

15th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time – 9 October 2025

This is my fifteenth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 29 August – 25 September 2025.

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

Executive Summary

Loved and Wanted Fund

On 17 September, I launched the Loved and Wanted Fund, which will invest nearly £1m to support London's communities and civil society organisations to bring Londoners together - from putting on community events to helping to improve access to services.

The new Fund will promote social cohesion across London, and further the shared values of my Loved and Wanted campaign by funding community organisations to expand their work connecting Londoners and offering support and advice.

Grants of up to £60,000 each will be awarded to up to 15 venue-based community organisations to deliver activities between February 2026 and March 2028. These Loved and Wanted spaces will build on the existing work of charities, faith groups and civil society organisations to grow a London-wide network of spaces working to foster welcome and belonging in our city.

I also launched a new video with a proud statement of London's values and a message of support for Londoners as part of the Loved and Wanted campaign. The video features words by London poet Kareem Parkins-Brown and has generated an overwhelmingly positive response from Londoners about the London they know and love.

TfL becomes highway authority for Oxford Street

On 20 September, to support my proposals to regenerate Oxford Street, TfL became the highway authority for Oxford Street. This follows discussions between Westminster City Council and the GLA and Westminster granting its formal consent.

Following an extensive public consultation which closed in May 2025, I am now moving forward with the next stage of plans to establish a Mayoral Development Corporation and develop proposals to pedestrianise Oxford Street, transforming it into a vibrant and world-class destination for Londoners and visitors alike.

As the highway authority for Oxford Street, which runs between Marble Arch and Tottenham Court Road, TfL will take over highway maintenance and roadworks permitting and coordination from Westminster City Council. Street cleaning and refuse collection will remain the responsibility of Westminster, who will work closely with TfL to ensure activities are carried out collaboratively. Transition of some activities from Westminster City Council to TfL will take place over the coming months.

This is a significant step forward on my pledge to pedestrianise the road and unlock Oxford Street's true potential.

This is Oxford Street event

On Sunday 21 September, I joined Londoners to experience the nation's most famous high street like never before, as Oxford Street went traffic-free for a landmark 'This is Oxford Street' event.

The street was transformed with brand activations, an urban forest, sporting events, live music, and street food. Part of the iconic road was free of traffic from 12pm until 8pm for the first event of its kind, which brought together fashion, food, music, sport, music, heritage, and community in one place, showcasing the best of Oxford Street's past, present and my bold vision for the future.

I was delighted to attend on the day, and the event was the perfect opportunity for Londoners and visitors to experience a glimpse of what is to come.

£810,000 to boost mental health support in schools

On 15 September, I announced a record £810,000 funding to support the mental health of up to 15,000 young people in 16 schools across 9 London boroughs.

The programme, delivered in partnership with Anna Freud – a leading mental health charity for children and young people – will work with targeted secondary schools across nine boroughs to help young people where there is a high need for mental health support.

This investment is designed to help young Londoners feel supported and will focus on making sure that every part of school life actively supports the mental health and wellbeing of pupils, staff, and families. This could include teaching stress-management techniques, introducing initiatives to make mental health more visible, such as wellbeing weeks, parent sessions, peer-support groups, or mental health training to teachers and support staff.

As young people continue to face increasing mental health challenges, this initiative will help develop a model for how this innovative approach can work across a range of London school and provide vital evidence for the future of children's mental health support. Learnings will be shared with schools, the government and NHS partners, as we work collaboratively to prepare for the full roll out of Mental Health Support Teams in schools by 2030.

This delivers on my manifesto commitment to take action to improve the mental health and wellbeing of young Londoners. The programme begins this month at schools in Camden, Greenwich, Haringey, and Newham; followed by Bexley and Lambeth in October; and Southwark, Westminster, and Kensington & Chelsea in November.

People's Question Time 2025 - Hammersmith & Fulham

On 17 September, I joined London Assembly Members for the biannual People's Question Time, where members of the public had the opportunity to ask questions about the work I am doing as Mayor, and the work of the London Assembly.

The event was chaired by ITV broadcaster Charlene White, and covered topics including transport, housing, London's economy, air quality and the environment, policing and safety and more. It was delivered as a hybrid event – with attendees asking questions in person at Exhibition White City in West London, as well as online.

My Team London Ambassador volunteers helped the evening run smoothly by checking tickets, ushering audience members, and assisting with microphones during the Q&A.

Tideway's celebration reception

On 9 September, I attended Tideway's Completion Celebration at Bazalgette Embankment Blackfriars, alongside HRH The Princess Royal, Environment Secretary Emma Reynolds, Tideway CEO Andy Mitchell, and senior stakeholders from industry, community, and environmental groups.

The Tideway project significantly reduces sewage discharges to the Thames and has created new and exciting public spaces for everyone to use. The reception included HRH The Princess Royal switching on *'The Water Wall,'* a new installation at the site.

Black On The Square

On 6 September, I was delighted to join my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, to see Trafalgar Square come alive for the third instalment of Black On The Square. Filled with Londoners from across all boroughs, the event showcased some amazing stage performances, including the legendry Janet Kay MBE, Lisa Maffia and Romeo Dunn from So Solid Crew, Ezra Collective's Femi Koleoso, Ballet Black, Ethiopian dance and poetry by Azmari Bet, and theatre performance from members of the Black Society from The Royal Language School for Speech and Drama.

Trader and catering stalls from Black-owned businesses provided offerings reflecting many Caribbean islands and African countries, whilst community wellbeing was served through NHS blood pressure checks and prostate cancer advice – supported by senior public health expert Professor Kevin Fenton.

