

Sir Peter Hendy CBE – Biography



Knighted in the New Year’s Honours List 2013, the citation for Sir Peter Hendy CBE says he has provided inspiring leadership since becoming Commissioner of Transport for London (TfL) six years ago. He has made London a world leader in integrated and innovative transport delivery, and has overseen record breaking operational performance, passenger numbers and the largest ever investment programme. He led, and played a key role in preparing for, the successful operation of London’s transport for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Established in 2000, TfL’s services keep London working, deliver economic growth and make life in London better. It has a total expenditure of over £8bn per annum and around 27,000 staff and is responsible to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, who chairs the TfL Board. TfL manages virtually all transport in the capital, including London Underground, the bus network, Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and London Overground, the Congestion Charging scheme, London Tramlink, London’s busiest main roads, and is responsible for road safety, cycling and walking.

Sir Peter joined the then London Transport as a graduate trainee in 1975 and gained experience of all aspects of bus operations before being appointed Managing Director of CentreWest London Buses Ltd in 1989. He led the successful buy-out of CentreWest by its management and staff with venture capital backing in 1994. He expanded the business, and, after its sale to FirstGroup plc in 1997, he became Divisional Director, London and South East. Immediately prior to joining TfL, Sir Peter was Deputy Director – UK Bus, responsible for FirstGroup bus operations in London and southern England, starting operation of Croydon Tramlink, and a Director of New World First Bus in Hong Kong.

In January 2001, Sir Peter rejoined the public sector, became TfL’s Managing Director of Surface Transport, and oversaw the revitalization of London’s bus service, resulting in an increase in passengers of over 60%.

As Transport Commissioner, Sir Peter has led the largest long-term investment programme in London’s transport networks in generations, vital to supporting economic development and growth not only in London but across the UK. This has resulted in faster, more frequent Tube services operating more reliably than at any point in history, an extended and expanded Docklands Light Railway, the creation of the London Overground orbital rail network, the start of Crossrail construction, the launch of Barclays Cycle Hire, contributing to a revolution in cycling growth in the capital of over 100% since 2000, and the construction of

the UK's first urban cable car, the Emirates Air Line. In 2011/12, over 3.7 billion journeys were made on the TfL networks.

In 2007, London hosted what organisers the Amaury Sports Organisation (ASO) called the 'greatest ever' Grand Depart of the Tour de France, with Sir Peter and TfL leading delivery of the event on behalf of the city. So successful was it, that when the Tour returns to Great Britain in 2014, it will return to the capital for a stage finish.

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games demonstrated how far the capital's transport network has come under Sir Peter's leadership. Faced with the greatest logistical challenge a nation can undertake in peacetime, Sir Peter chaired the 2012 Games Transport Board, which saw TfL work in partnership with Games organisers, government, local authorities, transport operators and regulators to ensure all athletes, officials and spectators got to their events on time and London and the UK kept moving and remained open for business. TfL is now working to capture the Games transport legacy of more reliable services, increased accessibility, first class customer information and collaborative working with business stakeholders and the freight and logistics industries.

Sir Peter was President in 2011/12, and is a Fellow, of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport. He was educated at Latymer Upper School in London, has a BA in Economics and Geography from the University of Leeds, and in February 2010 was awarded honorary Doctor of Science by City University. From 2005 until 2010, he was Chair of the Commission for Integrated Transport. He was formerly a Council member of the Confederation of Passenger Transport, and a member of the Employment Tribunals.

Following the terrorist attacks on London on the 7th July 2005, and the immediate recovery of the public transport networks, Sir Peter was awarded the CBE in the 2006 New Year's Honours List, for services to public transport and the community in London.

Sir Peter (59) is married to Sue, and has two children, Dave and Anna. He supports the Railway Children, Transaid and London Poppy Day charities, is a trustee of London's Transport Museum, President of the Widcombe Social Club in Bath, and supports St Giles' church at Imber, Wiltshire. He owns and drives an iconic London Routemaster bus, is a keen cyclist, and is a member of the Groucho Club.