

Independent Disability Advisory Group

Thursday 25th November 2021

14.30 – 16.30

These minutes are an aide memoire for all parties attending the IDAG meeting.

Attendees	
	IDAG Member (Chair)
	IDAG Member
	IDAG Member
	IDAG Member
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	IDAG Member
	IDAG Member
	IDAG Member
	IDAG Member
Simone West	D&I Team
Karen Venn	D&I Team
Duncan Evans	(Surrey Canal) Principal Sponsor
Aleisha Barton	(Surrey Canal) Apprentice
David Buttigieg	(Surrey Canal) Project Manager
Elizabeth Gaden	(E-Scooter) Project Manager
	(E-Scooter) Tier
	(E-Scooter) Tier
Apologies	

1. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

- 1. [REDACTED]
- 2. [REDACTED]

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#### **4. E-Scooters Audible Sound**

Tier presented their approach to the Audible Sound alarm. They are working with Person-Environment-Activity-Research- Laboratory (PEARL) and Anderson Acoustics.

They wish to develop a universal sound which other e-scooter suppliers could use for free. They would like a solution that could be used in other cities. They are also meeting with the other operators Lime and Dott. There is the intention to collaborate and engage with the Dept. of Transport in using the research outcomes and street testing to input into their legislation.

#### **Feedback from IDAG**

- IDAG congratulated Tier for getting to this stage and applauded the approach they are taking with rigorous research methodology which includes environmental testing. Would like to see more research methodology and finer details when or if you able to disclose. Also applaud that you are also going out of your way to allow the licence to other operators. Pleased to see there is enough testing time to test this and refine the sound in real life scenarios.

- How do you plan to discover the final sound? Do you have a range of different sounds or do you have one which you plan to hone and improve? (Oxford prototyped an electric bus and tried a number of sounds and, in that particular situation, the noise of a diesel bus engine was a winner.)
- For the experiments and user groups, you might want to engage with people who are neurodivergent or have tinnitus and those who are riders as well as pedestrians. Some people are hypersensitive where sounds are louder and/or when sounds hit certain frequencies. You may need a visual symbol to alert or warn people so they can make an informed decision as to whether they want to ride that vehicle. Test with people who have anxiety and panic disorders. Check whether it is perceived as triggering behaviour which is cautionary or alarmed.
- If you are testing in York, you could link up with universities and disabled students, I have a contact to the equalities officer which I can share.

We agree that we want to involve people who are neurodiverse and are working with Transport for All. For mental health we have not reached out to anyone yet but if you have any contacts that would be helpful and would like to be introduced to your contact in York, Equalities Officer.

For the final sound we don't know what that is, we are about to start seeing how sound travels on an E-Scooter speaker and how it reacts to the road environment. The next stage is to test suitable sounds with all participants.

TFL are really excited about Tier's approach. They are breaking new ground where there are no standards or regulations. There is some debate on how you make the sound – should it trigger caution or alarm? It's important that sound does not give scooter users free reign for them to dominate or behave a certain way. Good use behaviour will still be expected.

IDAG thanked the project team and look forward to supporting the work going forward.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]