Low Emission Zone – Update and Workplan noted.

2 With reference to the minutes of the City Administration Committee of 13th October 2022 (Print 4, page 438), in relation to Glasgow Low Emission Zone (LEZ)

(1) approving the proposed actions regarding time-limited exemption for non-funded taxi operators; and

(2) agreeing

(a) that financial support provided by Central Government to support affected Taxi Drivers had been insufficient to-date; and

(b) to write to the Scottish Government requesting that additional funding be made available to support affected taxi operators and to support additional retrofitting capacity as was deemed necessary,

there was submitted a report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, advising

(i) that an LEZ Enforcement Working Group continued to oversee the project planning for the operational phase of the LEZ and the Final Contract Change in respect of LEZ Enforcement Solution Implementation had been approved and enacted between Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability and CGI, as detailed in the report;

(ii) that communications activities had continued in accordance with the LEZ Communications and Engagement Plan which included the 'Plan Ahead for the LEZ' publicity campaign and featured the first 2 tranches of the high-profile LEZ television campaign as well as ongoing and complementary radio campaigns, promoted social media posts and outdoor advertising;

(iii) that an application had been made for LEZ funding for 2023/24 in respect of funding for LEZ enforcement and support staff and ongoing communications costs;

(iv) that in terms of the taxi exemption process:-

(A) a further letter had been sent in December 2022 to all public hire taxi operators, informing them of the LEZ enforcement, the support available and the expected timeline for the introduction of the application process for time-limited exemptions;

(B) following correspondence from Unite the Union, representatives had met with the Leader of the Council and the Convenor for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery to discuss the forthcoming guidance around the taxi exemption application process;

(C) the proposed guidance had been shared, which detailed the exemption criteria, the evidence requirements and other details of the application process as detailed; and

(D) the amended application process had been published on the LEZ website on 29th March 2023 and to date over 100 applications had been received; and

(v) of the next steps leading to the enforcement of LEZ on 1st June 2023, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the committee noted

(I) the report;

(II) the commitment to ongoing communications regarding LEZ enforcement; and

(III) the actions undertaken in relation to the LEZ since the last update and planned in the lead in to enforcement.