

# 13th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

## Mayor's Question Time - 11 July 2025

This is my thirteenth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 6 June – 27 June 2025.

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

## Executive Summary

### Launch of Green Roots Fund

On 22 June, to kickstart London Climate Action Week, I launched my new Green Roots Fund, which will invest more than £12 million to make neighbourhoods across the capital greener, healthier and more climate resilient.

The new Fund, which delivers on my manifesto pledge, will support the creation and improvement of London's green and blue spaces, such as parks, community gardens, wetlands and rivers. This includes projects that will restore habitats for nature to thrive and could reintroduce lost species.

The new Fund will award grants ranging from £10,000 to £500,000 over the next three years to community groups, boroughs and stakeholders to pay for trees, wildflower meadows, parklets and waterway improvements.

London Climate Action Week is the largest city-wide climate event in Europe and hosts more than 700 in-person and virtual events and attracts more than 45,000 people to the capital. It mobilises London's unparalleled array of organisations committed to accelerating global climate action, showcasing how London is a global climate leader.

Other events and activities at London Climate Action Week included:

- a seeds giveaway to encourage Londoners to create habitats and food sources to benefit nature.
- a week of discussions at Goals House.
- a Climate Innovation Forum; and
- the inaugural London Climate Action Week Youth Summit at ZSL.

### Summer Streets Fund Announcement

On 20 June, I announced the successful boroughs for my new Summer Streets al fresco dining and drinking hotspots.

The first wave of schemes are: Lambeth (Atlantic Road and Brixton Station Road in Brixton), Hackney (Rivington Street and Redchurch Street in Shoreditch), Waltham Forest (Francis Road in Leyton) and Westminster (St Martin's Lane in the West End).

They will access the Summer Streets Fund to transform spaces into open-air dining areas support their hospitality industries and increase their local economies. As well as outdoor dining and longer opening hours, boroughs will take advantage of car free areas, with daytime activities including food markets, art workshops and live music.

This scheme precedes me being granted new licensing powers from Government to help boost the capital's nightlife.

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

14 June marked eight years since the horrific and senseless loss of 72 lives in the Grenfell Tower fire. Those who lost loved ones that night have been living with the tragedy ever since, every day of which they have shown unrelenting strength, dignity, and courage.

As I do each year, I wrote to the Prime Minister ahead of the anniversary to raise issues that are concerning me and the community. I highlighted the need for sustained mental and physical health support for those affected by the disaster, called for the Police and Crown Prosecution Service to be properly resourced for the complex criminal investigation into the fire, and also pushed for the establishment of a National Oversight Mechanism, an arms-length public body to monitor, collate and follow up on recommendations from inquiries and inquests that will ultimately help save lives.

I visited the Tower in the morning to lay a wreath and pay my respects. Jules Pipe, My Deputy Mayor for Planning Regeneration and the Fire Service, attended a local church service arranged by the bereaved and survivors. Tom Copley, 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 honour the memory of Grenfell.

The publication of the final Grenfell Tower Inquiry report last year was an important step towards correcting the catastrophic failures exposed by the tragedy, and all those responsible have more to do to ensure all lessons are learned. Every Londoner deserves to live in a safe home, something that Grenfell Tower residents were cruelly deprived of.

I stand in solidarity with the bereaved, survivors and residents and commend their strength and courage as their long fight for justice continues. The most fitting tribute to the people who died, their loved ones and those who survived is to ensure that nothing like this ever happens again, and I will continue to do everything in my power to build a safer and fairer London for all.

### **Concordia Europe Summit**

On 9 June, I delivered the keynote speech at the 2025 Concordia Europe Summit, the first time the summit -bringing together global leaders, innovators and changemakers - has taken place in London.

At the Summit, I set out that there's never been a better time for businesses, entrepreneurs, or event organisers, to come to our city and be a part of the London story. At a time of geopolitical flux – when others are putting up walls and turning inwards – I made it clear that London continues to open its arms to the world, emphasising that it is this openness that powers our economy, stimulates our creativity, and strengthens our global standing.

### **Oxford Street Pedestrianisation Plans Move Forward**

On 17 June, at an event hosted by Selfridges, I announced that following extensive consultation, Londoners and business overwhelmingly backed my proposals to pedestrianise Oxford Street. The consultation found that almost 7 in 10 Londoners backed my proposal for a Mayoral Development Area and Corporation, and two thirds supported pedestrianisation specifically.

I will now move forward with these proposals - detailed plans will be produced for the pedestrianisation of Orchard Street to Great Portland Street and will be published later this year for consultation. I will also work with Government to take the steps necessary to establish a Mayoral Development Corporation, which I intend to be operational by January 1<sup>st</sup> 2026. This marks a major milestone in our ambition to transform one of London's, and the UK's, most iconic and economically important high streets.

### **Paris Agreement anniversary**

On 23 June, I attended a conference hosted by the Mayor of Paris to mark the 10th anniversary of the Paris Agreement. It was an honour to address the audience about the growing challenge of climate disinformation and its impact on democracy, and to explore how we can advance climate action in an environment of increasing public mistrust.

### **Eid on the Square 2025**

On 8 June, I had the pleasure of attending Eid on the Square. Marking Eid al-Adha, on Trafalgar Square, this remarkable event brought together thousands of Muslims and non-Muslims in shared celebration, enjoying a variety of culture, food, entertainment and Islamic inspired art. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the huge contribution Muslim Londoners make to our city.

The square was filled with activities for the whole family, where they could immerse themselves in everything from comedy, creative writing workshops and percussion shows. Stage hosts, Deana Soni and Haroon Rashid, welcomed performances from internationally renowned Nasheed artist Mesut Kurtis, Zahra Ahmad, Chand Ali Khan Qawwal & Group, and WAW Arts Academy. The Indonesian Angklung Ensemble feat. H.E. Dr Desran Percaya, returned to the main stage with a captivating performance, and I was delighted to enjoy the soulful voice of Sevede Akbaba, the acclaimed Dr. Saliha Mahmood, and the powerful vocals of Omar Esa. Each act was a testament of the diversity within the Muslim culture in London.

I would like to thank my Team London volunteers who provided support to the festival.

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

On 12 June, I held my ninth State of London Debate, at indigo at The O2 in Greenwich. With an audience of almost 600 people, both in-person and online, this was an opportunity for members of the public to put their questions to me and my Deputy Mayors on the important and current issues that matter to them.

The event was hosted by our media partner LBC, and chaired by James O'Brien, with topics covering transport, policing and safety, housing, air quality and the environment, and London's economy.

### **London-wide ULEZ scrappage sees over 53,000 older, more polluting vehicles removed from London's roads**

I am pleased that my London-wide ULEZ scrappage scheme has been successful in helping to substantially reduce harmful emissions and improve air quality by removing older, more polluting vehicles from London's roads. A new report shows a total of 35,094 cars and 17,964 vans have been removed from London's roads or upgraded to a ULEZ-compliant vehicle, helping to substantially reduce harmful emissions and improve air quality.

Further findings from the report include:

- In total, more than 53,000 older, more polluting vehicles were removed from London's roads.
- The scrappage scheme is helping to drive down emissions. The cumulative annual average emissions savings are likely to be around 160 tonnes of nitrogen oxides (NOx), 8.5 tonnes of Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM2.5) and 33,400 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO2) as a result of the scrappage scheme. This is the equivalent CO2 saving of running 1,000 homes in a year.
- Outer Londoners benefited most from the scheme, receiving 88 per cent of the distributed funding.
- The scheme also supported international humanitarian efforts, with 684 vehicles donated to support the medical and humanitarian efforts in Ukraine.

### **London Symphony Orchestra 2025**

On 15 June, I was delighted to welcome the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO) back to the heart of the capital. Trafalgar Square once again became our biggest open-air classical concert venue, entertaining both Londoners and visitors alike. At the centre of the concert, was the world premiere of Isabella Gellis' new work *Opera for Orchestra*, which was specially commissioned for the occasion. Her piece, written for a mixed-ability orchestra, brought together LSO and Guildhall School musicians with 55 young musicians from east London as part of the LSO Discovery programme. The free outdoor summer concert was conducted for the first time by LSO Chief Conductor, Sir Antonio Pappano, and is still available for everyone to enjoy via LSO's YouTube.

