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Brent to benefit from £4.9m funding for local transport improvement for 2005/06

Mayor of London announces record five-year investment to improve journeys from ‘the moment Londoners leave their front door’

The Mayor of London announced today that the London Borough of Brent will receive £4.9m of funding from Transport for London (TfL) to tackle a range of issues from reducing road casualties to supporting town centre regeneration.

The grant is part of £155m awarded to London boroughs for transport improvements in 2005/06, the first of five-years of sustained local transport investment totalling a record £758m.

The settlement will include funding for borough-wide improvements to cycling and walking facilities, and safer routes to schools as well as road safety, road renewal, environment and town-centre schemes.

Speaking at City Hall, the Mayor said:

“My aim is to improve the journeys we all make every day, whether it’s a short walk to the local shop or bus stop or a bike ride to local stations and schools. We’re working with the boroughs to provide every Londoner with safer, more accessible trips from the moment they leave their front door”.

“Funding for borough transport schemes has now increased every year since 2000. The ground-breaking funding deal with the Government now means that TfL can provide a sustained package for local transport improvements across London”.

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Based on an annual Borough Spending Plan (BSP) bid submitted by the London Borough of Brent, the 2005/06 settlement will include funding for key local schemes aimed at:

- Reducing social exclusion - £400,000 allocation to walking and cycling schemes; £80,000 to continue funding the innovative joint Camden/Brent 'Scootability' scheme, which delivers electric scooters or wheelchairs to residents who have difficulty walking;
- Supporting economic regeneration – £1m allocated to road renewal; £1m allocation for bridge assessment and strengthening; £500,000 allocated to Kilburn and Wembley Town Centre Improvements, the latter via the West London Transport Strategy (WLTS) partnership; £435,000 allocated to improve bus routes 83, PR2 and 224;
- Reducing road casualties – Over £1.1m allocated to road safety schemes.

Bob Kiley, London's Transport Commissioner said:

"London thrives because of the diversity and dynamism of its local communities. It is important not to forget that over half of all journeys made in London are local trips and under 2km in length. These local trips are as important, if not more so, than major transport projects that often grab the headlines.

"By making it easier and safer to travel on foot, by bike or by bus, we can make a huge difference to the local environment, to social inclusion, to the vitality of local town centres and perhaps most importantly, reducing the number of deaths and injuries on our roads.

"I am pleased to announce TfL's comprehensive Business Plan means a commitment of over £758m of funding to the Borough Spending Plan programme over the next five years".

The BSP settlement follows the recent announcement of the TfL 5 Year Investment Programme under which Brent will also benefit from:

- The completion of the showcase Wembley Park station, which will be completed in time for the opening of the new Wembley Stadium in 2006. The improvements will mean the station will be able to manage 37,500 customers per hour;
- A package of improvements is planned for Silverlink Metro services, providing station and security improvements including better CCTV and lighting, graffiti cleaning, improved customer information and the extension of station staffing hours to provide a greater early morning and later night presence.

TfL will make a further investment of £239m over the plan period in the Transport for London Principal Road Network (TLRN), the major London roads run by TfL.

Notes to editors

Highlights of the £155m 2005/6 BSP spending allocations include:

- Increased funding for walking from £3m to £4.9m and for cycling from £8.5m to £12.1m;
- Increased road safety funding from £21.2m to £28.7m;
- Increased funding for station access, town centres and Streets for People from £16.8m to £18.7m;
- Increased funding for Safer Routes to School and Travel Awareness from £8.2m to £10.3m;
- Increased funding for mitigating environmental impacts of transport up from £1m to £1.5m.

Partnership organisations receiving 2005/06 BSP funding:

- The West London Transport Strategy (WLTS) is a mixed public - private sector partnership that works to improve local transport. Its membership includes the London boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon and Hounslow.

TABLES

• **Brent 2005/06 BSP allocations by programme**

Note: boroughs do not automatically apply for funding under every BSP programme whilst TfL does not necessarily award funding under each programme.

BSP programme 2005/06	Allocation (£)
Principal Road Renewal	1,089,000
Bridge strengthening	1,125,000
Local Safety Schemes	870,000
20mph Zones	210,000
Education, Training and Publicity	50,000
Walking	100,000

London Cycle Network+	290,000
Non - London Cycle Network+	20,000
Bus Stop Accessibility	140,000
Bus Priority	482,000
Town Centres	150,000
Streets-for-people	-
Interchanges	-
Safer Routes to School	255,000
Travel Awareness	40,000
Freight	-
Regeneration Area Schemes	40,000
Air Quality	35,000
Controlled Parking Zones	-
Local Area Accessibility	25,000
Total	5,147,000

- **Total figures for 2005/06 BSP funding over the term of the TfL 5-Year Investment Programme**

							Total
							05/06-
£m	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	09/10
Total	147	155	150	151	150	152	758

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