

Committee(s): Streets & Walkways Sub Committee Policy & Resources Committee	Date(s): 19 November 2012 8 November 2012
Subject: Special Events on the Public Highway: RideLondon	Public
Report of: Director of the Built Environment	For Decision
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Summary</u></p> <p>RideLondon is a legacy of the Olympic & Paralympic Games providing the opportunity for the world's greatest cyclists to compete in front of national and international audiences. It is a flagship event for the Mayor of London and Transport for London's (TfL) cycling programme and is planned to take place on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th August 2013.</p> <p>This report allows Members the opportunity to comment on the proposals and consider the appropriateness of the RideLondon event taking into account the nature, scale and impact on the City streets.</p> <p>Other major events currently planned for 2013 will be subject to the usual annual report presented to Members in March.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Members are recommended to support the RideLondon event on 3rd & 4th August 2013, and for officers in the Highways Division to work closely with TfL and the event organisers on the proposed routes through the City.</p>	

Main Report

Background

1. RideLondon is a flagship event for the Mayor of London and TfL's cycling programme and replaces SkyRide, which has taken place in previous years. The aim is to encourage more people to cycle more safely, and more often. It is also seen as a legacy of the Olympic & Paralympic Games providing an opportunity for the world's greatest cyclists to compete in front of national and international audiences.

2. TfL are planning the RideLondon cycling for 3rd & 4th August 2013. The weekend event includes four cycle races with participants being a combination of family fun and elite cyclists. A more detailed outline of the specific cycling races is detailed in appendix 1.
3. The event will be managed by the London & Surrey Cycling Partnership (LSCP), which is a joint venture between the organisers of the London Marathon (London Marathon Ltd) and the Tour of Britain (SweetSpot Group). The LSCP is responsible for delivering the technical elements of the event, working with London authorities, Surrey County Council, Royal Parks, London Legacy Development Corporation and other stakeholders such as the Metropolitan Police and emergency services.
4. It is anticipated that RideLondon could attract over 200,000 spectators, lead to a major boost in cycling numbers and generate millions of pounds in economic benefit. This annual cycling festival is planned to take place for the next five years attracting worldwide TV audiences. It is expected to be a source of income for cycling improvements in London, as well as an opportunity to promote cycling initiatives generally.
5. TfL's proposal is for the RideLondon weekend to open with a family fun ride for up to 70,000 cyclists on an eight mile loop of closed roads around London's iconic landmarks. This will be followed by a 100 mile road ride for up to 25,000 amateur, club and world class elite cyclists beginning in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park with a route mirroring the 2012 Games cycle road race. There will also be a city centre grand prix race involving the women's elite, junior and hand cyclists.
6. The first LOSPG (License, Operational, Safety Planning Group) meeting for RideLondon took place on 24 October 2012 chaired by City of Westminster. The meeting included representatives from London authorities, Surrey County Council, Highways Agency, TfL, NHS (and other health organisations), London Fire Brigade and Metropolitan Police. Officers from the City's Highways Division attend the LOSPG meetings, which are scheduled to take place every month up to the date of the event.
7. TfL and the event organisers require an agreement in principle from London authorities by 30 November 2012 for the event to take place so that planning of this high profile and complex event can commence at the earliest opportunity.

Impact on City Streets

8. The specific routes for RideLondon will be revealed later in the year although the finish for all events is expected to be on The Mall, subject to approval of final details.
9. The FreeCycle event is an eight-mile closed circuit route in central London with a desire to take into account iconic landmarks of London including St Paul's Cathedral, Guildhall, Mansion House, Tower of London and Victoria Embankment. This is expected to take place on Saturday 3rd August 2013 and by its very nature is likely to have the greatest impact on the City streets requiring early road closures lasting for most of the day.
10. The other RideLondon cycling events taking place on Sunday 4th August 2013 will follow a route through London & Surrey (mirroring in part the Olympic & Paralympic cycling circuits) and is likely to include Upper Thames Street, Lower Thames Street and Byward Street in the City. The impact of these events is not considered as significant as the City of London has historically hosted many events using the lower route, for example, London Marathon and British 10K.