I was especially proud of the incentive we created for young Londoners to train and develop experience in events, an industry under-represented by our Black communities. We partnered with TheZooXYZ and The Lyric Theatre Hammersmith as part of this accredited programme which offered training at The Lyric Hammersmith and at an event production company, as well as providing event support at the Black on The Square event.

My Team London Ambassador volunteers played a key role throughout the day, welcoming the public at information points, supporting family friendly activities, and helping the event run smoothly.

Liberty Festival

On 24 September, Liberty Festival, my flagship festival celebrating D/deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent creativity, launched as a highlight of Wandsworth's year as London Borough of Culture. The five-day festival platformed disabled creatives, showcasing bold, innovative work that excites and challenges audiences.

The programme of free events ran in venues across the borough, spanning immersive art installations, theatre, dance, cabaret, and creative workshops. Each artist involved with the programme has engaged with a local school in some way during the development of their work, creating opportunities for D/deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent children and young people.

Policing, Crime and Security

Reduction in homicides across the summer months

Nothing is more important to me than keeping Londoners safe and it is encouraging that new figures showed a significant reduction in homicides in London across the summer months. This

means the capital has had the fewest number of homicides in London across June, July, and August in years, with no under-25 homicides during the school summer holiday period.

The summer months are traditionally a very challenging time of year with young people more at risk of exploitation and violence, but through London's Violence Reduction Unit and the Met Police, we've been working incredibly hard with partners across the capital to provide support and help.

These latest figures show that this work is making a difference, but I'm very clear that one death is one too many and I will continue to do all I can with our partners to tackle violence and its causes, as we build a safer London for everyone.

This follows the latest crime stats from the ONS that show Londoners are, on average, less likely to be a victim of a violence with injury offence than across the rest of England and Wales. Since May 2016, homicides, knife crime with injury for those aged under 25, violence with injury, burglary, and gun crime lethal barrel discharge, have all fallen across the capital.

Claire Waxman OBE to step down as London's Independent Victims' Commissioner

On 4 September, I paid tribute to Claire Waxman OBE, who has announced that she will be stepping down to take on the role of National Victims' Commissioner.

Claire has worked tirelessly over the last eight years in support of victims of crime in London, and her relentless commitment has brought significant changes for the better in the capital and across the country.

Her work directly led to the development of Operation Soteria, which is transforming the way police and the CPS investigate and prosecute rape. She has championed the causes of bereaved families and survivors of crime, securing key changes to Parliamentary Bills - ensuring offenders must attend sentencings or face consequences and that victims receive better access to sentencing remarks and improved rights and entitlements.

Claire has always been clear that all victims of crime, no matter their status or experience, should be able to engage with a service designed to help them cope and recover. I'm thankful to her for everything she has done in her time with us at City Hall. I know that in her new role, she will continue the vital work she has done in London to build a criminal justice system that is fit for purpose and provide victims with the highest quality of support.

I am now recruiting for London's next Independent Victims' Commissioner.

Culture, VAWG and frontline policing on the agenda at the London Policing Board

On 16 September, I chaired the London Policing Board, which I set up following a recommendation in Baroness Casey's review of culture and standards in the Met. In a wide-ranging discussion, Members of the Board questioned the Commissioner and some of his senior team on topics including the Met's VAWG Action Plan, frontline policing and public order.

I also took the opportunity to address the IOPC investigation into 11 individuals - currently and formerly based at Charing Cross Police Station - following allegations which include excessive use of force, making discriminatory and misogynistic comments, and failing to report or challenge inappropriate behaviour. These are serious allegations. It is particularly concerning that these alleged behaviours have been identified at Charing Cross, given the behaviours uncovered previously by Op Hotton at this police station. Sexism, racism and misogyny have no place in policing, and we must be relentless in our efforts to root it out.

Alongside the London Policing Board, I'm committed, as ever, to ensuring the Met continues to reform so that we can deliver the police service that Londoners deserve.

Transport

Pedicabs second consultation launch

TfL is pressing ahead with plans to regulate pedicabs in London for the first time, to protect customers from extortionate over-charging and remove dangerous, unsafe vehicles from the streets.

On 9 September, new detailed proposals were launched as part of a six-week consultation open to Londoners, businesses and pedicab operators. This follows overwhelming support for regulation of the industry from Londoners during an initial consultation earlier this year, particularly for regulating driver and safety standards. The proposals include:

- Enhanced criminal record checks and medical checks for drivers, as well as driver assessments
- Introducing annual licensing inspections for pedicabs, which would include checking items such as brakes, tyres, appropriate lighting, and other mechanical parts, as well as batteries for any pedicabs that are electrically assisted
- Regulated fares to be based on journey time, with a per minute rate and a minimum fare
- Prohibiting the use of externally amplified audio on pedicabs, reducing noise disruption
- Driver ID badges to be issued and licence plates to be fixed on the pedicab
- Pedicab drivers to only stop to pick up or drop off where it is safe to do so for the passengers, driver, and other road users and where stopping is permitted.

This marks a key step towards introducing a comprehensive regulatory framework for pedicabs at the earliest possible time in 2026.

Pedicabs should be a fun and green way to see the sights of our city, but without regulation some drivers are behaving unsafely and anti-socially. That is why TfL are pressing ahead with new measures to ensure pedicabs are safe and the industry can continue to thrive in the future.

