

EDITED PRESS RELEASES

TRANSPORT FOR LONDON

MANUAL BOARDING RAMPS TO BE RETAINED AT KEY UNDERGROUND STATIONS AFTER THE GAMES

9 September 2012

Accessible manual boarding ramps, which have helped spectators using wheelchairs travel to the Games by Underground, will be retained after they were well received by passengers, Transport for London announced today.

The ramps have been used at 16 key London Underground stations where there is a gap between the train and platform, enabling passengers using wheelchairs to board trains more easily, and they will continue to be used after the Games at all of these stations following positive. The ramps will remain in use for the next few months whilst a review is conducted, that will examine all aspects of their use, including benefits to passengers, reliability, cost, level of usage and potential locations for future use.

WORK BEGINS TO DOUBLE THE SIZE OF THE SOUTH TICKET HALL AT VICTORIA UNDERGROUND STATION

18 September 2012

The £700 million redevelopment of Victoria Underground station, one of the busiest and most congested on the network, is well underway and work to double the size of the south ticket hall is now starting.

The redevelopment of the Underground station will lead to a huge number of improvements for passengers. As well as the new enlarged south ticket hall, these include a new underground north ticket hall at the junction of Bressenden Place and Victoria Street with an entrance at street level, nine new escalators, a new interchange tunnel connecting the three ticket halls, and seven new lifts providing step-free access between street and platform levels.

The station and five entrances will remain open while the work goes ahead. Work on the south ticket hall will be carried out behind hoardings so it can remain in use, and the main stairs leading directly to the National Rail station have already been widened as part of the upgrade. However, in order to deliver the upgrade, a number of changes will now take place at the station. These include:

- From Monday 24 September, the stairs from Wilton Road will close. They will to be replaced by a new staircase in 2018 – plus a brand new entrance will open near the Cardinal Place Shopping Mall in 2016.
- The Victory Arch entrance to South Eastern services at the National Rail station and the pedestrian access in front will be closed in October, but a new entrance into the National Rail station was opened from Wilton Road on 31 May 2012.
- The taxi rank at the front of the station will be relocated round the corner to Hudson's Place from 1 October 2012.

Work to refurbish escalators connecting the District & Circle and Victoria Line platforms will start in October but only one escalator will be out of use at a time.

TfL SIGNS PARTNERSHIP WITH VISITBRITAIN FOR INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE VISITOR OYSTER CARD

18 September 2012

Transport for London has appointed VisitBritain, the national tourism agency, as their management agent for the promotion and distribution of the Visitor Oyster card internationally. VisitBritain will act as the single point of contact for all distribution partners and for the sale of the highly popular transport smartcard to trade partners outside of London. The partnership means inbound visitors will be able to have their Oyster card ready to go prior to arriving in London, reducing queues at airport ticket halls and London Underground stations.