

Smartmoves

LONDON

Issue 5 February 2008
Promoting active travel in London



Shared success

Benchmarking helps boroughs
learn from each other

First word

Why stop with the centre?



Jenny Jones, Green Transport Advisor to Mayor Ken Livingstone, shares her thoughts.

It is a measure of the great strides that walking has taken in recent years that last month, almost without hesitation, London's Mayor agreed to commission a comprehensive study on radical proposals for a Central London Pedestrian Zone.

When it is so easy to get agreement to consider a scheme that could change the face of central London by greatly improving the walking environment and closing specific routes to vehicles, it sometimes makes you wish you had asked for more.

So here it is: Why stop at central London? Every Londoner should be able to enjoy their local town centre free from noise, pollution and the risk of being run over. Opening up local shops and high streets to pedestrians is good for us, for the local economy, and for the community as a whole.

There cannot be a town centre in London that wouldn't benefit from significant improvements to its walking environment. From wholesale pedestrianisation to mending the pavement, it all helps. Some might say that we are getting there on walking. I say that the beauty of this journey is that it has only just begun.

Jenny.Jones@london.gov.uk

Acting on your views



Thank you to all of you who shared your views about Smartmoves in our reader survey. Your feedback and ideas were incredibly useful.

All of you who took part said you find Smartmoves very or quite useful. More than half read about initiatives here that you didn't know about before.

There's clear evidence Smartmoves is fulfilling one of its main objectives – sharing best practice. Almost a third of you have acted on information you've read in Smartmoves, whether it's contacting

the relevant person or adopting an initiative yourself.

All great results, but we're not resting on our laurels.

One of the main comments was that you'd like to see information about events before they happen, so we're aiming to include more articles like this.

Some of you said you'd like more information about

innovative schemes from individual boroughs – see our centre spread for some examples.

We're always keen to hear your comments and ideas – see below for our contact details.

The winner of the Capital Bonds voucher picked out of the hat from all the survey entries was **Peter Wilson**, FIRSO Acting Road Safety Education Manager from Westminster City Council.

Inside



Bright side of life

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Share and share alike

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Smartmoves

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A paper copy of Smartmoves will now be sent to you quarterly. If you wish to amend your details, request an e-version or be removed from our database, please email smartmoves@tfl.gov.uk



Mayor of London Ken Livingstone took the opportunity to sign the International Charter for Walking at the launch.



The Mayor and his Green Travel Advisor Jenny Jones launched the programme in fitting style.

Ambitious plans for London announced

An ambitious programme to transform walking and cycling in London aims to see five per cent of all daily trips made by bike and 22 per cent made on foot by 2025.

Announced by the Mayor of London, the programme will create a new network of quick, simple and safe routes for cyclists and pedestrians.

“The aim of this programme is nothing short of a cycling and walking transformation in London,” said Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London.

“We will spend something like £500m over the next decade on cycling – the biggest

investment in cycling in London’s history.”

Based on the success of Paris, the programme will include a fully funded central London bike hire scheme with 6,000 bikes available across London and a stand every 300 metres, making cycling accessible to many more Londoners.

A dozen radial Cycling Corridors for commuters, providing high-profile, easy to follow cycling streams into central London, are also planned, along with the creation of a series of Bike Zones for shoppers and the school run in inner and outer London.

The ‘Legible London’

signage system will be expanded to help people make short trips around the Capital on foot and urban makeovers in London boroughs will link key local destinations like stations, schools and shops with high-quality

walking facilities.

The new programmes are in addition to existing commitments, and TfL will be consulting with the London boroughs and walking, cycling and health stakeholders to develop the detailed plans for these initiatives.



Taking a look at the ‘Legible London’ signs, which are already revolutionising walking in the Capital.

My view: cycling

Philip Darnton, Chairman of Cycling England, shares his thoughts



Health evidence is powerful

Cycling England has published 'Cycling and Health' – a report that reviews all the available evidence on the health benefits of cycling and pulls it together in one place for the first time.

And the evidence is extremely powerful. Getting on your bike for half an hour most days can yield the same benefits as doing a specific training programme, and using a bike for short trips is often easier than finding additional time for exercise. Studies also show that regular cycling boosts well-being and improves tolerance to stress, while reducing tiredness, sleep difficulties and a range of other medical symptoms.

With more people cycling, the benefits are widely shared, creating less of a drain on the NHS and employers. In fact, this research shows that a 20 per cent increase in cycling by 2012 would save £52m in costs to the NHS and £87m in costs to employers through reduced sickness.

