

Transport for London



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What is Transport for London?

Transport for London (TfL) is the integrated body responsible for the Capital's transport system. Its role is to implement the Mayor's transport strategy for London and manage transport services across the Capital, for which the Mayor has responsibility.

TfL is accountable for both the planning and delivery of transport facilities, which enables it to take a truly integrated approach to how people, goods and services move around London.

It is directed by a management board whose members are chosen for their understanding of transport matters and appointed by the Mayor of London. TfL's Commissioner and the chief officers are responsible and accountable for the day-to-day operations of the organisation and the work of its 20,500 employees.

What does it do?

TfL manages London's buses, London Underground (LU), Docklands Light Railway (DLR), London Overground and London Trams. It also runs London River

Services (LRS), Victoria Coach Station (VCS) and London Transport Museum.

As well as running London's Congestion Charging scheme, TfL manages a 580km network of main roads, all of London's 6,000 traffic lights and regulates taxis and the private hire trade.

In 2002, TfL and the Metropolitan Police Service established the Transport Operational Command Unit. Its role is to tackle and prevent crime on London's buses, enforce traffic and parking regulations on key bus corridors, keep traffic moving at congestion hot spots and deal with illegal minicab touting.

To ensure greater accessibility, TfL coordinates schemes for transport users with mobility impairments as well as running the Dial-a-Ride scheme, a door-to-door service for disabled people unable to use buses, trams or the Tube.

Considerable progress is also being made to improve conditions for walkers, cyclists, drivers and freight.

In 2003, TfL launched the Oyster card. It is now the UK's most advanced travel smartcard and is used for 73 per cent of journeys on London's transport network.



TfL has started construction of the East London line project which, when phase one is complete, will link West Croydon to Dalston Junction. It has also been working with the Department for Transport and Cross London Rail Links to progress Crossrail, which will introduce a major new cross-London rail link.

Funding

In 2004, TfL secured a ground-breaking, five year funding settlement with Government on grant levels and borrowing. It is now progressing its £10bn Investment Programme to improve and expand London's transport network, half of which will be spent on the Tube.

As part of the Comprehensive Spending Review settlement announced in February 2008, TfL received nearly £40bn until 2017, which is the largest settlement TfL has ever been given. It provides for the delivery of Crossrail, upgrading the Tube, building London's Overground rail services, further improvements to the bus network, preparations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, plus other major projects that will deliver significant benefits to passengers.

Key facts

- Since 1999/2000, there has been a five per cent increase in the proportion of trips that are made in the Capital using public transport
- TfL has already begun delivering transport infrastructure improvements for the 2012 Games – after playing a strategic role in securing the event for the Capital. Examples include an extra carriage on all Jubilee line trains and an increase in fleet size in order to boost capacity on the line by 17 per cent. Also, the Javelin train will carry passengers from central London to Stratford International in the Olympic Park in seven minutes
- London's 8,200 buses now carry more people than ever, with more than 1.8 billion passenger trips in 2006/07. The number of operated kilometres has also risen to 458 million, the highest since 1957. The Capital's 100 night bus routes carry 34 million passengers every year, more than double the number in 2000
- Around one billion customer journeys were made on the Tube in 2006/07. Each weekday more than three million passenger journeys are made over the network's 408km route, calling at 275 stations, of which 253 are owned by LU
- On 7 December 2007, a new record was set for daily passenger numbers when an estimated 4.17 million people travelled on the Tube
- London's buses are now achieving their best service quality since records began in 1977
- LU has begun a programme to ensure 25 per cent of Tube stations will have step-free access by 2010

- DLR carries more than 60 million passengers annually, a figure which is expected to rise to 80 million by 2009. In 2005, it was extended to London City Airport and a further extension is under construction to Woolwich Arsenal. Work has also started on an extension to Stratford International station
- TfL has helped increase the number of cyclists on London's major roads by 83 per cent; installed 4,500 new cycle parking spaces on streets and at schools, colleges and rail stations; and opened the UK's first 24-hour, fully-staffed cycle park
- Figures for 2006 show a 41 per cent reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads since 1994/98, which exceeds the Government's 40 per cent target
- Around nine million passengers arrive at the VCS each year, travelling on almost 400,000 coaches
- More than 2.3 million journeys on the Thames are made each year from the eight LRS piers
- Dial-a-Ride accounts for around 1.2 million passenger journeys annually
- In 2006/07, the Public Carriage Office issued approximately 80,000 licences to taxi drivers and owners, and private hire drivers, owners and operators. This has now completed licensing of the private hire trade for the first time
- Croydon Tramlink, the South East's only tramway, carries up to 22.5 million passengers every year
- TfL announced in 2006 that it would pay for Oyster validation equipment to be provided at all London rail stations in zones 1-6. TfL's aim is that Oyster pay as you go will be available on all train services London by 2009
- London Transport museum reopened in November 2007 after a two-year £22.4m refurbishment and redesign project