

2nd Mayor's Report to the Assembly Mayor's Question Time 20 June 2024

This is my second report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 10 May – 6 June 2024

Please note that the information in the Mayor's Report is accurate at the time of publishing.

Executive Summary

Ofwat Innovation Fund Grant to the Infrastructure Coordination Service in partnership with Thames Water

I am pleased to announce that in May my Infrastructure Coordination Service (ICS), in collaboration with Thames Water, was awarded a £1.34 million grant from the Ofwat Innovation Fund to deliver the project, "Developing a market-based approach to deliver sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) through streetworks." Building off previous grant-funded work supported by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology's Regulators Pioneers Fund, this grant will help the GLA foster new practices to deliver SuDS at scale, with reduced cost and street work disruption.

The project will develop a mechanism to incentivise utility companies to install SuDS, such as raingardens, when reinstating their street works excavations instead of replacing the original surface. It will build on two ICS-led pilots in the boroughs of Enfield and Camden that proved SuDS can be installed effectively during streetworks.

The project is set to launch in September 2024 and will last for 18 months. It will enable the GLA and partners to reimagine street works, creating greener, more flood-resilient neighbourhoods, directly benefiting Londoners and the environment.

Record £14.5m investment in community-led MyEnds programme

On 10 May I visited Church End Estate in Brent to announce a record £14.5 million investment as part of a major expansion of my Violence Reduction Unit's (VRU) flagship prevention programme to tackle violence. New funding will be used to expand the VRU's award-winning MyEnds programme and its neighbourhood-focused approach to every borough in London, for the first time ever.

I met with MyEnds Brent consortium members who deliver mentoring for young people at risk of being exploited by gangs, weekly positive opportunities including sports and increased support for parents as their children transition from primary to secondary school. It was fantastic to meet with consortium member, United Borders, who implement a detached outreach approach, utilising music, fitness, education and employment as primary vehicles to deliver bespoke mentoring to young people in local estates.

For the first time, and delivering on a manifesto commitment, this community-led approach will be carried into all boroughs in London. The VRU have expanded the programme from 8 to 11 consortiums and funding will go to the remaining 21 areas of London that are without MyEnds community-led groups. It means boroughs starved of investment due to Government cuts can form partnerships with small community organisations to put a real focus on tackling violence at a

hyper-local, neighbourhood level, working alongside local people and communities to deliver prevention and diversionary work in areas they live and know best.

New statistics show lowest number of people killed on London's roads outside of pandemic years, as TfL remains committed to further reducing road danger.

TfL has published annual casualty statistics that show the number of people killed or seriously injured on London's roads in 2023 fell by 6 per cent to the second lowest level on record, from 3,974 to 3,709. Last year was the lowest year on record for fatalities, excluding 2021, which was heavily affected by pandemic-related lockdowns and changes in travel patterns. This marks important progress towards the Mayor's Vision Zero goal of eliminating death and serious injury from London's streets by 2041. The number of people killed and seriously injured on London's roads has also reduced overall by 24 per cent against the 2010-2014 baseline.

However, 95 people were tragically killed on London's roads, with devastating consequences for the families, friends and communities impacted by these deaths and life-changing injuries. Collective action is still needed and TfL remains committed to working closely with London's boroughs, the police and other partners to carry out the work needed to achieve this goal.

People walking, cycling and motorcycling continue to be most at risk, making up 80 per cent of all people killed or seriously injured in 2023. The number of people killed while cycling has fallen by 40 per cent against the 2010-14 baseline, from 13 to eight. Data shows that cycling journeys have continued to increase with the number of daily cycle journeys increasing to 1.26 million in 2023, up by 6.3 per cent since 2022, suggesting that cycling trips have become safer overall. Concerns around safety remain one of the biggest barriers to cycling. To continue to reduce risk and increase the number of people who choose to cycle, there is a need to continue to introduce safe, segregated cycling infrastructure, lower speeds and road safety initiatives.

Every death or serious injury on our streets is devastating. We're making significant progress but we know there is more work to do to eliminate deaths and serious injuries from London's roads.

I am committed to making it safer and easier for people to walk and cycle around our city, which is why we are expanding our safer speed programme, tightening the Direct Vision Safety standard for HGVs and working with the boroughs to deliver high-quality cycle routes as we work to build a greener, safer London for everyone.

TfL launches major new initiative ahead of the summer to encourage Londoners to try cycling on Sundays.

TfL has launched a major new programme of leisurely cycle routes and support to encourage Londoners who are new to cycling to explore the capital by cycle on Sundays. TfL Cycle Sundays, which has been developed in collaboration with leading cycling organisations, aims to offer beginner friendly journeys for Londoners, backed up by a range of support to make it even easier to try out cycling for the first time. Leisure cycling provides people with an easy and sustainable way to maintain their mental and physical wellbeing and build up confidence.

The routes have been selected by TfL and a range of partners including British Cycling, Cycle Sisters, JoyRiders, London Cycling Campaign, Sustrans and Wheels for Wellbeing, and include park rides in Greenwich and Battersea, an accessible cycle tour of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, a loop through parks in Haringey and many more spanning the capital. The routes give cyclists of all abilities a choice of leisure routes up to ten miles long on quiet roads and paths.

