

## **22nd Mayor's Report to the Assembly Mayor's Question Time – 12 June 2026**

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| <p>This is my twenty second report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 8 May – 29 May 2026.</p> |
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Please note that the information in the Mayor's Report is accurate at the time of publishing.

### **Executive Summary**

#### **New Weekend Hopper Fare**

On 11 May, I announced that millions of Londoners are set to benefit from cheaper bus journeys this summer through the extension of my popular Hopper fare at weekends.

To help improve public transport and support Londoners with the cost of living, the new Weekend Hopper offer means, for the first time ever, anyone travelling on buses and trams at the weekend on a Saturday or a Sunday between 25 July and 31 August will only pay one single fare for unlimited journeys across London that day – making it easier for Londoners and visitors to make the most of everything the capital has to offer during the summer holidays.

This innovative fare will run for six weekends throughout the school summer holidays, from 25 July to the end of August – including the Bank Holiday Monday, when millions travel across the capital to enjoy Notting Hill Carnival.

To help raise awareness of the Weekend Hopper offer, three buses on routes 23, 49 and 295 have been wrapped as hopping frogs, with Londoners and visitors encouraged to see if they can spot them all as they travel around the capital over the summer. These three routes offer TfL customers the chance to visit landmarks including world-class museums, the Royal Albert Hall, Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square – as well as connecting with a range of other routes, including London's growing Superloop network, making it easier to travel across the city to visit family and friends.

#### **TfL prepares for surge in late-night travel as world-class events draw millions across London**

Millions of Londoners are set to travel late into the night this summer, as international football screenings, major concerts, outdoor events and extended pub opening hours drive some of the busiest evenings of the year on the capital's transport network.

This will come after some of the busiest weekends of the year, marked by the London Marathon and the dramatic climax of the Premier League season. Based on previous years and the range of events in London, TfL expects Sunday 24 May to have seen more than 5.8 million Tube and bus journeys, making it one of the busiest Premier League final days in recent years. Just weeks earlier, London Marathon day (Sunday 26 April) saw millions of journeys across London's transport network, highlighting the scale of demand during major events.

TfL expects this trend to continue, with Arsenal's victory parade on Sunday 31 May and this summer's FIFA Men's World Cup set to drive significant late-night travel. Although matches will take place overseas, fan events, screenings and extended licensed hours are expected to increase

evening and late-night journeys across London, alongside a packed programme of concerts and major events at venues across the capital.

To mark preparations for the busy months ahead, frontline transport staff representing nations competing in the Men's World Cup gathered at Wembley Park Underground station - one of the busiest stations during major events - highlighting both the global nature of London's transport workforce and its role in keeping the city moving safely during large-scale occasions.

London is the world's sporting and cultural capital, and this summer is no exception. Whether you're attending a World Cup screening, a headline concert or dining al fresco with friends, TfL will ensure you can travel around the city safely, efficiently and reliably.

### **Further £4.6 million to local community projects across London**

On 18 May, I awarded over £4.6 million to local community projects across London to enhance the city's green and blue spaces and boost our climate resilience.

Announced as the Chelsea Flower Show began, the second round of my £12 million Green Roots Fund is delivering £3.5m to 33 local community projects and boroughs through grants ranging from £10,000 to £500,000. This is about supporting London's neighbourhoods to bring nature back to making the city more climate resilient.

Launched last summer, the Green Roots Fund delivers on my manifesto commitment to improve and enhance London's green and blue spaces. The programme supports communities to transform their local spaces, including parks, community gardens, wetlands and rivers. Projects awarded in this round include:

- £358,600 for The Tree Council's Young Tree Champions Living Labs project, which trains teachers and young people skills to grow a healthier, more resilient school environment through tree-planting.
- £80,500 to Natural Neighbours in Hackney, who will transform two sites - Priory Court (Kings Park) and Homerton Grove Adventure Playground - in the borough into habitat-rich wildlife gardens for residents to enjoy and to train 'Natural Champions' from the local community to nurture and maintain them.
- £30,000 to Spitalfields Crypt Trust, which will support people who have experienced homelessness and addiction, teaching them practical gardening skills and empowering them to help revitalise a public garden in Shoreditch.

An additional £1.1m has been allocated to a large-scale tree equity project, which will make it easier to plant trees in hotter, more flood prone and polluted neighbourhoods. Increasing the number of trees in London will help tackle the 'Urban Heat Island' effect, absorbing the sun's rays and cooling the city, reducing flood risk and helping to make London more climate resilient. The funding will also enable the planting of up to 5,000 trees, alongside investment in protecting and enhancing existing ones. Guided by local communities and boroughs, it will help to improve access to trees and shade, protecting Londoners in communities that need it most as our climate gets hotter.

