

MAYOR OF LONDON

Caroline Russell AM

C/o Jasmine.Farquharson@london.gov.uk

Our ref: MGLA220425-4492/
MGLA081124-4510

Date: 28 May 2025

Dear Caroline,

Thank you for passing on the petition regarding the removal of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) by the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Evidence shows that LTNs can have many positive outcomes and help us meet the targets in my Transport Strategy. By reducing the amount of traffic on local streets, they can make them safer and enable people to walk and cycle more.

As you know, through the Vision Zero Action Plan, we aim to eliminate death and serious injury from London's streets by 2041. People walking, cycling, and motorcycling continue to be the most at risk on London's streets, making up 80 per cent of all people killed or seriously injured in 2022. Recent data has shown that road casualties decrease by 50 per cent within LTNs with no increase on their boundaries.

My Transport Strategy also aims to increase the active, efficient and sustainable (walking, cycling and public transport) mode share of trips in London to 80 per cent by 2041. Five years post-implementation, people who live in LTNs do 62 minutes more walking and 43 minutes more cycling per week than those who do not live in LTNs.

As you will know, many of the roads within LTNs are not controlled by Transport for London (TfL). LTNs are delivered by London's boroughs, with funding and support from TfL, to provide important safety and health benefits to local communities.

There was a two-day court hearing about the Bethnal Green LTN on 20 and 21 November 2024. TfL, which provided funding for the scheme, was an interested party in the proceedings and supported the local resident who brought a judicial review against Tower Hamlets Council's decision to remove the LTN.

On 17 December 2024, the High Court handed down its ruling in favour of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets. I understand that the Save Our Safer Streets group has since been successful in their application for permission to appeal. Pending the outcome of this appeal, it would not be appropriate for me to exercise the powers available to me because the Court will be considering the extent of those powers. We will continue to monitor developments in this case, and following its outcome, I will consider the options available to me and any wider implications for TfL funding of borough schemes.

MAYOR OF LONDON

Both TfL and I remain committed to the targets set out in my Transport Strategy. Across the capital, boroughs continue to make excellent progress with work ongoing to plan or deliver more school streets, new schemes delivering 20mph speed limits, new and upgraded pedestrian crossings and new cycle routes. TfL will continue to support boroughs that want to deliver Healthy Streets initiatives.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sadiq Khan', with a small '2' written below the 'h'.

Sir Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London