London Assembly MQT – 13 July 2011 Thirty-second Mayor's Report to the Assembly

This is my thirty-second report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period 2 June to 29 June 2011.

Executive Summary

Crime continues to fall on the transport network

On 3 June, TfL announced that the latest annual report showed that the number of crimes on the transport network has fallen. New figures released by the British Transport Police (BTP) and the Metropolitan Police Service show that crime on the Underground and Docklands Light Railway (DLR) went down by seven per cent and offences on London's bus network down by four per cent in the last 12 months. In total since I was elected crime on the network is down 31.8 percent.

One-year countdown to start of London 2012 Festival

On 21 June, I marked the one-year countdown to the start of the London 2012 Festival. On Midsummer's Day 2012 the festivities will begin. The capital will be alive with extraordinary music, film, art, poetry, performance - a festival on a scale never before seen to celebrate the greatest sporting show on Earth.

Team London

Team London, which will launch on 30 June, seeks to harness volunteer effort and philanthropic money to make London an even better place: improving our local environment, boosting literacy and nurturing a more cohesive community. Team London is made up of four components:

- Leading and delivering on London's priorities
- Rewarding, recognising and promoting volunteering
- Increasing support and resources for volunteering
- Harnessing the volunteering interest in the London 2012 Games

Recruiting 'Reading Ambassadors' for new children's scheme

On 14 June, I launched a new reading and literacy project to help young children (aged 3-5 years) who are struggling with their learning development. The scheme will work with families and equip them with the skills to boost their children's literacy and prepare them for school entry. Popstar Peter Andre joined me at the launch, alongside local school children and their parents at Botwell Green Library.

Low carbon prize

London has some of the best universities in the world, and our students are sure to play a big part in developing the technological improvements that will help us all lead greener lives. To help stimulate research in this area, I am setting up a Mayoral Prize for the most promising discoveries to reduce energy use in London's homes and workplaces.

Capital Clean-up Campaign

On 11 June, I launched my Capital Clean-up Campaign aimed at making London cleaner and greener for the 2012 Games and beyond through volunteering and community ownership. The launch in Lewisham transformed an unloved spot of land blighted by fly-tipping into a community growing space.

Capital Growth

On 13 June, my Capital Growth programme launched a new campaign to support London's bee populations. The aim of the campaign is to encourage Londoner's to adopt bee-friendly behaviours and to pledge their support for the campaign by signing up online. More information on the campaign can be found at http://www.capitalgrowth.org/bees/.

Policing and Community Safety

Violence Against Women and the White Ribbon Campaign

On 6 June, Kit Malthouse, my Deputy Mayor for Policing, hosted a meeting for London boroughs at City Hall to discuss the benefits of the White Ribbon Campaign (WRC). This is a global campaign led by men and boys who condemn violence against women and girls in all its forms. It challenges men to speak out and think about their own beliefs, language and actions; and educates young people, especially young men and boys, on the issue through educational resources the campaign produces.

One of the aims of the meeting was to see a significant increase in boroughs affiliated to the WRC during 2011, which will help demonstrate my commitment to London being a world leader in taking steps to prioritise action against gender-based violence.

GLA/MPA Crime and Community Safety Roadshows - June/July 2011

Crime and community safety is one of my top priorities. During the forthcoming months we are likely to see changes in London when the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill replaces the Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA) with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPC). Kit Malthouse, my Deputy Mayor for Policing is currently holding another round of roadshows, open to all Londoners. This is an opportunity to discuss the changes and our vision for the future. An update on my three key strategies Met Forward 2, Time For Action and The Way Forward will also be provided. Three of the roadshows have already taken place in June, but there will be two more during July in Harrow and Redbridge.

End Violence Against Women prevention report event

On 23 June, my Deputy Mayor for Policing, Kit Malthouse, attended the launch of a new report A Different World is Possible by the End Violence Against Women Coalition. The aim of the report and the event is to make a case for more investment in the prevention of violence against women rather than having to deal with the consequences. As highlighted in my

violence against women and girls strategy, The Way Forward, the role of schools in preventing violence through education on equality, respect and consent is crucial and I will continue to urge schools in London to play their part in this agenda.

Community Conversations Programme

On 28 June, I attended the sixth Community Conversation in Southwark at the Harris Academy Peckham (after Croydon, Waltham Forest, Brent, Haringey and Hackney), to be followed by the final event, which will take place in Lambeth in September. The event was well attended, with healthy discussions around key issues and feedback has been positive.

These events:

- Are a chance for the community to have direct contact with GLA staff and myself to discuss one of my key priorities tackling serious youth violence.
- Provide a platform for local people to share their experiences and views.
- Promote and raise awareness of action and current action being taken to address youth crime.
- Engage with local communities to get them talking about what action can be taken at a local level, and
- Get people to discuss, sign up and promote my Mentoring Programme.

Security Institute Annual Conference

On 22 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and gave a keynote speech at the Security Institute Annual Conference at One Angel Lane.

The Security Institute is the largest association for security professionals in the United Kingdom with well over 1000 members. Richard gave a speech covering the significance of security and resilience in a capital city hosting the London 2012 Games.

Project Titan

I have directed the LDA to transfer revenue funding totalling $\pm 805,000$ (revenue) to the GLA for two new projects, 'Structured Youth Activities' and 'Mentoring For Young People At Risk'.

Transport

TfL Annual Report

On 27 June, TfL announced that its Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 would be considered at the TfL Board of 29 June.

The Report sets out the major programme of improvements delivered across London's transport network in 2010/11. It also shows how billions of pounds of investment, vital to London and the UK's economic development and growth, were secured during one of the toughest economic climates and Government spending rounds seen in decades.

TfL and I have led the way across the public sector in delivering value for money through the implementation of a \pounds 7.6bn savings and efficiencies programme while protecting essential

upgrade and frontline services. Actions already taken have secured £4.6bn in savings by 2017/18 and a range of initiatives are being put into place across TfL to deliver the remainder. Despite an eight per cent reduction in TfL's overall budget following the Government's Spending Review, unprecedented levels of investment in upgrades, extensions and frontline services are being maintained.

Transport for London statement following Arwyn Thomas tribunal decision

On 23 June, TfL published its response to the Employment Tribunal in respect of Arwyn Thomas, the Tube driver dismissed for unacceptable behaviour towards his colleagues.

The Tribunal found that LU were entitled to discipline Mr. Thomas because of his actions, that he was not dismissed for his union activities - contrary to the claims of the RMT leadership – and that he was 50 per cent blameworthy for his dismissal. However, it also found that the sanction of dismissal was too severe.

Mr. Thomas was therefore offered re-employment, but with a number of conditions that recognised the seriousness of his offence, including that he will not return to his previous work location, and will be re-employed in a non-operational role, which does not involve customer facing duties.

The RMT leadership agreed to end all industrial action in relation to Mr.Thomas' case and called off their planned strikes. They agreed that any future individual cases will follow the normal processes for resolving individual disputes, all of which will be exhausted up to ACAS level in advance of any ballot for industrial action being called. Any future case will also be formally referred to the General Secretary of the RMT and the MD of LU for ultimate review before any such ballot.

