

London Assembly
MQT – 22 October 2014
25th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

This is my twenty-fifth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period 4 September – 8 October.

Executive Summary

Launch date of 'historic' new Night Tube service

On 23 September, I announced that the 24-hour 'Night Tube' will begin operation from the early hours of 12 September 2015, transforming night time journeys across London for millions of people.

The Night Tube will cut night time journeys by an average of 20 minutes, with some cut by more than an hour. It will also play a vital role in opening up London's night-time economy to a host of new opportunities, supporting around 2,000 permanent jobs and boosting the economy by £360 million.

Bakerloo Line consultation launched

TfL has now launched a public consultation to seek views on the extension of the Bakerloo line, which could run from Elephant & Castle towards New Cross, Lewisham, Bromley and Hayes.

As outlined in my 2050 Infrastructure Plan, the extension would play a key role in helping to deliver much-needed and wider improvements in south London, including new frequent and high-quality 'metro' style services that I want to see operating in all parts of the capital.

London Housing Bank

On 26 September, working with DCLG, I opened an innovative new £200 million investment scheme for developers and housing associations that will help accelerate the building of thousands more low cost homes for Londoners. The London Housing Bank offers tailored financial support to speed up the construction of homes compared to existing development timetables.

London's air quality improvements win double C40 acclaim

On 22 September, London received two prizes at the prestigious C40 Siemens City Climate Leadership Awards, which were part of the UN Climate Change Summit in New York. London received the 'Air Quality' prize in recognition of my carbon cutting measures and we also received the 'Carbon Measurement' award for creating a new carbon accounting standard, which has become an international best practice benchmark.

London's New Year's Eve celebrations to be ticketed for the first time

On 17 September, I announced that London's New Year's Eve fireworks celebrations are to be ticketed for the first time. With plans well advanced for 2014, I want to ensure London's celebrations, which are watched by millions of people in the UK and across the world, will offer revelers the safest and most enjoyable event imaginable. This year 100,000 tickets will be available to the public, which will guarantee good views of the celebrations and a better visitor experience.

Invictus Warrior Games on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Between 10 and 14 September, I attended the inaugural Invictus Games. The Games, championed by Prince Harry, saw over 400 injured, sick or wounded servicemen and women from 13 countries compete in sporting events on and around Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Crowds of 65,000 packed venues during the Games to see events including wheelchair rugby, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, indoor rowing, athletics, cycling, archery and swimming.

Policing, Crime and Community Safety

Taking charge of funding to support the capital's crime victims

On 1 October, I pledged to transform the way victims of crime are helped in London as MOPAC took on responsibility for commissioning victim services in the capital.

While crime in London is falling at a faster rate than the rest of the country, there are still over 50,000 notifiable crimes recorded each month. Currently two-fifths of victims believe that the criminal justice system fails to provide them with support that they need, whilst over a quarter believe that the views of victims and witnesses are not taken into account.

MOPAC will now be responsible for commissioning over £15 million of victim services in the coming 18 months. This includes an additional £2.36 million secured through my lobbying of central Government to redress the imbalance created by London's funding allocation being based on how many people live in the capital, rather than the number of referrals to Victim Support and level of recorded crime.

This extra money means that MOPAC can provide funding to address the specific needs of victims in London. Following an independent review of victim services in the capital overseen by Baroness Newlove, the Victims' Commissioner earlier this year, MOPAC will focus this funding on putting the victim at the centre of support services in the capital and it will plug key gaps in provision.

'Your Police, Your Say' roadshows

For the second time this year, Londoners are being encouraged to give their views on crime and local policing in their area at a series of borough meetings hosted by my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Stephen Greenhalgh, and the MPS. The second round of meetings started with Kingston on 8 September.

The 'Your Police, Your Say' roadshows will give Londoners an opportunity to raise any community safety issues in their area and comment on the changes made to improve local policing following the publication of my Police and Crime Plan in March 2013.

The Police and Crime Plan set out my mission to make London the safest big city on earth and challenged the MPS to cut seven key neighbourhood crimes by 20 per cent, boost public confidence by 20 per cent, whilst also cutting costs by 20 per cent by 2016.

Since the Plan was introduced, over 2,000 officers have been moved from back office to frontline duties and Safer Neighbourhood Boards (SNBs) have been established to oversee the setting of local policing and crime priorities as well as monitoring complaints against the police, since March last year 27 SNBs have now been set up.

Counter Terrorism Cities Summit

On 12 September, I convened a meeting of Police and Crime Commissioners and police leaders from London, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds, to discuss the current terrorist threats facing cities and to look at ongoing efforts to boost community confidence in the police and tackle violent extremism, including radicalisation of young people.

The meeting also examined the public safety impact of people returning from Syria and Iraq on the UK's biggest cities and the operational consequences of the recently raised terror threat level.

London Crime Reduction Board

On 15 September, I chaired a meeting of the London Crime Reduction Board. The Board discussed the Business Crime Strategy and the work currently being undertaken by MOPAC, the MPS and business partners, to raise confidence in the business community and effectively counter business crime in all its forms, including cyber-crime. Central to this is the roll out of Business Crime Reduction Partnerships using the Safer London Business Partnership model. The Board was also updated on work relating to Gangs and Youth Reoffending.

National Police Memorial Day Service

On 28 September, my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Stephen Greenhalgh, attended the National Police Memorial Day Service in Belfast on my behalf. As well as being an opportunity to remember police officers who have been killed or died on duty, it was also a time to recognise the dedication to duty and courage displayed by police officers every day.

Transport

Launch date of 'historic' new Night Tube service

On 23 September, I announced that the 24-hour 'Night Tube' will begin operation from the early hours of 12 September 2015, transforming night time journeys across London for millions of people.

The announcement came as independent research into the economic benefits of the Night Tube found that the new service will boost jobs and help maintain London's status as a vibrant and exciting place to live, work and visit. Delivering on a pledge that I made last November, the

new service has been made possible thanks to the continued modernisation of significant parts of the LU network and improved levels of reliability.

The Night Tube will cut night time journeys by an average of 20 minutes, with some cut by more than an hour. It will also play a vital role in opening up London's night-time economy to a host of new opportunities, supporting around 2,000 permanent jobs and boosting the economy by £360 million.

Demand for a 24-hour Tube service is clear, late night Tube ridership has increased at double the rate of daytime trips and night bus usage has risen by 270 per cent since 2000. In order to meet the expected demand for Night Tube services, there will be six trains per hour through central London on all Night Tube lines, including the Jubilee, Victoria and most of the Piccadilly, Central and Northern lines. On the Northern line, there will be eight trains per hour to meet demand at busy stations between Leicester Square and Camden Town.

Cycle Superhighway Upgrades endorsed by business leaders and doctors

A substantial number of City and central London businesses have joined with medics from the Royal London Hospital to endorse the upgrades to my cycle superhighway programme.

Cycle Superhighway 2 from Whitechapel to Bow will be upgraded to a world-class fully and semi-segregated cycle track under plans launched for consultation on 23 September. The upgrade will see full and semi segregation installed along the whole route between Whitechapel High Street and Bow. Eleven pioneering cycle- priority junctions would also be installed, including at Aldgate East, Mile End and Whitechapel. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, work would begin in early 2015 and be completed by March 2016.

Traffic Modelling Data

On 25 September, Traffic modelling data for my new cycle superhighway schemes was released as part of the GLA's commitment to openness and transparency over journey times and their impacts on vehicle traffic. Given the complexity of the modelling and the amount of data under consideration, TfL has now extended the consultation period on both the North-South and East-West schemes by three weeks to 9 November.

