

MAYOR OF LONDON

Andrew Boff AM

Chair of the London Assembly
AssemblyChair@london.gov.uk

Our ref: MGLA191225-0609

Date: 25 June 2026

Dear Andrew,

London Assembly (Plenary) Meeting 04 December 2025 – Motions

Thank you for the motions agreed at the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 4 December 2025. My reply to motion 3.3 is set out below. I am sorry for the delay in responding.

Motion 3.3 – Importance of Free Speech

I welcome this motion.

Free speech is the cornerstone of democracy, but this is not an unlimited freedom. It is vital that society has both the legal and social levers to pull when speech incites the denial of rights or violence.

Hate crime has no place in this city and I will ensure that the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) continues to take a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime in the capital.

I will also continue funding support services for victims of hate crime. I have funded outreach programmes designed to support community-based organisations to recognise and respond to hate crime by liaising with local police and signposting to specialist support when needed. When London saw huge rises in hate crime targeting Muslim and Jewish communities from October 2023, I provided an additional £250,000 to help the specialist organisations supporting those communities.

Hate and intolerance can also come in other forms, including legal but nonetheless harmful mediums. I will continue to champion the diversity we are blessed with in London and remind everyone that racism, hate and intolerance are never acceptable, funny or 'banter' and that we all should continue to look after our friends and neighbours.

I will also continue to champion the messages of my Loved and Wanted campaign. London will continue to be a welcoming, diverse, and economically vibrant city, reassuring everyone that the capital remains full of opportunity for everyone and that all Londoners, regardless of characteristics and background, are valued and belong in this city. We have seen an unprecedented amount of support for the campaign overall, with hundreds of organisations requesting and sharing materials in their spaces – including schools, GP surgeries, libraries and more.

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The Loved and Wanted Community Fund is promoting greater levels of social cohesion by bringing communities together from diverse backgrounds and addressing the barriers Londoners face to participating fully in community life.

I have been the victim of fake AI content, so recognise the growing threat of emerging AI deepfake technology and fake news. I will continue to condemn the use of harmful fake information and champion the need for stronger protections against disinformation and lies.

Yours sincerely,

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

Sir Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London