

This paper will be considered in public

1 Summary

- 1.1 This paper provides the status update of the Elizabeth line operations and on the readiness for further opening stages of the Elizabeth line railway including the remaining work on the Crossrail project.

2 Recommendation

- 2.1 **The Board is asked to note the paper.**

3 Elizabeth Line Opening

- 3.1 The Elizabeth line opened on Tuesday 24 May 2022 to an incredible reception from Londoners and transport enthusiasts from around the world. The celebratory response to the opening saw around 260,000 journeys made on the new central section between Paddington and Abbey Wood across its opening day, clearly showing its popularity. Across the whole line, which stretches from Reading and Heathrow in the west to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east, more than 460,000 journeys were made.
- 3.2 The enthusiasm for the Elizabeth line is clear, as is the transformational impact it will have on London. The railway has opened up new journey options, is supporting jobs and generating a huge economic boost, not only for London but for the whole country. The increase in central London's rail capacity of 10 per cent is the largest single increase in decades and will support the capital's regeneration and recovery from the pandemic.

4 Performance of Operational Service

- 4.1 Initial reliability of the central section has been good, with a remarkable 100% of services achieving the reliability standard on the second day of operations. While long term performance will inevitably be slightly lower, the first few days of reliability reflect the additional resources in place to support opening and the work put in by the operations team.
- 4.2 TfL Rail services on the east and west delivered a Public Performance Measure of 92.3 per cent during period 13 (6 – 31 March 2022). Performance on the east was 92.0 per cent whilst the west recorded 92.7 per cent during the period, with infrastructure failures impacting on both of the surface routes. The overall Moving Annual Average trend ended the year at 94.2 per cent.

- 4.3 Going forward, performance of operational service will be reported as the Elizabeth line as all services between Reading and Heathrow to Paddington and Shenfield to Liverpool Street, previously operating as TfL Rail, have been rebranded.

5 Update on Further Opening Stages

- 5.1 Work will continue in engineering hours and on Sundays to allow a series of testing and software updates in preparation for more these more intensive services. Bond Street's new Elizabeth line station will also open to passengers later this year as work continues to complete the station.
- 5.2 Following the opening of the central section, direct services from Reading, Heathrow and Shenfield are expected to connect with the central section in Autumn 2022 and with full services across the entire route introduced by May 2023. The works to support this are being progressed with the Delivery Control Schedule (DCS) 1.3 continuing to be developed. When finalised the DCS 1.3 will provide a baseline to measure performance and outline all remaining works to the final stage of the programme.
- 5.3 The start date for full Elizabeth line services is linked to improved reliability growth, and successful commissioning of further upgrades to signalling and rolling stock software planned for after the opening of the central section of the railway.
- 5.4 Network Rail station upgrade works on the east continue at Ilford and Romford. Ilford's entry into service is currently forecast for summer 2022, with good progress being made in relation to the ticket hall slab replacement and associated demolition works. Romford station has experienced delays with gaining acceptance of the fire strategy and design as well as general assurance to enable handover, however all parties are collaborating to achieve the earliest possible opening date.

List of Appendices:

None

List of Background Papers:

None

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