

FLEXIBLE COMMUTING

CONSULTATION RESULTS



INTRODUCTION

GLA Conservative London Assembly Member, Roger Evans, has written two policy reports¹ looking at how to make flexible working and commuting cheaper and easier for Londoners.

The key proposals are:

1. The introduction of a 3-day a week Travelcard
2. A system of commuter rebates for people who underuse their annual season ticket

This twin approach would have many benefits including boosting regular cycling and walking, and putting cash back into people’s pockets for making healthier travel choices. It would also become easier for people to work remotely for a day or two per week, help make part-time work pay, and help ease the burden on a public transport system that’s coping with high levels of demand.

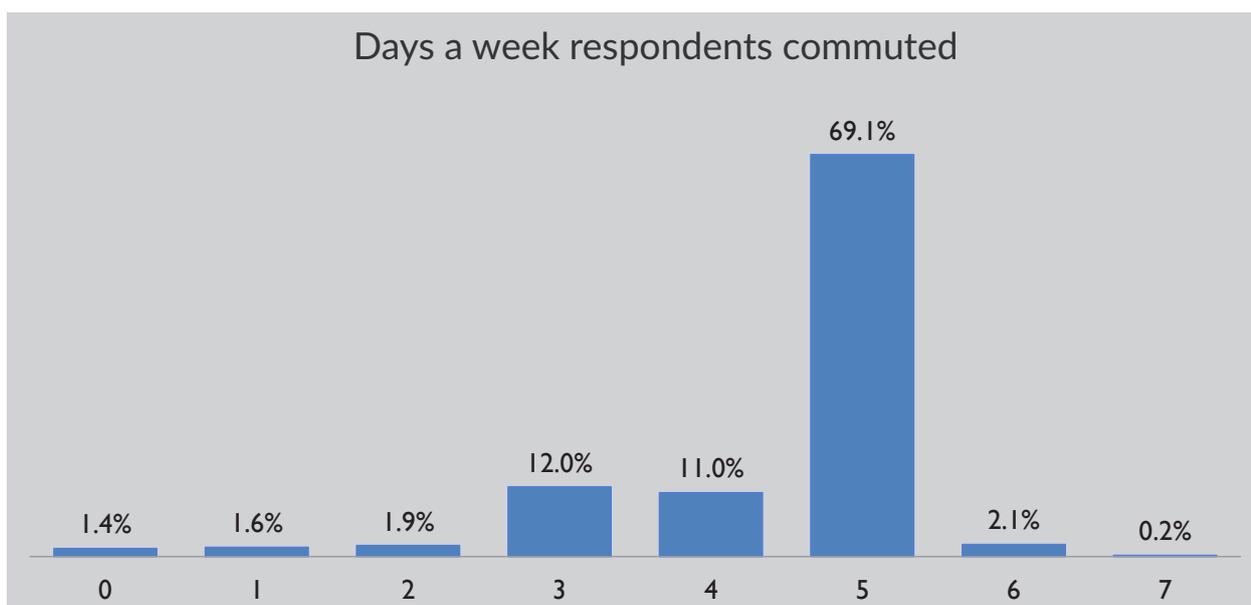
In response to the first policy report, *‘Home Works’*, the Mayor committed to introducing a flexible ticketing package from January 2015.

Upon the launch of the second policy report, *‘Commuter Payback’*, Roger Evans launched a public consultation for Londoners to gauge support for these proposals and ascertain what else might be done to achieve those goals.



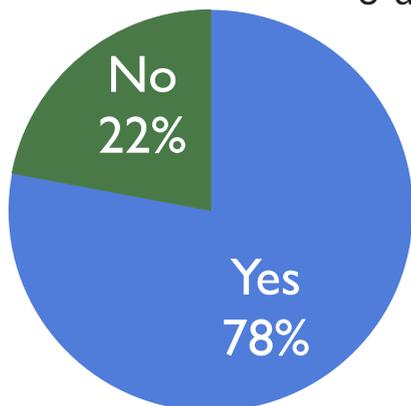
CONSULTATION RESPONSES

The 90-day consultation ended on 1st August 2014 and received a total of 418 responses from Londoners.



