Item 3

London Assembly
15 October 2008
Fourth Mayor's Report to the Assembly

This is my fourth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period 28 August to 1 October

Policing and Community Safety

Launch of crime mapping

On 3 September, Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Paul Stephenson, and I launched a new website which will enable Londoners to get crime figures for their neighbourhood. The new 'crime mapping' website means for the first time Londoners will be able to get information about crime levels in their neighbourhoods and access local crime prevention and safety advice. The site also compares the crime levels in local neighbourhoods to the London average and, going forward, further crime categories will be added in a phased approach.

Crime mapping was one of my major manifesto commitments and an important part of our strategy to tackle the number one issue for Londoners, crime and safety. This is a major step forward in enabling Londoners to really be able to assess the work of their local police in tackling the crimes that affect their neighbourhood. Furthermore, the Information Commissioner has commended the design and delivery of the maps, which have been developed to be easily accessible and user friendly with the aim of increasing communication and trust between the public and the police.

London Crime information System (LCIS)

I have approved the development of Stage 1 of the London Crime Information System (LCIS). The cost of this will be £150,000 and will enable the development of the existing London Analyst Support Site infrastructure to provide a greater number of datasets, more up-to-date data, a more effective software tool to analyse that data, and hardware for the use of LCIS in engagement meetings with the agencies responsible for the reduction of crime and anti-social behaviour.

The Role Of The Media In Emergencies

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke on my behalf at the Role Of The Media In Emergencies Workshop at the RUSI, 61 Whitehall, on 11 September. The Deputy Mayor spoke of the lessons learnt from the 7 July 2005 bombings in London and how the Mayor's Office considers the role of the media on such occasions.

Discussions about solutions to youth violence

On 24 September, I met with bereaved families, community members, academics and organisations working "on the frontline" of youth violence to discuss ideas and solutions on reducing crime.

I attended an early morning seminar with academics before chairing a serious violence forum with guests that included representatives from the families of murdered teenagers Robert Knox and Nassirudeen Osawe and the partner of knife crime victim Elliot Guy. Other forum guests included a representative from A&E at Kings College Hospital and youth organisations 'Building Bridges' and 'Youth Enlightenment'.

I will launch a strategy dealing with youth violence shortly, and the views and ideas expressed at these forums will help shape the final stages. Everybody, from families who have sadly lost their loved ones, to the doctors treating knife wounds and the magistrates prosecuting offenders, has something important to share. I want to reassure all Londoners that I am dedicated to working towards a series of measures to stop youth violence in this city.

London Week Of Peace (LWOP)

From 14 to 21 September, I provided financial and logistical support to LWOP activities and initiatives. LWOP promotes community safety and peace initiatives, offering Londoners the opportunity to discuss a range of issues and contribute to a more cohesive society. All 32 boroughs are engaged in a wide range of events.

Deputy Mayor, Kit Malthouse, made keynote speeches on my behalf at the Peace Lecture at City Hall. Kit also presented an award and spoke on my behalf at the Peace Awards Dinner at the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington.

Peoples March

I supported the People's March, which took place on 20 September, and sent a video message of support to over 1000 people who marched on the day. The March, organised by community members, bereaved families and the Damilola Taylor Trust, brought people together from across London to march against youth violence.

Transport

Public consultation on western extension

On 1 September, a five-week public consultation on the future of the Western Extension of the Congestion Charging zone began, inviting anyone with an opinion on the Western Extension to take part. The consultation was one of my election pledges and, as well as the obvious options of keeping it or removing it, I would be very keen to know what Londoners think of suggestions such as having a charge-free period during the middle of the day.

Zip offer reminder

On 1 September, I issued a reminder to families in London to take advantage of free bus and tram travel for their children with the new school year about to begin.

These free travel concessions have now been grouped under the umbrella name 'Zip'. It is estimated that around 100,000 children in each secondary school year (11-15) could benefit from a Zip Oyster photocard, and that around 140,000 young Londoners in full-

time education or work based learning are eligible for the 16+ free bus and tram travel concession. This could save families over £300 a year.

One of the aims of the Zip scheme is to improve the level of behaviour on the capital's buses and informal feedback indicates that this is happening.

Fair and affordable fares package

On 4 September, I announced an affordable fares package for 2009 to help sustain the massive investment necessary to increase capacity and reliability across London's transport network.

The billions being invested in London's transport network will support the transformation of the Tube, preparations for 2012, deliver Crossrail, the extension of the London Overground network and Docklands Light Railway, an even better bus network and sustainable schemes to get more people cycling and walking.

Working with London's boroughs the elderly will benefit through the extension of the Freedom Pass to 24hrs. There will be a new half-price travel scheme for those on Income Support, now funded by the Mayor and Transport for London (TfL) rather than Venezuela. And across the TfL network Oyster will remain the cheapest way to travel.

Many Londoners and visitors will benefit from the introduction of a new daytime off-peak reduced fare on the Tube, from 9.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday. In some cases, a journey from zone 6 to central London will be £1.60 cheaper. For example, using Oyster Pay As You Go to travel from zone 6 to zone 1 between 9:30 am and 4:00 pm will fall from £3.80 to £2.20.

War veterans in receipt of a pension under the War Pensions Scheme or the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, including war widows and widowers and eligible dependents, will be continue to travel for free following my announcement early this year.

Fares will rise next year from 2 January 2009 based on the July 2008 Retail Price Index (RPI) plus one per cent overall. This means an overall increase of six per cent in 2009, sustaining the funds necessary for investment in the transport network. TfL will also need to keep under review the impact of higher oil prices and other global and national economic pressures.

In the Autumn, as part of TfL's Business Plan, TfL and I will demonstrate how further savings, together with fares income and government funding, will produce a balanced budget in 2009/10, and the capacity for major investment in Crossrail and other schemes in the years ahead.

Dial-a-Ride vehicles

On 5 September, I announced the introduction of 61 new, custom-built Dial-a-Ride minibuses across London this year, improving door-to-door transport services for tens of thousands of older or disabled Londoners who cannot easily use public transport. TfL has already begun replacing the ageing fleet of Dial-a-Ride vehicles, but these are the first to be purpose-built for the fleet. Dial-a-Ride passengers and drivers have been closely involved in developing the new bus, manufactured by Bluebird, to ensure it

meets passengers' diverse needs. The £3.9 million TfL has invested in these vehicles is part of a long-term programme to improve door-to-door services in the Capital.

Older Dial-a-Ride vehicles will be phased out as the new vehicles go into service. With the older models, customers found the seats narrow, the seatbelts difficult to use, and they found there wasn't enough legroom, particularly for those with arthritis or restricted movement.