The figures speak for themselves. When it comes to creating a fitter and healthier nation, it really could be as easy as riding a bike.

i To download a copy of the report, please visit www.cyclingengland.co.uk/health

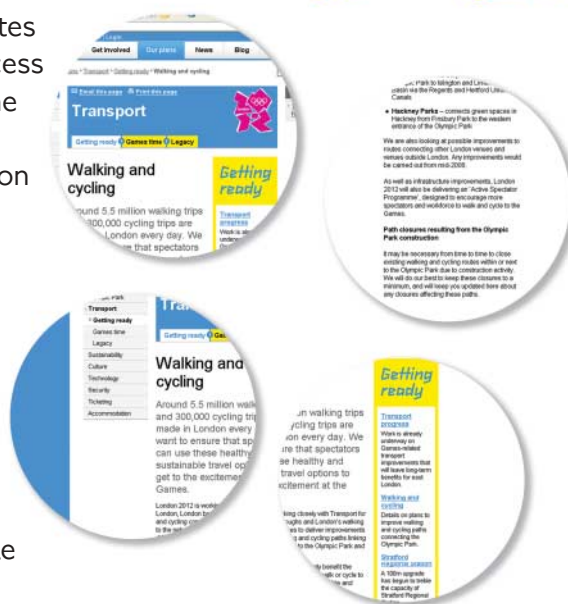
Log on for Olympic updates



Everyone can now get updates about cycling and walking access around the Olympic site at the click of a mouse.

A new section on the London 2012 website gives details of all forthcoming path or road closures in or next to the Olympic Park caused by the construction work that might affect walkers and cyclists, together with details of alternative routes.

You'll also find some hints and tips on encouraging people to walk and cycle during the Games themselves and a range of up-to-date information any stakeholder might find useful.



i Log on at www.london2012.com/plans/transport/getting-ready/walking-and-cycling.php to see for yourself



Book your place now

Places are filling up fast at this year's London Walking and Cycling Conference on 9 April, run by TfL.

The theme is Learning from Others. There will be a showcase area for London

boroughs and other interest groups to share experiences and flagship schemes for others to learn from.

i For the full agenda and to book your place at the conference, visit tfl.gov.uk/walkcycle



The new walkway complements the attractive surroundings.

Revamp for riverside

Residents benefit from attractive walkway

A stretch of the riverside walk next to Kingston Bridge has been transformed as part of an environment enhancement scheme.

The work was jointly planned and funded by Kingston Council and the owners of Bishop Palace House, a building that fronts Kingston's Thames riverside, with additional funding from others, including TfL.

Previously, the area was badly landscaped with huge, imposing trees. The redesign includes new plants, seats and

litter bins, as well as improved lighting, part-funded by TfL. Gold-coloured gravel has also replaced the old tarmac.

Andrew Lynch, Strategic Planning Manager at Kingston Council, said: "The new walkway complements the attractive surroundings of Kingston's riverside and is now in keeping with the listed Kingston Bridge. We have had very positive feedback from residents."

i For more information about the Riverside Walk Plan, visit www.tinyurl.com/36nm58

My view: walking

News and views from Jim Walker, Chair of Walk London Borough Partnership.



New lease of life for rights of way

Uniquely, England has a highway network of more than 190,000km (118,000 miles) where people have the legal right to walk.

The paths are a legacy of the routes walked by generations of people going about their everyday business but, until recently, few authorities had considered their relevance for today's journey planning.

Up to 22 new Improvement Plans for the Rights of Way Network are due to be available now – at the moment I've seen eight, but that's a start. Walk London is celebrating by leading walkers across the Capital on three separate dates soon – for dates and further information see www.walklondon.org.uk. This follows on from the success of our Autumn Ambles and Winter Walks events.

I look forward to the other improvement plans as well as the walks, and am particularly excited to see the first indicative rights of way map for London surfacing after so many years of asking.

Legible London

The prototype 'Legible London' signs are now in place for pedestrians in and around Bond Street.

See for yourself on pages 8-9.



Grand opening for 10,000th cycle park



A new cycle park at Stepney Green Maths and Computing College marks the 10,000th school cycle parking place installed by TfL as part of the Mayor's School Cycle Parking initiative.

Paramjit Bhutta, the school's Head Teacher, said: "The secure cycle park has given us the resources to realise our vision of a healthy lifestyle for our students."

Tower Hamlets' School Travel Advisor John Rymell said: "Secure cycle parking makes it easier for

pupils to cycle to school. It is part of the wider School Travel Plans initiative to reduce car use for the environment, and increase healthy, sustainable travel options for pupils."

