

Docklands Light Railway capacity boost



Artist's impression of the new Pudding Mill Lane DLR station

WORK to increase capacity on the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) route between Stratford and Canary Wharf/Lewisham starts today.

The installation of a set of double tracks at Pudding Mill Lane station will enable passengers to benefit from better reliability and an increase from 10 to 15 trains per hour in each direction by next spring.

The project is part of a wider scheme which will see the

station relocated to allow for the construction of Crossrail tunnels.

DLR passengers will be able to change to Crossrail services, as well as Tube, Overground and National Rail services at nearby Stratford station.

Transport for London's director of rail Jonathan Fox said: 'This work will bring a real boost to the service enjoyed by the thousands of passengers who use this route and help to encourage even more people on to the DLR.'

'In addition, when the Pudding Mill Lane upgrade project is completed and a new station with the biggest capacity on the DLR is opened, it will provide excellent access for people travelling to events at

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.'

Work starting today involves the installation of a double set of tracks at the eastern end of the site. This will complement double tracking work being undertaken for DLR at the western end of the site as part of the Crossrail project.

■ Completion of the double tracking work at Pudding Mill Lane will mean trains can run every four minutes at peak times. The new station will have longer and wider platforms to handle increases in passenger numbers due to events at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. There will be space for shops beneath the station and escalators in the future if they are needed

Ashes at the Oval – travel advice

FROM tomorrow until Sunday, Oval station will be busier than usual as crowds attend the final game in the Ashes series between England and Australia.

To allow large numbers of cricket fans to exit the station each morning there will be no down

escalator in operation between 9am and 11am.

Customers unable to use the stairs to the platforms are advised to start their journey at Kennington or Stockwell stations.

■ Use Journey Planner to plan ahead at tfl.gov.uk

Bus payments – have your say

TRANSPORT for London (TfL) has launched a consultation seeking customers' views on proposals to withdraw cash fare payments on London buses.

Fewer than one per cent of bus fares are now paid in cash, with Oyster pay as you go and contactless payment cards offering cheaper fares. TfL is proposing an end to cash fare payments next year and say it would speed up boarding times and help save up to £24 million per year.

TfL is also looking at measures to introduce a new feature that will allow passengers to make one more bus journey if there are insufficient funds on their Oyster card – helping them to get home or to the nearest Oyster Ticket Stop. Any negative balance would be corrected following the next top up.

The proposed changes would not affect more than a third of all bus passengers who travel on concessionary tickets, including children and young people, older people, the disabled or unemployed.

Leon Daniels, TfL's Surface Transport managing director, said: 'The proposals we are consulting on



reflect the changing way that our customers pay for their journeys – with the vast majority now benefiting from the best possible fares and the convenience that Oyster and contactless payment cards deliver.

■ The consultation ends on October 11. For more information visit tfl.gov.uk/cashless

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London Travelwatch

London's transport watchdog
call 020 3176 2999, or visit
www.londontravelwatch.org.uk

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