

Crossrail – a major boost for the Capital



London is set to welcome the largest addition to its transport system for more than 50 years following the Prime Minister's recent green light for the funding of Crossrail.

The £16bn rail link will run from Maidenhead and Heathrow in the west to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east, passing through the City, West End and Canary Wharf. Set to open in 2017, it will play a vital role in ensuring that London continues to grow and prosper as a world city.

Crossrail has been identified by Transport for London (TfL) as the single most important project needed to increase transport capacity in the Capital to help meet future demand.

It will link some of the most productive parts of the UK economy, bringing benefits of at least £37bn to London and the country at large. It will join regions of high job growth with more deprived areas, and will open up new housing developments in the Thames Gateway. Crossrail will also cut journey times, provide new transport links and relieve congestion on many Tube lines.

The Crossrail Bill is expected to gain Royal Assent in the first half of 2008, which will provide the planning powers needed to build the tunnels, track and stations, with main construction starting in 2010.

Turn to page 2 to find out more.

Fares to freeze from 2008

Mayor of London, Ken Livingstone, has said that single Tube, bus, Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and tram fares will be frozen from 2008.

Taking retail price inflation into account, single bus fares on Oyster will be around 14 per cent lower, and single Tube fares around four per cent lower, than in January 2007. Prices for One Day Travelcards and Travelcard season tickets will rise in line with inflation as agreement from the National Rail train operating companies is necessary before price cuts can be introduced.

For more information, go to tfl.gov.uk/fares2008

Crossrail will 'touch the lives of millions'

As Europe's largest civil engineering project, Crossrail is set to boost the Capital's public transport provision by a massive 10 per cent, easing congestion on many Tube lines.

With a capacity twice that of the Jubilee line, Crossrail will provide a high frequency, safe and comfortable rail service, carrying 78,000 passengers per hour during peak times. In the central part of the line between Paddington and Liverpool Street, 24 trains an hour will run in each direction.

Crossrail goes hand-in-hand with the upgrade of the Tube network and improvement to rail services in London.

It will begin operation over a phased 12-month period from 2017. The line will be integrated into TfL's existing zonal system and all ticketing options, including Oyster, will apply.

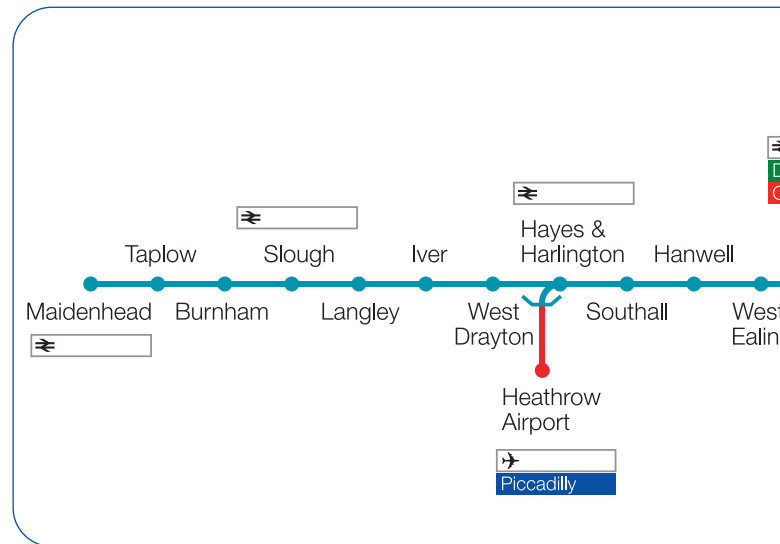
Next year, TfL will be taking over sole ownership of Cross London Rail Links Limited, the company promoting and developing the project. Currently, it is a joint venture between TfL and the Department for Transport.

Crossrail will cut current journey times. Here are a just a few examples:

Heathrow – Canary Wharf in 43 minutes

Heathrow – Liverpool Street in 36 minutes

Heathrow – Tottenham Court Road in 31 minutes



The Crossrail route running from Maidenhead in the west to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east.