Work continues to keep passengers cool this summer and beyond

On 28 June, TfL set out the programme of work being undertaken to cool the Tube network and reduce the effects of the hot summer weather on millions of Tube passengers using the network.

On the sub surface lines the roll out of new air-conditioned S stock Tube trains continues and this summer Metropolitan line passengers will be using them on routes into central London for the first time. By 2016 forty per cent of the Tube network will use the new air conditioned trains as, once roll out is complete on the Metropolitan line, they will be introduced on the Circle and Hammersmith & City lines from 2012 and the District line from 2013.

TfL's acquisition of Tube Lines has created the opportunity for a joint approach to upgrades of the Piccadilly and Bakerloo lines including a common design for trains. London Underground, working with the train industry, is looking to develop a train that would be lighter and more energy-efficient, which would mean the possibility of it being able to carry air conditioning equipment. Using regenerative braking, which returns power back to the rails, could in turn power the air conditioning while not adding to the heat that would be generated powering it. The current plan is that a prototype will be delivered to London Underground by 2015.

Gateway station to the Games complete with test ride on DLR extension

On 1 June, I joined the Transport Secretary Philip Hammond, Culture and Olympics Secretary Jeremy Hunt, Transport Commissioner Peter Hendy, LOCOG Chair Lord Coe and ODA Chief

Executive Dennis Hone to mark the completion of the main 'Gateway' station for the Games at Stratford station.

The DLR extension will open to the public this summer and TfL is on track to complete the Jubilee line signalling upgrade in July, a year ahead of the Games. Together, the upgrades and improvement works mean that 10 different rail routes will serve Stratford station during and after the 2012 Games, making it one of the most connected parts of the capital.

The vast majority of upgrades required for the Games are already operational and form part of a £6.5bn transport improvement package across the UK to increase capacity and bolster services, enabling 100 percent of spectators to travel to the Games by public transport, walking or cycling.

Research shows Pedestrian Countdown technology brings benefits to London

On 2 June, TfL announced that a trial of Pedestrian Countdown technology at eight sites across the Capital had resulted in significant benefits to all road users and no compromise to safety standards. The trial began in June last year and was the first of its kind in the UK.

In the trial the digital displays count down the time between the green man symbol going out and the red man appearing, making it clear to pedestrians how much time they have left to cross the road safely. By replacing the blackout period with a numerical counter, pedestrians are able to judge whether they have enough time to cross the road, helping them to make more informed choices.

Research carried out by the Transport Research Laboratory as part of the trial showed that a majority of pedestrians surveyed liked the Pedestrian Countdown technology. The technology was also liked by the majority of mobility impaired users and children. Most importantly, the study showed that there were no negative impacts on safety during the trial.

TfL announces initial results following the removal of the Western Extension Zone

On 3 June, TfL announced that following the removal of the Western Extension of the Congestion Charge Zone, initial observations showed a lower than expected increase in the amount of traffic driving both into and within the former zone and no discernable impact on air quality.

An analysis of the first 12 weeks of this year by TfL found that:

- Around eight per cent more traffic entering the zone, lower than forecast levels.
- Traffic within the former zone saw an increase but at a lower rate than predicted.
- Average traffic speeds within the former zone were estimated to be up to three per cent, slower than in the same period last year but well below the forecast traffic speed reduction of between six and 12 per cent.
- Air quality in the former Western Extension zone has followed the same pattern as the rest of London and there has not been a discernable 'WEZ removal effect' on air quality. Concentrations of Nitrous Oxides (NO₂) have actually fallen, both inside and outside the former Western Extension.

TfL and I are continuing to introduce a range of measures to improve air quality in the Capital, including the recent launch of Source London to develop further electric vehicle infrastructure and smarter travel initiatives to encourage a shift to cleaner modes of transport.

Crime continues to fall on the transport network

On 3 June, TfL announced that the latest annual report showed that the number of crimes on the transport network has fallen. New figures released by the British Transport Police (BTP) and the Metropolitan Police Service show that crime on the Underground and Docklands Light Railway (DLR) went down by seven per cent and offences on London's bus network down by four per cent in the last 12 months.

The figures show that in 2010/11:

- Violent crime against a person offences on the bus network has been cut by five per cent:
- Public disorder offences on the Tube and DLR are down by 11 per cent;
- Vandalism has reduced by 20 per cent for the Tube and DLR, and 12 per cent for buses;
- Theft on the bus network is down by six per cent;

The last three years have seen an increase in investment in transport safety and security. Safer Transport Teams were introduced in all London boroughs, providing over 400 MPS officers, and a cycle task force of 40 officers has been created. In addition, the consumption of alcohol on the TfL services has been banned, which has gained the support of Londoners wanting to improve their experience of travelling on the Tube and on the bus.

Taken together these measures have reduced crime on London's bus network by 31.8 percent since I was elected.

Lost property on TfL network reaches record numbers

On 7 June, TfL announced that more than 207,000 items have been handed in to TfL's Lost Property Office in the past year – the highest in its 77 year history.

The Lost Property Office handles items that are left behind on the TfL network, including buses, London Underground, London Overground, DLR, licensed taxis and the Victoria Coach Station. It is one of the busiest lost property offices in the UK.

Books were the most common item left by passengers on the network with 41,000 handed in during 2010/11. Passengers also handed in more than 31,000 bags and 28,000 items of clothing. The variety of property handed in is vast and includes sports gear, folders of school work, toys, power tools, pushchairs, suitcases, walking sticks and even crutches. One of the more interesting items handed in recently was a handbag containing an invitation to the Royal wedding. On average one in three items is reunited with its owner.

London Overground's East London route doubles passenger numbers in one year

On 7 June, TfL announced that the London Overground's new East London extension is continuing to prove hugely popular with residents and commuters with passenger numbers doubling in its first year of existence.

Air-conditioned trains on the line which runs from Highbury & Islington to New Cross, Crystal Palace and West Croydon via Shoreditch have carried over 20 million passengers – an average of 85,000 people a day.

In late February this year, the line was connected with the wider London Overground network and the Victoria line by a new link between Dalston Junction and Highbury & Islington.

The new route has been dubbed "The Culture Line" because it connects ten museums plus numerous art galleries based in those areas of East London known for promoting cutting edge art, design, music and performance such as Dalston, Hoxton, Shoreditch and New Cross. Museums and galleries along the route of the extension have hailed the impact it has had on visitor numbers.

More bins on London Underground for a tidier Tube

On 8 June, London Underground launched a campaign, in partnership with the GLA, Metro newspapers and Keep Britain Tidy, to encourage Tube customers to dispose of their litter. More bins have been installed so you can now access a bin on any journey on the tube. The aim is for a tidier and more pleasant Tube to travel in and to help LU to recycle more waste.

The campaign, part of my commitment to make travelling in London more civilised, will run across the Tube network as well as in the Metro newspaper and will encourage passengers to use the 1,600 plus bins that are in, or within walking distance of, the 270 Tube stations.

To help, LU has recently installed an additional 166 bins on the network, taking the total to 800 and making it easier for customers to get rid of their rubbish. LU regularly monitors stations to ensure that high levels of cleanliness are maintained and recent figures have shown an improvement at over 70 percent of the stations where the new bins have been installed.