Launch of four-part TfL 25 podcast series

On 18 September, TfL launched a new series of its award-winning 'Mind the Gap' podcast series to celebrate 25 years of supporting the growth and development of the capital.

This series focuses on the creation of TfL in 2000, how new innovations improved the transport network, and looks back on the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The third series of Mind the Gap sees the return of railway historian and broadcaster Tim Dunn as the show's presenter, and contains a range of celebrity guests, including former TfL employee, writer, and comedian Babatunde Aléshé, singer Heather Small, and Olympic gold medallist rower Pete Reed OBE.

Construction of Cycleway 4 extension from Greenwich to Woolwich begins

TfL and the Royal Borough of Greenwich have confirmed that on 29 September, construction work will begin to extend Cycleway 4 between Greenwich and Woolwich – adding an additional 2.5km to the cycling network. These works will mean that people living and working in Woolwich will be connected via a 12.5km continuous cycleway to shops and amenities in Greenwich and Surrey Quays, through Deptford and Rotherhithe, and into central London.

TfL analysis has identified that this route is in the top 5 per cent of routes with the highest potential for future cycling demand across the capital, with the area expected to see significant growth in cycling journeys in the coming years – in Charlton Riverside and Woolwich Opportunity areas. Major upgrades planned as part of the route include:

- A two-way segregated cycleway along the A206 from Gallions Road to Woolwich Ferry roundabout
- Improved pedestrian crossings (changing staggered crossings to straight-across crossings at Royal Greenwich Trust School and Windrush Primary School)
- New crossings with signals to help pedestrians and cyclists cross the A206 more safely
- New trees and other vegetation to increase biodiversity
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems and cycling-friendly gullies to improve drainage
- Pavement widening at selected locations to improve the area for people walking
- Upgrades to bus shelters

I'm determined to make cycling in London safer and easier, and this section of Cycleway 4 is part of my plans to expand high-quality cycling infrastructure across the capital. The work on the 2.5km section of segregated cycle route is currently scheduled for completion in spring 2027.

TfL launches new poster campaign to raise awareness of Highway Code rules

TfL has launched a new campaign, which will include posters around the capital's transport network, to raise awareness of the Highway Code, with a particular focus on the rules designed to protect people walking, cycling, and motorcycling.

The Highway Code aims to promote safety on the road, while also supporting a healthy, sustainable, and efficient transport system, and many of the rules in the Code are legal requirements. However, a recent survey conducted by TfL shows that there is low awareness and understanding of the rules.

TfL is determined to tackle this, as people walking, cycling, and motorcycling continue to be most at risk of death and serious injury on London's roads. The new campaign, which is supported by the Department for Transport, will appear on roadside posters across London, social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok), and online video. It will raise awareness and highlight five key rules in the Highway Code, which protect at-risk road users and look to address areas where research shows there is poor compliance and understanding of the rules.

SL13 consultation launches and SL12 consultation results

TfL is inviting Londoners to have their say on the next proposed Superloop (SL13) express bus route. I'm delighted that we will also launch a new Superloop (SL12) express bus route next year following a positive response from Londoners to a recent consultation on the plans.

The SL13 route would run between Ealing Broadway and Hendon via Brent Cross and Neasden. This would improve access to growing industry and business districts and enhance north to west links. As part of this proposal, the existing route E7 would be extended via Uxbridge Road to Ealing Common. The consultation will run for six weeks, closing on 22 October 2025. I encourage everyone to take part in the consultation and share their views.

The SL12 route, which will run as an express service with limited stops between Gants Hill and Ferry Lane in Rainham via Romford, will provide Londoners with another sustainable transport option, improving journey times and providing quicker orbital connections between local centres, railway stations and hospitals. The consultation found that 79 per cent of respondents stated that the new route would be more convenient and 69 per cent would switch to using a bus from a car. This means that a bus route will go into Ferry Lane Industrial Estate for the first time, supporting workers who need to travel to and from this area, as well as a direct bus connection between King George Hospital and Queen's Hospital. I'm pleased to see positive feedback for the new SL12 express bus and TfL is now working on plans to launch the SL12 in 2026.

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

Travel for Life achieves more than 1,000 Gold schools

Students at more than 1,000 London schools have made significant progress in reducing car use on the school run and increasing walking and cycling, bringing benefits for health and air quality, as part of TfL's schools programme.

TfL has recorded a year-on-year increase of 283 schools that have achieved Gold Accreditation with its TfL Travel for Life schools programme, coming in at a total of 1,009 schools at the end of August. The programme, running since 2004, comprises free educational programmes for schools for children aged 3 to 17, and is delivered in partnership with London Transport Museum and London's boroughs. It inspires children to travel actively, responsibly and safely, and, to reach Gold accreditation, schools must reduce car use by up to six per cent or achieve 90 per cent of the school run through sustainable transport.

Over the last academic year Barking and Dagenham, Harrow, RB Kensington and Chelsea, Lewisham and Westminster have at least doubled the number of their schools achieving Gold accreditation, with Harrow increasing from 12 to 27 schools. Waltham Forest currently has the highest proportion of its schools engaged at any level with TfL Travel for Life, with almost nine in ten taking part, whilst Lambeth saw the biggest year-on-year increase of engaged schools, almost doubling the number over the last year.

St Helen's College in Uxbridge has reached Gold accreditation for the third time. The achievements of its students over the years include sourcing money for new scooter parking and funding from London borough of Hillingdon to go towards road safety and active travel initiatives at the school.

Schools that are not yet involved with the programme are being encouraged to find out more and sign up to help reap the benefits of walking and cycling and reduce car use.