London First 'The Next Four Years' Event

On 9 September, I met with and addressed London First Members at their transport themed 'The Next Four Years' event. London First is a business membership organisation whose mission is to make London the best city in the world in which to do business. It's members come from across the key sectors of London's economy and represent 26% of London's GDP. In my role as Chair of TfL I gave a brief speech outlining my transport priorities over the next four years.

Response to PPP Arbiter's Guidance on Tube Lines

On 9 September, I formally responded to the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Arbiter's Guidance on Tube Lines second period costs, covering the funding of their maintenance and renewal works on the Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly lines from 2010 to 2017.

The Arbiter's Guidance gave a rough estimate of the demand that Tube Lines can be expected to make for their work over the period, and this suggests a potential shortfall in funding in excess of £1 billion from that currently available. Given this extraordinary circumstance, I expect such a shortfall to be met by the Government, which imposed the PPP structure on the Tube and Londoners. The PPP contract states that such additional funding may be obtained through outside financing, as was done in the first phase of the programme.

TfL requested the PPP Arbiter's Guidance due to a lack of detailed information being provided by Tube Lines, to enable TfL to fully understand their costs.

Woolwich Ferry service

On 12 September, I announced that Serco Ltd will take up the £10.7 million contract to operate the Woolwich Ferry service for a period of 18 months, from 1 October 2008 to 31 March 2010. Ferry staff will be transferred from the London Borough of Greenwich to Serco under the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE) arrangements.

The Woolwich Ferry provides a free service, carrying road vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists between Woolwich and North Woolwich, and linking the North and South Circular roads across the River Thames. The ferry also provides an important link to the Docklands Light Railway.

Tube Lines Award Presentation

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and presented the Beacon Award on my behalf for Tube Lines at Acton Town Underground Station on 13 September. The Deputy Mayor spoke briefly at the event and also toured the Station.

Government approval for A406 Bounds Green Improvement Scheme

On 17 September, I confirmed that a scheme to improve a vital section of the A406 has been given the go ahead by the Secretary of State for Transport following a public inquiry.

The A406 Bounds Green Safety and Environmental Improvement Scheme will widen the A406 to create a predominantly two-lane dual carriageway and will include junction improvements to ease traffic flow. Better pedestrian crossings and cycling facilities will bring about much needed safety and environmental improvements.

Improvements on this stretch of the North Circular Road to improve safety and the urban environment for local residents are long overdue. The proposed scheme is expected to reduce road collisions by up to third by providing better pedestrian crossing facilities and improvements to traffic signalled junctions. Local residents will also benefit as the scheme seeks to reduce the level of rat-running traffic on residential roads.

Greenfleet Awards

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended the Greenfleet Awards on my behalf at Twickenham Stadium on 25 September. The event recognised UK organisations that had made significant efforts to reduce the environmental impact of their fleet transports. The Deputy Mayor gave a short speech that detailed the Capital Arrive 'N' Drive and Capital Fuel Challenge events and how these dovetail with the climate change objectives of the Mayor's Office.

New Air-conditioned Tube Trains

On 25 September, I joined Transport Commissioner Peter Hendy to unveil the new air-conditioned trains that will serve the Metropolitan line from 2010 and the Circle, District and Hammersmith & City lines from 2011.

As well as keeping passengers cooler the new trains feel far more spacious, boast the latest CCTV systems and have been designed to make life much easier for disabled passengers. When the full upgrade of our sub surface lines is complete, including the work improving signalling, capacity on these lines will be increased by over 45 per cent, which will mean less crowding and also mean we can cope with the continuing increase in passenger numbers.

Budget

Internal Audit

The GLA's Internal Auditors, Deloitte and Touche PSIA, undertake an annual audit programme as part of the 3-Year Strategic Audit Plan. As part of that programme Internal Audit have recently completed a number of audits covering:

- Treasury Management
- Budgetary Control
- Mayor's Strategies (Older People)
- Risk Management
- Accessible Communications
- Ordering, Receiving and Payments
- Mobile Phones and Blackberry Devices
- Best Value Performance Indicators
- Funding Income (Climate Change)

I have noted the content of the Internal Audit reports.

Expenses

I have noted the expenses incurred by the Mayor, Assembly Members, Chief Executive, Chief of Staff, Directors and Heads of Service during the period 1 April 2008 to 30 June 2008.

Statement of Accounts

I have approved the final 2007/08 Statement of Accounts in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (as amended by the Account and Audit Regulations 2006) and signed the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts, accordingly.

London Development Agency

London Design Festival

Between 13 and 23 September, The London Design Festival took place at various venues across the capital. The event was supported by the London Development Agency (LDA) and showcased a contemporary selection of design from craft to architecture, furniture, industrial and graphic design, multi-media technology, fashion and even a touch of fine art.

Thames Gateway Transformation

On 16 September, a new Economic Development Investment Plan was launched by the LDA, East of England Development Agency and South East England Development Agency in partnership with the Department for Communities and Local Government.

Environment

London's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

On 28 August, I launched the London's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy at the Thames Barrier. This is the first such strategy for a major world city and it outlines the impact that past and present carbon emissions will have on London's climate.

By the end of the century, winters will become warmer suggesting a traditional white Christmas might happen just once in a Londoner's lifetime. The rising temperatures will mean new and exotic flora and fauna in London which are more commonly seen in Mediterranean climates.

Key findings of the report are:

- Currently we are not very well adapted to our climate – the impacts of the heatwave of Summer 2003 (in which 600 people died here and 15,000 in Paris) and the floods of Summer 2007 highlight how vulnerable we are to extreme weather today.
- As the climate changes, London will experience warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers, whilst 'extreme' weather events such as heat waves and tidal surges will become more frequent and intense.
- Londoners will face an increased risk of floods, droughts and heatwaves that will endanger the prosperity of the city and the quality of life for all Londoners, but especially the most vulnerable in the city.
- The strategy proposes 'greening' the city by improving and increasing London's green spaces to keep the city cool in summer, managing flood risk coming from the tributaries to the Thames and surface water flooding from heavy rainfall, encouraging Londoners to use less water and raising public awareness to flood risk.
- London is well placed to help the world adapt to climate change: it has the skills and services to prepare for the predicted changes, and there is a clear economic opportunity to capitalise on this leading position.

The publication of the strategy underlines my manifesto commitment to make London a leading 'green' city through effective, value for money programmes including an ambitious target to cut carbon emissions by 60 per cent by 2025.

This strategy will now be open to consultation with the Greater London Authority (GLA) bodies – the LDA, TfL, London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, Metropolitan Police Authority – and the London Assembly although wider comment from organisations are invited. I will consider the responses submitted by these bodies and then publish a second version of the strategy for public consultation and it is my intention to publish the public consultation draft of the London Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in 2009.