Northern line upgrade set to start

On 13 June, TfL announced that the main programme of works to upgrade London's busiest Tube line – the Northern line – will commence later this year. When complete, the upgrade will deliver faster, more frequent and more reliable train services for customers, increasing capacity by 20 per cent and cutting journey times by around 18 per cent. The upgrade works are due to be completed in 2014.

Under the PPP, TubeLines proposed a programme of 65-weekend closures, this was clearly unworkable and is being replaced by a shorter and more focussed programme of closures designed to cause minimum disruption to customers while making the best use of available time to install and test the signalling upgrades.

In place of the extensive programme of closures proposed by TubeLines will be:

- eight weekends of full line closures for the installation and testing of the new signalling system, spread out to minimise disruption, with five closures in 2013 and three in 2014;
- eight additional weekends where shorter sections of the line will be closed, many of which will affect only the High Barnet branch, the most lightly-used section of the line;
- six closures of parts of the line during the quieter Easter and Christmas holiday periods which will be closed for four or five days respectively

London Underground awards major signalling contract

On 14 June, London Underground announced it had awarded Bombardier Transportation the contract to upgrade the signalling on the Circle, District, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan

lines.

Alongside the fleet of 191 new air-conditioned walk-through trains, already being rolled out on the Metropolitan line, the new signalling system, when complete, will mean customers can travel more quickly, and frequently on all of the "Sub-Surface" lines, which together make up 40 per cent of the Tube network. Overall the upgrade, which is due for completion in 2018, will mean:

- 24 per cent more capacity on the District line by providing space for an extra 10,000 passengers an hour increasing the line's capacity from 40,000 to 50,000 passengers an hour.
- 27 per cent more capacity on the Metropolitan line by providing space for an extra 9,500 more passengers an hour increasing the line's capacity from 35,000 to 44,500 passengers an hour.
- 65 per cent more capacity on the Circle and Hammersmith & City lines, delivered through new signalling, longer trains and recent improvements to service frequency. In total the upgrade will provide space for an extra 17,500 more passengers each hour increasing the capacity from 26,000 to 43,500 passengers an hour.

Businesses urged to start planning now to keep on running effectively during 2012 Games

On 14 June, London 2012 and TfL issued an urgent call to businesses to take advantage of a range of tools and advice on offer ahead of the 2012 Games to ensure they can keep on running effectively and make the most of this once in a lifetime opportunity.

All transport improvements are on track to be delivered well ahead of the 2012 Games, with many already providing an early legacy for London and the UK. However, the transport network will be busier than usual and businesses, particularly in the Capital and around Games venues nationally, are being urged to start planning now so they can keep on running effectively during the Games.

London 2012 and TfL are offering free travel advice to businesses to ensure their staff, customers and suppliers can get around and they can make and receive important deliveries during the Games.

A website has been set up at www.london2012.com/traveladviceforbusiness where businesses can register for regular email bulletins, view maps of affected areas, and download documents to help create an action plan so they can be better prepared. Companies with more than 250 employees are also eligible for support from specialist travel advisors who can help them produce travel action plans for Games time.

Sponsors sought for London's cable car

On 14 June, TfL announced it had launched an Invitation to Tender process to secure a commercial partner to sponsor the London Cable Car scheme

Scheduled to start construction soon, this represents a unique and exciting opportunity for the private sector to be associated with what will be one of London's internationally recognisable landmarks and gain unprecedented exposure on one of the busiest transport networks in the world.

From summer 2012 the cable car will provide a new low-emission, quick, direct and fully accessible link connecting the Greenwich Peninsula and the Royal Victoria Dock, two vibrant areas of growth on either side of the Thames.

As the UK's first urban cable car it will be a spectacular architectural addition to London's skyline, providing a new transport link for thousands of Londoners each day and a catalyst supporting the continued economic growth and regeneration of east London.

UK first as TfL installs eco-lighting in a London road tunnel

On 17 June, TfL announced that for the first time in the UK, eco-friendly lights have been installed in a central London tunnel, helping to improve safety, reduce maintenance closures as well as cut energy consumption and costs.

The Upper Thames Street westbound tunnel is now entirely lit with low energy, long-life LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights providing a host of benefits for Londoners. The design and colour of the lights is designed to improve visibility for cyclists and motorists to boost safety.

The lights will also cut CO_2 emissions by more than 60 per cent compared with conventional systems, helping to reduce TfL's energy bills. Projections show the cost of lighting the tunnel could fall from around £50,000 each year to less than £10,000, delivering a potential annual saving of at least £40,000. The innovative lights are also expected to last for 20 years as opposed to the existing system's two year life span, significantly reducing the need for maintenance closures.

Crossrail/TfL launch first joint procurement process for escalators

On 20 June, Crossrail and TfL launched its first joint procurement process - covering the provision of escalators for the Tube network and the new Crossrail stations in central London. The scale of the contract is such that it will almost certainly be one of the biggest orders ever placed in the UK for station escalators.

A notice has been placed in the Official Journal of the European Union seeking expressions of interest for the design, manufacture, installation and long-term maintenance of over 100 escalators. The contract is worth up to £190m.

Escalators on London's transport network operate for over 18 hours a day and are intensively used so need to be built to last. The cost of designing, building and maintaining a single escalator is over $\pounds 1m$. TfL and Crossrail have undertaken a joint procurement for this major escalator order to realise significant cost savings that would not otherwise be achieved if separate, smaller orders were placed. Savings will also be realised by the adoption of a more standard escalator design across TfL and Crossrail.

Economic and Business Policy

London Technology Fund

The London Technology Fund, set up by the London Development Agency with European backing, has sold Dexela, a high-tech business specialising in low-dose x-rays which it co-owned with Albion Ventures.

This is the latest London Technology Fund success and demonstrates the value of long-term independent investment in specialist initiatives, backed by both public and European Regional Development funds. The London Technology Fund has completed 22 investments in eight companies, acting as a key investor to help secure over £27 million for London-based high technology companies.

Championing London's innovative manufacturers

On 2 June, I highlighted the importance of nurturing London's businesses and talented entrepreneurs during visits to award-winning brewery Fuller Smith & Turner of Chiswick and iconic bicycle firm Bromptons.

We are currently on track to meet our target to create 20,000 apprenticeship opportunities by the end of the academic year and Fuller's and Bromptons are among hundreds of firms who have helped to train Londoners through offering apprenticeships.

Apprenticeships and the Responsible Procurement Programme

On 1 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and gave the keynote address at an 'Apprenticeships and the Responsible Procurement Programme' event at City Hall.

The aim of the event was to raise awareness of the benefits to SMEs of apprenticeships, to clarify the funding and support from bodies such as the National Apprenticeship Service and ultimately to encourage participating SMEs to provide apprenticeship opportunities within their workforce.