Fire

Mayor & London Fire Commissioner

On 1 September, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, and I met with the recently appointed London Fire Commissioner, Jonathan Smith, for the first of our regular discussions on matters relating to London Fire Brigade.

Long Service Award Ceremony

On 8 September, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended a service to honour LFB operational staff who have given more than 20 years of service to the Brigade.

Environment

Grosvenor Square planting ceremony

On 3 September, I spoke at a ceremonial planting event in Grosvenor Square to celebrate the start of its transformation into a world class urban green space. The Square is undergoing a revolutionary redesign, with an aim to become a haven for wildlife and the community, and this event marked the first plants going in the ground.

I was accompanied by my Deputy Mayor for Energy and Environment, Mete Coban. We met with the Chief Executive of Grosvenor Estates and heard from local groups who have been involved in this inspirational green space transformation. This project supports my aim to ensure all Londoners have access to and can benefit from green spaces wherever they live.

CLEVER cities Thamesmead visit

On 4 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, visited the South Thamesmead Garden Estate to celebrate the end of the CLEVER Cities EU funded programme, in which we were a project partner, and to see the improvements to make the estate greener and more nature rich. My Deputy Mayor met project partners Peabody, and members of the Community Design Collective, who helped design the improvements - which includes new seating and play areas, rain gardens and landscaping, and improvements to the lakes and canals across the estate to clean up the water and bring nature back to the site.

Bunhill Fields Rewild London Fund site visit

On 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, visited Bunhill Fields, Islington, which has been improved with a grant from my Rewild London Fund.

Mete met with local volunteers and joined in with autumn gardening tasks. This is the type of project that my new Green Roots Fund will continue to support, empowering communities to improve their neighbourhoods, making them more nature-rich, healthier and climate resilient.

London and Partner's Demos reception

On 18 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote address at London and Partner's Sustainability Ecosystem event. This event brought together sustainability and climate tech clients and stakeholders to promote London as a climate tech hub.

Growth and Skills

Adult Skills Fund Mayoral Board

On 24 September, I chaired a meeting of my Adult Skills Fund (ASF) Mayoral Board. The Board heard updates and presentations on building an employer-led inclusive talent system and other key interventions being developed as part of the Inclusive Talent Strategy.

The Board was also given an update on the ASF programme, key updates included risks, issues and mitigations related to the ASF programme and the publication of the 2023-24 London Learner Survey (LLS) results, which highlighted that 77,000 learners moved into new jobs, progressed at work, or continued onto further study.

Employment Roundtable with the Minister for Employment

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney AM, attended a Mayoral Roundtable with the new Minister for Employment, Dame Diana Johnson MP.

Joanne set out London's key employment priorities, including our ambition to better coordinate work, health and skills support for Londoners. She also highlighted the importance of supporting young people into work and building on our shared focus with DWP on reducing the number of young people not in education, employment, or training.

Meeting with the CEO and the new Chair of London Higher

On 10 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE, met with the new Chief Executive Officer and Chair of London Higher.

London Higher shared their strategic direction and priorities for the organisation. The meeting was also an opportunity to discuss the implementation of the London Growth Plan and the forthcoming Inclusive Talent Strategy, focusing on how universities can contribute and align to both plans.

Meeting with the CEO of Russell Group

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE, met with Dr Tim Bradshaw, the Chief Executive Officer the Russell Group, to discuss the importance of London's Universities to the city's economy, the upcoming Inclusive Talent Strategy, and the Government's proposals for an International Student Levy.

Meeting with Cllr Peter Mason on the Inclusive Talent Strategy

On 12 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE, met with Councillor Peter Mason, Leader of Ealing Council and London Councils' executive member of planning and skills. They shared priorities and plans for the launch of the Inclusive Talent Strategy.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

BLAST Premier Open 2025

On 5 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE and my Deputy Mayor for Business, Howard Dawber OBE, attend BLAST Premier Open.

London is the largest games city in Europe and BLAST 2025 is the biggest e-sports arena event taking place in the UK this year. The event took place over three days at Wembley OVO Area, attracting millions of global viewers across 100+ territories. Both finalist teams featured UK players, with G2 Esports taking the title over Team Vitality. Last year's BLAST Premier Spring Final generated £30 million in economic impact for London.

I have committed £10.7 million through my Creative Economy Growth Programme – funding Games London, Film London, British Fashion Council and London Design Festival for four years until 2028.

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 2 September, met John Lewis Partnership to discuss the London Growth Plan alongside Jules Pipe, my Deputy Mayor, Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service.
- On 3 September, took part in a walking tour of London's West End, meeting developers, investors and businesses, at the invitation of Opportunity London and Heart of London Business Alliance (HOLBA), alongside Jules Pipe, my Deputy Mayor, Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service.
- On 3 September, met with Katherine Chapman, Director of the Living Wage Foundation, to discuss the London Living Wage and the Good Work Standard.
- On 5 September, attended Grow London Local's *Coffee Fridays* at Stratford Village Market, and met with local entrepreneurs and businesses.
- On 9 September, held a meeting with Andy Gregory, Chief Executive of Business Growth Investment (BGF), to discuss BGF's ongoing initiatives to support growth amongst SMEs and BGF's announcement pledging to invest over £3 billion in scalable British companies over the next five years
- On 9 September, met with Bob Kupbens, CEO of Stubhub International, to discuss the importance of the experience economy to London's economy.
- On 10 September, attended the British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (BVCA) Summit to give closing remarks at the London and South East Vision Awards Presentation. The theme for the summit this year was "Investing for a better economy".
- On 10 September, met with Fleur Anderson MP, to discuss the London Growth Plan and the support I announced for London's high streets.

