

Keeping you informed

## A World-Class Streetscape Delivered

On 8 December we marked the end of the Exhibition Road project with a small ceremony to thank the staff and craftspeople who made it possible and the local people who supported the project. The Leaders of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the City of Westminster along with Councillor Daniel Moylan, representing the Mayor of London, buried a time capsule under the granite surface of the road. The capsule contains details of the project and information on the institutions in the area as well as everyday items including tea bags, a mobile phone, a daily newspaper, coins and a high visibility vest.

Councillor Sir Merrick Cockell, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, said: "It has taken us the best part of ten years to get here but South Kensington and Exhibition Road finally have the setting they deserve.

"For 2012 and far beyond, London now has a unique streetscape that will delight our many millions of visitors and which sets a new standard for urban design."

Councillor Daniel Moylan, Deputy Chairman of Transport for London (TfL), said: "The improvements made to this cultural heartland of the Capital are exactly what the Mayor of London's Great Outdoors programme is seeking to achieve.



*Burying the time capsule, from the left Cllr Colin Barrow, Cllr Daniel Moylan, Cllr Sir Merrick Cockell*

"The reimagining of the space has transformed Exhibition Road, improving the quality of life for people living and working in, and for those visiting, the borough. In addition, the uplift in local retail has helped nearby business and dramatically improved the pedestrian experience.

"It is a great example of how TfL and the boroughs are contributing to transform the streets and public spaces in the Capital in advance of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games."

Leader of Westminster Council, Cllr Colin Barrow said: "The project at Exhibition Road has made a dramatic impact on the South Kensington streetscape and we are delighted to see the successful completion of these improvements. The streamlined streetscape ensures that the area is at its best for the millions of visitors each year and fits in well with our own streetscape improvements across the City of Westminster."

A formal opening ceremony, led by the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, will take place at the beginning of February 2012.

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THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
**KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA**



## The end of the road

After three years of meticulous construction work in Exhibition Road and South Kensington, we have finally finished

the Exhibition Road project. All the hard work has paid off and we now have one of the most beautiful and accessible streetscapes in the country that will enable everyone to enjoy the glories of the museums and institutions. I realise that the past two years have not been easy for residents and local businesses and I would like to thank everyone who lives or works in the area for their patience and forbearance during the project. In particular, I would like to thank all the residents who attended the Community Involvement Group and gave us good advice. The Group gave us a better understanding of the issues and concerns of local residents.

I want to thank our contractors Balfour Beatty for their professionalism and the craftsmanship. The hard work of the entire workforce was an inspiration. They were great ambassadors for the project and for their profession.

When we started the project in 2010 we promised to deliver on time and to budget. I am pleased that we have achieved these aims and ensured that, in the twenty-first century, we have completed the vision of those eminent Victorians who first made South Kensington of the world's great cultural destinations.

**Nicholas Paget-Brown**

*Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Transportation, Environment and Leisure*

## What next?

As soon as we finished the work on Exhibition Road we started video surveys to monitor how drivers, cyclists and pedestrian use the road. We'll be carrying out these surveys for the next two years. We will also seek feedback from people who use the road.

We will continue to keep the website [www.rbkc.gov.uk/exhibitionroad](http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/exhibitionroad) up to date so please to use the comments section of the website to tell us about your experiences of using Exhibition Road.

Next year the Exhibition Road Show will bring you London's most sophisticated street party; celebrating the Olympics, the legacy of the Great Exhibition and the new road. Look out for the Road Show on 28 July to 5 August 2012.

**This monthly newsletter has been delivered to all homes, businesses and organisations in the Exhibition Road area since March 2010. This is the last edition. We hope you have found the newsletter helpful and informative.**



**MAYOR OF LONDON**

**City of Westminster**