

MIDDLE AND LOWER DISTRICT PUBLIC MEETING

6 NOVEMBER 2025

LONDON MUSEUM DOCKLANDS



AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions
2. PLA update
3. Natural Thames
4. Destination Thames
5. Trading Thames
6. Q&A

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: THE PLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Robin Mortimer
Chief Executive



Siân Foster
Director of Corporate
Affairs



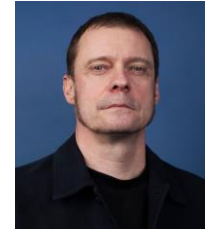
Grace Rawnsley
Director of
Sustainability



Steve Lockwood
Chief Financial
Officer



Karen Fuller
Director of Human
Resources



Jim Trimmer
Director of Planning
and Development



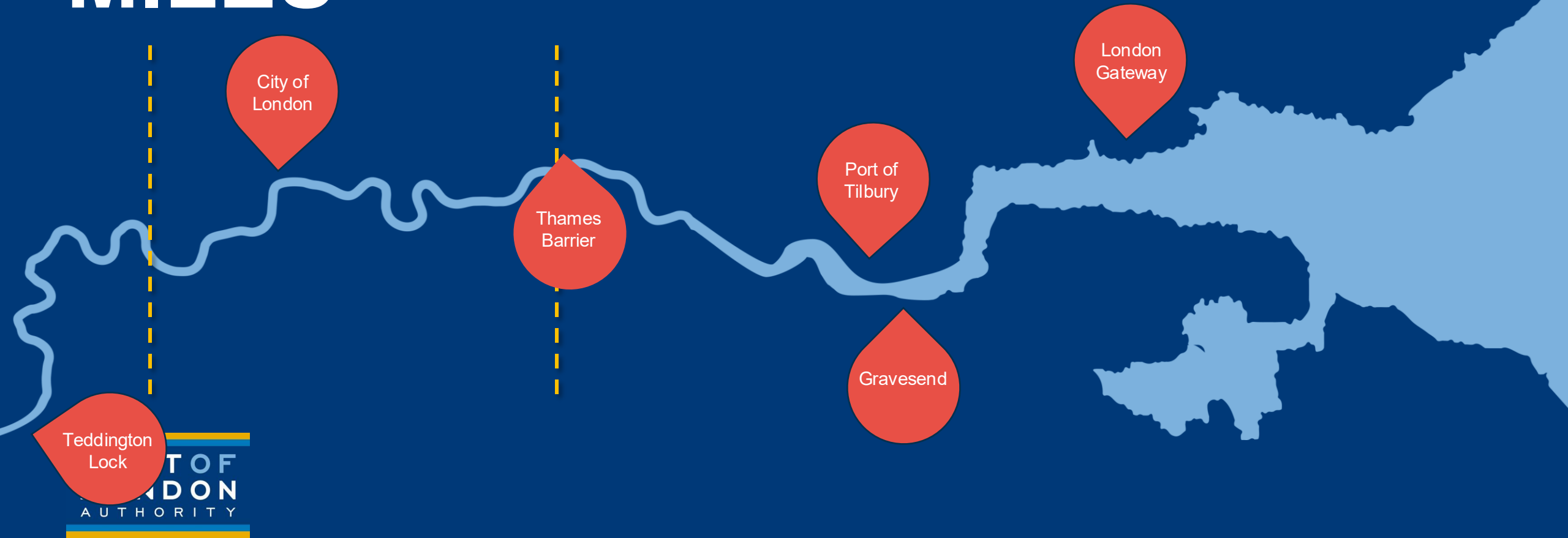
James Stride
Chief Harbour
Master



James Palmer
Director of Marine
Operations

95 MILES

PORT OF
LONDON
AUTHORITY



THE PLA IN NUMBERS

51.9_m

TONNES OF GOODS
HANDLED IN 2024

1

SERIOUS
NAVIGATIONAL
INCIDENT

2.64_m

TONNES INLAND
FREIGHT

9_m

PASSENGERS

719

SPORTING
EVENTS

41.9_k

LIGHT FREIGHT
PACKAGES

99.5%

PILOTAGE
SERVICE LEVEL

PORT OF
LONDON
AUTHORITY

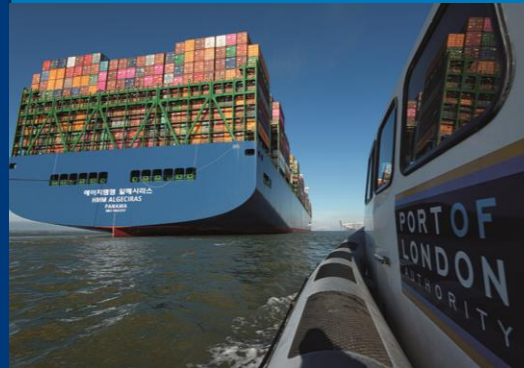
KEY UPDATES THAMES VISION 2050



PORT OF
LONDON
AUTHORITY



Trading Thames



The No. 1 Net Zero UK trading hub

The country's largest and most competitive port, closest to the UK's biggest market, producing Net Zero emissions.