- On 10 September, attended the Race Equity in Employment Task Force roundtable with other regional leaders
- On 11 September, attended the launch of the New West End Company's (NWECC) Business Plan 2026-2031, and spoke about the importance of the relationship with partners like NWECC in delivering projects such as the London Growth Plan and changes to Oxford Street.
- On 11 September, attended the Trade Association Forum Conference and joined a panel session titled 'From Policy to Practice' to discuss the opportunities and challenges emerging for trade associations in the delivery of the Industrial Strategy.
- On 12 September, met with Sarah Jones MP, to discuss Croydon Town Centre and the Croydon economy.
- On 17 September, attended the launch of Leap at ARC West London, a new accelerator space powered by Imperial College London's Incubator. The event highlighted West London's growing role as one of Europe's leading science and innovation corridors and showed how Leap will lower barriers for startups while supporting the ambitions of the London Growth Plan.
- On 18 September, attended the South East London Chamber of Commerce Executive Lunch to deliver remarks and Q&A on the London Growth Plan.
- On 19 September, visited the London Borough of Bromley, to discuss how Bromley can benefit from the London Growth plan; and met with Bromley's economic development team to discuss local business needs.
- On 23 September, met Rob Heasman, Chief Executive of the Earls Court Development Company, to hear about progress in redeveloping the site and opportunities created to support key skills in London.
- On 23 September, took part in a site tour and bottoming-out ceremony with AXA IM and YardNine at 50 Fenchurch St, to mark the completion of 20 metres of excavation ahead of the tower construction.
- On 25 September, spoke about London's future growth opportunities at a PWC event, *Grow London: Shaping the City's Economic Future*.
- On 25 September, attended a BusinessLDN dinner hosted by Legal & General and discussed the policy reforms required at a city-wide level to generate more productive investment into the capital's housing and infrastructure.

International promotion

Throughout this period, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber OBE, continued to promote London as the best city to do business, and to support London companies to expand internationally, at the following events:

- On 4 September, held a meeting with Max Alexander, CEO of SXSW London, to discuss plans for next year's event.

- On 4 September, held a meeting with His Excellency Mr Bader Almunayekh, Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United Kingdom, to discuss trade and investment links.
- On 8 September, had a meeting with Alex Kewley, Partner of Indian investment firm Stride Ventures, to discuss the company's London expansion.
- On 9 September, spoke at the launch of the 7th cohort of Grow London Global, welcoming 143 high-growth London companies onto the programme, the largest cohort to date.
- On 16 and 17 September, participated in Opportunity London's Global Investment Summit as part of the London Real Estate Forum 2025.
- On 24 September, attended and spoke at the opening of Visionet's new office in London. Visionet is a US-Indian IT company that has chosen London as its next location to expand its services.
- On 25 September, attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Mitsubishi Estate's £800m redevelopment of 72 Upper Ground. This major investment demonstrates London's strength as a global business destination and will support jobs, growth and innovation in the capital.

Civil Society and Sport

Mayor's Community Weekend

From 12 to 14 September, Londoners came together for this year's Mayor's Community Weekend, delivered in partnership with The National Lottery Community Fund.

The weekend saw events including street parties, fun runs, craft workshops, performances, and gardening projects. These activities created opportunities for communities to connect, celebrate our city's vibrant cultures, and strengthen the bonds that make London unique.

53 Team London Ambassador's supported 11 community-based events, including volunteering as filmmakers to interview volunteers from community organisations and highlight their stories and the importance of volunteering to Londoners.

The Mayor's Community Weekend once again highlighted the resilience, generosity, and cultural richness of Londoners. By working in partnership with communities and funders, we are creating inclusive spaces where every Londoner feels they belong.

Art on the Dock

On 12 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited Art in the Docks in London's Royal Docks to take part in the "Bee Friendly" event, delivered as part of the Mayor's Community Weekend.

The Bee Friendly event was organised by Art in the Docks, a social enterprise that promotes access to the creative economy, cultural participation, and wellbeing through arts and community-based programmes. The event brought together pupils from a local primary school and members of the community for interactive workshops focused on the lifecycle of bees, their importance in pollination, and ways to protect them. Activities included planting sessions and art workshops, designed to combine environmental learning with creative engagement.

Big Half

On 7 September, my Team London Ambassador volunteers supported The Big Half, London's community half-marathon starting near Tower Bridge and finishing in Greenwich. Alongside the elite athletes taking part, the Big Half provides free, fun, family-friendly races for runners of mixed abilities and anyone looking to get healthier and more active. I am proud that my volunteers contributed to the success of the event and supported the 22,000 participants across the day.

Culture

David Bowie at V&A East Storehouse

On 8 September, alongside my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, I attended a preview of the David Bowie Centre at V&A East Storehouse, ahead of its official opening to the public on 13 September.

This incredible Centre offers a truly unique experience for David Bowie fans, with the world's largest collection dedicated to the life and works of one of London's most creative and influential artists. It is home to over 90,000 items, including a unique collection of photographs, album sleeve artwork and wide range of memorabilia, from handwritten lyrics to self-portraits and costumes. This was another milestone in the East Bank story, in which I have invested £600m, and follows V&A East Storehouse which opened in May and Sadler's Wells East in February.