### **Mayor of London's Pride Reception**

On 17 June, as part of Pride Month, I hosted my annual Pride Reception at the Outernet on Tottenham Court Road. The event brought together guests from London's LGBTQI+ community at an unsettling time for trans and non-binary people, the wider community, and their allies. I made it clear that I have always been proud of London's status as a beacon for openness, equality, and LGBTQI+ rights, and that I am determined that this remains the case.

The event was opened by my Deputy Mayor Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and we were joined by Scott Neal and Lisa Miles from the Outernet, who are partnering with us and Pride in London in our bid to host World Pride 2030. The Outernet's Now Trending Space was also taken over with our 'Loved & Wanted' Campaign, which features stories from community groups across London.

### **Armed Forces Day 2025**

On 26 June, I was honoured to join with members of the Armed Forces and the London Assembly to celebrate and pay homage to the work of our Armed Forces at City Hall's flag raising ceremony.

Armed Forces Day is a chance to show support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community – where that be currently serving troops or Service families, veterans and cadets. From protecting our nation to providing humanitarian support and promoting peace, their responsibilities are wide-ranging, and we must never underestimate the sacrifices they make to keep our country safe. It's vital that we continue to reflect and honour their immense courage and commitment.

I was joined by the Chair of the London Assembly, Len Duvall OBE, and Royal Navy representative Commodore Green, who delivered the vote of thanks on behalf of the military.

Lieutenant Colonel Johnston represented the Army, and Air Commodore Nicholas Gordon MBE, represented the RAF. The Band of the Household Cavalry played the National Anthem and other popular pieces.

### **Gypsy Roma and Traveller History Month Reception**

On 27 June, we welcomed the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) community to City Hall to celebrate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller History Month at our annual reception.

The evening brought together MPs, councillors, and support groups, along with members of the GRT community for an evening of celebration and education. Guests enjoyed traditional live Roma music, a cultural fashion show, and inspiring talks from members of our community advisory group, who played a key role in bringing this event to life.

To mark the occasion, the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller flag was proudly raised at City Hall on the day—an uplifting and symbolic moment for all in attendance.

## **Policing, Crime and Security**

### **A new way for Londoners to get in touch with their neighbourhood police team**

On 24 June, my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Kaya Comer-Schwartz, joined Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley and members of the Met's Merton neighbourhood teams in Mitcham town centre, as they carried out an operation to tackle organised shoplifting – a key concern for local businesses and residents. The visit marked the launch of Met Engage, a new way for Londoners to connect with their local neighbourhood policing teams, share their priorities and get the latest updates from the Met in their area. I warmly encourage Londoners to sign up to this valuable service. More information can be found at: [www.metengage.co.uk](http://www.metengage.co.uk).

### **MPS culture on the agenda at the London Policing Board**

On 26 June, I was pleased to chair the latest meeting of the London Policing Board (LPB), which focused on the Met's Firearms Culture Programme and Culture Plan. These are significant areas of work at the heart of the work being led by the Commissioner to build trust in the work of our capital's police service, and I welcome the contribution of LPB Members in championing this work and scrutinising its delivery.

I also want to note my thanks to Professor Nicola Rollock and Professor Leslie Thomas KC, founder members of the London Policing Board who have announced their intention to step down. I am extremely grateful to both for the time and expertise they have given since 2023 to help me to ensure that the Met commands the trust of all Londoners.

## **Transport**

### **State-of-the-art Piccadilly line trains to begin operating in 2026**

The new Piccadilly line trains, which will transform journeys for millions of customers on one of the Underground's busiest lines, will begin operating in the second half of 2026. These new trains offer ten per cent more capacity, walk-through air-conditioned carriages, wider double doorways for easier boarding, real-time digital displays and on-board CCTV for added security. The trains are lighter than existing designs, which means they are more energy efficient and provide a smoother ride for customers, consuming 20 per cent less energy.

This is an ambitious upgrade programme with the most complex train that has ever been introduced onto the Tube network. It will bring transformational benefits to millions of customers but also involves engineering challenges in designing, building and introducing these new trains onto one of the deepest and longest lines on TfL's network, while ensuring they are fully integrated with London Underground infrastructure. The pioneering train is the first Deep Tube train to have air conditioning; a feature that can only be achieved because of the novel space-saving design techniques that allow the air conditioning to be placed under the train.

I am proud and excited that these innovative new trains on the Piccadilly line will have a transformative effect for London. This hugely complex project will boost capacity and make journeys more accessible and more comfortable for millions of people.

### **New express 'Bakerloop' bus route to begin this autumn as further plans for an expansion of the Superloop network are revealed**

I made a commitment to unleash a public transport revolution in outer London, and I'm delighted the introduction of the new Bakerloop express bus route will be delivered later this year.

The feedback from Londoners to the new BL1 route has been overwhelmingly positive and builds on the continued success of the Superloop express bus services in London.

The new express bus service will connect stations and areas mirroring the proposed Bakerloo Tube line extension route, running between Waterloo, Elephant & Castle and Lewisham, via Burgess Park, Old Kent Road, New Cross Gate, Lewisham station and Lewisham town centre. Working alongside local councils and partners, the bus route will demonstrate the opportunities presented by the Bakerloo line extension to better connect people in south east London.

I launched a consultation into the BL1 'Bakerloop' line route alongside local and pan-London stakeholders in January this year. Most of the feedback from residents and local stakeholders was positive and the proposals were widely supported, with many respondents stating that a new route BL1 would:

- Be more convenient (82 per cent)
- Result in a quicker bus journey time (79 per cent)
- Be used between a few days and every day per week (55 per cent)

The London boroughs of Lewisham and Southwark have shown support for the project, and, with them, TfL continues to develop plans for the Bakerloo line extension, including tunnel design, station designs and plans for a possible extension beyond Lewisham.

The new route will build on the success of the game changing Superloop, a 194km network loop of express bus services that has transformed travel in outer London and added more than seven million kilometres per year to the capital's network.

### **Have your say on the latest plans to extend the DLR to Beckton Riverside and Thamesmead**

TfL is inviting people to have their say on the proposals for the cross-river extension of the DLR from Gallions Reach to Thamesmead via Beckton Riverside.

This latest consultation, which outlines the preferred route and station locations for the public to feedback on, follows a positive response to the initial consultation held last year, where 75

per cent of respondents said that the proposals would make journeys into the wider east and southeast London quicker. Sample polling, conducted by TfL in Beckton, Gallions Reach, Thamesmead and Abbey Wood, also found that 85 per cent of those polled supported or strongly supported the proposals.

TfL is proposing a new station at Beckton Riverside opposite Gallions Reach Shopping Park. The new station would form part of a redeveloped town centre, with residential developments, employment, retail and community facilities. At Thamesmead, the proposed site would be located at Thamesmead Waterfront, part of a 100-hectare site proposed regeneration site owned by Peabody. The site offers potential to deliver thousands of new homes and jobs, alongside a new and expanded town centre. A station here would also mean faster and easier journeys to jobs, education and leisure, with journey times of around 25 minutes to Stratford, around 30 minutes to London Bridge, and around 35 minutes to the West End (Tottenham Court Road).

The consultation is open until 17 August 2025, and public feedback received will help shape the next stages of design and development, ahead of a further consultation next year focused on environmental and construction impacts.

### **London hits a new green milestone as more than 2,000 zero-emission buses now on capital's roads**

London is leading the way with the largest zero-emission fleet in Western Europe. There are now more than 2,000 zero-emission buses on the capital's streets helping to improve the city's air quality and reducing its carbon emissions. This means two in every nine of London's world-famous red buses have now gone green, which is more than 20 per cent of the entire bus fleet, increasing from 30 in 2016.

I'm proud we've taken London's bus network from strength to strength since I became Mayor in 2016, increasing the size of the network, making transport greener and improving bus safety and customer experience. I will continue to do everything I can to ensure buses remain the most accessible, affordable and sustainable form of transport as we continue to build a greener, fairer London for everyone.