Destination Thames



A place to live, visit, play and enjoy

Accessible to all, a national and international for the city and the country.



Natural Thames



Clean air, water and land supporting diverse wildlife

A clean river, free of sewage, waste and other pollution.

PUTNEY TO CROSSNESS THROUGH TO THAMES ESTUARY

PORT OF
LONDON
AUTHORITY



TIDEWAY CODE

- New edition of the Tideway Code issued
- In collaboration with Thames Regional Rowing Council and Paddle UK
- Updated guidelines for safe river usage
- Includes new information on Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and associated risks
- Promoting good practice for all river users



MARINE CENTRE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

- Growth plans from 55Mt to c.78Mt by 2050
- Focusing on navigation safety
- Increase in passenger services, light freight and recreation use, in central and upper river
- Investment in one world-class control centre
- A model that can respond to continued growth on the river and deliver Thames Vision 2050
- A model that can respond to significant increase in passage planning and scheduling requirements



MARINE CENTRE TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME PROGRESS



PLA UPDATE

- Harbour Revision Order:
 - PLA awaiting outcome and recommendations from MMO after public inquiry into the process
- Balcony charges
 - Review underway with an independent surveyor appointed
 - Charges paused whilst under review
- Thames rib code of conduct
- Following a detailed survey of all 95 miles of Tidal Thames, plans underway for significant investment in access points prioritising on the basis of safety and usage



GREENWICH SHIP TIER

- A working river, home to the UK's largest port and busiest inland waterway
- A popular cruise destination for international visitors
- We understand the concerns raised and will implement measures to reduce issues
- We're working with cruise operators such as Viking to promote best practices and be a good neighbour to riverside communities
- We're also working together to explore infrastructure opportunities, including options for shore power



NATURAL THAMES



Clean River

- **Clean Thames Plan** launched in Parliament in 2024, outlining **10** priority actions to reduce sewage, litter and pollution in the tidal Thames
- Completed **wet wipe accumulation** restoration works at Hammersmith
- Passive debris collectors deployed along the Tidal Thames capturing litter and making progress towards a cleaner, healthier river



Tideway Tunnel Progress



Tunnel now complete and operational.

Marine works remaining at only two sites.

Interim CSO warning system in place.

CLEAN THAMES PLAN ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

77%

ACTIONS
COMPLETE OR IN
PROGRESS

395

PARTICIPANTS IN
CLEAN THAMES
CHALLENGE

5M

WET WIPES
REMOVED FROM
RIVER

£61k

FUNDING AWARDED
FOR WATER QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECTS

HAMMERSMITH WET WIPE ACCUMULATION RESTORATION WORKS



THAMES ENVIRONMENT FUND



Natural
Thames

- **£129,000** of funding awarded
- Projects in the middle and lower district include:
 - Greenwich Yacht Club safety boat electrification project
 - Greenland Dock Floating Wetland Western Extension project
 - North Kent Marshes Internal Drainage Board Eel Pathways Enhancement Study
- PLA funds Thames21 volunteer litter clean-ups and water quality monitoring
- Significant increase in funding towards river and tidal creek improvement in 2026





AIR QUALITY

- Air quality is monitored at riverside locations along the Thames, including:
 - Barrier Gardens Pier
 - Greenwich Pier
 - Bankside Pier
- Breathe London monitors are being installed by the GLA at PLA-recommended riverside locations:
 - Greenwich Riverside
 - Butlers Wharf
- Launched new **From Road to River** webpage to promote river freight on the Thames