Open House Festival

My Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, was a guest curator for this year's Open House Festival, hand-picking a collection of iconic venues across the city such as the Acme Propellor Factory, and the new Sadlers Wells East building, as well as artists' studios and mixed-use spaces like The Factory and Royal Docks Originals. This year's Open House Festival took place between 13-21 September, with over 800 free open days and events at venues, institutions, landmarks, and unique homes across all 33 London boroughs.

London Fashion Week

My Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE visited a number of events and shows as part of this year's London Fashion Week, which ran from 18 – 22 September.

London Fashion Week, which is marking its 40th year, showcases the best of British design to an international audience, helping designers – including new talent – gain global visibility and commercial success. It is a celebration of creativity, diversity, and opportunity.

The event reflects London's global influence and cultural relevance. I fund the British Fashion Council as part of my Creative Economy Growth Programme, which aims to support and grow London's creative industries. In March 2025, I confirmed a further £2,440,000 funding package for the British Fashion Council over the next four years.

London Design Festival and London Design Awards

On 12 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the London Design Festival launch of “What Nelson Sees” at Trafalgar Square, and delivered remarks about my ongoing support for the festival, the importance of design and the wider creative industries, and the festival’s role in reaching a wide audience through public installations. I have funded the London Design Festival since 2016, through the Creative Economy Growth Programme. In March 2025, I confirmed a further £940,000 funding package for the festival over the next four years.

On 15 September, Justine also attended the London Design Festival Medal ceremony and presented the Design Innovation Medal to Sinéad Burke. The award celebrates an individual who has built one or more businesses where design lies at the core of its development and success.

Nightlife Taskforce

On 13 September, the Nightlife Taskforce held its final meeting at City Hall. The Taskforce, with VibeLab and supported by Autonomy, has spent the last 7 months undertaking research to explore challenges and solutions to improve London’s nightlife. Through surveys, roundtables, interviews and focus groups, the Taskforce has gathered data and consulted widely to get an up-to-date snapshot of the opportunities and challenges for London’s nightlife. The Taskforce will publish their report and recommendations later this year.

Communities and Social Policy

Adult College, Barking and Dagenham roundtable for employers

On 25 September, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, held a roundtable for employers at the Adult College, Barking and Dagenham, on getting Bangladeshi and Pakistani women into good work and discussing how City Hall is working with employers to tackle inequalities in the workplace.

Inclusive Talent Strategy roundtable with equality stakeholders

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, met with representatives of equality organisations to gather feedback on the upcoming Inclusive Talent Strategy.

Stakeholders discussed the emerging themes from the consultation, including the importance of building in access and inclusion into the Strategy’s initiatives from the outset, and ensuring strong involvement of civil society.

Ukrainian Welcome Centre Visit

On 5 September, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, visited the Ukraine Catholic Cathedral and the Ukraine Welcome Centre in the City of Westminster, where she saw the impact vital funding from City Hall is having in supporting Ukrainian Londoners to re-build their lives in the city.

UNESCO Network of Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the UNESCO Network of Anti-Racism and Anti-Discrimination in Paris. She spoke at a roundtable about tackling racism together and our efforts in London to address structural inequality.

Children and Young Londoners

CitizensUK Roundtable with Deputy Mayors

On 3 September, my Deputy Mayors, Joanne McCartney, Seb Dance, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and Howard Dawber, led a roundtable in partnership with CitizensUK at City Hall. Discussions on the day focused on topics from secure housing to income stability to family wellbeing.

VRU My Ends Visit

On 5 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney AM, visited the Violence Reduction Unit's (VRU) MyEnds consortium in Northumberland Park, Haringey.

Delivered locally by Bridge Renewal Trust, the MyEnds Home Cooked consortium is one of 11 community-led networks operating across London and in areas of high and sustained levels of violence. This MyEnds project empowers young people and community groups to lead solutions that strengthen resilience and build safer futures.

During the visit, Joanne met with partners, community leaders and young people involved in the project, hearing firsthand about the challenges they face and the positive impact of the MyEnds programme.

YOU London Community Reception

On 8 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, attended the YOU London community reception at Southwark Cathedral, alongside the Mayor of Lambeth and Mayor of Southwark.

Hosted by the Very Rev'd Dr Mark Oakley, Dean of Southwark Cathedral, the event celebrated the transformative impact of uniformed youth organisations across the capital.

YOU London is a partnership of twelve Youth Organisations in Uniform working collaboratively across the city to maximise opportunities for young people. These include the Army Cadet Force, Boys' Brigade, Combined Cadet Force, Fire Cadets, Girls' Brigade, Girlguiding, Jewish Lads' and Girls' Brigade, RAF Air Cadets, Sea Cadet Corps, Scouts, St John Ambulance Cadets, and Volunteer Police Cadets.

The reception highlighted both the life-changing opportunities provided by these organisations and the vital role of adult volunteers in ensuring that more young Londoners can benefit from their activities.

Relational practice roundtable for care experienced young people

On 22 September, Lib Peck, Director of London Violence Reduction Unit, chaired a roundtable discussion focusing on strengthening networks and partnerships for care experienced young people.

Hosted as part of my commitment to the Pan-London Care Leavers Compact, and in partnership with the London Research and Policy Partnership (LRaPP), the event brought together policymakers, practitioners, youth organisations, academics, and care-experienced young people, and explored how trusted relationships can strengthen outcomes.

Healthy Early Years London and Healthy Schools London Celebration event

On 23 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney hosted an event at City Hall, celebrating the progress of my Healthy Early Years London (HEYL) and Healthy Schools London (HSL) programmes.