Sutton residents urged to take active steps to improve their health

Active Steps, a groundbreaking initiative to improve the health of Sutton residents by helping them to change their travel habits, was launched on 10 September by the local NHS, Sutton Council and TfL. By encouraging people to leave their cars at home and

cycle and walk more often, the programme aims to help improve people's health and wellbeing and reduce traffic congestion at the same time.

London Waste and Recycling Board

On 11 September, I chaired the inaugural meeting of the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWaRB) at City Hall. The eight-member board, was set up to bring together the boroughs and others involved in managing the capital's waste, with the key aims of boosting London's recycling rates and reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill. The Board has a budget of up to £84 million to provide new solutions and infrastructure to help manage London's waste in a more environmentally friendly way. The first meeting marked the beginning of a productive relationship between my office and London Councils and a new coordinated approach in assisting the boroughs in the management of their waste.

The papers for the first Board meeting are available online at http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/Transport/lwarb/appointments.htm

Recycle for London

As Mayor, I have agreed to the continuation of the Recycle for London campaign for 12 months and a funding agreement with the London Waste and Recycling Board to secure funding of £1.5M.

The £1.5 million will fund advertising, PR, staff cost and campaign monitoring. The Campaign will be delivered by the GLA's marketing team with policy guidance provided by the GLA waste team between now and September next year. A media, creative and project plan are in place which outlines the format of the campaign. The GLA is currently recruiting a fixed term Project manager to run the campaign which is scheduled to launch in November 2008.

Beijing and London Zoos - Conservation

On 18 September, I joined staff from ZSL London Zoo on a fact-finding and sharing visit to Beijing Zoo. During this visit the ZSL London Zoo's management team advised their Beijing colleagues on enclosure design, collection planning and animal care.

There is a strong tradition, since 2001, of Mayoral support and funding of state school pupil visits to ZSL London Zoo and earlier this year I committed to continuing this scheme for the next three years. The current agreement, totalling £538,000 per annum, funds 72,000 trips to the zoo per year, and includes an outreach programme that takes animals to state funded schools, reaching a further 14,000 pupils each year.

London Waterways Commission

I have approved the continuation of the London Waterways Commission with Murad Qureshi AM as the Chair.

Garden grabbing

I have approved a grant of £15,000 to the London Wildlife Trust towards the cost of research into the importance of London's gardens as green space, providing wildlife habitat and

helping the city adapt to climate change. It will look at how the amount of green space in gardens has changed over recent years, to give an idea of the impact of the loss of back gardens to housing development, and of paving over of front gardens. This will provide evidence to support my proposed new policy protecting gardens from development.

Priority Parks and Street Trees funding

I have given consent to the payment of £500,000 capital funding by the LDA to the GLA (under section 120 of the GLA Act 1999). This capital funding is to be provided to the GLA by the LDA as a single lump sum on or before the 13 October 2008.

Subject to the funds being available at the LDA I have also consented to the LDA paying a further grant of capital funding to the value of £500,000 per year for the financial years 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12.

Priority Parks programme

I have approved the allocation of up to £40,000 to publicise the voting for my Priority Parks programme. The public will be able to vote on a shortlist of needy parks, drawn up by an expert panel, to decide which ones will be improved by the programme. Agreements in respect to marketing and publicity for this programme, with organisations which have procured in compliance with the Authority's Contracts Code, have also been approved in advance.

Children and Young People

Peer Outreach Team

In my first report I reported on the GLA Peer Outreach Scheme and one of its projects – the 'You're Welcome (Pilot) project'. I have approved the extension of this project and approved receipt and use of £25,000 funding from Department of Health via the Government Office for London, continued use of the Peer Outreach Team on this project and extension of the current Peer Outreach coordinator contract for this project for a period of 12 months (with a maximum value of up to £7,578).

Sustainable Development

Quality of Life

I have approved a new strategic approach to improving quality of life, including:

- Developing and launching a new "Quality of Life" awards scheme;
- Appointing a new chair and new members to the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC); and
- Expanding the scope of the existing "London Leaders" programme.

Commission for a Sustainable London 2012 (CSL)

I have approved the continuation of the GLA's support for the CSL and the administration of its funds for the next 3 years. I have also approved the extension of Shaun McCarthy's

appointment as Chair of the CSL for one year to September 2009 and the acceptance by the GLA of funding from LOCOG, ODA, DCMS, LDA and TfL in accordance with the three year funding settlement (as set out in paragraph 9) agreed by the Olympic Board Steering Group on behalf of the Olympic Board, on 20 February 2008 for the CSL.

Social Inclusion

No Limits Event

I approved the award of and entry into a contract with F2F Events for a sum of £23,000 to facilitate the GLA's and a number of London stakeholders' coordinated presence at the No Limits event for disabled, Deaf and older people to be held at the Excel Centre on 17 and 18 September. The GLA and partners (including Business Link, Directory Enquiries and Wideaware) hosted the "London Village" stand at the event which provided an exciting and interactive mix of information, demonstrations, seminars and one-to-one advice.

I agreed a total expenditure of up to £30,000 (to be shared by all partners) in respect of the event, entry into funding arrangements with the named stakeholders and the use of the GLA logo in the marketing of the event.

Cohesive Communities Programme Report

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke briefly on my behalf at the launch of the Cohesive Communities Programme Report at St Ethelburga's Centre, 78 Bishopsgate on 9 September. The Launch was held by Faith Matters and the Report focused on community relationships between Muslims and Sikhs in London.

Joint Meeting of The Four Southwark Deaneries

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke on my behalf at the Joint Meeting of The Four Southwark Deaneries at St Giles Church, 81 Camberwell Church Street on 10 September. The Deputy Mayor spoke of the key issues facing contemporary London and also took questions from the audience.

Empowering Minorities in Business

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke on my behalf at the Empowering Minorities in Business event at The Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, on 13 September.

Eid message recorded for Channel S

On 23 September, my Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, recorded an Eid message of goodwill to the Bengali community in London for Channel S, which is widely watched throughout the United Kingdom and Europe.

Women Connect Networking Event

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and hosted the Women Connect Networking Event on my behalf at City Hall on 23 September. The event celebrated women across the GLA Group who work in non-traditional roles such as fire fighters, police officers, tube drivers

and bus drivers. The evening was a great success and the Deputy Mayor spoke briefly on equalities in the GLA Group.

"Who Cares?" event

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke at the "Who Cares?" event on my behalf at Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, on 26 September. The event aimed to bring together local authorities, primary care trusts and other key stakeholders in London to discuss how social care for older people in London can be improved.

Visit to LEAP Charity

My Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, visited the LEAP Charity on my behalf at Harriet Tubman House in Kensal Green on 26 September. The Charity has been delivering services for the last fifteen years that have helped disadvantaged Londoners gain employment.

