A conceptual framework for land use and metro infrastructure

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airspace within the tenement block.
Figure 4, shows the typical alignments of the subway, whether under highway, property or open space, based on a drawing in Shipway (1996).

[Disclaimer: This paper reflects solely the views of the authors and is not to be construed as the views of Glasgow Subway, London underground or Transport for London, except where otherwise stated].
Abstract
The continued urbanisation of the world’s population generates pressures for the greater use of urban space. Where underground metro infrastructure is present within the urban environment, interfaces with private property at surface and sub-surface levels can raise issues from both engineering and legal perspectives. This paper introduces a conceptual framework to describe three principal interfaces identified as Presence, Property, and Protection. These three interfaces are interconnected and interdependent, each having three sub-interfaces. The conceptual framework provides a way to determine these interfaces. The paper presents a proof of concept case study based on the Glasgow Subway. It concludes that whilst the three over-riding principal interfaces within the conceptual framework are applicable to any one metro system, not all sub-interfaces may be.

Keywords
Buildings, structures & design; Corporate responsibility; Infrastructure Planning; Railway Systems; Urban Regeneration; Tunnels & tunnelling; Sustainability.

List of notation
CDM – Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015
SPT - Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
UUS – Underground Urban Space
Introduction

In 2014, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, published the World Urbanization Prospects (2014). The report shows that 54% of the world’s population live in urban areas. By 2050, the projections anticipate that 66% of the world’s population will be urban dwellers. This requires greater attention to sustainable development with facilities for the populous to live, work, relax, and travel within, to, and from these urban areas. The requirement for alternatives to use of air and land space within already densely developed cities is driving calls for the use of underground urban space (UUS) under buildings or highways, not just for foundations but as additional functional space (Bobylev, 2009; Durmisevic, 1999; Takasaki, et al., 2000; Cui, et al., 2013; Hunt, et al., 2016). A significant body of work has been produced on such topics, with calls for better urban planning to create sustainable cities and in some instances governmental action to control use of UUS, such as in Japan, Finland and Sweden among others (Bobylev, 2009; 2010; International Tunnelling Association, 2000; Sterling, et al., 2012; Li, et al, 2013; Hunt, et al., 2016). This approach to sustainable urban development requires co-ordinated planning both at ground and UUS levels to be future proofed (Bobylev, 2009; Takasaki, et al., 2000; He, et al., 2012). To date, it appears few published works consider the long-term physical and legal interfaces of engineered underground infrastructure with its environment (International Tunnelling Association, 1991). This is despite physical and legal interfaces influencing how UUS and surface land or air space can be utilised where there are multiple property interests within one plot of land.

Through evidence derived from the lead author’s professional experience as a Land and Vesting Engineer for London Underground, undertaking legal and historical research into land and asset ownership, rights and responsibilities; and case study research relating to the Glasgow Subway, this paper explores some potential long-term physical and legal effects of existing underground metro infrastructure on the built environment. In that metro infrastructure directly and indirectly limits and influences what redevelopment can be undertaken near it. The paper focuses on: what enables the metro’s presence, such as the legislation governing land acquisition and disposal of surplus land; what the interfaces are between engineered underground infrastructure and private property, at ground and sub-soil levels; and the need to appreciate what protection that metro infrastructure has from surface or UUS development. A conceptual framework is presented to suggest a means of
identifying and understanding these interfaces. It is anticipated that the conceptual framework will be just as applicable to other types of transport infrastructure, whether linear or nodal, due to that infrastructure requiring clear definition of ownership, rights and responsibilities where there are multiple interested parties.

The benefits derived from the development of the conceptual framework are not wholly hypothetical in nature; the work has practical application and relevance to infrastructure and construction engineers, town and transport planners, and legal professionals. This practical application is demonstrated by a rare incident north of Old Street London Underground and Network Rail station, in London, in 2013, and the subsequent British Railway Accident Investigation Branch report (2014). This incident saw a flight auger penetrate a 16 feet (4.8m) diameter tube tunnel owned and maintained by Network Rail, the auger penetration occurring during the redevelopment of the surface property above. A cause of this incident, which saw the suspension of railway services on the line, was that neither the property owner, their solicitors undertaking the conveyancing searches, or the workers on site had fully appreciated ‘the significance of an entry on the Land Registry Property Register, relating to the tunnels presence’, nor had the appropriate bodies been contacted to determine the presence of the tunnels (Railway Accident Investigation Branch, 2014). The effect of such an oversight had the possibility of causing serious injury or death to passengers and staff on the railway beneath. Had the existing legal documents relating to the presence of this physical infrastructure been understood, and discussions held with Network Rail, prior to works commencing, this incident should not have occurred.