Mayor Ken Livingstone described the go-ahead for Crossrail as 'one of the most important announcements London could have'. He added: 'It will touch the lives of millions of Londoners whether they are travelling to work, going to the West End to shop or for the evening out, travelling to Heathrow or living in east London – and by providing the transport backbone of the internationally competitive businesses of London, it will aid the whole UK economy.'

It is estimated that Crossrail will create up to 14,000 jobs, many of which will be in the construction industry. The intention is for agencies in the Capital to provide the right training and opportunities so that Londoners from diverse communities can have the chance to work on this flagship project.

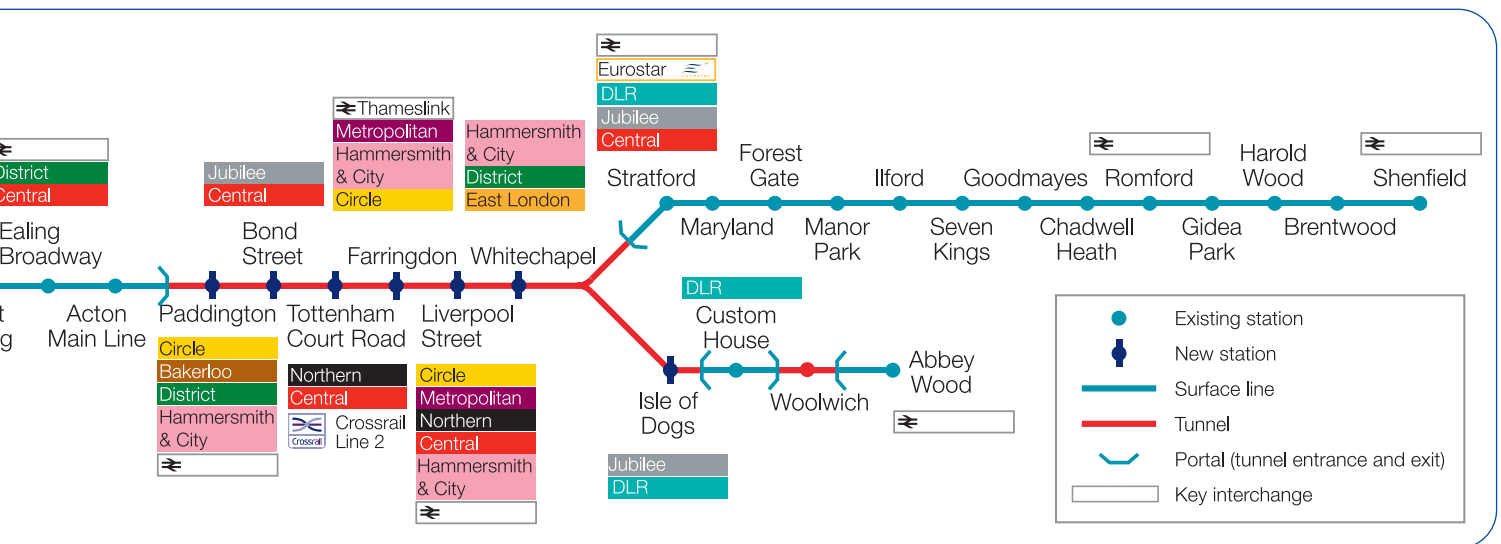
Dial-a-Ride to become free from New Year

From 1 January 2008, Dial-a-Ride's door-to-door services for disabled and older Londoners who cannot use mainstream public transport will be free.

Dial-a-Ride is a transport service provided by TfL for disabled and older people who cannot use buses, trains and the Tube. The move will benefit around 50,000 people who currently pay to take 1.2 million journeys a year.

Dial-a-Ride's eligibility criteria will remain unchanged. For more information, go to tfl.gov.uk/Dial-a-Ride





Counting down to London Overground

The launch of TfL's new mode of transport, London Overground, is now just days away.