### **Culture and Creative Industries Investment Announcement**

On 20 May, I announced that my support for the culture sector and creative industries over the past ten years has helped unlock almost £12bn of investment and spending across the capital.

This new analysis shows we have exceeded expectations two years early, surpassing a target of £10bn by 2028.

Over my 10 years as Mayor, I have boosted London's position as a global cultural capital, making it central to London's growth and identity, and driving the economy. East Bank, the largest new culture and education district in 150 years has been delivered, a new London Museum will open later this year at Smithfield, the number of artist studios has been stabilised, grassroots music venues have been supported, and the London Borough of Culture has brought culture to doorsteps across the capital.

London's culture and creative industries are hugely important to the capital contributing £64bn to the UK economy each year, supporting thousands of jobs, driving tourism and powering growth. London was also recently named the number one city for culture in Time Out's Best Cities for Culture 2026.

My support for film, through Film London has supported more than £9bn of investment, underpinning 87 productions and creating more than 13,000 jobs. In addition, London has welcomed three new film studios in Bow and Dagenham, 3 Mills Studios and Eastbrook Studios.

Games businesses in the capital have doubled in the last 10 years, placing London as one of the world's leading hub for game makers. While The British Fashion Council has helped secure sales, trade and investment for London as well as support for the next generation of designers through the NewGen. In partnership with Sir Paul Smith, Studio Smithfield is giving designers vital studios and mentoring to grow their businesses.

I have pioneered Creative Enterprise Zones which have helped to reverse the decline in artists' studios and delivered 71,000 square metres of affordable creative workspace - the equivalent of 10 football pitches. The Creative Land Trust has helped to provide long-term, affordable studios and workspaces for artists and makers.

Taken together, these groundbreaking programmes have helped secure London's cultural future.

### **Public Land agreement announcement**

On 14 May, OPDC announced that heads of terms have been agreed for a Public Land Agreement with government, the Department for Transport (DfT) and Network Rail, unifying approximately 70 acres at Old Oak into a single development site.

OPDC will consolidate its land with sites owned by the DfT into a single 70 acre development site under public sector ownership. This will create, for the first time, a unified platform to plan and deliver the capital's biggest brownfield regeneration project at Old Oak.

This landmark partnership between London and national government marks a major step forward in driving both London-wide and national housing delivery and economic growth and follows £340m public sector investment fused by OPDC to assemble privately owned sites in Old Oak.

### **Record-breaking summer to show once again why London is the undisputed music capital of the world**

Many millions of fans are set to unite in stadiums and parks across the capital as London is – once again – the only place in the country to see some of the world's biggest music artists. The world-leading line-up will provide a huge boost to the capital's economy, with London's music scene

attracting 7.5m visitors each year and bringing in £2.7bn in revenue to the capital. It is predicted that Harry Styles' record run at Wembley Stadium will inject £1.1 billion into the economy alone.

The summer of exclusive UK performances includes:

- Harry Styles performing a record 12-date run at Wembley Stadium. The stadium will welcome around 3m fans for its biggest ever summer of music with 33 concerts featuring a range of international stars, including six performances from Bruno Mars.
- The O2 is set for its busiest August ever with 16 sell-out shows, including Ariana Grande performing her only gigs outside of North America this year with 10 performances across the summer.
- Tottenham Stadium welcoming last year's most streamed artist in the world Bad Bunny for two performances as he becomes the first Latin American artist to headline a major UK stadium. More than 500,000 music fans will enjoy the stadium's summer gigs, including K-pop stars BTS for two gigs.
- Country star Garth Brooks performing his first UK show in nearly 30 years at BST Hyde Park, with Ateez, Maroon 5 and Duran Duran also on the bill.
- Lenny Kravitz performing at Crystal Palace Bowl.

Some other stand-out moments in the capital's summer of music include:

- The opening of British Airways ARC in Olympia next month. The 3,800-capacity state-of-the-art, purpose-built live music and events venue will open with Self Esteem and feature a five-night residency from Van Morrison.
- London Stadium welcoming more than 350,000 fans for Take That and Metallica. The stadium's state-of-the-art solar panels, supported by the Mayor's Green Finance Fund, will provide all the power required to deliver the whole summer programme of events.
- The O2 welcoming Olivia Dean for six performances this year, and Lily Allen for three.
- Parks and venues across the capital opening up a huge range of outdoor spaces for festivals, including at Alexandra Palace, Victoria Park, Brockwell Park and Crystal Palace.
- Almost 200 grassroots music venues across London providing a chance to catch a glimpse of the next upcoming stars.
- Live Nation will be welcoming 3.1m fans across nearly 300 shows this summer, with 44 per cent of shows taking place in club and grassroots venues.

The incredible summer of music shows why London was recently named the best city in the world for culture by Time Out.