The conceptual framework
It has been possible to determine that metro infrastructure not only has a physical presence affecting the built environment (Devriendt, et al, 2010; Simpson, et al. 2014; Perry, 2014) but also a statutory and legal presence. (Defining Statutory as meaning that the metro has a right to be present within its environment through its specific enabling legislation and that it must accommodate the statutory rights of other parties, such as utility providers and other transport organisations; and legal as being through contractual agreements for acquisition and disposal of land by the metro company or third parties, or for a right for the metro infrastructure to be located within the land of another party through easements or servitudes.) This has been arrived at through (a) the professional experience of the principal author, outlined
above; (b) the report by the Railway Accident Investigation Branch in 2014; (c) through a survey via the Community of Metros; and (d) from a review of guidance for working near metro infrastructure of three metro organisations (Crossrail, 2016; MTR, 2014; London Underground, 2015; TfL Visual Services, 2016; Transport for London, undated).

These can be grouped into three principal interfaces between urban underground metro infrastructure and private property, identified as:

- Presence
- Property
- Protection.

While the research reported here is focusing solely on existing urban underground metros in tunnel or open cutting, it is anticipated that the findings will be just as applicable to highways and main line railways as it is to metros, each using tunnels in urban environments to minimise their effect on the built environment. This is because of the similar legislation and construction methods for each form of transport. This is exemplified by the northbound Blackwall highway tunnel, passing under the River Thames in London, and its authorising Act of 1887 (Thames Tunnel (Blackwall) Act 1887). This Act incorporates the Land Clauses Consolidation Act 1845, and its subsequent amendments, as do main line (Network Rail) and underground railway (London) authorising Acts in England and Wales, with Scotland having the Land Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act 1845 applicable to the Glasgow Subway and national rail in Scotland.

Figure 1, shows the conceptual framework with the three principle interfaces developed to show that each has an effect on one another and that each is interdependent, as shown by the arrows in the diagram. Without one principal interface, there will not or would not be any need for the others.

Presence – is the controlling interface. It incorporates the three sub-interfaces of legislation, physical and future proofing. It represents: what allows the metro to be within the urban realm; what is actually within or on the ground or within structures above and below ground; and that these interfaces need to be accommodated by parties external to the metro organisation, such as landowners and developers to
ensure their sustainability.

1. Legislation – enables; governs; and may manage the interface between the metro and private property. To build metro infrastructure, governmental authorisation is required whether locally or nationally (Sterling, et al., 2012). It allows the physical construction of the metro; land acquisition, whether compulsorily or through agreement; it outlines how construction works will be undertaken; requirements for and responsibilities of the metro organisation to adjoining land and asset owners; and its potential rights, such as a right of protection of the metro, and vice versa.

2. Physical – without physical infrastructure, there would be no metro. This physical infrastructure is not just the tunnels, but ventilation passages and shafts, sub-stations, station entrances and ticket halls and so on. Any of these may be incorporated within or adjacent to the sub-soil, land, air space or buildings of another party (Baker, 1885). The method of construction of the metro and the strata through which it passes affects adjacent land and buildings but can also be affected by re-development of that land and those buildings (Macklin, et al., 2004; Perry, 2014; Simpson, et al. 2014; Devriendt, et al, 2010; Glass, et al., 2000; Measor, et al., 1962). Therefore the presence of the metro infrastructure must be clearly understood and accommodated (Zhang, Z., et al, 2013; Zhang, J., et al, 2013). Figure 2, shows the site of Kelvinhall station on the Glasgow Subway. It is in open cutting with a glass roof, with the surrounding Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) owned land undeveloped. The design of the station would require any future development of this site to accommodate the presence of the station from physical and legal perspectives. Physically, ensuring the long-term presence and operability of the engineered structures, whilst seeing some acquisition of the land, subsoil and airspace above, and around it. A legal means of ensuring the safe long-term presence of those engineered assets would also be required.