The Mayor has set a target for all schools in the Capital to have a travel plan by 2009. Most boroughs have a dedicated School Travel Advisor to help schools develop and implement school travel plans.

i To find out who your local School Travel Advisor is, email sta@tfl.gov.uk

Pupils help to launch the cycle park.

The secure cycle park has given us the resources to realise our vision of a healthy lifestyle for our students

Great vehicle for public promotion



Above: the i-move London roadshow.

If your borough is organising an event and you want to attract people to walking or cycling, why not book one of TfL's roadshow trailers?

The i-move London roadshow is available free for boroughs to use as part of their local events. Depending on the size of your event, facilities available include a bus, two marquees and

up to five staff.

Campaign Director Jo Pike said: "The i-move London roadshow encourages members of the public to sign pledge cards committing them to walking or cycling more regularly and reducing their car journeys.

"Boroughs can book it for any event, whether related to sustainable transport or not."

The TfL walking and cycling trailer will be available in spring. Here, people can pick up maps of local routes across the Capital and staff are on hand to offer advice.

i To book either of these facilities or to find out more, please email imovelondon@rpmlimited.com or call 020 7926 9178



Right: the TfL Walking and Cycling trailer.



Bridges have innovative lighting to make them safer and more attractive for walkers.

Brighter bridges make walking safer in Southwark

Light at the end of the tunnel

The streets of Southwark look brighter and feel safer for pedestrians thanks to a scheme to transform bridges and walkways.

Innovative, colourful lighting, some of it cleverly disguising anti-pigeon measures, has been installed underneath several railway bridges to make them brighter and more interesting to walk under. Other arches have had their brickwork restored and lights installed in

the shape of their reference numbers.

The project also aims to provide a safer and more hospitable walking environment, replacing dark and threatening tunnels with welcoming passages that allow for walking to local destinations.

And on Southwark Street, the largest outdoor painting in the country – *Poured Lines* by Ian Davenport – stops people in their tracks.

The *Poured Lines* painting is 50 metres long and includes more than 200 colours



Light at the End of the Tunnel is regenerating 10km of railway viaducts and the surrounding walkways

It's all part of Light at the End of the Tunnel, a project launched by the Cross-River Partnership funded and supported by a range of partners including TfL, Southwark, Lambeth and City of Westminster Councils, Network Rail and Railway Heritage.

Southwark Partnerships Officer Ambrose Omoma said: "Every bridge has a different piece of art or lighting, to make walking through the borough visually appealing.

"The project also includes regenerating railway arches to bring new business into the borough. We're opening up 10km of disused viaducts running parallel to the River Thames, which previously acted as a north-south divide for pedestrians."



Poured Lines brightens up a bridge on Southwark Street.

i For more information, please contact Ambrose Omoma on 020 7525 5894 or email ambrose.omoma@southwark.gov.uk

Westminster leads

Co-ordinated approach helps people discover the delights of London by foot

They're here! New wayfinding signs have been appearing in Bond Street – the prototype for the 'Legible London' scheme.

'Legible London' aims to make it easy for people to explore the Capital on foot.

And as well as seeing the signs in place, stakeholders and the public had a chance to share their feedback at a nearby exhibition after the launch event in November.

The prototype was the culmination of a very successful partnership between several partners including TfL, Westminster Council, GLA and the New West End Company (NWECC).

Louise Bond, Principal Transport Planner at Westminster Council, said: "We worked together from the time the Mayor announced his commitment to the project. We held monthly meetings for all the project partners and Westminster met with NWECC and design consultancy AIG every week.

"As we had the launch day deadline to prepare for, we all worked hard together to overcome any barriers we came across."

The prototype is now helping to identify what design management and funding issues need to be addressed. These will be addressed through further pilot schemes, which will be considered by the Legible London team in the next few months.

Feedback was encouraged at the exhibition and people can still give feedback online and find more information on the prototype at www.legiblelondon.info

The design is excellent and we would really like to see the pilot be successful so 'Legible London' can spread eastwards!

Geoff England, London Borough of Newham



Walking all mapped out

Printed walking maps of the West End were also produced to complement the on street wayfinding system.

The maps show key streets and they also feature landmarks and shops to help people navigate more easily.

Tourist Partick Lebrun was impressed: "The maps look great and make it easy to find a route," he said.

Patricia Bischoff (pictured above at the TfL stand at ViP Day) lives in London and said: "I really like the map. It looks easy to use and would be great for someone new to the area who didn't know their way around."

'Legible London' also includes maps in the same style at places such as tube stations to help people walk to their destination.

An important part of the work to improve conditions for pedestrians in the Capital

Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London

the way



Planner map gives overview of the area and the circle shows what's within a 15-minute walk.



Finder map shows immediate area in more detail, with a circle to show what's within a five-minute walk.