A full list of routes can be found on the TfL Cycle Sundays website, which also offers cycling discounts, links to cycling organisations and their events and access to our free online Cycle Skills course for new cyclists or anyone who needs a refresher to get cycling again.

I'm committed to enabling more Londoners to experience the joys of cycling in the capital. That's why I'm delighted to support Londoners who are new to cycling, or who haven't got their bike out of the shed in a while, to give it a try on Sundays. Those who don't have their own bike can hire one from the 800 Santander docking stations dotted around the capital and take advantage of the Day Pass, allowing unlimited journeys under 30 minutes from £3. I hope this exciting initiative encourages more Londoners to get out cycling, and incorporate active travel into their daily lives.

More stations and Tube lines across Central London get high-speed mobile coverage.

All Elizabeth line stations now have 4G mobile coverage as the Mayor and TfL's programme to improve connectivity for those travelling underground continues.

Paddington, Canary Wharf, Whitechapel and Woolwich stations all recently gained 4G mobile coverage - meaning that all Elizabeth line stations now have mobile coverage - from ticket halls all the way to the platforms. Work to deliver coverage within the tunnelled sections of the Elizabeth line continues, with the first sections between Bond Street and Liverpool Street expected to get coverage within the coming month, with the whole line completed later this year.

Providing uninterrupted mobile coverage provides additional reassurance to those travelling on the network, as well as allow staff to better provide information and better assist customers with their journeys. The system, delivered in partnership with Boldyn Networks, will also host the new Emergency Services Network (ESN), which when fully operational, will give first responders immediate access to life-saving data, images and information in live situations and emergencies on the frontline.

I promised that customers would be able to access high-speed mobile coverage at all stations and in tunnels, and I'm pleased to see how quickly the team are moving to enable 4G and 5G connectivity.

Now, customers can access the latest travel information, keep in touch with colleagues, friends and family, use social media and stream music at every station along the Elizabeth line. This is just one of the many ways we are supporting Londoners as we build a better, fairer and more prosperous London for everyone.

Vatican Climate Crisis Summit

On 16 May, I was truly honoured to be invited to participate in the Vatican summit 'From Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience' hosted by His Holiness Pope Francis, bringing together leading political, civic, and religious leaders to tackle the biggest global threat we face today. I am determined for London to continue to be a world leader in tackling the twin dangers of air pollution and the climate emergency, as the need for coordinated global action has never been more urgent. His Holiness Pope Francis has repeatedly called for greater action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and in 2019 declared a 'global climate emergency'. The summit focused on reducing climate risks, adaptation strategies, and societal climate transformation. As the Mayor of London, I shared insights on the progress London has made over my first two terms as well as ongoing strategies and challenges that London faces in the face of climate action. I was joined by the Mayors of Boston, Paris, Rome, and Athens alongside other leaders from around the world, including Governor of California Gavin Newsom, Governor of New York Kathy Hochul, and

Governor of Massachusetts Maura Healey. The summit reaffirmed the importance of global collaboration and the urgent need for action to ensure a sustainable future for all.

Pakistan Men's National Cricket Team, Pakistan House

On 29 May, I was honoured to be invited by the Pakistan High Commission to speak at a reception at Pakistan House, welcoming the Pakistan Men's National Cricket Team to London. It was a privilege to meet the members of the team and the Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board. The team is currently touring England to play four T20 matches, with the fourth and final match taking place at London's Oval stadium. Following their London matches, the Pakistan and England cricket teams will continue their tour to the United States and the Caribbean for June's ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024. We wish them the best of luck in their upcoming games and look forward to their continued success.

Mayor of Sylhet City Corporation

On 4 June, I met with Mayor Chowdhury of Sylhet City Corporation for a meeting to discuss how our cities might work together. The community ties between Bangladesh and London are strong – with more than more than 200k people of Bangladeshi origin currently living in London. The meeting was an important opportunity to promote community relations, business links and climate change collaboration.

UEFA Champions League Final, Thursday 30 May to Sunday 2 June

I had the pleasure of playing a key role in London's hosting of the UEFA Champions League final from Thursday 30 May to Sunday 2 June.

Having announced that London would host the UEFA Champions Festival across five of the city's most iconic locations – Trafalgar Square, Regent Street, Somerset House, Potters Field Park and the South Bank – on Tuesday 14 May, I was then on site as the event officially opened.

I joined Chelsea legend and Champions League winner John Obi Mikel backstage as the UEFA Champions Festival officially kicked off at Trafalgar Square on Thursday 30 May

On Saturday 1 June I attended the match at Wembley Stadium. It was a spectacular affair and truly showcased sport in London at its best.

Resilience

The London Resilience Group transferred from the London Fire Brigade to the GLA on 1 June. The LRG and GLA City Operations Unit have merged to form a new London Resilience Unit, with a new unit director joining in July. The merger brings London's resilience functions – from risk prevention to emergency preparedness and response – together into one integrated team.

My Resilience team supported a heatwave desktop exercise for faith sector leaders on 23 May. The event was the culmination of three cohorts of community resilience training for faith leaders in four boroughs, funded by the GLA Resilience team. The British Red Cross facilitated the session, in which participants were given an extreme heat scenario and explored potential knock-on impacts on their communities and places of worship. They then discussed actions they could take individually and in collaboration to manage risks.

