

24th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time – 17 September 2026

This is my twenty fourth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 3 July – 3 September 2026.
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Please note that the information in the Mayor's Report is accurate at the time of publishing.

Executive Summary

Srebrenica Memorial Center

Between 2 and 4 July, I visited Bosnia and Herzegovina marking the anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide. During the visit, I met with national and city leaders, including Dr Denis Bećirović, Bosniak Member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Mayor of Sarajevo, and the Prime Minister of Sarajevo Canton, to discuss the importance of remembrance, community cohesion, and the challenges facing cities today.

As part of the visit, I travelled to the Srebrenica Memorial Center to pay my respects to the victims of one of the darkest episodes of Europe's recent history. I met survivors and families of victims, learned more about the work being undertaken to preserve the memory of the genocide, and took part in commemorative engagements at the Memorial Center.

The visit reinforced my commitment to standing against hatred, intolerance and extremism, and highlighted the importance of remembrance, education and promoting understanding between communities at a time of increasing global division and disinformation.

Premier League launch first-of-its-kind Stewarding Academy to raise standards and create jobs

On 6 July, I announced a ground-breaking £1.2m partnership with the Premier League which creates a first-of-its-kind Stewarding Academy to train and support football stewards across London, improving safety, raising standards and creating new career pathways.

Building on the success of my Skills Academy programme, the Stewarding Academy will be delivered by Capital City College, London's largest further education college, which will provide industry-focused training that equips students with the practical skills, confidence and qualifications needed to succeed in stewarding and spectator safety roles.

An initial roll-out in London will create a local model for steward recruitment, training and career progression and has the potential to become a model for steward training and career development across the football industry.

Publishing streamlined draft London Plan

On 16 July, I published my new draft London Plan for consultation until 15 October. The new Plan sets out a bold vision for the capital and is a blueprint for building a fairer, greener and more prosperous London for everyone over the next two decades.

The Plan will make the best possible use of City Hall's planning powers to achieve two key objectives: to build as many affordable homes for Londoners as possible and to deliver economic growth that benefits Londoners, all while continuing to meet my ambitious green commitments.

At nearly half the length of the 2021 plan, the new draft London Plan is streamlined to reduce the burden on developers while retaining vital quality standards.

Since becoming Mayor, I have made affordable housing a top priority and have delivered significant progress. This includes building more new council homes than at any time since the 1970s and, prior to the pandemic, completing more new homes in London than at any time since the 1930s. However, there has been a perfect storm facing housebuilding in recent years – due to a combination of high interest rates, the rising cost of construction materials, the legacy of the pandemic, a shortage of skilled workers and the lasting impact of Brexit.

The new draft London Plan sets out a new approach that will enable London to meet the challenges we face, maximise affordable housing delivery and stimulate good growth. A key part of the approach will be to strengthen London's position as the UK's economic powerhouse by creating the conditions for businesses to invest, grow, innovate and support good jobs across the capital.

At the launch event of the draft London Plan at City Hall, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, was joined by senior representatives from the development sector, boroughs and third sector organisations, where a presentation on the draft Plan was followed by a question-and-answer session with the audience. A range of engagement events aimed at encouraging the public's response to the consultation have also taken place in July and August.

London AI and Jobs Taskforce Report and Recommendations

On 21 July, I announced £18 million investment to help thousands more young Londoners access careers support, training and routes into good work, while also committing to expand AI training for Londoners. This funding is in addition to £12m previously announced to help small and medium-sized businesses harness the power of artificial intelligence and boost economic growth across the capital.

I have accepted the recommendations of my AI and Jobs Taskforce, chaired by Baroness Martha Lane-Fox, following the publication of its report on how artificial intelligence is likely to reshape work in London. Baroness Lane-Fox wrote to me setting out the Taskforce's recommendations, informed by three months of engagement with employers, trade unions, educators, experts, researchers and Londoners. The Taskforce's analysis, undertaken in conjunction with the Institute for the Future of Work, found that around 600,000 Londoners work in occupations with both relatively high exposure to AI and a lower capacity to adapt. The report makes clear that widespread job losses are not inevitable, but that London must act early to shape how AI is adopted and ensure its benefits are widely shared.

I have agreed to take forward the Taskforce's three flagship recommendations: establishing a London AI Early Action System; launching an AI at Work Partnership; and developing a London Future Ready Guarantee to help young Londoners access the jobs and skills of the future.