Environment

RE:LEAF

On 21 June, I announced that the Team London volunteering initiative has awarded £250,000 to the 'Londoners Love Trees' consortium to engage thousands of Londoners to plant thousands of trees and help protect and conserve London's urban forest. I also announced that, in partnership with the Woodland Trust, we will be distributing 100 free tree packs to enable local communities to take the initiative to plant their own copses. These packs alone will provide 10,500 new trees for London. These contribute to the delivery of the RE:LEAF initiative. Further activities that I hope to deliver with my partners in RE:LEAF - which aims to increase tree cover in London - were set out in the RE:LEAF prospectus which was published on the same day: http://www.london.gov.uk/releaf-london.

Capital Growth

On 13 June, my Capital Growth programme launched a new campaign to support London's bee populations. The campaign is being delivered by London Food Link with campaign marketing materials designed by advertising creative team at LIDA - part of M&C Saatchi. This work was provided pro-bono and included the production of posters for the tube network, postcards to be distributed at a range of events this summer and three short animations portraying in a humorous way the plight of London's honey bees. The aim of the campaign is to encourage Londoner's to adopt bee-friendly behaviours and to pledge their support for the campaign by

signing up online. More information on the campaign can be found at http://www.capitalgrowth.org/bees/.

In addition Capital Growth has awarded 50 community groups with bee hives to start producing their own honey. The groups are currently undergoing training and will receive their beehives next spring.

On 9 June, at Food from the Sky on the roof at Budgen's in Crouch End, I announced that Capital Growth had surpassed the 1,000 space mark in its campaign to create 2,012 new community food growing spaces by the end of 2012. The project has already attracted 35,000 volunteers to get out and start taking part in the grow your own experience.

Community Flood Plans

One of my officers spoke at the Annual General Meeting of the Purley and Woodcote Residents Association to help them understand surface water flood risk in their neighbourhood, and how they can take positive steps, working together, to help them prepare in case of future flooding.

Air Quality

Defra published on 9 June 2011 its Update to the Air Quality Plan for London as required by the European Commission. I have also published information on measures I am taking in central London to reduce PM10 concentrations that will improve London's air quality and the protection of Londoners' health http://www.london.gov.uk/air-quality/links. I am actively working with the Government on the Air Quality Plan, which will largely consist of measures to be implemented via the Clean Air Fund - a new and exiting programme of measures that will reduce harmful pollution emissions in London. These include: increased application of dust suppressants at priority locations; providing taxi marshals at central London stations and other locations; reducing idling; installing Diesel Particulate Filters (DPFs) on older buses travelling along Upper Thames Street, Marylebone Road and Park Lane; installing green infrastructure, such as trees, green walls and green screens and working with businesses to reduce their air quality footprint.

Capital Clean-up Campaign

On 11 June, I launched my Capital Clean-up Campaign aimed at making London cleaner and greener for the 2012 Games and beyond through volunteering and community ownership. Kulveer Ranger, my Director of Environment and Digital London, took part in the launch in Lewisham, volunteering alongside the London Fire Brigade, City Hall staff, the Sevenoaks Community Action Group and local school children. The group transformed an unloved spot of land blighted by fly-tipping into a community growing space.

Already more than 80 Capital Clean-up events are registered across London during the first part of the campaign, which culminates on 24 July. The campaign will re-open after the summer holidays from 5 to 30 September, kicking off with the National Love Where You Live Campaign. While some of the clean-ups are completed through Community Payback, over 60 are open to the public and more events are getting registered all the time. I am also partnering with Keep Britain Tidy's Big Tidy Up campaign to offer free clean-up kits to local organisers.

Events can be registered on the campaign web page, www.london.gov.uk/capitalclean-up or by contacting my campaign coordinator capitalclean-up@london.gov.uk. You can follow my Capital Clean-up Campaign on Facebook and Twitter @capitalcleanup.

Recycling saves money campaign

Since the May launch of the Recycle for London 'nice save' campaign, London boroughs have been signing up to take part and spread the message to Londoners that recycling saves serious money. Indeed, last year Londoners saved £30 million by recycling. To date, 31 out of 33 boroughs have expressed an intention to deliver a local version of the London-wide campaign this summer.

The aim of the campaign is to help local authorities save taxpayers' money by increasing recycling levels to build on the £30 million Londoners saved last year by recycling.

Low carbon prize

I announced on 22 June that in the Autumn I will be launching a new low carbon prize for London's students. London has some of the best universities in the world, and our students are sure to play a big part in developing the technological improvements that will help us all lead greener lives. To help stimulate research in this area, I am setting up a Mayoral Prize for the most promising discoveries to reduce energy use in London's homes and workplaces. I am currently seeking sponsors to support a cash prize of at least £20,000 which will be made available to the winning student(s) to help develop their idea(s).

European Local Energy Assistance (ELENA)

I have agreed that the GLA will enter into two Grant Agreements with the European Investment Bank (who administer ELENA on behalf of the European Commission) to support the RE:FIT and Decentralised Energy programmes.

I have also agreed the GLA/LDA ten per cent contribution to total project costs, as required by EIB over three years. Budget has been identified over the next three years.

I have delegated signing rights for the two Funding Agreements to Director of Resources and agreed the commencement of a procurement process to support delivery of the RE:FIT and Decentralised Energy programmes, as set out in the ELENA applications.

Children and Young People

Recruiting 'Reading Ambassadors' for new children's scheme

On 14 June, I launched a new reading and literacy project to help young children (aged 3-5 years) who are struggling with their learning development. The scheme will work with families and equip them with the skills to boost their children's literacy and prepare them for school entry. Popstar Peter Andre joined me at the launch, alongside local school children and their parents at Botwell Green Library.

The new project is part of Team London, my strategy to harness volunteers and philanthropic money to deliver key projects to improve the quality of life and opportunities of Londoners. The scheme, run by the National Literacy Trust, will recruit 500 volunteers from across the city

who will work with over 2,000 families in 12 boroughs. I am encouraging interested adults to consider taking on one of two roles:

- Literacy Champions 360 volunteers will work on a one to one basis with families whose children are identified as having learning development issues. Over an eight week period, volunteers will encourage the parents to make reading part of their activities, introduce fun phoneitcal games to boost speech development and prepare them for successful transition to infant school.
- Reading Ambassadors will bring additional support to literacy schemes across boroughs, including participating in library story times and reading workshops.

Parliamentary Outreach event with young Londoners

250 young Londoners came to the Chamber at City Hall on 1 June for an interactive debate run by my Peer Outreach Workers and the UK Parliamentary Outreach teams. At the end of a lively debate, young people from across the capital gave the 2012 Games a ringing endorsement.

This was the third and largest such event organised at City Hall to give young people an insight into how the UK Parliament works and, this time, working with the London Assembly so that it had a particular focus on London's government and the London 2012 Games.

London Assembly Members James Cleverly, Jennette Arnold, Jenny Jones and John Biggs debated with the young people on the London Olympic and Paralympic Games, and a range of related employment, transport and cultural issues.

The young Londoners who took part and had their voices heard were all aged 12-19 years and came from a variety of schools, youth clubs and community organisations from across the capital.

This citizenship focus of my youth engagement work followed on from members of my Peer Outreach Workers team being asked to advise The Speaker's Advisory Council on Public Engagement – chaired by the John Lewis Managing Director, Andy Street – on how Parliament can communicate better with young people.