## **Policing, Crime and Security**

### **London leading the way in the fight against tech-enabled VAWG**

Tech-enabled Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) is a global emergency. It transcends borders and the rapid pace of technology has provided new spaces and means for men to monitor, harass and control women and girls using everyday devices.

On 19 May, I was delighted to speak at a three-day conference in City Hall organised by UCL and MOPAC, bringing together survivors, policy makers, academic experts, tech leaders, VAWG sector, campaigners, and those with lived experience of tech-abuse, to discuss the issue and how we can work in partnership to deliver lasting solutions and practical support.

I'm backing this work with a new £6million fund to spearhead new approaches to provide better support for victims and survivors of tech-enabled VAWG – including those impacted by revenge porn, online harassment, AI deepfakes, and women controlled and monitored via doorbell cameras, social media and phone tracking. I'm proud of the world-leading work MOPAC is spearheading to prevent and reduce VAWG, as we work to deliver a safer London for all.

## Transport

### **Planned part closures on the Piccadilly line as vital upgrade work and testing of the brand-new trains gathers pace**

TfL is advising Piccadilly line customers to plan ahead during upcoming closures, as vital upgrade work continues ahead of a brand-new fleet of trains beginning to enter service between December 2026 and June 2027. The new trains will bring significant benefits to customers including walk-through carriages, increased reliability and frequency, improved accessibility and CCTV.

These part-closures will allow TfL to carry out essential upgrades to the power supply, tracks, platforms, depots and sidings while continuing to test the new trains' interaction with existing London Underground infrastructure, alongside assessments of their efficiency and performance.

This complex upgrade and testing programme is essential to ensure the line is ready for the first new trains to start entering service. Work already completed during part closures of the line includes weight-load testing of the new trains, with 400km covered using a test train in its fully loaded state of 68 tonnes, and work at 119 Piccadilly line platforms to ensure they are ready to accommodate the new trains, which are longer than the current fleet and have different door placement.

Most of the planned closures will take place at weekends, with many starting from 00:30 on Saturday mornings (meaning Friday Night Tube services are suspended) until the end of service on Sunday. Where possible, weekday closures have been timed to take place in school holidays when demand on the network is significantly reduced.

The full list of confirmed Piccadilly line closures is available on TfL's website at: [www.tfl.gov.uk/piccadilly-works](https://www.tfl.gov.uk/piccadilly-works). For all closures, customers are advised to plan ahead using TfL's real-time travel information tools, including TfL Journey Planner and TfL Go, to check before travelling and to allow more time for their journeys. TfL will also contact regular users of the Piccadilly line ahead of these closures with travel advice and information while posters and public address announcements will be put in place at all relevant stations.

Although much of the hard work goes on behind the scenes, there are times when TfL needs to close sections of the railway to ensure that these pioneering new trains can operate effectively and interact correctly with a wide range of complex infrastructure. Once this intensive period of upgrades and testing is completed, and the new trains start to enter service, customers will reap the benefits of moving around the capital on these game-changing new trains.

## **TfL urges customers to seek staff help to recover items that fall onto the tracks rather than risk danger trying to retrieve items themselves**

As the number of reported items such as mobile phones falling onto London Underground tracks is increasing sharply, TfL is reminding customers of the dangers of going onto the tracks to try and get their items back and advising how staff can provide help.

Tube and rail services in London use electrified rails which can cause serious injury to anyone who comes into contact with them, including those who trespass onto the tracks to retrieve personal items. Between 2022 and 2025, the annual number of reported incidents of items on London Underground tracks more than doubled, from 209 to 438, and rose most sharply between 2024 and 2025, by 166 reported incidents.

Although most people do the right thing and seek help from staff to recover their belongings, TfL is increasing the number of posters on the network to remind people of the dangers of attempting to retrieve items from the tracks themselves, and that staff are on hand to help.

Elizabeth line, London Overground and London Underground customers should inform a member of staff on the platform if a personal belonging ends up on the tracks. If none are available, they can use a help point or speak to a team member in the ticket hall or station entrance. On the DLR, customers should inform the staff member on the train or use the emergency alarm on the platform, and on London Trams, customers should use the Passenger Help Point on board the tram and on platforms.

## **Safety-critical temporary weight restriction on Vauxhall Bridge to be introduced from July**

A new safety-critical 18 tonne weight restriction, except buses and emergency vehicles, will be introduced on the Vauxhall Bridge from 1 July 2026 to ensure the structure remains safe for everyone using it. A diversion route for vehicles above this weight will be put in place for those travelling both northbound and southbound. Vauxhall Bridge carries 39,500 vehicles every day, of which only around 200 – around 0.5 per cent of current traffic – are more than 18-tonnes and typically heavy goods vehicles. The bridge has been closed to abnormal loads (any vehicle exceeding 44 tonnes gross weight or 11.5 tonnes per axle) since 2023.

