

Tottenham Court Road steps up to the mark

Station becomes the latest to provide step-free access following the completion of a huge modernisation project.

THE final milestone in the upgrade of Tottenham Court Road Tube station has been reached, with the station now providing step-free access to both the Central and Northern lines.

It brings the total number of step-free Underground stations to 71, making travel in the capital easier for older and disabled people and other customers who find it difficult to use stairs or escalators.

The improvements will give a greater choice of travel options for everyone, and will benefit

parents and carers with children and buggies. As well as offering step-free access,

Tottenham Court Road now has four entrances, a larger ticket hall, eight new escalators and six new lifts.

The expanded ticket hall and extra escalators mean that the station will be able to deal with a projected increase in demand of about 30 per cent when the Elizabeth line comes into service next year. It

will be step-free along its entire route.

Mark Wild, managing director of London



Underground, said: 'Tottenham Court Road is a vital station in central London, well placed for shopping streets like Oxford Street and also vital parts of the night-time economy like theatres, clubs and hotels.'

'This bigger and better station means that customers using the Tube and the

Elizabeth line will be able to pass through the station quickly and comfortably now and in the future.'

As well as the capacity increases and accessibility benefits, the station environment has improved lighting, new tactile strips on platforms and stairs, contrasting handrails to help visually-

impaired passengers and new CCTV cameras to ensure that customers and staff are safe.

The iconic Paolozzi mosaics on the Central and Northern line platforms and in the rotunda space have also been repaired and restored, with 95 per cent of the original mosaics retained.



Bakerloo line extension plans unveiled

DETAILS of four new stations along the proposed route have been released in a public consultation.

The stations include two along Old Kent Road, one at New Cross Gate providing an interchange with London Overground and National Rail services, and one at Lewisham, which would allow passengers to interchange with the DLR and National Rail services.

The public consultation, which runs until April 21, also covers the need to increase capacity on the Bakerloo line station at Elephant & Castle and the proposed details for the location of ventilation shafts to support the project.

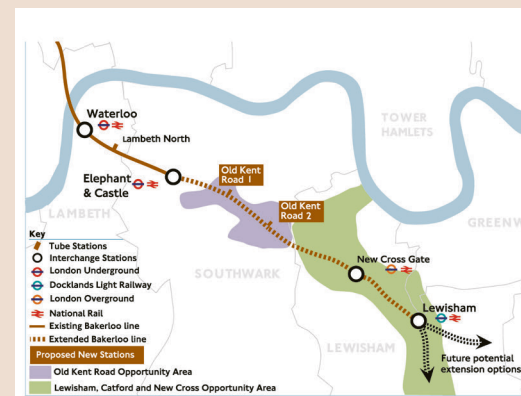
The extension would boost capacity on the Tube for 65,000 journeys in the morning and evening peak times, which would relieve congestion on buses and help contribute towards reducing air pollution.

There will also be an Underground train every two to three minutes between Lewisham and central London with reduced journey times.

As announced in the TfL Business Plan, the updated plans bring the completion date of the extension forward by two years to 2028/29, to align with the timetable for the upgrade of the Bakerloo line.

TfL and Mayor Sadiq Khan remain committed to delivering a second phase of the extension beyond Lewisham and continue to build a case for this.

■ For more information, visit tfl.gov.uk/bakerloo-extension



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