3. Future Proofing – to pro-actively ensure the continued safe presence of metro infrastructure some form of future proofing may have been imposed. Future proofing in this instance being assurance that the presence of the metro infrastructure will be sustainable in to the future. This can be through incorporation of the presence of the metro within urban master plans, with a requirement for planning authorities to consult with the metro organisation
through the planning process when redevelopment of land and buildings are planned; or through safeguarding such as with Crossrail (2016). Alternatively, the metro may have been granted statutory powers to take more land or subsoil, than it physically required for its structures, and either by retaining it or disposing of it with restrictive covenants imposed on the land, through property rights thus future proofing the presence of the metro (Darroch, 2014; Crossrail, 2016). These measures allow pro-active protection of the interests of the metro organisation at proposal rather than construction stage of urban redevelopment (Li, et al, 2013; Rönkä, et al., 1998).

Property – is the ownership, rights, and responsibilities of the metro organisation and the private landowner. It is dependent on the legal presence of the metro within or near the land of another party. There are three sub-interfaces: ownership, rights and protection.

1. Ownership – ownership of land can be difficult to determine, it is not physical in itself, but it does refer to physical or material objects such as land or buildings. The actual boundaries, however, are only in legal documentation, such as conveyance or land transfer agreements, or through understanding of long-term use. Ownership of metro infrastructure is linear and nodal and can relate to physical infrastructure, physical infrastructure and land, or even just air space above or within land or buildings. For example, where a metro company has an easement (or servitude in Scotland) through the lands of other parties, the metro organisation will generally only own the actual materials for its infrastructure (tunnels etc.). It does not own the land around or airspace within its tunnels. It only has an agreement to use it from the landowner, having bought or taken this right. This was common for early ‘tube’ railways in the UK (Darroch, 2012). For a station site, such as that at Kelvinhall, the company constructing the underground metro may buy the whole of the land it requires for the station. Not just the subsoil, but everything above and below. It may also have been required to buy additional land it did not require for the physical presence of that metro infrastructure. This was common on the sub-surface railways of London (Darroch, 2014).

2. Rights – are paramount to the metro organisation and the owner/s of adjacent land, property and assets, whether the metro is present through an easement or servitude or through outright land or sub-soil ownership. Each party has a
right to be present and to use their land or infrastructure as they see fit, as long as it does not unreasonably and adversely affect others. With regard to metros, the right of presence and use of the land is statutory and often subject to legal agreement. For example, figure 3 shows the street entrance to Kelvinhall station. The entrance passageway is owned by SPT, but the remainder of the building belongs to other parties. Should the building be intended for demolition and reconstruction, then SPT’s right of use for entry to the station would need to be maintained.

3. Responsibilities – are the effect of the presence of metro infrastructure on its environment. For example, the presence of under ground metro infrastructure must facilitate the safe presence of buildings or highways above ground. This is achieved by the sub-surface infrastructure giving support to the surface infrastructure (Baker, 1885; Silva, et al., 2005). It is therefore the responsibility of the metro organisation to ensure its assets are fit for purpose, not just for operating a rapid transit system but to ensure the safe presence of other urban infrastructure. Equally, the surface developer, or the mover of an abnormal load (a road vehicle exceeding 40 tons in weight) over the tunnel or structure, has a responsibility to not adversely affect or damage that underground infrastructure (Health and Safety Executive, undated (a); Health and Safety Executive, undated (b); Silva, et al., 2005). So it is advantageous for that developer/haulier to open communication with the metro organisation at planning and design stages for their project; or for the haulage company to notify the metro organisation of their intended movement before making that movement. This can lead to the metro organisation and the developer/haulier working together to ensure the appropriate knowledge and understanding of the relationship between the metro infrastructure and the redevelopment or potential weight restrictions on the structures.

Protection – is an essential requirement of the metro’s presence in an urban environment (Zhang, J., et al, 2013). It can be pro-active, in that it can be applied at early stages of property development (through future proofing methods as outlined above), or reactive in being undertaken once designs for a proposed development have been drawn up. There are three sub-interfaces: contractual, goodwill and statutory.

