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# THE MAYOR OF LONDON'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2011

PART I –  
THE YEAR IN REVIEW  
MAY 2011

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# FOREWORD FROM THE MAYOR OF LONDON



Boris Johnson  
**Mayor of London**

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London is leading the UK out of the worst economic downturn in generations and it is my job as your Mayor to ensure that it continues to do so and remains the best place in the world to do business to attract investment creating new jobs and wealth for all.

The Government listened to my arguments that, as the engine of the UK economy, it would be mad to cut off the fuel of investment to the country's most productive region and after tough negotiations I secured a good settlement for London. It cannot be through cuts alone that the UK's debt crisis can be addressed but also economic growth.

I have secured funding for a neo-Victorian investment in London's creaking transport infrastructure. Crossrail and the Tube upgrades will be delivered in full, which together will increase our rail capacity by 30 per cent. The UK's best bus service, as well as the country's most comprehensive concessions, has also been protected.

The last year has seen the delivery of programmes, which together are helping to improve our city's quality of life – to put more of a feel of the village back into the city.

The East London line extension, which was delivered on budget and ahead of schedule, has been extended to Highbury and Islington, with daily passenger numbers more than double compared to the old line.

We have seen the launch of a new mode of public transport, the Barclays Cycle Hire scheme. It now has over 120,000 members, which along with casual users have completed over 4.5 million journeys. The next year will see the scheme expanded east.

Almost 10,000 new street trees across London have been planted and several urban realm schemes have been completed, such as those at Herne Hill, Orpington and Gants Hill.

Three quarters of the 50,000 affordable homes I promised – more than in any single Mayoral term – have been delivered, with the rest to be completed before next year's Games.

Addressing crime and the fear of crime remains the first priority of any Mayor. The police have had real success in driving it down, with gun crime down 22 per cent in the last year and murder at its lowest level since 1978. We have seen public transport become increasingly safer. For example, robbery on the bus network is down 38 per cent over the past three years.

Following a good settlement for the Metropolitan Police, together with ongoing savings and efficiency programmes to ensure as much money is spent on the front line as possible, we have been able to restart recruiting officers. Other forces are cutting officer numbers. This means there will be more warranted officers on the capital's streets at the end of my term than at the beginning.

The last year has also seen delivery on my promise to protect and expand London's Rape Crisis provision. Three new centres have opened serving the north, east and west of the capital. They are in addition to the existing Croydon centre.

I negotiated with Government a £388 million pot to fund economic development for the next few years – the only English region to have retained any such funding. This means we will be able to build on our successes already in getting London working again after the recession.

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For example, young people have borne the brunt of the economic downturn, with youth unemployment becoming a concern. That is why I have written to major employers across London to take on more apprentices. In the last year 17,000 new apprenticeships have started.

My Time for Action programme to address the root causes of serious youth offending has made real inroads. Youth offending is down by 18 per cent over the last four years. The Heron Wing at Feltham Young Offenders' Institution, which gives intensive support for young offenders to change behaviour, has been so successful that plans to expand resettlement broker support to all young Londoners coming out of custody were announced in the last year.

The last year has seen some major milestones passed as we prepare for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Work on the Olympic Park continues apace, with many of the venues nearing completion. And we are more advanced in our legacy planning than any other city in Olympic history.

I secured a deal with the Organising Committee that will give one in eight London schoolchildren a free ticket to enjoy the Games up close. London and the UK is clearly becoming increasingly excited by next year's Games with over 20 million applications received for the 6.6 million tickets available. In addition 34,000 people have signed up to be a London Ambassador.

I am pleased to have been able, after ruthlessly cutting out waste and inefficiency, to deliver the services all Londoners depend on and freeze City Hall's part of the Council Tax for the third year running. This will amount to a ten per cent cut in real-terms by the end of my Mayoral term.

This Annual Report shows how my administration is delivering my priorities, whilst protecting Londoners from increases in their Council Tax. We are standing up for London, making the capital safer, improving quality of life, improving our young people's opportunities and ensuring that we host the Best Games Ever, while building a lasting Olympic legacy.

In short to continue to lengthen London's lead as the World's Best Big City.



Boris Johnson  
**Mayor of London**

# STANDING UP FOR LONDON

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Government listened to the Mayor and safeguarded vital investment for the Tube and Crossrail, as well as for programmes to accelerate London's economic recovery.
- By driving out waste the Mayor has been able to direct resources to support those areas Londoners say are most important, such as increasing police numbers and investing in our capital's young people.
- The Mayor again froze his share of the Council Tax – for the third time in a row.
- The GLA will become leaner, fitter and more accountable with new powers to tackle London-wide issues like housing and regeneration.
- London & Partners is a new, focused agency dedicated to promoting London to the world.
- The new London Enterprise Partnership will bring the Mayor, boroughs and businesses together to promote growth and enterprise, while an Enterprise Zone will drive regeneration in the Royal Docks.
- A £50 million fund will help revitalise town centres, create jobs and make Outer London an even better place to live and visit.
- The Mayor launched Team London, an action plan for promoting, supporting and rewarding volunteering.

## Making the case for London

London is the engine of the United Kingdom's economy. Its size and dynamism mean it is placed to play the leading role in restoring vitality to the national economy and bringing order to the public finances. But to do so, our capital must get the investment it deserves.

That is why the Mayor spent the year forcefully pushing the case for London. Government listened. London's funding settlement is relatively better than any other region. Crucially, the Tube upgrade and Crossrail are protected. Together they will add 30 per cent to the capital's rail network capacity and contribute at least £42 billion to the UK's economy.

The settlement also means the Mayor can continue to support his key priorities: putting more police on the streets; capturing the best possible legacy from London 2012; investing in young Londoners; and supporting projects that will help London's economy through the recovery and make our capital an even better place to live, work and visit.

With household budgets under pressure, one way the Mayor can make a difference is by keeping the GLA's tax burden down. The Mayor therefore again froze his share of the Council Tax – the third consecutive year without any increase. This will represent a ten per cent real terms cut by the end of this Mayoral term.

It would not have been possible to hold down the precept and protect frontline services without a relentless focus on delivering value for money. The Mayor has found over £2 billion of efficiency savings since coming to power. But with money tight and London needing to do its bit to curb spending and reduce the national debt, we must go further. To do so we need London government to be fitter, streamlined and more accountable to Londoners.

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Hundreds of people attended the Talk London event held in central London on 2 June, at which the Mayor fielded questions relating to issues important to Londoners. Photo © Koïs Miah

The Coalition Government promised to push power down from Whitehall to local politicians, communities and people. The Mayor, with London boroughs, has pressed Government to deliver on that promise. In December the Government announced a 'New Settlement for London': a package of measures that will create a better focused GLA group with new powers over housing and regeneration, policing and the London 2012 Games legacy. Already City Hall is coordinating London-wide services to help rough sleepers off our streets, is newly responsible for the 'Seaside and Country Homes' service that helps free up social housing in the capital, and is leading on preparing London in case of a major emergency. One of the London Resilience Team's first tasks will be to work with the London Resilience Forum – representatives of the emergency services, local authorities and others who are responsible for managing emergencies across the capital – to consider and respond to the recommendations arising from the Coroner's Inquests into the London Bombings of 7 July 2005.

City Hall has led the way for openness and transparency and the Mayor has been keen to enhance access to the GLA's data. The London Datastore is at the forefront of this drive. It is a portal for accessing details on how City Hall spends taxpayers' money – and we have reduced the threshold above which we publish details of our spending from £1,000 to £500. Yet it is much more than that. Despite going live less than 18 months ago, there are now hundreds of different information sets covering everything from air quality and Tube timetables to voting patterns and hospital performance, and from fires to road accidents. This reservoir of data is being put to good use. Entrepreneurs and software developers are creating a host of useful applications that, among other things, are helping Londoners get the most out of Barclays Cycle Hire.

The Datastore is one element of the GLA's wider digital agenda. In September 2010 the Mayor appointed a number of social innovators, software developers and technologists to his Digital Advisory Board. Improving WiFi connectivity and access to high speed broadband have been areas of focus. The board has also given advice on how to get the most from Tech City East, which the Mayor is leading on behalf of Number 10. The initiative aims to position London's East End as a world-leading technology centre to rival Silicon Valley.

London is at its best when its diverse communities are brought together. The GLA's community receptions are a good example of how the Mayor is facilitating that. Six events have been held since July 2010 and there will be five more up to 2012. The receptions are attended by people from all backgrounds and life experiences. They recognise some of those who contribute to our city's success and give Londoners an opportunity to share their ideas for tackling London's challenges. We expect that over 2,000 Londoners will attend one of the 11 receptions.

Meanwhile, the Mayor continues to host a lively series of events that allow voters to quiz him about his policies, plans and record. There are now six meetings each year – two People's Question Times and four Mayor's consultation meetings focusing on a specific issue.

## Supporting London's economy

London has an economy larger than that of Denmark and Portugal combined. It is preeminent in areas as diverse as financial services and the creative industries. And it consistently tops polls as the best location in Europe for business. In short, it is the engine of the whole UK economy.

In May 2010 the Mayor published his Economic Development Strategy (EDS). It is a call to action for the GLA, our partners and Government to strive to help London maintain its position as the world's business capital. Later this year we will publish a plan detailing who will do what and when to make the EDS's vision for London's long-term economic growth a reality.

The Mayor is keen to draw on the insight of London's businesses to help deliver his vision. That applies as much to our myriad small and medium size firms (SMEs) as it does to London's global giants. In 2010/11, about 500 SMEs put their questions and concerns to the Mayor at a Business Question Time event. The Mayor has in turn also spoken up for London's businesses on issues such as immigration and skills.

Business consistently tells us that London must be effectively promoted to a world-wide audience of prospective investors, visitors and students. So on 1 April 2011, and after two years' preparation, the Mayor launched London & Partners. London & Partners draws together strands that had previously been fragmented across four separate agencies to promote London with one powerful voice and one recognisable brand. In 2012 the world's eyes will be directed towards London and an early priority for the agency is to maximise the opportunity presented by the Olympic and Paralympic Games, promoting London's unique advantages to a vast and diverse audience.