### **Gallows Corner junction closed until September as part of next phase of essential refurbishment work**

TfL has begun the second phase of major strengthening and refurbishment work on Gallows Corner flyover in Havering, which will allow the structure to continue providing reliable and safe transport for decades to come. The essential work will require both the flyover and the roundabout to be closed to all traffic, other than emergency vehicles, buses and black cabs.

Gallows Corner flyover was built in the 1970s as a temporary structure and is in urgent need of renewal. The speed and weight limits implemented in previous years have allowed the structure to continue operating safely but a major refurbishment project is now taking place to avoid future disruptions to the road network.

This strengthened structure will allow for the removal of speed and weight restrictions, improving journey times, and the reliability and safety of the road and bus network. Once completed, the refurbished flyover will also include new pedestrian and cycle crossings at the roundabout to make journeys safer for pedestrians and cyclists, while improved road markings and resurfacing will improve journeys for people driving.

The second phase of this project, which started on 23 June, will involve the renewal and replacement of the flyover, other than its foundations. While the works take place Gallows Corner junction will be closed to all vehicular traffic, with only emergency vehicles, black cabs and TfL buses able to use the junction. Additionally, walking and cycling routes via the junction will be maintained throughout the closure. The closures will be in place until September.

### **Temporary DLR timetable changes ahead of new trains**

Temporary changes to the DLR timetable will be introduced from Monday 21 July ahead of the introduction of a new fleet of trains later this year, which will boost frequency and reliability.

The timetable changes coincide with the start of the summer school holidays when services are typically quieter meaning fewer customers will be impacted by the changes.

The revised timetable is necessary to ensure a reliable service can be maintained across the entire DLR network, with changes focused where customer demand is typically lower. The key changes from Monday 21 July are:

- Beckton to Canning Town/Stratford International services will not run (Tower Gateway to Beckton services will continue to run as normal)
- Peak hour services between Stratford and Lewisham will not run (services between Canary Wharf and Stratford will run every 5 minutes in the peaks and every 6.5 minutes off peak. Bank to Lewisham services will continue to run as normal. If required, customers will need to change at Canary Wharf to continue their journey)
- Peak hours are 06:30–10:00 and 16:00–19:30, Monday to Friday.

These temporary changes follow similar short-term adjustments made successfully over the Easter period earlier this year.

These changes are necessary due to the age of the existing DLR trains. Some of the oldest trains will need to be retired this summer meaning this temporary reduction in DLR service levels is necessary to maintain a safe and reliable service. The first of the 54 brand-new DLR trains will start to enter service later this year and when enough new trains are in service TfL will restore the full timetable and ultimately deliver more frequent and reliable services across the DLR network. Extensive testing is continuing, which included successful mixed operation trials with both new and existing fleet in May, with excellent progress being made.

The introduction of the 54 new trains will increase capacity by more than 50 per cent, with each new train offering 10 per cent more space, air-conditioning, walk-through carriages, improved live travel information and mobile device charging points, and enhanced accessibility features.

### **TfL's wildflower verges blooming, on track to reach a target of 520,000m<sup>2</sup> of rewilded, green spaces in 2026**

I'm delighted that TfL has expanded London's wildflower verges by an impressive 50 per cent since last year, boosting biodiversity and bringing much-needed green space across the capital for wildlife to thrive.

This is a huge milestone and I'm proud to be working with our partners to engage Londoners in our efforts to rewild local areas, including giving away 12,000 packets of wildflower seeds to

Londoners in London Climate Action Week as we work to build a better, greener city for everyone.

TfL has expanded its wildflower verges by the size of around 18 football pitches - 130,000m<sup>2</sup> - in the last financial year. This takes the total amount of rewilded space to 390,000m<sup>2</sup> - the equivalent of around 52 football pitches. TfL is now well over halfway to reaching the goal set back in 2024 of doubling the total area to 520,000m<sup>2</sup> of wildflower verges along its road network by 2026.

The newest sites range in size and include a verge along the A1 in Barnet (1,700m<sup>2</sup>), a central reserve on the A30 near Heathrow (2,900m<sup>2</sup>) and a large verge that backs onto woodland along the A312 in Hounslow (2,600m<sup>2</sup>). There are also some publicly accessible sites, so people can enjoy the green spaces, such as at Redbridge Roundabout via the pedestrian underpass and by a shared foot and cycle path alongside the A40 in Hillingdon.

Each site is selected based on a range of factors, including the suitability of converting the existing vegetation to wildflower meadows, easy access for cut and collect mowers, as well as proximity to residential houses and maintaining road safety.

TfL manages each site to promote biodiversity, reducing the number of times it mows down from around five to eight times a year down to, typically, twice a year. This allows the grasses and wildflowers more chance to grow. The extra flowers and taller grasses create a supply of nectar and other food, plus shelter for wildlife, including bees, butterflies, birds and small mammals. Wildflower verges bring additional benefits beyond London's biodiversity, including the transfer of carbon dioxide from the air into the soil and reduced carbon emissions from mowing.

### **New pocket Tube map artwork by Agnes Denes calls on Londoners to see the world differently**

TfL will launch a pocket Tube map by conceptual artist Agnes Denes this summer as part of its Art on the Underground programme. The new pocket Tube map portrays the globe from a new perspective, speaking to environmental and social issues, with posters now on the transport network ahead of the July launch.

The 41st pocket Tube map cover design, Denes's *Map Projections*, is a digital drawing that presents an alternate perception of space and time by projecting a section of the globe onto a cube rather than a sphere.

It renders a 3D form into a 2D artwork by a process called isometric projection, often used in technical sketches, and references Denes's renowned 1970s series, *Isometric Systems in Isotropic Space - Map Projections*, which took the familiar form of the globe and distorted it into different shapes, including *The Hotdog*, *The Pyramid* and *The Snail*. The outline of the continents in the current and previous works precisely follow this distortion.

The new form of the globe is an "electrified" rendering, with glowing lines illuminated against a pitch-black background. This transformation of the globe into a distorted, electrified form is similar to the way that the Tube map turns the London transport network into a navigable diagram.

The pocket Tube map is much loved and a place to discover some of the world's most important artists. Agnes Denes is no exception, it's a real privilege to share this new commission

with thousands of Londoners and visitors as they travel around London, bringing world class art into the everyday.

### **International Poets join TfL staff to launch summer poems at Covent Garden station**

On 11 June, TfL hosted a live poetry reading at Covent Garden station to launch a new set of Poems on the Underground for the summer. Anna Gilmore Heezen and a relative of the late Dr. Gboyega Odubanjo headlined and recorded their poetry at the station before doing a public reading of their works outside the station, alongside TfL staff. The poems were played throughout the day at the station.

Anna Gilmore Heezen is a 21-year-old poet based in Edinburgh. She was a top 15 winner of the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award in 2020. Dr Odubanjo, who tragically died in 2023, was an east London poet who was posthumously awarded a Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Hertfordshire for his work.

### **TfL presses forward with plans to regulate pedicabs in London for the first time following public consultation**

TfL has announced the next steps for regulating pedicabs in London after publishing the results of a consultation held earlier this year, which contained proposals to regulate pedicabs in London for the first time.

Bringing pedicabs into regulation will make them safer, ensuring that they are driven, maintained, and operated in a safe and professional manner. The report shows the public's overwhelming support for regulation of the industry, to improve driver and safety standards.

The consultation, which received more than 7,500 responses, set out policy principles and sought views from a wide range of stakeholders. Feedback from the consultation included:

- 75 per cent of people who responded currently feel unsafe when using a pedicab in London.
- 95 per cent of respondents agreed that pedicab drivers should be required to pass UK criminal background checks, bringing them into line with taxi and private hire vehicle drivers.
- 97 per cent of respondents felt that pedicabs should have appropriate insurance in place to carry passengers.
- 96 per cent of respondents felt that music and other audio from pedicabs should be controlled. More than 2,400 comments in response to the consultation were about music in the vehicles.
- 85 per cent of respondents felt that pedicab fares are too expensive.