1. Contractual – is a binding agreement between a landowner, or a developer,
and the metro organisation. For example, where the metro organisation has sold surplus land for redevelopment, it may have imposed restrictions or obligations on the land, known as covenants, within the conveyance. These proactive means of protection are imposed on the land until the metro agrees to remove them; they can therefore last in perpetuity. These may be for the purchaser and their successors in title, to provide designs, demolition and construction methodologies and ground movement calculations to the metro company’s engineer for approval; a restriction on use of the land, perhaps limiting the height and weight of buildings, or even the outright prohibition of development of that land.

2. Goodwill – due to changes in practice relating to land and subsoil acquisition and disposal whether through legislation or otherwise, contractual protection may not exist. In such instances, the landowner/developer is not contractually required to discuss with the metro organisation mitigation of risks to metro assets. Therefore protection of that existing infrastructure is through the goodwill of the landowner/developer contacting the metro organisation to discuss the proposed works and seeking guidance from the metro organisation. Contractual agreement may then be met once these discussions are opened, but this would be responsive rather than pro-active.

3. Statutory – protection is the most beneficial means of protecting metro infrastructure. Through specific legislation, as used in Nordic countries, such as Finland and Sweden, and in Japan, where their metros are of newer construction than those in the UK, landowners/developers are obliged to follow UUS regulation on the use of subsoil (International Tunnelling Association, 2000). Users of UUS are consulted on changes to surface land use, and thus are able to open discussions with planning bodies and landowners/developers for the use of the and thus protect their presence. In the UK, there is no such statutory protection on metro infrastructure (Railway Accident Investigation Branch, 2014; Department for Communities and Local Government, 2014). Legislation and regulations such as the Party Wall Act 1996 and the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM), do not wholly ensure that a property owner or developer will check for or mitigate against adverse effects to metro infrastructure (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2016; Health and Safety Executive, undated (b)). Following the Old Street incident (outlined above), amendments to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 in England, has seen some move
to statutory consultation with railway infrastructure managers by local planning authorities. However, these changes are only for planning authorities to consult those organisations (London Underground, Network Rail, heritage or other railway systems) with railway infrastructure in England, on planning applications within 10 metres of railway land (The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.). The responses provided by the railway infrastructure bodies do not have to be accommodated within planning decisions, however. Therefore there is still no effective statutory *pro-active* protection of the infrastructure. Nor does this amendment apply to Wales or Scotland which would be relevant to main line railway tunnels.

**Proof of concept study – Glasgow Subway**

To determine if the conceptual framework is applicable outside of the London scenario and if it has potential relevance to metros internationally, a proof of concept study was undertaken using the Glasgow Subway. There were a number of reasons for this choice:

- similarities but ample differences physically and legally to the London network
- a common language, where it was essential to start with a network where technical and legal terms could be clearly understood
- familiarity of the researchers with the system from practical experience as users and with knowledge of that urban environment
- availability of primary and secondary sources of information relating to the system

The study commenced in November 2014 with a desktop review of primary and secondary sources, such as relevant legislation, historic mapping, satellite imagery, journal articles, and books published on the Subway. This led to the formulation of specific questions, relating to the interfaces between engineered and legal infrastructure and private property, to be put to a semi-structured group interview of members of Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT). Those present in a meeting with them at Broomloan depot, Glasgow in January 2015 included the Project Engineer, Senior Transport Planner, and the Senior Legal Advisor. In addition, site visits to stations and locations where the tunnels passed under land and property were also undertaken around the whole of the subway network to identify first-hand
the relationship between the Subway and its environment. Inspection of the physical interfaces of the metro with its urban environment enabled a clearer understanding of the interfaces outlined in the conceptual framework.

**Glasgow Subway Overview**

Construction of the circular twin tunnel route of the Subway, wholly in bored or mined tunnel or covered way (top down construction with an arch over the void to form a tunnel), began in 1891 and was completed by 1896, with 15 stations along its nearly 6.5 mile (10.5 km) long alignment. Due to its track gauge of 4ft (1.21m), the tunnels are generally 11ft in (3.35m) diameter. Station tunnels use single island platforms, side platforms and in a few instances one side and one island platform. The station tunnels were formed, or reformed in the 1970s, through cut and cover construction between retaining walls or with an arch over the void (Stewart, A., 1895.; Shipway, J., 1996). Most station sites at ground level today are undeveloped apart from surface buildings for Subway purposes, such as ticket halls and substations. This was an effect of a 1970s reconstruction programme, which saw the general demolition of tenement blocks by Glasgow City Council and the need for new station facilities to replace those that had been demolished along with the tenement buildings within which ticket halls had been incorporated (Anderson, K., 2014, p.69; Wright, et al., 1997). During this period, the Subway was modernised, seeing changes made to stations including land ownership at ground level. In 2014, 12.95 million passengers used the Subway according to ‘The Glasgow Herald’ newspaper (2015).