Equalities Framework for Local Government

I have approved the GLA's response to the Independent Development Agency's (IDeA) consultation on the Equalities Framework for Local Government.

Economic and Business Policy

International Business Advisory Council

On 5 September, I established the International Business Advisory Council. The Council consists of forty-seven distinguished business leaders representing well-known multinational companies from around the world, who have agreed to advise me on securing the capital's position as a top global city.

The creation of the Council is based on the concept that great cities and great companies need each other, that companies need good people and the best people are happiest in the best places - like London. The role of the Council will be to advise me on developing opportunities, initiatives and ideas that make London an even more appealing place for companies and their people to live and work in. The subject for discussion at the first meeting will be London's 'livability'.

Bloomburg Business Lunch

On 12 September, I spoke at a lunch hosted by Dan Doctoroff, President of Bloomburg LP. The lunch was attened by 17 business leaders to whom I gave a speech outlining my economic and business policy, as well as taking questions.

Paralympic Games – Beijing 2008

Paralympics Torch Relay

I gave approval to enable the GLA to coordinate arrangements for up to five people to travel to Beijing from 3-9 September to participate in the Paralympics Torch Relay. I also approved the attendance of five people to accompany the participants in the Paralympics Torch Relay in a care capacity, the attendance of a facilitator from the Greater London Authority to accompany the group and the allocation of up to £50,000 from the Events for London Budget 08/09 to cover the costs of the visit.

Promoting London and the 2012 Games

On 15 September, the LDA, with partners VisitBritain and the ParalympicsGB, held a series of events close to the Olympic site in Beijing to highlight London's business opportunities to investors and promote London as a leading world city (including the development of the Olympic Park site post 2012). They also promoted London as a training venue for 2012 Paralympic teams and London's tourism offer, in terms of accessibility, including the LDA's current 'London Open to All' programme to improve accessibility further.

Paralympic Flag

On 17 September, I received the Paralympic flag in the Birds Nest Stadium in Beijing.

My vision is to make the 2012 Games the most unified yet, with world-class facilities that do justice to the feats of our incredible athletes, who work amazingly hard throughout the year. Our outstanding Paralympians deserve our full support and I call on businesses in the capital and beyond to put their weight behind ParalympicsGB through private sponsorship and help to ensure their success on home turf in 2012.

London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

London 2012 Velopark

On 8 September, I, together with Chris Hoy, LOCOG Chairman - Seb Coe, ODA Chief Executive - David Higgins and Lee Valley Regional Park Authority Chief Executive - Shaun Dawson, visited the Olympic Park site to unveil the latest VeloPark plans.

The VeloPark, to be based in the north of the Olympic Park, will include a 6,000 seat Velodrome to host the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic indoor track cycling events as well as a BMX circuit for Olympic events. The venue design also includes a 360 degree concourse level offering fantastic views over the Olympic Park, and out to the London skyline. After the Games, a road cycle circuit and mountain bike course will be added to create a legacy VeloPark that will combine cycling facilities across all disciplines in one cycling 'hub'. The VeloPark will be linked into cycle routes across London, connecting the whole of the capital with the new world-class cycling facilities.

A planning application for the VeloPark will be submitted later this month with construction work due to start on site in early 2009.

Transforming access in the capital

The London 2012 Games must act as a catalyst to transform access for disabled people around the city.

On 16 September, I made a commitment to work with 2012 organisers and authorities across London to ensure the capital was doing everything possible to maximise not only access to the Games but access to the city's many hotels, restaurants, nightspots and other leisure venues for generations to come.

A lot of work is already underway by Transport for London and the Olympic Delivery Authority to ensure London's transport provides the best access to all Games events particularly for disabled people. The LDA and Visit London are also working with the hotel industry to ensure that disabled people staying in London can find the right type of accommodation to suit their needs including holding a special seminar in late September to offer advice on improving access for disabled people.

Olympic and Paralympic Flag Raising

On 26 September, I attended a short ceremony and reception outside City Hall to mark the raising of both the Olympic and Paralympic host city flags for the first time since bringing them back from Beijing. I was joined by Lord Coe and Tessa Jowell MP, along with prominent Olympians and Paralympians, including athletes from the 1948 London Games and some aspiring youth athletes from the 2012 ambition programme.

Following the short ceremony, I attended a Reception, hosted by myself and the London Assembly, to mark the occasion and the success of the Olympic and Paralympic teams in Beijing.

LOCOG's Company Resolutions

I have approved the written resolutions of the members of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) amending Article 55 of the Articles of Association of LOCOG governing notification of directors' interests.

Government Liaison

Meeting with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

On 3 September, Simon Milton and I met with Hazel Blears MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. We had a useful discussion covering a range of issues, including housing and planning, Olympics legacy, the City Charter for London and community empowerment.

Meeting with the Minister for Security, Crime and Policing

On 11 September, Kit Malthouse and I met with Tony McNulty MP, Minister for Security, Crime and Policing. Our discussion focused on the Youth Crime Action Plan and how new monies could be spent most effectively in London.

Meeting with the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Security and Counter-terrorism

On 11 September, I met with Lord West, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Security and Counter-terrorism, to discuss Olympics security.

Meeting with Shadow Minister for Local Government

On 25 September, I met with Bob Neill MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government, to discuss local government matters, the London Plan and the Olympics.

Local Government Relations

Meeting with Leader of the London Borough of Bexley

On 11 September, I met with Councillor Teresa O'Neill, Leader of the London Borough of Bexley. We discussed my views on the current proposals for the Thames Gateway Bridge, combating crime and promoting sport in the area.

Meeting with Mayor of the London Borough of Newham

On 24 September, I met with Mayor Sir Robin Wales of the London Borough of Newham. Key areas of discussion included the legacy of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, my views on the current proposals for the Thames Gateway Bridge and how the TfL Local Implementation Funding can be re-shaped to better meet the needs of the boroughs.

Meeting with Chair of London Councils

On 25 September, I met with Councillor Merrick Cockell as Chairman of London Councils. We discussed aspects of the Policing Green Paper, youth crime and the delivery of badly needed affordable housing for Londoners. We also discussed the skills agenda, progress on delivering a City Charter for London and my proposals for a cycle hire scheme in the city.

Meeting with London Councils Borough Leaders

Whilst attending the Conservative Party Conference in Birmingham, I took the opportunity to meet briefly with the London Councils Conservative group of Borough Leaders on 29 September. This was an opportunity for me to outline further my vision for London over the next few years and how we will be tackling some of the key issues and that we will continue to work closely with the boroughs. My Deputy Mayor, Ian Clement, also met with the London Councils Labour Group on 21 September and will be meeting with the Liberal Democrat group on 14 October.