Daniel Moylan to oversee City Hall's work on the Crossrail 2 project

On 10 September, I announced that Daniel Moylan's responsibilities as a Transport for London Board Member are to be extended. Mr Moylan will champion the Crossrail 2 scheme and oversee the work that TfL will do to take the scheme forward. He will carry out this work alongside his current responsibility for my aviation policy, making the case for a new hub airport to the east of London, as well as his wider work on the TfL Board.

The Friends Life Tour of Britain London Stage

On 14 September, the Friends Life Tour of Britain returned to London for its final stage. The event gave Londoners another chance to see cycling superstars and proved to be a great spectacle.

The Friends Life Tour of Britain London Stage presented by TfL, saw individual time trials in the morning, as well as racing 88km on a nearly 10km circuit beginning and ending in Whitehall

in the afternoon. The elite riders raced through the City and along the Victoria Embankment, where London's new flagship East-West Cycle Superhighway is proposed to be located in 2016.

East London Transit passengers benefitting from increased frequency

Passengers on East London Transit (ELT) routes EL1 and EL2, which serve the Ilford and Barking areas, have received a boost following the introduction of a more frequent service on both routes from Monday to Saturday.

The routes, which operate between Ilford Station and Barking Riverside (EL1) and Dagenham Dock (EL2), now each have six buses running every hour during the day on weekdays and Saturdays. TfL has introduced a 20 per cent increase in capacity on routes EL1 and EL2 due to more passengers using these services as new homes become occupied in the Barking Riverside area.

Barking Riverside London Overground extension consultation

TfL is now seeking public views on an initial consultation on plans to extend London Overground services on the Gospel Oak to Barking line to a new station at Barking Riverside.

Barking Riverside is the largest housing development in east London, with planning permission for up to 10,800 new homes, as well as healthcare, shopping, community and leisure facilities. Significant transport infrastructure must be built to support the development, as without a suitable rail link no more than 1,500 homes can be built on the 443 acre former power station site. Introducing the services of one of the UK's most punctual and popular railways will fast-track the renaissance of Barking Riverside.

London Underground applies for powers to enlarge Bank station

The 98 million Tube and DLR passengers who use Bank and Monument stations every year are now closer to having quicker and easier journeys as TfL confirmed it had formally applied for powers to redevelop the interchange.

TfL has submitted a Transport and Works Act Order application to the Secretary of State for Transport to give London Underground the powers to construct the new tunnel, upgrade the station, and operate the new section of railway. The next stage involves a public inquiry, which is likely to be held during spring 2015. Following this, the Government will make a decision which is expected to be by the end of 2015.

If powers are granted for the redevelopment to go ahead, a new southbound Northern line tunnel will be constructed through Bank station, together with wider platforms, more lifts and escalators, and a 96 metre moving walkway to speed up interchange between Tube lines. Currently 98,000 customers go through Bank station in the morning peak, however, when works are complete, the station will be able to cater for more than 140,000 customers.

With funding in place and the relevant powers obtained from Government, construction of the Bank Station Capacity Upgrade would begin in 2016, with the station improvements ready for passengers by 2021.

I consented, as required by Section 20(4) of the Transport and Works Act 1992, as amended by Section 168 of the GLA Act 1999, to authorise TfL to submit an application for an Order under

the Transport and Works Act 1992 for powers to implement the Bank Station Capacity Upgrade project.

Drivers and pedestrians advised of essential maintenance works on Woolwich Ferry loading bridges

TfL and Briggs Marine and Environmental Services have commenced maintenance works to overhaul four movable loading bridges which provide the means for vehicles and pedestrians to get on and off the Woolwich Ferry. These works, which will make the operation of the bridges more reliable, efficient and better able to cope with the estimated increase in vehicle weights in the next 10 to 15 years, are scheduled to finish in spring 2015.

TfL's contractors will be working on one of the four movable loading bridges at a time. The ferry will continue to operate throughout the works and delays to traffic will be minimised as far as possible.

Click and Collect expands to 42 London Underground stations

TfL has announced that following the huge success of its Click and Collect trial at London Underground station car parks, the service is now to be extended to an additional 17 Tube stations, taking the total number of locations to 42.

Over the last ten months, TfL has been working with a number of major retailers to trial Click and Collect at 25 Tube station car parks. The trial has been hugely successful for all the retailers involved, with over 10,000 Click and Collect orders being made since November 2013.

Tesco has announced that it will now be expanding its Click and Collect services to an additional eight stations, making them the largest Click and Collect retailer on TfL's network while Ocado has become the latest retailer to bring their services to customers and will be introducing their services to four LU station car parks on a trial basis.

Waitrose has also announced that it will be the first supermarket to launch temperature controlled Click and Collect lockers on the TfL network. From October, Waitrose's lockers will be installed in three LU station car parks at Chalfont & Latimer, Ickenham and Chorleywood.

As well as established Click and Collect partnerships with major retailers, TfL is also working with small businesses, independent retailers and start-up companies such as Rockflower, who have installed the world's first retail and vending flower kiosk at Blackfriars London Underground Station.

Work to replace the Ardleigh Green road bridge on the A127 begins

TfL has begun work to completely replace the Ardleigh Green Bridge as part of its continuing programme of road modernisation in the capital. The work will see the 90 year old bridge, which carries the A127 Southend Arterial Road over National Rail lines in Romford, replaced with a new, wider structure with better facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in the area. The new bridge will also provide improved headroom for trains running to and from London.

During the preliminary works, some off-peak and night-time traffic lane closures will be required. However, the majority of works will take place off the carriageway to reduce disruption to traffic, and noise will be kept to a minimum.

Early next year a new service bridge will be built to the side of the existing bridge, to carry the utilities services which are currently buried within the road. This will also allow utility companies to access cables without needing to carry out roadworks on the bridge, reducing future disruption to the road network. The main works to replace the existing bridge will then take place over two years from 2015 and are scheduled to be completed by late 2017.

Once completed, the proposed new road bridge will not only provide wider carriageways and upgraded bridge parapets, but also improved footways, planting and lighting throughout the area.

TfL shows its support for Rainbow Laces 2014 at Arsenal Underground station

On 13 September, Arsenal Underground station hosted its first ever rainbow zebra crossing as part of TfL's support for *Stonewall's* 2014 Rainbow Laces campaign, which aims to kick homophobia out of football. Arsenal and Manchester City fans arriving at the station were given the opportunity to be photographed as they walked across the colourful crossing.

TfL unveils ambitious plans for London Underground's historic home

TfL has unveiled ambitious plans for the redevelopment of London Underground's historic home at the Grade 1 listed 55 Broadway.

The plans propose to transform the iconic building in Westminster to a landmark residential development with adjoining affordable and social housing and improved retail units. The project is part of TfL's radical new plans to generate more non-fare revenue, around £3.5 billion, which will all be reinvested into improving London's transport network.

Detailed analysis conducted earlier this year identified that a residential led development of 55 Broadway would be the most suitable option to deliver best value for fare and taxpayers and would maintain the heritage of the building, enabling many of its original features to be retained. TfL has delivered a substantial on-site affordable housing provision with 22 per cent of homes affordable, including a number of high quality three bed duplex flats for social housing for families.

Recognising the building's architectural significance, TfL is now leading the work to prepare a planning application for submission next month. Throughout the process TfL has engaged English Heritage to ensure the proposals preserve the building's iconic status.

