

# 3rd Mayor's Report to the Assembly

## Mayor's Question Time 18 July 2024

This is my third report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 7 June – 4 July 2024

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

## Executive Summary

### **TfL launches ten new Cycleways across London, expanding the network to reach over a quarter of Londoners**

TfL has launched ten new Cycleways across London, designed to make cycling safer and easier around the capital. The new routes add another 35km to London's growing strategic cycle network.

TfL and the boroughs' continued work to develop Cycleways in London means the strategic cycle network has more than quadrupled in size from 90km in 2016 to 390km in June 2024. Delivering high-quality new Cycleways will support Londoners of all backgrounds and abilities to cycle safely, encouraging greater diversity in cycling.

The new Cycleways that further expand the network in London include:

- Cycleway – Folkestone Gardens to New Cross and Greenwich to Lewisham
- Cycleway – Stratford to Woodgrange Park
- Cycleway 51 – Burnt Oak to Colindale
- Cycleway 60 – Chingford to Walthamstow via Ainslie Wood
- Cycleway 61 – Chingford to Walthamstow via Highams Park
- Cycleway 8 – Lambeth Bridge to Battersea
- Cycleway 40 – Ealing to Greenford and Ealing to Brentford
- Cycleway – Hanwell to Greenford

For the launch of the Cycleways, TfL has created new user-friendly maps that show where the routes are and how they connect to create local networks. This follows on from the recent launch of TfL Cycle Sundays, which offers a range of easy-to-follow leisure cycle routes and maps across London to explore the capital on Sundays.

Expanding London's cycleway network is key to enabling more Londoners to choose cycling as their mode of transport for shorter trips. These ten new routes connecting communities will support Londoners of all backgrounds and abilities to cycle safely as I build a fairer, safer greener London for everyone.

## **Free and unlimited Santander Cycle rides for all Londoners every Sunday in June**

TfL and Santander offered free and unlimited 30 minute rides for all Londoners on every Sunday in June to celebrate the launch of TfL Cycle Sundays. The offer came as Santander e-bikes recently celebrated one million hires, demonstrating their immense popularity in London.

TfL Cycle Sundays is a new programme of leisurely cycle routes that aims to support and encourage Londoners who are new to cycling to explore the capital by cycle on Sundays. TfL Cycle Sundays, developed in collaboration with leading cycling organisations, offered 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 boom we've seen in cycling in the capital over recent years has been fantastic, and we are determined to make cycling as accessible and affordable as possible.

## **7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grenfell Tower Fire**

14 June marked the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic Grenfell Tower fire and loss of 72 lives including 18 children. I wrote to the Prime Minister ahead of the anniversary to highlight the importance of Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans being legislated for as recommended by the Grenfell Inquiry Phase 1 report and the importance of the police and Crown Prosecution Service being given enough resources to enable a thorough investigation so that prosecutions can be brought as quickly as possible. I also raised the importance of ensuring sustained physical and mental health support is available to all those affected.

On the day, I attended the Tower in the morning to lay a wreath and pay my respects. My Deputy Mayor for Planning Regeneration and the Fire Service attended a local church service arranged by bereaved and survivors. My Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice met with children and watched an inspiring documentary film they had made about their lives since the fire. My Deputy Mayor for Housing joined the Grenfell Silent Walk along with thousands of others.

City Hall and the Trafalgar Square fountains were lit up in green in remembrance. London will always remember Grenfell and Londoners

As another anniversary has been and gone, I think of bereaved family members who have told me that every day is like an anniversary for them as they live with this disaster day in and day out and they simply cannot grieve until there is justice, change and accountability. They do not want to see any other lives destroyed as theirs have been. I will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder in solidarity with the bereaved, survivors and the local community. The road to justice has been far too long but I will continue to do everything I can to help them secure the justice they need and deserve.

## **Armed Forces Day**

I was honoured to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our nation's Armed Forces community and their families at our annual flag raising ceremony for Armed Forces Day at City Hall on Monday 24 June.

As we mark eighty years since the D-Day landings, the brave women and men of our Armed Forces continue to dedicate their lives to protecting all we hold dear as a country. From promoting peace to delivering aid, providing security to fighting terrorism, they represent the very best of our society.

As we build a better London for all, we should never forget the sacrifices they make, for which we are forever in their debt.

## **London Pride**

I was delighted to march in solidarity alongside London's diverse LGBTQI+ communities and allies at London Pride on Saturday 29 June.

This incredible event is a shining light for LGBTQI+ rights and shows why our city is a beacon of inclusiveness, acceptance and diversity – a place where you are accepted and celebrated for who you are.

Sadly, I know many still face discrimination and there is work to be done to achieve true equality. As a proud ally, I will continue to stand side-by-side with our capital's LGBTQI+ communities, against those who want to take away hard-fought rights, create division and spread hatred, as we unite and work to build a better London for all.

## **Taylor Swift welcome**

On 20 June, I joined my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons to reveal two new murals of Taylor Swift at Wembley Park by artists Frank Styles, Murwalls and Humour Street Art. A specially designed Taylor Swift tube map and a Taylor trail of London were also launched for fans to explore related locations across the city. London is hosting more performances of Taylor Swift's record-breaking The Eras Tour than any other city in the world, with nearly 700,000 people attending, which generated £300 million for the capital's economy.

