

TRANSPORT ECONOMISTS' GROUP

Chair's report for the year 2004

The TEG continued its series of meetings on topical subjects in the field of transport economics. The programme for 2004 was as follows:

January	Commuter services on the CTRL and the Integrated Kent Franchise (Christopher Clark, Project Manager, Strategic Rail Authority)
February	Making markets work in rail freight (Julia Clarke)
March	Increasing costs of rail (Roger Ford, Modern Railways)
April	London Bus Priority: the story so far (Scott Lester, Monitoring and Research, London Bus Priority Team, TfL and Martin Lawrence, FaberMaunsell)
May	The Working Time directive: turning a challenge into an opportunity (Alan Waller, Cranfield University)
June	Appraisal and evaluation: the evolution and potential of the Treasury 'Green Book' (Michael Spackman, NERA Special Adviser)
October	The demand for public transport (Neil Paulley, TRL)
November	The impact of railway privatisation on the labour market (Lesley Hodsdon, Rail Safety and Standards Board)
December	The finances and funding of European railways (Emily Bulman and John Dodgson, NERA Economic Consulting)

The meetings have all been held in the Chadwick Building at UCL. Attendance at meetings continued at a high level, averaging 35, with a range from 13 to 60, compared with an average of 28, (range 14 to 45) in 2003, and an average of 27 (range 19 to 43) in 2002. Members not only receive a reminder prior to the meeting, they can also receive a copy of the speakers' Powerpoint presentations, if they wish.

I have decided to stand down from Chairing the TEG after four years. I have found it very enjoyable and have been able to meet many of the Group's members. I would like to thank the other members of the committee for their help and support over the year. I would particularly like to mention Emily Bulman, who is also standing down from the Committee, for her efforts to make the TEG website much more effective. Rebecca Graham continues to help ensure the smooth running of the Group's affairs.

I am sure that the Transport Economists' Group will continue to thrive, enabling members to discuss issues in transport economics in a serious manner, in a friendly and sociable atmosphere.

Roger Mackett, 14 March 2005