

Subject: Motions	
Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)	
Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat	Date: 5 November 2020
This report will be considered in public	

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Assembly is asked to consider the motions set out which have been submitted by Assembly Members.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Assembly considers the motions submitted by Assembly Members as set out below.**

3. Issues for Consideration

- 3.1 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Andrew Boff AM** and will be seconded by Tony Devenish AM:

“This Assembly urges the Mayor to invite Taipei to be a sister city with London.”

- 3.2 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Steve O’Connell AM** and will be seconded by Unmesh Desai AM:

“This Assembly sends its deepest condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Sgt Matt Ratana. The Assembly further urges the Mayor to work with the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to ensure that all practical measures are put in place to ensure the safety of Officers.”

- 3.3 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Tony Devenish AM** and will be seconded by Jennette Arnold OBE AM:

“This Assembly strongly supports the adoption of tighter public health standards on both Tube noise and excessive vibrations, and urges Transport for London to make Tube noise reduction a priority.”

3.4 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Tony Devenish AM** and will be seconded by Andrew Boff AM:

“This Assembly calls on the Mayor to set a date to publish an Economic Recovery Strategy for London as soon as possible, in order to support businesses across London in planning for their futures.”

3.5 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Siân Berry AM** and will be seconded by Caroline Russell AM:

“This Assembly notes that:

- **Financial security is critical to a stable and thriving society.**
- **According to Trust for London close to a third of Londoners live in poverty; even before the coronavirus crisis our city had the highest poverty rates in the UK**
- **A Universal Basic Income (UBI) could help alleviate poverty, opening the door to opportunities that might otherwise be out of reach, and liberate people from the anxiety of job insecurity through a monthly income regardless of employment status, wealth, or marital status.**
- **A network of UBI Labs has been set up and works with local authorities across the UK developing UBI proposals to address problems such as poverty, inequality, discrimination and environmental damage, long-term and immediately, in relation to coronavirus.**
- **There are many potential benefits to a UBI including:**
 - **More flexible workforce and greater freedom to change jobs;**
 - **Supporting a caring economy to value unpaid work;**
 - **Removing the negative impacts of benefit sanctions and conditionality;**
 - **Breaking the link between work and consumption, thus helping reduce strain on the environment; and**
 - **Enabling greater opportunities for people to work in community and cultural activities or to train or reskill in areas that will be needed to transition to a lower-carbon economy**
- **The current crisis has increased the risk of poverty for many Londoners. This is the right time to trial Universal Basic Income.**

This Assembly calls on the Mayor to:

- **Write to the Government calling for a fully evaluated basic income in the city; and**
- **Work with local authorities to help test UBI in London. ”**

- 3.6 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Navin Shah AM** and will be seconded by Jennette Arnold OBE AM:

“This Assembly re-affirms its commitment to achieve a more equal city for all Londoners, regardless of race, gender, sexuality, faith or disability. We recognise in particular the unique leadership role that the GLA (Greater London Authority) can play in setting an example to organisations throughout the capital.

We welcome the leadership the Mayor has shown in achieving this aim. The GLA publishes an annual gender pay gap report, as is required by legislation, but goes further and also publishes an annual ethnicity pay gap report. These documents are a vital step in shining light on income disparity within the GLA family while accompanying action plans which set out concrete steps to reduce pay gaps. This Assembly fully supports these activities.

This Assembly believes that this good practice should be extended to the disability pay gap. On average, disabled Londoners are paid 15% less than their non-disabled counterparts. Disabled Londoners face societal and employment barriers including being given fewer responsibilities at work, false assumptions about productivity and unconscious bias.

Conducting an annual disability pay gap report and accompanying action plan would demonstrate that City Hall is leading from the front in our desire to reduce the disability pay gap for all. As such, the Assembly calls on the Mayor to work with the Chief Officer to conduct a yearly disability pay audit and accompanying action plan for the whole GLA family.

In order to make the most effective use of this information, data collection must also be improved. Therefore, this Assembly further calls on the Mayor to work with the Chief Officer to develop an action plan aimed at improving data collection of disabilities during the recruitment process; improving awareness of staff self-declaration processes; and improving the confidence of staff to self-report disabilities.”

- 3.7 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Dr Alison Moore AM** and will be seconded by Len Duvall AM:

“This Assembly notes the financial difficulties that Transport for London (TfL) is facing solely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. London is the only major city in western Europe that hasn’t received direct Government funding to run day to day transport services, since the agreement to remove the Operating Grant in 2015. This financial model imposed by Boris Johnson as Mayor has resulted in TfL relying very heavily on passenger fares to pay for the services they run, income of which fell by 90 per cent during lockdown and remains lower than this time last year, because Londoners are following Government advice and only travelling where absolutely necessary.

This Assembly welcomes Sadiq Khan’s achievement in reducing TfL’s operating deficit from £1.5 billion under former Mayor of London Boris Johnson, to £200 million, a 71 per cent reduction, and increasing cash reserves by 13 per cent.

This Assembly agrees with the Mayor and strongly opposes the Government's conditions to the funding which penalises Londoners for doing the right thing during this pandemic. The Government's proposed conditions include removing free travel permanently for under-18s, a removal of the 60+ photocard, for fares to rise above inflation, for the £15 Congestion Charge to be expanded to the North and South Circular and to introduce a new council tax precept for Londoners to pay again for London's transport.

This Assembly urges the Secretary of State for Transport Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP to meet the Mayor's request to provide the £2.2 billion over the next 6 months and £2.9 billion for next financial year as requested, to fully support TfL as COVID-19 restrictions continue to depress Tube and bus passenger numbers.

This Assembly requires full transparency from the Government on this issue and therefore agrees for the Chair of the London Assembly to write to Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP to request he allows the full publication of the new funding package and the KPMG Review immediately."

- 3.8 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Dr Onkar Sahota AM** and will be seconded by Unmesh Desai AM:

"This Assembly is deeply concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on the livelihoods of tens of thousands of workers at London's airports and on their communities, and the knock-on effects this will have on the London economy.

This Assembly notes that it has been a deeply difficult time for the airline industry and that it is vital, going forward, that there is a real plan to protect jobs. This Assembly further notes that, following the Chancellor's announcement last month of the creation of the Job Support Scheme, the unions have called on Heathrow Airport Limited to halt its 'brutal' plans to fire and re-hire thousands of workers.

This Assembly agrees for the Chair of the Assembly to write to John Holland-Kaye, Chief Executive Officer of Heathrow Airport, calling on him to withdraw the section 188 notices that have been issued to workers, and to ensure that there are no changes to those workers' pay and terms and conditions. The Assembly also calls on the Mayor of London to write to Mr Holland-Kaye to urge him to do everything in his power to protect jobs.

This Assembly also agrees for the Chair of the London Assembly to write to the Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP, asking him to lay out his long term plan for protecting these jobs and this industry going forward, and calling on him to extend the 80% furlough scheme for 12 months for workers in the aviation industry, with an option to 'taper' where needed."

- 3.9 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Unmesh Desai AM** and will be seconded by Léonie Cooper AM:

“This Assembly notes with concern that shopworkers are frequently the targets of threats, abuse and assaults, and that since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak, the volume of such threats, abuse and assaults on shopworkers has more than double compared with 2019 – to the point where the average worker is subject to an incident of this kind every 6.5 days.

This Assembly further notes the important role played by shopworkers as key workers in our society, something which became clear to us all during the most restrictive phase of the lockdown. This Assembly also notes the importance of social distancing and wearing face coverings in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and that shopworkers are often attacked for enforcing the Government restrictions.

This Assembly believes that all workers have the right to do their work without being at risk of threat, abuse or assault and that the current situation faced by shopworkers is absolutely unacceptable and to be condemned.

This Assembly supports The Assaults on Retail Workers (Offences) Bill as proposed by Alex Norris MP and subsequently objected to by the Government with the second reading delayed to 30 October 2020. The Bill calls to make certain offences, including malicious wounding, grievous or actual bodily harm and common assault, aggravated when perpetrated against a retail worker in the course of their employment. The Bill is supported by 23 major British retailers and the sector’s leading industry bodies.

This Assembly calls on the Mayor of London to write to the Home Secretary, the Rt Hon Priti Patel MP, and urge her to introduce legislation that creates a specific offence of threatening, abusing or assaulting a shopworker, carrying a sufficient penalty to act as a deterrent and address this shameful situation.”

- 3.10 The following motion has been proposed in the name of **Léonie Cooper AM** and will be seconded by Andrew Dismore AM:

“The Assembly recognises the increasing distress faced by leaseholders and tenants in buildings where EWS1 forms are being demanded by banks, lenders and estate agents in order to sell an affected property, grant a mortgage or a re-mortgage.

This Assembly welcomes the 10 steps promoted by the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign, including robust targets and urgent government action to address the remediation of buildings found to be dangerous. There are currently 430 tall buildings requiring waking watches in London due to fire safety concerns; and the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee recently heard from the London Fire Brigade Commissioner that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government estimates up to 72,000 buildings in London are potentially at high risk, impacting on many thousands of Londoners.

Estimates by London's housing associations suggest that the cost of remediation in their properties alone will be £4 billion. Whilst the Assembly welcomes the £1.6 billion provided by Government towards the remediation of dangerous cladding in buildings of all types of tenure across the UK, it is clear that this is nowhere near sufficient to make all affected buildings safe.

This Assembly notes that obtaining EWS1 forms is the duty of freeholders and takes far too long, with estimates running into years because of insufficient numbers of chartered fire safety inspectors nationwide, many of whom are unable to acquire the professional indemnity insurance that would allow them to sign off EWS1 forms.

The demand for EWS1 Forms has also been significantly increased due to the Government's ill advised consultation on extending the need for such forms to buildings over 11 metres, not just 18 metres as originally proposed. This has contributed to the backlog of inspections, slowing down the pace of remediation and making many leaseholders 'mortgage prisoners', legally obliged to accept escalating service charges for temporary fire precautions and spiralling building insurance costs whilst also facing valuations of zero equity for their properties. This has caused many leaseholders to suffer financial, personal and emotional strain resulting in profound mental health problems.

The Assembly calls on the Mayor to write urgently to the Minister for Building Safety and Communities asking him to intervene urgently to address the crisis facing leaseholders, including ensuring the availability of affordable professional indemnity insurance for fire safety inspectors to enable them to conduct surveys for EWS1 forms; and to act to increase the numbers of inspectors . The Assembly also calls on the Mayor to lobby the Government to increase the funds available for remediation works and to plug the loopholes in the schemes, so that all residents who are victims of the cladding and other inadequate fire precautions scandals do not face unaffordable service charge bills and can live safely in their own homes."

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Assembly has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct finance implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report: None.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers: None.

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