Borough leads, who work with us to run HEYL and HSL locally, were invited to City Hall to mark the end of a co-production process, through which both programmes have been updated.

Joanne set out my vision for London to become the healthiest city in the world for children to grow up and thrive. She highlighted how these programmes recognise the vital role early years settings, childminders and schools play in achieving this goal. A panel of experts explored opportunities and challenges in oral health, immunisation, and mental health. Boroughs shared their own local success stories, reflecting on the local impact of HEYL and HSL, as well as their hopes for the future.

Already, over 2,500 early years providers and 2,300 schools across London are working with us and I hope even more will join us in creating a healthier future for London's children and young people.

Visit to Tottenham Hotspur Foundation – New Deal for Young People funded project

On 25 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited the Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, a key delivery partner of my New Deal for Young People.

The Foundation's Level Up project is helping to improve outcomes for young Londoners through sport-led mentoring, education, and personal development. Joanne met staff and young people involved in the initiative and heard how targeted investment is building confidence, skills, and brighter futures in the local community.

This visit highlighted the critical role of trusted grassroots organisations in delivering inclusive, high-impact support and opportunities for young people across our city.

Health

Refugees into NHS employment Summit

On 24 September, my Mayoral Health Adviser, Dr Tom Coffey, and NHS England Regional Director, Dame Caroline Clarke, co-chaired a second roundtable on creating employment pathways in the health service for thousands of refugees living in London.

Organised by NHS Employers, it focused on helping more refugees with the skills, experience, and dedication to secure both clinical and non-clinical NHS roles. Many refugees in London are trained doctors, nurses, therapists, and other health professionals, eager to contribute to the country that has welcomed them. With NHS workforce shortages, there is also a strong economic case for enabling their employment.

World Suicide Prevention Day

On 10 September, in solidarity with partners across the city, I marked World Suicide Prevention Day by reaching out to Londoners to encourage them to take part in one of the many train-a-thons hosted by Zero Suicide Alliance on the day.

It has been six years since we launched the #ZeroSuicideLDN campaign, offering free, online suicide prevention training to empower Londoners. I am proud that London is leading by example, with over 465,000 people across our city having completed the training so far.

The loss of one life to suicide is one too many, and each of us can play a part in preventing these heartbreaking tragedies. By supporting one another and talking more about mental health, we can make a real difference. That is why I reminded everyone that the training is available to all – free of charge, taking just 30 minutes, and equipping people with the tools that could help a loved one, colleague or stranger in crisis.

It is important that we continue encouraging people to take part, so we can continue to build a better, healthier London for all who live and work here.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Future Industries Demonstrator Programme Innovation Challenge

On 4 August, the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park Innovation District launched its fourth innovation challenge under the Future Industries Demonstrator (FID) Programme. This initiative supports London-based SMEs in scaling technologies that address urgent urban challenges. With the theme 'Building Better – Innovating Healthier Solutions', five businesses will each receive £16,000 in funding.

Climate Action Strategy Report

A year on from launching its Climate Action Strategy – shortlisted for 'Net Zero Strategy of the Year' at the UK Green Business Awards 2025 – London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) published its first Annual Progress Report. It highlights that LLDC is on track to meet net zero targets across Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and outlines efforts to integrate climate resilience across all areas of its operations, including futureproofing the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to withstand the impacts of existing and predicted climate change and supporting green jobs and skills.

London College of Fashion at East Bank shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize 2025

On 4 September, the London College of Fashion at East Bank, the UK's newest cultural quarter, was shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize 2025, recognising excellence in UK architecture. The building has set a new benchmark for design excellence and sustainability and, like all the East Bank buildings, is designed to be open, inclusive and welcoming, with generous public spaces that invite everyone in. The building has already won the RIBA London and National Awards earlier this year. The winner will be announced on 16 October.

Events on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

From 13 to 21 September, a host of locations across the Park – from the London Aquatics Centre and Lee Valley VeloPark to Sadler's Wells East and Studio Wayne McGregor – took part in Open House Festival – an annual celebration of London's architecture and neighbourhoods, giving the public an opportunity to explore iconic buildings across the city. Hackney's first

circular economy hub, the Loop and new residential area East Wick also took part, along with a walking tour across the Park delivered by LLDC's Elevate Youth Board.

From 26 June to 28 September, Bola Beach Tennis transformed a section of the Park into a vibrant pop-up beach destination, blending tennis, badminton, padel, and beach volleyball. Championing eco-conscious design, the project repurposed materials from Tower Hamlets' Lido Festival, a construction site in King's Cross, and 16 tonnes of sand from the Diamond League long jump pit at London Stadium.

London's annual festival of public sculpture returned to the Park from 20 to 28 September. As part of the festival, the public were invited to explore public art across the Park including three public art commissions, part of East Bank. These include Lemon Meringue by Michael Landy, Lubna Chowdhary's Temporal Trace and artist duo A.A. Murakami's In Mountains Shadow. It also included The Line's east London public art trail, which connects the Park with the O2 via a host of free art along the way. During London Sculpture Week, East Bank and The Line hosted a "Walk and talk" with artists Larry Achiampong, Lubna Chowdhary, and Mahtab Hussain.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

New Board and Planning Committee members appointed

On the 22 September, OPDC announced the appointment of new Members to its Board and Planning Committee. The appointments follow an open and competitive recruitment process that has demonstrated a strong level of interest.

These appointments fill one existing Board vacancy and four forthcoming vacancies as three current Board Members reach the end of their terms and current Board Member Matthew Carpen takes up the role of OPDC Chief Executive.