## **Meeting with Mayor Chowdhury of Sylhet at City Hall**

On 4 June, I hosted Mayor Chowdhury of Sylhet at City Hall and had the opportunity to discuss how we can further strengthen ties between our cities and the Bangladeshi diaspora in London.

## **State of London Debate (SOLD)**

I held my 8<sup>th</sup> State of London Debate (SOLD) on Thursday 20 June, at indigo at The O2 in Greenwich. This in-person event, hosted by LBC presenter James O'Brien, gave members of the public an opportunity to ask questions on our work at the GLA on important issues like the cost of living, making London safer, building more council homes and tackling rough sleeping.

I was joined on stage by my team of Deputy Mayors Justine Simons OBE for Culture and the Creative Industries, Howard Dawber for Business and Growth, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard for Communities and Social Justice, Seb Dance for Transport and Sophie Linden for Policing and Crime.

## Policing, Crime and Security

### **New legal advice service pilot launches**

This month I was pleased to confirm the beginning of a pilot project providing free and independent legal advice to victims-survivors of sexual violence, to support them through often complex proceedings as their case goes through the criminal justice system.

The pilot service is accessible for victims-survivors aged 16 and over via referral from Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) based at London's Survivors Gateway and the Metropolitan Police Service BCU taking part in the pilot – Central East.

The pilot is a test service and part of the broad system of sexual violence support services MOPAC oversees across the capital. The system includes the London Survivors Gateway, who offer additional information, advice, and support to victims-survivors in London.

## Transport

### **TfL completes major work to improve travel through Tolworth, making it more sustainable and resilient to flooding**

TfL has completed work on major improvements to Tolworth Roundabout. The scheme, which was partly funded by The Guinness Partnership and Lidl Ltd will deliver much-needed improvements to the roundabout, reducing congestion and protecting bus services against potential congestion from new developments in the area, as well as making it easier for people to walk and cycle.

More than 6,000 square metres of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) have also been installed, partly funded by Thames Water, to help address flooding risks. SuDS are important to preventing the increasing risk of flooding by managing water runoff in a way that mimics natural processes, including through using extra vegetation and rain gardens, which are covered with plants rather than concrete, and permeable paving, which allows some water to percolate into the ground.

Tolworth in southwest London is a busy district centre located next to the A3, which will see substantial growth over the coming years. The previous road layout experienced severe congestion at peak times, creating a poor environment for people walking, cycling and taking the bus. TfL has worked closely with the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames to understand the journey time impacts of the developments and what can be done to mitigate these.

I am committed to making travelling by bus, bike and on foot more reliable and more enjoyable. Tolworth is a busy junction, and the work we have done means that it can now cope with a growth in people travelling around the area, as well as becoming a nicer place to live and work.

### **TfL delivers pledge of doubling wildflower verges in roadside areas to encourage more biodiversity to thrive in London**

TfL pledged last year to increase biodiversity, mitigate climate change and become more sustainable in its operations by increasing the amount of wildflower verges on roadsides of TfL's network and has doubled the area managed in this way to more than 260,000m<sup>2</sup> in 2024.

The sites are managed to promote biodiversity by reducing mowing frequency to allow wildflowers to grow, TfL continue to regularly mow the edges to keep London's streets looking well maintained. TfL now has wildflower verges across its network including Gants Hill roundabout in Redbridge, Clockhouse roundabout in Feltham and the A21 Sevenoaks Road (Green Street Green) in Bromley.

The flowers create a supply of nectar and other food resources, plus shelter, for wildlife including bees, butterflies, birds and small mammals. Wildflower verges bring additional benefits for London's biodiversity, including the transfer of carbon dioxide from the air into the soil and reduced carbon emissions from mowing. The new verges mean that there is now the equivalent of 37 football pitches of wildflower verges across the TfL road network.

Protecting and encouraging biodiversity is essential to increasing sustainability and mitigating climate change, as we continue working together for a greener, fairer London for everyone.

### **TfL and Yunex Traffic successfully complete world leading upgrade to London's traffic signal system, keeping Londoners moving safely and sustainably**

TfL, working with Yunex Traffic Limited, has successfully transferred its ageing traffic signal system to the cloud-based Real Time Optimiser (RTO) system. This world-leading upgrade to London's road network management enables improved journey times, traffic flows and responses to incidents, as well as improved data on journey demand and road network patterns. This will help inform TfL's work to optimise the road network.

TfL manages around 6,400 automated traffic signal junctions and pedestrian crossings, one of Europe's largest traffic signal networks, which help to move traffic across both the TfL and borough road networks safely and efficiently. The RTO will transform the current traffic light control system that has been keeping London moving for more than 30 years. This will allow TfL to mitigate against the challenges of the complex, older road layout in the capital, providing resilience and future proofing its road network management.

Almost 4,000 junctions, 1,500 pedestrian crossings, and more than 16,000 traffic detectors across Greater London were seamlessly migrated to a new system without any impact on London's road network over a two-week period.