DESTINATION THAMES

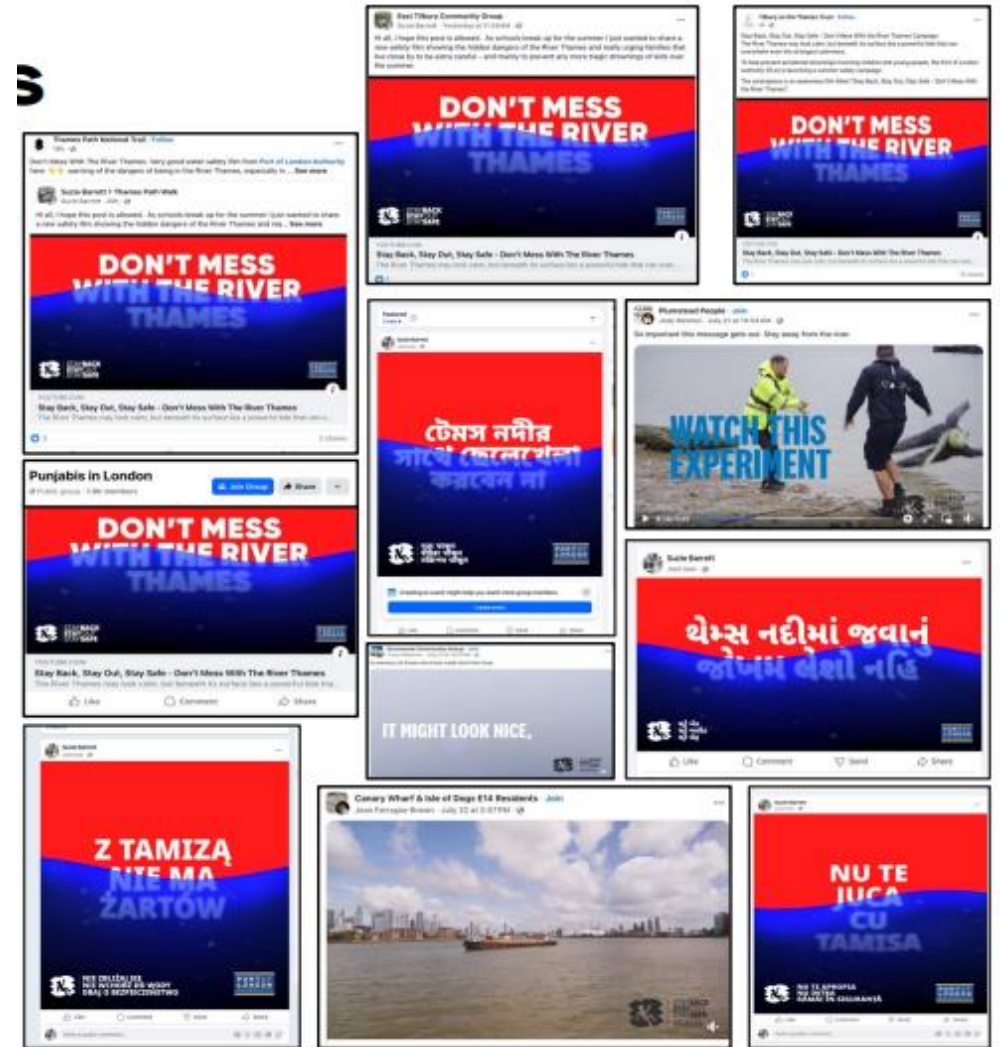
WATER SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Following two tragic incidents on the river we worked with water safety partners to deliver a consumer campaign based around public safety information for young people parents and carers

Based around a clear call to action; stay back, stay out, stay safe- don't mess with the Tidal Thames and a video, we secured a total of 40 pieces of coverage with an estimated reach of 6 million people

The resource pack was shared with 1.1K local schools (primary + secondary), 45 local libraries, 48 local education authorities and councils, 18 pupil referral units, 25 community groups e.g. Essex Police

Our social media reached over a million people on Meta and Facebook



ACTIVE THAMES



Destination
Thames

- Promoting the use of **blue space**
- Focus on accessibility and inclusion
- Over £550,000 has been awarded since its launch
- Projects include:
 - Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre
 - Poplar HARCA
 - Dartford and Cambria Sea Scout Group
 - Thurrock Yacht Club



PROMOTING AND DIVERSIFYING RIVER USAGE

- **Tidal Thames Masterplans** available across **8** boroughs, with **5** more in progress this year
- **Thames Festival Trust** programme sponsorship:
 - **Totally Thames**
 - **Thames Lens**
- Funding **Thames Explorer Trust** since **2008**, **Thames Estuary Partnership** and **Thames Tidefest**
- Funding dedicated to water safety initiatives including **Atlantic Pacific**, **Bridge Watch** and **Black Swimming Association**
- Charitable donations and support at **Ellenor Hospice**, **Gravesham Foodbank** and more
- Hosted 'Santa on the Thames', offering **Evelina Children's Hospital** patients, families and staff a festive boat ride in partnership with Uber Boat by Thames Clippers and Tideway