On 5 June, my Chief of Staff chaired the London Resilience Summer Preparedness Briefing. This biannual seasonal preparedness event brought together resilience leaders and subject matter experts across the London Resilience Partnership to brief my Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayors on the resilience challenges and London's preparedness for this summer. The session considered topics including severe weather and natural hazards, heat health, infectious diseases, terrorism, protests, major events, and transport and utilities sector preparedness.

Policing, Crime and Security

Tackling robbery

On 20 May, MOPAC hosted the first meeting of a new Reducing Robbery Partnership, bringing together the Met, London Councils, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Youth Offending Service, Transport for London, the Safer Business Network, the Violence Reduction Unit and the British Transport Police. The Partnership will promote intelligence sharing and joint working to help drive down robbery, which has returned to pre-COVID levels in London.

On 21 May I was delighted to join officers from the MPS in Covent Garden to see first hand how they are tackling robbery, using data and gathering local intelligence to focus their proactive and targeted patrols to make the capital safer for communities, visitors and local businesses.

This hyper-local approach is leading to more targeted action in crime hotspot areas across London. Between October 2023 and January 2024, 5,768 individuals were charged or cautioned for offences such as assault and 621 people for robbery offences. Whilst nearly 500 (497) people were charged or cautioned for knife crime offences.

In the same three-month period in Westminster the local neighbourhood team have reported a huge drop in anti-social behaviour in the local area whilst on patrol and Westminster officers have – acting on local intelligence – charged or cautioned nearly 300 individuals for a mixture of violence, knife crime and robbery offences.

Overseeing the Met

On 4 June the London Policing Board met for the first time in this term. The Members of the Board bring a wide variety of skills, insights and experiences to support me in providing strong oversight of the Metropolitan Police; and to improve the openness and transparency of how the Met Commissioner is held to account for delivering his New Met for London plan to reform the Service.

For this first meeting in the term, the Board considered senior level governance at the Met and neighbourhood policing in London.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Members of the Board and the Met throughout this term to ensure that the reforms Londoners expect to their police service are delivered.

Transport

The Elizabeth line continues to transform travel in London on its two-year anniversary.

Two years on from the official opening of the transformational Elizabeth line, TfL has revealed the positive impact the line has had on travel and the economy in London and the surrounding areas. The Elizabeth line is the fastest growing railway in the UK with more than 350 million journeys being made on the line since opening in May 2022, significantly helping to drive recovery from the pandemic by creating new journey opportunities, supporting regeneration across the capital, and increasing housing and social opportunities.

During its first full year of operation, the Elizabeth line saw more than 150 million passenger journeys. In 2023/24, there were 210 million journeys made on the Elizabeth line, a dramatic increase. Passenger demand is already above the post-pandemic expectations for the end of the decade and is expected to increase further. On average, there are around 700,000 passenger journeys on the line every weekday, with the busiest day recorded on 18 April 2024 when there were 787,000 journeys across the line.

Forecasts for the 2024/25 financial year paint a positive picture for Elizabeth line growth, with journeys expected to rise to 226 million for the year, a further increase of eight per cent from 2023/24.

The Elizabeth line has been a game-changer for our city, transforming travel across London and the South East and delivering a £42bn boost to the UK economy. The line has directly impacted the development of 55,000 new homes and significantly supported employment growth - helping to build a fairer, greener and more prosperous London for everyone.

More accessible journeys for DLR customers as a new pre-booked assistance trial gets underway

TfL and KeolisAmey Docklands (KAD) have launched a six-month trial to help make journeys on the DLR more accessible. The new Access DLR trial aims to enable customers to travel who may otherwise encounter barriers.

DLR customers are able to pre-book an available timeslot for assistance with their journeys online or by phone at least two hours before their journey for travel seven days a week between 07:00 and 19:00. Short-notice requests can also be made by phone for travel assistance less than two hours before a customer's planned DLR journey and these will be subject to staff availability at the time of travel.

Feedback will be gathered throughout the trial on how the service works, hours of operation and potential demand for the service beyond the six month trial.

This trial follows other major improvement projects for DLR services with new trains set to start to be introduced by the end of 2024. TfL is introducing 54 new trains to the DLR fleet to replace the oldest trains, some of which are over 30 years old. This will help improve the frequency and reliability of services and offer better facilities for those with mobility impairments and accessibility needs. The new trains feature spacious and more accessible walk-through carriages, three multi-use areas for large items like prams and luggage, in addition to three dedicated wheelchair spaces and improved audio and visual real-time travel information.

Creating an inclusive transport network is an essential part of my Transport Strategy. With the Access DLR trial, I'm striving to make every journey as seamless and accessible as possible for all passengers. By gathering feedback and delivering improvements, we're building a fairer, more inclusive London for everyone.

Colindale Tube station closes until December 2024 as part of its major upgrade, which includes making the station step-free.

Colindale Tube station, on the Edgware branch of the Northern line, has closed until December so that vital work to upgrade the station, including a larger ticket hall and installation of a lift to give the station step-free access for the first time may take place.

