

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Rebecca Arnold**

Assistant Director, Committee and Member  
Services

C/o [Lauren.Harvey@london.gov.uk](mailto:Lauren.Harvey@london.gov.uk)

**Our ref:** MGLA260225-0983

**Date:** 11 August 2025

Dear Rebecca,

## **London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) Meeting 25 February 2025 – Consideration of Final Draft Consolidated Budget for 2025-26**

Thank you for your letter following the London Assembly meeting on 25 February. Please see my reply below to the motion passed at the plenary meeting on 13 February calling on me to commit to funding a Leasehold Advice Centre.

I recognise that too many leaseholders are deeply frustrated by their experiences and feel powerless due to the current legal framework. I have called for commonhold to replace leasehold as the default tenure for flat owners since I was first elected in 2016, and the Government has now committed to this and will publish a draft bill later this year.

I agree that London's leaseholders need access to high-quality, expert advice and information on the issues they face. However, the framework they are navigating is bound by national legislation, and the challenges they face are not unique to London or within my control.

This is a national issue impacting leaseholders across the country. It needs a comprehensive national solution and national support, backed up by sufficient funding that matches the breadth and complexity of issues leaseholders face. A London-specific service does not make sense in this context.

The Government already funds LEASE, an independent leasehold advisory service. LEASE provides advice to leaseholders on a wide range of issues, including service charges, lease terms, shared ownership, and, following my lobbying of the previous Government, on building safety issues. The Greater London Authority (GLA) signposts leaseholders who need advice to LEASE. This happens through correspondence with Londoners who write to City Hall for support. I promote [the Mayor of London's leasehold guide for Londoners](#), which also signposts Londoners to LEASE. Furthermore, I introduced the Service Charges Charter and Key Information Documents, which ensure my investment partners provide clear information to leaseholders and shared ownership applicants.

I am pleased that this Government is taking action to bring the feudal leasehold system to an end and resolve unfair practices. Ministers intend to launch a consultation on the restriction of the sale of new leasehold flats this year. This will ban new leasehold flats and introduce commonhold as the

# MAYOR OF LONDON

default tenure. The Government will also publish a draft Leasehold and Commonhold Reform Bill for detailed scrutiny. I will focus my efforts on supporting the Government to get this right so that Londoners are finally freed of the current feudal leasehold system.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Sir Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London