The consultation responses are now being used to develop detailed policy proposals for pedicabs in London which will be subject to a further consultation later this year. This further consultation is necessary to ensure that the pedicab industry and Londoners can have their say on TfL's specific proposals for regulations, including details on safety regulations and a potential fare structure.

This ongoing engagement will ensure that any future regulation is fair, proportionate, and effective in addressing concerns raised while supporting a safe and professional pedicab industry in London.

I have always been clear that regulation is needed to ensure pedicabs can operate safely in London, and this report shows that Londoners agree. I look forward to TfL pressing on with next steps and further consultation, with a view to introducing regulation next year, as we build a fairer and safer London for everyone.

### **New solar facility will provide green power for the Tube, improving biodiversity and create new green jobs**

TfL has appointed EDF Renewables UK, through its subsidiary Longfield Solar Energy Farm Limited, to generate and deliver green electricity via a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) over 15 years. The contract will see a new solar facility built in Longfield, Essex, and renewable energy generated for the Tube. The facility will also support the decarbonisation of the National Grid and increase its renewable energy capacity.

London is already a world leader when it comes to addressing the climate crisis, so it's only right that we continue blazing this trail when it comes to our transport system. This new agreement will enable us to power our transport network with clean, green, renewable energy and reduce TfL's carbon emissions as we continue building a greener and better London for everyone.

### **London's first dedicated green plant training academy opens to help address skills shortage**

London's only dedicated training facility for construction vehicles has opened in Earls Court, providing a gateway to high-quality and well-paid careers for Londoners while helping employers to meet growing demand for workers with green skills.

Opening its doors for the first-time during London Climate Action Week, the new Green Plant Academy marks an ambitious industry partnership between Places for London (TfL's wholly owned property company), The Skills Centre and the Earls Court Development Company (ECDC) in collaboration with the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), Sunbelt Rentals, JCB, L Lynch, the National Open College Network (NOCN) and FM Conway.

The UK construction industry is facing a significant skills shortage, which the new Academy's focus on sustainable practices will help to address. According to CITB, an additional 251,500 construction workers will be needed by 2028 to meet expected levels of work. With plans for thousands of new homes across London, 50 per cent of which will be affordable, Places for London has identified a specific need for 6,200 plant operatives across the capital by 2027.

The Academy has been designed to specialise in training on zero-emission equipment, providing career development while also helping the construction industry further transition to cleaner ways of working and ultimately address the climate emergency. It will support emerging green technologies and low-carbon machinery, as well as highlighting best practice across the industry, to help learners and employers prepare for a more sustainable construction sector.

I'm delighted to see this pioneering new academy not only providing skills and career opportunities for Londoners, but also supporting the green transition of an industry that would otherwise have a major carbon footprint.

## **Places for London confirms Ballymore as joint venture partner for Limmo Peninsula development**

Places for London – TfL’s wholly owned property company – has announced that Ballymore has been selected as the joint venture partner for its development at Limmo Peninsula, as they look to bring new affordable, market and rental homes to east London.

The land at the Limmo Peninsula, close to Canning Town Tube station, was previously used for the construction of the Elizabeth line – providing the space for the tunnelling machines to be lowered in order to dig the tunnels that now connect services from that now connect services from Reading, Shenfield, Heathrow, and Abbey Wood.

Places for London intends to work in partnership with Ballymore to transform the five hectares of brownfield land within the Royal Docks and Beckton Riverside Opportunity Area into a new neighbourhood for London. The Limmo Peninsula will aim to deliver around 1,400 homes to east London, helping to address London’s housing crisis.

The new neighbourhood will be well connected, with Canning Town station, which is served by Tube, Docklands Light Railway and Elizabeth line and bus services, a short walk away.

With 40 per cent of these new homes set to be genuinely affordable – alongside new green space and improved walkways and cycle routes connecting local residents in Canning Town to nearby transport – this impressive development supports our mission to build more of the homes that Londoners need as we continue to build a better, greener, fairer London for everyone.

## **Pontoon Dock station set for major upgrade as funding is secured**

Pontoon Dock DLR station will undergo a major upgrade, improving capacity and accessibility, to meet the needs of growing customer numbers. The project, which has now secured funding, will include the installation of six new escalators, a larger mezzanine level, and improvements to the surrounding area, including improved public space, landscaping and the potential for new retail space.

The new escalators and larger mezzanine level will reduce queuing, pressure on the lifts, and improve step-free access for those who need it. Pontoon Dock station is elevated approximately 13 metres above street level, which is one of the highest stations on the DLR network, with access currently limited to stairs and lifts. This means at peak times, around half of the customers rely on the lifts, which often leads to congestion and longer journey times.

The development of the station and its surrounding area is part of the wider Silvertown Quays development, which aims to create a vibrant urban neighbourhood with a variety of housing, including affordable housing, and over 100,000 sqm of new employment space. It is anticipated that the redevelopment of the area will mean an additional 4,500 customers will use the station during peak times, an increase of 415 per cent, so these improvements play a vital role in supporting this and the regeneration of the local area.

The upgrade of the station is 75 per cent third-party funded, with contributions from Homes England (the government’s housing and regeneration agency) the GLA, developer contributions from Lendlease, and funding from TfL’s Sustainable Housing and Accessibility Fund.

This upgrade is great news for the Pontoon Dock area and London as a whole. It means we can futureproof the station, support thousands more journeys and improve accessibility. Crucially, it

will also help unlock 6,500 new homes and 10,000 jobs, driving regeneration and economic growth in the Royal Docks, supporting my aim for a more prosperous London for all.

## **Environment**

### **£2.8 million joint investment to expand Breathe London**

On 24 June, alongside Michael Bloomberg, I announced £2.8m joint investment for the next phase of the pioneering air quality monitoring programme Breathe London. This investment enables Londoners to view real-time, hyperlocal air quality data in their area and take action to tackle air pollution.

This next phase is being delivered by a consortium of leading experts, convened by Vodafone, over the next four years. The consortium will deliver 146 sensors, including 10 on and around Oxford Street to monitor the impacts of the newly announced pedestrianisation scheme. This will bring the number of Breathe London sensors currently active across London to about 350.

### **Climate Innovation Forum**

On 25 June, I opened the 2025 Climate Innovation Forum at the Guildhall. The Forum is the headline event during London Climate Action Week. The Forum hosted numerous speakers and panels, seeing climate leaders, pioneers and practitioners sharing the leadership, innovative solutions and collaborations needed to accelerate the speed and scale of our collective efforts in driving climate action.

### **Goals House launch for London Climate Action Week**

On 23 June, I provided a keynote address to the Goals House launch of London Climate Action Week 2025. I used my speech to highlight the international reputation that London has developed in tackling the climate and ecological emergencies, and how London Climate Action Week is now seen as a major global milestone for the environment community and beyond. From setting a world-leading net zero by 2030 target, to the ULEZ and more recent progress on cleaning our waterways, cities around the world are looking to London for inspiration on delivering climate action at scale and speed.

### **Fitzrovia walking tour**

On 17 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, and my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended a walkabout in Fitzrovia hosted by the Fitzrovia Partnership. It highlighted Fitzrovia's efforts to deliver meaningful local action across through its Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan, which contributes to my priorities, including the 2030 Net Zero target, the Growth Plan, Healthy Streets and the London Plan.

### **Westminster's Air Quality Action Plan launch event**

On 17 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, spoke at the launch event of Westminster City Council's new Air Quality Action Plan for 2025-2030. While schemes like the London-wide ULEZ have contributed to dramatic improvements in the city's air quality, the combined efforts of London's boroughs also play a vital role. Westminster's new Air Quality Action Plan, and pledge to meet final WHO guidelines, is a great example of the work boroughs can deliver to tackle air pollution and improve the health of local communities.

## **Clean Heat**

On 17 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote speech at the 'Clean Heat for London' event at City Hall, which aimed to highlight the opportunities for developing multi-borough district heat networks using waste heat in London. These networks can deliver clean, affordable heat, support the electricity grid, enhance streetscapes, and create opportunities for investment, jobs, and growth.