Keeping people safe is TfL's top priority, which is why it has a programme of regular inspections for all structures across its road network with associated refurbishment projects where required.

While previous assessments have shown Vauxhall Bridge to be safe, the most recent inspection showed that some elements of the structure have deteriorated. While the bridge does not currently pose any risk to people using it, these new measures are being introduced to avoid any further damage while TfL works to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. The weight restriction will remain in place while TfL works to resolve the structural concerns and develop a long-term plan for the bridge's future. No bus routes will be affected by the restriction and buses will continue to run as normal. Emergency vehicles will also be unaffected by the weight restriction and TfL will be putting in place alternative signed diversion routes for all other vehicles exceeding 18 tonnes gross weight.

## **A major new plan to boost walking and improve public health in London through significant street improvements**

On 27 May, saw the launch of the Walking and Wheeling Action Plan, which sets out how I will be working with TfL and London's boroughs to invest in significant improvements to London's streets over the next decade, making it easier, safer, and more attractive than ever to walk and wheel in the capital. Boroughs are responsible for the vast majority of London's streets, meaning the plan will be delivered through close collaboration to ensure improvements are felt in local neighbourhoods across the capital.

This new London-wide plan will support boroughs across the capital to identify and prioritise areas for improvement, ensuring schemes reflect local needs and deliver the greatest benefits for communities. By creating streets that work for everyone, we are aiming to make walking a realistic option for more Londoners.

The plan supports my ambition for 80 per cent of trips to be made by walking, cycling or public transport by 2041. Increasing walking and wheeling – especially among children and less active people – will bring major health benefits for Londoners, as well as helping businesses, high streets and the economy to thrive.

## **Environment**

### **Climate Action Plan workshop**

On 8 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, provided opening remarks at a workshop to bring young Londoners together to engage on the London Climate Action Plan at City Hall. The workshop brought together young people from across London to take part in participatory and deliberative activities to explore what the Climate Action Plan means in their lives, and what their hopes are for what it will achieve for their futures. Their experiences will be embedded within the Climate Action Plan, which is set to be published during London Climate Action Week.

### **Knightsbridge Sustainability Strategy launch**

On 11 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, spoke at the Knightsbridge Sustainability Strategy Launch to celebrate the work being done by Knightsbridge Partnership and local businesses and communities to transition London to net zero. The event championed the vision for Knightsbridge to be a vibrant and resilient international destination with strong environmental, social and economic outcomes.

### **Business LDN Sustainability Forum**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, chaired the third meeting of the Business LDN Sustainability Forum. The Forum brought together Business LDN members to discuss the challenges and opportunities in deploying capital at scale for climate projects and to update on work of the Climate Finance Taskforce. Attendees were invited to offer their own ideas on what is needed to mobilise green investment at scale and the roles that Business LDN and the GLA can play to support this.

### **Visit to William Torbitt school for Young Tree Champions**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, visited William Torbitt School to witness how The Tree Council's Young Tree Champions project has improved the school environment, and supported students to become tree ambassadors. The forthcoming Living Labs project supported by my Green Roots Fund will expand this project there and at 49 other schools in London, making school grounds more nature-rich, climate resilient and healthier. All the information about what the fund is supporting and how to apply for future rounds can be found at: [www.london.gov.uk/GreenRoots](http://www.london.gov.uk/GreenRoots)

### **National Retrofit Conference**

On 13 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, gave the keynote address at the second day of the National Retrofit Conference, as part of FutureBuild 2026. The conference was held at the Excel and the audience included industry leaders, regional delivery bodies and DESNZ. The speech focused on setting the scene for why successful retrofit delivery is so integral to fairer outcomes for Londoners by ensuring access to warmer, healthier and more affordable to heat homes.

## **Growth and Skills**

### **The King's Trust's 50th anniversary celebration Event**

On 11 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended The King's Trust 50th anniversary celebration. The event brought together young people, sector leaders and partners to highlight the impact of programmes that support skills development and employment opportunities. The stories shared during the event emphasised the importance of building confidence, developing skills, and creating pathways into work for young people. The Kings Trust works closely with many City Hall-funded training providers, and the event served to highlight the valuable role that partnerships play in helping young people progress into education, training and sustainable employment.

### **Visit to City Lit's Centre for Learning Disabilities and the Centre for Deaf Education**

On 13 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, visited City Lit to meet with their Principal and Chief Executive, Mark Malcolmson, and visit its Centre for Deaf Education. Discussions focused on the importance of inclusive education, skills development, and creating pathways that enable all Londoners to participate fully in the city's economy and communities. The visit also highlighted the role of adult skills providers in helping to build a more inclusive, diverse and thriving London.