TfL's Yellow Book is packed with information about how the 'Legible London' prototype came together and the thinking behind the design.

You can download a pdf version at <http://tinyurl.com/36f6rq> or email walking@tfl.gov.uk for a paper copy.



The walker symbol and yellow strip appear on every sign and make them easy to spot.

Directional information points the way to the 'villages' that make up London and to transport links and landmarks.

- A4 Grosvenor Street
- A4 Hanover Square
- A4 Hanover Street
- A5 Harewood Place
- B5 Haunch of Venison Yard
- C2 Hay Hill
- A2 Heddon Street
- C3 Hill Street
- A5 Holles Street
- A5 John Prince's Street
- C3 Jones Street
- Lancashire Co

Street finder – an A to Z guide to help pedestrians find their destination.

i For more information about 'Legible London', visit www.legiblelondon.info or email walking@tfl.gov.uk

From absenteeism to interactive maps



We bring you some new research findings and project results that you'll find useful for your own initiatives.

Boosting productivity with active travel

Just 90 minutes of exercise a week can cut workplace absenteeism levels by up to half, according to the recently published Evidence Review on Physical Activity, Absenteeism and Productivity.

Commissioned by TfL's Travel Demand Management Team, the review used current worldwide literature on physical activity and absenteeism to assess the evidence to support the business case for investing in workplace travel plans.

"The review shows it is of clear commercial benefit to businesses to invest in workplace travel plans as a fitter workforce has low absenteeism rates," said Dr Adrian Davis of JMP consulting, who conducted the review.

"It's hoped the findings will help encourage businesses to spend more on resources to support their employees in making healthy travel choices."

The report highlights active travel as a low-cost approach to increasing employee physical activity levels, especially for those less likely to become involved in organised workplace activities.

i The full review can be found at tfl.gov.uk/tfl/roadusers/sustainable-travel/docs/workplace/Physical-activity-absenteeism-and-productivity-evidence-review.pdf



Putting cycling on the map

Southwark is leading the way in online mapping with an interactive map of all the secure cycle parking spaces in the borough.

People can visit the borough's website and select 'cycle parking facilities' from a list next to the Southwark map, which enables the location of all the facilities to appear on the map. A photo and description of the standard of each facility is also available.

Southwark Cycling Officer Roger Stocker said: "We spent two weeks cycling around the borough noting every facility. We then created a table from all the data and that was converted into a map by our Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technology experts. Every borough should have a team who can convert the data into a map.

"It's important that the information is kept up-to-date as new facilities open and others close.

"This sort of mapping is important if we're to encourage people to use cycling as a mode of getting from A to B. It's all very well giving them a route, but they need to know what facilities are at point B to show that cycling is a viable way of getting there."

i Roger Stocker | 020 7525 5459
roger.stocker@southwark.gov.uk

See the map at www.southwark.gov.uk/YourServices/transport/cyclingsouthwark/

Boroughs encourage female riders at Capital event

Conference call for women cyclists

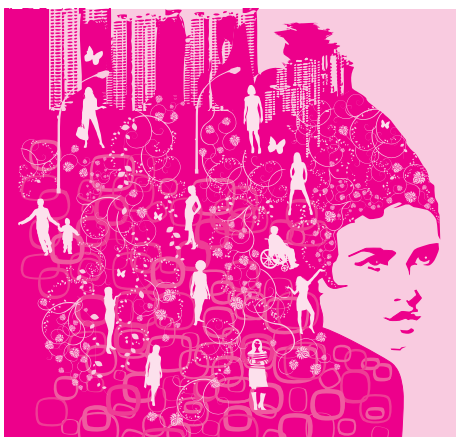
This year's Capital Woman conference on 8 March provides a host of activities and seminars on issues that are important to the Capital's women, from housing to careers, environment to fashion.

There's a strong cycling theme to this year's event, with group rides, tips on cycling in the Capital and information on how to get cycle training. This is a great opportunity for boroughs to encourage women to cycle to the event and push the cycle training facilities available in their own borough.

The GLA is working with the London Cycling Campaign (LCC) to run four group rides to the event from inner London. The volunteer leaders are experienced cyclists and will lead the groups all the way to the conference using London's cycling infrastructure wherever they can.

At the conference, there will be bike maintenance sessions run by female mechanics who can give bikes the once-over and advice on how to get the most out of a bike.

The Capital Woman Cycle Surgery will be available from a panel of expert female London cyclists, where participants can drop in for a chat and pick up tips on staying safe, looking chic and achieving the best out of cycling in our Capital.



capital woman

"As well as the group rides, we're hoping to push the message that cycle training facilities are available in each borough," said Claire Davis from the GLA.