To deliver the EDS vision we must seize every opportunity available to promote growth; especially as we build the economic momentum that will drive us to recovery.

In February the Mayor received a green light from government to put into effect London's proposals for a Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). Bringing together the Mayor, the boroughs and London business leaders, the LEP will span the capital and identify and put in place measures to help London grow, compete, innovate and create jobs – particularly in those areas of London where economic performance is below its potential.

One such area is the Royal Docks. The Royals currently lack the vitality that once made them the world's busiest docks and the centre of Britain's commercial empire. But there is an enormous opportunity to develop land adjacent to City Airport and create a metropolitan quarter of new businesses, tourist attractions, homes and job opportunities.

The Government's decision to make the Royal Docks an Enterprise Zone, and the tax and regulatory breaks this brings, followed lobbying by the Mayor. It will help unlock the area's economic energy with new businesses benefiting from reduced business rates for five years. But equally importantly, we expect that the money collected from these new businesses will, over the next 25 years, be retained by the LEP. This will create an ongoing economic development fund to invest elsewhere in the capital. We will take forward plans for the Enterprise Zone during 2011/12.

The Zone is one of a confluence of initiatives targeted at bringing a new sense of economic vibrancy to East London, harnessing the benefits that London 2012 will bring. The Mayor recently confirmed that work would start on a cable car

this summer that will vault the Thames from Greenwich Peninsula to the Royal Docks. Later this decade, Crossrail will improve the already good transport links enjoyed by the area.

The Royal Docks are also at the heart of the Mayor's new Green Enterprise District. Stretching across East London, it aims to attract new investment, creating up to 6,000 new jobs by 2014 and developing new low carbon skills. At its launch in the spring, electronics giant Siemens committed £30 million to fund a new exhibition and conference centre for sustainable technologies. The centre is expected to attract about 100,000 visitors a year.

The GLA group's annual procurement budget is over £3.2 billion. We are harnessing this purchasing power to drive increases in prosperity, to pave the way for new training and employment opportunities and to open up new contract opportunities for all businesses.

Through CompeteFor, an online portal where businesses can find London 2012 and public sector contract opportunities, over 8,500 business opportunities have been published by over 900 public and private sector buyers. And of the contracts awarded, over 70 per cent have been made to SMEs. Cash flow is the lifeblood of any business, especially small businesses. So the Mayor has ensured that SMEs trading with the GLA group get paid promptly payment for their services. During 2010/11, some 85 per cent of SME invoices were paid within ten working days.

Our influence and support has also seen 862 people start an apprenticeship, 1,067 unemployed people start jobs and more than 3,000 low paid workers on GLA contracts have had their pay increased to the level of the London Living Wage. Through the Mayor's Diversity Works for London programme over

4,500 businesses have registered to access online tools and guidance to help them profit from diversity.

### **Standing up for all Londoners**

The Mayor believes that to get the best out of London, for the benefit of all Londoners, we must take a holistic approach.

Outer London contributes enormously to our city's economy, atmosphere and quality of life. Yet while all of London will benefit from the London 2012 Games and Crossrail, that benefit will be less direct in some areas. The Mayor therefore announced in March that he is setting aside £50m for an Outer London Fund to boost regeneration in our patchwork of distinctive town centres and accelerate a pan-London economic recovery. The money, available after successful negotiations with Government, will be used to support projects that revitalise local town centres – transforming major high streets and neighbourhood shopping parades alike – and create job opportunities. Local business districts will also be established. The Mayor will now work with the Outer London Commission, an independent body he established at the start of his Mayoralty, to get the best out of the money available.

Just as some parts of London have struggled to benefit from the city's dynamism, so some Londoners have found it difficult to share in its prosperity. The Mayor is committed to helping those who start furthest back or are at risk of being left behind.

In May 2011 the Mayor announced that the London Living Wage (LLW) would increase by more than five per cent to £8.30 per hour. The rise of 45 pence – the biggest annual increase since the wage was introduced in 2005 – will help further reduce poverty levels in the capital.

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The Mayor is determined to increase the number of businesses paying the Living Wage. Following concerted lobbying during the year, a number of major banks and law firms are now signed up. In total 121 London-based employers are now paying the LLW – a three-fold increase since 2008. And across the GLA group more than 3,000 employees receive the wage.

The Mayor believes that the Living Wage not only benefits employees, but employers too. Paying a decent wage results in increased productivity and loyalty from staff and reduces recruitment costs.

London Enriched, the Mayor's strategy for integrating refugees and migrants, has just completed its first full year. The London Strategic Migration Partnership worked under the chairmanship of Deputy Mayor Richard Barnes to implement actions that will help migrants overcome the challenges posed when settling in a new country, helping them to contribute quickly to London's success. Among other work, the partnership oversaw a groundbreaking survey of refugees that will inform future support to those delivering English language courses to make sure they have the maximum impact.

The Mayor also worked in partnership with the Citizen's Advice Bureau to train small voluntary groups working with older people, carers and other voluntary groups. The training has helped the groups provide better advice so that those entitled to benefits do not miss out.

The Mayor's equality framework, 'Equal Life Chances for All', was published in July 2009. It was developed to bring Londoners together, to address London's remaining pockets of deprivation and inequality, and to provide fresh analysis and different approaches to fostering community cohesion, creating an inclusive

environment and tackling disadvantage. In 2010 the GLA consulted on and published revised versions of its statutory Race, Gender and Disability Equality Schemes. Each one outlines the GLA group's continued commitment to improving life chances in London. We have also been busy mainstreaming equality – making sure it is an integral part of all that do rather than an add-on; for example, by embedding equality in other Mayoral strategies like the Health Inequalities, Housing and Economic Development Strategies. The framework is currently being reviewed and a revised version will be published later in 2011.

The Mayor believes passionately that we all share a responsibility to stand up for London. While he can invest, influence, cajole and offer support, it is ultimately Londoners themselves who have the greatest influence on the city's tone and atmosphere.

One way Londoners are doing their bit is by giving their time to help others and make a positive impact on London life. At least 40 per cent of adults are engaged in some type of formal volunteering. Nearly 70 per cent volunteer on an informal basis, usually helping friends or neighbours or organising fundraising events. These volunteers are backed by a wealth of charities and other not for profit groups.

This is a sound foundation. But to increase volunteering further, and after drawing on the views and expertise of voluntary groups, the Mayor launched Team London in the latter part of 2010/11. The programme has two simple aims: first, to make it easier for Londoners to do something positive for London; and second, to increase the value and effectiveness of their efforts. It introduces the concept of 'impact volunteering' – volunteering strategies that will target our communities' most pressing needs

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and set clear outcomes and measures to judge progress.

The Mayor of London has secured £2 million of funding from the Reuben Foundation, a charity, to support Team London. He is matching this with a further £2 million. The funds will be distributed to a number of volunteering initiatives across three priority areas: cutting crime, improving quality of life and increasing opportunities for young Londoners. We will publish a report each year to show what difference Team London is making.

Over the next few months Londoners will be hearing much more about Team London and how they can get involved.

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# MAKING THE MOST OF LONDON 2012

## HIGHLIGHTS

- One in eight London schoolchildren between the ages of ten and 18 will get a free ticket for the Games.
- The Mayor agreed a deal that will see spectacular new lighting installed on Tower Bridge – without any cost to the taxpayer.
- More than 34,000 people registered to be one of 8,000 London Ambassadors, who will serve as London's frontline in welcoming and helping visitors during the Games.
- Work began on the ArcelorMittal Orbit, a new 114m structure in the Olympic Park designed by award winning artist Anish Kapoor and set to become a breathtaking addition to the London skyline.
- The improved transport infrastructure that will whisk passengers to and from the Olympic Park is on track to be delivered well ahead of the Games.
- The Mayor's Culture Diary helped us gather the details of more than 4,000 cultural events. The Diary will give Londoners, visitors and public authorities an authoritative overview of the panoply of cultural events happening in London during 2012.
- The Mayor is delivering on his pledge to make London 2012 the most accessible Games ever: funding has been secured to make the Southbank Walkway more accessible to disabled people and we launched [www.inclusivelondon.com](http://www.inclusivelondon.com).
- The Mayor consulted on proposals to create a Mayoral Development Corporation to capture and direct the regenerative energy of the Games in the Olympic Park and surrounding area. The MDC will transform a long-neglected part of East London and secure a legacy of many thousands of new jobs and homes.

- The GLA's PlaySport fund has begun transforming grassroots sport right across the capital.

The unveiling of London's first set of giant Olympic Rings in March at St. Pancras International station was a visible reminder that the Games are just round the corner: it is now little over a year until the World's Greatest City fires the starting pistol on the Greatest Show on Earth.

During 2010/11 the Mayor worked closely with partners including the Olympic Delivery Authority, the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), Government and the boroughs to pave the way for a spectacularly successful London 2012 Games. Of course that must involve hosting a feast of sport in venues to match. But it also means celebrating London's culture and vitality. It means capturing a lasting legacy that will benefit generations of Londoners. And it is about making sure every penny Londoners contribute to the games is a penny well spent. The Mayor has held to his promise not to increase the amount Londoners pay towards the Games.

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## Delivering the Best Games Ever

The Games will take over the city during the summer of 2012 creating a fantastic buzz. The Mayor has made significant strides in ensuring this excitement permeates every part of the city. He is also coordinating action to prepare London's services and infrastructure for the substantial demands they will face.

Earlier this year the Mayor struck a deal with LOCOG to give one in eight London school children between the ages of ten and 18 a free Games ticket. This will be a first for any Host City and it is an important part of the Mayor's pledge to put young people at the heart of the Games.