Meeting with Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee

On 30 September, I met with Stuart Fraser, Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee at the City of London specifically to discuss my plans for a cycle hire scheme in London.

Housing

London Housing Strategy

On 15th September I approved the receipt of a grant of £29,100 from the LDA towards the development and implementation of the London Housing Strategy. This will be earmarked for climate change projects and accounted for within the 2008/9 Housing and Homelessness Unit programme budget.

Culture and events

London Freewheel 2008

On 21 September, I attended the Sky Sports London Freewheel, mass participation cycling event. Whilst at the event I met with representatives of the London Cycling Campaign and TfL's Workplace Challenge team and some of their guests. I then joined Team GB cyclists Chris Hoy and Victoria Pendleton and over 50,000 other cyclists cycling on a traffic free route through central London.

Open Rehearsal

Open Rehearsal, organised by the GLA, took place on 26, 27 and 28 September with a programme that featured more than 300 events and activities in every borough across the capital, including, for the first time, visual arts, museums and open studio events.

Organisations which took part in Open Rehearsal 2008 included: Merce Cunningham Company; Royal Court Theatre; Royal Ballet; Royal Opera; the orchestra of the Royal Opera House; the BBC Singers; Theatre Royal Stratford; Ballet Central; Bureau of Silly Ideas; Queen Elizabeth Hall; Rich Mix; National Theatre; the ICA; Serpentine Gallery; Delmont Mackintosh Theatres; New Wimbledon Theatre; Lyric Hammersmith and National Theatre of Scotland; Museum of London; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Somerset House; London Bubble Theatre; Cardboard Citizens; Blackheath Halls; Shape, Tara Arts; The Place; The Old Vic; Watermans; V&A; Wellcome Collection; Arcola Theatre; Pinewood Studios; and many more.

This year's Open Rehearsal also helped celebrate the launch of the Cultural Olympiad, the four year UK-wide programme of culture inspired by the Olympic spirit, designed to showcase and encourage enjoyment and participation in arts and culture in the run-up to the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012.

London named best city to visit

London has been voted the best UK city at the eleventh Condé Nast Traveller Reader Travel Awards. Munira Mirza, my Director of Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Policy accepted the award for London at the awards ceremony, which was held at the Science Museum on 1 September.

The award winning cities, countries and travel companies were selected using feedback from thousands of readers of the upmarket travel magazine Condé Nast Traveller. The awards are the travel industry's equivalent of the Oscars and the awards ceremony attracts high profile figures from the travel industry each year.

Facing stiff competition from other leading UK cities, including Cambridge, Liverpool and Edinburgh, London triumphed with Condé Nast Traveller magazine readers. There were 25 award categories in total ranging from best tour operator to best low cost airline.

Museum of London Property Transactions

Pursuant to its power under the Museum of London Act 1986 and the GLA Act 1999 I have given consent to the Board of Governors of the Museum of London to acquire and dispose of:

1. Periodic tenancy agreements;
2. Leases of premises for a period of five years of less; and
3. Licenses and agreements to enable archaeological excavations to take place where the costs involved will be recouped from developers;

Subject to the:

- Reservation by the Authority of the right to evoke or amend such consent on notice at any time;
- The Museum meeting all related expenditure from its approved budget;
- The consent not applying to premises where any public display of its exhibits is planned; and
- The Museum's periodic reporting to the Authority of transactions to which the consent applies.

Polish Music Festival

On 7 September, my Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke on my behalf at the Polish Music Festival at Wembley Arena. Mr Radek Sikorski, the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs was also in attendance at the event.

Tour of London – BikeJam

On 7 September, London hosted the start of this year's Tour of Britain cycle race, as part my work to promote cycling and increase the numbers of Londoners travelling by bike in the Capital.

This year's route started and finished near Big Ben, and the cyclists raced past the Houses of Parliament, Whitehall, Cleopatra's Needle and Somerset House before heading towards the Tower of London and returning along the same route. The riders raced 10 times around the 8.6km circuit– a total of around 86kms.

TfL also hosted an associated event, BikeJam, to broaden the appeal of the Tour of Britain event beyond sports cycling fans, and to promote TfL's messages around cycling in London. The event, which was held close to the Tower of London, consisted of a series of cycling themed zones – an entertainment zone, a cycle centre zone, an arts and craft zone and a food and beverage zone.

"Green Theatre" action plan

On 9 September, I launched my 'Green Theatre: Taking Action on Climate Change' plan in partnership with industry leaders at the Professional Lighting and Sound Association (PLASA) annual conference.

'Green Theatre', an action plan for the theatre industry, outlines the most practical and effective measures that can be taken to reduce energy use in buildings while also saving money in energy bills. The plan identifies how London's theatre industry creates 50,000 tonnes of carbon emissions per year - the equivalent of emissions from 9,000 homes. It concludes that if all actions recommended in the plan were taken, the industry could reduce carbon emissions by almost 60 per cent by 2025 - the equivalent of converting over 5,000 London homes to zero-carbon.

Advice outlined in the plan includes identifying where changes need to be made, designating 'green' responsibilities to staff, and writing 'green' policies into contracts to ensure that suppliers are also helping to cut emissions. The plan also details a number of successful case studies such as the battery recycling service for London's theatres which I launched in May in partnership with WRAP (the Waste and Resources Action Programme).

Climate change is one of my key priorities and this announcement builds on my commitment to reduce London's carbon emission by 60 per cent by 2025.

London Fashion Week

On 12 September, I restated my commitment to the fashion industry and the need to maintain a high profile platform that reinforces the capital's international reputation for cutting edge fashion.

On the issue of model health, I am absolutely in support of improving conditions for models and establishing a healthier working environment. Recommendations from the excellent Model Health Inquiry have already been put in place and my office continues to work with the British Fashion Council and London Fashion Week to build on the progress being made.

Mayor's Thames Festival

On 13 and 14 September, the 'Mayor's Thames Festival' took place, celebrating London's greatest natural asset, the River Thames. The Festival took place right in the heart of London, between Westminster Bridge and Tower Bridge, and showcased the best in street arts, with pyrotechnics, illuminations, art installations, river events, street theatre, massed choirs, circus and music. It has grown to become the capital's largest free, open-air arts festival; engaging many of London's communities, over 250 schools from across London and artists from 37 countries. Over 775,000 people attended the event.

Saturday (13 September) saw Southwark Bridge transformed into a giant banqueting hall with tables running the entire length of the bridge and a programme of feasting, dancing and entertainment running throughout the day. Pumpkins for the "Feast on the Bridge" were grown in the allotment of Rosendale Primary School and brought to the bridge by children in a harvest festival procession as part of the feast's opening ceremony. Rosie Boycott (Chair of

the London Food Board) helped pupils from Rosendale Primary School harvest the pumpkins and chef Miche Fabre Lewin invited the public to help prepare and cook pumpkin soup on the bridge.