"When people register to attend the conference, they'll be asked whether they are interested in joining a led ride or finding out more information about cycling training in London.

"Capital Woman is an opportunity for

London women to get together and share their experiences of cycling and for stakeholders to promote the benefits of cycling to women."

... an opportunity for stakeholders to promote the benefits of cycling to women

i If you're interested in finding out more about the event at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre and Central Hall, visit www.london.gov.uk/capitalwoman/ or contact Claire Davis on 020 7983 4717 or email Claire.Davis@london.gov.uk

smartsnippets

LIP funding revealed

The Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding allocations for 2008/09 have been announced.

Barking and Dagenham received £1m allocation for the Dagenham Heathway town centre project. Hackney was allocated 23 per cent more than last year, mainly for school travel plans and London Cycle Network Plus (LCN+).

Look out for news on the progress of LIP transport schemes throughout the boroughs in future editions of Smartmoves.

i For more information about LIP funding, contact Nadir Hafeez, LIP Assistant Manager, at LIPS@tfl.gov.uk

Look out for CoG equality

An Equality Impact Assessment of the Cycling on Greenways (CoG) Implementation Plan has been completed and the final report will be published soon.

The report will assess the potential impact of CoG on equality target groups, such as disabled people and the elderly, and proposes recommendations for how TfL and managing authorities can promote equality for all when embarking on a CoG scheme.

i For more information about how this report could impact future CoG schemes, contact CoG Programme Manager Robert Semple at Robert.Semple@tfl.gov.uk



Borough representatives try out a new cycle path on a benchmarking visit to Haringey.

Shared insights and initiatives

Borough benchmarking is helping to improve cycling provision across the Capital through shared experiences and views.

You can't beat seeing how an idea works live in the field to know whether it could work for you too.

And borough cycling officers are doing just that as part of a benchmarking scheme co-ordinated by CTC.

Eleven boroughs signed up to the scheme in late 2006 and, so far, nine visits have taken place.

Boroughs each host a visit,

which includes information about the host authority's delivery of cycling policy and a chat about current ideas and projects. There's also a site visit by bike to look at initiatives the host borough has implemented, followed by a feedback session for delegates to rate what they've seen.

The highest scoring initiatives are posted as case studies on the CTC benchmarking website so everyone – including boroughs that aren't on the scheme at the moment – can learn from the best ideas.

Sara Basterfield from CTC said: "It's positive to develop relationships between boroughs and people in different roles, and some great practical lessons have already been learnt.

"Delegates look at the initiatives they are shown with a critical eye and, as the project has progressed and people have got more confident about sharing their views, the feedback has got more and more useful."

TfL and CTC are working together to look at how to share the valuable findings with boroughs that aren't part of the scheme and whether to extend it after the final visit in February. In the meantime, why not click on the benchmarking website at <http://tinyurl.com/3yhmau> to see the best practice case studies?

i For more information about the benchmarking project, please call Sara Basterfield on 0117 373 8302 or email sara.basterfield@ctc.org.uk



Delegates review what they've seen and heard at a feedback session.

Views from the boroughs

Will Umney, Senior Transport Planner at Islington, said: “Hosting the visit gave us an opportunity to show off what we have done for Islington’s cyclists.”

“We received positive feedback on several initiatives, including our metal signs showing people how to lock their bikes in the stands and granite cycle logos that work well with the streetscape.”

Will has also found benchmarking visits to other boroughs useful.

“In Ealing, the Direct Support for Cycling was impressive, with efforts made to encourage people to cycle and providing subsidised cycle parking solutions, such as lockers.”

“At Lewisham, the council applied its own travel plan to officers, removing parking provision and providing incentives to cycle.”

“And Southwark had carried out an interesting trial providing pool bikes for businesses. They seemed to do well to foster partnerships that enabled them to tap into less usual funding sources.”



Out and about on a visit to Islington.



Secure cycle lockers in Ealing have impressed many borough visitors.

Alix Stredwick from Hackney found Ealing’s cycle lockers on estates useful for a current project in her borough.

She said: “We’ve learned from Ealing’s experiences. Lockers are one way of tackling cycle theft, which puts people off cycling.”

Hackney is looking at how it can implement other initiatives.

“Some of the best ideas are simple,” said Alix.

“In Southwark, someone used an old groundsheet to cut out a template of Sheffield stand parking patterns. This is a cheap tool to measure out potential locations.”

“In Lambeth, we liked their idea of marketing cycling improvements to the public as ‘environmental improvements’ rather than as ‘cycling facilities’ as this increased buy-in from residents.”