**Application of the Conceptual Framework to Glasgow Subway**

To determine the practical applicability of the conceptual framework to the Glasgow Subway it was necessary to consider each interface and their associated sub-interfaces within its own context with the available data from the SPT semi-structured interview, primary and secondary sources.

**Presence**

1. Legislation - authorisation for the construction of the Subway was granted by the Glasgow District Subway Act 1890. This Act incorporated the Land Clauses Consolidation (Scotland) Act 1845, which specified the rights and obligations of a railway company and landowner in Scotland for the acquisition and disposal of land. In the Subway’s instance, the Acts allowed
the acquisition of subsoil and lands for its undertaking through compulsory purchase, servitude (a right over the property of another, an easement in England) or through agreement with the landowner. Where the subway passed under public highway, there was no need for purchase of servitude or ownership, the Act granting statutory use of that subsoil. To enable the 1970s modernisation of the Subway, subsequent legislation was passed enabling the compulsory acquisition of land and rights (Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Order Confirmation Act 1975). This resulted in today’s ownership of surface land above stations by SPT.

2. Physical – figure 4 shows the typical alignments of the subway, whether under highway, property or open space, based on a drawing in Shipway (1996). While there are few additional surface interfaces for the metro, beyond station buildings for station functions, the form of construction of the actual tunnels is important and must be accommodated. This is especially the case where the Subway is located within soft strata such as sand and gravels or clay south of the River Clyde, rather than rock, which is predominant north of the River Clyde (Shipway, 1996). In soft sub-soil, UUS use is much more likely whether for basement additions to existing property or for new development with deeper (piled foundations), both of which would increase the interface between the subway and private property (Bobylev, 2009).

3. Future Proofing – while there was the opportunity for the Subway owners when selling surplus lands, to impose covenants on property to safeguard the subway’s physical and legal interfaces with property, it appears that there was little effort to do so. The same lack of foresight affected the 1975 legislation, which allowed the Greater Glasgow Passenger Transport Executive to acquire additional lands for its works. However, as that Act was focusing predominantly on the acquisition of land for the Subway works, this is not surprising. During the semi-structured interview and discussion with SPT it was highlighted that any future land disposals above stations, owned by that body, whether leased or sold for development, will see the imposition of covenants for protection of the Subway.

Property

1. Ownership - Through the semi-structured interview and discussion with SPT, it became apparent that most land and sub-soil acquisition was through agreement for servitude though some outright ownership acquisition was
undertaken. Over subsequent years, land acquired outright was sold leaving the railway with servitudes under private property. Where access to the subway was through a tenement building (as shown in figure 3), the Subway company retained ownership of the airspace within the tenement block used for the ticket office and passage to the station proper. With the 1970s modernisation and demolition of surrounding buildings, the Subway acquired outright ownership of land above its underground stations with the addition of purpose built surface buildings to replace the original demolished tenement building entrances.

2. Rights – due to the servitude of the Subway under private property, the SPT only has a right to use the subsoil under that private property. Despite the obligation for SPT to operate a safe railway, it cannot enforce any protection for itself from external agencies. In this instance, the landowner has the most benefit having a right of support from the Subway infrastructure and the right to use their land as they desire. This is within the town planning constraints imposed by the local authority, which do not accommodate the need for or facility to ensure the safe presence of the Subway. There is therefore a potential risk to the Subway that surface works could affect the presence of the railway, even inadvertently. As mentioned above, such a risk is greater south of the River Clyde where the strata is softer than on the north side, where it is rock and unlikely to see UUS use, due to the benefits rock strata gives to building support and the costs that excavating rock stratum incurs (Hood, 2004, p.84).