Launch of Clean Rivers and Waterways Plan

On 29 July, I visited West Reservoir in Hackney, alongside my Deputy Mayor for the Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, to launch my Clean Rivers and Waterways Plan. This is a bold and collaborative 10-year plan that will transform our rivers and waterways by cutting pollution, reviving nature and restoring public access. It will also provide Londoners with safe, welcoming places to enjoy the water and swim where it is safe to do so.

The plan has been shaped by extensive work with over 50 partners – including government bodies, boroughs, water companies, regulators, environmental charities, community groups and recreation partners. It sets out 48 actions to deliver against four themes (Water Quality, Nature, Access, Inclusion and Engagement). The plan will focus on ten key locations across London where the restoration of blue and green spaces can deliver the fastest and widest benefits for millions of Londoners.

London's rivers and waterways stretch across more than 600 kilometres of the city but have suffered decades of neglect and pollution. Five times more sewage flowed into London's rivers in 2023 than the year before, with devastating consequences for wildlife. Currently, none of London's rivers are assessed as being in "good" condition and the equivalent of 1.8 Olympic-sized swimming pools of sewage-polluted water is discharged into London's rivers from misconnected properties every day.

I believe access to nature is an issue of social justice which is why I made a manifesto commitment to halt the decline of London's rivers. I am committed to ensuring that all Londoners – no matter their background or where they live – should be able to enjoy clean, thriving rivers and waterways.

To help kick start the 10-year plan, which is backed by £1.8 billion from partners over five years, I have pledged an additional £2.7m to support new blue and green restoration projects in the city over the next three years. This boosts the existing £13.55m I have already pledged to transform the capital's waterways.

- £1.25m funding will support two interconnected areas of green and blue spaces along the River Wandle and Grand Union Canal, and improve rivers in the Lower Lea, Royal Docks and Lower Roding.
- £1.48m for two world-leading, large-scale urban rewilding projects in Redbridge and Hillingdon, creating and restoring richer, nature-led landscapes that support wildlife, bring greener space closer to local communities, and help protect neighbourhoods from the impacts of climate change.

Since I took office, I have funded more than 31 rivers and waterways projects, to restore or create habitat for 3.7km of rivers and over 55 hectares of priority waterways. The Clean Rivers and Waterways plan builds on the work that has already started through my £12m Green Roots fund to improve blue and green spaces in London. This fund has supported community projects across the city including opening up 40km of new accessible riverside path along the River Crane.

Heat Ready London

On 19 August, London Councils and I published the Heat Ready London Technical Report – the capital's first city-wide vision for adapting to rising temperatures.

The report examines the growing impact of heat on Londoners' health, homes, public services, infrastructure and economy. It warns that, without further adaptation, climate change could cause annual damage equivalent to as much as three per cent of London's economy by the 2050s. Depending on future economic growth, this could amount to annual damage of between £16 billion and £36 billion a year.

The £36 billion figure is not a single bill, but an estimate of the potential annual damage climate change could cause across London's economy. This includes lost working hours and reduced productivity, greater pressure on health and emergency services, disruption to businesses, and damage to essential infrastructure. The consequences were seen during the 2022 heatwave, when buckled rails caused cancellations and speed restrictions, the failure of two data centres at Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals disrupted patient care and required £1.4 million of unplanned spending, and London's water consumption rose by 50 per cent.

Heat Ready London identifies 37 priorities across buildings, business, emergency preparedness, green space, health and care, and infrastructure. These include adapting homes and public buildings, expanding access to shade, cool spaces and drinking water, and protecting essential transport, water, energy and communications networks.

The technical report shows that acting now could save lives and avoid far greater costs in future. London's parks and green spaces are estimated to provide more than £90 billion in benefits over 30 years - approximately £27 for every £1 spent.

Together with London Councils, I am bringing together boroughs, health and care partners, emergency responders, infrastructure providers, businesses, financial institutions and community groups to support the delivery of Heat Ready London.

UNESCO Day for Remembering the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its Abolition 2026

On 20 August, I held the annual UNESCO Day for Remembering the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its Abolition 2026 ceremony at City Hall and online. This was the ninth time that we have commemorated this important event, which focused on turning reflection into action, while celebrating joy as a form of resistance and amplifying the voices and histories of Londoners whose ancestors were affected by the slave trade. Guests included Civic Mayors, High Commissioners, historians and local leaders.