On Sunday (14 September) the 'Night Carnival' on Victoria Embankment had more than 2,500 participants and this year it was led by a specially commissioned dragon from master-makers in China; the finale was a spectacular 'Fireworks display' fired from barges in the middle of the Thames.

The festival managed to secure Barclaycard as a major sponsor this year; other sponsors include HSBC, the Co-operative and the British Council. The GLA support the festival with a grant of £65,000, they also receive support from the Arts Council.

Black History Month 2008

I have approved the allocation of £47,000 from the Mayor of London's Black History Month 2008 budget programme to an organisation (TBC) to deliver events and initiatives as part of Black History Month 2008. The GLA will entry into a contract with this organisation in compliance with the Authority's Contract Code.

This year's programme will celebrate the legacy of the "Windrush" and the contributions of Black Londoners to the city through photography exhibitions, debate and film.

Trafalgar and Parliament Squares

Diwali on the Square

I have agreed that the GLA, in association with the Diwali in London Committee, will organise Diwali on the Square, a key celebratory event for the Asian Community, to take place on Trafalgar Square on 19 October. In addition I have agreed a core budget and expenditure of up to £70,000 for this event.

I have also approved the seeking of sponsorship for this event and entry into related sponsorship agreements in order to reduce the GLA's net costs of the event and note the sponsorship and related income target of £50,500. Finally, I agree to the use of GDF to provide event production services under the existing contract the GLA has with respect of the Liberty Festival.

Liberty Festival 2008

On 30 August, my Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes, attended and spoke on my behalf at the Liberty Festival (organised by the GLA and held in Trafalgar square). The event showcased the work of deaf and disabled artists, and included a programme of creative zones, with themes such as street arts, carnival, music, comedy, film and children's activities. Highlights of the 2008 event included performances of 'The Medal Ceremony' a spectacular new commission involving Australian company 'Strange Fruit' and London based disabled-led theatre company Graeae.

Liberty included a range of facilities and services in Trafalgar Square to ensure access and active participation by deaf and disabled people both as artists and audience, and the event attracted more than 20,000 throughout the day.

Simcha on the Square

On 14 September, I supported London's biggest celebration of Jewish culture, Simcha on the Square. The event, which took place on Trafalgar Square, was produced by the Jewish Music Institute for Jewish Culture UK and involved many other Jewish community organisations, including the London Jewish Forum. Grammy-award winning New York band, the Klezmatics, headlined the diverse cultural programme that included music, song, dance and the traditional 'shorfar' blowing.

Eid on the Square

I have agreed that the GLA, in association with Muslim community groups and organisations, organise Eid in the Square, a key celebratory event for the Asian community, to take place on Trafalgar Square on 11 October.

I have approved the setting of a core budget and expenditure of up to £70,000 for this event (including event organisation and management, marketing, branding and miscellaneous costs). I have also approved the seeking of sponsorship for this event and entry into related sponsorship agreements in order to reduce the GLA's net costs of the event, and note the sponsorship and related income target of £55,000. Finally, I have agreed to use the services of GDF to provide event production services for Eid in the Square under the existing contract the GLA has with GDF in respect of the Liberty Festival.

GLA Organisation

Framework of Consultation

Last month I reported my agreement to admit 13 named service providers to the GLA Framework of Consultation and Market Research Services within the following Lots: Annual London Survey, Periodic Telephone Polls, Ad-hoc Telephone Polls, Internet Surveys, Face-to-Face surveys, Questionnaire Analysis and Qualitative Research.

I have now agreed to amend the Framework of Consultation and Market Research Service Suppliers for the GLA and Functional Bodies, admitting six additional companies to the existing framework.

Senior Salaries Review Body

I have approved, jointly with the London Assembly to recognize the Senior Salaries Review Body as being the primary body for reviewing public sector salaries and the one in whose independence the public is likely to have greatest confidence and to request the Senior Salaries Review Body to undertake the 2008 independent review of the remuneration of elected members of the Authority, comprising salary levels, annual up-rating mechanism, pensions and resettlement grant scheme.

I have also considered and agreed the draft brief.

GLA Standards Committee

I have given approval to increase the size of the GLA's Standards Committee from ten to twelve, and to increase the number of Independent Members on the Standards Committee from four to six (noting that the increase is subject to joint approval by the Assembly and does not affect overall proportionality of the Assembly's committees).

I have also agreed to consider reappointment at the end of the four year term for existing and future Independent Members of the Standards Committee, for a further four year term, with a maximum service of two four-year terms, subject to joint approval by the Assembly, and subject to joint reconfirmation each year by the Assembly, at its Annual Meeting.

Printing Contract

I have given consent to begin the next stage of an OJEU tender process to enter into framework agreements with suitably qualified companies for printing services for the GLA.

Future Shape of the Greater London Authority

On 10 September, I revealed proposals for the future shape of the GLA and the changes needed to deliver a more efficient, effective organisation. These include restructuring the GLA into four key areas: Communities; Development & Environment; Finance & Operations; and Corporate Affairs, with a separate team exclusively focused on the 2012 Olympics.

Simon Milton and Jeff Jacobs, as interim Chief Executive, are now embarked on the detailed programme of work called "Organising for Delivery", and they are looking at organisational design, immediate efficiency improvements and shared service propositions to bring longer-term efficiency improvements. I expect to see the majority of structural savings coming on stream during the next financial year and they will be fully delivered by 2010/11. Next year's savings target of £7.5m is already well on the way to being achieved. Circa £1m has already been achieved from the restructuring of my office and £0.5m from stopping my predecessor's plans for unnecessary growth.

Broadcasting and Maintenance Contracts

I have approved the extension to the existing Broadcasting contract with BowTie TV by a further 2 years in accordance with the terms set out in the original contract. As well as approving the commencement of an EU compliant tender for the supply of building infrastructure maintenance services contract and a window cleaning and fabric maintenance contract.

FM Contracts

I have approved:

- An extension to the GLA's current food waste recycling contract with East London Community Recycling Partnership due to expire in June 2009 in order that expiry of the contract is co-terminus with expiry of the general waste and recycling contract to allow it to be retendered as one contract;

- The commencement of an EU compliant tender to purchase a contract for waste management services and food waste recycling services for City Hall and to award a contract to the most economically advantageous bidder for a period of four years with the additional option to extend for two years in one year lots;
- An extension to the GLA's current contract for off-site archiving with Deepstore Ltd for a period of two years in line with the provisions set out for contract extension in the original contract;
- The initiation of a competitive tender to purchase pest control services for City Hall and to award a contract to the most economically advantageous bidder for a period of three years with the additional option to extend for two years in one year lots;
- The initiation of a competitive tender to purchase a contract for horticultural maintenance services for City Hall and to award a contract to the most economically advantageous bidder for a period of three years with the additional option to extend for two years in one year lots.

