

Transport

13 October 2022 - London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)

TfL advertising guidance failures (Commitment 1) 2022/3437 **Emma Best AM**

Emma Best AM: The next question I wanted to ask you is: you made the statement that there would be 11 countries, I think, that would be banned from advertising due to their attitude to human rights, for example, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. What provision of the TfL advertising guidelines are you using to ban those adverts?

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): In relation to countries that are banned from the estate? You mean countries that are banned from advertising?

Emma Best AM: Yes. In the TfL advertising guidelines, what provision are you using to ban those countries from advertising?

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): TfL has an Advertising Policy which has additional restrictions. I do not have the clause that I use. I am happy to write to the Member about the clause used. I am also not aware of the list of countries. I can drop a note to the Member.

Emma Best AM: OK.

TfL advertising guidance failures (Commitment 2) 2022/3437 **Emma Best AM**

Emma Best AM: Now, you will remember it was in 2019 you made the announcement that you were going to take those ads off the network, and it appears that has happened. However, recently there was an ad across the bus network for Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) [World Cup] Qatar, which I am sure has been raised with you, and TfL's explanation for why that was allowed was because it was from FIFA and not from Qatar.

There is no actual, direct reference to countries. The only provisions that you could use are (a), (h), or (q), under section 2. They would be the same if it was a country as if it were FIFA presenting Qatar. What we have allowed now on our network is sportwashing through Qatar, and I do not think that is what your intention was.

If you look at those clauses, they could be tightened up. There is a specific clause, for example, on gentlemen's clubs and lap dances. That really important statement you made around countries that could not be allowed to advertise on the bus network does not exist within the Advertising Policy. That FIFA advert could have been stopped in the exact same way that adverts for any of those other countries violating human rights are stopped.

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): Chair, the Member makes a really powerful point in a really powerful way. Can I take this away? What I do not want is loopholes that are there, that can be used by people. It is very powerful, what you say. I promise to take it away and come back to you sooner rather than later.

Emma Best AM: Thank you.

Junk Food Bans and Cost of Living

2022/3429

Andrew Boff AM

Andrew Boff AM (Deputy Chair): Some while ago I published a report called *Tipping the Scales* and I sent you a copy. One of those recommendations was that some of the advertising space on the transport network should be used to encourage healthy eating. Is that something that you would take up?

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): I can certainly look into it. Apologies. I cannot remember the details of the report. I can look into how we can use the space on the TfL advertising estate to send good public health messages. That clearly is good.

Policing

13 October 2022 - London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)

Violence Against Women and Girls (Supplementary) [1] 2022/3459

Shaun Bailey AM

Shaun Bailey AM: OK. Can I make a plea that we try to figure out a piece of work that deals with people who are above youth centre age and primary school age, because they are the people who are carrying the knives and are causing a fair amount of distress in communities? I wondered if you could go back to the VRU and get them to do some thinking around how they speak to those who are 17 and upwards, who are very unlikely to bubble up in a youth club and certainly are not at primary age anymore.

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): The work of the VRU goes to 24. It is not just for those below the age of 17. The VRU is doing lots of work with people up to the age of 24. I am more than happy for Lib Peck [Director, VRU] to meet with the [Assembly] Member and to give him a briefing on all the great work they are doing.

Shaun Bailey AM: I would appreciate that. Thank you, Chair.

Health

13 October 2022 – London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)

Improving London's Crumbling Hospital Infrastructure 2022/3745 **Krupesh Hirani AM**

Krupesh Hirani AM: For the new Epsom and St Helier Hospital project in Sutton, each year of delay adds between £20 million to £30 million to costs of the scheme and for Whipps Cross [Hospital] that figure is between £50 million and £100 million, probably even more now given what we are seeing with inflation. The Government's inertia is not only putting patient care and safety at risk but also costing the taxpayer hundreds of millions of pounds. It is not surprising that the National Audit Office (NAO) is looking into this. Will you be sending evidence in to its investigation?

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): Once the NAO has published its scope of reference for the review, I will look into that and then I will respond accordingly. What we do is we normally consult with local councils, Members of Parliament (MPs) and practitioners but, yes, subject to what the review scope is I will be responding.

Krupesh Hirani AM: Finally, will you join me in writing to the new Prime Minister to make sure that we can get those projects moving in London?

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): Absolutely. I have already written to the new Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on a range of issues which include improving London's hospital infrastructure, and I will let the Assembly know when I receive a response to that letter.

Krupesh Hirani AM: Thank you.

Housing and Planning

13 October 2022 - London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time)

Continuing support for the Community Led Housing Hub 2022/3637

Siân Berry AM

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): Understood. Firstly, can I place on record my thanks? Tom [Copley] and I are grateful to your assiduous work with us on this issue.

We are worried, as you are, indeed. What we said to the Government is that they set an objective of between 5% and 10% of the 2021-2026 Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) money to be used for this community-led housing, but it is only capital, as you said. You will know that it is quite resource-intensive in relation to enabling, empowering and so forth. We are trying to be innovative where we can, but I am not going to pretend that we have the answer yet. I am more than happy for you to sit down with Tom to discuss innovative ideas.

Without that revenue support, this capital money will not be able to be used, which is heart-breaking, bearing in mind the lobbying we have done to get where we are. We are in the ideas business. Chair, if I could suggest that we set up a meeting? If we can make it work, we want to make it work.

Siân Berry AM: OK. That is useful. We can use some capital money also as one-off revenue just to get capital stuff over the line but we can discuss that in more detail.

[...]

Siân Berry AM: The Right to Buy Back Fund is great, and it has done over 1,500 homes but it is very specifically just for councils at the moment. If you were to extend that to community-led housing projects and properly advertise that to them, you could genuinely make a difference to bringing forward more of this model of housing.

Sadiq Khan (Mayor of London): It took literally hours and hours - I am sure Tom [Copley] would say months and months - of negotiating with the Government to persuade them in relation to flexibility. I am more than happy in the meeting that the [Assembly] Member has with Tom to discuss other ideas she has. We have to be pragmatic and dexterous and not be stuck in inflexibility. It has to be persuading the Government about some of those AHP rules and stuff. Chair, I am more than happy for that to be one of the issues that the Member discusses with Tom Copley.

Siân Berry AM: Excellent.