All revenue raised from the redevelopment of 55 Broadway and the rest of TfL's commercial activities will be reinvested, enabling TfL to make journeys better for everyone who uses public transport and the road network.

TfL appoints Indra to modernise London's Tunnels Control Centre

TfL has appointed Indra to modernise the technology for the control and operation of the 12 road tunnels in London. The new contract covers the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of a new integrated system to support the London Streets Tunnels Operations Control Centre (LSTOC).

This upgrade will provide a single, future-proofed intelligent system which can allow for further upgrades not previously possible, along with new control room equipment. The new system will improve how real-time information is presented to and used by LSTOC and the London Streets

Traffic Control Centre, who work with other incident responders such as the emergency services to deal with traffic incidents. These improvements will also allow for real-time information about incidents in the tunnels to be obtained, allowing TfL to minimise the knock-on effects these can cause across London's streets.

TfL upgrades London's safety cameras

TfL has begun work on a programme to overhaul the capital's road safety camera network, replacing hundreds of old 'wet film' cameras with modern and more efficient digital safety cameras in order to help further reduce casualties on London's roads.

Safety cameras have proved successful in reducing road casualties in recent years. At locations where safety cameras operate in the capital, research shows that the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) fell by an average of 58 per cent. During 2013, 29 of the 132 fatal collisions that occurred in London involved speeding as a contributory factor. Last year, the police commenced prosecution against 120,000 drivers for speeding and red light offences in the capital.

TfL and the MPS have now replaced and commissioned the first 28 of 250 red light cameras at traffic signal junctions across London. In addition to enforcing against "red light running", these new cameras can also monitor and enforce against vehicles breaking the speed limit while going through green traffic lights, helping to further improve safety at junctions where the risk is higher. Further sites will be commissioned in the coming months, with all 250 upgraded by October 2016.

TfL will also shortly begin upgrading the capital's 350 speed cameras with spot speed digital cameras. When located on the central reservation, these new cameras can also monitor speed in both directions, providing a wider area of enforcement for the Police. In addition, at four trial locations on the TfL Road Network, TfL will be replacing older cameras with an Average Speed Camera system, similar to the one already in operation along the A13. Average Speed Cameras improve speed compliance between cameras along a more extensive length of road rather than just where the camera is located, helping to further reduce KSIs. Work to install these will begin later this year, with the systems beginning enforcement in 2015. Work to upgrade the existing speed camera network to digital cameras will be completed by October 2016.

Contactless payments launched across transport in London

On 16 September, TfL introduced contactless payments on Tube, tram, DLR, London Overground and National Rail services that accept Oyster. Since contactless payments launched across public transport in London, more than one million journeys have now been made using contactless payment cards and devices.

Expanding Europe's greenest bus fleet

London's bus retrofit programme, already the largest in the world, is to be expanded by a further 400 vehicles, bringing the total number of buses fitted with this bespoke technology up to 1,800. A grant of £500,000 from the Department for Transport's Cleaner Vehicle Technology Fund will also enable a London fire engine to be retrofitted for the first time, extending technology proven on London's buses to the London Fire Brigade.

The retrofit process involves fitting a Selective Catalytic Reduction system to the exhaust of older buses. Successfully trialled in 2012, the technology provides NOx emission reductions of

up to 88 per cent. Once complete, the full retrofit programme will make all 8,700 buses in London Euro IV for NOx emissions by the end of 2015, reducing NOx emissions by at least 800 tonnes a year.

Crossrail gains planning consent for new homes above Woolwich station

On 3 September, Crossrail announced it had received the green light from the Royal Borough of Greenwich to build nearly 400 new homes above the new Woolwich Crossrail station.

The major new residential development, to be known as Armourer's Court, will consist of approximately 490,000 sq ft in five high quality buildings of varying heights set around a landscaped garden. Carefully located retail and business space will be at ground level.

The Armourer's Court design by architects TP Bennett was reviewed by Design Council CABE and created in consultation with the local community, Royal Borough of Greenwich, GLA and English Heritage. It draws upon the heritage of the nearby Royal Arsenal buildings.

Crossrail aims to commence construction once the station has been completed in 2018. It is part of Crossrail's strategy to develop three million sq ft of new commercial and residential space above stations, returning funds to the Crossrail budget and regenerating urban areas all along the line.

Crossrail begins last east London tunnel

Tunnel machine Ellie has started her 900 metre journey from Limmo Peninsula, near Canning Town, towards Victoria Dock Portal in east London. Over the next three months the 1,000 tonne machine will complete one of Crossrail's shortest but most complex tunnels, in close proximity to the Jubilee line, Docklands Light Railway, River Thames and River Lea.

The drive will complete tunnelling on Crossrail's southeast spur, which stretches from Stepney Green to Abbey Wood.

Crossrail uncovers Brunel's railway heritage

Remains of structures built by celebrated engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel for his Great Western Railway have been unearthed near Paddington in west London. Newly excavated by Crossrail as part of the UK's largest archaeological programme, findings include foundations of a 200 metre long engine shed, a workshop and train turntables. The structures were used for Brunel's famous broad-gauge railway, which first ran steam trains through the area in 1838.

The Crossrail archaeology team is documenting the remains using laser scans, creating 3D models of the buildings which date from the 1850s and were levelled in 1906 to make way for a goods storage yard. These records will help historians understand the early development of railways in the UK and the methods of Brunel, widely regarded as one of Britain's greatest engineers.

Promoting Safer Travel at Night

As part of its latest Safer Travel at Night campaign, TfL is encouraging people to take and share a #HomeSafeSelfie and pledge to never take an illegal minicab home.

People are being encouraged to help stop the use of un-booked, illegal minicabs by posting a selfie when they're home safe after a night out using the hashtag #HomeSafeSelfie. TfL wants to tap into the trend of friends and particularly young women texting each other to say they are home safe and is urging them to also post a selfie and pledge that they won't take illegal minicabs home.

Major redevelopment of West Croydon bus station to get underway

On 4 October, major works to completely transform the site of West Croydon bus station began as part of a continuing £50 million investment to improve the town's public realm and transport infrastructure.

TfL has been working with Croydon Council to develop the plans, which are fully integrated with the 'Connected Croydon' urban realm development programme. Around eight million passengers use West Croydon bus station each year and the improvement plans, which include better lighting and a more spacious environment with better customer information systems, have been developed specifically with them in mind. The works are scheduled to end in early 2016, after which bus passengers will benefit from a number of other improved facilities, such as fully accessible bus stops and modern CCTV coverage for continued passenger safety.

Bakerloo Line consultation launched

TfL has now launched a public consultation to seek views on the extension of London Underground's Bakerloo line, which could run from Elephant & Castle towards New Cross, Lewisham, Bromley and Hayes.

With the capital's population expected to reach 10 million by 2030, the extension will be vital to help support anticipated growth in south London by providing improved transport infrastructure and enabling regeneration in a number of my key Opportunity Areas.

As well as providing quicker, more direct journeys into central London, extending the Bakerloo line would also release capacity on the national rail network, enabling more services to operate from other destinations and helping to reduce overcrowding on National Rail services into London Bridge. As outlined in my 2050 Infrastructure Plan, the extension would also play a key role in helping to deliver much-needed and wider improvements in south London, including new frequent and high-quality 'metro' style services that I want to see operating in all parts of the capital.

Step free access for all London Crossrail stations

I have now confirmed funding to install step free access at Seven Kings, Maryland, Manor Park and Hanwell stations ahead of Crossrail fully opening in 2019, meaning that all Crossrail stations within London will now be step free.