The programme featured an opening address by Professor Matthew J. Smith, Professor of Caribbean History and Director of the Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery at University College London, and Chaired by Zara Chambers, from the Violent Reduction Unit (VRU) and Aisha Sanusi, co-founder and CEO of the African Caribbean Education Network. We had performances by the London African Gospel Choir, a poem by educator and writer Amma Amofaah-Ofosu, affirmations read by the London Youth Assembly and speeches by my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and Andrew Boff AM, Chair of the London Assembly.

Neighbourhood crime significantly falls in London

On 23 July, I was pleased that new figures released by the Met showed neighbourhood offences fell by 14 per cent in the 12 months to June compared with the previous year – the equivalent of more than 35,000 fewer offences reported across London. This includes:

- 23,311 fewer thefts from person (-23 per cent)
- 2,943 fewer personal robberies (-11 per cent)
- 8,737 fewer vehicle offences (-9 per cent)

I joined the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Sir Mark Rowley, on patrol to speak to neighbourhood officers and see first-hand how hotspot policing, more visible patrols and close working with partners has resulted in this significant decrease.

The continued fall in neighbourhood crime follows a sustained focus on local policing, with hundreds of extra officers carrying out high-visibility patrols in neighbourhood hotspots and intelligence-led operations targeting offenders causing the most harm in our communities.

In the West End, mobile phone thefts have halved and there have been 14,000 fewer neighbourhood crimes, following a doubling of officers on patrol in the heart of the capital. A new Met Command Cell in the heart of the West End, is also working to identify suspects and help prevent robberies, theft and anti-social behaviour in the heart of the capital.

By targeting these crimes, the Met is helping to make London a safer, more welcoming destination for the millions of tourists who visit the capital each year as well as boosting the police response to issues that impact communities most.

Night Tube marks 10 years of keeping London moving after dark

Alongside TfL, I was pleased to celebrate 10 years of the Night Tube powering London's vital £139bn night-time economy and keeping the capital moving around the clock.

Since I launched the inaugural service on 19 August 2016, the Night Tube and Night Overground have carried more than 67 million customers. This has supported jobs, businesses and cultural venues while improving connectivity across the capital and strengthening London's reputation as a vibrant 24-hour city.

Night services are particularly important to London's night-time workforce. Around 1.3 million people work during the night in the capital across sectors including healthcare, hospitality, transport, culture and entertainment. By providing reliable overnight travel, Night Tube and Night Overground help thousands of Londoners get to and from work while supporting the businesses and venues that keep the city running around the clock.

The Night Tube has also made London more accessible after dark, cutting average journey times by around 20 minutes, with some journeys reduced by more than an hour. This has transformed access to music, theatre, clubs and restaurants, enabling people to spend more time enjoying everything the capital has to offer while giving businesses greater confidence to invest in London's evening and night-time economy.

Investing an unprecedented £88.6m to train London's next generation of construction workers and boost housebuilding

On 27 July, I announced an £88.6m investment to train London's next generation of construction workers, helping to tackle skills shortages, accelerate the delivery of new homes and make existing homes more energy efficient.

The new construction skills package, funded by the Department for Education (DfE), will deliver more than 20,000 construction courses, alongside industry placements, while investing in high-quality training facilities and equipment at colleges across the capital.

This new investment follows on from the launch of London's Inclusive Talent Strategy last year, which is putting employers at the heart of London's skills system so training better reflects the needs of businesses and London's economy.

The £88.6m package will see:

1. Up to £43m invested in Further Education (FE) colleges to support new or improved training facilities and equipment. This will boost the capacity, quality, and industry-relevance of training shaped through employer partnerships.
2. A £2.5m fund to test and scale training provision, co-designed with members of the Interim Construction and Built Environment Talent Board.
3. Over 2,700 industry teaching days delivered to learners by construction professionals, as part of the Further Education Teacher Industry Exchange. To help training keep up with rapidly changing needs of the sector and ensure business can build a talent pipeline with the correct skills and experience.

Appointed by the government as vital strategic partners, New City College (Construction) and South Bank Colleges (Clean Energy) will drive London's Construction Skills Package. They will lead the capital's training provider network to boost training quality and coordinate technical education.