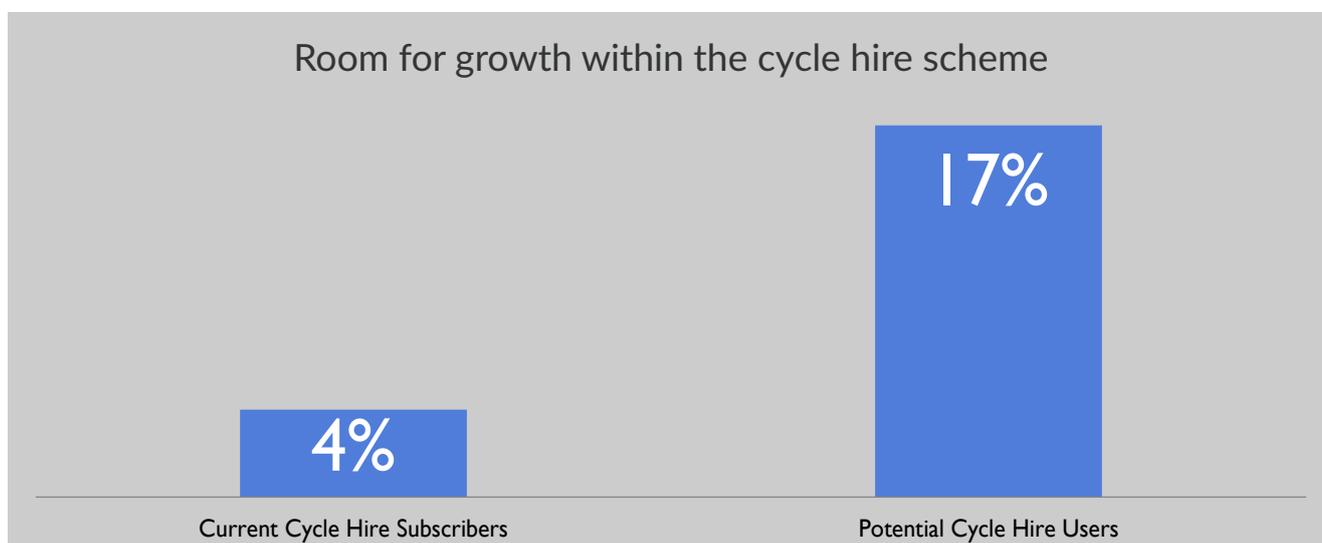
1. Conservative London Assembly Member, [Roger Evans](http://www.glaconservatives.co.uk/hw), has written two policy reports: “Home Works” www.glaconservatives.co.uk/hw and “Commuter Payback” www.glaconservatives.co.uk/cp

3-day a week Travelcard with flexible days



78% of respondents would consider using a 3-Day Travelcard to flexibly commute to work. That is significantly above the 12% of people who currently commute to work for 3 days a week. 'Home Works' suggested that there are many people who might work from home for a day or two per week if ticketing policy made doing so cheaper and easier. The survey results endorse that conclusion. Commuters should have the flexibility to choose which days they travel during the seven-day period.

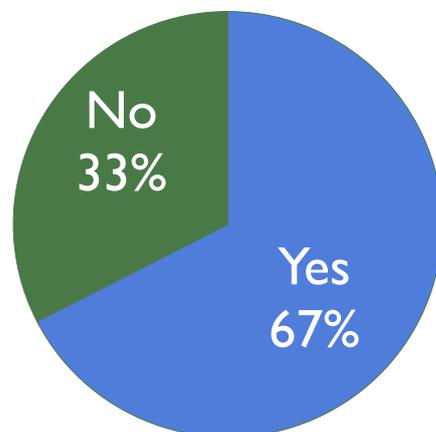
Room for growth within the cycle hire scheme