Link to TfL Metropolitan Area Network

I have approved the award of a contract to TfL for the provision to the GLA of a dark fibre link to the TfL Metropolitan Area Network (MAN), related equipment and maintenance and support services in respect of the link and equipment for a period of three years and with a maximum value of up to £124,141.65 and an exemption from the requirements of section 7 of the Authority's Contracts Code of Practice in this regard. The MAN is essentially a very fast dedicated data network that connects all of TfL's sites (and recently the LDA) together and also to TfL data centres.

Mayor's Legacy Board of Advisors

I have agreed that the members of the Legacy Board may claim expenses in line with the GLA's Policy on Expenses, to be funded by the Olympic and Thames Gateway Team within the Policy & Partnership Directorate.

I have also approved the Legacy's Terms of Reference and delegated approval of further amendments to the Terms of Reference to the Acting Team Leader of the GLA Olympics and Thames Gateway team.

Quarterly performance

I have noted the proposals for the GLA's new performance management framework and the Authority's financial and operational performance at the end of Quarter 1 2008/09.

Risk Management

I have noted the outcomes of the review of the Authority's risk management framework for the period 1st January 2007 - 30th June 2008 and approved the recommended follow-up actions.

Annual Governance Report

I have considered the Annual Governance Report and agreed the action plan contained therein.

Appointments

GLA Environmental Adviser

On 2 September, I announced that Isabel Dedring has agreed to take charge of the crucial environment brief at City Hall, commencing 6 October.

GLA Advisers

On 24 September, I appointed Richard Blakeway as my housing adviser (under section 67 (1) (b) of the GLA Act) and Alex Crowley as political adviser (under section 67 (1) (a) of the GLA Act).

On 26th September I confirmed my decision to disestablish the post of Mayoral Adviser, Olympics.

London Health Commission

On 9 September, I appointed Mary O'Connor chair of the London Health Commission (LHC). In my election campaign I pledged to strengthen the LHC and I believe Mary demonstrates the experience, passion, skills and drive needed to take on this challenge.

The London Health Commission has made a significant contribution to the health agenda and I look forward to building on that. One of my top priorities is to get to grips with the scale of the mental health problems we face here in London, which are on a much greater scale than the rest of the country, and the LHC partners can all play a key role. I look forward to working with Mary and the Commission to make London a healthier city

GLA Standards Committee

I have approved the appointment of Mr Sam Younger, Mrs Diana Mark and Sir David Durie, to serve from 1 October 2008 to 31 January 2012 as Independent Members of the Authority's Standards Committee (noting that such appointments are subject to joint approval by the Assembly).

London Skills and Employment Board

I have approved the appointment of Harvey McGrath as a member and Vice-Chair of the London Skills and Employment Board ("The Board") for a period of two years with effect from 1 October 2008, under the provisions of the London Skills and Employment Board (Establishment) Regulations 2008 made pursuant to the Learning and Skills Act 2000, as amended by the Further Education and Training Act 2007.

London Development Agency

On 17 September, I approved the appointment of Peter Rogers as the new permanent Chief Executive of the LDA. Peter has been in post as the interim Chief Executive since May 2008 and has already set a clear direction for the Agency and begun reshaping the organisation to focus on three key areas of importance to Londoners – jobs creation, skills development and sustainable economic growth.

On 22 September, Harvey McGrath was appointed Chair of the LDA Board.

Transport for London Board

I have agreed to remain as a Member and Chair of TfL and made further changes to the membership of the Transport for London Board in accordance with paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 10 to the Greater London Authority Act 1999.

Mayor's Legacy Board of Advisors

I have approved the appointment of the following ten members of the Mayor's Legacy Board of Advisors ("Legacy Board"): David Ross (Chair), Sir Bob Kerslake, David Gregson, Harvey McGrath, Jeremy Newsum, Julia Peyton-Jones, Jules Pipe, Neale Coleman, Richard Sharp and Tessa Sanderson.

Metropolitan Police Authority

I have approved the appointment of the following members of the Metropolitan Police Authority (under regulation 6 of the Metropolitan Police Authority Regulations 2008): Richard Tracey, Caroline Pidgeon, Steve O'Connell, Joanne McCartney, Jenny Jones, Len Duvall, Dee Doocey, James Cleverley, Victoria Borwick and Jennette Arnold, with myself as Chair and Kit Malthouse as Vice Chair.

Planning and Development Control

London Planning Awards for 2008

On 11 September, I launched the London Planning Awards for 2008 with London First, the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and London Councils.

The Awards, now in their sixth year, call for planners, developers and architects to enter projects that display industry excellence and will positively impact the capital for decades to come. Above all, I'm looking for outstanding projects that will improve the quality of life for all Londoners, consider the environment and the damaging effects of climate change, and work towards keeping London safe. All developments must remain appropriate to their context and setting and have enduring beauty that will remain into the next century for generations to come.

The Awards for 2008 also see the introduction of two new categories – Best Project to Protect Communities and Best Built Project 5 years On - as well as some changes to existing categories to reflect my key priorities.

I have given approval for the running of the London planning awards, the use of GLA accommodation without charge and to present the Awards on a date to be agreed in January or February 2009.

European METREX Conference

I have given approval for the bi-annual European METREX conference at City Hall from 15 to 18 October 2008. The anticipated overall cost of this event is approximately

£60,000 but delegates will be charged a delegate fee of EUR 400 leaving a cost to the GLA of between £15 - 25,000.

New guidance for parks and open spaces

On 29 September, CABE Space and I published (for consultation) new planning guidance that encourages local authorities to make best use of our parks and public open spaces.

The Open Space Strategies guidance will be of use to all local authorities, whether they already have an open space strategy or if they are putting one together for the first time. The updated guidance provides advice on assessing the quantity and quality of open spaces and on identifying the needs of local communities and other users of open spaces, including wildlife.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Colonite Wharf, LB Barking & Dagenham
I have written to the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Central Parade, New Addington, LB Croydon
I have written to the London Borough of Croydon stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Crayford Town Hall, LB Bexley
I have written to the London Borough of Bexley stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

1 Park Place, LB Tower Hamlets
I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Former Greenwich District Hospital, LB Greenwich
I have written to the London Borough of Greenwich stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Former Safeway Store, Roman Place, LB Tower Hamlets
I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Land at Stockwell Street, LB Greenwich
I have written to the London Borough of Greenwich stating that I have decided not to direct refusal of this application.

