

# Victoria BORWICK

Londonwide Assembly Member

E-Newsletter - April 2014



## Victoria's London Assembly Committees

### Police & Crime Committee

The Police and Crime Committee examines the work of the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and reviews the police and crime plan for London.



Victoria was one of the first politicians to challenge the issue of the Metropolitan Police "screening out" and not properly investigating crimes, previously revealing that almost 75% of theft and 25% of burglary cases were being "screened out" and not being fully investigated by the police.

Victoria welcomes the recent revelation of this issue and MOPAC's commitment to tackle the problem.

## Greater London Authority News

### Victoria visits Harrow-on-the-Hill Station

Victoria recently visited the site of the proposed "Step-Free access" development at Harrow-on-the-Hill station. A joint feasibility study into this project was recently announced, bringing it a step closer to completion. In addition, Harrow Council have committed £3.1 million for the scheme in its budget.

Victoria met with Deputy Leader of Harrow Council, Cllr Barry Macleod-Cullinane who discussed the plans. The Council's own Local Plan suggests that the area has development capacity to accommodate 2,800 new homes



and to make provision for start-ups and business investment to deliver 3,000 jobs over the next 15 years.

The Mayor of London praised the work of Harrow Council in bringing these plans forward. Victoria commented: "I am delighted that the Mayor recognises the work done by Councillor Susan Hall and the rest

of the Harrow administration, in working tirelessly to make the Harrow and Wealdstone area a new opportunity area to attract new funding in order to include step-free access."

"I hope that we continue to make more of London step-free to make life easier for people and show that London is a friendly city."

*Victoria*

If you've got an issue or opinion, please write to me at:

[victoria.borwick@london.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.borwick@london.gov.uk)

### Victoria visits Enfield

Victoria visited Enfield to view the sites that have benefited from Greater London Authority (GLA) funding.

The Mayor's Outer London Fund has contributed £1.9 million to Enfield and Victoria saw first-hand, the improvements that have been made to the area when visiting the newly refurbished Ponders End Park and the Hertford Road Business Centre.

Victoria was given a tour of Enfield Town by Cllr Joanne Laban. The area has recently been boosted with the announcement that Enfield

Council has been successful in their bid for a share of the Mayor's "mini-Holland" fund.



The council will now receive up to £30 million to implement changes including, segregated superhighways linking key destinations, three cycle hubs delivered across the borough and new greenway routes

introduced.

Victoria commented, "I am pleased to see that Enfield is profiting from the Mayor's Outer London Fund, designed to kick-start the regeneration in this area. This will be transformational for the area."



## Greater London Authority News

### Transport Committee

Victoria has tirelessly campaigned to improve London's roads and its buses. She recently raised concerns about the number of road accidents involving bus drivers, uncovering data which revealed that 1889 individuals had been seriously injured or killed by a bus during the period 2008-13. This data was used as part of the Greater London Authority's Bus Safety Report.



Victoria recently visited London Bridge Station with Members from the London Assembly's Transport Committee. The site visit included a presentation from Network Rail on the Thameslink Programme which includes the redevelopment of London Bridge station. The aim is to deliver more frequent services, longer trains and extra capacity on rail services running between north and south London. The redevelopment of London Bridge Station will provide for new platforms, a new signalling system and a new track layout, delivering extra capacity for Londoners.

Victoria commented, "Around 160,000 people and 1,800 trains pass through London Bridge station each day so redeveloping the station is vital."

### Victoria calls for tougher action against FGM

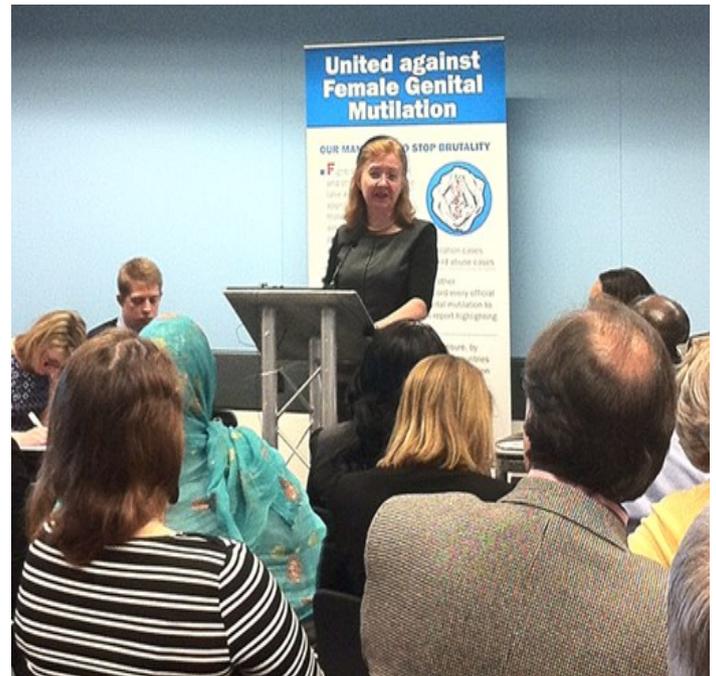
Victoria has been leading a campaign to tackle female genital mutilation (FGM) in London and recently spoke at a Conference in City Hall with Marina Yannakoudakis MEP, Public Health Minister Jane Ellison, Editor of the Evening Standard Sarah Sands and other opinion formers.

The panel then listened to the testimony of women who have had to undergo FGM.

Victoria commented, "Progress in tackling FGM has been hindered by high levels of under-reporting even though the practice has been outlawed since 1985. This procedure amounts to no less than child

abuse and it is hoped that by working together across all sectors and raising awareness of this problem, we can establish a united front and make genuine progress in tackling this issue."

**"This procedure amounts to no less than child abuse."**



### Victoria Campaigns for Better Metropolitan Police Fitness Standards

Victoria recently raised the issue of the Metropolitan Police's (MPS) fitness standards. The Winsor Review, an independent report commissioned by the Home Secretary, Theresa May, found that 52% of all male officers in the Metropolitan Police were overweight, 22% obese and 1% "morbidly obese". Victoria asked the Mayor what improvements Londoners can expect to see in policing in relation to the compulsory fitness

test assigned to Metropolitan Police officers last year.

The Mayor reassured Victoria that the MPS expects to see an increase in the general health and wellbeing of its officers and that it will evaluate the impact of the fitness test after year one of implementation.

Victoria commented, "I am pleased to see that the Met understands the importance of improving and maintaining fitness standards."

"These compulsory fitness tests will form a

strong benchmark for Metropolitan Police officers to work towards in maintaining their fitness levels."



(Image courtesy of the Daily Mail)

**Get In Touch** - Whether you've got something you want raised with the Mayor, or a view on how to improve services in London under the Mayor's responsibilities - Victoria would be happy to hear from you.

**How to contact Victoria:** Email: [Victoria.Borwick@london.gov.uk](mailto:Victoria.Borwick@london.gov.uk) Tel: 020 7983 4955

Address: **Greater London Authority, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, More London, London SE1 2AA**