

## **UKTram Newsletter No 3 – November 2006**

### **UKTram Project Manager starts**

London Trams has appointed Mustafah Ali as Project Manager, responsible for delivery of the UKTram Activity workstreams. The immediate priority is to make rapid progress with the two DfT-funded Activities, Activity 1 Protection and Diversion of Utilities and Activity 4 Noise and Vibration. The latter project is making good progress already with a draft Stage 1 report expected by the end of December and the final report on schedule for completion by the end of March. Activity 1, however, has made very little progress, due to a poor response from the team members, and we are now seeking to reform this team. A top priority for Mustafah will be to help get this Activity back on track.

Mustafah will, however, have a wide brief, and will be available to assist all Activity Team Leaders with their work as required.

Mustafah starts work on 20 November and will be based in London Trams' offices in Parnell House, London Victoria. He will be contactable via 020 7027 9260.

### **Progress with other Activities**

Progress with the other UKTram Activities has been variable, and is summarised below :

#### **Activity 2 Tram Design Standards and DDA/RVA Issues**

Little progress here, but this team is to take on an overview role in respect of the HMRI-led Tramway Guidance Group which is seeking to collate detailed guidance on available standards in relation to tram designs for the UK.

#### **Activity 3 Signing of Tramways and Highway Interface**

Poor progress due to lack of industry response to the team's questionnaire. A team meeting is being arranged for early December to determine the best way forward.

### Activity 5 Network Rail Interface

A positive response from Network Rail. Two subgroups of this team have now been set up, one to review technical standards, and the other to consider appropriate guidance for scheme promoters.

### Activity 6 Trackform Design

The work of this team has been largely superseded by the EU – sponsored Urban Track Project. London Trams is directly involved in this project through their work on pre-fabricated trackform designs and will be feeding back the outputs of the wider EU project to the Activity team for their consideration.

### Activity 7 Benefits included in the Appraisal Process

This Activity team has spent some time with DfT officials considering how best to capture scheme benefits, and is now concentrating more on providing advice to promoters on how to maximise known benefits within scheme design rather than trying to identify new areas of benefit. The next stage is the holding of a seminar for interested parties to capture wider industry views. This seminar has now been arranged at the Department for Transport in London on Friday 15 December 1030-1330. If you are interested in attending please contact Bill Tyson direct via email at [bill.tyson@gmpte.gov.uk](mailto:bill.tyson@gmpte.gov.uk) .

### Activity 8 Commercial Structure

A final report and summary has been produced and endorsed by the UKTram Steering Group. The summary document is available on the UKTram website at [www.uktram.co.uk](http://www.uktram.co.uk) and the full document is available to those who have access to the members' area of the website (see below). The DfT are currently considering this document and will be issuing their own advice in their forthcoming Guidance Note to Promoters of Light Rail Schemes – this is expected to go out to public consultation within the next few weeks.

### Activity 9 Operational Performance Measures

The team have completed their discussions, and a report summarising the areas of agreement and where differences of opinion still lie is now being considered by the *pteg* Planning Group.

### Activity 10 Standardised Tender Documentation

This team is not yet active as there have been insufficient outputs from the other Activities to date.

### Activity 11 Wheel/Rail Interface Study Stage 2

This Activity, for which a detailed programme of work has already been identified and costed by the HMRI, was considered to be medium priority by the Steering Group, and has not been progressed to date due to lack of

finance available to UKTram. Following discussions with HMRI we will be encouraging the ORR to take this forward.

### Activity 12 Traction Power Supplies

This Activity was considered a lower priority by the Steering Group, and has not been progressed mainly due to lack of personnel resources within the industry at present.

### **Review of ROGS Regulations**

Earlier this year, as a result of lobbying by UKTram, the then Under-Secretary of State for Transport Derek Twigg agreed that the safety assurance element of the ROGS regulations should not be applied to tramways for the time-being, and asked the industry to discuss with the ORR an appropriate regime for tramways. Since then our proposals have been through various drafts, and a special meeting of interested parties has now been arranged for later this month to consider the latest draft and the impact of recent changes to the regulations in relation to the responsibility for the appointment of Competent Persons. The intention is to finalise industry views as quickly as possible and submit the paper to the ORR for their consideration. Further Newsletters and the website will report progress with this important issue.

### **UKTram Website**

The UKTram website at [www.uktram.co.uk](http://www.uktram.co.uk) now contains latest news from UKTram, and has a members' section where various documents and Steering Group minutes can be accessed. Each of the founder members of UKTram has its own username and password, and these are being made available to the constituent members of each organisation. If you qualify for this, please contact the following people as appropriate :

CPT David Walmsley  
LRTF Mary Bonar  
*pteg* Tim Larner

Contact details are shown on the next page.

We also have an email address of [uktram@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:uktram@tfl.gov.uk) which you can use to contact us, or alternatively use the enquiries form on the website.

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Confederation of Passenger Transport UK (CPT)  
Drury House  
34-43 Russell Street  
London WC2B 5HA  
Tel 020 7240 3131

Passenger Transport Executive Group (*pteg*)  
40 – 50 Wellington Street  
Leeds LS1 2DE  
Tel 0113 251 7315

Light Rapid Transit Forum (LRTF)  
c/o Mary Bonar  
Stephenson Harwood  
One, St Paul's Churchyard  
London EC4M 8SH  
Tel 020 7329 4422

London Trams (part of TfL)  
5<sup>th</sup> floor, north wing  
Parnell House  
25 Wilton Road  
Victoria  
London SW1V 1LW  
Tel 020 7027 9260

UKTram Ltd is managed by a Board of Directors appointed by the member organisations, with management activities delegated to a Steering Group on which the DfT is represented and HMRI is a full-time member.