The appointments are:

- Alexander Jan – Chief Economic Adviser, London Property Alliance
- Alison Dowsett – former Managing Director, Policy and Planning, Berkeley Group
- Eleanor Young - Director, Blackstock Partnership
- Sarah McCready - Director of Social Infrastructure and Communications, Barking Riverside Limited
- Shahi Islam - Director, Affordable Housing, Homes England

Hannah David, Director of Planning Futures, has also been appointed as a Member of the OPDC Planning Committee. Alongside Hannah, incoming OPDC Board Member, Eleanor Young, becomes the Planning Committee's Board nominee. In addition, whilst his term as a Board Member is coming to an end, William Hill will remain on OPDC's Planning Committee in his current role as Chair.

Old Oak Compulsory Purchase Order

On 12 September, OPDC made a Compulsory Purchase Order to secure the remaining land required for the comprehensive regeneration of Old Oak.

This will enable the assembly of the few remaining privately owned sites on the approximately 31 hectares of land within the Old Oak development. The Old Oak proposals are designed to utilise public sector brownfield land and to capitalise on the transformational impacts of the new station at Old Oak Common, which will serve HS2, the Elizabeth line and the Great Western Mainline.

Planning and Regeneration

Towards a New London Plan

On 19 September, I launched the Easy Read engagement of Towards a new London Plan. This additional six-week consultation is for Londoners who might prefer an Easy Read version of the materials that we previously consulted on in May and June 2025. Londoners who already responded to the first consultation do not need to respond again. This additional consultation is in an accessible, easy to understand format, targeted to provide an opportunity for London with accessibility needs to respond to the ideas for the next London Plan.

Local Plans

On 29 August, GLA officers agreed on my behalf a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with London Borough of Croydon concerning the revised Croydon Local Plan 2018. I considered the revised Plan broadly in general conformity with the London Plan.

Officers worked closely with Croydon to agree several notable amendments to bring the Plan into closer alignment with the London Plan prior to its Examination, including clearly identifying the 10-year requirement for additional Gypsy and Traveller pitches to meet assessed need.

Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

I have asked officers to send letters with comments on the following Stage 1 referrals:

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision
2025/0676	Hendon Goods Yard Village	Barnet	08/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0704	High Barnet Place	Barnet	01/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0825	231 Colney Hatch Lane	Barnet	15/09/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0727	Wembley Park Masterplan	Brent	05/09/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0707	Juniper Crescent	Camden	01/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0769	120 Holborn	Camden	12/09/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0773	Selkirk House	Camden	11/09/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0762	Morley House	City of London	11/09/2025	No Strategic Issues
2025/0687	Tapestry	Croydon	15/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0702	Morden Wharf	Greenwich	01/09/2025	Does not comply with the London Plan
2025/0167	Court Farm Garden Centre	Kingston upon Thames	05/09/2025	No Stage 2 required
2025/0706	10 Leake Street	Lambeth	08/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0757	Thornton Park	Lambeth	05/09/2025	No Strategic Issues

2025/0716	Royal Wharf Plot 14B	Newham	08/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0105	Canada Water Masterplan	Southwark	15/09/2025	Does not comply with the London Plan
2025/0724	Elm Grove	Sutton	08/09/2025	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2025/0774	ArcelorMittal Orbit	Tower Hamlets	03/09/2025	No Strategic Issues

Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

Letters have been issued for the following statutory Stage 2 referrals:

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision
2025/0320	Land to the south of St Mary's Lane	Havering	17/09/2025	No Stage 2 required
2025/0352	Court Farm Garden Centre	Kingston upon Thames	18/09/2025	No Stage 2 required
2024/0440	122-126 Westferry Road	Tower Hamlets	01/09/2025	Allow LPA to refuse
2025/0465	291 Harrow Road	Westminster	15/09/2025	Allow LPA to approve

Key engagements

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

- I held my regular planning meeting on 1 September
- I held my regular meeting with the London Fire Commissioner on 1 September
- I attended the London Labour Party Summer Reception on 1 September
- I joined a planting ceremony at Grosvenor Square on 3 September
- I visited small businesses in King's Cross on 3 September
- I joined the regional Mayors Council on 4 September
- I joined Black on the Square on 6 September
- I visited the new V&A East David Bowie exhibition on 8 September
- I met with the Chief Executive of Arora Group on 9 September
- I held my regular planning meeting on 9 September
- I joined HRH The Princess Royal to celebrate the Tideway project on 9 September
- I attended the Political Purpose Awards on 9 September
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 11 September
- I attended BGC Charity Day on 11 September
- I chaired the London Policing Board on 16 September
- I attended People's Question Time on 16 September
- I joined regional Mayors for a meeting with the new Housing Secretary on 18 September
- I met with the Attorney General on 18 September
- I held my regular meeting with the NHS and OHID on 18 September
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Police Commissioner on 18 September
- I joined a reception for the launch of EE72 on 19 September
- I visited the This is Oxford Street celebration event on 21 September
- I held my regular planning meeting on 22 September
- I met with the Secretary of State for Housing on 22 September
- I met with George Osborne on 23 September
- I joined the Policing Minister and Met Commissioner to discuss mobile phone theft on 24 September
- I officially launched the new Bakerloop bus service on 24 September
- I met with the CEO of Santander to announce a new Santander Cycles partnership on 24 September
- I chaired a meeting of the Adult Skills Fund on 24 September
- I joined the GLA Long Service Awards on 24 September
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 25 September