The unveiling of London's first set of Olympic Rings was an early step in transforming the capital into an Olympic Host City. The Mayor has been working to identify the most cost-effective way of getting London looking its magnificent best during the Games. In April the GLA concluded a deal that will see a state-of-the-art energy-efficient lighting system installed on Tower Bridge. The flexible and dynamic lighting will allow the iconic bridge to play a starring role in the Games, without any cost to the taxpayer. The lights will add an extra dimension to events and occasions for years to come.

The interest in the Mayor's London Ambassadors scheme has been exceptional. Nearly 34,000 people registered to become one of 8,000 welcoming guides. The interview process is now underway. Successful candidates will be trained and equipped with the skills they need to inform, assist, direct and share their passion for London with our 2012 visitors.

The Mayor's Team London programme will harness the goodwill and enthusiasm of those who have shown an interest in becoming either a London Ambassador or a Games Maker – almost 300,000 people in total – and mobilise as many

as possible beyond the Games for the benefit of London.

The Ambassadors will be at the sharp end of promoting London to the world. Yet we also need to help the world's media tell London's story during the Games. One Great George Street in Westminster has been secured as the location for the London Media Centre. The Mayor recently announced that a team of international experts will build and deliver the services and facilities journalists will need to reach the international audiences that will be focussed on London.

Great Britain is the birthplace of the Paralympic Games and the Mayor is determined to make London 2012 the most accessible Games ever. The GLA has secured funding to deliver lasting accessibility improvements to the Southbank, expected to be a hub of activity during the Games. Detailed design work is well underway.

To help disabled visitors and Londoners plan their time in the capital during the Games and beyond the Mayor launched a new website – [inclusivelondon.com](http://inclusivelondon.com). It is the first of its kind for a Host City. The website will also allow people to post feedback on how accessible places they visit are. Inclusive London already has details on more than 20,000 accessible locations; and it received over one million hits in its first month alone.

Efforts to make the London 2012 Games the most accessible Games ever – a Games for everyone – take place under the umbrella of the Equality and Diversity Forum, chaired by the Deputy Mayor Richard Barnes. Just a few of the Forum's many successes are picked out in these pages. Many more are highlighted in the Forum's third annual report, 'Working towards an Inclusive Games'.

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The new East London line, now part of the London Overground network, is just one of many changes that will vastly improve transport links to the Olympic Park. © Transport for London image library

The Mayor wants the Games to be remembered not only for its sporting endeavours, but also as a once in a lifetime artistic and cultural celebration: a Cultural Olympiad. So he asked anyone planning a cultural event – whether a small community run event or a large scale spectacular – to log it on our online Culture Diary. Nearly 4,000 people responded to the call. When it goes live the Diary will be a searchable repository of the full gamut of cultural activity taking place during 2012. And the information will help organisers to promote and coordinate their events while proving invaluable in city-wide logistical planning.

### **Capturing the best possible legacy for London**

The Olympic Park continued to develop apace over the past year. Trees are taking root; the striking Velodrome is complete; the ArcelorMittal Orbit, London's newest major landmark, is rapidly rising from the ground; the last tile has been laid in the Aquatics Centre; the first residential block in the Athletes' Village has been unveiled; and the final piece of turf has been laid on the Olympic Stadium, marking the end of that venue's construction. Alongside this, work is going on to improve transport links to the Park. The East London line is now open and other work is on track to be delivered well ahead of the Games. This includes the Jubilee line upgrade; a 50 per cent increase in capacity on the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and an extension from Canning Town to Stratford; enhanced walking and cycling routes; major improvements at Stratford Regional station and step-free access at Green Park and Southfields stations.

By showcasing London to the world we will make a lasting impact on the capital's prosperity and quality of life. But the opportunity and responsibility to capture a legacy from the Games goes much wider.

There is a window to improve skills and transform job prospects for Londoners in the run-up to and during the Games – benefiting people long after the last athletes have left. The Olympic Park and Athletes Village workforce has continually exceeded industry standards for both the numbers of local people on site and workers who were previously unemployed. Since 2008 the Olympic Delivery Authority has trained 3,451 people, taken on 426 apprentices, and delivered ground-breaking programmes to train groups traditionally under-represented in construction.

In March the Mayor announced that Government funding to boost skills and increase employment had been safeguarded. Fourteen million pounds will be channelled into three different projects over the next three years to help Londoners find employment or improve their job prospects as a result of the Games. Similar initiatives in the capital have already helped 25,000 unemployed Londoners into work.

We also want to help businesses across London and the UK to reap the rewards of staging the Games. Part of this is about giving small and medium sized businesses the chance to compete alongside bigger, more established firms. That is why the LDA, working with a private sector partner, developed CompeteFor. Over 134,000 UK businesses (36,000 in London) had registered on the CompeteFor website at the beginning of 2011, giving them the chance to bid for thousands of Games-related opportunities. The LDA is also helping small businesses to navigate the bidding process.

The Games have had a particular impact in East London by stimulating billions of pounds of investment in and around the Olympic Park. And the Olympic Park Legacy Company has made significant progress in the last year, finalising its master plan for the Park's long-term future and making vitally important decisions – including

choosing a preferred bidder for the Olympic Stadium. But the task is only half done.

To strengthen still further the arrangements for securing a lasting legacy the Mayor has published plans to re-form the Olympic Park Legacy Company as a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC). This will make a single public body, answerable to the Mayor, responsible for driving forward the continued regeneration of the Park and the surrounding area, which the Mayor has identified as London's top regeneration priority. It will also help to deliver the Mayor's pledge to close the deprivation gap between the East London host boroughs and the rest of London. The MDC should be up and running by April 2012.

The Games will leave a legacy of thousands of new jobs and homes and fantastic transport infrastructure. But the Mayor also sees London 2012 as an opportunity to transform our sporting landscape.

Sport can be a game changer for those who participate and for their communities. It has a remarkable ability to unite, to inspire and to change lives. It helps keep us fit and active, engages young people, and builds togetherness and community spirit. Investing in sport not only helps people have fun, it also represents good value for money.

Through his £15.5 million PlaySport London fund, the Mayor is investing to address three specific strands: £7 million to transform and create new grass roots sporting facilities; £4 million to get many more people to participate in sport; and £3 million to train sports coaches and others to carry forward the sporting legacy.

So far £5.4 million has been awarded to a range of sporting projects across London. Staggeringly, and despite the constrained funding

environment, this has attracted a further £15.7 million in match funding.

This includes over £1 million for 12 projects that will improve community-sporting facilities in every corner of the capital. Already there is a new climbing wall at the Westway Sports Centre, which trains hundreds of young Londoners every week; a multi-use games area for Treehouse School, a specialist school for children with autism; and a redeveloped football pitch at Prices Park Youth Football Club. This is just the start. Many more projects will be completed by the time the Games starts and beyond, continuing to engage and excite well into the future.

Grants of £2.2 million have been awarded to 18 sports participation projects which will provide activities across at least 24 different sports for over 200,000 Londoners – about 30 per cent of whom will be people who were previously not involved in sport or physical activity.

To date PlaySport has helped train over 2,000 new sports coaches and officials. Each has pledged a minimum of 25 hours of their time to community sports; but we expect many to make community sports a fixture in their lives. Forty new health 'activators' are encouraging more people to get involved in sport and fitness. And about 80 disabled people have been helped to get jobs in sport and leisure.

The Mayor is also providing hundreds of free sporting opportunities through his small grants programme, FreeSport London. In December over 200 sports from across every London borough received grants of up to £1,500. We anticipate over 17,000 Londoners will receive at least six hours of free coaching this year alone.

# MAKING LONDON SAFER

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The Mayor is investing an extra £42 million to put more police officers on London's streets. London will have significantly more uniformed police officers at the end of the Mayor's term than at the start.
- Crime continues to fall and is now at its lowest level for ten years.
- Violent crime is also reducing, and gun crime was 22 per cent lower in 2010/11 than in 2009/10.
- Robbery on the bus network has fallen by 38 per cent in the past three years and by 17 per cent on the Tube and DLR; just one example of big falls in crime on our public transport network.
- The Mayor announced the first winners of his Safer Parks Award, which recognises those boroughs and communities that have made a real difference to their local park.
- The Mayor has delivered a four-fold increase in the capital's rape crisis services.
- Firm action is being taken to combat dangerous dogs and the Mayor is pressing Government to toughen up the law.

## Bearing down on crime

Making London safer is the Mayor's top priority. The Mayor has focussed on putting more police on the beat, taking knives off our streets (more than 11,000, so far), and building connections between the police and communities. Some groups are more vulnerable than others. So the Mayor has paid particular attention to tackling the blight of youth violence and to making sure women and girls are safer at home and when out and about.

The fall in recorded crime since the Mayor was elected chronicles the success of his approach. Crime in the capital is at its lowest level for a decade – there was a fall of nine per cent over the first three years of the Mayor's term compared with the previous three years. London's murder rate in 2010 was its lowest since 1978.

In the year to 30 April 2011, and in a difficult economic climate, there were nearly 10,000 fewer 'total notifiable offences' (all reported crime) than in the previous year. Crucially, this included nearly 10,000 fewer violent crimes (a 5.6 per cent decrease) and 1,231 fewer race and religious hate crimes.

There can be disparities between official statistics and how safe people actually feel. It is therefore heartening, and testament to the stronger bonds forged between police and neighbourhoods, that Londoners also report feeling safer. Sixty-four per cent of Londoners say they do not feel worried about crime in their neighbourhood, compared with 54 per cent in 2010.

At the end of March 2011 there were nearly 1,000 more Metropolitan Police officers than in March 2008: 32,370 compared with 31,398. To maintain momentum in bringing down crime and boosting confidence, the Mayor is investing

an extra £42 million in frontline policing. This is despite public sector financial constraints not seen for more than a generation; constraints that mean the Metropolitan Police Service (the Met) is recruiting uniformed officers at a time when other forces are cutting their number.