## **2025 LSE Festival**

On 18 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, joined a panel on 'Green, just, and healthy: what do young Londoners want for the future of their neighbourhoods', at the LSE Festival. The panel discussed young people's participation in environmental policies, my commitment to making London the best city to grow up in, and how linking green policies to social justice is necessary to gain public support.

## **Clean Air Day walk**

On 19 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, joined a Walk and Wheel event organised by Great Ormond Street Hospital and Global Action Plan to mark Clean Air Day. The group, which included healthcare professionals, charities and campaigners, walked from Great Ormond Street Hospital to Parliament Square to deliver a letter of recommendations to MPs, urging Government to take further action to improve air quality across the country.

## **Barbican visit**

On 19 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, met with Rachel Blake, MP for Cities of London and Westminster, to film a short video about the health impacts of pollution. Jacqueline Roberts Webster, Cllr for Cripplegate Ward, and Zahra Choudhury, Member of Youth Parliament for City of London, were also in attendance. New evidence shows that all Londoners are breathing cleaner air following the first year of the London-wide expansion of the Ultra Low Emission Zone, but there is still more that can be done on a local level, and I'm pleased to support air quality initiatives around the City of London and Westminster.

## **Brent Schools Climate Summit**

On 23 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, spoke to 100 pupils from 10 primary schools at the Brent Schools Climate Summit, held at Brent Council's Civic Centre. The Summit brought together schools from across Brent to showcase and celebrate the commitment to sustainability and climate action.

## **We Are Family Foundation x DESNZ workshop**

On 23 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, spoke alongside Minister Kerry McCarthy at the "We Are Family Foundation" and DESNZ event. They spoke to a group of young people and audience on building intergenerational model for climate collaboration - launching a coalition that empowers youth as equal partners in UK climate action.

## **Sustainable and Resilient Cities: A Breakfast with UK and International City and Regional Leaders'**

On 24 June, I attended a meeting with the Rt Hon. David Lammy MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, along with other national and international city and regional leaders to explore the challenges that cities face, the solutions that can be mobilised and how national and municipal government can work in step to deliver progress on climate. During this meeting, I shared the rapid progress London has been making in relation to planning reform, improving our air quality, and retrofitting Londoners' homes and schools.

### **Swedish Embassy's roundtable discussion**

On 24 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, attended the Ambassador of Sweden's roundtable on air quality "A Breath of Fresh Air" to discuss how collaboration is key to improving air quality. He highlighted how we are working with stakeholders from all levels of government and the public sector including Public Health Teams, NHS, GPs, researchers to successfully develop and implement air quality policies in London.

### **Green Finance Roundtable (LCAW)**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, hosted a group of international city Mayors and global investors, to explore solutions to driving much-needed investment into climate action in London and beyond. The roundtable, hosted in partnership with the SDSN Commission on Urban SDG Finance as part of London Climate Action Week, included my announcement of a new climate finance taskforce focused on enabling London to attract the private investment required to reach net zero.

### **Cities Climate Action Summit on climate resilience and smarter infrastructure**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, attended the Cities Climate Action Summit, hosted by Smart Cities World. The event was dedicated to discussing how cities around the globe can drive change. Bringing together city leaders, creative policymakers, green finance experts, and cutting-edge technology innovators, to drive action into solving urban climate challenges. Climate resilience risks in London including heat risk, flooding and water infrastructure were discussed and the role of smarter infrastructure in contributing to transformational urban climate adaptation.

### **'EVs for everyone: Ensuring clean air, good jobs and access to opportunities for all through electrification'**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, participated in a panel discussion as part of the SmartCitiesWorld Climate Action Summit. At the event, C40, in partnership with Uber, launched a new programme which will support cities to electrify high mileage vehicles. London is receiving technical assistance under this project. The panel discussion highlighted London's progress and ambition on climate action, showcased London's place as a sustainable transport world leader and discussed the importance of public-private collaboration to accelerate vehicle electrification.

### **Urban Partners Sustainable Urban Transition Climate Week dinner**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, spoke to a group of senior representatives from large global investment firms at the Urban Partners Sustainable Urban Transition Climate Week dinner. My Deputy Mayor used this address to outline London's

plans to attract more private and institutional capital, as well as the substantial progress made to date funding decarbonisation schemes through the London Climate Finance Facility.

### **UK CHAMP roundtable with The Minister for Net Zero, Kerry McCarthy MP**

On 26 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, attended a roundtable to discuss the UK's involvement in the CHAMP initiative in the lead up to COP30. The UK has joined CHAMP, the 'Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships for Climate Action', for the first time; my Deputy Mayor discussed how regional areas like London can support the national government's net zero targets through our own net zero by 2030 ambition. Along with the Minister for Net Zero, Kerry McCarthy MP, and Mark Watts, CEO of C40 Cities, this roundtable sought to increase ambition ahead a monumental COP in Brazil later this year.

### **LCAW Youth Summit**

On 26 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, hosted the first ever Youth Summit at London Climate Action Week. He delivered a speech before participating in a Q&A with over 100 young changemakers from across London. People aged 18-30 gathered at an event in London Zoo, to explore the theme 'Nature Unlocked', redefine who belongs in nature and discuss how young Londoners can take climate and nature action. The event included outdoors activities and networking sessions.

### **World Climate Investment Summit**

On 26 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, provided a keynote speech at the World Climate Investment Summit, as one of the flagship events of London Climate Action Week. My Deputy Mayor used this summit to highlight the progress London has been making in encouraging investment in public sector decarbonisation through the London Climate Finance Facility to date, whilst at the same time outlining London's plans to work with more private and institutional capital.

### **Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative's LCAW event**

On 26 June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, gave a keynote speech and participated in a panel on the theme of "Standing Firm for Climate Action", at an event organised by the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative as part of the London Climate Action Week. The event brought together influential people from the environment, politics, and cultural spaces to discuss the role of fossil fuels as major sources of greenhouse gas emissions, energy insecurity and the cost-of-living crisis. My Deputy Mayor highlighted my commitment to our net zero target and the importance of a phased transition to support social and economic justice.

## **Fire**

### **Multi-agency exercise**

On 6 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, joined the London Fire Brigade (LFB) to observe their multi-agency exercise where they worked alongside the Metropolitan Police, London Ambulance Service, and TfL, for an exercise that simulated a rescue on the London Underground. Alongside this, the LFB incident Command Unit, provided an update on the changes and improvements made to breathing apparatus and radio communications for firefighters.

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

On 19 June, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, chaired a regular meeting of his Deputy Mayor's Fire Board.

## **Growth and Skills**

### **Growth Mission**

On 18 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, co-chaired the first meeting of the Growth Mission Board, alongside Cllr Claire Holland, Chair of London Councils and Leader of Lambeth.

The Growth Mission Board will oversee the delivery of the priorities identified in the [London Growth Plan](#), with representatives from across the London system. The Board confirmed the appointment of Laura Citron OBE, CEO of London & Partners, as the Growth Mission Lead.

### **Inclusive Talent Strategy engagement**

On 16 June, building on the commitments of the London Growth Plan, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, hosted a public webinar as part of ongoing consultation and engagement on the Inclusive Talent Strategy (ITS) with Cllr Peter Mason, Executive Member for Planning and Skills at London Councils and Leader of Ealing Council. The session was attended by around 200 stakeholders across London government, skills, employment and careers service providers, and business.

Howard Dawber also chaired roundtables with stakeholders from the creative industries on 12 June, the life sciences sector on 13 June, and members of the construction industry on 23 June. At the roundtables, attendees discussed proposals for how the ITS will help build a more employer-led and integrated skills and employment system, help Londoners access good jobs and support the city's economic growth.

A written consultation on the ITS was also launched on 19 June, closing for submissions on 17 July. The strategy will be launched in the autumn.

### **English for Action (EfA) ESOL Policy Co-Creation Stakeholder Event**

On 24 June, I brought together a wide range of stakeholders for an event focused on improving access to English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision.

The event provided an opportunity to discuss the barriers that prevent Londoners from accessing ESOL and explored practical, coordinated approaches to improve outcomes.

My Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the event, which provided an opportunity to reflect on how ESOL provision can contribute to wider goals around inclusion, workforce development, and access to good work.