### **Central London Youth Guarantee Trailblazer celebration**

On 18 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended Central London Forward's Youth Guarantee Trailblazer celebration event at the Guildhall. The event brought together partners, stakeholders and young people from across the twelve boroughs to recognise the achievements of care experienced young people who have participated in the programme. It provided the opportunity to reflect on the programme and to celebrate the journeys and successes of all involved.



### **Interim Social Care Talent Board meeting**

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth Howard Dawber attended the inaugural Interim Social Care Talent Board meeting. The board brings together employers, sector representatives and system partners from across London's adult social care sector. Discussions focused on workforce pressures facing the sector, including recruitment, retention, progression and skills, and on identifying practical areas for collective action to support a more sustainable and resilient workforce.

### **Interim Hospitality Talent Board meeting**

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the inaugural Interim Hospitality Talent Board meeting. The board brings together employers and sector representatives and system partners from across London's hospitality sector and wider experience economy. The board identified immediate sector skills and workforce priorities to help shape the talent system commissioning for the industry.

### **Visit to West London College**

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, visited West London College to meet students studying courses in health and social care, ESOL and foundation studies. The visit provided an opportunity to hear from staff leading innovative practice to support young people at risk of disengaging from education and training, which is part of the Get London Working Trailblazer programme. The college also shared its experience of developing the West London Retail Skills Hub in partnership with Westfield and the Youth Careers Collective, a collaboration designed to support local residents into work.

### **Meeting with Association of Colleges**

On 27 May, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended a regular meeting with several college Principals representing the Association of Colleges. The meeting covered a discussion of the skills and employment integrated settlement for London and activity that is focused on addressing young people being not in employment, education or training (NEET).

## **Housing**

### **UKREiiF**

My Deputy Mayors for Housing and Planning attended UKREiiF, the national infrastructure and real estate conference, to bang the drum for London housebuilding. They spoke to housing associations, councils, government and developers about what City Hall is doing to get more homes built, particularly social and affordable homes.

### **London Housing Mission**

My officers - alongside London Councils colleagues - recently convened the kick-off meeting for the next phase of the London Housing Mission works. The meeting was attended by Delivery Group members who, under request from the London Housing Mission Board, will explore the different costs associated with delivering homes in London. The Delivery Group - after having agreed a set of principles that will underpin the work - will also explore potential interventions that

could put a downward pressure on costs. The Delivery Group will meet at various points during the summer and will report back to the London Housing Mission Board in the Autumn.

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

### **New London office of Atom**

On 13 May, I launched the new London office of Atom, a US based hedge fund. I welcomed Atom's choosing London over other European financial hubs as its centre for European and Middle Eastern growth. My Deputy Mayor for Business & Growth Howard Dawber joined the event.

### **Engaging with and supporting business**

During this time, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber continued to engage with and support business and promote London internationally as the place to do business.

- On 12 May, met with UKInbound and the Tourism Alliance to discuss London's tourism and experience economy sectors.
- On 13 May, spoke at a Movers and Shakers event on the importance of experience to the built environment sector.
- On 14 May, spoke at an Eversleigh Breakfast Club Briefing. These briefings bring together planners, policymakers, developers and consultants to gain insight and discuss the future of cities.
- On 14 May, co-chaired the first meeting of the Making London Work for All programme Steering Group on my behalf. The programme is co-chaired by KPMG Partner Anna Purchas, Bishop of Croydon Rosemarie Mallett and the GLA. Co-funded by the GLA, Trust for London, the £1.1m programme is administered by the Living Wage Foundation and builds on the Making London a Living Wage City programme's ambition to widen the reach of the Living Wage and Living Hours campaigns in London's lowest-paid sectors over the next four years.
- On 14 May met with SSE energy to discuss their plans for London.
- On 18 May, spoke at the New London Architecture's Innovation Conference on how we are continuing to deliver on the ambitions of the London Growth Plan.
- On 18 May, spoke at the launch of Community Union's Responsible AI Charter and finance sector focused campaign, Fair Future for Finance. Zurich UK became the first signatory.
- On 19 May, spoke at the at the King's College London AI Summit, Workforce Futures, on AI and London's response to the opportunities and impacts of AI highlighting the aims of my AI Jobs Taskforce.
- On 20 May, chaired the London Business Forum to discuss my AI and Jobs Taskforce.
- On 20 May, met with the Mayor of Frankfurt to discuss shared priorities between our two cities and economic development.
- On 21 May, met with the Confederation of British Industry to discuss London's competitiveness, alongside other key business issues.
- On 26 May, met with Helen Dickinson, Chief Executive of the British Retail Consortium to discuss shoplifting and business crime.
- On 27 May, spoke at the New West End Company roundtable on their Global Benchmarking Report and discussed the findings of the report.