Crossrail will dramatically improve accessibility provision along the route and bring step free access to the heart of the West End. Step free access was already committed for 33 of the 40 stations on the route. The new funding will mean 37 are step free, including every Crossrail station in London. All stations will be staffed whenever trains are running, providing for customers the 'turn-up and-go' assistance service already in operation across the London Underground and London Overground networks.

Detailed design and planning work will now get underway, with the cost of improvements to the four stations expected to be around £19 million, provided through efficiencies and some reallocation of the operating budget. TfL will continue to work with the DfT to secure funding for step free access at the remaining three Crossrail stations at Taplow, Langley and Iver.

£75m fund to take step-free access to next level

I have announced plans for a £75 million fund to speed up the rate at which the TfL network is made accessible for disabled Londoners and visitors to the capital.

The fund has been put aside to enable the installation of new lifts at around a dozen more stations over the next ten years. The new stations are in addition to the 28 LU and London Rail stations which TfL had previously committed to making step-free by 2024 and the 30 Crossrail stations in London that will all be step-free.

The funding will be used to match contributions from local councils and property developers for improvements to step-free access at a number of priority locations, unlocking large numbers of new accessible journeys. Some of the stations that could be made step-free with third party contributions and the LU fund include Mill Hill East, Newbury Park, Osterley, West Brompton and White City.

High Speed 2 petition process

I have approved revenue expenditure of up to £190,000 in 2014-15 to support three areas of work in preparation for the next stage of the High Speed 2 petitioning process.

Regeneration, Business, Enterprise and the Economy

High Street Fund and Specialist Assistant Team launch

On 2 October, Daniel Moylan, Chair of my Design Advisory Group, launched the new High Streets and Places of Work fund prospectus that details up to £9 million of further funding to help make London's high streets better places to visit, live and to conduct business.

In addition to this, the third Specialist Assistance Team (SAT) Menu was also launched. The SAT is a panel of expert consultants procured by my Regeneration Team to advise and support project partners and the GLA in the scoping, design and delivery of regeneration projects, focussing on high streets, places of work and unlocking development.

Summer of High Streets

On 25 September, the last of my *Summer of High Streets* events took place, with the London Borough of Redbridge celebrating Barkingside's Night Light.

I have awarded £1.9 million to the Borough from my Regeneration and Investment Group, and £22,000 from the Pocket Parks programme to deliver a 'Better Barkingside'. The project includes several elements of public realm design, shop frontage improvements and a new pocket park.

The event celebrated the completion and naming of a new public square and loggia structure in front of the swimming pool and circular Grade II listed library, with music, market stalls, a

fashion show, poi performers and light displays into the evening. The High Street was lit up by handmade lanterns designed by local schoolchildren, residents and businesses.

100s of new hospitality apprenticeships & jobs for young people

On 24 September, I joined forces with the British Hospitality Association to host a City Hall 'Hospitality Conversation' bringing together business executives from companies including Nando's, Whitbread and Costa and matching them with unemployed 16-24 year olds who are eager to start careers in the sector.

The British Hospitality Association have joined my Apprenticeship Campaign and pledged to create 7,000 new jobs in London by the end of 2016. The event at City Hall focused on roles in the restaurant trade and included a careers fair where employers could interview potential candidates and offer on the job opportunities and placements.

Internet providers join my pledge to improve London's digital connectivity

On 16 September, I held a connectivity summit for London's largest internet providers to discuss how to make the capital the best connected city in Europe and further improve affordable access to superfast connections for homes and small businesses.

The summit follows publication in July of my London Infrastructure Plan 2050, the first ever attempt to set out the full range of infrastructure requirements for the capital over the next half century, during which time the population of London is forecast to increase to more than 11 million people. The plan recommends working towards London becoming potentially the first capital city in the world to deploy 5G (by 2020) and to ensure that WiFi coverage is significantly improved.

Superfast Broadband Voucher Scheme

Restaurant and cocktail bar Paramount has become the 1,000th small business in London to sign up to a scheme which enables small businesses to apply for connection vouchers worth up to £3,000 to help with the installation of superfast broadband.

The scheme is a key component of my aspiration to provide London businesses with the digital infrastructure they need to realise their full economic potential, in order to drive jobs and growth in the capital and allow them to compete more efficiently in today's fast-paced global market.

London tech talent heading to the States to win international business

On 6 October, a group of ambitious London tech firms arrived in American on a week-long mission to showcase their digital and technology expertise and win new investment in the capital. Technology firms in the capital have attracted more than one billion dollars of investment already in 2014.

Nineteen of the capital's fastest growing technology start-ups have joined The Great Enterprise Tech Expedition for a mission that will see them explore commercial opportunities and build relationships with key US enterprises in New York, Boston and Chicago. While in the US they will network across financial & business services, life sciences, retail, media and education brands. Firms were chosen to take part in the trip based on their dynamism, traction in local

and international markets, readiness to do business in the US, and ability to gain interest in the highly competitive US tech and investor landscape.

The Great Enterprise Tech Expedition is one of the trade missions organised as part of my Export Programme, delivered in partnership with UK Trade & Investment, with the aim of providing the capital's businesses with practical information and help to trade overseas. The Export Programme is funded by the London Enterprise Panel, which supports the creation of jobs and growth in the capital.

London Metropolitan University – Commercial Road Disposal

I have approved the receipt of £2 million from London Metropolitan University, as repayment of part of the grants it received from the LDA between 2004-2008, when establishing digital manufacturing and workspace facilities.

Searching for more space for London's artists and small businesses

With London's population set to soar to ten million people by 2030, the GLA is at the forefront of the search for more work space, incubators and shared facilities for new and growing businesses. As a result, Workspace providers, experts and London's local authorities attended a summit at City Hall on 15 September to begin work on developing an action plan to tackle the challenge.

The summit coincided with the publication of a new report which highlights the particular need to find more space for small businesses and the burgeoning creative industries. One in six new jobs in London is in the creative industries. However, there is a concern that artists are becoming victims of their own success by increasing the value of the areas they work in but then being forced out by the rising prices their presence has helped to boost.

The London Enterprise Partnership, which I chair, is presiding over bids from London boroughs for several million pounds of growth funding from the New Homes Bonus. A significant proportion of this funding is expected to be directed towards Places of Work, with the aim of exploring the potential for leveraging in further European funding for these projects.

Outer London Fund investment in North East Enfield

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Enterprise, Kit Malthouse, opened the Enfield Business Centre, which is supported by my Outer London Fund with a total investment of £1,897,000, leveraging a further £5,528,000 in match funding.

Enfield Business Centre is a Council owned building, with office space let out to a number of small businesses, as well as Enfield Business & Retailers Association, North London Chamber of Commerce, and Enterprise Enfield, a social enterprise involved in providing advice and training to the community on employment matters.

The Business Centre suffered from a poor relationship to the street, a cluttered public realm, an ageing reception area and poorly-used internal spaces, with outdated cabling. The investment in Enfield Business Centre remodelled some of the building to make it more welcoming, and maximise usable space for a business hub and co-working space, and revenue generating bookable meeting rooms. The "Let's Go Business Hub", will provide a range of facilities and services to support emerging, start-up and established businesses.

Housing and Land

London Housing Bank

On 26 September, working with DCLG, I opened an innovative new £200 million investment scheme for developers and housing associations that will help accelerate the building of thousands more low cost homes for Londoners.

The London Housing Bank offers tailored financial support to speed up the construction of homes compared to existing development timetables. This could include building later parts of large multi-phased housing schemes earlier than scheduled.