### **AoC Principals Social Network**

On 25 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the Association of Colleges Principals Social Network and provided an update on the ITS.

Howard also set out the longer-term 10-year vision for a more joined-up, employer-led and inclusive skills system for London, and thanked college leaders for their continued leadership and partnership in supporting Londoners into good work.

### **New data from London Learner Survey shows impact of Adult Skills**

On 26 June, I published the results of the London Learner Survey for the 2023/24 academic year. The findings showcase the life changing impact adult education is having across our city.

Nearly all the 200,000 learners who engaged in GLA funded adult education in London last year experienced an improvement in their health and wellbeing. In addition, my adult education programme has helped more than 77,000 Londoners move into new or better paid and more secure work or to progress in their education journey. Many of these jobs were in sectors key to London's growth.

## **Housing**

### **Housing for Refugee Families**

On 20 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, visited families in Islington who have resettled after fleeing persecution. The families are housed in homes returned to council ownership under my Right to Buy Back scheme, and I am grateful to them for sharing their stories.

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

### **London Tech Week 2025**

On 10 June, I delivered opening remarks at the London Tech Week Global VIP Reception, hosted by London & Partners, in partnership with the City of London Corporation and sponsored by NatWest. I promoted London's strengths as a world-leading tech hub and the best place to start and grow a tech business. The event brought together leading scale-up founders, investors, and innovators from across the globe.

This year's London Tech Week saw over 45,000 attendees and over £4 billion in new investment deals, including Liquidity's £1.5 billion announcement to establish a European HQ in the city, and commitment from InnovX AI, one of Europe's leading startup hubs, to establish a new London technology hub.

### **Business engagement and support**

Throughout this period, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE continued to work with key stakeholders on implementation of the London Growth Plan and support for businesses, including:

- On 12 June, attended the Heart of London Business Alliance Board meeting to update on the London Growth Plan, Oxford Street Consultation, and the Licensing Pilot.
- On 16 June, visited the London Borough of Ealing to see work underway to support London's growth, including a tour of the University of West London and its Enterprise Centre and a visit to Ealing Studios, for a visit of the start of the art new studio facilities and office space property. Howard also met representatives from 'Make It Ealing'

Business Improvement District discuss business needs and nearby investment opportunities.

- On 16 June, visited Elephant & Castle's new Integrated Ticket Hall and was the keynote speaker alongside the Mayor of Lewisham and the Lambeth Council Leader.
- On 17 June, gave the keynote address at the Urban Land Institute's (ULI) Europe Urban Regeneration Council Day, focused on West London's role in driving economic growth.
- On 17 June, spoke at the launch of the South London Partnership's Growth Ambitions Statement that endorses the London Growth Plan and showcases the contribution of the South London sub-region.
- On 18 June, gave the keynote speech at the London Biotechnology Show at London Excel, promoting London as a leading destination for Health and Life Sciences investment.
- On 18 June, chaired the first meeting of London's Growth Mission Board alongside co-chair Cllr Claire Holland. The Growth Mission Board will help shape the delivery of major priorities in the London Growth Plan.
- On 19 June, attended the Haringey Business Forum to set out the ambition of the London Growth Plan and opportunities for Haringey.
- On 19 June, alongside Krupesh Hirani AM, met with a group of Romanian businesses based in London to discuss their contribution to our city and to update on our support for London's small businesses.
- On 20 June, met with the CEO of The Crown Estate, Dan Labbad, to discuss growth priorities for London.
- On 20 June, visited DNCO, an employee-owned business to mark Employee Ownership Day.
- On 23 June, met the owners of three London-based co-operatives to celebrate the start of Co-ops fortnight.
- On 23 June, gave a speech to open the Undaunted Innovation Hub to mark the start of London Climate Action Week 2025, outlining London's strengths as a great place to start and grow a clean tech business.
- On 23 June, attended the summer business reception hosted by the Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds.
- On 24 June, attended Advancing Climate Tech dinner, hosted by Sustainable Ventures, where I spoke about the work underway to grow London's green economy.
- On 25 June, attended a roundtable organised by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network Commission on Urban Sustainable Development Goals Finance, chaired by Mete Coban CBE, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, alongside C40 Mayors, to discuss how to accelerate climate finance into London and other cities.
- On 25 June, hosted a roundtable with the mobile industry to discuss my priorities for digital and mobile connectivity in the city.
- On 25 June, participated in a panel at the UK Black Entrepreneurs Conference to discuss the importance of public and private sector collaboration in building an inclusive economy.
- On 26 June, joined the Centre for London and Sustainable Ventures to discuss unlocking green growth for net zero by 2030, and opportunities set out in the London Growth Plan.

## **International promotion**

From 9-13 June, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE, participated in events and meetings as part of London Tech Week, to champion London as a global tech and

innovation hub and highlight support available to start ups, scaleups and international companies in London:

- On 9 June, at Olympia, he met with a delegation of Indian businesses, the Chief Digital Officer of AstraZeneca, Cindy Hoots, Ministers from British Columbia and the Chief Policy Officer of World Orb, Nick Pickles. He also spoke at the LTW main stage to open the afternoon programme.
- On 10 June, he participated in Grow London Global's Pitch Showcase Fireside chat, delivered the keynote address at the Swedish Chamber of Commerce tech scaleups event, attended the Launch of Our Water Season II Shanghai London City Dialogue and opened the Life Sciences Health Tech reception with Med City.
- On 11 June, he delivered the keynote address at the Tech Nordics Advocates event and spoke at a Chinese delegation reception hosted by London & Partners and the Department for Business and Trade, at the London AI Sector Networking reception and the London Africa LTW Mixer reception.
- On 12 June, he spoke at the annual 'Founded by Her' breakfast networking event, hosted by KPMG. Founded by Her support's female-led businesses raising Series A funding. He also participated in KPMG's Tech Innovator Competition fireside chat and presented the winner of the competition with their award.

In addition, during this period Howard continued to promote London as the best place to investment and do business:

- On 20 June, met a delegation of Bahraini investors at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, on the same day that the UK government and Bahrain signed a new investment partnership that will unlock £2 billion of investment into Britain.
- On 26 June, participated in a panel discussion at the Investment Association Conference on boosting the UK's global competitiveness.

## Civil Society and Sport

### **Jr NBA 3v3 Finals Take over Trafalgar Square**

On 6 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the first-ever basketball tournament to take place in Trafalgar Square. The square was transformed into three courts hosting all-day matches, skills sessions and coaching for primary school pupils. The Jr. NBA 3v3 Finals brought together finalists from 10 London schools and three wheelchair basketball clubs in an inspirational all-day event.

Delivered in partnership between the NBA and London Marathon Events, the tournament marked the culmination of a new programme to grow youth participation in basketball across the capital. The event was launched at the start of 2025 with the ambition to drive participation and excellence in basketball in primary and secondary schools. Since January, one in three secondary schools in London have signed up. This competition builds on the work of my Basketball Taskforce, launched earlier this year to strengthen community infrastructure, talent pathways and event opportunities for young Londoners.

### **Rally Together London - New Partnership with the LTA Announced**

On 12 June, I announced a new £500,000 partnership between City Hall and the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to open up tennis to thousands more Londoners, particularly young people and women who haven't previously had the opportunity to take part. Through Rally Together

London, we will support at least 5,500 young people to participate in tennis, and train 250 young Londoners from underrepresented backgrounds to join the tennis workforce, with over half expected to be women. This includes developing 50 newly qualified coaches and deploying 200 trained activators to deliver free sessions in parks and community settings.

The announcement coincided with the return of women's tennis to the Queen's Club for the first time in over 50 years, as part of the HSBC Championships. The wider partnership will also support joint campaigns to promote women's sport, grow participation, and improve diversity across the tennis workforce.

## Culture

### **Wandsworth Heritage Festival**

On 13 June, as part of London Borough of Culture, Wandsworth's annual Heritage festival began. The 2025 festival has been expanded to a month-long event due to support from London Borough of Culture programme. The festival explores the borough's rich history through activities which includes walks, talks, exhibitions, and creative performances.

