

# THE UP LINE

NEWSLETTER OF CAMBRIDGE HEATH AND LONDON FIELDS RAIL USERS

MARCH 2015

## The future is Orange

New information is emerging about Cambridge Heath and London Fields stations when Transport for London takes over on 31 May 2015.

TfL has a bright, shiny future for our trains and stations as part of the Overground, compared to the shoddy, down-at-heel service we have “enjoyed” for years.

Trains, stations and staff will be transferred from the current operator Abellio Greater Anglia and we will see the orange Overground logo appear.

From day one, staff will be at each station every day before the first train runs and until after the last train. By September, staff facilities will be provided at Cambridge Heath, London Fields and Bethnal Green.

TfL has acquired two extra trains to add to the existing fleet, which will be cleaned externally over the summer.

By May next year, the interiors will be “refreshed” with seat covers replaced, etched graffiti removed and panels and doors repaired.

New walk-through trains, 31 of them, with wide gangways and air conditioning, will appear by 2018.

New ticket machines will be installed at stations and the brickwork, masonry, canopies and gutters of



*Two types of seating in use on the existing Overground network*

the stations will be deep-cleaned along with windows and floors to bring them up to Overground standards. The process should be completed by May 2017.

By September, ticket gates will be fitted at Bush Hill Park, Southbury, St James Street and Theobalds Grove. By May 2016, gates will be installed at Rectory Road and Turkey Street.

By May 2017, ticket gates will be installed at Bethnal Green, Stoke Newington, Highams Park, Clapton and Wood Street. The CCTV system will also be upgraded by then.

This year lighting will be upgraded and lamp posts and platform yellow lines will be repainted if necessary. By May next year, platform benches will be replaced with “Woodrow” benches.

A long-line public address system will be provided at Cambridge Heath and

London Fields. Shelters at Cambridge Heath will be replaced by new ones and the shelter at Bethnal Green will be refurbished.

By 2017, each station will have two new help points and London Fields will have repair work done on ticket hall, stairs and subway.

We will be asking for more shelters at London Fields so passengers do not have to block the stairs to shelter from the weather.

We expect the train information screens on the station platforms which have been extremely unreliable over the past few years, to be repaired and eventually replaced. Some stations may get new summary screens.

We are hoping the Overground will also look positively at stopping Chingford trains at our stations, so we do not have to change at Hackney Downs.