The Deputy Mayor, Government Relations, under powers I delegated to him, has sent letters in response to the following statutory referrals:

St. Paul's School, LB Richmond upon Thames
Ian Clement has written to the London Borough of Richmond stating that he has decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Stonebridge Schools Site, Stonebridge Estate, LB Brent
Ian Clement has written to the London Borough of Brent stating that he has decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Telephone Exchange, Warwick Road, RB Kensington & Chelsea
Ian Clement has written to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea stating that he has decided not to direct refusal of this application.

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- 33-35 Commercial Road, LB Tower Hamlets
- 1-1A Bath Road, LB Hillingdon
- Odeon West End, City of Westminster
- Swiss Cottage School, LB Camden
- Safestore Storage Compound, LB Haringey
- 6 Paris Garden & 20-21 Hatfields, LB Southwark
- Three Colts Lane, LB Tower Hamlets
- Old Saeger Distillery Site, LB Lewisham
- Airport Bowl, Bath Road, LB Hillingdon
- Lee Tunnel & Beckton STW Extension, LB Newham
- Former South Bank University, LB Lambeth
- One Gallions, Woolwich Manor Way, LB Newham
- Vauxhall Sky Gardens, LB Wandsworth
- Former Lying In Hospital, LB Lambeth

The Deputy Mayor, Government Relations, under powers I delegated to him, has asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- 2 Trafalgar Way, Blackwall, LB Tower Hamlets
- Tesco Store Site, Old Kent Road, LB Southwark
- Part of the former Electrobase Ltd site, LB Bexley
- 119 Farringdon Road, LB Islington

Informal Planning Applications

I have asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following informal planning application referrals:

- London City Airport, LB Newham

Stopping up order

The Deputy Mayor, Government Relations, under powers I delegated to him, decided the following stopping up orders:

- Lant Street, Borough, LB Southwark

Development Plans

I have asked officers to send a letter giving a response to the following development plans:

- Core strategy preferred options consultation, City of Westminster

Decisions made under delegation to Head of Planning Decisions

- Core Strategy and Site Development Policies – interim response, LB Redbridge
- Core Strategy Options and Alternatives consultation, LB Tower Hamlets

Key Engagements

Among my engagements since my last report were the following:

- I attended a photo call with the Paralympics torch bearers on 29 August
- I launched London's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy on 29 August
- I was interviewed by SouthSide Radio in Lambeth on 29 August
- I launched the consultation in to the Western Extension Zone of the Congestion Charge on 1 September
- I met with the Governor of Rio on 2 September
- I attended the GQ Awards on 2 September
- I visited Westfield Stratford on 2 September
- I launched Crime Mapping in London on 3 September
- I chaired the regular planning meeting on 3 September
- I attended the Assembly Budget Committee on 4 September
- I attended the Bureau of Leaders on 4 September
- I met with Rosie Boycott on 4 September
- I recorded a message of Support for Peace Week & also the Peace March on 4 September
- I spoke at the London Transport Museum Fundraising dinner on 4 September
- I met with Chris Bolt, PPP Arbiter on 4 September
- I recorded a message for the GLA Schools Visit film on 4 September
- I launched the new Dial-a-ride buses on 5 September
- I met with Jo Valentine, London First on 5 September
- I met with Riley Bechtel & Mike Adams, Bechtel on 5 September
- I met with Terry Farrell on 5 September
- I attended Freewheel with Victoria Pendleton & Ed Clancy on 5 September

- I recorded a message of support for Visit London for 5 September
- I attended a presentation on St Giles on 5 September
- I attended the unveiling of the 2012 Velopark Designs on 8 September
- I met with David Ross on 8 September
- I spoke at London First Transport Reception on 9 September
- I met with Jennette Arnold, Chair of the Assembly on 9 September
- I chaired the regular planning meeting on 9 September
- I attended the GLA Women's Learning Partnership Network meeting on 10 September
- I hosted an Olympics Legacy dinner on 10 September
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 10 September
- I met with Harvey McGrath & Peter Rogers, LDA on 10 September
- I spoke at the British Memorial Garden Annual Memorial Concert & Ceremony on 11 September
- I attended the GLA Staff Summer Party on 11 September
- I chaired the London Waste & Recycling Board on 11 September
- I met with Sir Trevor Chinn on 11 September
- I met with Steve Auckland, Metro on 11 September
- I attended the Thames Festival on 11 September
- I attended a business lunch hosted by Dan Doctoroff, Bloomberg LP on 12 September
- I went to the Thames Festival on 14 September
- I met with Richard Taylor, Damilola Taylor Trust on 15 September
- I attended the Beijing Paralympic Games from 16 to 17 September
- I attended the media reception to highlight success of Paralympic team on 16 September
- I met with Xavier Gonzalez, IPC Chief Executive on 16 September
- I attended the Welcome to London reception on 16 September
- I watched the bronze play off match for the wheel chair basketball competition on 16 September
- I visited the Water Cube and Main Press Centre on 17 September
- I visited the British Paralympic team lodge and on had lunch with the BPA on 17 September
- I attended the Paralympic Games Closing Ceremony on 17 September
- I attended the Handover Reception on 17 September
- I visited Beijing Zoo with London Zoo officials on 18 September
- I met with the Vice Mayor of Beijing, Chen Gang on 18 September
- I attended the Freewheel Event on 21 September
- I recorded a message for the Museums Libraries & Archives on 22 September
- I met with David Higgins on 22 September
- I met with Harvey McGrath & Peter Rogers on 22 September
- I met with Rosie Boycott on 23 September
- I chaired the regular planning meeting on 23 September
- I recorded a message of Support for Eid on 23 September
- I attended the Regular Planning Meeting on 23 September
- I took part in a Vanessa Feltz phone-in on 23 September
- I chaired an Academic Seminar on Youth Violence on 24 September
- I met with Lord Coe & Paul Deighton, LOCOG on 24 September

- I chaired a Youth Crimes Forum on 24 September
- I unveiled the new air conditioned underground trains on 25 September
- I met with Andrew Boff AM on 25 September
- I met with Richard Tracey AM on 25 September
- I met with Val Shawcross AM, Caroline Pidgeon AM, Jenny Jones AM & Richard Tracey AM on 25 September
- I attended the Assembly Olympic Athlete Reception on 26 September
- I attended the Olympic Flag Waving Event on 26 September
- I attended Conservative Party Conference on 28 September
- I met with Dee Doocey AM on 30 September
- I met with Catherine Crawford & Kit Malthouse on 30 September
- I spoke at the Parkinson's Disease Society Reception on 30 September
- I chaired the TfL Board Meeting on 30 September
- I chaired the regular planning meeting on 1 October