Together, they will work with London's network of construction and built-environment training providers and employers to strengthen technical training and ensure Londoners are gaining the skills businesses need.

Alongside the Construction Skills Package, I also launched three new, virtual, Pan-London Sector Hubs covering the Built Environment, Creative Industries and Life Sciences, backed by a further £3.2m investment from GLA core funding.

The hubs will make it easier for employers to engage with London's skills and training system, connecting businesses with training providers and helping ensure courses and career pathways respond to the changing needs of some of London's key growth industries.

Notting Hill Carnival

I was delighted to attend this year's Notting Hill Carnival, one of the largest street festivals in the world, enjoying the music, sights and sounds of this fantastic community-led celebration of Caribbean history and culture as it celebrated its 60th anniversary.

Throughout the decades, Carnival has welcomed people from all backgrounds to enjoy fantastic food, fashion and music, and this year Londoners and visitors from across the globe once again came together to enjoy a wonderful celebration of our capital's diversity and unity.

Hosting one of the world's biggest street festivals would simply not be possible without the hard work of the event organisers, and I am proud to have stepped forward to support them with the additional funding required to make this year's event happen. I want to thank them, along with our brilliant emergency services who worked hard over the weekend to ensure Carnival could be enjoyed safely.

Policing, Crime and Security

£5m investment in city-wide approach to tackling impact of algorithm-fuelled online harms and violence

On 14 July, I announced that the VRU is investing £5m as part of a city-wide approach to tackling online harms affecting young people.

The announcement followed new groundbreaking research commissioned by the VRU which reveals that social media algorithms promote and expose young people to violent content, increasing pressure to respond physically, and that there is an association between increased misogynistic content online and an increase in police-recorded violence against women and girls.

Building on learning from research and findings from the Southport inquiry, the VRU's city-wide response for young people will centre on investing £4.9m in a series of interventions, which includes:

- Funding the first-ever city-wide targeted bystander de-escalation and intervention programme, to give young people the skills and confidence to recognise and challenge harmful online behaviours.
- Establishing a new programme to improve local responses to online harms. The programme, which will initially operate in six London boroughs with plans to expand city-wide, will design and test approaches, including enabling earlier identification of young people affected by online harms and developing local rapid response to incidents where online harms present a risk of violence, exploitation or harmful sexual behaviour.
- A bespoke programme of innovation in digital youth work to help London's youth workers adapt to supporting young people both online and offline.
- Delivering a targeted mentoring programme for girls and young women at greatest risk of online violence and abuse.
- Funding a series of interventions on masculinity for boys and young men through positive male role models delivered in schools, through football mentors and by fathers.
- Training to upskill youth workers, teachers, parents and carers on healthy relationships and how to better support young people online.

£1.5m investment into London to deliver measures to keep young people safe this summer

On 31 July, I announced almost £1.5m additional funding through the VRU to deliver hundreds of diversionary activities aimed at keeping young people safe over the summer.

The announcement marked a significant expansion of London's youth safety plans for the summer holidays, with a new year-long partnership between the VRU, the Premier League and 11 professional London football club charities.

Working in partnership, the reach of professional football clubs is being used to support young people through sport, mentoring and employability activities aimed at strengthening community relationships and reducing young people's risk of involvement in violence and exploitation.

The partnership will be backed by almost £700,000 investment from across the VRU, the Premier League via the Premier League Foundation, and London United, which represents the charities of

all professional football clubs in the capital. They worked with the VRU to provide positive opportunities for young people during the crucial holiday period.

Delivery took place through Premier League Kicks, the Premier League's longest-standing community programme that recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary, providing targeted interventions, including one-to-one mentoring for young people at risk of exploitation, and support with life skills and employability.

A dedicated £600,000 pot from the VRU's Stronger Futures programme also provided structured holiday activities for young people aged 8-18, with all funded organisations including food for young people to take home to their families.

A further £130,000 investment was provided to expand summer sports and activities in key areas that typically lack provision. Alongside this, operating across nine neighbourhoods, the VRU's community-led MyEnds programme bolstered its holiday schedule to engage up to 18,000 young people with youth clubs, mentoring, trips, sports, and creative arts.

Record New Funding to Help Londoners Stand Up to Hate and Extremism Following Rise in Antisemitic and Anti-Muslim Hate

On 25 August, I announced further funding to tackle hate crime and extremism in all its forms, as reports of antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate continue to rise in London and across the UK.