- On 27 May, visited Central London Alliance and Hatton Garden Business Improvement Districts to see firsthand the work of both BIDs across Farringdon, Clerkenwell and Hatton Garden.
- On 28 May, visited Reckitt a large consumer goods company with a significant presence in London.
- On 29 May, visited Hub by Premier Inn Hotel and met with Mark Anderson, Managing Director, Hotels and International, Whitbread PLC to discuss their recent investment in London.

## Fire

### **LFB long service awards**

On 11 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended the London Fire Brigade long service awards ceremony.

### **Meeting with LFB's Independent Operational Assurance Adviser**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, met with Mark Hardingham, London Fire Brigade's Independent Operational Assurance Adviser, to discuss the current improvement trajectory and preparedness ahead of HMICFRS inspection activity commencing later this year.

### **Twickenham Fire Station Water Safety visit**

On 26 May, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended Twickenham Fire station to view specialist equipment, including the river flume tank and flooding defence. He observed a demonstration of a water rescue and spoke with crews about water safety and flooding. He also visited the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RLNI) lifeboat station at Teddington.

## Civil Society and Sport

### **International Table Tennis Federation Championships volunteers**

My Team London Ambassador volunteers completed their support of the International Table Tennis Federation Championships on 10 May. The championships were held across five venues, including the Copper Box Arena and Wembley Ovo Arena. The three-week event was supported by 363 volunteers, including 24 sports technical specialist volunteers. My volunteers completed 3,239 shifts, which equates to over 21,400 hours of volunteering.

This international event championed London as a host city, with games and ceremonies watched by a global audience of 1.3 million. The event had a royal visit from the Duke of Edinburgh who visited the operational teams and met some of the volunteers.

## Culture

### **Time Out Best Cities for Culture Announcement**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, was invited to speak at Time Out's Best Cities for Culture event where London was announced as the top city for culture in 2026. The ranking is based on research from 24,000 respondents worldwide, which evaluated 150 cities. It includes surveys of local residents and expert opinions, highlighting cities with exceptional museums, galleries, and vibrant, accessible cultural scenes. Taking place at the

prestigious National Portrait Gallery, the announcement confirms London's position as a world-leading cultural destination.

### **Culture and Creative Industries Event**

On 19 May, I hosted an event, alongside my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, with key leaders across the creative industries. The event celebrated the vital role London's culture and creative industries have played in making London a better place over the past decade.

## **Communities and Social Policy**

### **St Mungo's Diversity Day panel discussion**

On 8 May, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Policy, Debbie Weekes-Barnard, participated as part of a panel discussion to mark St Mungo's Diversity Day. The discussion explored what psychological safety really looks like in practice: how power is experienced in everyday working life, how people feel when raising concerns, and how organisations respond when staff choose to speak up rather than stay silent. It highlighted the importance of trust, consistency and trauma-informed leadership, particularly in frontline environments where emotional labour is high and pressures are constant.

### **Keynote address at the City Bridge Foundation Annual Dinner**

On 14 May, I was pleased to be invited to deliver the keynote address at the City Bridge Foundation Annual Dinner at Tower Bridge and was grateful for the opportunity to join senior leaders from the public, private and voluntary sectors to discuss partnership working, inclusive growth and sustainability across London. In my remarks, I highlighted the importance of collaboration in tackling inequality, supporting civil society and accelerating progress towards a greener, fairer London.

### **Launch of Rosetta Arts as a Loved and Wanted community space**

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Policy, Debbie Weeks Bernard, attended the launch of Rosetta Arts as a Loved and Wanted community space. Debbie talked about how valuable these community spaces are to helping Londoners access more services and providing them with a space to come together at a time when fear, hatred and division is increasingly being sown online and, on our streets.

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group**

On 27 May, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Policy, Debbie Weeks Bernard, chaired a meeting of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group, bringing together organisations from across London to help shape our response to the opportunities and risks of artificial intelligence. The discussion focused on how AI is already changing work and daily life for Londoners, and the need to ensure that its benefits are shared fairly, with a clear emphasis on inclusion by design and protecting access to good work for those most at risk of being left behind. Their insights will directly inform my AI and Future of Work Taskforce and our wider efforts to build a fairer, more inclusive London, ensuring that technological change works for all our communities.

## Health

### **Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, attended the 61<sup>st</sup> Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service at Westminster Abbey to commemorate the work of nurses and midwives. The date marks the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth and International Nurses' Day, a major annual event for the nursing and midwifery profession, celebrating the incredible skill, dedication, and impact of nursing.

The event brought together over 2,000 nurses and midwives in person and was also live streamed to a wider audience. It provided an opportunity for London to express its gratitude to the nursing and midwifery community for the incredible job that they do every day supporting communities across the capital.

### **London summit on Integrated Neighbourhoods, social prescribing and the core neighbourhood offer**

On 27 May, my Mayoral Health Adviser, Tom Coffey, attended the London Summit on Integrated Neighbourhoods and Social Prescribing.