Event Approval Process

11. The Director of the Built Environment has delegated authority to make traffic orders to allow roads to be closed for special events, and as such formal Member approval for each event is not required. However, as the RideLondon cycling events are significant for the City in terms of impact and profile it is considered appropriate to seek Members' views on this at the earliest opportunity.
12. Should Members not support this weekend cycling festival, then TfL will be notified accordingly so an alternative route excluding the City of London can be devised. However if Members support the RideLondon event, officers from the City of London will work closely with organisers to ensure its success and adherence to City of London Corporation standards.

City of London Event Guidelines

13. Members are reminded that approval was given to adopt a set of Guidelines for the Planning of Events in the City of London at its Committee meeting in March 2011. The purpose of the Guidelines is to provide advice to event organisers on the application and approval process for their event.

14. In accordance with the Guidelines, the RideLondon event will fall into the category of a Community Event i.e. an event organised with the objective of providing a service to the community and/or making a financial gain with the surplus raised being for charitable distribution or for distribution to local community organisations.
15. RideLondon aims to be the largest fund-raising cycle ride in the world but inevitably planning of an event of this complexity will have a resource implication for authorities. The City of London's Guidelines stipulates that for community events only physical costs are chargeable. These include road closure advertising, barrier provision, street cleansing, promotion, additional parking enforcement, staff overtime.
16. However Members should note that TfL and the LSCP have indicated that authorities may be expected to meet additional costs associated with this event such as cleansing, highway maintenance and provision of volunteers. All costs relating to this proposal can be contained within existing local risk budgets.

Legal Implications

17. The City as traffic authority may temporarily restrict the use of roads for sporting events, social events or entertainments held on a road under section 16A Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. In carrying out its traffic authority functions the City must also have regard to its duty to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic (section 122 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984), and its duty to secure the efficient use of the road network avoiding congestion and disruption (section 16 Traffic Management Act 2004).
18. The delivery of safe and successful events is central to the planning process. In line with other local authorities, the City set up a Safety Advisory Group (SAG) comprising of representatives from the emergency, health and transport services with the primary objective of overseeing the detailed operational planning of events and RideLondon will be subject to the same planning process.

Community Strategy & Other Significant Implications

19. By facilitating special events to take place within the Square Mile, the City can help address its Community Strategy Themes of 'A World Class City' 'A Vibrant and Culturally Rich City' through its encouragement of filming and its management of special events

Consultees

20. The Town Clerk, the Chamberlain, Comptroller and City Solicitor, and the City of London Police have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments included.

Conclusion

21. The City seeks to support charitable, cultural and fund-raising organisations where they are considered to contribute to the vision and objectives of the Community Strategy, by facilitating special events on its road network, and accommodating similar events on Transport for London's Road Network. RideLondon is a pan-London event that is expected to attract significant interest from an international audience at the same time as raising income for cycling improvements and initiatives.

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APPENDIX 1

DATE	CYCLING EVENT
Saturday 3 August 2013 RideLondon Freecycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approximately 8 mile loop in central London• Fully closed roads• Iconic course taking in The Mall, Tower of London, Big Ben, The London Eye and Embankment• 70,000 entrants family and novice cyclists• Free entry
Sunday 4 August 2013 RideLondon 100 Rise to the Challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cycling legacy event from London 2012 Fully closed roads on much of the Olympic Road Cycle course• Start at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park• 100 miles through London and Surrey via Richmond Park• Finish in The Mall• 25,000 entrants
Sunday 4 th August 2013 RideLondon Grand Prix	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closed Roads in and around St James's Park• Women's elite cyclists, hand cycles and youth groups
Sunday 4 th August 2013 RideLondon Classic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park• Route through London and Surrey