The Bank offers low cost loans starting at one per cent interest to incentivise development partners to build up to 4,000 homes on a range of sites, with the condition that these homes will be rented to Londoners at low cost rent (with a minimum discount to market of 20 per cent) for at least 7 years. This will result in homes being delivered several years earlier than traditional house building plans allow.

The loan will be available for up to sixteen years and after it is repaid, developers will have the option of selling the homes to the current occupiers to support home ownership, selling into the market, or retaining as affordable homes to use as long-term rent. The London Housing Bank prospectus is being launched at the same time as the Government launches a national investment scheme for developers to boost house building, with the initial funding for the Housing Bank being made available to the GLA by the Government.

My commitment to fast tracking development with the Housing Bank is part of a package of wider measures I am promoting to stimulate house building. I am on track to see 100,000 low cost homes built over my two terms, with more affordable homes being built this year than since 1980, as well as helping 50,000 Londoners into low cost home ownership and introducing a range of innovative new measures, including new Housing Zones and accelerating purpose built rental sites.

Developers announced for ground-breaking private rent homes scheme

On 16 September, I selected preferred bidders for two sites owned by the GLA to fast track the creation of more than 1,200 new high quality homes, including 480 homes for long-term private rent. The developments will use an innovative covenant to help relieve pressure on the capital's housing market, accelerate development and raise standards of private renting.

Over the last decade the number of households privately renting has increased to around two million Londoners, about one in four, but the capital has few purpose-built rented schemes compared to the US or Europe. The GLA marketed two sites, Silvertown Way and Pontoon Dock, with the specific aim to deliver a significant proportion of private-rented homes. The requirement for top quality private rent, built alongside traditional private sale and affordable housing, will help to speed up the construction period, encourage long-term institutional investment into the residential market and improve the design, tenancy arrangements and management of the homes. The GLA requires both developers to hold the private-rent housing for at least ten years.

Housing Zones

On 30 September, the submission deadline for the initial phase of my Housing Zones programme closed. This programme aims to create 20 Housing Zones across London, delivering 50,000 new homes and over 100,000 associated jobs over the next ten years. 25 different applications were received from the London boroughs, with a total funding ask in excess of the £400 million available. My team will now be working through the assessment of these at a speed appropriate to each proposal and will announce proposed Housing Zones that move into the detailed due diligence stage on an ongoing basis. The first Housing Zone designations are expected next calendar year.

Long leasehold sale of Plot 5, London Sustainable Industries Park, Dagenham

I have approved the sale by GLA Land and Property Ltd of Plot 5, London Sustainable Industries Park to SARIA Limited (formerly called PDM Limited) by way of a 999 year lease.

Southall Gasworks Compulsory Purchase Order

I have noted and confirmed the changes that have been made to the Compulsory Purchase Order Map for the Southall Gasworks Compulsory Purchase Order.

Environment

London's air quality improvements win double C40 acclaim

On 22 September, London received two prizes at the prestigious C40 Siemens City Climate Leadership Awards which were part of the UN Climate Change Summit in New York.

The 'Air Quality' prize was awarded in recognition of my carbon cutting measures, including my work to make London's iconic black taxi's zero emission capable by 2018. This will help decisively tackle pollution from London's fleet of 23,000 taxis and take effect two years ahead of the world's first Ultra-Low Emission Zone planned for central London from 2020. London also received the 'Carbon Measurement' award for creating a new carbon accounting standard which has become an international best practice benchmark.

London's growing low carbon goods and services sector is worth around £25 billion a year, and employs over 160,000 people. Since I was elected, half as many Londoners live in areas exceeding legal limits for NO₂, emissions of harmful particulates are down by 15 per cent, and nitrogen oxides emissions are down by 20 per cent, as I have driven forward a comprehensive package of measures from retrofitting buses, local green walls and cycle routes, to the world's first Ultra-Low Emission Zone from 2020.

Support for national diesel car scrappage scheme as London ranked 9th best world city in new air quality study

On 10 September, as I gave evidence to the Environmental Audit Committee, I renewed my support for the Government's proposals to help motorists by offering between a £1,000 and £2,000 grant per vehicle for the most polluting diesels which are more than 12 months old. I believe this a brilliant opportunity to support the British car industry and promote the early uptake of ultra-low emission vehicles ahead of the introduction of the Ultra-Low Emission Zone in 2020.

I also welcomed a new comprehensive study comparing air quality in 36 world and European cities based on pollutants like particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5), sulphur dioxide (SO2) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2). The study commissioned by the GLA and undertaken by leading consultancy AMEC and peer-reviewed by prominent air quality experts and academics, developed three indices which ranked cities based on citywide emissions, transport-focused emissions and using a special health-weighted index.

London ranked 9th on the health impacts index, 15th on the citywide index and 17th on the traffic focused index.

Backing largest ever survey of London's trees & woodlands

I am backing the the world's largest survey of trees and woodlands which is taking place in London. The survey will reveal for the first time the total tree cover in the capital and calculate the huge benefits they bring through boosting air quality, reducing flooding, and carbon storage.

The London iTree survey will see experienced foresters and arboriculturalists join hundreds of trained volunteers to measure trees in 725 plots across every borough. This is part of my commitment to greening London by encouraging the planting of over 100,000 trees and the renovation and creation of green community space. Over my mayoralty, £16 million has been invested in green infrastructure initiatives, including the Street Trees programme as well as Pocket Parks, Help a London Park, the Big Green Fund and RE:LEAF.

The survey will enable better planning of improvements to the number of trees in London and create a stronger understanding of their economic and environmental value. It will also help to deliver my target of increasing London's canopy cover from 20 per cent to 25 per cent by 2025. The survey concludes at the end of October and the results will be published in spring 2015.

Recharging London phone boxes for the 21st Century

On 1 October, the first iconic London telephone box to be transformed into a free solar-powered mobile phone charger was unveiled on Tottenham Court Road. With my support and funding, new company 'solarbox' is using this first installation as a pilot before turning more traditional phone boxes green early next year.

'solarbox' is the brainchild of recent LSE graduates Kirsty Kenney and Harold Craston, who won £5,000 and mentoring support as runners-up in my 2014 Low Carbon Entrepreneur competition, enabling them to bring their new business to London's streets.

The solar panelled phone boxes provide a clean, carbon-neutral source of energy for phones, tablets, cameras and other devices. Costs are covered through in-booth advertising space enabling the public to power-up free of charge.

My Low Carbon Entrepreneur competition invites student entrepreneurs to generate and pitch their carbon-busting business ideas to a panel of expert judges. The 2015 competition, once again sponsored by Siemens, will take entries from 20th October this year, closing in mid-February next year ahead of the grand final at the end of March 2015.

FoodSave nominated for the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee Awards

I am pleased to announce that my FoodSave programme has been shortlisted for the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee Celebration Awards 2014 'Best Waste Minimisation or Prevention Project'. This award will go to the most successful project with the aim of reducing waste generation and prevent waste arising. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on the 15th October. To find out more about the awards visit: <http://laraconference.org.uk/>.

FoodSave aims to support over 200 small and medium food businesses across London to prevent food waste, divert surplus food to useful purposes and manage unavoidable food waste more sustainably. For more information please visit: <http://www.foodsave.org>.

Social Inclusion and Health

Calling for investment in International Dementia Research Institute

On 8 October, I called on the Government and the private sector to come together and fund an International Dementia Research Institute to help find a cure for dementia and help carers and patients living with the disease.