Dr Coffey addressed senior leaders from across the health, local government and voluntary sectors on the GLA's support for social prescribing, active travel and creative health. In his remarks, he reaffirmed our commitment to reducing health inequalities and improving outcomes for all Londoners through a stronger focus on prevention and neighbourhood-based care.

## Children and Young Londoners

### **St Catherine's school visit**

On 12 May, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited St Catherine's Catholic School in Bexleyheath, which is benefitting from my investment in mental health support for secondary schools.

During the visit, Joanne saw first-hand how the school is supporting pupil and staff wellbeing through a whole school approach to mental health. She also saw their Wellbeing Centre and heard from students about how their voices are helping to shape wellbeing initiatives and school culture.

### **Wren Academy school visit**

On 19 May, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited Wren Academy in Enfield for the school's Government and Politics Focus Day.

During the visit, Joanne spoke with students about her role as Deputy Mayor, how political decision-making works across London, and the ways in which City Hall is supporting positive opportunities for young people.

### **London Youth Achievement Awards**

On 29 May, the London Youth Achievement Awards presented the opportunity to recognise the valuable impact of young people in the capital. The awards ceremony, held at City Hall, brought together nominees, champions, and supporters to showcase and celebrate the breadth of inspirational activities and achievements accomplished by young Londoners.

The awards recognised excellence in various categories, including Best Initiative Award, Community Safety Award, Greener London Award, Inclusion and Diversity Award, Outstanding Achievement Award, Young Carer or Care Leaver Award, Young Leader Award, Young Media Champion Award.

My Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, presented the Greener London Award and gave a speech celebrating the extraordinary achievements of our young people as they shape the future of the city.

## **Oxford Street Development Corporation**

### **The Design of Oxford Street**

The work for the first phase of pedestrianisation continues. Plans for the transitional scheme along the section of Oxford Street set to become traffic-free from Great Orchard Street to Great Portland Street have been shaped by feedback from the Design & Place Working Group, as well as detailed engagement with accessibility groups including the Independent Disability Advisory Group (IDAG) and the Built Environment Accessibility Panel (BEAP).

This work forms part of a broader effort to ensure the street's design is inclusive and informed by key stakeholders. A clear insight from this engagement is that while the future of the street should be vibrant and full of activity, it must also be carefully balanced with quieter spaces to support a range of experiences.

I am pleased to share that the OSDC have appointed The Disordinary Architecture Project to support continued engagement with disabled people. They promote new models for engagement, led by the creativity and experiences of Disabled, Deaf and Neurodivergent artists.

### **Women and girls' safety**

OSDC has now appointed Publica to ensure the lived experiences of women, girls, and gender-diverse people are embedded in the design of Oxford Street. The team has already held an initial kick-off meeting, where they set out the approach for this important strand of work.

### **Liverpool Football Club flagship opening**

I am delighted that the first ever Premier League football team to open a flagship on Oxford Street was Liverpool Football Club. This will drive further footfall to the street and it's great to see investment in new flagship stores on the nation's favourite high street.

## **London Legacy Development Corporation**

### **The Music is Black Festival**

The Music is Black Festival, presented by East Bank at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, is a celebration of sound, culture, and community across an eight-month season of events honouring Black British music. In this last month, the festival has encompassed University of the Arts London's (UAL) London College of Fashion exhibition *Resonant Matter*, open until 14 June. The exhibition explores how London's underground culture is shaped by the music and fashion born from its diverse communities, from pirate radio stations and street protests to sound-system culture and club nights. Alongside the exhibition, a series of talks and screenings at University College

London (UCL) East have taken place, celebrating Black British music's contribution to sport, film, and fashion, examining its impact in London and across the UK.

### **Bridgewater Road Bridge and Roach Point Bridge Completion**

Bridgewater Road Bridge was completed, representing a significant step forward for the Park's residential-led neighbourhoods. The bridge was designed by William Matthews Associates, landscape architect BBUK Studio and delivered by Kilnbridge in partnership with London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) and Ballymore. This new bridge will strengthen connectivity and accessibility across the Park and surrounding areas, connecting future new homes and supporting long-term growth in the area.

Alongside this, Roach Point Bridge, recently delivered by O'Shea Group, has been transformed into a dedicated pedestrian and cycle bridge. Designed by Adams & Sutherland Architects Ltd, the bridge creates an important new direct link between Fish Island and Hackney Wick station.

### **Pudding Mill Lane Development**

Planning approval has been granted by Newham Council's planning committee for 355 high-quality homes in the first phase of the Pudding Mill Lane development, designed by Maccreanor Lavington and Gort Scott. This marks a major milestone in the joint venture between LLDC and Vistry Group

Alongside 282 affordable homes, 191 intermediate homes and 91 social rent homes, the development will bring new green spaces, play areas and high-quality public realm; community and retail spaces supporting local needs, including a nursery; safer, pedestrian-friendly routes connections across the neighbourhood; and 100% wheelchair accessible homes.