3. Responsibilities – despite the lack of ownership of sub-soil beneath private property and the right of the landowner to use their land, there is still a responsibility for SPT and the landowner to accommodate each other’s needs, and the needs of the Subway’s 12.95 million passengers per year. Failure to do so could see financial penalties on any party that was to cause short or long-term disruption or damage to the safe operation and presence of the railway and its related infrastructure.

Protection

1. Contractual – As has been highlighted above, contractual protection of the railway has generally not been imposed on lands sold by the Subway owners in the past. During the semi-structured interview, the members of SPT were able to explain the practical effects of such contractual protection with
illustration from the extension of the Buchanan Street shopping centre, in the centre of the city. At this location, a pedestrian subway containing a moving walkway, both owned by SPT links the Subway station to Queen Street main line station (owned by Network Rail). Not only will the shopping centre works affect the safe operation of the SPT infrastructure, but they will also result in improvements to the existing infrastructure and additional features, all of which have been agreed between SPT and Buchanan Partnership as part of the shopping centre works. That way the user of the subway gains protection not only from building works but also for the future with improved facilities (SPT, 2015).

2. Goodwill – due to the lack of contractual right to protection for the presence of the Subway, the goodwill of a landowner/developer is essential. It was highlighted through the discussion with SPT that should it be necessary to protect the infrastructure from adjacent development, it would be necessary to take out an injunction for works to cease. However, it was stated that this is an absolute last resort. The preferable option being to discuss with the landowner/developer their proposals at design stage so the safe presence of the Subway could be accommodated. This is also a reactive, rather than the more beneficial proactive, method of dealing with interfaces between the metro and third party development.

3. Statutory – as described above, current legislation and regulations do not allow for specific statutory obligation for a landowner/developer to discuss proposals for use of land adjacent to or above the metro with the metro organisation.

**Findings and conclusion**

This paper has highlighted that from research undertaken so far, while there is a significant body of work produced on future potential uses of UUS and in some instances governmental action to control use of subsoil, few published works consider the long-term physical and legal interfaces of engineered underground infrastructure within its environment. These physical and legal interfaces influencing how urban environments can be utilised where there are property interests of two or more parties in one plot of land. For example the placement of building foundations, or even the buildings themselves can and will be affected by the presence, property and means of protection of the metro infrastructure.
A conceptual framework influenced by the lead author’s first hand professional experience of the London Underground relationship between the engineered and legal infrastructure and private property and utilities; an initial survey of member organisations of the Community of Metros; the findings of a UK Railway Accident Investigation Branch report (2014) into the reasons why a flight auger penetrated a deep tube tunnel in London; and a semi-structured group interview with representatives from Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, has therefore been presented. The aim of the framework is to identify and explain the three principal interfaces between underground metros and private property within an urban environment, with sub-interfaces clarifying what these interfaces are or could be. These interfaces and sub-interfaces are identified as:

- **Presence** – Legislation allowing physical presence of metro infrastructure and enabling the future proofing of that infrastructure
- **Property** – aspects of land ownership, rights and responsibilities of the metro and landowners/developers
- **Protection** – whether contractual, goodwill or statutory.

To determine the practical applicability of the conceptual framework, the interfaces of Glasgow Subway were researched and have been presented as a proof of concept study. The findings from this study show that the three principals of interface apply to that metro system as they do with London. There are however instances where the sub-interfaces are not applicable due to their non-existence. For example the specific statutory interface of protection is not applicable as there is no statutory requirement in England or Scotland for landowners/developers to discuss their projects with the metro organisations affected. There are however legislation and regulations such as the Party Wall Act 1996 and the CDM Regulations 2015, but these are reactive for the metro system as CDM particularly does not oblige the promoter of new development to engage with the metro.

From the findings of the case study, it is argued here that while not all sub-interfaces may be applicable to any one metro, or even any one line of a metro system that has more than one line, there is a need for an understanding of them. Whilst further work is being undertaken to demonstrate the applicability of the conceptual framework to London Underground, it is suggested here that the framework will be applicable to many metro systems across the world. This further research will present scenarios of
London and compare these with examples of international metro infrastructure. The presence of existing underground infrastructure, whether linear or nodal, therefore requires greater research and discussion when considering the development of policies to encourage sustainable cities, especially in light of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations projections that by 2050, 66% of the world’s population will live in an urban environment with the requisite demands on land use and needs for beneficial transit systems.

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