Work on the station's major upgrade started earlier this year, with funding from the Government's Levelling Up Fund and significant contributions from Barnet Council, local developers and TfL.

During the temporary closure of the station, customers are advised to take local bus services to Burnt Oak or Hendon Central (Northern line) or Mill Hill Broadway (Thameslink) to continue their journeys. An additional bus route (NL6), free of charge, will run every 15 minutes on weekdays at peak times between Colindale and Hendon Central. In addition, customers travelling on bus route 186 between Mill Hill Broadway and Hendon Central stations will have their bus fares refunded automatically, when using Contactless or Oyster cards, and after touching in or out at one of these two stations. Normal TfL and Thameslink fares will apply on all other journeys.

As well as the temporary closure of Colindale Tube station, a series of associated planned track closures of the Northern line between Golders Green and Edgware are continuing this summer to facilitate the upgrade works. These planned closures are necessary due to the proximity to the track of some of the construction work to upgrade Colindale station.

Work is progressing well on the much-needed major upgrade of the station and is set to transform the journeys of many thousands of our customers, making the station more accessible and welcoming, and ensuring it's fit to serve this rapidly growing community for many decades to come.

Part closures on the A40 from July to enable vital safety and maintenance work to take place.

TfL is working closely with its partners to minimise the disruption caused by critical safety maintenance work on the A40 from July.

TfL is responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of London's network of red routes, including the A40 Westway — one of London's busiest roads, carrying around 90,000 vehicles a day. The structures, which carry the Wood Lane flyover to the Marylebone flyover, date back to 1969 and are reaching the end of their serviceable life, requiring vital maintenance to ensure they can continue to serve Londoners for decades to come.

From July, TfL will be replacing four joints, which provide support to slip roads to the A40, as part of an ongoing programme of improvement work to the road network in the area. Road closures are essential for this work to take place and have been timed to minimise disruption as much as possible, with the most impactful works undertaken during the summer holiday period, when traffic flows into central London are 25 per cent lower.

TfL is advising people that diversion routes and local roads are expected to be extremely busy and that people should plan ahead, using alternative routes where possible. TfL is running a

comprehensive communications campaign to ensure people are aware of the works and full travel advice is available on the TfL website at tfl.gov.uk/westway.

I am determined to ensure a safe and well-maintained road network can play a full role in enabling Londoners to travel across the capital. These ageing 1960s structures are reaching the end of their serviceable life and road closures are essential if we are to ensure they can continue to serve Londoners for decades to come.

Celebrating 25 years since the Jubilee line extension connected the West End and London Docklands.

TfL has been celebrating 25 years since the Jubilee line extension was completed with special anniversary posters along the line. The major engineering project connected the West End to the rapidly developing Docklands in the late 1990s, linking every Tube line and making travel in London more accessible.

While the original Jubilee line opened in May 1979 between Stanmore and Charing Cross, the extension to London Underground's youngest line was completed in three phases. This began in May 1999 between Stratford, the line's current eastern terminus and where Stratford International and Westfield Shopping Centre would later open, and North Greenwich, close to the Millennium Dome. It then extended further west to Bermondsey via the bustling financial hub of Canary Wharf, transformed in the 1980s and 1990s by the London Docklands Development Corporation. By the end of the year, with the new millennium on the horizon, the extension was completely open from Stratford to Green Park, creating the line as we know it today that links the north west and east of the city.

Over the course of 25 years London's landscape has changed dramatically, and today the Jubilee line remains unique in providing interchanges with every Tube line, the DLR and six national rail stations, as well as Overground stations and the more recently added Elizabeth line. The 1999 extension brought 11 new stations in total, each with 'future-proof' architectural design led by Roland Paoletti, with each of the stations designed by a different architect under his guidance, to ring in the new millennium.

The Jubilee line extension was a remarkable feat that changed the geography of our city as we saw in the new millennium. Creating a fast, reliable connection between the West End and the thriving Docklands area brought significant economic rewards for the city and more homes for thousands of Londoners. The extension also helped to lay the foundation for our ongoing accessibility work to ensure all Londoners can make the most of what our city has to offer.

TfL continues to develop our world-class transport offer, in the past few years completing the Elizabeth line, Northern line extensions and installing 4G across the network.

London schoolchildren make strides towards a sustainable future at TfL award ceremony.

Seven London schools have been awarded for increasing walking and cycling as part of Transport for London's (TfL) Travel for Life schools accreditation programme, delivered in partnership with London Transport Museum's schools team and London boroughs. The programme's aim to reduce cars on the school run reflects TfL's wider work for a brighter, safer and more sustainable London.

More than half of schools in the capital currently take part in TfL Travel for Life - formally known as the STARS programme - an inspiring and free accreditation programme for schools to get more

children walking and cycling, in turn reducing congestion, improving road safety, health and wellbeing.

With a high standard of entries this year from 200 schools, Will Norman, London's Walking & Cycling Commissioner and other industry leaders, announced the winning school for each of the seven categories at a ceremony at Kia Oval back in May. Twenty other schools were also recognised at the ceremony for their impressive achievements towards increasing active and sustainable travel to and from their schools.

