**of London’s transport staff**

**This year marks 150 years since the world’s first ever underground railway began operating on the Metropolitan Line.**

Today, London Underground carries more passengers in one day than the whole of the UK's rail network. This is a testament to its convenience and its speed.

It is testament also to the hard work and dedication shown by underground staff every day.

Without the Tube, London would certainly not be the leading world city it is today.

That is why a safe, publicly owned and properly staffed Underground system is vital to the next 150 years of London’s history.

**It’s time to recognise the critical role played by the staff delivering a quality public service for the UK’s capital city.**

London transport staff have kept the capital moving for 150 years, both on the front line and behind the scenes. From transport planning, to building the infrastructure, operating and maintaining the railway, they keep the Underground running.

While the official Underground celebrations will focus on the development and expansion of the underground network, TSSA is organising a number of special events to celebrate the achievements of the Underground staff.

Today the restored steam-powered Met Loco No.1, built in 1898, is recreating the first ever Underground journey, which took place in January 1863 on the original stretch of the Metropolitan Railway.

We are asking the travelling dignitaries and the public to recognise that the current Underground system would exist without the hard work of the thousands of staff employed by TfL, LUL and Tube Lines.

**To find out more and to show your support go to our website:**

Transport for London has cut its funding to the London Transport Museum by 25% over four years, amounting to a loss of £1.5 million per year. This is a tiny amount for TfL, and amounts to less than 0.5% of the money paid to subsidiaries in 2011-12. The loss of funding has serious consequences for the Museum.

In this 150th anniversary year

* the entrance fee has been increased to £15, meaning that the cost will have almost doubled since 2008.
* A reorganisation is imminent which could result in up to 15 posts (25% of permanent staff) being cut.

Already cuts to arts funding streams has reduced the outreach and community work that the Museum undertakes; steady public funding is needed for sustainability and access for all communities.

As the Museum celebrates 150 years of the London Underground, it’s more obvious than ever that we need to preserve London’s rich transport heritage for future generations.

Hundreds of members of the public have backed our campaign to support London Transport Museum asking TfL to restore the grant. It has meant a lot to the Museum staff to know that there is so much public goodwill for them and the future of the Museum.

John Cryer MP has tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM 713) in support of our London Transport Museum campaign. EDMs are put forward by MPs to publicise particular issues and to gather the support of fellow MPs. Ask your MP to give their support to London Transport Museum by signing up to the EDM. **To write to your MP visit:** [**www.tssa.org.uk/LondonTransportMuseum**](http://www.tssa.org.uk/LondonTransportMuseum)