### **Sports**

The AP Race London International returned to London Aquatics Centre from 23 to 25 May, offering opportunities for swimmers at every level to compete on a world-class stage.

Bola Beach Tennis arrives at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park from May until August, providing one of the most exciting and accessible racket sports around for all ages throughout the summer.

## **Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation**

### **Economic Vision**

On 19 May, OPDC published its Economic Vision for Old Oak and Park Royal, which sets out how the development corporation will create an attractive destination for investment and inclusive growth.

The Economic Vision builds on the area's unique strengths - London's largest industrial estate, world-class research anchors like Imperial College, and exceptional transport links - to create a district where frontier industries and foundational businesses grow together.

### **Delivery partner procurement launch event**

On 27 May, OPDC held a launch event to mark the start of procurement for a Private Sector Partner to deliver thousands of homes and jobs at Old Oak.

With the land for Old Oak now aligned under a single strategy, OPDC officially launched the two-stage procurement to appoint an ambitious, innovative Private Sector Partner capable of shaping and delivering this nationally significant opportunity.

Held at the London Centre, the launch event brought together senior leaders from the housing and development industry, across the private and public sector. It was chaired by OPDC's CEO Matt Carpen, and included key speeches from OPDC Chair Dame Karen Buck, Lord Hendy, Minister of State for Rail, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Regeneration, Tom Copley, and Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber.

## **Planning and Regeneration**

### **High Street Place Labs**

On 13 May, my Regeneration team convened the final High Street Place Labs workshop, bringing together all 12 London boroughs participating in the programme to share their completed local high street strategies and action plans which I supported with £600,000 of UKPSF funding in 2025-26. Officers shared insights from local engagement and identified specific challenges and opportunities to take action in the short, medium, and long term, ranging from improvements and activation of the public realm to the creation of a vibrant and inclusive evening and night-time economy. The workshop was supported by my Design Advocates who have guided borough partners in the development of their strategies throughout the year.

### **Call-in decisions**

On 27 May, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, approved the following developments:

- High Barnet Place (London Borough of Barnet- 283 homes)
- Great North Leisure Park (London Borough of Barnet- 1485 homes)

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

I asked officers to send letters with comments on 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>                            |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 2026/0185         | Hanson Quarry Products Europe Ltd                                                 | Bexley                          | 18/05/2026           | No Strategic Issues                        |
| 2026/0035         | 3-15 Stirling Road                                                                | Ealing                          | 18/05/2026           | Does not fully comply with the London Plan |
| 2026/0163         | Land at Grays Road                                                                | Hillingdon                      | 18/05/2026           | Does not fully comply with the London Plan |
| 2026/0214         | 99 City Road                                                                      | Islington                       | 18/05/2026           | No Strategic Issues                        |
| 2026/0219         | High Path Estate                                                                  | Merton                          | 18/05/2026           | Does not fully comply with the London Plan |
| 2026/0193         | Calcutta House, London Metropolitan University, Old Castle Street, London, E1 7NT | Tower Hamlets                   | 18/05/2026           |                                            |
| 2026/0221         | 50 Baker Street                                                                   | Westminster                     | Delegated Decision   | Delegated Decision                         |

### **Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)**

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

| <b>GLA Number</b> | <b>Development Name</b> | <b>Local Planning Authority</b>                | <b>Decision date</b> | <b>Decision</b>      |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2025/0983         | GMV 500's               | Greenwich                                      | 18/05/2026           | Allow LPA to approve |
| 2026/0068         | Former Romford Gasworks | Havering                                       | 18/05/2026           | Allow LPA to refuse  |
| 2025/1047         | 2 Scrubs Lane           | Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation | 18/05/2026           | No Stage 2 required  |

## Key engagements

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

- I officially announced the new Weekend Hopper fare at Kew Gardens on 11 May
- I spoke with the London Fire Commissioner on 12 May
- I officially opened the new Atom UK offices on 13 May
- I met with the Cabinet Secretary on 14 May
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Police Commissioner on 14 May
- I spoke at the City Bridge Foundation 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner on 14 May
- I visited the Lambeth Police Control Centre with the Prime Minister and Met Commissioner on 15 May
- I visited the Chelsea Flower Show on 18 May
- I met with the Minister for AI and Online Safety on 18 May
- I opened the UCL and MOPAC Conference on Technology-Facilitated Abuse on 19 May
- I hosted the Mayor's Creative Reception on 19 May
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 21 May
- I met with the Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury on 21 May
- I met with Met Police Assistant Commissioner for Counter Terrorism on 21 May