Brent’s Sustainable

Transport Officer Anthony Palourti thinks benchmarking is the best training a person working in our arena could get.

“It’s so good because it’s real,” he said.

“We get the benefit of other people’s knowledge and experience. Engineers, transport planners and cycling officers have different perspectives, so it’s useful to hear their views.”

“Both hosting and attending the benchmarking sessions have been thoroughly useful exercises.”

In Barking and Dagenham, Senior Project Engineer Nick Davies is faced with the challenge of working around two busy roads – the A13 and A406 – and a railway.

Nick enjoyed visiting other boroughs as he realised he wasn’t alone.

“It’s difficult to get Safe Cycling links to run north, south, east and west through the borough. Visits to Ealing and Brent were particularly useful as they have similar barriers in the A40 and A406,” he said.

“I started in my role last May, and the benchmarking project has been a great introduction. It’s brought to life the things all the boroughs are trying to do in terms of environmental improvements, training and other initiatives and shows how they can work on the ground.”

Bob Davis, Cycling Officer in Ealing, was impressed with a new cycling and pedestrian bridge in Lewisham and the open-minded approach to environmental improvements in Hackney.

“Hackney has showed it’s not just about putting cycle lanes in – it’s about looking at the environment and integrating all the different elements,” he said.

“When we were the hosts, we showcased our Direct Support for Cycling approach. It involves on-road cycling training and offering tailored support for individual cyclists.”

“It’s good to see how different boroughs organise their transport teams to see if we can learn from each other.”

smartsnippets

Calling all School Travel Advisors!

This year's competition to design a cycling jersey is about to start.

All 2,600 primary schools across the Capital will receive an entry pack in early April and entries need to be in by 9 May.

Six finalists will each receive a framed copy of their design and two winners, announced at a ceremony at the Sports Café on 20 June, will have their designs made into real jerseys.

Tell your schools all about it – it's a great way to encourage children to get enthusiastic about cycling.

i For more information, contact Leon Girling on 020 7126 3254 leongirling@tfl.gov.uk

Walkers enjoy budget boost

Pedestrians in every London borough are benefiting from a £30 million boost for local walking projects.

More than 100 projects, including crossings, footpaths, bridges, lighting and leisure walks, will be complete by April this year.

The money was secured in successive budget deals between Jenny Jones, Green Party London Assembly Member, and the Mayor of London.

"The great projects already funded this year show how this extra money is badly needed. With funding in place until 2010, walking in London is finally on the front foot," said Jenny.

Let's get physical



We talk to Croydon's Physical Activity Co-ordinator Andy Jennings about walking in an urban area and networking with other boroughs.

What walking schemes are currently running in Croydon?

We hold eight led walks every week, with extra weekend walks throughout the year, as part of our Walking the Way to Health scheme. In the summer, we also organise led evening walks. All our other walks are advertised at the library and on our website.

How do you tackle the busy roads in the area when planning walking routes?

We are very lucky in Croydon because there are a lot of open spaces. Our weekly walks tend to stick to the paths linking the parks. We can use the subways under the roads when holding lunchtime workplace walks in central Croydon.

A lot of people who join us on the walks discover new routes, which they now use regularly rather than driving into the centre of Croydon.

Do Croydon's cycling and walking initiatives ever combine?

We publicise our Cycling for Health initiatives on our led walks and do see familiar faces at both. The schemes are about meeting new people, as well as getting healthy, and I think people enjoy the social side.

Are you part of any joint initiatives with other boroughs?

I am part of the Walking in the



Andy makes full use of Croydon's parks when planning routes.

South East (WISE) Group that brings together the boroughs from around south-east London.

A day of walking is hosted by a different borough each time. They are really popular, with up to 100 people attending.

It is a brilliant way to meet other walking co-ordinators to discuss ideas and work towards our shared goals.

i For more information about Croydon's initiatives or WISE, contact Andy Jennings on 020 8726 6900 or email andy.jennings@croydon.gov.uk

Nominate an officer

If you would like to nominate yourself or an Officer from your borough to feature in Smartmoves, contact us on 020 7922 5661 or email smartmoves@abcomm.co.uk

Bromley is a class act

Travel plan projects a popular choice with the borough's schools

With a full calendar of events and strong bonds with local schools, Bromley's school travel plan campaign has plenty of lessons to learn from.

Car usage on the school run has reduced by 15 per cent since 2004, the highest level out of all the London boroughs. 74 per cent of schools have a travel plan and the borough is well on the way to reaching its 80 per cent target by March 2008.

Sarah Smith, School Travel Plan Support Officer at Bromley,

said: "We are in regular contact with schools and run projects throughout the year. We will soon be hosting our School Travel Plan Oscars to reward our top performing schools."