London's road network plays a vital role in enabling millions of journeys each day and I'm determined to ensure that people can walk, cycle, take the bus and drive as safely and efficiently as possible. This world-leading new traffic management system will be a game-changer in London. It will use new data sources to better manage TfL's road network, tackle congestion, reduce delay for people choosing healthier travel options and improve air quality

## Environment

### **UK Green Business Awards**

On 12 June, I was proud to receive the Politician of the Year Award at the UK Green Business Awards, which celebrates the best of the British green economy.

I joined an audience of some of the most progressive climate change businesses to share some impressive facts about our capital, which boasts the biggest zero-emission bus fleet in western Europe, the largest clean air zone in the world and is the global centre for green finance.

I committed to do more, having been voted in as London's Mayor for a historic third term.

### **3Ci quarterly Advisory Board meeting**

On 13 June, my deputy chief of staff, Richard Watts, attended 3Ci's quarterly Advisory Board meeting, in which he heard about 3Ci's new five-year business plan. We will continue to work closely with 3Ci with aim to leverage private investment into place-based net zero projects.

### **Goals House Opening Reception for London Climate Action Week**

On 24 June I addressed the Goals House Reception to open London Climate Action Week in my role as Mayor of London and co-Chair of C40 Cities. At this reception I addressed attendees comprised of international climate leaders, environmental philanthropists and leading businesses to outline how cities like London are at the forefront of tackling the climate crisis. Both in terms of the bold and ambitious commitments I have made around reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as dealing with the impacts of urban heating and flooding, London continues to be an international leader.

### **Financing Net Zero stakeholder event at London**

On 25 June, my Deputy Chief of Staff Richard Watts delivered the opening remarks at a stakeholder event focussed on financing London's net zero ambitions at London Stadium.

The event marked the one-year anniversary since I launched the London Climate Finance Facility, including the Green Finance Fund which provides low-cost, flexible finance to organisations looking to decarbonise. The London Stadium itself is one the very first recipients of the Green Finance Fund, to procure and install innovative solar membrane technology on the roof of the Stadium.

The event also marked the launch of the new £100m London EDGE Loan Fund, in partnership with and managed by private investor Sustainable Development Capital LLP. The EDGE Loan Fund partnership will unlock additional investment from the private sector, and enable many more organisations across the capital to make energy efficient choices.

## Fire

### **Highgate memorial service**

On 10 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe attended London Fire Brigade's annual memorial service at Highgate cemetery to remember firefighters who have died in service protecting London.

### **Mayor & London Fire Commissioner**

On 11 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, and I met with the London Fire Commissioner for our regular discussion on matters relating to London Fire Brigade.

### **London Assembly Fire Committee away day**

On 13 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended an informal meeting of the London Assembly Fire Committee.

### **Grenfell Memorial Service**

On 14 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended a memorial service to mark the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic Grenfell Tower fire.

### **LFB all staff meeting**

On 24 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended a London Fire Brigade all staff meeting to introduce himself and outline his priorities for his new brief.

### **His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) inspection of London Fire Brigade**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended a strategic briefing led by the London Fire Commissioner as part of HMICFRS's Round 3 inspection of London Fire Brigade. The Deputy Mayor was also interviewed by HMI Lee Freeman as part of the inspection process.

### **Soho Fire Station Pride Brunch**

On 29 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended the London Fire Brigade Pride Brunch at Soho Fire Station to mark pride month and support London Fire Brigade's LGBTQ+ community.

### **Deputy Mayor's Fire Board**

On 3 July, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, chaired a regular meeting of his Deputy Mayor's Fire Board.

## Resilience

On 19 June, my officers supported the delivery of 'Ready Together: London Communities Emergencies Partnership'. This event underscored the pivotal role that the voluntary and community sector plays in emergency response and considered future risks, climate resilience, and recent disaster behaviour research.

On 26 June, my Chief of Staff, David Bellamy, chaired the 76<sup>th</sup> meeting of the London Resilience Forum. The Forum was briefed on current and emerging risks to London, reviewed programmes of work on risk assessment, planning, training, exercising, and learning, and approved a cyber incident emergency response framework, and a protocol for the use of the national Emergency Alerts system in London.

On 27 June, my resilience team delivered Exercise Helios to test London's response to a future scenario involving five days of extreme heat and explore how best to prepare London and Londoners for this eventuality. My Chief of Staff and Chair of the London Resilience Forum, David Bellamy gave the opening address and more than 80 participants attended from sectors including emergency responder organisations, local government, public health, the environment agency, transport services, utilities and business, voluntary and faith sectors. Learning from the exercise will help support longer-term approaches to managing the risk of extreme heat, including the development of a regional plan for adapting to higher temperatures.

## Growth and Skills

### **Launch of the Mayor of London Adult Learning Awards 2024**

I am delighted to have launched the nominations for the Adult Learning Awards 2024. These awards are a highlight of the calendar and provide a moment to reflect and to shine a light on the many successes of London's fantastic adult skills sector.

The Awards are key to my commitment to help Londoners and businesses get the skills they need to thrive, and I was moved by the inspirational stories of adult learning highlighted at last year's ceremony. These stories included a tutor who fled Ukraine and helped other refugees from her country to settle in the UK; a coffee shop training disabled young people to be baristas and giving them the skills they need to move into further employment; and [London Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#), who are recruiting apprentices to address workforce shortages and develop a diverse pipeline of skilled paramedics.