We know that children who are introduced to active travel from a young age are more likely to continue the habit into adulthood, so it's fantastic to see so many schools encouraging more students to walk and cycle, inspiring the next generation of Londoners to work towards a more sustainable future.

Every one of these schools is doing vital work to ensure a brighter, safer and more sustainable London for everyone.

Environment

Publication of the London Climate Resilience Review

On 4 June, the London Climate Resilience Review published its final report and recommendations. I commissioned the Review in June 2023, following accelerating climate impacts, to guide preparation for more severe climate change events like higher temperatures, extreme heat, drought, and flooding. The Review explores how to ensure London remains a wonderful place to live and work in the face of these challenges. The Review's recommendations will guide my work on climate resilience. The Review's report and press release can be found [here](#).

Mayoral Wetlands visit

On 29 May, I visited the Woodbury Wetlands in Hackney. I called out the Government's failure to keep London's rivers clean and safe, and my commitment to work with stakeholders to produce an ambitious plan to make London's rivers and waterways so clean that they would be safe enough to swim in.

Fire

Old Kent Road Fire Station Visit

On 16 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, visited Old Kent Road Fire Station to meet with firefighters and observe a demonstration of London Fire Brigade (LFB) equipment, which has been procured since the tragic Grenfell Tower fire. Jules was joined on the visit by the Shadow Minister for Fire, Alex Norris MP.

London Fire Brigade Control Visit

On 17 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, visited London Fire Brigade Control to learn about the new technology and training introduced, as well to observe the new layout of the control room.

Meeting with the Fire Brigades Union London Regional Executive

On 17 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, met with the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) London Regional Executive to discuss upcoming issues and priorities.

Meeting with Lee Freeman HM Inspector of Fire & Rescue Services

On 20 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, met with Lee Freeman, HM Inspector of Fire & Rescue Services, for an introductory meeting.

Meeting with Assembly Member Hina Bokhari

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, met with Assembly Member Hina Bokhari, Chair of the Assembly's Fire Committee to discuss the Fire Committee's priorities.

Confirmation Hearing

On 24 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended a Confirmation Hearing held by the Assembly Fire Committee. Following the Confirmation Hearing, Jules Pipe was confirmed in post as Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service.

Deputy Mayor's Fire Board

On 4 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, chaired a regular meeting of his Deputy Mayor's Fire Board. The Deputy Mayor received updates on LFB progress towards recommendations from the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 Report and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) as well as updates on LFB's performance against its organisational Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The Deputy Mayor also approved LFB's new competency framework.

Growth and Skills

Skills for Londoners Community Outreach Programme 2024/25

On 17 May applications opened for the 2024-25 round of my Skills for Londoners Community Outreach Programme. The programme will continue to support small community organisations to raise awareness of London's adult education opportunities, increase participation in adult learning skills provision, and help to build sustainable links between providers, community groups and the Londoners they work with. Grants of up to £35,000 are available to community organisations who can work with local communities and help signpost Londoners to adult education opportunities. The application window closes at 5pm on 21 June.

National Numeracy Day 2024

On 22 May, I joined the national awareness campaign, National Numeracy Day, to empower adults and children build their confidence and skills with numbers to help them at work, school and home. To mark the campaign, my Deputy Mayor for Business & Growth, Howard Dawber, championed my London Multiply programme and how it can support businesses to upskill their current and future workforce. My Assistant Director for Skills & Employment (Policy), Ann-Marie Soyinka, also engaged in a discussion with Sam Sims, CEO of National Numeracy, on the critical importance of numeracy in everyday life and work and how I am supporting Londoners to improve their numeracy skills and confidence.

My officers also visited skills providers delivering national numeracy day activity and had the opportunity to engage with learners. Building on this, our Big Number Natter returns on Talk London, creating a space for Londoners to share their feelings about numbers and how they use them in their daily lives.

Housing

Call for stimulus to boost housebuilding

On Tuesday 14 May, I warned that Ministers are exacerbating a national housebuilding downturn by ignoring calls to boost spending to keep homebuilders on site in the capital and across the country.

In London, I have hit every affordable housing target set by the Government, and boosted council homebuilding to the highest level since the 1970s. This has meant spending every penny I've been given, in contrast to ministers' record of delivery outside of London, where their flagship Affordable Homes Programme target has been missed.

However, while London will continue to meet its Affordable Homes Programme targets, current Government investment is not enough, meaning that affordable housebuilding in the capital will be below the level required to house all Londoners who need it for years to come. The current Affordable Homes Programme runs from 2023-26 and is worth £4bn, to build at least 23,900 homes. I repeated my call for an £2.2bn in urgent investment in new social and genuinely affordable homes, which is backed by private, public and non-profit homebuilders across the capital.

Betrayal on private renters

On Thursday 30 May, I expressed my concern about the Government's failure to ban Section 21 'no-fault' evictions, calling it a huge betrayal of London's 2.7m private renters.

New City Hall analysis revealed that the number of no-fault eviction claims against private renters in London increased 52 per cent in the past year, more than five times the rate seen in the rest of England and Wales over the same period.

The long-anticipated Renters (Reform) Bill, which would have banned landlords from evicting tenants without a good reason and with only two months' notice, will now not become law as Parliament dissolved ahead of the snap election in July before it could pass.

This means that thousands of private renters across the country continue to face the threat of illegal eviction for an undetermined period of time, adding to the anguish felt by many renters for whom the Government's five-year delay over strengthening the law in favour of tenants has been agonising.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with Paul Watts, Founder, Lenuity

On 13 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Paul Watts, founder of Lenuity, the London-based fintech to discuss the work they are doing to improve the housing situation for Londoners and its impact on economic growth.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with Minister of State for Media, Tourism and Creative Industries

On 14 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Julia Lopez, Minister of State for Media, Tourism and Creative Industries to discuss the importance of those sectors for London's economy.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with Pocket Living

On 15 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Marc Vlessing, Chair of Pocket Living, to discuss housing-related issues facing Londoners and its impact on the capital's economic growth.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth speech at Heart of the City Council

On 20 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, spoke at the Heart of the City Council meeting about my approach to supporting small businesses (SMEs) and climate action and the role large companies can play in supporting SMEs and London deliver on my priorities.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with ExCeL London

On 23 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber and Deputy Chief of Staff, Richard Watts visited ExCeL and met with Jeremy Rees, CEO to discuss their expansion plans.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth at London Festival of Architecture 2024

On 30 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the London Festival of Architecture 2024 opening party to celebrate architecture and city-making.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with South Bank Employers Group (SBEG)

On 30 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Nic Durston, CEO, SBEG and Tom Sleight, Chair, SBEG, to discuss SBEG's review of its governance and membership arrangements and emerging new Vision.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with Greater Western Sydney delegation

On 3 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with a delegation from Greater Western Sydney in London to study the journey of regeneration, renewal and growth in East London.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with Federation of Small Businesses

On 4 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Laura Timm, London Policy Chair of the Federation of Small Businesses to discuss their London manifesto and my priorities for the term ahead.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with BusinessLDN

On 5 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with John Dickie, Chief Executive, of BusinessLDN to discuss their London manifesto and my priorities for the term ahead.

Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth meeting with East End Trades Guild

On 6 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Krissie Nicolson, Director of the East End Trades Guild to discuss how they can support a fairer, more inclusive economy in London.

Culture

Memorial for Victims of the Transatlantic Slavery

On 6 June, the six artists shortlisted for the Memorial to Victims of Transatlantic Slavery were announced. I previously committed £500,000 through the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm to help create the memorial. An online exhibition of the six proposals was displayed on London.gov.uk, and an online function was used to gather feedback on the proposals. There will also be opportunities for digitally excluded Londoners to share their feedback through targeted engagement sessions. A decision on the final work will be made later in the summer.

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry Reception

On 21 May, my Night Czar Amy Lamé gave a keynote speech at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Prestige Reception at the British Museum. She spoke about the economic potential of the 24-hour economy – with 2 million people regularly out-and-about in London between 9pm and midnight – and the need to ensure that London's 1.3 million night workers are properly paid and supported for the vital work they do.

Civil Society and Sport

Go! London Young Entrepreneurs Funding

May saw a series of sessions with community groups to spread awareness of the newly launched second round of my Young Entrepreneurs Start Up Programme and the potential opportunities for young Londoners. This is part of the Go! London programme, a £19.5m partnership between City Hall, London Marathon Foundation and Sport England, with strategic support from London Marathon Events and London Sport.

Recruitment is under way to find young and aspiring entrepreneurs who want to create businesses centred around sports and physical activities that can make a real difference in London. 25 young

people will participate in a three month incubation period with School for Social Entrepreneurs over the summer. 10 entrepreneurs will then receive up to £15,000 each, along with a year of mentoring and business development support to help grow their ventures.

The partnership has already funded 10 young Londoners to develop their entrepreneurial ideas, helping people from low-income families, ethnically diverse communities, and disabled Londoners to access sport and physical activity across the capital.

The King's Garden Party

On 21 May, my Team London volunteers supported the King's Garden Party that took place at Buckingham Palace. 18 volunteers were stationed at six locations to support around 8000 guests and the public with key information, wayfinding and assistance before and after the gates to the Palace opened. Their support helped make the event more welcoming to guests and the public.

European Professional Club Rugby (EPCR) Finals Weekend 2024

On Friday 24 May and Saturday 25 May, the EPCR Rugby Finals 2024 took place at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. 61 Team London volunteers were deployed across the weekend supporting ticketholders and visitors, helping them navigate entry to the stadium, answering questions on local services and providing transport updates. Volunteers were an integral part of the success of this new event, which welcomed 32,000 ticketholders on the Friday and 62,000 ticketholders on the Saturday.

Deputy Mayor visit to EPCR Rugby Volunteers

On Friday 24 May, my Deputy Mayor for Communities & Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and my Deputy Mayor for Children & Families, Joanne McCartney, visited some of my Team London volunteers supporting the EPCR Challenge Cup Final. My Deputy Mayors talked with the volunteers about their volunteering experiences and extended gratitude for all their voluntary service, on behalf of myself and all Londoners.