Leon Girling, Assistant Regional School Travel Advisor at TfL, said: "The team at Bromley have developed really good working relationships with all of their schools. They encourage schools to consult with the entire school community when



Turn to page 6 for more news from London's schools

Bromley's school children get involved with travel plans.

writing their plan.

"They offer schools a variety of travel initiatives, which encourage families and staff to consider sustainable forms of transport."

i For more information, contact Sarah Smith on 020 8313 4546 or at sarah.smith@bromley.gov.uk

To find out who your local School Travel Advisor is, email sta@tfl.gov.uk

Goodbye to the guards

The pedestrian environment in Hackney Central town centre has been greatly improved with the removal of guard railings in Mare Street.

"Unlike any other boroughs we know of, there is borough-wide opinion against guard railing in Hackney. As part of our strategy to manage its use, we employed consultants to assess what the current guard railing achieved," said Andy Cunningham, Head of Streetscene, Hackney.

The barriers in Hackney Central were easy to remove as the assessment found they were seen as unnecessary, but it will only allow further barriers at

BEFORE



some locations within the borough to be taken down once alternative solutions to slow vehicles down and reduce traffic have been put in place.

Andy continued: "Improving pedestrian crossings and tightening kerbs can all slow traffic in some areas, reducing the conflict between pedestrians and traffic and removing the need for guard railing – it's a matter of assessing each area individually and finding an alternative solution."

A comprehensive risk

AFTER



assessment procedure to help road engineers make decisions about whether to remove, retain or add guard rails is being developed by TfL, and the Road Safety Unit will monitor sites where guard rails have been added or removed.

TfL is also evaluating the need for pedestrian guard rails on its roads. The procedure has been trialled over the past year and it is hoped it will be rolled out from April 2008.

i For more information, contact Andy.Cunningham@Hackney.gov.uk

Lose the Lycra for stylish cycling

Columbia Road in east London, famous for its flower market and quirky boutiques, became a catwalk for cycling style when Hackney Council and Tower Hamlets Council hosted **Wheels & Heels** on Thursday 14 February.

The event was part of this year's London Fashion Week and aimed to attract more women to cycling by presenting it as a fun and fashionable way to get around, moving away from the stereotypical Lycra image.

The Cycling for Women project, run by the Women's Design Service, found that a major perception barrier to women taking up cycling is the image and a lack of role models. By promoting cycling through fashion, and making it more accessible, the Councils aimed to attract and increase the number of female cyclists within London.

Despite freezing weather, more than 1,000 people crammed into Columbia Road to catch a glimpse of the new trend taking over London – cycling.

Among the designers showing their collections were Dashing Tweeds' reflective capes and

suits and Swallows' elegant outfits. Printed merino tops and waterproof jackets by Boulder Boutique, amazing outfits from Rose & Buck and accessories by Cyclodelic and GlovedUp brought an edgy east London feel to the show.

Louisa Clarke, Sustainable Transport Planner at Hackney, said: "Wheels & Heels has been a fantastic opportunity to promote cycling, and we hope to achieve a great uptake of cycling among young women by showing how accessible and stylish it can be.

"Hackney Council and Tower Hamlets Council are pleased to be able to work together to promote cycling in London. This collaboration at such an innovative event shows we are committed to achieving a sustainable future for our community."



i To find out more about the event, go online to www.hackney.gov.uk/wheelsandheels or contact Louisa from Hackney Council on 020 8356 8189, Lorraine Hendricks from Tower Hamlets Council on 020 7364 2223 or Amy Fleuriot from Cyclodelic on 07882 939905

>> DATES FOR YOUR DIARY >>

8 March – Capital Woman conference – with a focus on cycling for women. www.london.gov.uk/capitalwoman

9 April – London Walking and Cycling Conference 2008 – with boroughs showcasing their flagship initiatives and lots of discussion groups around the Learning from Others theme. tfl.gov.uk/walkcycle

24 April – Walk to Work Day – www.walkingworks.org.uk

22 May – Cycling Communities Awards 2008 – recognising initiatives and individuals who have helped to increase cycling in the Capital.

30 May – National Walking Day

31 May and 1 June – Walk London Spring into Summer – led walks around the Capital following National Walking Day. www.walklondon.org.uk

14-22 June – Bike Week 2008 – a celebration of cycling in the Capital and across the UK. www.bikeweek.org.uk

Useful contacts

Here is a selection of useful contacts for cycling and walking projects and issues. If there's an organisation or individual you think should be listed here, please email smartmoves@abcomm.co.uk or call 020 7922 5661.

