

Victoria BORWICK

Londonwide Assembly Member



E-Newsletter - July 2009

Victoria's London Assembly Committees

Metropolitan Police Authority (MPA)

The MPA holds the Commissioner rigorously to account and ensures an effective and efficient police service. The MPA works closely with the MPS and its partners, including London's 33 borough councils, crime and disorder reduction partnerships and other agencies in the criminal justice system.



Transport Committee

The Transport committee monitors the actions, policies and strategies of Transport for London and London Underground. It also scrutinises and reports on the Mayor's Transport Strategy.

Victoria is also leading an investigation into how to improve the transport services along Oxford Street, looking at reducing the number of buses to ease the flow of traffic.

Greater London Authority News

Representing Londoners

The role of a London-wide Assembly Member is very varied and gives me the opportunity to travel throughout London meeting Londoners, listening to their day-to-day problems and the questions they want put to the Mayor.

Representing all Londoners means I can be chatting about the

congestion charge in Chiswick in the morning, and in the afternoon I'll be in Enfield evaluating the latest policing initiatives with local councillors and shopkeepers.

The official role of the London Assembly is to scrutinise the work of the Mayor, particularly his budget.

However we also perform a vital role in visiting all parts of London – attending community

events, residents' forums and voluntary groups to hear what local people have to say.

So if you've got an issue that needs addressing, or you've got a problem that you want taken up with the Mayor, please let me know at:

victoria.borwick@london.gov.uk

I look forward to hearing from you,

Victoria

City Charter to tackle economy, crime and climate change

The Mayor, Boris Johnson, has announced the creation of the first ever City Charter to address the economic downturn, funding for the capital, policing and youth crime, transport and climate change.

It is an agreement that commits the Mayor and

London's 33 local councils to work more closely to improve public services and deliver value for money to taxpayers.

"5000 new apprenticeships"

As a result of the Charter the Mayor and council leaders across London will discuss how best to make progress on

delivering 5,000 new apprenticeships, the recruitment of Police Borough Commanders and campaigning for a fairer share of funding for the capital from central Government.

Other potential joint action to be pursued by the Congress of Leaders include the devolution of powers on Transport for London Road Network to the boroughs.

Log-on for free street trees

Londonwide Assembly member, Victoria Borwick is encouraging local people in Enfield and Haringey to improve the quality of life in their street by asking for a tree from Mayor, Boris Johnson.

Residents from Haringey East and Upper & Lower Edmonton can ask for a tree to be planted locally by registering on a new website:

www.london.gov.uk/streettrees

Haringey East and Upper & Lower Edmonton are just two of 40 areas

across London where the Mayor has promised to fund 10,000 street trees.

Victoria said: "This is a great opportunity for local people to make their street a greener, more pleasing place to live. I urge people to sign-up on the website today."

Economic Development, Culture, Sport and Tourism Committee (EDCST)

The role of EDCST committee is to examine the economic development, social development, culture, sport and tourism in London. It scrutinises the Mayor's



strategies and policies in these areas and also monitors the developments for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Victoria has been pushing for greater accountability on the Olympic budget and transparency on the work of the London Development Agency.

Greater London Authority News

Dealing with Dangerous Dogs

Victoria is concerned by the increasing number of reports of dangerous dogs on London's streets so last question time she asked the Mayor what action he was taking and was encouraged by his response.

1) Funding of £1.5m is being prioritised to set-up a specialised Dangerous Dogs Unit.

Focus on: Community Safety

2) The unit is also doing proactive work to prevent the rise in dogs being used as weapons.
3) Magistrates and courts are being trained to deal with cases involving



dangerous dogs.
4) The Mayor is working with several agencies to consider the wider problem of dog ownership including the RSPCA and Battersea Dogs Home.

Having heard the Mayor's reply, Victoria said: "It is very pleasing to hear that the issue of dangerous dogs has been acknowledged and that serious action is being taken to tackle the problem."

Safer Buses and Tubes

New transport policing teams introduced by the Mayor have help reduce crime on the bus network to its lowest level for five years.

Boris Johnson has announced that crime on buses in the capital is at its lowest level for five years, down by 18 per cent since he took office. Robberies and bus

vandalism has been cut by more than a third.

Boris has introduced 32 policing teams dedicated to patrolling transport hubs across London

"bus crime down 18 per cent"

since he came into office last year. As a result there are now only 12 crimes for every million bus journeys taken.

Victoria is delighted that the Mayor is keeping his promise to make public transport safer, saying:

"The new figures mean that Londoners can use the capital's public transport network in safety and with confidence. It's extremely encouraging that crime on buses has fallen in every single borough. I'm delighted that the Mayor's been able to keep his election pledge so successfully."

Greater London Authority News

£6m Grant for Broomfield House

The Mayor has recommended that the London Development Agency grant £6m for the restoration of Grade II listed Broomfield House in Broomfield Park, Southgate.

The money will be used to create new sheltered accommodation for the elderly and a install a café.

Focus on: London Investment

Central to the plans will be the preservation of Broomfield Park itself, as compromising the park's 54 acres has been a stumbling block in the past.

Victoria said: "I am delighted that the London Development Agency granted money to restore this historic building for community use.

"It is so important to have facilities such as these to provide for local residents.

"This is an investment in the future of the community and we must ensure that it is best suited to local needs."



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

How to contact Victoria: Email: Victoria.borwick@london.gov.uk Tel: 0207 983 4955

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