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## SAFER SOUTH BANK STREETS

### SOUTH BANK EMPLOYERS' GROUP LAUNCH SOUTH BANK PATROL SERVICE

#### NOVEMBER 2008

South Bank Employers' Group has announced the launch of a new South Bank Patrol Service which will provide a combined enforcement and ambassadorial role, 7 days a week, in the popular tourist and business district of South Bank, in central London. The initial 2 year service is a joint initiative between local businesses and the London Borough of Lambeth.

A team of five will be on duty from 11am – 11pm, Monday to Sunday, to address a wide range of local issues including illegal street trading, anti-social behavior, counter terrorism, rough sleepers and low-level crime. The Patrolling Officers will also provide on the ground liaison with businesses on all security issues, and, as the eyes and ears of the local authority and businesses in the neighbourhood, will act as the key responders to any emergency incidents.

South Bank Security Coordinator, David Clark, explained that, "The South Bank Patrol is an essential piece of a wider jigsaw that includes the South Bank Police Team, the Bishop's Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Police Team, local authority enforcement officers and businesses. Working closely with the Police and other stakeholders, we will ensure the South Bank is clean, safe and free from crime. We are proud our trained, disciplined and dedicated team will help make the South Bank an even more enjoyable place to live, work and visit".

The Patrol Service also forms part of the South Bank's visitor welcome strategy. With some 20 million visits made to the South Bank each year, the Patrolling Officers will play a role in assisting with on-street enquiries from visitors, for example, providing directions and signposting them to sources of information. Officers will be recognisable by their distinctive South Bank Patrol, burgundy-coloured uniform.

The service is funded by section 106 funds from The London Eye, as well as contributions from other local businesses and the London Borough of Lambeth. The day-today running of the service will be



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managed by South Bank Employers' Group, which will report to the South Bank Partnership which coordinates and monitors initiatives to improve the South Bank, Waterloo and Blackfriars area, under the joint chairmanship of Kate Hoey MP and Simon Hughes MP.

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**For more information on the award winners and images, please contact:**

Rachel Trayner, Marketing & PR Officer, South Bank Employers' Group  
020 7202 6918, [Rachel.Trayner@southbanklondon.com](mailto:Rachel.Trayner@southbanklondon.com)

**Notes to Editors:**

About South Bank Employers' Group

South Bank Employers' Group is an association of the major organisations in South Bank, Waterloo and Blackfriars, dedicated to improving and promoting the neighbourhood for the benefit of local employees, residents and visitors. In a wider context the Group also seeks to make a positive contribution to the lives of residents here and elsewhere in Lambeth and Southwark through employment, skills, Community sports and cultural initiatives.

Members of South Bank Employers' Group include: British Film Institute, Coin Street Community Builders, Ernst & Young, Guy's & St Thomas' Charity, Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, IBM UK, ITV plc, Kings' College London, London South Bank University, National Theatre, Network Rail, P&O Estates, Shell UK, Southbank Centre, The London Eye Company Ltd, Whitbread plc.

About the South Bank Partnership

The South Bank Partnership It is a cross-borough, cross-party organisation, bringing together elected representatives, statutory organisations, and major local stakeholders including business, cultural, education, health and transport undertakings. [www.southbankpartnership.org](http://www.southbankpartnership.org)