Services will begin operating on 11 November when TfL takes over four railway routes in the Capital.

They will run on the North London line (Richmond to Stratford), Euston to Watford Junction local line, the West London line (Willesden Junction to Clapham Junction) and the Gospel Oak to Barking line. There will be staff at every station and passengers will be able to use Oyster to pay as they go.

In addition, services will operate on the extended East London line when it re-opens in 2010.

London Overground will link 20 of the Capital's 33 boroughs. As well as improving the network, it will open up new travel options, create job opportunities and help enhance the environment by encouraging a modal shift from car to public transport.

Passengers will benefit from a programme of improvements totalling more than £1.4bn, including:

- Longer operating hours from December followed by improved service frequencies, similar to those on the Tube, in 2011
- Reconstructed and enhanced stations from 2008, with additional Help points, increased CCTV coverage, better lighting and improved customer information systems
- New, high capacity, accessible, and air-conditioned trains from late 2008 (from 2009 on the Gospel Oak to Barking line)



By 2011, in time for the Olympics, the extended East London line will connect to the North London line. This will create the beginning of an orbital railway around the Capital, with London Overground services running from Stratford in east London, to Richmond in the southwest and West Croydon in the south.

Top attractions offer savings with Oyster

Many of the Capital's top attractions, including a number of West End shows, restaurants, museums and the London Eye, are now offering two-for-one deals and discounts for Oyster card holders.

The offers run until mid-April 2008. To take advantage of the discounts available, people must travel to the venue by bus, Tube, tram, DLR or, from

11 November, London Overground using a valid Oyster card. At the venue, they must show their card and quote 'Oyster offers'.

All the deals have different start and end dates. For full details, terms and conditions, or for information on the benefits of Oyster and how to apply, visit tfl.gov.uk/oyster

The Capital's Olympic transport legacy on track

The first edition of the Olympic Transport Plan has now been published, marking an important milestone on the road to 2012.

TfL is already pressing ahead with delivery of the Tube, DLR, rail, bus, walking and cycling infrastructure vital to the Olympic project. The plan, published by the Olympic Delivery Authority, supports the goal of encouraging spectators to travel to the 2012 Games by public transport, walking and cycling.

The imminent construction of the East London line extensions, recent breakthrough of the second tunnel for the DLR Woolwich Arsenal extension and the introduction of the London Overground rail service are all evidence of the benefits TfL is delivering well in advance of 2012. These are cementing both the success of the Games and providing a lasting legacy for the communities that will host them.

To find out more about TfL's plans for the 2012 Games, go to tfl.gov.uk/businessplan

New look Museum set to open its doors



The new London Transport Museum will re-open on 22 November following a two-year, £22m refurbishment and redesign.

The Museum will tell the story of the Capital's development, its transport systems and the people who travelled and worked on them over the last 200 years. It will also look at future developments and how transport has shaped five other world cities – Delhi, New York, Paris, Shanghai and Tokyo.

Iconic Arnos Grove

North London's Arnos Grove Tube station has been selected as one of 12 great modern buildings by the Guardian newspaper.

It featured alongside world landmarks including the Empire State Building and Sydney Opera House.

Bus and Tram Discount scheme

The new Bus and Tram Discount scheme has been created to help those people receiving Income Support in London who do not already receive free or discounted travel concessions.

Application forms are available from any Post Office in London or can be downloaded from tfl.gov.uk/discountcard

Further details are available from the website. Alternatively, call 0800 731 4564.

New galleries will feature original artworks and, for the first time, all 5,000 transport posters. Other subjects covered include London transport at war and the expansion of the city through the development of the Underground. For more details, go to www.ltmuseum.co.uk

For more information

Further details are available from: Group Public Affairs, Transport for London, Windsor House, 42-50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0TL. Telephone: 020 7126 4411 Email: publicaffairs@tfl.gov.uk

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