Meeting with young people's groups

On 3 June I met with my GLA Peer Outreach Workers team alongside other young Londoners from the ODA Legacy Youth Panel, Redbridge College, Mentor UK and the GLA Near Peer Mentoring Project.

Each of the groups or organisations gave me an overview about the projects that they were running on behalf of wider groups of young Londoners. The youth engagement work in which they are volunteering is absolutely in the spirit of my aims in launching Team London, London's action plan for volunteering.

We discussed different aspects of the 2012 Games, particularly how young people will be able to benefit from the legacy through enjoying the new parks and access to sport and leisure facilities. I also reminded them that there will be 120,000 free tickets for 1 in 8 school children in London through the 'Get Set' education programme.

I thanked the young people for their valuable work across a range of projects. It was inspiring to hear how being involved in the Peer Outreach Workers team and the other young people's groups has fired them with the ambition to change their own lives and overcome some of the challenges of growing up in London.

Visit to Hopewell School

On 10 June my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, visited the Hopewell School in Barking and Dagenham. Richard was invited by the school to see the school's Therapeutic Model STREAM as well as to see its expanded premises and range of therapeutic services.

Social Inclusion and Health

Team London

Team London is my action plan for volunteering. It aims to recognise and build on all the amazing volunteering work that is already going on in London by harnessing volunteer effort and philanthropic money to make the capital an even better place: improving our local environment, boosting literacy and nurturing a more cohesive community. Team London is made up of four components:

- Leading and delivering on London's priorities
- Rewarding, recognising and promoting volunteering
- Increasing support and resources for volunteering
- Harnessing the volunteering interest in the London 2012 Games

To lead and deliver on London's priorities and utilise funding from team London's founding sponsor the Reuben Foundation, the GLA has launched a number of exciting new volunteering projects targeted at London's priorities – cutting crime, improving quality of life and creating opportunity for our young people. It is estimated that through the tree planting, child literacy and building stronger neighbourhoods projects alone the GLA will be mobilising 4875 volunteers, in 25 boroughs, benefiting over 57,000 people. This is on top of the small grants fund which will be supporting volunteering organisations in every borough in London.

With the help of the media partner Archant, I launched public nominations for my certificate for volunteering. Through the scheme I am asking Londoners to take a moment to nominate somebody they know who are doing something fantastic in a voluntary capacity in London. Each worthy individual will then receive a Mayoral certificate in appreciation of their efforts. Five certificates will be presented at our launch event at City Hall on 30 June.

Health Inequalities Strategy - 'One Year On'

Last year I published my Health Inequalities Strategy, an ambitious and wide-reaching strategy to improve the well-being of all Londoners and narrow the gap between those with the best and worst health. Its aim is to make London a city where everyone can thrive regardless of who they are or where they live. In June I published the 'One Year On' report to summarise the work and the progress made by my health team and its many partners in the first year of delivery. Some of the achievements of the past year include the Capital Growth Programme, the Playsport London fund and my hosting of the Health Leadership Summit.

London Health Improvement Board

Together with London Council's, I have established the London Health Improvement Board in shadow form and I am looking forward to chairing its first meeting of GLA, London Councils and NHS members in July and continuing to champion health improvement and a reduction in health inequalities in London.

Carers' Thames Walk

On 12 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and opened the sixth annual Thames Carers' Walk on the riverside close to London Bridge. The event brought together carers and supporters from across London for the annual walk which also raises monies for carers' charities. Richard spoke briefly to open the event and also presented certificates to carers and those who had completed the walk.

Deaffinity

On 20 May, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, met with Deaffinity, a group based in east London, working with Deaf BAME Londoners. The group reported on a number of excellent initiatives they had implemented including self defence classes, football games for Deaf participants and counselling amongst others. It was noted that much work was still required to tackle the stigma of being Deaf, some of which had been addressed by Deaffinitiy's own DVD, *Deaf not Dumb*.

My Statutory Deputy Mayor also attended an awards ceremony facilitated by the group on 13 June to mark the valuable work they were undertaking. Going forward, I hope this group is able to participate in the regular Deaf and disabled stakeholder meetings that my Statutory Deputy Mayor chairs.

Muntada Al Islami Trust's 25th Anniversary

My Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended a dinner held by the Muntada Al Islami Trust at the Royal Courts of Justice on 7 June.

The dinner was held to mark the launch of a three year campaign aimed at reducing maternal mortality in Africa. The Trust is one of the world's foremost Muslim charities and supports philanthropic work in 17 countries in Sub Saharan Africa. Over the past 25 years the Trust in West London has contributed some £15m in aid for the people of Africa.

Downing Street LGBT Reception

On 22 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended the LGBT Reception held by the Prime Minister in Downing Street.

Delegation of German MPs

On 23 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, hosted a cross party delegation of German MPs to City Hall on my behalf. The MPs wished to discuss public transport matters in London.

Group Captain Tomas Barrett

On 24 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended a thanksgiving service for Group Captain Tomas Barrett of RAF Northolt who tragically died recently following a road traffic accident. The service took place at St Clement Danes Church on The Strand. A reception to commemorate the Group Captain's life was then held at Australia House.

The Very Reverend Colin Slee

On 25 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended a thanksgiving service for The Very Reverend Colin Slee, The Dean of Southwark. The service took place at Southwark Cathedral.

Launch of the Council of Somali Organisations

On 28 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended the launch of the Council of Somali Organisations at The Resource Centre on The Holloway Road in Islington.

Richard spoke at the launch to wish the venture well for the future. The objectives of the Council are to strengthen and improve the effectiveness of London Somali Organisations; to articulate the aspirations and needs of the Somali communities in the capital; to provide a platform for liaison, consultation and partnership between the community, statutory and wider third sector and to also promote the interests of Somali organisations and communities.

Annual Trans meeting

My Statutory Deputy Mayor of London, Richard Barnes, chaired the annual meeting of London's trans organisations on 22 June at City Hall. Attendees included Galop, Camden LGBT Forum, TransLondon, Press for Change as well as the Government Equalities Office. The meeting discussed a range of issues pertinent to the community including contributing into the GLA's own Trans Employment Policy and sharing best practice. The group also discussed at length GOE's Trans Actions Plan and highlighted some of their priorities including combating transphobic bullying and combating different forms of transphobia within health service provision.

London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Legacy and Sport

One-year countdown to start of London 2012 Festival

On 21 June, I marked the one-year countdown to the start of the London 2012 Festival. On Midsummer's Day 2012 the festivities will begin. The capital will be alive with extraordinary music, film, art, poetry, performance – a festival on a scale never before seen to celebrate the greatest sporting show on Earth. It was also announced that the posters for next year's Olympics and Paralympics will be designed by 12 top British artists including Howard Hodgkin, Bridget Riley, Tracey Emin and Chris Ofili. From 23–27 July a series of special events will mark one year until the opening of the Olympic Games.

