

# Station Safety Survey Results

I had an excellent response to my survey on safety and security at rail stations in Herne Hill—most replies focused on Herne Hill and Loughborough Junction stations.

## Herne Hill

90% of respondents commenting about safety at Herne Hill raised concerns, with drug dealing and anti-social behaviour, particularly from school children being cited as problems.

I have since visited the station and learned that the local Safer Neighbourhood Team have been doing excellent work on reducing begging and drug dealing in the area and South

Eastern, the train operator, is working with local schools to put staff in place on the daily trains most used by schoolchildren to monitor behaviour.



## Loughborough Junction

80 residents sent in comments about Loughborough Junction, many of whom stated that they did not use the station in the evenings because of safety concerns. I have since met with First Capital Connect at the station, who are planning to redecorate the station foyer and improve lighting and awareness of the very good CCTV at the station to help commuters feel more secure.

**To report anti-social behaviour or nuisance anywhere on the rail network, call the British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40\***

*\*In an emergency always call 999*

## Mayor funds safer station for Streatham Common

I was delighted to be invited to present Southern rail staff at Streatham Common station with an award for their work on improving safety at the station earlier in the autumn.

The British Transport Police attended the event where the station received 'secure station' official accreditation as part of a Department for Transport scheme.

Streatham Common's good CCTV coverage, lighting and use of signage and corner mirrors as well as readily available staff and quick removal of graffiti have resulted in reduced crime rates at the station. Gipsy Hill, Tulse Hill, Streatham Hill and West Norwood have also received secure station accreditation. I'm delighted to see the results of the Mayor's investment.



Val tests the help points at Streatham Common.

News from

Winter 2006/7

**Valerie**

**Shawcross**

*Lambeth & Southwark's Labour Voice on the London Assembly*

# Say 'YES' to Cross River Tram!

**I am committed to improving transport links for South London.** Much of my constituency is not served by the underground and as a result lacks quick and easy links to central London, the City and new business districts like Canary Wharf. Now the chance for a new north-south cross river link is a step nearer to reality with the launch of a consultation on the Cross River Tram. This new world class tram service would transform South London transport, providing a quick link from Peckham and Brixton to central London and Camden Town and reduce overcrowding on the tube lines through north Lambeth.

I launched the consultation for Transport for London (TfL), and was able to have a look at a mock up of one of the vehicles which would be serving the route..

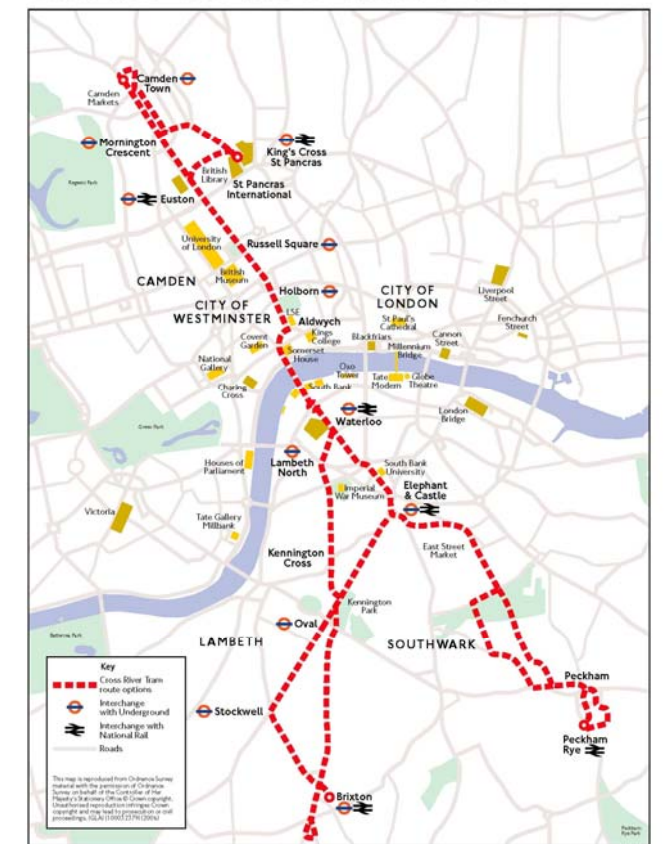


Murad Qureshi AM (left) and Robert Evans MEP join Val to launch the Cross River Tram consultation.

The trams would be state-of-the-art, providing a clean, smooth and safe journey and helping the regeneration of large areas.

## Cross River Tram

Route options at Public Consultation, 2006



**Please take part in the consultation—you can visit [www.tfl.gov.uk/crt](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/crt) email [crt@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:crt@tfl.gov.uk) or call 0800 234 6004 (free) for a consultation pack. The consultation closes on 30th January 2007.**

## Crystal Palace tram link

TfL are also working on plans to extend Croydon Tram-link to Crystal Palace. Several potential routes are being investigated and I will be walking all of these myself in the new year to see all the choices available. The new link would be very helpful for local people who work in Croydon and help regenerate the Triangle area.

## Get in touch:

Here's what I think about:

If you do not wish to be kept informed about Val's work at the London Assembly, please tick here.

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Phone:

Email:

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## New improved facilities for Southwark Police



**Southwark Police are set to get brand new facilities** to support their work to make Southwark streets safer. Three of Southwark's existing

buildings are becoming unfit for purpose for twenty-first century policing. **The police force in London has grown in size and today's police are now very much based 'on the ground' in local communities.** This change in the way the police work means that more appropriate facilities and buildings are needed. Many existing police buildings do not have enough cell space, the buildings can be intimidating to members of the public and are often not accessible for people with disabilities.