The Mayor is also safeguarding the Safer Neighbourhood Teams, which are vital in fighting local crime in London's boroughs. And he has given much greater prominence to the important role of special constables, unpaid police officers who give up their time to work alongside regular police officers.

Bearing down on crime is a collective effort: numerous bodies are involved in tackling its myriad causes, dimensions and ramifications. To make the greatest impact these bodies must work together and with the Met in a way that is cohesive and joined-up. In September 2010 the Mayor chaired the first meeting of the new Crime Reduction Board, set up expressly for this purpose. The Board will replace smaller crime related bodies and build a unified approach to tackling serious crime in the capital.

### **Making our public spaces and transport network safer**

The Mayor places a high priority on ensuring all Londoners feel safe in all our public spaces, and on London's transport network.

In March 2011 the Mayor announced the first winners of his Safer Parks Award. The 32 winning parks share a common story of success. All have benefited from the collaborative efforts of friends' groups, boroughs and the police to target and reduce antisocial behaviour. These shared spaces have been revitalised as a result, once again becoming places that people can enjoy or simply use as a retreat from the occasionally hectic pace of urban living. The idea behind the awards is that these success stories

will inspire others and disperse sound, practical ideas for improving park safety across the capital.

Dangerous dogs are a menace which can quickly turn a park or open space into a no go area. As weapon dogs they are all too often part of gang culture and criminal activity. The Met and local authorities are taking firm action. In the past year the Met's Status Dogs Unit seized over 1,000 dangerous dogs. This compares with 35 in 2005/06. But more needs to be done to address what is a growing problem. In particular we need changes to the law so it is tougher and broader, and to reduce the time it takes for cases to get to court.

That is why in August 2010 Kit Malthouse, Deputy Mayor for Policing, launched a dangerous dogs petition giving Londoners an opportunity to throw their weight behind our proposals for legislative change. To date almost 5,000 signatures have been collected. In December the GLA co-hosted a cross-party parliamentary event to raise awareness, remind MPs of the impact of dangerous dogs in their constituencies, and to promote responsible dog ownership. Meanwhile, the Met and the London Crown Prosecution Service have been working closely to finalise a local protocol to speed up court processes.

We are making huge strides in improving safety on our public transport network. Looked at over a three-year period (comparing 2010/11 with 2007/08), the fall in transport crime has been precipitous. Overall crime is down 28 per cent on buses and 18 per cent on the Tube and DLR. Robbery on the bus network has fallen by a massive 38 per cent and by 17 per cent on the Tube and DLR. The equivalent reductions for criminal damage are 65 per cent and 45 per cent respectively.



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These figures are the result of a sustained focus and investing extra resources in passenger safety and security. One of the Mayor's first actions after coming to office was to create 32 new Safer Transport Teams at transport hubs across London. The teams are now well established, working closely with existing Safer Neighbourhood Teams, the British Transport Police and transport staff. As well as the Safer Transport Teams, in 2010/11 there were double the number of cab enforcement officers and a new cycle task force. The number of British Transport Police across the capital funded by Transport for London (TfL) has increased over the past few years to about 900 officers.

But there is always more to do. In February the Mayor launched 'The Right Direction', his strategy for further improving safety and security on public transport up to the London 2012 Games and beyond. It sets out the Mayor's priorities and focuses on vulnerable groups such as young people and women. Priorities include reducing theft and antisocial behaviour and increasing the confidence of older people when travelling in London. To help deliver these priorities, the Mayor will fund 413 extra warranted officers on public transport. CCTV coverage on the tube network will be increased. And as TfL takes over more stations on the London Overground, the stations will be reviewed and improved to ensure they offer a safe environment.

## **Tackling violence against women and girls**

'The Way Forward', the Mayor's strategy to prevent and reduce violence against women and girls made good progress in the past year.

In his manifesto the Mayor pledged to open three new rape crisis centres, in addition to protecting the existing centre in Croydon. He has now delivered on that pledge and quadrupled the level of service available in the capital. And to make it easier for women to access the services – which offer a mix of support, counselling, and therapies – the Mayor launched a new website: [www.rapecrisislondon.org](http://www.rapecrisislondon.org). The website also serves a resource for friends and family of rape victims, offering advice on how they can help. Men and boys accessing the site are signposted to relevant specialist services.

The Met has been working to improve referral links between the rape crisis centres, the Havens (London's three sexual assault referral centres) and the Met's own Sexual Assault Investigation Unit (Sapphire).

Improving access and support for women and girls is one of five objectives that underpin The Way Forward. In April 2011 the Mayor launched an online directory of more than 270 support services for women and practitioners ([www.london.gov.uk/knowwheretogo](http://www.london.gov.uk/knowwheretogo)). The charity Eaves compiled the directory in partnership with the GLA.

It is also important to shift attitudes, particularly those of young people. A new film, 'Where is your line?' is being shown in schools to underline the importance of respect and consent.

Finally, but no less significantly, a number of boroughs have produced their own, complementary strategies to coordinate and strengthen the fight against violence against women and girls at the local level. The Mayor will publish guidance in 2011 to support other boroughs developing their own strategies.

# IMPROVING LONDONERS' QUALITY OF LIFE

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The biggest upgrade to the Tube in its history is steaming ahead. Work on the Jubilee and Victoria lines is nearly complete and the first of a fleet of 191 new air-conditioned trains are operating on the Metropolitan line.
- Following upgrade work to the DLR, three-car trains now operate on the Tower Gateway to Beckton route, boosting capacity by 50 per cent.
- A consortium of world-leading firms is in place to build and operate a cable car that will become London's newest and loftiest river crossing.
- Londoners have embraced Barclays Cycle Hire adding momentum to the capital's Cycling Revolution.
- The Mayor abolished the Western Extension of the Congestion Charging Zone and his focus on smoothing traffic on London's roads is reducing delays.
- Funding has been secured to accelerate the Mayor's RE:NEW scheme, which has already made 9,000 homes more energy efficient, and to give 600 more public buildings an eco-overhaul.
- Twenty transformed streetscapes, parks and other public places; nearly 1,000 new community food growing spaces; 9,500 additional street trees and a further 20,000 trees planted in 12 London boroughs: the Mayor's Great Outdoors is making London more liveable, more beautiful and a city we can show off with pride during London 2012.
- In July more than one million people took part in activities across the capital as part of the GLA's biennial Big Dance – just one of a series of events and festival showcasing London's creativity backed by the Mayor.
- The Mayor has delivered nearly 40,000 affordable homes, putting him on track to

meet his target of 50,000 by 2012 – more than in any previous Mayoral term. And he secured £1.6 billion from Government to transform sub-standard council homes.

- The Mayor strengthened rules to protect London's cherished landmarks and views from ill-considered development.

## Keeping London moving

We are in the midst of a neo-Victorian age of immense investment in London's transport infrastructure. This will result in a step change in passenger capacity, comfort, convenience and choice.

A record 1.1 billion people travelled on the Tube last year, underlining just how vital this investment is for a growing London. But this unprecedented upgrade of London's transport infrastructure would not be possible had it not been for tough, but ultimately successful, negotiation with Government on London's funding package. Transport for London (TfL) will also get more from its budget by working more efficiently. Over the next five years this will release £7.6 billion to spend on frontline services. And it will help the Mayor to protect free travel and concessions, which benefit a sizeable group of vulnerable Londoners. The Mayor's 2011 fares decision means that 40 per cent of bus passengers will continue to travel free or at a substantially reduced rate, for example.

Many of the changes to London's public transport are already making a difference, or are just around the corner.

The financial year was book ended by two significant steps towards the Mayor's goal of turning the London Overground network into an orbital railway. At the start of the year the Mayor opened the new £1 billion East London line. The line is speeding Londoners across the river

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in a fleet of new air-conditioned trains running from Dalston Junction in the north via the City and Docklands to New Cross, Crystal Palace and West Croydon in the south. The project, the biggest in London since the Jubilee line was extended some ten years ago, was delivered ahead of time and to budget.

Later in the year, and three months early, the line was connected to the wider London Overground and Underground network in the north via a 2.1 kilometre link between Highbury and Islington station and Dalston Junction.

The East London line will be a boon to efforts to regenerate some of London's poorest boroughs. It connects communities and provides easier access to jobs, education and leisure opportunities. It will be particularly valuable for those heading to the Olympic Park during Games-time. The line will be connected to Clapham Junction in 2012, creating a continuous loop.

There have been big changes on the DLR, too. Three-car trains are now operating on the Tower Gateway to Beckton route. And the entire DLR network is now three-car compatible, in time for the Games.

London Underground is forging ahead with the biggest upgrade in the Tube's 148-year history. Signals, trains and track are all being replaced. Key stations are being rebuilt. The changes will increase capacity on the network by 30 per cent. Journeys will be quicker and services more reliable.

The upgrades of the Jubilee and Victoria lines are nearly finished and full upgrade works will start on the Northern line once work on the Jubilee line is complete. Meanwhile the first of a new fleet of 191 air-conditioned trains are up and running on the Metropolitan line

and making a huge difference to passenger comfort. These new trains are one part of the single biggest piece of tube upgrade work: transforming the Circle, District, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines. The other key element is installing a new signalling system. In April 2011 the Mayor announced his preferred bidder for the work.

Replacing signals, track and trains can be disruptive. Some delays are unavoidable. But the Mayor wants more to be done to keep disruption to a minimum. So London Underground will do everything possible to keep the impact of the upgrades on passengers to an absolute minimum. This includes learning and acting on lessons from other world metros.

In May 2010 TfL acquired the shares in Tube Lines, throwing off the shackles of the disastrous PPP contracts. This will help London Underground to coordinate upgrade work across the network better, thereby minimising passenger inconvenience and saving money.

Crossrail is Europe's largest infrastructure project, and thanks to lobbying by the Mayor it is being delivered in full and to schedule. There will be new, fast trains covering a route stretching 74 miles from Maidenhead and Heathrow in the west, under Central London, to Shenfield in the east and to Canary Wharf and Abbey Wood in the southeast. Up to 24 trains an hour will run through the central section during peak times.