Dementia is one of society's greatest health challenges and one of the most important issues the country faces as its population ages. Latest research estimates that the cost of dementia far exceeds the cost to the economy of cancer and heart disease. Despite the scale of the problem, in the last 15 years only three new drugs have come to market. Preliminary analysis shows an Institute could contribute £850 million for the UK economy and create nearly 2,000 jobs.

Some of the leading pharmaceutical companies and charities, including GlaxoSmithKline, Eli Lilly, Eisai, Alzheimer's Research UK and Alzheimer's Society met at City Hall to support the concept of the International Dementia Research Institute. The event was hosted by Eliot Forster, Executive Chairman of MedCity.

By acting as a hub for activity across the world, an International Dementia Research Institute would greatly enhance scientific collaboration and international collaboration on dementia research and further strengthen the London-Oxford-Cambridge life sciences hub.

London Health Commission

On 17 September, I supported Professor the Lord Darzi in launching the London Health Commission bus from City Hall on its journeys around London. The aim of the bus is to engage Londoners in discussions about their health.

Meeting with the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP

On 24 September, alongside Professor the Lord Darzi, I met the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP to discuss the London Health Commission.

Healthy Schools London

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, visited Charlton Manor Primary School in the Royal Borough of Greenwich to see firsthand the work it has done to achieve my Healthy Schools London Gold status.

My Healthy Schools London scheme supports and recognises schools' achievements in pupil health and wellbeing. More than 1,100 schools across the capital have already signed up to the scheme and so far 447 schools have achieved Bronze award and 54 Silver. Charlton Manor is one of just two schools to achieve the Gold accolade.

'Nurture & Support' for people post cancer treatment and living with cancer

On 8 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, attended a reception at City Hall in support of promoting alternative therapies for people living with cancer.

Evelina Children's hospital

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, joined the staff of Evelina London Children's Hospital in filming a DVD of children's songs and rhymes for the young residents in the hospital. These songs are designed to help teach them everyday communication skills with speech or signing.

Cross Community Engagement

On 23 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, attended a round table discussion at City Hall to talk about the health and wellbeing of Londoners at a cross community event.

Commonwealth Local Government Forum

On 24 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, met with the Secretary General of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum to explore ways we can work together more closely in the future.

ABF The Soldier's Charity

On 8 October, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, visited ABF The Soldier's Charity at its headquarters. This centre provides a base for military charities that focus on specific areas of support, such as mental health, housing or veterans.

Silver Sunday

On 5 October, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, represented me at a number of Silver Sunday events. These events are designed to celebrate the contribution of older people, with activities and events held over the weekend.

Education and Youth

Gold Club Awards Ceremony

On 2 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture, Munira Mirza, was the guest of honour at the awards ceremony for the 2014 London Schools Gold Club in London's Living Room.

The event to celebrate the achievements of 2013 and 2014 Gold Club schools, and the successful start to the school-to-school support programme, attracted 180 school leaders and governors. The Chair of the London Assembly, Roger Evans AM, welcomed guests to City Hall, and there were short speeches by Dame Erica Pienaar, who was on my Education Inquiry Panel, Nick Osborne, executive Headteacher of Brooklands Primary and Millennium Schools and Munira. A Latymer School quartet provided musical entertainment.

The event was highly successful in recognising, engaging and motivating the new cohort of 95 Gold Club schools to lead seminars and school development visits, thus sharing their exceptional practice with other London schools over the 2014/15 school year.

I am fully funding the sessions, which provide fantastic free professional development opportunities for senior leaders and teachers in every London borough, led by Gold Club schools. The new programme of activities will be published later this month on the Gold Club portal, which contains the member schools' benchmarking data, case studies and filmed presentations.

Visit to East London Science School

On 11 September, I visited East London Science School to find out more about its involvement in The Physics Factory project.

I have invested £320,150 in the project, through the London Schools Excellence Fund. This is led by the Sydney Russell School in Barking and Dagenham, as one of 18 grants worth a total of £3.8 million that have been awarded to science engineering and design projects.

This project aims to "put the fizz back into physics" by delivering bespoke training and support to science teachers within Barking and Dagenham, Hackney, Newham and Tower Hamlets. The aim is to reach up to 50 schools, at least 50 teachers and at least 2,000 pupils during this school year. 5,658 teachers are now benefiting from the Schools Excellence Fund which I established to drive up standards.

Institute of Civil Engineers

On 18 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, attended a launch of a film which aims to inspire young people to take up civil engineering as a career.

Olympic and Paralympic Legacy and Sport

Olympicopolis design competition formally opens

On 11 September, I formally opened the international search for the design team to bring to life my vision for the new educational and cultural quarter 'Olympicopolis' on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. I launched the competition in July and since then, more than 900 architects, masterplanners, placemakers, engineers and landscape designers from across the globe have already registered their interest.

'Olympicopolis' is an exciting new destination on Stratford Waterfront at the gateway to Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. It will showcase London at its cultural best, bringing together outstanding organisations with exceptional art, dance, history, craft, science, technology and cutting edge design. The Victoria and Albert Museum, Sadler's Wells and University of the Arts London are already part of this exciting new development.

University College London is also a key partner in the wider 'Olympicopolis' scheme, and will be building a major new campus adjacent to the Stratford Waterfront site, allowing for unparalleled collaboration in education, training and research amongst all the organisations involved.

Invictus Warrior Games on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Between 10 and 14 September, I attended the inaugural Invictus Games. The Games, championed by Prince Harry, are an international sporting event with over 400 injured, sick or wounded servicemen and women from 13 countries taking part in sporting events on and around Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

Crowds of 65,000 packed venues during the Games, including 5,000 at the opening ceremony and 26,000 at the closing ceremony, both of which took place on the south lawn of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Sporting events included wheelchair rugby, wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, indoor rowing, athletics, cycling, archery and swimming.

Launch of public consultation on plans to transform Crystal Palace sports centre

On 6 October, I called on local residents and users of the National Sports Centre at Crystal Palace to contribute their views on redevelopment plans to improve its sporting, recreational and educational facilities and secure its long term future in the heart of south London. The new plans aim to unlock the future potential of the site and restore it as a first class community asset.

Local residents, users of the sports centre, and members of the general public are invited to feed into the consultation via an online survey. A public exhibition will open in the entrance to the centre on 13th October, and consultation sessions will run on 16th and 18th October.

David Goldstone starts as new Chief Executive of London Legacy Development Corporation

On 1 October, David Goldstone began his role as the London Legacy Development Corporation's new Chief Executive. David played an integral role in the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and I look forward to him taking the Legacy Corporation's ambitious and exciting legacy plans forward.

Culture and Events

London's New Year's Eve celebrations to be ticketed for the first time

On 17 September, I announced that London's hugely popular and internationally acclaimed New Year's Eve fireworks celebrations are to be ticketed for the first time. With plans well advanced for 2014, I want to ensure London's celebrations, which are watched by millions of people in the UK and across the world, will offer revelers the safest and most enjoyable event imaginable.

This year 100,000 tickets will be available to the public, which will guarantee good views of the celebrations and a better visitor experience. People are able to book up to four tickets by going to the New Year's Eve web pages.

Since it was first staged at the London Eye on the South Bank in 2003, the numbers of people heading to see the acclaimed pyrotechnic and lighting display have mushroomed from an estimated 100,000 people in its first year to more than 400,000 in 2012. Last year, it was estimated around half a million people headed to see the display, putting enormous strain on transport and safety infrastructure.

Gigs Champion 2014 announced

On 7 September, the Tailormade from Ealing were crowned Gigs Champion 2014 following a five month search to find London's best busker. They beat off 200 other acts from across the capital to take top honours in the grand final of Gigs Big Busk, the UK's biggest street music competition.

Gigs originally attracted more than 500 entries, with 200 acts being selected to perform live at 24 busy London locations during the summer. The final at Westfield Stratford City saw 18 of them, as chosen by music industry insiders and the public, compete in three categories before the overall winner was decided by the judging panel.

Busk in London

I have approved the development of "*Busk In London*" - a new scalable busking scheme for London which will support and promote street performance, ensuring London retains its position as the world's leading creative city. It will help solve many of the problems currently facing busking in London.

I have approved GLA funding of £137,000 in 2014-15 for "*Busk In London*" and delegated authority to commit to income and expenditure within the approved budget to the Head of Culture.

Creative Industries Season 2014

This month saw two highly successful creative industries festivals take place in the capital, the London Design Festival and London Fashion Week. The festivals make a hugely important economic contribution to the capital.

Over the past month, it is estimated that 1,200 design businesses will have made £26 million in new business as a result of the London Design Festival, and fashion buyers will have taken orders at London Fashion Week worth £97 million. From 82 catwalk shows at Fashion Week to

300 events at London Design Festival, the capital is at the forefront of promoting its world class talent and superb creativity.

Totally Thames

On 8 September, I hailed the role the River Thames has in the life of the capital during a visit to TS Tenacious, the tall ship currently moored in Woolwich as part of Totally Thames.

I was delighted to have given my support to Totally Thames, which this year celebrated our great river with events along the length of the Thames during the whole of September. An estimated audience of 300,000 enjoyed this annual, 30-day spectacular programme of over 100+ events. It featured arts, music and community festivals, colourful regattas, thrilling river races, foreshore archaeology, exploration, environmental and educational activities, as well as river-linked activities in the 17 London riverside boroughs.

Japan Matsuri

On 27 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, represented me at Japan Matsuri on Trafalgar Square. This dynamic event brings together the Japanese community and Londoners to enjoy an amazing day of Japanese culture, food, live music, martial arts, dance, arts, crafts and much more.

Malaysian Night Festival

On 26 September, the Malaysia Night Festival 'Pasar Malam' took place on Trafalgar Square. My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Sir Edward Lister, attended on my behalf to thank the organisers and meet the key delegates from Malaysia. This year marked the fifth anniversary of Malaysia Night Festival, marked by a surprise pyrotechnic display to welcome visitors. The event offers Londoners the unique opportunity to sample the many culinary delights from Malaysia, as well as showcasing a diverse range of traditional dance, music and performance on stage.

The London-Malaysia relationship has strengthened further by the Malaysian investment in thousands of new homes and jobs in Battersea Power Station and with the World Islamic Economic Forum that took place in London for the first time last year.

The Art Business Conference 2014

On 4 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, addressed the Art Business Conference to discuss the challenges facing the art market in London.

Westminster Abbey Commemoration Service

On 21 September, my Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, attended a Service of Thanksgiving & Rededication to Commemorate the Anniversary of the Battle of Britain.

Volunteering

Team London Awards

On 17 September, City Hall hosted the Team London Awards, where I presented awards alongside Barbara Windsor, Wayne Hemmingway and Margaret Mizen. The categories included Greening and Cleaning, Mentoring and Coaching, Sports and Healthy Living, My Community, The Long Service Award, Volunteer Centre Award, The Mayor's Special Achievement Award, The Daily Telegraph Readers' Award for Volunteer of the Year 2014 and finally the Team London Young Ambassadors Award. Over 100 individuals were nominated across the categories and 25 awards were presented in total. The Team London Awards continue to be a fantastic and inspiring event which recognise worthy winners and nominees for the amazing efforts they make in supporting others in their local communities.

Visitor Welcome and Events

On 30 August, the Team London Visitor Welcome programme officially came to a close for the summer. In total, 650 Team London Ambassadors took to key tourist hotspots throughout the summer, offering their assistance and services to visitors to the capital, helping to cement our reputation as one of the world's leading and friendliest cities.

Volunteers also supported many major events across the city, including Ride London, the London Marathon and The Tour De France.

Small Grants

The Team London Small Grants programme is now well under way, with ten organisations having successfully gained £10,000 grants to support local impact projects. This year the focus is on projects which provide young people with volunteering opportunities and build and enhance the skills of the young people taking part in the various volunteering opportunities.

Planning and Development Control

Approval of Mount Pleasant application after doubling affordable housing

On 3 October, I agreed to approve plans to build almost 700 homes on parts of the Mount Pleasant postal sorting site, after doubling the amount of affordable housing that was originally proposed.

The site straddles the London boroughs of Islington and Camden but, after both councils missed deadlines to consider the applications, applicant Royal Mail Group asked me to take on the role of planning authority for the scheme.

Since then, my planning team has been working closely with Royal Mail Group, as well as the local councils, and has been able to negotiate for the development to include 24 per cent affordable housing instead of the originally proposed 12 per cent.

In total, the scheme will see the construction of 681 homes, 163 of which will be affordable. Of those, 98 will be affordable rent and 65 will be shared ownership. The affordable rent homes will be an average of 44 per cent of the full market rental value in the area and some of the

larger family units could be between 20 to 30 per cent of the full market rental value. There will also be shops, offices, restaurants and public space on half of the site.

The remaining half of the Mount Pleasant site will continue to be a postal sorting office, employing up to 3,200 people.

Helping to develop South Quay Masterplan to tackle tall buildings concerns

On 3 October, I intervened in the proposed redevelopment of a site on the Isle of Dogs, following concern that too many tall buildings are being proposed without an overall vision for the area.

South Quay in Tower Hamlets is made up of numerous small plots of land and many of the individual landowners want to construct their own tall buildings. I believe that sensitively managed tall buildings that are well designed and in the right place, will help London address its housing need. However, I am concerned that without an overall strategy for South Quay, the tall buildings proposed could have a negative impact on London's skyline and the public realm.

As a result, I am now working with the London Borough of Tower Hamlets which is developing a Masterplan for South Quay. The plan will establish the key priorities for the area so that new buildings are delivered in a planned, sustainable and responsible way.

By working with the council, I hope that the Masterplan will be brought forward more speedily so that there is clarity for developers about what schemes are suitable. This will ensure that the key planning objectives for this key growth area can be met. The Masterplan will also ensure that the social and physical infrastructure required to realise and support this unprecedented growth is delivered in a managed way.

I also intend to develop an Opportunity Area Planning Framework to build on the work of the Masterplan and addressing the wider Isle of Dogs.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Ocean Estate Site H, LB Tower Hamlets

I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Block B 375 Kensington High Street, RB Kensington and Chelsea

I have written to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Durham Court and Garages, LB Brent

I have written to the London Borough of Brent stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Heliport House Lombard Road, LB Wandsworth

I have written to the London Borough of Wandsworth stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Land adjacent to Croydon College, LB Croydon

I have written to the London Borough of Croydon stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Former Essex House George Street, LB Croydon

I have written to the London Borough of Croydon stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

100 Avenue Road, LB Camden

I have written to the London Borough of Camden stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Callis Yard Depot, RB Greenwich

I have written to the Royal Borough of Greenwich stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Delegated Stage II referrals

The Deputy Mayor for Policy and Planning, under powers I delegated to him, has sent letters in response to the following statutory referrals:

69-71 Bondway, LB Lambeth

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Lambeth stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

North Westminster Community School, City of Westminster

The Deputy Mayor has written to the City of Westminster stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

British Library Newspapers, LB Barnet

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Barnet stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Swan Court, LB Hounslow

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Hounslow stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Grange Walk, LB Southwark

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Southwark stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

I have asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- 12-20 Wyvil Road, LB Lambeth
- Galaxy House, LB Croydon
- Stonehill Business Park, LB Enfield
- Holland and Holland Shooting School, LB Hillingdon
- Sarena House, LB Brent

- Cane Hill Hospital, LB Croydon
- Battersea Park East, LB Wandsworth
- Battersea Power Station, LB Wandsworth
- Woolwich Central Phase 4, RB Greenwich
- Land at Thurston Road, LB Lewisham
- St Johns Wood Barracks, City of Westminster
- 33 Horseferry Road, City of Westminster
- 240 and 252 Camberwell Road, LB Southwark

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Dukes Meadow Golf Club, LB Hounslow
- Hampton House 20 Albert Embankment, LB Lambeth
- Glenthorne High School, LB Sutton
- 77 Weir Road, LB Merton
- Hackney Wick Station, LB Hackney
- Land bounded by Park Place, Westferry Road and Heron Quay Road, LB Tower Hamlets
- Holborn Gate, City of London
- Former Ram Brewery, LB Wandsworth
- Perks Field Kensington Palace Gardens, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- 142-170 Streatham Hill and Wentworth House, LB Lambeth
- Wood Dene Energy Centre, LB Southwark
- Former Palace of Arts and Industry Site, LB Brent
- Pioneer Point 3-5 Winston Way, LB Redbridge
- Kings Reach Tower Stamford Street, LB Southwark

Key Engagements

Among my additional engagements since my last report were the following:

- I delivered the Legatum Institute Lecture on Athenian civilisation: The Glory That Endures on 4 September
- I visited the Royal Greenwich Tall Ships Festival on 8 September as part of Totally Thames, the new month-long promotion of river and riverside events, delivered by the Thames Festival Trust
- I met with Sir Peter Hendy, the Transport Commissioner, on 8 September ahead of the Assembly Plenary
- I had my regular planning decisions meeting on 9 September
- I appeared before the Assembly Plenary on 10 September to answer questions as Chair of Transport for London
- I appeared before the Environmental Audit Committee at the House of Commons on 10 September
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 10 September
- I attended the Invictus Games opening ceremony at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 10 September

- I visited East London Science School in LB Newham on 11 September to highlight the ways in which the GLA helps London schools, particularly through the London Schools Excellence Fund
- I held my regular “Ask Boris” Twitter session on 11 September
- I met with the TfL Aviation Team on 11 September
- I met with Patrick Regan, XLP, on 11 September for an update on the work of XLP
- I met with Sir Paul Ruddock and Martin Roth, the V&A, on 12 September to discuss the Olympicopolis project
- I addressed the 4 Cities Counter Terrorism Summit taking place at City Hall on 12 September
- I watched the Wheelchair Rugby in the Copper Box at the Invictus Games on 12 September
- I attended the Invictus Games Closing Ceremony at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 14 September
- I had my regular discussion on policing in London with Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackey, in the Commissioner’s absence, on 15 September
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board Meeting on 15 September
- I had lunch with Fraser Nelson, Editor of the Spectator, on 15 September
- I spoke at Highgate School on 15 September
- I met with Professor the Lord Darzi to discuss the London Health Commission on 15 September
- I had dinner with Sir Peter Hendy, the Transport Commissioner, on 15 September
- I attended the formal opening of the new News UK building at the Shard on 16 September
- I attended the Transport for London Board away day on 16 September
- I opened the Connectivity Summit on 16 September
- I met with the Bureau of Leaders on 16 September
- I had an introductory meeting with Governor Patrick of Massachusetts on 16 September who was visiting London
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 17 September
- I took part in an event with Professor the Lord Darzi to promote the London Health Commission Bus on 17 September
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 17 September
- I met with Abhishek Lodha, Managing Director, Lodha Group, on 17 September to discuss investing in London
- I met with the London Pensions Fund Authority on 17 September
- I attended the Team London Awards ceremony on 17 September
- I spoke at London's Biggest Breakfast (Mayor's Fund for London) on 18 September
- I took part in an event to promote Dot London on 18 September
- I met with David Goldstone and Neale Coleman, London Legacy Development Corporation, on 18 September to discuss the LLDC budget
- I met with Cllr Tony Newman, Leader of Croydon, on 18 September to discuss borough issues
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 18 September
- I attended the Classics for All fundraiser at City Hall on 18 September
- I attended a dinner hosted by Rupert Murdoch, News Corporation, on 18 September
- I had breakfast with Joe Cerrell, Managing Director, Global Policy and Advocacy, Gates Foundation, and Ambassador Matthew Barzun, on 22 September

- I visited Age UK's London HQ on 22 September to attend a Techy Tea Party, where older people learn how to be technologically able
- I met with Roger Evans AM, Chair of the London Assembly, on 22 September
- I attended an event to promote the Cycle Superhighway 2 upgrade on 23 September
- I chaired the London Legacy Development Corporation board meeting on 23 September
- I attended the National Apprenticeship Service Awards on 23 September
- I chaired the Transport for London board meeting on 24 September
- I chaired my regular planning decision meeting on 24 September
- I met with the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP, Secretary of State for Health, and Professor the Lord Darzi on 24 September to discuss the London Health Commission
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 24 September
- I hosted the Community Reception for Veterans at City Hall on 24 September
- I had an introductory meeting with the Mayor of Ulaanbaatar on 25 September
- I met with Sir Peter Hendy, the Transport Commissioner, on 25 September to discuss Cycle Superhighway
- I attended the Mayor's Music Fund Scholars' Awards Concert and hosted a lunch for attendees on 25 September
- I attended the Conservative Party Conference from 29 September to 30 September
- I visited the new Ibstock Factory in Chesterton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, on 29 September
- I had lunch with Victoria Newton, David Wooding & Craig Woodhouse, of The Sun on Sunday, on 30 September
- I had coffee with Martin Ivens and Tim Shipman, of The Sunday Times, on 30 September
- I had coffee with John Witheroe and Francis Elliott, of The Times, and George Parker, Elizabeth Rigby and Jim Pickard of The Financial Times on 30 September
- I chaired my regular planning decision meeting on 1 October
- I met with the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Secretary of State for Justice, on 1 October to discuss radicalisation in prisons and victim's funding
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, by telephone on 2 October
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London and Crossrail on 2 October
- I met with the outgoing Qatar Ambassador, HE Mr Khalid Al-Mansouri, on 2 October
- I chaired the Mount Pleasant Representation Hearing on 3 October
- I met with Cllr Philippa Roe, Leader of Westminster City Council, on 6 October to discuss borough issues
- I met with Jeroen Hoencamp, UK CEO Vodafone, on 6 October to discuss how to improve connectivity in London
- I had my regular meeting with David Goldstone and Neale Coleman, London Legacy Development Corporation, on 6 October
- I hosted my regular monthly "Ask Boris" Phone in with Nick Ferrari on 7 October
- I visited LB Bexley on 7 October to open the new campus of Bexley College in Erith and also the new council HQ in Bexleyheath
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 7 October
- I attended the Legacy List Fundraising reception on 7 October
- I attended the Atlantic Partnership Breakfast on 8 October
- I attended the Mayor's Design Advisory Group on 8 October
- I attended the opening of the offices of M Group in Isleworth on 8 October

- I visited the Poppy Factory in Richmond on 8 October to see how veterans make poppies and wreaths for the upcoming commemorations

Ends