Civil Society and Sport Annual Reception

On 29 May, my Civil Society and Sport Team hosted its annual reception event to celebrate the contributions made to our city by community groups, youth and sports organisations, as well as by my strategic partners within the sector. My Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, addressed the 150 guests in attendance at the LaLit Hotel, thanking them for the invaluable service they provide to London and Londoners.

This year's event celebrated the UEFA Champions League Final coming to London for a record eighth time and featured the Champions League trophy alongside other football-themed entertainment. An exclusive preview of a fashion exhibition, delivered through a collaboration between University of East London fashion students and Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk FC, was also showcased. It was an honour to welcome Shakhtar Donetsk footballers and representatives for the evening. This is a testament to London's commitment to standing in unity against adversity.

Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Champions' League Final London 2024

From 30 May to 2 June, my Team London volunteers were deployed to support the delivery of the UEFA Champions League Festival celebrations. Across the 4 days, over 400 volunteers were deployed at 18 locations across London, providing wayfinding support, helping event organisers and supporting visitors to the city. They were key to encouraging a welcoming and positive energy for the festivities across London, with our international visitors benefiting from their knowledge and a friendly face to welcome them.

Volunteers' Week 2024

3 June saw the start of Volunteers' Week 2024. Volunteers' Week provides an important nationwide opportunity for organisations to express their thanks to the volunteers who provide many of the essential services that make our city a safer, greener, and fairer place to live. This year marked the 40th anniversary of the first Volunteers' Week which illustrates the strong commitment of generations of Londoners towards contributing to their communities and civil society.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC)

West London Film Screening

On 9 May, OPDC celebrated the success of local young filmmakers at a film screening and awards ceremony hosted as part of the [West London Film & TV Competition](#).

Along with West London Creative Enterprise Zones and the West London Film & TV Skills Academy, OPDC supported and funded the competition.

The competition showcased the talents of budding young film makers from west London, including the OPDC area, to create their own films and guided by experienced mentors in the film industry. Bollo Brook Youth Centre in Ealing took home the 'community award' for their film "Hidden Sounds of Acton".

A compilation of all the films can be viewed [here](#).

Harlesden Canalside Launch event

On Friday 31 May, OPDC hosted a Family Fun Day to mark the official opening and launch of Harlesden Canalside.

Earlier this year, OPDC completed improvement works at Harlesden Canalside. Working in partnership with Brent Council and the Canal & River Trust and supported by the Mayor's Good Growth Fund, the project is latest in a series of improvement works, designed to make the spaces and places in Old Oak and Park Royal more welcoming, accessible, and enjoyable for the community.

The Family Fun Day featured an array of exciting activities for everyone including boat races, live music, walking tours, carnival dancers, face painting, market stalls and refreshments from local producers.

Chancellor's Circle, Westminster University students visit Old Oak

On Tuesday 4 June, OPDC hosted a delegation of 50 students from Westminster University at Old Oak.

OPDC is a member of the university's 'Chancellor's Circle', an initiative established by former Board member, Natalie Campbell who was appointed last year as Chancellor, to create employment and career opportunities for students.

During the visit, OPDC staff, including those who have previously gone through the GLA's apprenticeship scheme, shared their career journey with students, providing insights which will help the young people start their own career paths in the built environment.

Small Grants Launch event

On Wednesday 5 June, OPDC announced the successful recipients of this year's Small Grants programme at a special showcase event, hosted at Levant Café in Park Royal.

A total of 19 community-led projects were awarded funding of up to £7,000 to deliver grass-roots initiatives, with a focus on alleviating the cost of living, working with young people, promoting health and wellbeing and championing diversity. The recipients include local foodbanks; after school and sports clubs; community films and media; local planting and improvements; cookery and language classes and much more.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Park contracts

On 20 May, Peppermint, the award-winning bars and events company, unveiled Riverside East, which occupies the Podium building and external space close to the ArcelorMittal Orbit and Slide at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. From a stunning rooftop terrace and garden which offers superb views of east London, including East Bank, to street food and live music, the space has been transformed and will no doubt be a hit this summer with live sport expected to be screened. More information about Peppermint's new addition on the Park can be found [here](#).

On 3 June, the Pavilion building at Lendlease's Stratford Cross reopened. Formerly occupied by Haugen, the venue has been taken on by Gordon Ramsay Restaurants with the chef's Bread Street Kitchen and Bar spanning all three floors.

Awards

On 16 May, it was announced that the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) won two awards at The Pineapples – the awards celebrate the very best in placemaking and place-led initiatives. LLDC won the Community Engagement award for its entry: Designing Cities for and with Women and Girls. LLDC's joint entry with Gort Scott and Freehaus for 3 Mill Studies (which LLDC owns) also won the Creative Retrofit category. I invested £3 million towards the £6m total cost of renovation works of 3 Mills. The investment reflects my commitment as Mayor to supporting the capital's multi-billion film and TV industry. More information about the two winning entries can be found [here](#).

On 21 May, the Copper Box Arena was shortlisted for two awards at this year's Conference and Events Awards, which are due to be held in July. The former Olympic venue has been shortlisted for Most Versatile Venue (over 1,200 attendees) and Best Venue (over 1,100 attendees).

SHIFT

On 15 May, SHIFT, east London's innovation agency based at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, announced the five winners of its latest innovation challenge. The organisations will receive funding and support to help them scale up their projects which are helping to tackle the climate emergency. The winners were: Carbon Cell, Map Mortar, Material Index, Seastex and Shaded. More information on the winners can be found [here](#).

London Stadium

West Ham played their final home match of the 2023/24 Premier League season at London Stadium on 11 May. Following the conclusion of that match, work began on transforming the former Olympic Stadium for an exciting array of summer events, beginning with Major League Baseball which returns on 8 June as part of the three-year deal I signed in 2022. It was announced on 23 May that Jess Glynne would perform ahead of the second match between New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies on 9 June.

On 20 May, London Stadium announced a new multi-year partnership with London Stansted Airport, part of the Manchester Airports Group. The collaboration aims to offer unparalleled convenience to travellers, sports and music enthusiasts, establishing both venues as shared gateways to a variety of events and experiences.

Planning and Regeneration

Local Plans

On 10 May, GLA officers responded on my behalf to LB Enfield's Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation. I made it clear that the draft Local Plan is not in general conformity with the London Plan due to the proposed approach to Green Belt land.

Annual Monitoring Report

On the 30 May, I published the 19th Annual Monitoring Report for the London Plan. This is the first to report on progress on Key Performance Indicators of the London Plan 2021. It should also be noted that in this Annual Monitoring Report, the maximum threshold for intermediate rent is increased from £60,000 to £67,000 in line with changes to median incomes in London. This increase has enabled more households to access intermediate rented housing.

Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

I have sent a letter in response to the following Statutory Stage 2 referrals. I have informed the relevant Local Planning Authorities that I am content for them to determine the cases themselves.

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision	Application Type	Determination Level
2022/0905	Merck Sharpe Dohme (MSD)	Hillingdon	28/05/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor
2022/0579	Leegate Centre	Lewisham	20/05/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor

Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & the Fire Service, under powers delegated to him, sent a letter in response to the following Statutory Stage 2 referrals. The Deputy Mayor informed the relevant Local Planning Authority that he was content for them to determine the case themselves.

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision	Application Type	Determination Level
2023/0719	Victoria Quarter	Barnet	13/05/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Delegated Decision
2023/0061	55 Bishopsgate	City of London	13/05/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Delegated Decision
2023/0171	Phase 2b Springfield Hospital	Wandsworth	20/05/2024	Call in application	Stage 2	Delegated Decision

Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

I have asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following Stage 1 referrals:

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision	Application Type	Determination Level
2024/0274	Bromley Football Club	Bromley	22/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0192	Mecca Bingo	Haringey	13/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0205	Tesco, Harrow	Harrow	20/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0200	Scott House	Lewisham	20/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0188	Hackney Wick Central	London Legacy Development Corporation	22/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0206	190-194 High Street, Stratford	London Legacy Development Corporation	28/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0212	London City Airport Hotel	Newham	28/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision	Application Type	Determination Level
2024/0204	Rotherhithe Gas Holder Site	Southwark	20/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0181	100-136 Cavell Street	Tower Hamlets	20/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0184	7 Brannan Street	Tower Hamlets	20/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0253	34-40 White Church Lane	Tower Hamlets	22/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0245	Waste Site Smugglers Way	Wandsworth	16/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0180	2-4 Dean Street	Westminster	13/05/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0202	Cundy Street Quarter	Westminster	20/05/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision

High Streets for All Challenge – Alice Billing House Studios

Alice Billing House Studios in Stratford's Town Centre was officially opened on 4 June. In this first phase of works, a heritage building has been restored and brought back into use as affordable workspace for artists by Creative Land Trust. The project has been supported by my High Streets for All Challenge through a grant of £170,000. This delivered a workspace hub, a high street strategy, and a year-long cultural programme led by Hive Curates which activated the area around the studios to build support and enthusiasm in the run-up to the launch.

Key engagements

Among my additional engagements since my last report were the following:

- I visited the Church End estate to announce new VRU Funding on 10 May
- I travelled to Wolverhampton to meet with Metro Mayors on 13 May
- I held my regular planning meeting on 14 May
- I joined the GLA/MOPAC All Staff Briefing on 14 May
- I attended the Vatican Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience Summit 15-16 May
- I held my regular planning meeting on 20 May
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Commissioner on 20 May
- I joined a Met Police patrol in Covent Garden on 21 May
- I held my regular meeting with TfL on 21 May
- I met with Bloomberg Associates on 21 May
- I attended the UN Global Fair Pay Charter Launch on 22 May
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 23 May
- I held my regular planning meeting on 28 May
- I visited Woodberry Wetlands in Hackney on 29 May
- I attended the Tooting Bec Lido reopening on 29 May
- I joined the official welcome for the UEFA Champions League Festival in Trafalgar Square on 30 May
- I spoke with Met Police Commissioner on 31 May
- I attended a reception for the UEFA Champions League on 31 May
- I attended the UEFA Champions League Final on 1 June
- I held my regular planning meeting on 3 June
- I chaired the London Policing Board on 4 June
- I held my regular meeting with TFL on 4 June
- I met with the Mayor of Sylhet on 4 June