Although construction began in May 2009 at Canary Wharf, it was in April this year that Crossrail formally moved into the construction phase. Work is now underway at all the central station sites and tunnelling activity will start by the end of the year. The process that will lead to the purchase of the cutting-edge trains has started, as well.

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Extending Oyster to National Rail services has vastly improved the interface between the tube and suburban rail services. However, passengers have found the Oyster Extension Permits needed for some journeys confusing. Thanks to closer working between the Mayor, TfL and the train companies, the permits are no longer needed.

Oyster Cards can be used to travel on buses, trams, trains, tubes and boats. Soon another form of transport will be added to that list. In April 2011 the Mayor announced work would start this summer on a cable car spanning the Thames from Greenwich Peninsula to the Royal Victoria Docks. It will provide a spectacular architectural addition to London and a much needed river crossing. Travel time will be cut to five minutes. The aim is that the 34 gondolas will be ferrying 2,500 passengers per hour through the sky and over the Thames in time for start of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Back on the ground, in November the Mayor unveiled a life-size mock-up of the New Bus for London giving Londoners a first glimpse of how the bus will look when it hits the streets in early 2012. The bus will incorporate the latest green technology, making it 40 per cent more efficient than conventional diesel double-deckers and much quieter. But at the same time it is strikingly evocative of the much-loved Routemaster. The New Bus will be a fitting emblem for 21st century London.

London's bus fleet is already turning green. Five buses powered by hydrogen fuel technology – emitting nothing but water vapour – are now operating in the worst of London's pollution hotspots. Another three will follow shortly. This is the first bus fleet of its kind in the country and the largest in Europe. And in March TfL announced that it had secured funding from Government to put an extra 90 hybrid buses on

London's streets in 2011, swelling the fleet to over 200.

In his manifesto the Mayor promised to banish the bendy bus from the capital. During 2010/11 the buses were removed from two more routes, which are now served by new double-decker buses. London will be rid of all bendy buses by the end of this year. It is estimated this will cut fare dodging by about £5 million annually.

The most visible change to London's transport network during the past year has been the introduction of Barclays Cycle Hire. The blue bikes are quickly becoming as familiar a part of our landscape as red double-deckers and black cabs; and by any measure the scheme has proved a remarkable success.

Phase one has delivered 6,000 bikes and 400 docking stations, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The bikes cover 45 square kilometres of the capital from Notting Hill Gate to Wapping and from Regents Park to Kennington. Yet the most significant figures are those that show how Londoners have embraced the scheme. Since launch the bikes have helped commuters, visitors and others get from A to B more than 4.5 million times; and there are now more than 119,000 members. On the busiest day there were 27,500 cycle journeys covering more than 124,800 kilometres.



© James O Jenkins

In March the Mayor announced that the scheme would be extended east in time for the London 2012 Games. Two thousand more bicycles and 4,200 docking stations will be installed across an area stretching up as far as the edge of the Olympic Park and down to the Isle of Dogs.

Cycling helps us tackle many of the issues facing London – issues like congestion, climate change and health inequality. The Mayor's strategy for cycling, published in May 2010, therefore puts Barclays Cycle Hire at the hub of a much wider Cycling Revolution; together with initiatives like Cycle Superhighways, 'Biking Boroughs', improving cycling routes, and events such as the London Sky Rides.

In July 2010 TfL launched the first two Barclays Cycle Superhighways, running from Merton to the City and from Barking to Tower Gateway. The routes are making it easier and safer for cyclists to travel into central London, via direct and continuous routes. This shows in the statistics. Seventy per cent more cyclists are pedalling the routes than before. TfL has already provided funding for 4,113 new cycle spaces along the routes, run 4,206 hours of cycle training and checked the safety of 4,143 bikes since their launch.

Work has begun on two more Superhighways, which will open in the summer. By 2015 there will be twelve such spokes radiating from central to outer London.

An extra £4 million is being made available for the 13 'Biking Boroughs' to help create cycling communities in Outer London by engaging people in cycling, building better cycle infrastructure and making cycling safer. The Biking Boroughs also receive extra support and expertise from TfL.

In the past year there was a 15 per cent increase in cycling levels on TfL's roads, showing that Londoners are joining the Cycling Revolution in their droves.

The Thames is London's oldest thoroughfare and six million passengers travel on the river each year. Through the Mayor's River Concordat, TfL is working with partners to make it easier for people to travel by boat. More information, clearer signs and 'Tube style' maps have been created; and new flags have been installed to guide Londoners to their nearest pier. Most piers now also have real-time information showing when the next boat will arrive. Meanwhile TfL is working with the Olympic Delivery Authority to upgrade Tower Pier and Greenwich Pier; and plans are being put in place to deliver special 'Olympic Express' services during the 2012 Games that will whisk passengers from Central London to venues in Greenwich and Woolwich.

For some travelling by car is the only option. Many of London's businesses rely on a brigade of vans to deliver and receive goods. So the Mayor is working to make it quicker and easier to get about London by motor vehicle.

The Mayor said he would ask Londoners whether or not they wanted to retain the Western Extension of the Congestion Charge Zone. More than 60 per cent of those who responded to a public consultation backed its removal. The Mayor acted. Since the start of 2011 the Western Extension has been no more. At the same time a new automatic Congestion Charge system was introduced. Over 100,000 drivers have signed up to the scheme, saving money and avoiding fines.

Slow and stalled traffic can be frustrating, as well as bad for both London's economy and air quality. To combat congestion the timings of almost 2,000 traffic signals have been reviewed

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since April 2009; a further 600 signals are now able automatically to adjust their timings to suit traffic levels; unnecessary traffic signals are being removed; and the UK's first trial of pedestrian countdown signals is underway.

The Mayor is striving to bring order to the hotchpotch of road works scattered across London's roads. He has pressed those undertaking works to sign up to a code of conduct and last year introduced the UK's first road works permit scheme. The scheme, which now covers more than three-quarters of London's roads, encourages works promoters to manage and coordinate works better and allows fines to be issued when they overrun. Thirteen per cent fewer road works started on TfL roads in 2010/11 than in the previous year.

The result of these steps is that severe delays are down, average speeds are up and the capital's drivers are spending 80,000 fewer hours in their vehicles each day.

To reduce delays still further, the Mayor is also working closely with the Government to give London powers to introduce the UK's first 'pay as you dig' scheme in the spring of 2012. The scheme would charge works promoters for digging up the capital's busiest roads at the busiest times, thereby incentivising them to complete their work as quickly as possible and to carry it out at times that least disrupt traffic.

### **Making London the Greenest Big City in the World**

In March 2011 the European Commission granted the UK a time extension to meet targets for the particulate matter, recognising the strides that have been taken to improve London's air quality and the plans that are in place to improve it further. The need for ongoing action was also underlined in a GLA study published in June 2010. It estimated that in 2008 poor

air quality contributed to over 4,000 premature deaths in London.

This is why in December 2010 the Mayor published his Air Quality Strategy. It will reduce emissions from London's transport network, homes and workplaces.

The new, greener buses are already making a difference to air quality, especially in central London. And from January 2012, the Low Emission Zone standards will be tightened further, with larger vans and minibuses included in the scheme for the first time. To help drivers prepare in what is still a tough economic climate, the Mayor has secured significant discounts off new vans and minibuses for those set to be affected. The first ever taxi age standards will remove the oldest, most polluting cabs from our roads.

In November 2010 TfL started the UK's first ever trial of dust suppressant technology, which sticks harmful particles to the road. If successful, it will be rolled out more widely. Other targeted measures are now being implemented at central London hotspots through the £5m Clean Air Fund, including a 'no idling zone', deep cleaning, retrofitting buses to make them cleaner and helping local businesses reduce their 'air quality footprint'.

In February 2011 work began to install 'Source London' electric vehicle charging points across the capital. The scheme will launch in the spring and by 2013 there will be at least 1,300 public charging points – meaning the capital will have more charge points than petrol stations.

Air pollution is not just a London problem: many UK and European urban areas are struggling to meet EU targets for nitrogen dioxide. That is why the Mayor is pressing the Government to introduce national measures such as tax

incentives for cleaner vehicles and vehicle scrappage and retrofit schemes. Another problem is that 40 per cent of particulate matter in central London, and a similar amount of nitrogen dioxide pollution across Greater London, comes from outside the capital. During pollution episodes, these figures are even higher. The Mayor has raised this problem with the European Commission and stressed the need for tighter regulations on trans-boundary pollution.

The capital produces about 20 million tonnes of waste each year. We must manage this mountain of rubbish better, treating London's waste not as worthless but as an opportunity and a valuable resource to be exploited. City Hall is therefore working hand in hand with the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) – set up by the Mayor in 2008 – to change the way waste is perceived.

The benefits are not just environmental. London recycled 32 per cent of its household waste in 2009/10, saving £30 million on disposal costs. Yet landfill tax is increasing. So if we can achieve a 50 per cent recycling rate we will save London's public purse over £100 million a year. Getting better at managing our waste will also boost London's economy and create an estimated 1,260 jobs.

The London Green Fund is a good example of how we will realise the economic potential of going green. Backed by £50 million of European Regional Development Funding, £32 million from the London Development Agency and £18 million from LWARB, the Fund will play a big part in supporting and promoting a thriving low carbon economy in the capital.

Two areas the Fund will focus on are waste infrastructure and energy efficiency projects. It is estimated the waste infrastructure element of the fund alone could generate at least 100 low

carbon jobs, save 28,000 tonnes of carbon and divert 245,000 tonnes of waste from increasingly costly landfill sites.

The fund will leverage in additional money from the private sector. And repayments back to the fund will be recycled to support even more projects, so it will be sustainable just like the initiatives it helps to establish.