Plans unveiled to put Tower Bridge at the heart of London's 2012 celebrations

On 27 June, I unveiled new plans for a deal between City Hall, City of London Corporation and London 2012 Sustainability partners, EDF and GE to install a state-of-the-art energy-efficient lighting system on Tower Bridge. As well as helping to cut carbon and reduce energy costs, the project will enhance this global icon's architectural features at night. It will provide a

permanent lighting legacy for one of London's most loved icons, but also enable Tower Bridge – which is owned by the City's Bridge House Estates - to play a unique and starring role when the curtain rises next year on the city's once-in-a-lifetime Olympic and Paralympic celebrations.

Details contained in the submitted planning documents show proposals for Tower Bridge to feature Olympic rings and Paralympic Agitos during the 45 days of the Games, in a similar way to those already installed at St Pancras station. The new flexible lighting system would enable beautiful evening lighting displays during Games time, for example, the use of gold, silver and bronze lighting effects to mark sporting medal successes.

Bringing Touch Rugby to the workplace

As part of an unprecedented drive to boost sporting participation in the run up to and after the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, I am giving workers in the capital the chance to try touch rugby for free.

£115,000 is being invested from my 2012 Sports Legacy Fund to provide free Touch Rugby sessions in the workplace. This form of the traditional game requires little equipment and participants control play by touching opponents or the ball without physically tackling them. This means it can be played almost anywhere and this investment will fund taster and team sessions across the city in places as varied as cafeterias, car parks and green spaces, as well as rugby clubs.

The new scheme, called Touch London, is part of my £15.5 million drive to deliver a sporting legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and get Londoners out and about in healthy activity.

2012 Equality Diversity Forum

On 16 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, chaired the regular meeting of the 2012 Equality and Diversity Forum at the offices of the Government Olympic Executive. The meeting was attended by the regular Forum members including equality and diversity representatives from LOCOG, the ODA, GOE and the EHRC.

The Forum monitors and champions equality and diversity in all aspects of the Games. The meeting in June focused on volunteering and the evaluation process GOE are undertaking to look at sports participation and value for money. In addition, the group scrutinised the recruitment practices for the City Ambassadors as well as the Games Makers volunteering programme and contributed to the equality and diversity elements of the training volunteers will receive. It was also noted that there was much good practice that should be shared as part of the legacy of the 2012 Games.

Inviting London's Communities To Share In The 2012 Games

On 6 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, chaired an 'Inviting London's Communities To Share In the 2012 Games' at City Hall. Fellow speakers included Baroness Grey-Thompson and representatives from LOCOG.

Representatives from across all of London's communities attended the event. The aim of the meeting was to describe what London will be like during the 2012 Games; to enthuse communities and encourage them to participate and welcome guests to the capital; to outline what opportunities the Games will bring; to outline the immediate and long term benefits to

London from the Games and to also encourage communities to communicate these messages to their wider population.

London 2012 issues for LGBT organisations

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, chaired the biannual meeting of London's LGBT organisations on 8 June. With an attendee list of 70 organisations ranging from sports groups, to youth groups and service providers, the meeting was an opportunity for the community to inform my key policies and ensure the needs of the LGBT community are mainstreamed throughout the GLA group.

The meeting focused on a range of London 2012 issues, including increasing sports participation, ensuring the community can be active parts of the 2012 Cultural Olympiad and making attendees aware of a piece of work which looks at the health legacy post 2012 for the LGBT community.

ODA Olympic retrofit project

I have approved the delivery of the ODA Olympic retrofit project by the LDA and GLA environment teams, through the established RE:NEW and RE:FIT programmes.

I have agreed that the GLA will enter into a grant agreement with the ODA to receive the full funding to deliver this project. I have delegated signing of the grant agreement and further project-related decision-making and signing to the Executive Director of Development and Environment.

Government and Parliamentary Relations

Meeting of Congress of Leaders

On 7 June, I hosted the Congress of Leaders where we discussed preparations for the 2012 Games. Updates were also provided on the London Crime Reduction Board, Homes and Communities Agency London Board, and the London Health Improvement Board.

Launch of Outer London Fund

On 13 June, I launched the Outer London Fund at City Hall, where I announced a fund of £50m for the renewal of town centres. Participants included leaders and representatives from London's boroughs.

Local Government Group Annual Conference

On 29 June, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke at the Local Government Group Annual Conference at the ICC in Birmingham.

Richard spoke on the impact of the 7 July 2005 bombings on local authorities and their responsibilities. Mr Ron Dobson, Commissioner of the London Fire Brigade, also spoke at the Conference of the impact of the bombings on the capitals fire and rescue services.

Housing

Homeless to Work programme

On 16 June, I approved the transfer of £400,000 from the London Development Agency (LDA) to the GLA to commission a Homeless to Work programme. This proposed programme was originally announced in March 2010, but did not progress due uncertainty over the LDA funding during the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) negotiations. With the recent budget settlement for the LDA, I have been able to secure £400,000 to take forward this work in 2011/12.

London First Steps

As part of the devolution to the Mayor of new housing powers next year, I will be taking on responsibility for the London First Steps agents functions. These functions, which include providing information about low cost home ownership; advertising specific properties; processing applications; and dealing with enquiries, are currently undertaken by two First Steps agents on a contract that ends in April 2012. I have agreed with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) that these contracts will be extended for a year to ease the transition. My officers are working closely with the HCA to achieve contract improvements and cost savings for 2012/13. The First Steps New Homes Show, which promoted my First Steps brand for affordable home ownership in London, took place on 18 June at the QEII Conference Centre in Westminster. The show was a great success. It exhibited over 1,000 First Steps homes and was attended by over 3000 Londoners.

On 20 June, I announced that London developers have secured £20 million from the Government's FirstBuy scheme to help Londoners get a foot on the property ladder.

Focus on London report

On 6 June, the latest Focus on London report was published. This edition looks at housing trends in London, from the demand/supply imbalance to the consequences for affordability and housing need. The report shows the pressures of housing demand in London have grown in recent years, in part due to fewer people leaving London to buy homes in other regions. While new supply during the recession held up better in London than in other regions, high levels of delivery need too be maintained in order to meet housing needs, to reduce housing costs to more affordable levels and to reduce the increasing levels of overcrowding. The report is available on the website. http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/mayor/publications/society/facts-and-figures/focus-on-london/housing-growing-city.

Rough Sleeping Commissioning Framework

I have approved the Rough Sleeping Commissioning Framework 2011-15 to be published for consultation.

I have delegated authority to my Advisor for Housing to approve any changes to the attached Commissioning Framework that arise out of the consultation and approve and publish the final Commissioning Framework.

Finally, I have agreed that any relevant funding decisions prior to publication of the final Commissioning Framework, be made in accordance with the priorities set out in the attached Commissioning Framework, and in line with the Authority's Contracts and Funding Code.

Culture and Events

Talk London (State of London Debate)

On 2 June, I participated in a lively public debate chaired by LBC's Nick Ferrari at the Methodist Central Hall in Westminster. The event was attended by around 750 people and provided an opportunity for questions to be asked on a wide range of topics and issues of concern. The event was broadcast live on LBC ensuring that many hundreds of thousands of Londoners were able to follow the debate and share in the experience. On the evening summary copies of my annual report, and information about Team London, was distributed to everyone that attended.