Nominations close on 26 July and the 2024 ceremony will once again be held at City Hall in the autumn, presenting another opportunity to celebrate the achievements and contributions of Londoners, learning providers, employers and community organisations. I am looking forward to seeing the nominations that come in and hearing more from the Londoners and institutions that make up our fantastic adult skills sector.

### **London Learner Survey publication (2022/2023)**

On 28 June, I published my second London Learner Survey report which provides unprecedented insights into the transformational economic and social outcomes of Adult Education Budget (AEB) funded learners in 2022/23.



The report shows that following their course, 81% of learners were in employment or had started/or were about to start, further learning. In addition, nearly half (46%) of learners (equivalent to around 81,000 learners) experienced positive economic changes, including more than 11,000 learners who experienced an increase in their income. The majority (94%) of learners experienced positive social changes (equivalent to around 185,000 learners), including 158,000 learners (80%) who experienced an increase in their general wellbeing and 170,000 learners (87%) who felt more confident due to their course.

### **Launch of Skills Advisory Service**

On 18 June, my Grow London Local initiative, which provides free support and guidance for small business to help them grow their business, launched a new skills advisory service.

The service, delivered in partnership with London & Partners, will work with small businesses to identify the skills and knowledge gaps in their business, and signpost them to training opportunities to bridge those gaps and upskill their employees. For small businesses, developing skills and identifying new learning opportunities for employees is crucial to for growth, and to stay ahead of industry trends and best practices.

## **Housing**

### **Friary Park**

On Wednesday 12 June, my Deputy Mayor for Housing & Residential Development visited the Friary Park development in Ealing to see progress. This is an impressive joint venture between Peabody and Mount Anvil, backed by the GLA, which will deliver 1,228 much-needed new homes. In addition to the new homes, there will also be a new community centre and Mount Anvil and Peabody have also partnered with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew to design a series of courtyard gardens, woodland pockets, and an eco-walk.

## **The Economy, Business and Enterprise**

### **London Tech Week 2024**

On Monday 10 June, I launched the 11th London Tech Week (LTW) and gave an opening keynote speech. I promoted London's strengths as a world-leading tech hub and the best place to start and grow a tech business. With better connectivity, certainty, and openness, we've made London more attractive to investors; created the conditions for growth; and unlocked new markets, jobs and opportunities for Londoners. On Wednesday 11 June, I hosted a reception at Somerset House for around 200 global technology business leaders and founders, to welcome their participation in LTW.

During LTW, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, participated in events and meetings to highlight London's success as Europe's number one tech hub, its strengths in growth sectors such as AI, Fintech and Climate Tech, and the support available to start ups, scale ups and international companies in London. On 10 June, he spoke at the LTW Global Leaders Innovation Summit and International Welcome reception, and met with the Mayor of Vancouver, Ken Sim, and Washington's Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development, Nina Albert. On 13 June, he gave the keynote address at Fintech Week London 2024's flagship conference to financial and fintech leaders from around the world.

He also attended the launch of US TechBio company Recursion's new London office, which will act as their European HQ. On 14 June, he spoke at the annual 'Founded by Her' breakfast networking event, hosted by KPMG. Founded by Her supports female-led businesses raising Series A funding.

### **Meetings with business groups to discuss their London Manifestos**

Throughout June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with leading business organisations to discuss their London manifesto asks and areas for collaboration. These meetings included:

- On 4 June, Laura Timm, London Policy Chair, and Matt Jaffa, Senior External Affairs Manager (London), Federation of Small Businesses.
- On 5 June, John Dickie, Chief Executive Officer, and his senior leadership team, BusinessLDN.
- On 10 June, Kate Nicholls, CEO, UK Hospitality (UKH).
- On 17 June, Andrew Dakers, Chief Executive of West London Business.
- On 19 June, Anneka Hendrick, Regional Director for London and Southeast at the Confederation of British Industry (CBI).
- On 19 June, Karim Fatehi, CEO and James Watkins, Head of Policy and Public Impact, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) at the LCCI Offices on 19 June 2024.
- On 20 June, Gavin Poole, CEO of Here East London and Russ Shaw, founder of Tech London Advocates (TLA).

### **Meeting with Berkeley Homes**

On 12 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Justin Tibaldi, Divisional Managing Director at Berkeley Homes, to discuss the built environment sector and its role in London's growth, and skills challenges within the sector.

### **BusinessLDN Future London Conference**

On 13 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended BusinessLDN's Future London conference and spoke about the importance of London's businesses in informing, supporting, and delivering growth.

### **Launch of Salesforce AI Centre**

On 18 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber attended the launch of Salesforce's first global AI Centre and provided short remarks welcoming Salesforce's new venture and highlighting our support for high growth sectors such as AI. This centre is part of the company's pledge to invest \$4billion in AI and innovation and growth in the UK over the next five years.

### **KPMG Social Mobility Conference**

On 19 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber addressed KPMG's second Social Mobility Conference, covering the importance of businesses embedding an inclusive culture, using their spending power to improve working conditions in the supply chain, and the importance of fair pay and secure working patterns to social mobility.

## **Deputy Mayor trip to New York**

From 24 to 28 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, visited New York to promote London as the place to invest. He met with the Deputy Mayor for Housing, Economic Development and Workforce for New York City, the commissioner of the New York City Department of Small Business Services, Partnership for NYC and Tech NYC, as well as a roundtable discussion with investors and meetings with key Opportunity London partners and potential investors.

## **No Wrong Door Innovation Challenge Finalist Announcement**

On 1 July, I announced the 15 finalists of the No Wrong Door Innovation Challenge, at the launch of London Data Week. The Challenge looks for new approaches to better connect Londoners, particularly disabled Londoners, women, refugees, and both younger and older Londoners with the support they need and access to good employment opportunities. As finalists, each of the 15 innovators will receive £10,000 seed-funding to work closely with the GLA, London boroughs, and London's communities to co-design and test their solution.

## **Brompton Bicycle meeting**

On 1 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber and my Walking and Cycling Commissioner, Will Norman, met with Will Butler-Adams and Julian Scriven of Brompton Bicycles to discuss their future business plans for London.

## **BusinessLDN Meet the Deputy Mayor Series event**

On 3 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber attended BusinessLDN's "Meet the Deputy Mayor Series" event and spoke with representatives of London's business community.

## **AI and City Data Economy Founders roundtable**

On 3 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber and Chief Digital Officer, Theo Blackwell co-hosted a roundtable of public and private leaders to discuss the growing AI sector and city data economy.

# **Culture**

## **Aids Memorial Artist Announcement**

On 12 June, artist Anya Gallaccio was announced as the winner of the commission to create The AIDS Memorial in London. I am providing £130,000 funding from the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm towards the memorial, a project being led by AIDS Memory UK. The AIDS Memorial in London, located on South Crescent, Store Street in Fitzrovia will offer a space for remembrance and solidarity, commemorating those affected by HIV/AIDS in the past, present and the future.

## **City Talks**

On 12 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons gave a keynote speech at the launch of Sydney's new 10 year plan for culture. Sydney is launching a new Creative Land Trust following London's adoption of a model to support affordable workspace that originally came from San Francisco. These city-to-city learnings have all come through the World Cities Culture Forum which the GLA founded in 2012, chaired by Justine Simons, which has grown to 45 members. Justine was invited to Australia by the Lord Mayor of Sydney Clore Moore AO.

## **Remix Culture Summit**

On 14 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons gave a speech at the REMIX Summit Sydney – Culture, Tech and Entrepreneurship. She also took part in a discussion with Helen Salmon, Director of British Council Australia, on culture and soft power.

## **Transatlantic Slave Trade Shortlisting Announcement**

On 6 June, I announced a shortlist of six leading artists to create the Memorial to Victims of Transatlantic Slavery. The new memorial will be the first of its scale and profile in the UK and include a permanent artwork, satellite sites and an engagement programme. The main artwork will sit outside the entrance to the Museum of London Docklands in West India Quay, a location chosen because of its connection to the transatlantic slavery. The creation of the memorial has been made possible thanks to my funding pledge of £500,000, which is part of the work of my Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm. The announcement received significant coverage across most major London news outlets.

## **Film London 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

On 19 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons gave a speech at a reception to celebrate Film London's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Justine presented a video message from me congratulating Film London on two decades of incredible work as the driving force behind London's status as the third biggest city in the world for filmmaking. Film London announced new figures estimating that over the next five years their work will generate £9.5 billion of investment into the screen industries, with an additional GVA for the capital of over £1 billion.

## **UNESCO Creative Cities Roundtable in Braga**

On 2 July, my Deputy Mayor for Culture for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons, participated in a roundtable in Braga, Portugal, chaired by Ernesto Ottone Ramírez, Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO, to launch the UNESCO Braga Manifesto: A Sustainable Development Goal for Culture. Drawing from the experiences of the World City Culture Forum (WCCF) as its co-founder, Justine highlighted the WCCF São Paulo Manifesto: A Goal for Culture, to which 21 cities, representing a population of over 75 million people, have already signed up; addressed why it is important for cities to integrate culture into sustainable local development globally; and explained how a Sustainable Development Goal for culture will strengthen international cooperation at a city level, supporting sustainable development for culture post-2030.

## **Race Equality in Music Event Licensing (REMEL)**

On 10 June, my Night Czar chaired the Race Equality in Music Event Licensing (REMEL) Steering Group which is addressing concerns about the disproportionate barriers that Black, Asian and ethnic minority promoters and artists face when putting on music events. Research is underway to understand and take action on these barriers. The group includes Black Lives In Music, the Musicians Union, LIVE, local authorities and the Met Police.

## **Institute of Licensing Conference**

On 13 June, my Night Czar gave a keynote speech at the Institute of Licensing Training Conference on the importance of licensing working in partnership with businesses and the community to ensure London can prosper and grow around the clock.

## **LGBTQ+ In Property Conference**

On 13 June, my Night Czar gave a keynote speech at the LGBTQ+ In Property conference. She urged the sector to seize the opportunity to make London the most inclusive city in the world, by designing, building and managing our built environment in an inclusive way, both day and night.

# **Health**

## **Supporting University of East London's innovative community-based health campus**

On 12 June I joined leaders from east London's anchor institutions - including NHS organisations, GP networks, local authorities and businesses - to help launch a dedicated health campus at the University of East London (UEL). The event marked the creation of the One East London Network, which represents a new way of working together to tackle health inequalities and improve health outcomes for Londoners.

This is the first time that east London's anchor institutions have come together with a shared ambition and plan to drive forward health and social care innovations, and improve the lives of patients, while equipping local talent with the skills they need to excel professionally in the health and care sector.

At the event I spoke about my aspirations for the health and wellbeing of Londoners. I shared my ongoing commitment to support people in our city to live healthier lives - ensuring no one's health suffers because of who they are or where they live. I also talked about the importance of working with partners across the system and how taking a health in all policies approach can help create the conditions for healthier lives.

## **Supporting the NHS' urgent call for blood donors, National Blood Week (10-17 June)**

Following cyber attacks on 3 June that affected a pathology provider, a number of NHS trusts in London were left unable to match patients' blood at the same time and frequency as usual. This meant that hospitals needed to use O type blood (the universal type) as this is safe to use for all

patients. As a result, more units than usual of O negative and O positive blood have been needed to support the wider efforts of frontline staff and keep services running safely for local patients.

That's why I supported NHS Blood and Transplant's urgent call to Londoners to step forward and donate, across my platforms.

Blood donation is a matter that is very close to my heart. Every minute NHS hospitals in England need 3 blood donations to help save lives. Blood donations are particularly important for people with Sickle Cell, which is the fastest growing genetic blood disorder in the UK. London has the highest number of Sickle Cell patients in the UK and it disproportionately impacts Londoners of Black Caribbean and Black African heritage – but ethnically matched blood can provide the best treatment. While this National Blood Week focused on the urgent call for O type donors, all donations are important and I will continue to encourage Londoners to support their community by donating blood.

## Civil Society and Sport

### **Volunteer Support at State of London Debate**

On 20 June, eight of my Team London volunteers supported the State of London Debate at the O2 Indigo. This event provides Londoners with a space to raise concerns and questions directly to me and four of my Deputy Mayors. My volunteers provided a friendly face, welcomed visitors, checked tickets, ushered attendees to their seats and supported guests to get the most out of the event. My volunteers ensured this was another successful year of the event.

### **London Coaches Programme – 1st Cohort Graduation**

On 22 June, I hosted the National Basketball Association (NBA) and Basketball England at City Hall for the London Coaches Programme Graduation for the first cohort. The London Coaches Programme launched on 14 March 2023, where I announced a new partnership with the NBA to develop the next generation of basketball coaches in London in collaboration with Basketball England.

The London Coaches Programme aims to support 500 young Londoners aged 16-30 years old over three years to become qualified coaches and improve their employment opportunities. The coaches will reach thousands of young players across the city in the coming years. The initiative has provided participating coaches with the tools, techniques and strategies to enhance their basketball player development philosophy.

I am pleased to have congratulated the first 125 graduate coaches on their Community Coach Award Level 1 licence and encouraged 48 Coaches currently working towards the Level 2 licence. 123 coaches have achieved their Safeguarding training; 102 have completed their First Aid training and 53 coaches are now Mental Health First Aid qualified. The coaches have been supported to coach and mentor 13,060 young Londoners over the past 12 months. I look forward to continuing to supporting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cohort and onboarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cohort onto the programme.

### **London Volunteering Strategy Group**

On 24 June, the London Volunteering Strategy group (LVSG), who I support, met to start developing their second project, a Vision for Volunteering in London. This project will support the

national Vision for Volunteering work being led by NCVO on behalf of DCMS to look at the future of volunteering.

The LVSG, are a cross-sector group of voluntary organisations who collaborate on key volunteer focussed issues across London. The meeting was convened by London Plus and chaired by Dominic Pinkney from Works4U who will be coordinating the development of a London Vision for Volunteering that supports the issues and circumstances that are specific to volunteering in our city. There were thirteen organisations in attendance including the Association of Volunteer Managers, Kings College Student Union, The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Royal Voluntary Service.

### **Volunteer Manager EDI Forum**

On 27 June, my Civil Society and Sport unit ran the fourth and final meeting of this series of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Volunteer Managers Forum. The Forum is a peer support group for staff in Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations working with volunteers and provides a space where members can extend their networks and exchange and broaden their knowledge and good practice. There were presentations from Jessica Greenhalf, Director at Homestart, and Zoë Raymond, from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), on their experience and research on diversifying volunteering teams. Kiran Nahal, from Citizens Advice Bureau, and Anneka Coleman, from English Heritage, led a workshop on diversifying volunteer recruitment campaigns.

### **Social Enterprise Roundtable**

On 27 June, my Civil Society and Sport unit hosted a roundtable discussion on the future of London's social economy at City Hall. The discussion brought together a select group of influential stakeholders who have demonstrated leadership in supporting social enterprise or may drive positive change in this sector. The team developed this event with advisory support from the School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE), who contributed to the discussion, and with input from GLA colleagues from related fields.

