MAYOR OF LONDON

Andrew Boff AM
Chair of the London Assembly
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Date: 18 November 2024

Dear Andrew,

London Assembly (Plenary) Meeting 8 February 2024 - Motions

Thank you for your letter about the motions agreed at the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 8 February. Please see my response to motions 3.7 and 3.8 below, and I am sorry for the delay.

Motion 3.7

It is inaccurate to state that Solar Together London has resulted in a total of just 1,500 installations. To date, Solar Together London has supported the installation of more than 24,000 solar panels, representing installation of 3,200 in homes across London. In addition, customers have been able to get 20-30 per cent reductions on the cost of measures and the programme has leveraged c.£20m of private investment.

Unfortunately, due to one of the scheme's suppliers going into liquidation, which also affected Solar Together customers across the country, some customers in the fourth and fifth phases experienced unacceptably poor levels of service. Many of these customers have transferred to other installers so they have still had their installations completed, which has ensured the environmental and cost benefits of solar are realised. All customers have been supported to get their cases resolved

The contract for the evaluation was awarded, and the report has been published alongside the Greater London Authority (GLA) response.

The focus of GLA officers has been to successfully support the remaining customers of Solar Together London to get the resolution they were seeking. No decision has been made on what happens thereafter, although I have made budget available to support the delivery of my Solar Action Plan in 2024/25.

Motion 3.8

It is clear in funding contracts that liability for the quality of homes rests with housing providers. It is vital that all building owners regularly take steps to review their properties for all structural and safety issues, as resident safety is paramount.

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The GLA does audit compliance with the standards set out in our funding programmes; however, overall responsibility for other quality or defects issues and compliance with Building Regulations rests with our partners.

GLA contracts with the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham for funding affordable housing do not contain provisions regarding safety issues in private sector developments in the borough that did not receive GLA funding.

As I do not have a statutory remit or associated resources, it is not practical for my team to survey all properties that received funding through my housing programmes.

I am monitoring the situation closely and will continue to do so. Both my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development and my officers are in regular contact with the council.

Yours sincerely,

Sadiq Khan

Mayor of London