The Green Fund will support initiatives that share the same green credentials as the UK's first advanced gasification plan. Work began on the plant in Dagenham earlier this year, supported by a loan from LWARB, and when operating in 2013 it will turn almost 100,000 tonnes of waste into enough energy to power nearly 200,000 homes.

We must make it simpler to reduce, recycle and reuse, nudging Londoners to change their attitudes and habits and helping us all save money. A significant chunk of LWARB's £77 million budget is supporting a range of projects directed to this end.

2010/11 was the first of a three year behavioural campaign called Recycle for London. As well as extolling the benefits of recycling to Londoners and supporting borough-based initiatives, the campaign served as an umbrella for a series of London-wide events that let savvy Londoners donate and swap unwanted items. One of these events – Give and Take – received a London Lifestyle Award for 'Best Green Contribution to London'.

In the past year LWARB also awarded more than £5 million to 26 boroughs to help improve recycling facilities at more than 520,000 flats; and it provided funding for a surplus food centre, which is distributing 300 tonnes of surplus food – the equivalent of 800,000 meals – to charities each year.

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The Mayor's waste strategies, outlining new and challenging recycling targets, went through a period of public consultation in 2009/10 and will be published this summer.

Efforts to reduce vehicle emissions and waste will help us address the threat of climate change. But climate change is a multi-faceted problem. The scale of the challenge requires us to seek out, corral and deploy the best and brightest ideas for the benefit of Londoners and our planet.

It was in this spirit that the Mayor asked Londoners to comment on and contribute to his draft strategy for 'Delivering London's energy future' in the autumn. The strategy will be updated and published this summer. It will explain how London will achieve a 60 per cent cut in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2025 through schemes that are also saving both Londoners and the public purse money.

Our homes create a third of London's carbon emissions. By thinking big and acting boldly to make London's housing more energy efficient, we can put a big dent in our carbon footprint. The Mayor's RE:NEW initiative, the biggest scheme of its kind in the country, is improving home efficiency on an unprecedented scale. In its early phase, RE:NEW funded green audits and easy to install energy and water efficiency measures for 9,000 homes. Households also realised big savings on their fuel bills: an average of £154 per home. But this is just the start. The Mayor is investing nearly £6 million and working with boroughs to expand the scheme to 55,000 homes by spring 2012.

RE:FIT is the Mayor's energy retrofit scheme for public buildings. It helps organisations in the public sector fit energy saving measures like solar panels, insulation and smart meters. The scheme was initially trialled on 42 GLA group buildings and delivered average CO<sub>2</sub> emission

cuts of 28 per cent. A further 14 organisations are currently working with the RE:FIT team to kit out 200 buildings. A successful bid by the Mayor to the European Investment Bank for €2.8 million means this momentum can be maintained. This comes on top of €2.9 million to develop decentralised energy projects in London over the next three years.

We are also catalysing a swathe of neighbourhood-led carbon cutting initiatives. RE:CONNECT, our Low Carbon Zones programme, is spearheading innovative, community-based schemes in ten neighbourhoods. They are microcosms showing what can be done and what needs to happen to bring about a low carbon London. Collectively the projects saved over 7,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> to March 2011. They are on track to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions across the programme by over 20 per cent by September 2012.

We have struck up a groundbreaking partnership with London's electricity network operator and a range of commercial and academic organisations to run a major smart grid trial in the Low Carbon Zones and the Green Enterprise District. The project has been awarded £25m of funding from Ofgem and will provide over 5,000 smart meters to homes – plus new energy saving tariffs.

The Zones are spawning a new breed of green volunteer. One hundred or so environmentally conscious locals have been instrumental to the success of the projects, propagating their passion for going green and improving take-up rates for energy saving measures and advice.

While we must do what we can to minimise climate change, we must also prepare for the inevitable consequences of a changing climate.

Drain London is an innovative programme to identify areas at risk of surface water flooding in London and to work with the boroughs, TfL,

Thames Water and the Environment Agency to prioritise and tackle flood risk hotspots. This year Drain London developed a draft flood map and flood risk action plan for every borough. The boroughs will consult on these plans in the coming year. The programme is also working with local communities to help them develop a number of pilot community flood plans; and it is funding a number of green roofs to set examples for others to follow. Green roofs have already been installed within the GLA estate and include the green roof and solar voltaic array at the listed London Underground headquarters at 55 Broadway, above St. James's Park station.

### **Creating a legacy of wonderful public spaces**

Whether it is the pockets of green space that punctuate London's urban fabric or the streetscapes that thread through the city's neighbourhoods, London's public places help stitch the city together.

So from streets to parks to waterways, from the iconic to the overlooked, the Mayor's Great Outdoors is creating better public spaces right across our capital. To date £40 million has been invested across 16 boroughs and 20 projects have been completed. In the past year Gants Hill interchange in Redbridge has been made safer and nearby Fairlop Waters Country Park a more enjoyable place to spend time and have fun. Orpington town centre has new coloured paving and wider, de-cluttered footpaths to make it more pedestrian friendly. And the balance between vehicles and those on foot and bicycle has been redressed at Herne Hill junction. The projects demonstrate what can be achieved when investment is married with intelligent design combining both flair and utility.

London's parks are an essential counterpoint to the hustle and bustle of the city. Fairlop Waters is therefore just one of ten parks that won

£400,000 from the Mayor's 'Help a London Park' initiative. Work at the other nine parks is either well underway or will begin shortly.

By 2012 Great Outdoors will have transformed another 50 public spaces leaving a legacy we can bequeath to future generations of Londoners.

Greening our city is also about getting the most from the plethora of smaller spaces that dot the capital. Capital Growth has so far turned 932 snippets of land – at schools, by railways, on housing estates, atop roofs and elsewhere – into places where people (30,000, and counting) can grow their own food.

What really makes Capital Growth special is that it touches a whole spectrum of issues. Otherwise non-descript plots of land are now getting people to eat more healthily, reducing food miles, helping to address antisocial behaviour, educating young Londoners and, perhaps most importantly, instilling pride and pulling neighbours closer together. They are even being used to help address London's declining bee population.

Capital Growth is a partnership between London Food Link, the Mayor, and the Big Lottery,

Trees are as important to the look and feel of London as our buildings. They are also another good way to tackle a host of issues at once; issues like climate change, air quality and biodiversity.

In January the Mayor launched RE:LEAF, a campaign to increase London's tree cover from 20 to 25 per cent by 2025. In the first three months over 20,000 trees were planted in 12 London boroughs. Good progress is being made towards the Mayor's target to plant 10,000 street trees in the capital, too. We are now just 500 trees shy of the 10,000 mark. To give tree

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planting a further boost in priority areas, and to cultivate volunteering, the Mayor's Team London programme will give £250,000 to communities to help them set up tree nurseries, urban orchards and organise tree planting events.

Many of London's streets and open spaces are exceptionally clean. The Mayor is engaging with the boroughs to bear down on the scourges of litter and vandalism to bring every corner of our public realm up to these same high standards.

We need to work collectively. So in February the Mayor issued a call to arms for Londoners to take action through 'Love Clean London'. A system pioneered by the London Borough of Lewisham, it lets users report graffiti, dumped rubbish and other eye sores via a mobile phone application, the web and text message. An interactive map shows what has been reported, where, and what is being done in response. This smart use of technology delivers financial savings, too.

During the year the Mayor also hosted a 'Gum Gala' and a 'Litter Summit' to discuss how to make London a cleaner, tidier city.

### **Strengthening London's cultural life**

London is a cultural metropolis: a global capital of culture that teems with creative people, setting trends for others to follow. It boasts bustling and world-renowned museums and plays host to more than 30,000 live music performances each year.

Published in November, the Mayor's Cultural Strategy sets out a vision for protecting and stimulating London's cultural life in its endlessly varied forms. Of course that means protecting our position as a leading cultural centre at a time of economic uncertainty. But it also means making sure that culture is woven through our

local communities so that we can all participate, be inspired and have our creativity fired.

The Mayor's Fourth Plinth Commission is a good example of culture at its best. It piques worldwide interest but also gets Londoners talking. In May 2010 the Mayor unveiled Yinka Shonibare's 'Nelson's Ship in a Bottle', and in January the 2012 and 2013 commissions were announced. The announcement followed an exhibition of the short-listed works that provoked 17,000 comments from the public.

The Mayor continues to help make London's cultural year diverse, vibrant and busy. City Hall remains committed to investing in the London Design Festival, London Fashion Week and Film London, while backing a series of cultural campaigns, festivals and events. In the last year these included:

- Story of London, which in its second year explored the city's role in technological, scientific, cultural and social advances over the centuries – and the capital's future challenges;
- Rhythm of London, a showcase of London's diverse range of music education and entertainment which culminated in a day of live music on Trafalgar Square to mark St. George's Day;
- Big Dance, London's Legacy Trust UK programme in partnership with Arts Council England – more than a million people took part in over 850 activities which celebrated dance and its diversity and showcased London's creativity;
- London Jazz festival, produced with BBC Radio 3 and running at venues across London but with a focus on Outer London boroughs;
- a spectacular fireworks display to celebrate New Year; and
- celebrations to mark Chinese New Year, Chanukah, Vaisakhi, and the Royal Wedding.

## **Improving London's housing**

London faces the biggest housing challenges in the country. Top of that list is a desperate need for more homes; not least given the overcrowding, health and social issues that go hand in hand with too little housing. The Mayor has therefore set a target of delivering 50,000 affordable homes before the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the most in any Mayoral term. Already nearly 40,000 have been delivered.

In April 2011 the Mayor launched the 'FIRST STEPS' website to simplify the task of finding and applying for a low cost home, and of working out the monthly cost of renting or buying. The website complements the Mayor's programme of the same name which helps Londoners on low and middle incomes get onto the property market.

But it is not just about numbers. Too often space and quality have been sacrificed for quantity. So we need to set sensible standards for housing design and sustainability; standards which lead to greener, safer homes fit for 21<sup>st</sup> century living and which shape our city for the better. That is what the Mayor's Housing Design Guide, published in August 2010, does. All new affordable housing must now comply with the design guide. Once the London Plan has been adopted, the Guide will apply across all types of housing in London.

We also need to improve existing homes, particularly for those council tenants living in sub-standard homes. The Mayor has secured £1.6 billion – over half of the Government's total decent homes budget and a 40 per cent increase – to do just that. This vital investment will transform not just homes, but the lives of many of the poorest, most vulnerable Londoners. It will also provide a boost to the capital's economy by supporting jobs in the construction sector.

Half of England's rough sleepers can be found in London. In 2009 the Mayor set up the London Delivery Board to bring together charities, the boroughs, the police and others to reduce rough sleeping. It is having a tremendous impact. Three-quarters of the capital's most entrenched rough sleepers have been helped off the streets. The board has also launched new services targeted at London's street population, such as outreach on London's night buses and a street doctor.

We can make the biggest difference by stopping rough sleepers from becoming entrenched in the first place. So in April 2011 the Mayor launched a pilot project to ensure no new arrival on London's streets spends a second night out. The project will be funded by extra money the Mayor secured from Government.

In the future the Mayor will have greater powers and a £34 million budget to tackle rough sleeping in the capital. This will help the Delivery Board to step up a gear in reaching the Mayor's target that no one is living on the streets by the end of 2012.

## **Reducing health inequalities**

London can and should be a place where everyone is able to lead a healthy and fulfilling life. However, Londoners experience stark and unacceptable differences in their wellbeing and longevity. Addressing these differentials is a thread that runs through the Mayor's work: whether helping people into work, improving the number and quality of homes, or catalysing a Cycling Revolution.

Yet we need to make sure we understand which approaches have the biggest impact in narrowing these gaps; and we need to bring partners together so we can take a long-term and coordinated approach around a clear vision. This is the thinking behind the Mayor's Health

Inequalities Strategy which was launched in April 2010.

Much has changed since the strategy was published. A new Government is developing plans to modernise the NHS and improve the way it works with local bodies. So in November the Mayor hosted his first Health Leadership Summit to reflect on the proposals and consider how London can capitalise on the opportunities they present.

Many factors contribute to our health. And looking after our well-being starts long before we arrive at the doctor's surgery. The Well London Programme, led by the London Health Commission, is piloting an integrated, community-led approach to improving health. It focuses on 20 of London's most disadvantaged neighbourhoods, building on what is already being delivered locally to make it easier for people to make healthier choices and to make positive changes in their communities.

This is just one of a host of projects run by the GLA with our partners. We are now working with takeaways and fast food outlets to encourage them to offer healthy meals. Our Good Jobs Programme is spreading the message to employers that healthy jobs make good business sense. And we facilitated work between the NHS and Jobcentre Plus to support Londoners into jobs, including developing a briefing for clinicians and practitioners to raise awareness about the incapacity benefit reassessment process and what it means for those affected. Meanwhile, the Mayor has been working with his unpaid HIV Ambassador, musician and campaigner Annie Lennox, to raise awareness and break down the stigma of AIDS.

Intervening early to improve the life chances of those children in greatest need has a well-evidenced impact on health inequalities

throughout life. The GLA is therefore working with the boroughs to support and invest in early years programmes that are targeted to reach the right families. And the GLA published analysis on the economic case for investing in early years – the first of its kind in the UK – to encourage and shape how boroughs, the NHS and police invest in these programmes. We are also contributing to the national review on early intervention, making sure the unique London perspective is reflected in the review.

The Government will support the Mayor's proposal to establish a new London Health Improvement Board, which he will chair. The Board will work closely with London Councils and key partners to look at the public health needs of the capital and to improve health for all Londoners.

### **Planning for an even better London**

Deciding what, where and how we build and develop – and equally what we protect and conserve – is of vital importance to the future of our city. That is why the replacement London Plan is so crucial. It will form the backcloth to London's development over the next 20 years, in turn influencing our economy and environment, and helping Londoners enjoy a good and improving quality of life.

At the end of 2008 the Mayor announced a full review of the London Plan to take account of his planning priorities for London and to reflect changes since the current Plan was published. He also wanted to ensure the Plan was clearer and more strategic, and to make it a resource for more local decision-making by boroughs and neighbourhoods.

During this year the new Plan has gone through an important part of the legal process it must follow before it can be published. Between July and December it was considered in a series of

public hearings by an independent, Government-appointed panel. This examination in public sat for 32 days and nearly 300 organisations and individuals were invited to take part; 51 detailed matters were debated. The Panel's report came out in May 2011 and we expect to publish the new London Plan this summer.

The draft London Plan identifies 33 'Opportunity Areas': places where there is considerable scope for new homes, businesses and infrastructure. The Mayor is creating a series of frameworks, with input from the public, the boroughs and other relevant organisations, to ensure we seize in full the regenerative potential these areas offer.

In April 2011, just over 100 years since the area hosted London's first Olympic Games, the Mayor asked for views on ambitious plans to redevelop White City. The plans represent a framework for creating new communities, green spaces and better transport links – and delivering thousands of new affordable homes and up to 10,000 jobs.

During the year the GLA also worked with boroughs to progress plans for other Opportunity Areas. That includes paving the way for the regeneration of the Vauxhall, Nine Elms and Battersea Opportunity Area. A significant step was the Mayor's decision to green light plans to redevelop one of the London skyline's most recognisable silhouettes: Battersea Power Station. Vacant since 1983, the station will be restored and opened to the public for the first time. It will sit at the heart the largest regeneration area close to central London, acting as a magnet for thousands of jobs and homes and overlooking the largest new park space in central London for over 50 years.

There are views across the capital, and of key landmarks like St. Paul's and the Palace of Westminster, which are part of the very essence

of London. In July the Mayor held to a key campaign pledge and published a new London View Management Framework to protect these views more strongly. It will help ensure the views are not blocked or spoiled by insensitive development. And because the guide is easier to use, it will give developers and architects greater clarity about how new buildings can add to, rather than detract from, London's magnificent built heritage.

# INVESTING IN YOUNG LONDONERS

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Youth violence fell by more than six per cent in 2010/11.
- Over 11,000 knives have been taken off London's streets since 2008.
- The Mayor launched a series of Community Conversations to gather ideas on how we can all work together to further reduce youth violence.
- More than 1,500 people have registered to be potential mentors who will help unlock the potential of black boys aged ten to 16.
- Over 1,900 young people have now successfully participated in the Mayor's Earn Your Travel Back scheme – and got their travel cards back.
- More young offenders are getting extra and intensive help to get on, and stay on, the right track after their release. Soon young offenders from across the city will benefit from specialist 'resettlement' support.
- In November the Mayor launched a campaign to achieve 20,000 new apprenticeships in London this year. We are well on the way to beating the target.
- The Mayor's Music Education Fund is supporting over 5,000 young musicians to work with some of London's top professional orchestras.
- One in eight London school children will be able to attend the London 2012 Games for free thanks to a deal the Mayor struck with the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games.

The Mayor's vision for young Londoners is to create the Best Big City on Earth where economic opportunity can thrive and children can grow up healthy and safe; a city which listens to and involves its young people, which encourages them to aim high, and which helps them to realise their potential.

This vision is set out in detail in 'Young Londoners – successful futures'. Published in July 2010, it explains the Mayor's renewed agenda for children and young people and how the GLA will work with others to improve young people's opportunities and chances in life.

### **Taking action to address youth violence**

Right now our first and foremost priority must be bearing down with sustained vigour on youth violence.

While overall youth violence fell more than six per cent last year, levels of the most serious youth crimes remain a real, and all too often tragic, concern. Since coming to office the Mayor has supported robust but fair policing. 'Operation Blunt 2' has taken many thousands of knives off London's streets, with a particular focus on places where young people congregate. A concerted and intelligence led approach is tackling violence and criminal activity perpetrated by gangs.

But robust enforcement can only be part of the mix. To make a telling and lasting impact there needs to be an approach which is broad in its scope, which takes the long-view, and which tackles youth violence at its very root. We need to convince young people that there are alternatives, to give them opportunities and to help them make the right choices for themselves and society.

During 2010/11 the Mayor made considerable progress in pursuing this agenda under the aegis of his 'Time for Action' strategy.

A key strand in Time for Action is building character, respect and responsibility by working with and promoting the work of uniformed and non-uniformed youth groups, and by providing appropriate mentors to boys and young men at risk of offending. The Mayor also wants to

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do more for young black boys in London, who are at greater risk of offending and violence – whether as perpetrators or victims.

In December the Mayor attended the first of a series of Community Conversations he is hosting in areas of London that suffer from high levels of youth violence. They are an opportunity for the Mayor and his team to listen carefully to community concerns and to think collaboratively to find solutions. In addition, the Mayor is using the events to encourage people to sign up for his mentoring programme, which aims to match appropriately trained mentors with black boys aged ten to 16. Since its launch in the New Year, over 1,500 potential mentors have registered.

The Mayor is also working with YOU London, an umbrella organisation bringing together all of the uniformed groups in London (such as Scouts, Cadets and Guides). He is investing £1.3 million to build their capacity so that over the next three years they can take on 8,000 more young people from all backgrounds across the capital. Within that, the Mayor has set a target that 25 per cent are either not in education, employment or training (NEET), or are at risk of becoming involved in criminal behaviour.

Earn Your Travel Back was introduced by the Mayor in August 2009 to give those young people who have had their free travel taken away due to inappropriate behaviour the opportunity earn it back. The scheme provides young people with one chance to take part in a day of environmental conservation. In 2010/11, 1,423 young people successfully earned their travel back – with many wishing to take up volunteering afterwards.

A pattern of truancy is common to almost all young offenders. So we are working with schools and councils to keep children in school. Towards the end of 2010/11 the GLA began a project

with five boroughs to explore different ways of supporting parents of excluded pupils so that the young person in question can swiftly return to mainstream education. We are also looking at ways to reduce bullying and violent behaviour at school and to work with families to reduce absences.