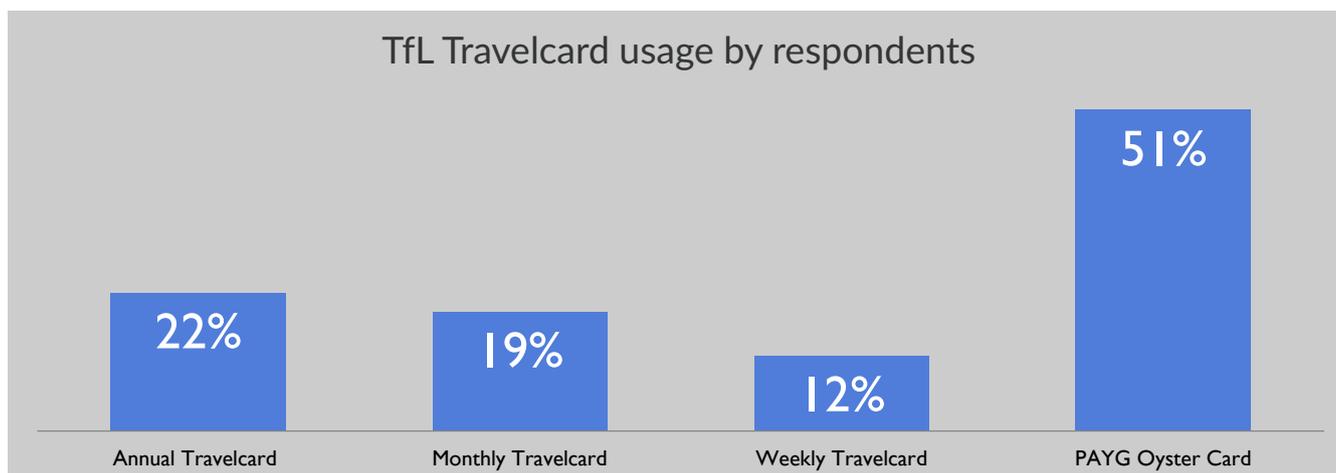


Annual rebates and cycle hire discounts

67% of respondents would consider walking or cycling to work for one or more days a week if a rebate was available for an annual Travelcard. 11% say they commute to work for 4 days a week, and would therefore directly benefit from this proposal even without any behavioural change. Once again this shows there is significant demand to be able to travel more flexibly.

Based on the responses received, TfL should investigate the possibility of providing discounts for Cycle Hire Scheme membership to those with Annual or Monthly Travelcards. This would boost membership, encourage cycling and free up capacity on public transport.





‘Kite mark’ system for businesses offering season ticket loans

19% of those who responded currently use a Monthly Travelcard and, based on their feedback, many do so because they cannot afford an Annual Travelcard. For many Londoners the solution to this is a ‘Season ticket loan’, whereby an employer loans the money for a season ticket to its employee, and then directly removes one twelfth of the cost from the employee’s monthly pay packet over the course of the year. Clearly it is not possible or desirable to try to force employers to offer this option but that does not mean nothing can be done.

For example, whilst there are good reasons why the living wage should not be compulsory, the Mayor has been successful at persuading London’s businesses to pay it. Encouraging London’s businesses to offer season ticket loans could be done in a similar way. Companies that offer season ticket loans to their employees could register with Transport for London so that they receive a kite mark. A simple website would then make it easier to identify those businesses that already use this good practice and would encourage others to start to do so.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. TfL should introduce a 3-day a week Travelcard. This would help make part-time and remote working more affordable. Commuters would have the flexibility to choose which specific days they travel, providing flexibility and alleviating congestion on London’s overcrowded public transport system.
2. TfL should introduce rebates on Annual Travelcards. This would be a good option for those regularly commuting for 3 or 4 days a week and for those who would be prepared to walk or cycle to work for one or two days per week. This system would also alleviate congestion on public transport.
3. In order to help those who currently buy monthly season tickets because they struggle to afford an Annual Season Ticket, TfL should set up a kite mark system for companies.



FEEDBACK

Connect with us online and tell us what you thought about this paper.

Twitter: [@assembly_tories](#)

Facebook: [facebook.com/glaconservatives](#)

Email: assembly.tories@gmail.com



ROGER EVANS
LONDON ASSEMBLY
Greater London Authority
City Hall, The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA