

**London Assembly**  
**MQT – 20 March 2013**  
**10th Mayor's Report to the Assembly**

This is my tenth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period 12 February to 6 March 2013.

## **Executive Summary**

### **Budget delivers savings for Londoners**

On 25 February, my fifth annual budget was approved, unamended by the London Assembly, providing significant investment for housing, transport and regeneration and once again delivering value for money for Londoners by reducing the GLA share of the council tax.

Highlights of the budget include:

- Plans to maintain police officer numbers at around 32,000 and to develop local policing models;
- Provision for £250 million to help deliver 55,000 new affordable homes by 2015;
- £111 million investment for cycling in the capital for 2013/14;
- £16.8 million to tackle rough sleeping in the capital over the next two years;
- £231 million investment in the capital's urban landscape;
- £2.4 million for major skills and employment projects;
- £300,000 to support homeless people with a UK Armed forces background in addition to the free travel that is already provided for injured veterans; and
- £650,000 to help deliver 250,000 apprentices.

The budget will also ensure that Crossrail and the Tube upgrades will be delivered, helping the city to emerge from the current economic difficulties more competitive than ever.

### **Ultra Low Emission Zone**

On 13 February, I announced my intention to create the world's first Ultra Low Emission Zone in central London, in a move that I believe will deliver dramatic benefits in air quality and provide a major spur for the further development and mass take-up of zero and low emission vehicles.

I have asked TfL to look at introducing a scheme that would aim to ensure nearly all vehicles driving in the centre of the capital during working hours would be zero or low emission and to look at the feasibility of introducing such a scheme from 2020.

### **£100 million homes boost for working Londoners**

On 15 February, I unveiled the first phase of a huge £100 million housing boost for working Londoners, supporting thousands of jobs in the capital's construction industry.

It will see 27 organisations sharing £78 million to build 3,000 new homes across London supporting around 6,000 jobs in construction. The homes will offer flexible ownership options, including low-interest equity loans, 'rent-to-save' and 'part-buy-part-rent.' A further round of allocations, for the remaining funds, will be confirmed next month.

## **Policing and Community Safety**

### **Police and Crime Plan**

On 6 March, the consultation on the draft Police & Crime Plan came to an end. Over an eight week period, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Stephen Greenhalgh, and the Assistant Commissioner for Territorial Policing, Simon Byrne, held consultation meetings in every London borough.

In addition to the 32 borough meetings, MOPAC has provided Londoners with a number of other methods of contributing to the draft Plan, including opportunities to provide written submissions and through engaging with a range of voluntary sector organisations. Contributions from the public have been good and I am confident that Londoners have had the opportunity to have their say.

With the completion of the consultation, MOPAC and MPS colleagues will now be finalising the consultation analysis. The consultation analysis will be considered by myself, the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime and the MPS. MOPAC will produce a summary of the consultation, indicating what changes have been made to the Plan as a result of consultation. I will be launching the Plan alongside the Commissioner on 25 March.

## **Transport**

### **New Bus for London**

Following an anomaly with the original test result for particulate matter (PM), TfL undertook to redo the emission tests for the New Bus for London (NBfL) using an independent test centre. The results of these revised tests have now been received and validated. The test result confirms that the NBfL's PM emissions are the lowest of any hybrid bus in the TfL fleet and are four times lower than the fleet average for hybrids (0.012 g/km vs 0.048 g/km).

When combined with the extremely good results for NO<sub>x</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>, I am now happy to confirm that the NBfL remains the world's cleanest, greenest hybrid bus of its type.

This is a fantastic achievement for British industry, with the NBfL having been designed and built in the UK, and the development of our green economy.

As part of my package of air quality measures announced on the 13 February, I am now accelerating the roll out of hybrid buses, with 1,600 to be on the road by 2016 - the equivalent of around 20 per cent of TfL's bus fleet. This will include 600 of these iconic New Buses for London.

## **Below inflation increase to taxi fares**

Transport for London's Board agreed a below inflation taxi fare increase for the coming financial year (2013/14). The 1.7 per cent average increase is the lowest in the decade that TfL has been licensing taxis.

The new fares achieve a balance between maintaining income levels for drivers while ensuring passengers still get a fair price for the high quality and unique service provided by the capital's taxi drivers. This year both fuel prices and operating costs have increased, raising the costs associated with driving a taxi.

The Board approved the new fares following consultation by TfL with the taxi trade and others, including London TravelWatch, Age UK, London boroughs, London Assembly and London MPs.

To help compensate the upfront charge that drivers have to pay when entering the Heathrow feeder ranks, which is increasing in April, an additional charge known as the 'Heathrow Extra' is added to passenger's Heathrow fares. This 'Heathrow Extra' will increase by 80 pence, taking it from £2.40 to £3.20.

Since July 2008, a special provision has been in place to allow taxi fares to be increased if diesel costs reach a specified level. To date this provision has not been implemented. The Board approved an extension of this provision for the coming year and therefore a 40 pence increase to all taxi fares will be implemented if diesel reaches 179.7 pence per litre.

## **London Overground concession extended until November 2016**

On 11 February, TfL announced that a two-year extension had been granted to the contract with London Overground Rail Operations Ltd (LOROL) to operate the London Overground network on its behalf.

Following a hugely successful Olympic and Paralympic Games for London Overground, and with sustained levels of train punctuality since then, TfL has elected to take up the option of extending its existing contract with LOROL.

Under the contract, LOROL will continue to be responsible for the operation of the London Overground train services, maintenance and operation of the stations which they manage and the maintenance of the 172 trains which run on the Gospel Oak to Barking line.

The extension will run from 8 November 2014 to 12 November 2016. The concession will be re-tendered in 2016.

## **London Overground introduces five-car trains to meet increasing demand**

A programme to introduce five-car trains on all London Overground routes was announced by TfL on 11 February, aimed at boosting the capacity of the railway by 25 per cent to meet the rapidly increasing demand for the network's services.

Each new carriage has the capacity to carry approximately 150 passengers.

The £320 million programme includes the construction of longer platforms and the delivery of an extra 57 carriages by mid 2015.

The increased capacity will help London's transport network accommodate the predicted 810,000 new residents expected to move into London by 2021.

### **Northern Line upgrade moves one step closer**

On 26 February, TfL announced that new state-of-the-art signalling had gone live on the first section of the line between West Finchley and High Barnet.

TfL has taken a new approach to delivering the upgrade to the Northern line with far fewer closures than the PPP-era Jubilee line upgrade and a reduction in disrupted journeys of 60 per cent. In addition, more testing is being carried out 'off site' to resolve problems before the new signalling is introduced to the railway, resulting in greater reliability for customers.

LU is also intensifying the amount of work being done during night-time engineering hours, utilising every minute the network is closed to carry out upgrade works, as well as the usual maintenance work.

This has meant that instead of the 18 months of weekday closures that were originally planned for the whole line under PPP arrangements, LU has implemented slightly later Sunday morning start-ups on the High Barnet and Edgware branches, when fewer people are travelling. This has allowed the extension of night-time works on Saturdays without requiring a full Sunday closures.

### **Crossrail train funding announced**

On 1 March, I announced that the new fleet of trains and maintenance facilities for Crossrail would be delivered through a fully publicly funded procurement process. I proposed the change which was agreed by the Secretary of State, The Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP.

The previous proposal to procure Crossrail rolling stock included a £350 million public sector contribution. The revised arrangement will see the public sector finance increase to 100 per cent or around £1 billion.

Crossrail's unique situation means there is no existing fleet of trains to operate through the tunnels when the works are complete and so the decision to simplify the procurement process will help to ensure the timely delivery of the new trains ahead of services commencing. This will help to ensure a deal for the new trains will be in place in 2014, with delivery and testing starting in 2017, ready for the opening of the new tunnels to passengers in late 2018.

### **Businesses across UK benefitting from Crossrail**

On 4 March, Crossrail announced that at the present time direct, tier 1 contracts with a value of more than £5.5 billion have been awarded, contributing to the creation of at least 75,000 business opportunities covering the project's direct contractors and their supply chains.

Throughout the project and its supply chain it is estimated that enough work will be generated to support the equivalent of 55,000 full time jobs.

Companies right across the UK are benefitting. Of the contracts monitored by Crossrail, 43 per cent of businesses winning work are based outside of London and the southeast and 62 per cent are based outside the capital. To date, 58 per cent of businesses in the project's supply chain that have been monitored by Crossrail are small and medium sized businesses SMEs.

## **Business, Enterprise and the Economy**

### **Protecting London's key business districts**

I have been bidding to preserve London's key business districts and exempt them from proposals to allow offices to be turned into homes without planning permission.

London is the motor of the UK economy and accounts for over a fifth of GDP. It is a global centre for business and it is vital to maintain a stock of quality office space in key areas to ensure the city can continue to attract jobs and growth.

I recognise the need for more housing in the capital and I am not against the principle of unused office buildings being used for this. However, London is home to a number of unique clusters of economic activity from Government offices, to financial services, institutions and professional bodies, which employ millions of people, contributing billions to the national economy. If these clusters were to be broken up in piecemeal residential conversions these benefits would disappear.

I am seeking exemptions for three defined areas in central London. The first is the Central Activities Zone, which includes the City of London, the South Bank and the West End. More than a third of London's jobs are within this area, and a further 280,000 jobs are expected to be created here in the next 25 years. I am also seeking exemptions for the commercial area north of the Isle of Dogs and London's Enterprise Zones in the Royal Docks, plus the part of the City Fringe in east London which makes up the emerging "Tech City" opportunity area. This case has wide business and borough support.

### **Back capital's booming science and tech sector**

On 12 February, I visited London Stock Exchange to open officially the day's trading and to meet representatives from successful technology and life science companies.

During the event, I encouraged investors to back London's science and technology sectors to ensure that the latest innovations and ideas are not snapped up by our overseas competitors, denying the capital's economy of the huge benefits they are set to deliver in the coming years.

I want to ensure that these high growth companies have greater access to finance at every stage of their development so they stay and grow in the capital, contributing jobs and growth to the city's economy. However, in the UK, there are four separate taxes, including stamp duty, on UK equity investment and I believe that reducing or abolishing some of these for investments in high-growth companies would encourage a wider set of potential investors to accelerate the growth of the important science and tech sector.

In particular, I believe that stamp duty should be abolished for investments on London Stock Exchange's 'Alternative Investment Market' (AIM) where most of the capital's high growth start ups will seek listing.

### **Championing manufacturing in London**

On 26 February, I visited a small, independent clothes factory in Whitechapel to hail the huge opportunities for manufacturing in the capital.

Whilst traditional manufacturing has declined, London is still home to a diverse range of successful manufacturing industries, from top name companies to small start-ups. East End Manufacturing Ltd, which has been in operation since October last year, employs ten people and is currently producing 500 garments a week, rising soon to 1,000.

I want to promote the continued importance of manufacturing to the city's economy in the 21st century by encouraging new growth within the sector, including through increased exports - manufacturing currently employs around 100,000 Londoners.

I have pledged to create 200,000 jobs from Greater London Authority activity over this term, in addition to support for small businesses and a target of 250,000 apprenticeships in London over the same period.

### **'Smart London' Board to realise London's ambition as a global tech leader**

On 4 March, I announced a top line-up of experts, including leading academics, businesses and entrepreneurs, to develop a 'Smart London' vision that puts technological innovation at the heart of making the capital an even better place to live, work and invest.

This contributes to my ambition for London to be the best big city in the world by helping businesses to harness technology and develop cutting edge ideas and products that will help meet the challenges that all global cities face.

The 'Smart London' Board, chaired by Professor David Gann, Head of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Imperial College Business School, will look at how the capital can best use technology and data to ensure it remains one of the world's most efficient and liveable cities. The Board will help to harness the capital's creative energy and technical expertise to address the capital's core challenges, such as population growth, congestion, ageing infrastructure and reduced energy use.

### **Apprenticeships in the food industry**

On 6 March, I joined forces with world renowned chef and restaurateur Raymond Blanc to ask the capital's food and hospitality sectors to take on more young people as apprentices.

In a sector that employs around 300,000 people in London, I believe there is huge potential for more food and hospitality businesses to get involved and help young people get into a sector that offers fantastic careers. Currently there are just under 5,000 apprentices working in the capital's food industry, which has an annual turnover of around £17 billion a year.

Two star Michelin chef Raymond has taken on 21 apprentices at Brasserie Blanc restaurants across London and the UK. They will work in a range of hospitality roles including as chefs and front of house staff.

I have launched a marketing campaign to promote the value of apprenticeships to the food industry, with posters and videos of Raymond and some of his culinary apprentices popping up online and at London Underground stations across town.

## **2013 ICE London Civil Engineering Awards**

On 12 and 13 February, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, joined the panel of judges for the 2013 Institution of Civil Engineers London Civil Engineering Awards on my behalf. The resultant awards ceremony will take place on the evening of 14 March in Westminster. The Awards celebrate outstanding civil engineering achievement, innovation and ingenuity in London and have grown over the last decade into the highest honour for engineering excellence. Previous winners of the Award have included Barclay's Cycle Hire Scheme, the King's Cross Redevelopment and the London 2012 Velodrome.

## **Allocation of funding for the City Fringe OAPF**

I have approved:

1. The establishment and management of a Project Management Board, including representatives from The City Corporation, Hackney Council, Tower Hamlets Council, Islington Council and TfL, to deliver the City Fringe OAPF.
2. The allocation of £97,000 to the City Fringe OAPF and all necessary budget adjustments.
3. To use £52,000 to fund one temporary planning post, subject to the approval of the Executive Director of resources, created for a 12 month period to work on the Project. This will be filled by way of an internal secondment and with the secondees' post to be back-filled for the length of the secondment.
4. The remaining £45,000 is used to procure any printing/publication/additional technical consultancy costs, noting that all procurements will be undertaken in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code.

## **Environment**

### **Ultra Low Emission Zone and Air Quality**

On 13 February, at an event at City Hall, I announced my intention to create the world's first Ultra Low Emission Zone in central London, in a move that I believe will deliver dramatic benefits in air quality and provide a major spur for the further development and mass take-up of zero and low emission vehicles. I have asked TfL to prepare plans to look at introducing a scheme that would aim to ensure nearly all vehicles driving in the centre of the capital during working hours would be zero or low emission and to look at the feasibility of introducing such a scheme from 2020.