Celebrating Sanctuary

On 19 June, I was pleased to support the annual Celebrating Sanctuary event, which marks the start of Refugee Week, with a grant of £5000. The event, which took place on Bernie Spain Gardens on the South Bank is a unique free festival that celebrates the arts of refugee communities in London. Performers originating from Iran and Somalia and other countries highlighted the diversity of talent present within the refugee communities. As well as music, dance and poetry, other features of the event included culturally specific food, a market place with arts, crafts and exhibitions and a project marking the 60th anniversary of Refugee Convention.

Armed Forces Day flag raising ceremony & reception

On 20 June, service men and women from the Army, RAF and Navy together with a number of veterans attended the Armed Forces Day flag raising ceremony reception at City Hall. I was joined by Brigadier Mathew Lowe MBE for the flag raising; a ceremony which took place at locations in different parts of the country.

Armed Forces Day is an opportunity for Londoners to show their support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces communities and to raise awareness of the past and continuing contributions of the Armed Forces.

The Big Lunch

On 5 June, I attended the Big Lunch at the Southbank Centre with Barbara Windsor, my Ambassador for Street Parties. The Southbank was hosting the Big Lunch as part of its celebrations for the 60th anniversary of the Festival of Britain. The event was the culmination of my campaign in London, in partnership with the Big Lunch, to promote the importance of Street Parties as a way of building community spirit and putting the village back into the city. There were hundreds of Big Lunches in the capital and I am looking forward to making it an even bigger and better event next year when the Big Lunch will be a central part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend.

Culture and volunteering

On 13 June, I launched 'Culture & Volunteering - an introduction to volunteering across the arts and cultural sector in London', a guide that highlights best practices and 'Top Tips' to raise the profile of volunteering and enhance the status of volunteers working within the sector.

My office is working with London Cultural Quarters to develop a five year strategic plan aimed at providing a clear framework for volunteering in cultural organisations both large and small. It is the first time such a plan has been developed and will encompass the whole sector, drawing on the knowledge and expertise of organisations, policy makers, volunteering representatives, as well as case studies and findings from the GLA survey. This work will complement Team London, my ambitious programme to get more people in the capital to volunteer.

Big Dance

The pioneering Big Dance project received further recognition when it reached the semifinals of the National Lottery Awards in the Best Arts Project category.

Classics in schools

On 16 June, I gave the King's College Annual Education Lecture on the topic of teaching Classics in Schools. I reiterated the importance of studying Classics, the need to encourage more schools to take up the subject and the brilliant work being done by charitable organisations in this area. I also announced plans for a new volunteering scheme as part of my Team London initiative which will help introduce more young people to the Classics in schools across London.

Film London 2011-12

I have approved GLA funding of £1.3m to Film London for the year 2011-12 in order for it to deliver activities supporting the capital's film industry, in accordance with the objectives to be specified in the grant agreement between the GLA and Film London. I have directed the LDA to transfer £1.3m to the GLA for this purpose.

GLA Organisation

LDA Corporate plan 2011-12

I have approved the LDA's Corporate Plan for the year 2011-12, including the spending plan and delivery forecast.

GLA Group Skills Supplier Project

I have directed the LDA to pay a £300,000 revenue grant to the GLA for delivery of the GLA Group Skills Supplier Team, which promotes skills and employment outcomes in the GLA Group supply chain.

Urban Design London - GLA membership

I have agreed that the GLA should become an ordinary member of UDL and should execute a Deed of Adherence, a reimbursement Side Letter, and any other documents reasonably

required. I have noted the nominal subscription fee associated with becoming a member of the Board at £1.

Telephone Systems Maintenance Contract

I have approved an OJEU procurement exercise to source telephone systems maintenance services contract for a 3 year period with provision for an extension for a further two years. I have agreed the award of a contract to the tenderer providing the most economically advantageous submission upon presentation to the Executive Director – Resources of a supporting evaluation report.

Finally, I have delegated to the Executive Director – Resources the power to approve the award of contract.

Business Continuity Provision

I have approved a competitive procurement process and subsequent award of a contract for a data replication solution, implementation, maintenance and support services to the bidder submitting the most economically advantageous tender (contract length 3 years with option exercisable at the GLA's discretion, for up to 4 further 12 month extensions of maintenance and support services – provision to be reviewed annually).

I have agreed the allocation of a budget of £305,000 to fund the purchase of the Data Replication solution, additional software, implementation services and first year costs. As well as the allocation of a budget of £73,000 for years 2012/13 and subsequent years for support and maintenance of the solution.

I have delegated power to the Executive Director of Resources to approve all necessary actions and documentation (and sign such documentation on behalf of the GLA) required for the award of any contract and ongoing operation of the contract, including (without limitation) the approval of payments to the contractor, where such decisions would ordinarily fall outside his powers under the GLA's Scheme of Delegation.

Visit London: Pension Liabilities and Creditors

I have approved the Greater London Authority's entry into the following agreements:

- 1. Scheme Rescue relating to the Visit London portion of the British Tourist Boards' Staff Pension and Life Assurance Scheme;
- 2. Deed of Agreement relating to the British Tourist Board Pension and Life Assurance Scheme:
- 3. An assignment of the Trustees' rights in the insolvency of Visit London to the GLA.

I have delegated to the Executive Director – Resources the authority to agree and finalise the terms of the agreements.

Finally, I have agreed, subject to the Trustees assigning their rights in the insolvency to GLA, so that GLA receives any payment made by the Administrators from the insolvency which relates to the Scheme's Section75 Debt (estimated to be in the order of £3m), to authorise the payment to the Visit London Trustees of £6m.

Appointments

Appointment to the TfL Board

I have noted the resignation of Kulveer Ranger from the TfL Board and appointed Isabel Dedring as a member.

Planning and Development Control

Beam Reach 5 sale

At the beginning of June, the London Development Agency concluded the sale of land at Beam Reach 5 in Rainham to Tesco's development arm Spen Hill.

The freehold sale of 35.2 acres of land paves the way for Spen Hill to build a new 550,000 square foot fresh distribution and processing facility for occupation by Tesco creating around 900 jobs for local people.

The sale confirms Beam Reach as a key east London regeneration and investment location for business and jobs. As well as creating hundreds of jobs, the deal adds to our plans to bring modern manufacturing, commerce, housing, education and employment to the area.

Flat Iron Square

On 24 June, Flat Iron Square reopened to the public. The area has undergone a £500,000 transformation funded through my Great Outdoors Project.

The £528,000 redevelopment is the first part of the London Development Agency's 'Bankside Urban Forest' programme to improve public spaces in the Southwark Bankside area. The development has transformed a previous no-go space for pedestrians in to an open, clean and enjoyable place for everyone to enjoy. I am confident that the improvements will also increase business for local traders - a great result all round.

Outer London Fund

I have approved the Outer London Fund programme and the mechanics of its operation. I have also approved the allocation of proposed operating costs budgeted for the Fund and the commencement of a procurement exercise for specialist advisory services.