Bike Week

Information on how to get involved or organise an event during Bike Week or Bike to Work Week.

Tel: 0845 612 0661

www.bikeweek.org.uk

British Cycling

The internationally recognised governing body of cycling in Great Britain, it also runs the Go Ride programme aimed at young people.

www.britishcycling.org.uk

Tel: 0870 871 2000

CTC

CTC is the UK's national cycling organisation and the country's largest group of people on bikes. Its mission is 'to make cycling enjoyable, safe and welcoming for all'.

www.ctc.org.uk

Tel: 0870 873 0060

Cycling England

Cycling England has been charged by the government to deliver programmes that encourage more people to cycle more safely and more often. It is made up of experts in transport policy, engineering, public health, the cycle industry, local government, cycle sport, cycle training and education.

Email: info@cyclengland.co.uk

www.cyclingengland.co.uk

Everyday Cycling

Everyday Cycling is a friendly online cycling community hosted by British Cycling, the internationally recognised governing body of cycling in Great Britain.

www.everydaycycling.com

LEPT

The London European Partnership for Transport (LEPT) co-ordinates, disseminates and promotes the sustainable transport agenda for London and London boroughs, in Europe. It aims to improve the level of communication, co-operation and investment that exists between London, London boroughs and the European Union.

Tel: 020 8313 4918

www.lept-eu.org

Living Streets

Living Streets is the champion of streets and public spaces for people on foot. It works on practical projects to create safe, vibrant and healthy streets for all.

Tel: 020 7820 1010

www.livingstreets.org.uk

London Travel Awareness Team

Previously known as Good Going, the team runs the travel awareness programme to encourage people to use healthy and environmentally friendly forms of transport in London.

www.tfl.gov.uk/sustainabletravel

London Cycling Campaign (LCC)

London Cycling Campaign is a registered charity that works with businesses and the community to improve the quality of life in London by increasing cycling. It aims to involve people from all London's communities in cycling, bring out the best possible services for people who want to cycle in London and be at the forefront of research and policy linking cycling to wider issues.

Tel: 020 7234 9310

www.lcc.org.uk

Useful contacts continued on next page ►

◀ useful contacts continued**London Walking Weekend**

Information about the led borough walks and the walking zone events on 15-16 September.

tfl.gov.uk/walking

Olympic Delivery Authority

The Olympic Delivery Authority is the public body responsible for ensuring delivery of the new venues and infrastructure for the Games and the legacy that will follow.

Tel: 020 3 2012 000

www.london2012.com

Sustrans

Sustrans is a UK sustainable transport charity that works on practical, innovative ways of dealing with the transport challenges that affect us all.

Tel: 0845 113 0065

www.sustrans.org.uk

The Ramblers Association

The Ramblers Association is Britain's biggest charity working to promote walking and to improve conditions for all walkers. With 143,000 members in England, Scotland and Wales, it's been working for walkers for 70 years.

Tel: 020 7339 8500

www.ramblers.org.uk

The Royal Parks

The Royal Parks' remit is to conserve 5,000 acres of historic parkland – the eight Royal Parks – for future generations. It also tends a number of other spaces in London, including Brompton Cemetery, the gardens of 10, 11 and 12 Downing Street and Grosvenor Square Gardens.

www.royalparks.org.uk

Tour of Britain 2007

Website charting the routes, dates and host locations of the 2007 Tour of Britain cycle race on 9-15 September.

www.tourofbrtain.co.uk

Transport for London

TfL was created in 2000 as the integrated body responsible for the capital's transport system. Its primary role is to implement the Mayor of London's Transport Strategy and manage transport services across the capital. It also promotes a range of walking and cycling activities across the capital.

tfl.gov.uk

Walk21

The organisation that champions healthy, sustainable and efficient communities where people choose to walk.

Tel: 01684 773946

www.walk21.com

Walk London

Funded by TfL, Walk London works with the local authorities to develop an impressive network of quality walking routes around London.

Tel: 0870 240 6094

www.walklondon.org.uk

Walk to School

The Walk to School campaign is jointly promoted by The National Travelwise Association and Living Streets. It asks parents, pupils and teachers to think about their journey to and from school, and the many benefits of making it on foot. Each year it organises two nationally recognised events: National Walk to School Week (21 to 25 May 2007), and International Walk to School Month (October 2007).

Tel: 020 7820 1010

www.walktoschool.org.uk

Walking Works

Working Works is a new campaign designed by Living Streets to inspire people to walk more as part of their daily commute. The website is full of ideas and advice for everyone including transport professionals and businesses.

Tel: 020 7820 1010

www.walkingworks.org.uk