## Communities and Social Policy

### **UK National Srebrenica Memorial Day event**

On 17 June, I attended and took part in the candle lighting ceremony at the UK National Srebrenica Memorial Day event, held at St. Paul's Cathedral. The event was organised by Remembering Srebrenica to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide. Speakers included Rt. Hon Angela Rayner, Lord Wajid Khan of Burnley, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, Dr Denis Becirovic and Željko Komšić.

### **'We Speak for Ourselves – A Community Undivided' event**

On 9 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the event 'We Speak for Ourselves – A Community Undivided' in Tate Britain, which marked the 8-year anniversary of the horrific fire at Grenfell Tower. The event was hosted by the Grenfell community, including bereaved and survivors. It was an opportunity to reflect on the impact of the Grenfell tragedy and connect with the transformative power of the community. It showcased personal and collective stories of resilience through art, film, creative activities and conversations. My Deputy Mayor had the opportunity to meet some of the young people who were part of organising this event, as well as community members and organisations. Contributors include Grenfell United, Al Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre, Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission, Grenfell Walk Residents Association and others.

### **LGBTQI+ Community Forum**

On 17 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, chaired the first meeting of the LGBTQI+ Community Forum. The purpose of the forum is to ensure that the views and experiences of LGBTQI+ Londoners help to inform the design and delivery of my policies and programmes, and I want to create stronger connections with London's LGBTQI+ community, to foster open, empowering and challenging dialogue. The main discussion at the meeting was about the potential impacts of the EHRC's proposed amendments to the Equality Act 2010 Code of Practice.

## **Big Caribbean Lunch event**

On 22 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard attended the Big Caribbean Lunch, held in partnership with Lambeth Council at Windrush Square to celebrate Windrush Day and honour the Windrush Elders. The event was a joyful celebration of culture, performance and storytelling that highlighted the Windrush Generation, including a special exhibition titled *Windrush Stories Untold* which showcased 20 personal storyboards - sharing the life experiences, challenges, and contributions of Caribbean elders.

## **Helping Hands" conference**

On June 26, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, delivered a keynote speech at "Helping Hands", a conference hosted by London Legal Support Trust and London Citizens Advice. The conference was hosted by the Advice Workforce Development Fund. It explored ways that advice organisations can create a workforce culture across the sector that supports advice staff wellbeing and improves staff retention. This work is important to ensure a sustainable advice sector that can continue to deliver advice and support for Londoners who need it.

## **National Windrush Museum's Windrush Summit event**

On 12 June, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the National Windrush Museum's Windrush Summit event in the Palace of Westminster. Following the Rt Hon Diane Abbott MP's speech on 'Justice, Citizenship & Belonging', Debbie was part of a panel discussion on Reform, Justice & Future Generations.

## **Refugee Week 2025**

During Refugee Week (16-22 June), I released a video across social media channels to reflect on the struggles and resilience of refugees, as well as celebrate their many positive contributions to our city and societies. Refugees have always contributed to the rich tapestry of London – as neighbours, workers, carers, creators, athletes, businesspeople, and friends. This Refugee Week, I stated that London not only stands strong as a bastion against hate but shines bright as a beacon of hope and sanctuary.

# **Children and Young Londoners**

## **Tower Hamlets Healthy Schools London celebration event**

On 12 June, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, saw first-hand just how many schools in Tower Hamlets are being supported by my Healthy Schools London (HSL) programme.

She attended a local Healthy Schools celebration event, organised by the council, where teachers and pupils from across Tower Hamlets collected HSL bronze, silver and gold awards earned this academic year. Achievements in two other initiatives - Asthma and Allergy Friendly Schools, and Fantastic Food in Schools - were also recognised.

After offering her congratulations, Joanne presented certificates alongside the borough's own Deputy Mayor, Councillor Maium Talukdar, and Director of Children's Services, Stephen Reddy. She also met the borough's fantastic Healthy Lives team and explored different stalls and activities organised for the children including from the Royal Ballet School, West Ham United and Spitalfields City Farm.

To date, over 2,300 schools across London have registered for HSL, which supports and recognises achievements in child health and wellbeing in schools. In Tower Hamlets, the award has gone from strength to strength and Joanne was delighted to congratulate schools who are working with us to help children stay happy and healthy.

### **London Plan roundtable discussion on play**

On 16 June, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, chaired a roundtable discussion on play as part of the 'Towards a New London Plan' consultation which sets out the strategic direction for the next London Plan, due in 2028. Play supports children's health and wellbeing, cognitive development and social skills and I want to provide children with environments that help them to play, socialise and be as active as possible. The London Plan is a powerful tool for creating child friendly places, spaces, and communities.

The roundtable brought together senior stakeholders involved with children and young people with experts in planning, health, play and sport to discuss play, including safety and access to open space and nature, and how London could be made more child friendly. My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, also presented an overview of the consultation and take part in the discussion.

### **Roof Top Nursery Healthy Early Years London visit**

On 26 June, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited Roof Top Nursery in Hackney, to see how they are benefiting from my Healthy Early Years London (HEYL) programme.

The nursery achieved a HEYL gold award last December, for their fantastic efforts to improve children's oral health. They explained to Joanne how they focussed on supporting parents to build more consistency in healthy habits between nursery and home. Nursery staff showed Joanne around their site - she even saw a supervised toothbrushing session in action!

Oral health is just one of the key themes promoted by HEYL, which aims to support children's health, wellbeing, and development. Over 2,500 early years settings across London have registered with the programme so far. Joanne and I are proud to be supporting them to reduce health inequalities and ensure young Londoners have the best possible start in life.

## **Universal Free School Meals**

### **National Education Union's No Child Left Behind conference**

On 27 June, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, delivered a keynote speech at the National Education Union's No Child Left Behind conference, which brought stakeholders together to discuss the importance of universal free school meals. No Child Left Behind is a coalition of civil society organisations, local authorities, charities, health associations, faith leaders and unions working to break down the barriers that poverty puts up around equal access to education.

In London, we are committed to giving our children the best start in life by ensuring pupils in state primary schools have access to delicious and healthy meals every day, and we are proud to be leading the way on this by funding more than 70m meals to date. City Hall officers are feeding into the review of the national School Food Standards to share learnings from the rollout of our programme to date.

# Health

## Health Mission

On 24 June, my Mayoral Advisor, Dr Tom Coffey co-chaired the inaugural meeting of the Health Mission Board, alongside Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Leader of Hounslow.

The overall goal of the London Health Mission is to make London the healthiest global city, through tackling health inequalities and using London's unique assets. Its aim is by 2035 to significantly close the gap in health inequalities in our city, utilising London's innovation and digital transformation opportunities.

## Encouraging Londoners to register to donate blood, National Blood Week

To mark National Blood Week, the NHS called for 200,000 new donors to come forward in order to reach one million people in England donating blood on a regular basis. Reaching this target would help to stabilise the nation's blood supply and reduce the pressure on current donors.

There is still a critical need for O negative blood – the universal blood type needed for emergencies – and for more donors of Black heritage, who are significantly more likely to have the specific blood type needed to treat sickle cell disease. London has the highest number of Sickle Cell patients in the UK. Sickle Cell disproportionately impacts Londoners of Black Caribbean and Black African heritage – but ethnically matched blood can provide the best treatment.

That's why I used my platforms to encourage Londoners to register as blood donors, to ensure patients can get the care they need. Blood donation takes just an hour, and every donation can save up to three lives.

## Encouraging London's GPs to continue playing a role in tackling health inequalities

I recently opened the 2025 Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) City Health Conference in London with a short video message aimed at London GPs.

GPs are instrumental in tackling the challenges that are keeping Londoners in poor health, driving disease, and wasting potential and talent. My message presented an opportunity to thank them for supporting my work – including helping to communicate why bold action was needed on air quality and their collaboration on the UK's first targeted air quality alerts for healthcare professionals. This was also a chance to ensure that they continue to be partners in the work to tackle health inequalities, as City Hall needs their expertise, leadership, and partnership to go further in building a city where everyone has the opportunity to live a better life.