I have directed the London Development Agency (LDA), in exercising its powers to further economic development and regeneration of Greater London and promote business efficiency, investment and competitiveness in Greater London, to transfer £10,000,000 (allocated in its 2011-12 budget for the Outer London Fund) to the Greater London Authority (GLA).

Finally, in order to maximise the efficiency with which the Fund programme can be delivered, I have delegated power to the Executive Director – Housing and Regeneration to approve all further recommendations (irrespective of value) relating to and facilitative of the ongoing development, implementation and delivery of the Fund programme including (without limitation) the award of grant funding under the Fund programme and entry into funding agreements governing the same.

Plans to redevelop Saatchi and Saatchi buildings

I will scrutinise proposals for the future of the world famous advertising agency Saatchi & Saatchi's HQ in London's West End after plans to redevelop this strategically important site, in one of the capital's most important commercial districts, were refused by Camden Council.

I have decided to use planning powers given to the Mayor in 2008 because I believe this site and its location, in this internationally recognised commercial hub, are so important to the development of the district and the wider London economy.

In this case the number of sites becoming available for redevelopment in the area are limited and the application would deliver 40,000 square metres of prime office and commercial space, create jobs and support new enterprise. The development will also trigger a £1.6m contribution towards Crossrail, vital to the future success of the West End, and improving transport across the capital.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Excalibur Estate, LB Lewisham

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

Eastern Ticket Hall, 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.

Mill Hill East, LB Barnet

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

SITA, Weir Road, LB Merton

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

Delegated Stage II Decisions

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

Merchant Square, 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.

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

• Frog Island, LB Havering

- Beaverwood Lodge, LB Bromley
- Westlands 3 Site, Station Road, LB Hillingdon
- Abell House and Cleland House, City of Westminster
- 45 Millharbour, LB Tower Hamlets
- Bankside 4, Holland Street, LB Southwark
- Kingsgate House, City of Westminster
- Windy Ridge, LB Havering
- UCL Howland Street Site, LB Camden
- Harrods Ltd Centaurs Business Centre, LB Hounslow

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- Wyevale Garden Centre, Daws Lane, LB Barnet
- Tavern Quay Commercial Centre, LB Southwark
- Wards Corner, LB Haringey

Development Plans

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

- Waltham Forest Core Strategy Post Publication Changes, LB Waltham Forest
- Canada Water Area Action Plan, Post Submission Changes, LB Southwark
- Richmond upon Thames DPD, Proposed Post-submission changes, LB Richmond
- Barnet Core Strategy, Pre-submission, LB Barnet
- Barnet Development Management Policies DPD, LB Barnet
- Wandsworth Site Specific Allocations, Post-submission changes, LB Wandsworth

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- BSkyB, Harlequin Avenue, LB Hounslow
- Land Bounded by Temple Mill Lane, ODA
- Mulberry Business Centre, LB Southwark
- Kensington Gardens, City of Westminster
- Buildings M1, M2-M6, M7 & M8 Zone 1, ODA
- East London Waste DPD, Post-examination, East London Waste Boroughs
- 24a River Road, LB Barking
- Land adjacent to H Forman & Son, LB Tower Hamlets
- Areas 7 and 1C, Canning Town, LTGDC
- Islington Site Specific Allocations and Bunhill and Clerkenwell AAP, LB Islington
- Eric and Treby Estates, LB Tower Hamlets
- The Princess Alexandra Home, LB Harrow
- Grahame Park Estate, LB Barnet

- 20 Fenchurch Street, City of London
- Former Alfa Laval Site, LB Hounslow

Key Engagements

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

- I visited Stratford to view progress on the construction of the new DLR extension on 1
 June
- I had a tour of the Olympic Park with the ODA on 1 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 1 June
- I visited the Fuller Smith & Turner brewery and also the bicycle firm Bromptons in the London Borough of Hounslow on 2 June
- I met with Sir David Higgins, Network Rail, on 2 June to discuss rail service in London
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 2 June
- I attended Talk London (the State of London Debate) at Westminster Central Hall on 2
 June
- I met with GLA Peer Outreach Workers on 3 June
- I attended the Big Lunch at Southbank Centre with Barbara Windsor on 5 June
- I hosted the Congress of Leaders on 7 June
- I had my regular meeting with the London Business Advisory Council on 7 June
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 7 June
- I took part in a Metropolitan Police raid as part of Operation Target on 8 June
- I attended the launch of the Mayor's Fund Annual report on 8 June
- I met with Tim Coates on 8 June to discuss library provision in London
- I had lunch with Evgeny Lebedev on 8 June
- I had my regular meeting with Brian Coleman, Chairman of LFEPA, and Ron Dobson, the Fire Commissioner, on 8 June
- I had my regular meeting with SERTUC on 8 June
- I attended a Capital Growth event in Crouch End on 9 June
- I had lunch with Geordie Grieg on 9 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 9 June
- I hosted a lunch to discuss current issues in London with Stakeholders on 10 June
- I held my regular meeting with Ruth Carnall, Chief Executive of NHS London, on 13 lune
- I hosted an event about the Outer London Fund on 13 June
- I chaired the HCA Board Meeting on 13 June
- I attended the Team London Literacy event in Hayes & Harlington on 14 June
- I met with Duncan Niederauer, CEO of the NYSE Euronext, on 14 June to highlight London's role as an international financial centre.
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 14 June
- I attended the Mayor's Question Time on 15 June
- I had my photo taken with the Alexandra Rose Charity on 15 June
- I attended the HA OPG Cabinet Committee on 15 June
- I attended the News International Board meeting 16 June
- I had lunch with Mervyn King, Governor of the Bank of England, on 16 June
- I gave the Kings College Annual Education Lecture on 16 June

- I took part in a photo to promote a Touch Rugby programme LINKED on 17 June
- I had a photo with a fuel cell black taxi to promote hydrogen vehicles on 17 June
- I met with Councillor Ann John, Leader of Brent, to discuss borough issues on 17 June
- I attended the Armed Forces Day Flag Raising ceremony at City Hall on 20 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 20 June
- I had lunch with Sir Robin Wales, Mayor of Newham, on 20 June
- I had my regular discussion on policing in London with Sir Paul Stephenson on 20 June
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board on 20 June
- I addressed an event to promote the Wetlands Centre event on 20 June
- I attended the Capital Growth Schools Competition photo on 21 June
- I addressed the Times CEO Conference on 21 June
- I addressed the BASE London Conference on 22 June
- I had lunch with Andy Altman OPLC on 22 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 22 June
- I had my regular meeting with Lord Coe & Paul Deighton, LOCOG, and Justin King on 22 June to discuss preparations for the London 2012 Games
- I appeared on the One Show on 23 June
- I had my regular meeting with Harvey McGrath and Lurene Joseph, LDA, on 23 June
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 23 June
- I had my regular monthly catch up with James Cleverly AM, Leader of the Conservative Group on the Assembly, on 27 June
- I met Peter Hendy and Daniel Moylan on 28 June ahead of the Transport for London Board meeting later that week
- I attended the Community Conversation Programme event in Southwark on 28 June
- I chaired the Transport for London Board Meeting on 29 June
- I attended an event to mark the Bonds issuance for Crossrail on 29 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 29 June

Ends