I fully support the police in their efforts to become more in tune with the policing needs of our local communities and to make themselves more accessible to members of the public. Importantly, I have been reassured that **no existing buildings will be closed until new facilities providing the same or better services have opened.**

## Lambeth Climate Change Summit

On 27th February, Lambeth Council and I will be hosting a Climate Change and Sustainability event to offer practical advice to Lambeth residents and business on how we can make our lives greener both at home and at work. We are inviting guest speakers from the Mayor's Climate Change Agency, WWF, Groundwork, Credit Union and others for workshops and discussion on how Lambeth can impact on the environment. The event will be in Lambeth Town Hall and members of the public are welcome to drop in for advice on climate change, recycling, greener transport, energy saving and more. There will also be green freebies to take away! Please see my website and [www.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.lambeth.gov.uk) for details shortly.

## Sprinkler systems mean safer schools

The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, which I chair, has recently launched a priority campaign to promote the installation of sprinkler systems in all new and refurbished school properties.

Research carried out by London Fire Brigade revealed that less than 10 of the 2,474 local authority schools in London are protected by sprinkler systems, meaning that thousands of school buildings are at risk of being badly damaged by fire which can devastate a local community.

### Damage

Over the next 10-15 years, the Government has committed to replace

or refurbish all secondary schools, amounting to a massive investment. Yet, on average four schools a week in London are damaged by fire.

Having sprinkler systems makes financial sense as well. One major insurance company estimates that a school could recoup the cost of installing a sprinkler system in just eight years, through reduced insurance premiums.

**Six fire engines were needed at this school fire in Southwark.**



## Chancellor visits Lambeth

**Along with Leader of Lambeth Council, Cllr. Steve Reed, I was delighted recently to welcome Chancellor of the Exchequer Rt Hon Gordon Brown to Lambeth.**



Gordon attended a meeting of Lambeth residents to discuss various issues, including education and employment. He spent a great deal of time speaking with small groups of people and will be writing back to everyone who asked questions on the day.

This was a highly successful event—summed up by one Brixton resident who attended the meeting and said: **'People were really pleased to see the Chancellor sitting down and joining in conversations with ordinary Lambeth residents.'**

## World's first 'green' red bus for Southwark

The Mayor and Transport for London are firmly committed to providing an efficient transport system for London while protecting the environment. I was delighted to see that the world's first 'hybrid' double decker bus, will run on a bus route serving Southwark.

The new bus, which was unveiled by Mayor Ken Livingstone at City Hall, uses a combination of diesel and electricity, creates 40% fewer harmful emissions than conventional vehicles and will serve route 141 from London Bridge to Wood Green. This development builds on the success of single decker hybrids on route 360 from Elephant & Castle. It's vital that we start using vehicles with cleaner engines if we are to make progress in the fight against climate change.



## Call for ban on 'mini-moto' menace

Thank you to the 200 people who responded to my survey about the nuisance of mini-motorbikes in your community. 62% of you wished to see this noisy and dangerous anti-social menace banned and all respondents wished to see better enforcement by the Police and Councils against those who ride these bikes in public places. I received responses from every corner of my Constituency – but Rotherhithe and Surrey Quays, stood out as the main focus area for this problem. Residents in Streatham, Vauxhall, West Norwood, Camberwell and Peckham also had complaints.

### Dangers

I raised the findings of my survey with the Metropolitan Police Commissioner – Sir Ian Blair in the London Assembly chamber and he told me that in his view 'The use of mini-motorbikes on public pathways, roads and parks poses dangers both to the rider and the general public. The use of these vehicles, which undoubtedly contributes to public concern, requires that the Metropolitan Police Service responds with various tactics;

- *High visibility policing in hot-spot areas.*
- *Supporting Safer Neighbourhood teams with trained officers.*
- *Education in schools using Traffic Management Units*
- *Engaging local authorities to provide safe, adequately supervised areas for use of these vehicles.*
- *Media strategy through local papers to highlight the safety risks and the responsibilities parents of young children have in respect of their use.*

### Law

Sir Ian continued: 'Any powered vehicle used on the public highway must comply with all aspects of road traffic law. For example, it must have European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (or motorcycle Single Vehicle Approval), be registered with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), be road-taxed and insured. Riders must be 16 or over, must hold a valid driving licence, and must wear an approved (E-marked, kite-marked) helmet.'

### Seized

Powered vehicles being driven illegally, in a careless or anti-social manner, may be seized by the Police. In summary, existing legislation currently provides the necessary powers needed to deal with the issues surrounding the use of these mini-motorbikes."

I will continue to call for a ban the sale of these bikes and urge you to join me in writing to your MP and the local and national press about them. In the meantime anyone who sees a mini motorbike being used illegally – that is in a public place- should report the matter to the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team.



**Constituents have reported noise nuisance as a problem alongside dangers to pedestrians**

## Music ban for buses?

Ever been annoyed by music playing out loud on MP3 players or mobile phones on the bus? You're not alone. I recently joined the Music Free Buses campaign, run by Londoners Tom Wright and Valeria Martinelli, who have got thousands of people to sign an online petition calling for action.



Ken Livingstone has assured me that TfL will be looking at measures to stop this kind of anti-social behaviour.

**I've launched my own online survey on this too and will be setting up an e-panel of constituents who I will question online on future campaigns— to join in visit [www.valshawcross.com](http://www.valshawcross.com)**

## Northern Line day



I am planning to spend a day touring the Lambeth and Southwark stretch of the Northern Line, from Clapham South to London Bridge and Waterloo in the near future. I will be visiting each station to look at what can be improved and what is done well. If you have any comments or concerns, or would like me to look at anything in particular please get in touch using the reply slip on the back page.