. Membership

- 2.1 The High Level Forum is chaired by the Department for Transport Minister with responsibility for Crossrail. It is attended by representatives of Cross London Rail Links Ltd (CLRL), chairs of the Planning Forum and the Statutory Agencies Forum, local authorities, the business community, environmental and railway industry bodies and, under the Code of Practice for the Dissemination of Information During Major Projects, the Crossrail referee.

3. Activities

- 3.1 The principal activities of the High Level Forum are to:
 - consult members on key issues and attempt to find common ground;
 - update members on the progress of the Crossrail Bill;
 - monitor the activities of the Planning Forum, including its three sub-groups the Heritage and Design subgroup, the Environmental Health sub-group and the Highways and Traffic sub-group;
 - monitor the activities of the Statutory Agencies Forum.
 - receive the report of the Crossrail referee.
- 3.2 The activities of the Forum may be varied as appropriate in response to the progress of the Crossrail project.

4 Activities of the Planning Forum and the Statutory Agencies Forum

- 4.1 The Planning Forum has three sub-groups and acts as the focus for Crossrail consultation with local planning authorities on planning matters. It is the main

place for discussion with local authorities about issues arising on the Crossrail Bill on planning controls relating to operational and non-operational land. The three Planning Forum sub-groups are the Heritage and Design sub-group, the Highways and Traffic sub-group and the Environmental Health sub-group (see figure 1).

4.2 The Statutory Agencies forum acts as the focus for Crossrail consultation with local authorities and other organisations with a statutory regulatory function on environmental matters in relation to Crossrail.

5. Administration

5.1 The High Level Forum first met in September 2004. The Forum meets at intervals of three months or as agreed by the participants.

5.2 The Department for Transport (DfT) provides secretariat services for the High Level Forum. Minutes of the meetings are taken and papers published on the DfT's website at www.dft.gov.uk.

Figure 1: High Level Forum and Associated Groups