My message was shared and positively received by the approximately 300 GPs in attendance – all of whom have a vital role to play in helping to tackle health inequalities still faced by Londoners.

# London Legacy Development Corporation

## Safe Havens

On 11 June, in partnership with Elevate and Safer Business Network, London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) announced the designation of four key venues across Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park as Safe Havens - places where anyone feeling unsafe can seek immediate support. These designations are a meaningful step toward ensuring public spaces feel welcoming and secure for everyone. This work is part of LLDC's broader commitment to inclusive urban design, particularly for women, girls, and LGBTQIA+ communities whose voices are too often left out of conversations around safety and city planning.

## Events in the Park

From 13 to 15 June, the Aquatics GB British Masters Championships, the highest level of domestic Masters swimming in Great Britain, took place at London Aquatics Centre. The event plays a key role in the selection of both Team GB's swimming and para-swimming world championship teams.

The Fédération Internationale de Hockey (FHI) Pro League hockey tournament returned to Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre from 14 to 22 June, where England's men's and women's teams competed against other international teams for six days of double-header matches.

On 26 to 27 June, the world's largest student robotics competition took place at Copper Box Arena with 64 teams from across the UK competing with their robots and presenting to industry judges.

## East Ed Conference

The East Ed summer conference took place on 25 June at Sadler's Wells East. The event welcomed educators from the growth boroughs of Newham, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, and Waltham Forest who gathered to discuss the power of partnerships, share good practice, and hear about LLDC's 2025-26 East Ed programme and opportunities for local schools.

# Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC)

## Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy priorities (NCIL) and Revised Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Consultation

On the 16 June, OPDC started consultation on priorities for its NCIL spending - and on OPDC's Planning Obligations SPD.

### NCIL consultation

In 2024, OPDC adopted the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule, which sets out how CIL will be applied within the OPDC area. CIL is a standard charge on developments given planning approval in local areas.

A percentage of the CIL collected is spent in consultation with the local community - known as Neighbourhood CIL or NCIL. Through this consultation, OPDC is seeking to better understand local community priorities in order to direct NCIL funds to the types of projects and infrastructure the local community will most value.

Once OPDC holds £500,000 in NCIL, funding applications for specific projects will be opened. The outcomes of this consultation will help to guide decisions on how the funds are allocated. This is expected to start in 2026/27.

The consultation will run from 16 June to 28 July. You can find out more [here](#).

### **Revised Planning Obligations SPD consultation**

Alongside NCIL, OPDC is also consulting on some proposed changes to the Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

This SPD is a guidance document which explains OPDC's approach to using planning obligations. Planning obligations, also known as Section 106 agreements, are legal agreements negotiated between developers and OPDC. They are intended to mitigate or offset the negative impacts of development or to inform the nature of development, for example, set out how much affordable housing or public open space is delivered.

The changes OPDC is consulting on are focused on planning contributions towards construction management and funding for local initiatives to support employment and skills.

The consultation will run from 16th June to 28th July. You can find out more at: <https://consult.opdc.london.gov.uk/planning-obligations-spd>.

### **Planning Awards win**

On the 11 June, OPDC's Public Realm and Green Infrastructure Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) won the Award for Plan-Making (Other) at the Planning Awards 2025.

These prestigious awards showcase outstanding work across the planning and placemaking sectors and recognise excellence in planning and associated placemaking disciplines.

The judges praised the SPD for its strong emphasis on landscaping and its commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion in the design of public spaces.

The panel were particularly impressed by how people-focused the guidance is, this will help ensure the public realm and green infrastructure within the OPDC area serves all communities with care and intention.

## **Planning and Regeneration**

### **Wolves Lane Centre launched**

On 11 June, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended the official opening of the newly redeveloped Wolves Lane Centre in Haringey. With a £1.5 million investment from my Mayor's Good Growth Fund, the site has been transformed into a vibrant centre for sustainable food growing, education, enterprise, and environmental action. Home to the UK's first multigenerational Black-led growing project, Black Rootz, and stewarded by OrganicLea and the Ubele Initiative, the Centre is a powerful example of community-led regeneration delivering on my ambition for a fairer, greener London.

### **High Street Network Seminar**

On 18 June, my High Street Network hosted a 'Health on the High Street' seminar in Waterloo, bringing together borough officers, NHS partners, building operators, planners, and community

groups to explore how high streets can promote wellbeing. The session included presentations and discussions on social prescribing, community health initiatives, and inclusive design, highlighting how high streets can deliver equitable access to health services and foster healthier neighbourhoods.

### **Towards a New London Plan**

Consultation on 'Towards a New London Plan', including my call for evidence closed on 22 June. Officers will now review the responses, which will inform the development of my next draft London Plan.

### **Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)**

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

<b>GLA Number</b>	<b>Development Name</b>	<b>Local Planning Authority</b>	<b>Decision date</b>	<b>Decision</b>
2025/0481	SRC Waste and Recycling Centre	Barking and Dagenham	09/06/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0498	University of Greenwich, Southwood Site	Greenwich	12/06/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0275	Shoreditch Works	Hackney	09/06/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0357	Farnham and Hildene Estate	Havering	16/06/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0493	Beam Park Rail Station	Havering	12/06/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0358	Hayes Bridge Retail Park and Heathrow Interchange	Hillingdon	09/06/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0359	Union Park, UP4	Hillingdon	09/06/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0459	Rivers Academy	Hounslow	09/06/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0391	Premier Inn, Leatherhead Road	Kingston upon Thames	16/06/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0480	1 Bradfield Road	Newham	09/06/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0374	628 Western Avenue	Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation	11/06/2025	No Strategic Issues

2025/0298	Quadrant House	Sutton	16/06/2025	Does not comply with the London Plan
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### 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
2021/0853	Lesnes Estate	Bexley	16/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve
2022/0857	Canterbury House	Croydon	09/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve
2023/0830	The Green Quarter	Ealing	09/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve
2024/0613	White City Central	Hammersmith and Fulham	09/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve
2025/0030	Thomas Lane Yard	Lewisham	16/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve
2024/0469	Borough Triangle	Southwark	16/06/2025	Allow LPA to approve

### Local Plans

On 12 June, GLA officers responded on my behalf to the Camden Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation. The response made it clear that it is my opinion that the draft Local Plan is not in general conformity with the London Plan due to the proposed approach to housing targets. I provided guidance to bring the emerging draft Plan in closer alignment with the London Plan.

## Key engagements

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

- I officially launched London's 2000th Zero Emission Bus on 6 June
- I attended Eid on the Square on 8 June
- I spoke at the Concordia Summit on 9 June
- I held my regular planning meeting on 9 June
- I met with the Deputy Prime Minister on 9 June
- I spoke at London Tech Week on 9 June
- I chaired the Transport for London Board on 11 June
- I met with the Leader of Islington Council on 12 June
- I attended the State of London Debate on 12 June
- I laid a wreath at Grenfell Tower on 14 June
- I held my regular planning meeting on 16 June
- I attended the National Service in Remembrance of Srebrenica on 17 June
- I hosted the City Hall Pride event on 17 June
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 19 June
- I joined the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology on a visit on 19 June
- I spoke at an event for the London Fire Commissioner on 19 June
- I attended the NewsCorp Summer Party on 19 June
- I attended events in Paris to mark 10 years since the signing of the Paris Agreement on 22 and 23 June
- I marked the start of London Climate Action Week with our free wildflower seeds giveaway on 23 June
- I spoke at the Goals House launch event for London Climate Action Week on 23 June
- I attended a meeting at the FCDO for London Climate Action Week on 24 June
- I spoke at an Earthshot Prize event and met with the Prince of Wales for London Climate Action Week on 24 June
- I chaired the C40 Steering Committee on 24 June
- I attended an event at the FCDO to mark 20 years of C40 Cities on 24 June
- I attended the Serpentine Summer Event on 24 June
- I opened the Climate Finance Summit for London Climate Action Week on 25 June
- I met with the CEO of Uber on 25 June
- I spoke at City Hall Armed Forces Day on 26 June
- I chaired the London Policing Board on 26 June
- I met with the Mayor of Liverpool on 26 June
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Commissioner on 26 June