### **Civil Society and Sport Young Ambassadors Mental Health Toolkit**

On 28 June, my Mental Health Toolkit for young Londoners became available to all schools across London to access for peer-to-peer use or teacher to student delivery. Over 1,000 young Londoners participating in my Young Ambassadors programme across mainstream schools, pupil referral units and special educational needs schools have developed this toolkit. Developed for Young Londoners by Young Londoners, this contributes to my target of recruiting a quarter of a million wellbeing champions and improving the health of children in our city. The toolkit was created in collaboration with Volunteering Matters, GLA Civil Society and Sport unit, Children and Young Londoners Team and the Champion Mental Health Team. The toolkit includes mental health tips, activities, and links to further resources that aim to help support young people's wellbeing. Volunteering Matters have also developed a bespoke training course for schools across London to access mental health training and peer to peer support.

## **London Youth Games Festival Weekend**

Between 28-30 June, I supported the London Youth Games (LYG) Finals Festival at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. On Friday, we had dancers representing London Boroughs competing in the finals of the School Games dance competition at the Copper Box Arena. Sunday marked the conclusion of the LYG 2024 season, which has seen all 33 London boroughs involved.

Basketball, Volleyball and Netball were all hosted at the Copper Box arena, where London's diverse talent was highlighted and celebrated. This year's finals see the introduction of several para events, supporting disabled young Londoners. Other notable activities took place in the London Aquatic Centre, Lee Valley Velo Park, Lee Valley Tennis and Hockey Centre, along with a community festival at the London Marathon Community Track.

It has been a pleasure to work with the LYG in support of our shared objectives of providing young Londoners with diversion away from crime and offering a sport programme that reaches so many young Londoners from the most diverse groups and boroughs and reducing barriers to physical activity. We have collaborated to deliver additional Para competitions and events, attracting participants from 17 boroughs and engaging over 300 young Londoners with disabilities. Our efforts have also included training 21 inclusive sport coaches and upskilling 34 volunteers. Our goal is to further expand our Para offerings and engage more than 600 young Londoners in the future.

## **Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC)**

### **Planning policy**

On 13 June, OPDC board members adopted its Public Realm and Green Infrastructure (PRGI) Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The PRGI SPD provides planning guidance and detail on how OPDC will deliver an exceptional public realm and green infrastructure across its Opportunity Area. More information about the PRGI SPD can be found [here](#).

On 13 June, OPDC board members agreed to the adoption the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). The SCI sets out how OPDC will engage and consult with local communities to shape planning applications and decisions, as well as demonstrating how OPDC's key changes to the SCI have strengthened requirements for community engagement at the pre-application stage. More information about the SCI can be found [here](#).

### **Planning awards**

On 13 June, OPDC's planning team were awarded the Plan Making Award at the Planning Awards 2024, in recognition of the work undertaken on the Industrial Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

On 27 June, the Industrial SPD secured its second award for Best Plan at the RTPI London Planning Excellence Awards 2024.

The SPD was praised by the judges for its ground-breaking approach to industrial intensification, climate change, green infrastructure and the importance of delivering a good working environment for industrial employees. More information can be found [here](#).



## **Atlas Wharf**

On 6 June, OPDC successfully acquired Atlas Road Bus Depot, a key strategic brownfield site of over four acres in Old Oak.

With this latest acquisition, OPDC now owns a total of eight sites, acquired since March 2023. These sites have been purchased using funding (the GLA Land Fund Facility, the GLA Loan Fund and DLUHC's Brownfield Infrastructure Land (BIL) Funding which come to a total £103m) that has been made available for land assembly.

These sites are key to unlocking many thousands of affordable homes, and delivering jobs, local amenities, services, and public parks, as part of OPDC's wider regeneration plans for Old Oak.

## **Staff appointment**

On 10 June, OPDC announced the appointment of Marianne Brook as the corporation's new Development Director.

Marianne will oversee OPDC's multidisciplinary delivery team, bringing forward thousands of new and affordable homes and major new inward investment and employment into west London. Marianne joins the corporation with over 16 years' experience of delivering complex housing and development projects for major clients including Berkeley Homes, TfL, National Grid Property and the NHS.

## **Open City Awards**

On 25 June, OPDC hosted the Open City Awards with the Mayor of Brent, Tariq Dar.

The Open City Awards celebrated the Brent Young City Makers Programme. Funded by OPDC, the programme worked with primary schools across Brent to engage and inspire hundreds of local pupils to think creatively about planning and regeneration.

A collection of creative artworks designed and imagined by the children are currently on display in Brent Civic Centre.

# **London Legacy Development Corporation**

## **Events**

London Stadium's summer events schedule got underway on 8 and 9 June as Major League Baseball's (MLB) London Series returned with New York Mets playing Philadelphia Phillies. The series is in its second year and part of the three-year deal I signed in 2022, following the first MLB London Series in 2019, with MLB next returning to the Stadium in 2026.

According to an [impact study](#) conducted by Two Circles, the 2023 London Series resulted in a boost of more than £60million to the UK economy.

A week later on 15 June, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park held its annual free-for-all community event the Great Get Together. Celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the event brought local people together and showcased the best of what the area has to offer.

The Stadium's line up of music events began over two nights on 20 and 22 June with Foo Fighters playing to a combined audience of 150,000. Burna Boy returned to the Stadium to perform for one night on 29 June.

Copper Box Arena continues to cement its position as a premier venue for e-sports as it hosted the world's best Rocket League players for the second RLCS Major of the year on 22 and 23 June.