TRADING THAMES



TRADE OUTLOOK

- London Gateway Berth 4 is fully operational with construction of Berth 5 now underway and Berth 6 in planning
- New 'Gemini Alliance' (Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd) first call at London Gateway March 2025
- Port of Tilbury 'Tilbury3' expansion planning application submitted
- Cory Decarbonisation Project Development Consent Order decision expected 5th November 2025



TRADE UPDATE

- 42.6m trade year to date
- 14.7mt of trade through the port in the three months to end September
- Cargo tonnage has grown 10.9% since this time last year
- Export tonnage has risen 34.9% since this time last year
- Reduction in aggregates and building materials
- Oil imports rose by 19%, while ethanol imports surged



NEW INVESTMENT

- Unveiled two new service boats
- Built in the UK and operating on 100% Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil biofuels
- Pilot cutters will be used by sea pilots to quickly and safely meet vessels entering the port and safely bring them into berth
- This investment will help provide even better service to customers, boost trade and promote sustainability



CONTACT US



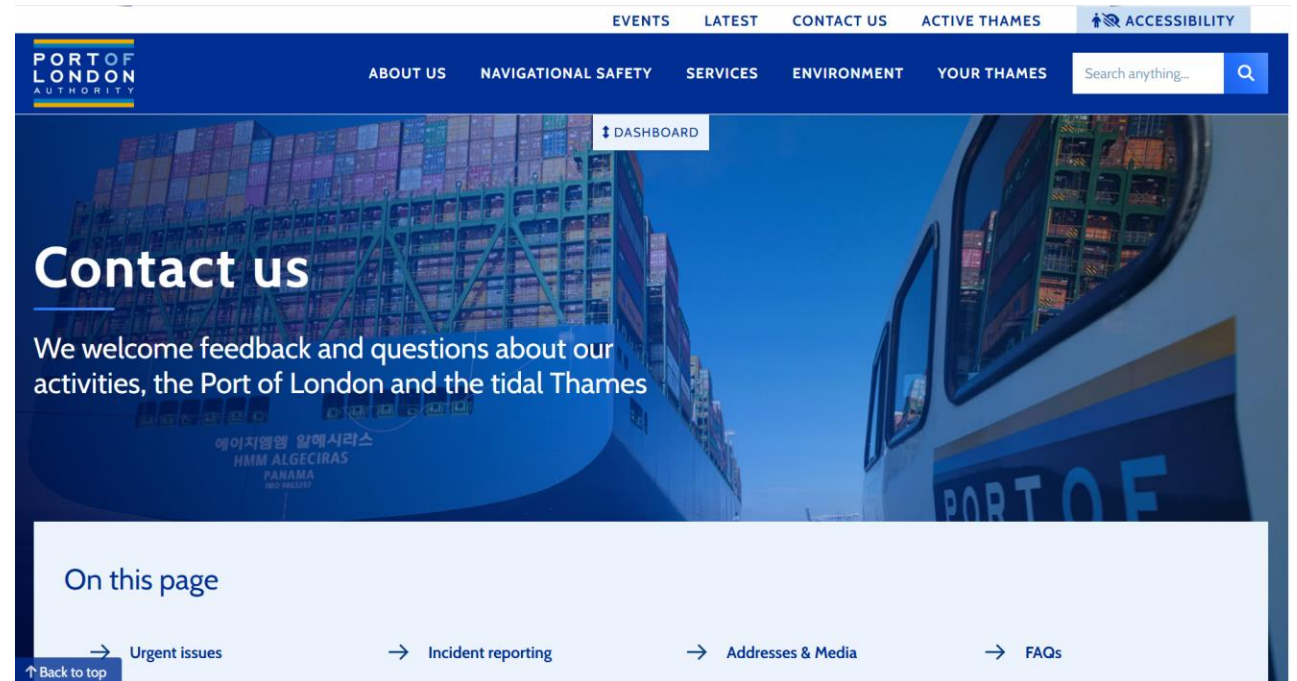
Submit a query or complaint via our contact us webpage:
pla.co.uk/contact-us



Email our Corporate Affairs team at
corporate.affairs@pla.co.uk



Call us on **01474 562200**



Q&A