I also announced that we will deliver double the benefits forecast to be achieved through phase five of the Low Emission Zone, but in a way that will save around £350 million of costs for businesses using vehicles that would have been affected by phase five. Further, I confirmed that a further £20 million will be spent on tackling local air quality hotspots.

I also announced other measures to improve air quality. These include:

- Retiring the remaining 900 oldest Euro III buses in TfL's fleet and replacing them with super-clean Euro VI buses at a cost of £18 million;

- Increasing the roll out of hybrid buses, with 1,600 to be on the road by 2016, including 600 of my iconic New Buses for London which are the cleanest and greenest bus of their type;
- New measures to reduce emissions and clean up construction sites; and
- Retrofitting a further 24,000 homes, public buildings and schools with energy efficiency measures.

I will provide further updates on my proposals later this year.

### **Launch of £20,000 competition to find tomorrow's green entrepreneurs**

I have been challenging the capital's students to come up with new and innovative ideas to cut carbon emissions and boost London's green credentials.

The 2013 Mayor's Low Carbon Prize offers the capital's students the opportunity to win a share of £20,000 to turn their ideas into reality. This year, for the first time, 20 of the best runners up will be shortlisted for a chance to win a paid internship with leading industrial engineering firm Siemen who sponsor of the award.

London is already at the centre of innovation for green technologies, with the capital's low carbon and environmental goods and services sector is worth an estimated £27 billion. My Low Carbon Prize, which is open to students at Further and Higher Education Institutes across the capital, will award cash prizes to help develop the best ideas for reducing carbon emissions from London's buildings, transport and energy infrastructure and forms part of my commitment to achieve a 60 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2025.

### **Capital Clean-up Community Grant Scheme**

I agreed that the GLA can receive £20,000 from the Environment Agency to spend in 2012/13 on Capital Clean-up delivery through the current Groundwork Contract.

I also agreed to the allocation of £20,000 from the GLA Environment budget (including the remaining £5,000 previously allocated towards Groundwork contract costs for the 2012-13 micro grant scheme) to be spent as follows:

- £10,000 to Groundwork as a fee for additional support services;
- £15,000 to be distributed by Groundwork as cash grants to third parties; and
- £15,000 to be paid by Groundwork for the purchase of equipment to make 'clean up' packs to be distributed to third parties who apply.

I have delegated authority to the Assistant Director of Transport and Environment to agree and sign:

- a) a variation of the Groundwork contract to allow the fee and services detailed above to be paid and performed by Groundwork, the continuation of Groundwork contract for three months from April 2013 and, the payment to Groundwork of a fee of up to £10,000 from the GLA Central Programme budget allocated to 13/14 for project coordination and delivery costs; and
- b) following a tender process, the delivery contract for nine months from July 2013 with a successful third party to the value of £30,000 for project coordination and



delivery costs currently provided by Groundwork from the GLA Central Programme budget allocated to 13/14.

## **Social Inclusion and Health**

### **Visited London's second 'Get to know cancer' pop-up shop**

On 20 February, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick AM, visited the 'Get to know cancer' shop in Edmonton Green Shopping Mall in LB Enfield. Victoria met with nurses and other trained health professionals who generously volunteered their expertise and time to be on hand so that the public could air any concerns that they might not have felt comfortable discussing elsewhere.

The shop was open daily from 1 February to 3 March, and was part of a campaign I launched last year in partnership with NHS London and London Councils to change attitudes to cancer and increase early detection rates.

### **Raised awareness on dementia in London**

On 27 February, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick AM, spoke about the importance of making London a 'Dementia Friendly City' at an event hosted by the Alzheimer's Society at Friend's House. Participants discussed the unique challenges London faces in dealing with the growing issue of dementia and explored possible steps need to ensure an effective response on London.

### **Engaged with the voluntary sector on tackling health inequalities**

On 6 March, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick AM, welcomed voluntary and third sector organisations to City Hall for an event that was co-hosted by the London Voluntary Service Counsel and the London Assembly Health and Environment Committee. Victoria shared an update with London's charitable organisations on progress in delivering my Health Inequalities Strategy, and discussed some of my initiatives where voluntary organisations were involved, or could get further involved, as key partners in delivery.

### **Promoted access to good quality information on health and social care**

On 4 March, I supported an event that was held at City Hall which promoted access to good quality personalised health and social care information. The event brought together health and social care professionals, policymakers, technology entrepreneurs, patients and the public. A marketplace with interactive stalls showcased examples of good practice across London and the myhealthlondon website that I launched in December 2011 also demonstrated how Londoners can access information to make choices about their health.

London Connect, a partnership between London Councils, the NHS in London and GLA, has been raising awareness about the important role that information can play in helping people to lead healthy lives.

## **Launched a new web-channel with health service information for mums-to-be**

On 25 February, the myhealthlondon website launched a new web-channel for maternity services. The site gives all the information mothers need to decide which maternity service are best for them, as well as information and advice on staying healthy during pregnancy. Visitors to the site can access a range of information, including interactive maps of services, comparison tools, relevant news, events, features and blogs. There is also the opportunity to get involved by posting feedback or joining an online community. The new content can be viewed at <http://www.myhealth.london.nhs.uk/health-communities/maternity>.

## **Supported a development event for London's Health and Wellbeing Boards**

On 25 February, members of my Health Team supported a development and networking event for London's Health and Wellbeing Boards. The event was an opportunity for the 33 Boards to assess their progress as individual boards during their shadow year, share good practice with one another and hear from key London organisations with whom they would be working in partnership in the coming months. My Health Team provided information on GLA programmes could support local level efforts on health and wellbeing.

## **Meeting with Regional Director of NHS London**

On 28 February, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick AM, met with Dr Yvonne Doyle, the newly appointed Regional Director of Public Health England, where they discussed key public health issues in London.

## **London Obesity Programme**

I have approved funding of up to £870,000 over three years, from 2013-14 to 2015-16, to deliver a programme of work to tackle child obesity in London and to deliver a healthier environment through transport and planning.

I have endorsed the programme comprising:

- a Healthy Schools London programme, with the aim of ensuring the future workforce is fit to work; and
- embedding public health advice in the GLA's planning and transport functions with the aim of helping to deliver a healthier environment for Londoners.

I have delegated authority to the Executive Director of Communities & Intelligence to procure services and contracts for the implementation of the programme and to enter into negotiations to seek external income and sponsorship.

## Children, Young People and Education

### GLA Education programme - London Schools Excellence Fund

I have approved the following:

- The receipt of £20 million from the Department of Education (DfE) in accordance with the terms of a proposed funding agreement with the DfE to fund a London Schools Excellence Fund;
- A GLA contribution to the Fund of £2.65 million of new funding in 2015/16;
- The scope of the Funds activities as approved at IPB, which includes the First Phase Initiatives for the knowledge-led curriculum pilot and summer schools pilot and Open Bidding Rounds;
- Setting up the London Schools Gold Club, associated annual report and conference, with a budget of £347,000 between 2012/13 to 2015/16;
- The development the London Curriculum, with a budget of £267,000 between 2012/13 to 2015/16; and
- The commissioning of an evaluation and implementation framework and learning resources for the above strands of activity.

I have delegated authority to the Director of Communities and Intelligence to:

- Agree and to sign the funding agreement with DfE and any subsequent reports, amendments or variations to it; and
- Procure services and sign grant agreements and contracts to deliver the above activities following the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code.

### Langdon Park School - Spotlight Youth Centre

I have agreed to the contribution of £965,000 to the development of the Spotlight Youth Centre.

## London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Legacy and Sport

### Events and tours of the Park

In February, the Legacy Corporation and its partners announced further information on events taking place in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park this summer as part of the first phase of the Park's public opening.

The Stadium will host three days of world-class athletics from 26 to 28 July 2013 as part of the London Anniversary Games. These Games will see the return of many Olympic champions, with IAAF Diamond League action on 26 and 27 July and the last day on 28 July dedicated to staging Para-athletics events.

The Wireless Festival will take place in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on Friday 12 and Saturday 13 July. Justin Timberlake and Jay Z have been confirmed as the two main headline acts, alongside other well-known artists. A special initiative reserving tickets and easing purchase for local residents of Hackney, Newham, Waltham Forest and Tower Hamlets has proved highly popular and these tickets have now all sold out for both days.

On February 12, the Legacy Corporation released the sale of tickets for Park In Progress Tours, which will provide the opportunity to visit the London 2012 site for an exclusive behind the scenes look at the developing Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and a trip up the ArcelorMittal Orbit. The tours commence on Good Friday, 29 March 2013, running at weekends and on school holidays from 10.00 am to 4 pm until 6 May 2013. For people living closest to the Park, a free local residents' preview has been arranged before the tours take place and a local discount will be offered subject to availability.

### **Sport and healthy living**

On March 3, the Legacy Corporation announced details of three sports legacy projects in east London aimed at encouraging local people to lead active and healthier lives. The Barry McGuigan Boxing Academy will lead people through a series of informal and fun non-contact boxing exercises in a mobile 'pop-up ring', as well as giving advice on how to prepare healthy food and adopt healthier eating habits.

Through the Take 12 Challenge, local residents and employers are being challenged to explore the area around Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and build up over 12km of distance by walking, running, cycling or swimming. The initiative also encourages local residents to try out sports clubs and facilities.

Through "Make a Splash", my mobile swimming pool will be based at the Score Centre for 12 weeks as part of a campaign to help 1,000 local young people learn to swim and take up the swimming as a fun way to exercise.

### **UEFA Champions League Final 2013 – Sunday 25 May**

I have approved the GLA entering into the Host City Agreement for the Final Match of the UEFA Champions League 2012/2013 alongside the Football Association and the Guarantee for Support and Public Interest to UEFA.

I have authorised the Executive Director of Resources to sign and execute such contracts and other ancillary documentation on behalf of the GLA.

### **Compensation Payment for property interests acquired from Kessler Investment Ltd under the 2005 Olympic, Paralympics & Legacy CPO**

I approved that the GLA make a payment to the claimant Kessler Investment Ltd.

## **Culture and Events**

### **London: a city in 20 objects**

On February 21, I spoke at a reception for *London: a city in 20 objects*. This is a wonderful collaboration between the British Museum and the Evening Standard which showcases artefacts from the British Museum with origins in one of the capital's many diverse cultures, once again exemplifying London's status as a truly global city.

## **Mayor's Music Fund event harnesses philanthropic support**

On 14 February, I spoke at the Mayor's Music Fund Valentines dinner. The event has so far raised over £50,000 of philanthropic donations for disadvantaged young musicians across London. This will help us to build on the 166 scholarship and 12 partnership projects (reaching thousands of children) that are already underway.

Music is an incredibly powerful force in a young person's life and no-one expressed this better than Jerrel, Daniel and Bryony, three of the young Scholars. Find out how the Fund has helped them at <http://mfym.org.uk/2013/02/19/mayors-music-fund-videos/>.

## **Pump House Museum Visit**

On 27 February, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick AM, visited the Pump House Museum in Walthamstow on my behalf. Victoria met with staff and supporters of the Museum and was also given a guided tour.

## **Largest ever art commission to mark the Underground's 150th anniversary**

During February and March, the first of 270 new artworks by Mark Wallinger are being permanently installed at London Underground stations. Over the coming months every station on the network will have a unique Labyrinth design, emblazoned in black and white on a vitreous enamel panel, located in a prominent position, representing the journey through the network taken by millions of individuals each year.

The London Underground has inspired a formidable legacy of art, including Beck's timeless map and the inventive poster designs that provide traveller information.

## **Record numbers of US buyers head to London Fashion Week 2013**

London Fashion Week - Autumn and Winter 2013 has seen more US buyers than ever come over to see key British brands including Burberry, Mulberry and Christopher Kane.

Valued at £37 billion, the British fashion industry is a vital asset to the London and the UK. I am committed to supporting London Fashion Week and have invested more than £2.3 million in the British Fashion Council, Film London and London Design Festival this year to promote the huge range of talent working here, showcase it internationally and, help attract new business opportunities. Since 2008, London Fashion Week alone has generated media coverage worth £800 million.

## **Busking Before the BRITs**

On February 16 - 19, I presented *Busking before the Brits*, where previous winners from *Gigs*, my young buskers competition, entertained the public in the build-up to the BRIT Awards at the O2 Arena.

*Gigs* 2013 will launch at the end of March. As part of my commitment to music education I am looking for hundreds of London's most talented performers, aged 11-25, to sign up to this year's competition. Live performances will take place from 27 July to 11 August at iconic locations around the capital.

I have approved the delivery of the GIGS busking competition in 2013 and the allocation of £65,000 in 2012/13 and £46,000 from the Centralised Programme Budget in 2013/2014 to GIGS 2013.

I have delegated to the Assistant Director, Health and Communities, to undertake or approve any arrangements that is required to facilitate the competition, including agreeing terms of and signing contracts, or other documentation, on behalf of the GLA.

## **Housing and Land**

### **£100 million homes boost for working Londoners**

On 15 February, I unveiled the first phase of a huge £100 million housing boost for working Londoners, supporting thousands of jobs in the capital's construction industry.

It will see 27 organisations sharing £78 million to build 3,000 new homes across London supporting around 6,000 jobs in construction. The homes will offer flexible ownership options, including low-interest equity loans, 'rent-to-save' and 'part-buy-part-rent.' A further round of allocations, for the remaining funds, will be confirmed next month.

The £100 million fund will benefit around 10,000 Londoners during this mayoral term, with the first homes available in April. It forms part of my Housing Covenant, which sets out how we will stimulate housing supply and make the market work better for low and middle income earning Londoners, easing housing costs and helping people to find more affordable routes to home ownership.

### **GLA Land Database**

I have met my manifesto commitment to publish a list of all assets held by the GLA Group for the public, investors and developers to see. We now have on our website a comprehensive database of GLA group properties covering GLA, LFB, LLDC and Met Police. TfL's property assets will be added shortly.

This can be found at: [www.london.gov.uk/priorities/housing/land-and-assets/land-and-property-database](http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/housing/land-and-assets/land-and-property-database).

### **Preferred bidder to deliver the former Catford Greyhound Stadium site**

I have approved the selection of the recommended preferred bidder and reserve bidder for the Catford Greyhound Stadium site. I have delegated authority to each of the Chief of Staff, Executive Director Resources, the Executive Director of Housing and Land and Deputy Mayor of Housing, Land and Property, to agree the final terms of the documentation based upon the financial and commercial terms set out and, to authorise the execution of the necessary legal agreements with the preferred bidder, or if necessary, the reserve bidder.

### **Crystal Palace – Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) VAT compensation**

I approved £70,000 compensation relating to this financial year to GLL from the 2012/13 approved GLA Land and Property Crystal Palace revenue budget.

## **Build to Rent Fund**

In order to ensure the smooth running of the £200 million Build to Rent fund in London, I have ensured that the GLA will play a key role in assessment and decision-making but delegated the due diligence and contracting to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). Under section 38(1) of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), I have authorised the HCA to exercise such of the GLA's powers under sections 30 and 34 of the Act as it considers necessary or expedient, for the purposes of undertaking or continuing all or any of the activities specified in the Instruments of Delegation in relation to the Build to Rent Fund.

## **FirstBuy – Legal Document Manager**

On 4 March, following a tender process, I entered into contract with Eversheds LLP to provide the legal document administration of the FirstBuy programme until 31 March 2016. This service is required to protect and recover the GLA's investment through the FirstBuy scheme. The contract with Eversheds represents a significant saving per transaction on the current contract costs that I inherited from the HCA.

## **First Steps – Single web portal**

On 27 February, following a tender process, I entered into contract with Share to Buy Ltd to provide the First Steps web portal from 1 April 2013. The single portal will make it easier for Londoners to search for intermediate homes funded by the GLA and to access information on intermediate housing options. Through re-configuring the service to remove red tape and unnecessary duplication, I have been able to secure delivery of the single portal for the next three years at nil cost to the taxpayer. This represents a significant saving on the current contract costs that I inherited from the HCA.

## **Appointments**

### **Nomination to the Board of the London Academies Enterprise Trust**

Acting in the capacity of founder member and patron of Mayor's Academies Limited, I have nominated Munira Mirza for appointment to the Board of the London Academies Enterprise Trust.

## **Budget and Finance**

### **Approval of 2013-14 Council Tax & Precept and Communication to Council taxpayers**

I have agreed:

- the calculations for the amount of council tax for the Greater London Authority (£303.00 per Band D property in the 32 London boroughs and £86.08 in the Common Council of the City of London);
- the tax for different valuation bands; and
- the amount of council tax collectable by each billing Authority and payable to the GLA.

I have also agreed the issue of the GLA precept data for 2013-14 to the 33 council tax billing authorities (the 32 London boroughs and the Common Council of the City of London).

Finally, I have approved the alternative versions of the 2013-14 council tax explanatory text, in respect of the GLA budget and precept, to be issued to the 33 council tax billing authorities in London for communication to the estimated 3.2 million households liable to council tax.

### **GLA Group Capital Spending Plan for 2013-14**

I approved the Capital Spending Plan for 2013-14 for the GLA Group and noted that the Plan was due to be sent to the Secretary of State Communities and Local Government, the London Assembly and each functional body before 28 February 2012.

## **Planning and Development Control**

### **London Consumer Expenditure and Comparison Goods Retail Floorspace Need Study**

I approved £70,000 to procure specialist technical services to undertake the London Consumer Expenditure and Comparison Goods Retail Floorspace Need Study to inform preparation of Supplementary Planning Guidance and possible alterations to the London Plan.

### **Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)**

#### *30-60 South Lambeth Road, LB Lambeth*

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

#### *St James Market, City of Westminster*

I have written to the City of Westminster stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

#### *113 Upper Richmond 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.

#### *Surbiton Filter Beds, RB Kingston Upon Thames*

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

#### *The Howbury Centre, LB Bexley*

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

#### *Wayland House, LB Lambeth*

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

#### *Plaistow Hospital, LB Newham*

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



*7-10 Hanover Square, City of Westminster*

I have written to the City of Westminster stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

*Former Middlesex University Campus, LB Enfield*

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

*St George's House Park, 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.

*Heygate Estate Masterplan, LB Southwark*

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

*New Court, City of Westminster*

I have written to the City of Westminster stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

### **Delegated Planning Decisions (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:

*Land between Woolwich Road and Gallions Road, RB Greenwich*

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

*York House, 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.

*St Barts Estate, City of London*

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

*Block C1, Phase 5, The Warren/Royal Arsenal, RB Greenwich*

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

*Arcade Site, LB Waltham Forest*

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

*Land at Plevna Crescent, LB Haringey*

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Haringey 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:

- 56 Curzon Street, LB Harrow
- Curtain Road, LB Hackney
- Faircharm Estate, LB Lewisham
- 12 Sherwood Street, City of Westminster
- Chelsea Harbour Drive, LB Hammersmith & Fulham
- Riverbank Park Plaza, Queensborough House, LB Lambeth
- Block 8, Oldchurch Hospital, LB Havering
- Sampson House and Ludgate House, LB Southwark
- North Westminster Community School Site, City of Westminster
- Former Colindale Hospital Site, LB Barnet
- Romford Ice Rink, LB Havering
- Car park associated with Chaucer House, LB Havering
- Land at Turberry Quay and Lanark Square, LB Tower Hamlets
- Dairy Crest Site, LB Hillingdon

## **Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)**

The Deputy Mayor has asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- 209-213 Hanworth Road, LB Hounslow
- 33 Finsbury Square, LB Islington
- Reality Site, Advent Way, LB Enfield
- Land to the West of Dalston Lane, LB Hackney

## **Development Plans**

I have written to the following Councils giving a response to their development plan consultations:

- Merton Site and Policies DPD, Submission, LB Merton

## **Delegated Planning Decisions (Development Plans)**

The Deputy Mayor has written to the following Councils giving a response to their development plan consultations:

- Redbridge Core Strategy Review, Preferred Options, LB Redbridge

## **Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning**

- 9 Morson Road, LB Enfield

## Key Engagements

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

- I visited the London Stock Exchange on 12 February
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 12 February
- I met with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 12 February to discuss the Police & Crime Plan in preparation for attending the Police & Crime Committee
- I hosted a media reception on 12 February
- I attended the launch of the Mayor's Air Quality Fund on 13 February
- I had a courtesy meeting with Mr Egeman Baggis, the Turkish Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, on 13 February
- I met with Tan Sri Liew and Rob Ticknell, Battersea Power Station Development Corporation, on 13 February to discuss Battersea Power Station
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 13 February
- I had my regular meeting with Dennis Hone, Chief Executive of the London Legacy Development Corporation, on 13 February
- I met with Sir John Armit on 13 February to discuss aviation
- I attended the Police & Crime Committee on 14 February
- I met with the Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP, Secretary of State for Transport, on 14 February to discuss joint working on London's transport issues
- I attended the Mayor's Music Fund Valentine Night Fundraising Dinner on 14 February
- I visited the Polar Bear statue at London Zoo on 15 February as part of Polar Bear SOS
- I visited the Temple of Mithras at the Bloomberg site on 19 February with the Museum of London
- I chaired the London Legacy Development Corporation Board meeting & hosted drinks for the Board Members on 19 February
- I addressed the Commissioner's 100 on 20 February
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 21 February
- I attended a reception at the British Museum to mark the end of 'London: a city in 20 objects' programme on 21 February
- I met with Li Shuufu, the Geely Chairman, on 22 February to discuss the London Taxi Company
- I attended the Final Budget Plenary on 25 February
- I met with Tim Campbell, my Ambassador for Training and Enterprise, on 25 February to discuss apprentices and support for SMEs
- I held my regular "Ask Boris" Twitter session on 25 February
- I attended the Tata Innovista Awards Event on 25 February
- I attended the opening of the East End Manufacturing factory on 26 February
- I met with Cllr Lib Peck, Leader of Lambeth Borough Council, on 26 February to discuss borough issues
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick on 26 February to discuss policing and security
- I attended the Bureau of Leaders on 26 February
- I visited Feltham Reach Academy on 27 February
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 27 February

- I had my regular discussion on policing in London with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 28 February
- I had my regular meeting with Jules Pipe, Leaders of London Councils on 28 February to discuss areas of joint working
- I met with representatives of the Bio Industry Association on 28 February
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 28 February
- I attended the opening of the Crown & Manor Youth Club on 28 February
- I had lunch with Eric Fellner, Tim Bevan and Adrian Wootton on 1 March to discuss film in London
- I met with the Rt Hon George Osborne MP, Chancellor of The Exchequer, on 4 March to discuss growth, jobs and housing in London
- I had a courtesy meeting with Alain Juppe, the former French PM & current Mayor of Bordeaux, on 4 March
- I attended a dinner hosted by Rupert Murdoch, News International, on 4 March
- I addressed the Cazenove Capital Management Seminar on 5 March for the Mayor's Fund for London
- I visited Tower 42 on 5 March to support the Vertical Rush event in aid of Shelter
- I met with HE Mr Konstantinos Bikas, the Greek Ambassador, on 5 March to discuss Classics for All
- I attended the City Property Association Reception on 5 March
- I attended the launch of the Food Sector Apprenticeship Programme with Raymond Blanc on 6 March
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 6 March
- I met with Sir Howard Bernstein, the Chief Executive of Manchester City Council, and Cllr Sir Richard Leese, the Leader of the Council, on 6 March to discuss aviation
- I attended the launch of Imperial West, the new campus of Imperial College based in White City, on 6 March

**Ends**