The London Youth Games Finals Festival returned to the Park on 28, 29 and 30 June with a number of the venues, including the London Aquatics Centre (LAC), Copper Box Arena and Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre hosting events.

There was more positive news from the LAC when it was announced that half of the diving squad selected by Team GB for the Olympic Games in Paris either train or have trained at the former Olympic venue. As Mayor I wish Tom Daley, Kyle Kothari, Scarlett Mew Jensen, Grace Reid, Andrea Spendolini-Sirieix, Noah Williams and the rest of the squad all the best.

### **Women and Girls' Safety**

Since 2021, LLDC has been driving forward a range of initiatives that seek to enhance women's safety on and around the Park. One of the key outputs of this workstream has been the development of LLDC's 'Creating places that work for Women and Girls' handbook.

It seeks to influence the way the built environment is shaped, offering practical, easily applicable tools that allow built environment professionals to create more equitable places. The handbook, created in collaboration with Arup with support from experts, including the UN Habitat and Make Space for Girls, will be formally launched by my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service on 11 July.

### **Stratford Waterfront**

On 25 June, LLDC and Ballymore were awarded detailed planning consent for 700 new homes which will neighbour East Bank. Designed by Howells alongside O'Donnell+Tuomey and LDA Design, Stratford Waterfront comprises of four residential-led buildings.

The plans also include circa 1,750 sq m of commercial space at ground level, as well as over 4,000 sqm of public open space that will prioritise biodiversity and play. 35% of the homes will be affordable, with a total of 50% affordable homes planned when combined with Bridgewater Triangle, a second site to be delivered by the joint venture partnership with Ballymore, together with Pudding Mill Lane and Rick Roberts Way.

### **Climate Action Strategy**

LLDC has published its Climate Action Strategy. The Strategy, which can be viewed [here](#), provides a framework for climate action considerations in all of LLDC's current and future activities.

### **London Pride**

On 29 June, as part of the number of events taking place to celebrate Pride, Everyone Active, the new operator at the London Aquatics Centre, hosted a Pride Swim.

## **Planning and Regeneration**

## Local Plans

On 17 June, GLA officers responded on my behalf to LB Hillingdon's Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation. In that response I provided guidance to bring the emerging draft Plan into closer alignment with the London Plan.

On 26 June, GLA officers attended the Local Plan Examination in Public for the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. Officers spoke at the Examination regarding affordable housing policy which is not in general conformity with the London Plan.

## London Plan Review/Planning for London Programme

On 14 June, the following were published on the [Planning for London Engagement Portal](#):

- Stakeholder Events summary reports:  
Infrastructure, design, climate change and the environment – June 2023  
Housing and the economy – July 2023
- Co-design projects:
  - London Housing Panel findings report
  - Design Future London – Bringing the youth voice into the London Plan Report
- Talk London Discussion Summary Report – The future of London and your neighbourhood

## Planning Decisions

### 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
2023/0304	Highview Farm	Hillingdon	17/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor
2023/0450	Crown Wharf	Newham	24/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor
2023/0603	2 Portal Way	Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation	17/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor
2024/0025	London Dock Plots H & J	Tower Hamlets	17/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Mayor

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### 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
2022/0409	Arora Tower	Greenwich	24/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Delegated Decision
2022/0356	The Goods Yard and The Depot	Haringey	17/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Delegated Decision
2023/0103	80 Courier Road, Rainham	Havering	17/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2	Delegated Decision
2023/0120	Squirrels Trading Estate	Hillingdon	24/06/2024	Allow LPA to approve	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
2024/0293	Silkstream Development, Phase 1	Barnet	18/06/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision	Application Type	Determination Level
2024/0256	156 West End Lane	Camden	11/06/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0273	Land Off Collett Way	Ealing	10/06/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0307	1 Boord Street	Greenwich	26/06/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0227	Tottenham Hotspur Stadium	Haringey	25/06/2024	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues	Delegated Decision
2024/0272	176-178 York Way	Islington	24/06/2024	No Stage 2 required	Stage 1	Delegated Decision
2024/0231	Westfield Stratford City Car Park C	London Legacy Development Corporation	17/06/2024	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1	Delegated Decision

## Key engagements

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

- I officially opened London Tech Week on 10 June
- I held my regular meeting with the London Fire Commissioner on 11 June

- I chaired the Transport for London Board on 12 June
- I attended a reception for London Tech Week on 12 June
- I officially opened the UEL Health Campus on 12 June
- I attended the UK Green Business Awards on 12 June
- I laid a wreath to remember the victims of the Grenfell Tower Fire on 14 June
- I held my regular planning meeting on 17 June
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 17 June
- I met with artists and local stakeholders at the Taylor Swift murals at Wembley Stadium on 19 June
- I took part in the State of London Debate on 20 June
- I attended the City Hall Remembrance Service for the Armed Forces on 24 June
- I joined the opening reception for London Climate Action Week on 24 June
- I joined the Muslim News Awards on 24 June
- I attended the US Embassy summer reception on 24 June
- I attended the Serpentine Summer Reception on 25 June
- I led the Pride March in London on 29 June
- I held my regular planning meeting on 1 July