When young people do fall into the criminal justice system, we must do all we can to ensure they do not get trapped in a cycle of reoffending.

In November 2009 the Mayor launched a pioneering unit within Feltham Young Offenders Institution. The Heron Unit works with those boys most motivated to change. During their incarceration the boys are provided with intensive support and are matched with resettlement brokers. The brokers work with them throughout their sentence and after their release to devise personalised programmes that address issues that might lead to re-offending.

The preliminary findings suggest the extra support is making all the difference to reoffending levels. Two boys have gone on to university and many more have entered meaningful employment. In fact, because of the success of the approach, the Mayor is funding resettlement support for young offenders across the city.

Finally, it is also vital that we leave no stone unturned in the search for good ideas. We need to understand the problems better, share information and learn from each other. So in March 2011 our new Oracle website went live. The website will be populated over the next few months with projects that have proved to be effective. It will then be a comprehensive repository of the approaches that work best in tackling youth violence.

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A Community Conversation in Southwark. © Jav Sondh

## **Giving young people the best possible start in life**

Helping young people get the best possible start in life is woven through many of the Mayor's policies; from improving housing and reducing health inequalities to encouraging businesses to sign up to the London Living Wage.

These efforts all help to address child poverty. And there was welcome progress last year, including GCSE grades rising again and a further fall in the number of families with children in temporary accommodation. But child poverty rates in London remain higher than in any other region: there are approximately 630,000 young people living in poverty in the capital. Another way to address child poverty is by supporting parents into work. The Mayor is therefore working with the Government to look at ways to meet London's childcare demand and to address its high costs, which are at least 25 per cent higher than the England average. He is also promoting parent friendly employment through Diversity Works for London, and developing a project to increase the number of childminders.

Due to the challenges they face, children in care tend to do significantly worse than their peers at school. They are also more likely to be unemployed afterwards. The Mayor strongly believes that London's children in care deserve the same chances in life as other children.

The GLA is working with three boroughs to test a new approach to encouraging children in care to go on to higher education, as well as supporting them to engage positively at school. The programme, which is in its early days, trains and matches 'near peers' – care leavers who have gone on to university – with a young person in care. The mentor works with the young person to help build their self-belief and to offer support.

We also held London-wide events for children in care. And the way in which the capital's universities and colleges support care leavers to access and succeed in higher education has been improved.

An apprenticeship can make all the difference to a young person. Time in the right workplace, with the right boss, can be worth months of training. An apprenticeship teaches discipline, fosters self-belief and can provide a step onto the career ladder. There are enormous benefits to be had for businesses and our economy, too.

Yet London has traditionally offered fewer apprenticeships than other parts of the UK. The Mayor has been working hard to address this. With the National Apprenticeship Service, he is striving to achieve a target of 20,000 new apprenticeships in London in 2011. Progress has been swift, and we expect to go beyond the target. We are also doing our bit: we are on target to hit 3,000 apprenticeships by 2012 across the GLA group.

To make a go of their careers young people need the foundation that comes from a good education and a sound skills base. And a skilled workforce is the bedrock of London's global competitiveness.

In September the Mayor officially opened two new academies in the London Borough of Enfield. They are making good progress, and he is supporting up to eight more.

The academies programme is just one way the Mayor is improving the range of opportunities for young people in London. Saturday schools and after school clubs are also part of the rich mix of educational opportunities in the capital and the Mayor is working to support and raise the profile of community groups and charitable organisations that work in this area.

In November the Mayor launched Widening Horizons, a new guide highlighting the different and varied types of after school provision available in the capital.

Another example is the Mayor's support for The Challenge Network. Thanks to extra funding, they were able to involve nearly 500 16 year-olds in South and West London in summer outward-bound camps and community volunteering during 2010. This paved the way for London to secure nearly 2,000 places in the National Citizen Service pilots in 2011, a fantastic initiative which brings together young Londoners from all walks of life.

The Mayor has liaised with the Department for Education to ensure that the new bursary scheme for those aged 16 to 19 who are in full-time education and facing financial hardship, which will replace the Education Maintenance Allowance, supports the most disadvantaged Londoners. And through the work of the London Development Agency, the Mayor plans to invest £23 million over three years to open up education, training and skills opportunities to NEET young people and young ex-offenders.

The Mayor believes young people should have a voice and an opportunity to contribute to and influence all those policies and programmes in which they have a stake. They have wisdom to share and benefit from the experience. So the Mayor's team of over forty Peer Outreach Workers (15 to 25 year-olds) delivered a wide range of projects with other young people across London. These included helping to launch a World AIDs Day Exhibition at City Hall and working with charities to produce an education package for schools.

The Mayor's 'Lynk Up Crew' of young advisors (a cross-section of London children between

the ages of seven and 15) came up with ideas to tackle issues around bullying, families, labeling, and drugs and alcohol at school. The advisors won a Diana Achievement Award for Excellence and helped research the London Assembly's report on alcohol abuse.

Over 200 young people from 35 schools took part in a London Sustainable Development Commission event at City Hall in November 2010 to learn skills that will enable them to become leaders of the future.

### **Involving young people in London's cultural and sporting life**

London's rich cultural milieu offers a tremendous outlet for our young people. It presents opportunities for experimenting, learning, inspiring and bonding – and most importantly of all, having fun.

The Mayor of London's Fund for Young Musicians was launched in May 2011. This new music charity aims to raise £2m in philanthropic funding by March 2012. It will provide talented and committed children with outstanding opportunities. Four hundred children aged seven to 11 across the 32 London boroughs and the City will be awarded music scholarships. Tens of thousands of children up to the age of 18 will be given the chance to learn alongside professional musicians. This extends an existing GLA pilot project.

The Mayor has been keen to draw links between his cultural programme and music education. The annual Rhythm of London Festival and Busking Underground competitions attracted significant media coverage, allowing the Mayor to put the spotlight on London's talented young musicians.

However, too many young Londoners, especially those from poorer families, are missing out on the chance to develop their musical talents due to patchy provision and a lack of clear information about opportunities. So the Mayor has commissioned a major survey of music education provision to ensure that funding is directed to areas of greatest need.

Young Londoners have also been involved in the arts through Children's Art Day, supported by the Mayor, which has reached thousands of children since 2008. The Fourth Plinth Schools' Award was launched in 2010 and received over 500 entries. And the Big Dance Schools Pledge was delivered with the British Council to 150,000 young people across the world.

Sport has the power to reach out to young people. It can reduce antisocial behaviour, improve performance at school and build confidence. 'A sporting future for London', the Mayor's strategy for boosting the number of people who participate in sport, is helping young people to reap the benefits sport can bring.

The £15.5m PlaySport fund has trained sports coaches and officials and awarded grants to numerous community organisations working with young people. One such group is the Federation of London Youth Clubs which is building long-term capacity in youth sports. Another is Fight for Peace Academy in North Woolwich, which uses boxing and martial arts combined with education and personal development to unlock the potential of young people from communities that suffer from crime and violence. 'Make a Splash' took mobile swimming pools to six London boroughs and by December 2010 5,000 people – mostly young Londoners – had got involved, learning to swim or improving their swimming skills.

The GLA is also funding projects with:

- Panathlon, a programme of sport and coaching for seriously disabled children and young people;
- Cricket for Change, which supplies equipment and trains teachers to provide cricket in schools across London; and
- Salmon Youth Centre, to run a range of sporting opportunities in their centre in Southwark.

In addition the Mayor has put aside £250,000, as part of Team London, to fund one or two innovative projects that will use volunteers to provide sporting activities for at risk young people.

The Mayor has secured a deal to provide 125,000 tickets for London's school children, so that one in eight can see the 2012 Games for free. He is also exploring ways to involve young people in London 2012 including the Cultural Olympiad and test events in the Olympic Park.

## Other formats and languages

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### Chinese

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### Hindi

यदि आप इस दस्तावेज की प्रति अपनी  
भाषा में चाहते हैं, तो कृपया निम्नलिखित  
नंबर पर फोन करें अथवा नीचे दिये गये  
पते पर संपर्क करें

### Vietnamese

Nếu bạn muốn có bản tài liệu  
này bằng ngôn ngữ của mình, hãy  
liên hệ theo số điện thoại hoặc địa  
chỉ dưới đây.

### Bengali

আপনি যদি আপনার ভাষায় এই দলিলের প্রতিলিপি  
(কপি) চান, তা হলে নীচের ফোন নম্বরে  
বা ঠিকানায় অনুগ্রহ করে যোগাযোগ করুন।

### Greek

Αν θέλετε να αποκτήσετε αντίγραφο του παρόντος  
εγγράφου στη δική σας γλώσσα, παρακαλείστε να  
επικοινωνήσετε τηλεφωνικά στον αριθμό αυτό ή ταχυ-  
δρομικά στην παρακάτω διεύθυνση.

### Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی نقل اپنی زبان میں  
چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم نیچے دئے گئے نمبر  
پر فون کریں یا دیئے گئے پتے پر رابطہ کریں

### Turkish

Bu belgenin kendi dilinizde  
hazırlanmış bir nüshasını  
edinmek için, lütfen aşağıdaki  
telefon numarasını arayınız  
veya adrese başvurunuz.

### Arabic

إذا أردت نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغتك، يرجى  
الاتصال برقم الهاتف أو مراسلة العنوان  
أدناه

### Punjabi

ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ  
ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ ਜਾਂ ਹੇਠ  
ਲਿਖੇ ਪਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਰਾਬਤਾ ਕਰੋ:

### Gujarati

જો તમને આ દસ્તાવેજની નકલ તમારી ભાષામાં  
જોઈતી હોય તો, કૃપા કરી આપેલ નંબર ઉપર  
ફોન કરો અથવા નીચેના સરનામે સંપર્ક સાધો.

**Notes**

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