I'm investing a further £875,000 in the latest round of my Shared Endeavour Fund to support grassroots groups across London's 32 boroughs to deliver workshops and training in schools and the community. It means that since 2016, I've invested £17 million in initiatives to tackle hate crime - more than any other Mayor.

Through the projects delivered with this funding, we are strengthening London's communities against extremism, safeguarding Londoners vulnerable to radicalisation, promoting mutual respect and giving people the tools to recognise and stand up to hate and intolerance, as we build a better and safer London for everyone.

MOPAC innovation goes national

Too often our complex legal system leaves women who have survived sexual violence feeling alone and unsupported. That's why I made a commitment to provide free, independent legal advice for victims and survivors of sexual violence.

I'm proud to have fulfilled this pledge. Our service, commissioned by MOPAC, has provided hundreds of vulnerable victims the vital legal support they need on their way to getting the justice they deserve. This is just one way we're tackling violence against women and girls.

Having led the way with this free, independent service in London, on 24 July, I warmly welcomed the government's decision to use our service model to roll out a nationwide legal advice service so that victims and survivors of sexual violence across the UK receive the legal support they need. MOPAC will continue to invest and innovate as we work to ensure that all victims and survivors of crime can access high quality support when and where they need it.

London Policing Board meets

On 3 September, I chaired the latest meeting of the London Policing Board, with a focus on the MPS Inclusion Strategy.

At the meeting, I took the opportunity to thank founder Members John Aston and Nick Campsie, who are stepping down from the Board after three years in the role. Their skills, experiences and insights have been invaluable in helping to establish the Board and in driving vital police reform. I wish them the very best for the future. Recruitment for their replacements is in progress and appointments will be announced in due course.

I also expressed my thanks to Councillor Muhammad Butt, who leaves the Board after serving in an ex-officio capacity as London Councils' community safety lead. I was pleased to welcome Mayor Liam Shrivastava, who now takes up this important role on the Board.

Remembering the 7/7 terror attacks

On 7 July, I laid a wreath in Hyde Park to honour the 52 innocent people killed on 7 July 2005, those injured, the families who carry the loss, and the heroic emergency responders who ran towards danger that day. London remembers. You will never be forgotten.

Transport

Londoners encouraged to 'hop about the capital' this summer as fare freeze for bus and trams extended until 1 November 2026

I am pleased that bus and tram customers across London are seeing a further fares freeze until 1 November 2026.

The extension to the previous freeze - which covered the period from 1 March to 5 July 2026 and was an emergency cost-of-living measure to support Londoners on the lowest incomes - was the seventh freeze of bus and tram fares in the last ten years, with single fares being £1.75 since March 2023.

The extension of my fares freeze means that Londoners continue to be able to make unlimited journeys within one hour on London's buses and trams for just £1.75, using my Hopper fare until 1 November 2026. Had bus fares increased in line with inflation since 2016, they would be £2.35 today – but previous Mayoral fare freezes over the last 10 years mean customers continue to pay 60p less per journey than they would have if I had not acted.

The extension coincided with my Weekend Hopper offer, which meant anyone travelling on buses and trams on a Saturday or a Sunday during the summer holidays could pay one single fare for unlimited journeys across London that entire day, making it easier and cheaper for Londoners and visitors to make the most of everything the capital has to offer.

The freeze runs until 1 November 2026, after which a single adult bus and tram fare is expected to increase 10p to £1.85 - or just 5p for eligible concession card holders - while the price of the daily bus and tram cap would increase 30p to £5.55. This would be in line with increases to Tube fares made in March 2026 and make bus and tram fares just 35p higher than they were ten years ago. London's bus fares remain some of the lowest in the UK, and this would only be the third time they've increased over the past decade, meaning they would still be 17 per cent lower than if they had risen in line with inflation throughout this period.

One-year-old Silvertown Tunnel cuts congestion and boosts bus use alongside improved air quality

A new TfL report shows that the Silvertown Tunnel - opened in April 2025 - has made journeys faster and more reliable, alongside sustainability benefits including a four-fold rise in cross-river bus journeys and a notable drop in nitrogen dioxide concentrations.

Delivered on time and on budget, the 1.4km tunnel opened on 7 April last year, becoming the first new road Thames crossing east of London's Tower Bridge in 33 years. Connecting Silvertown to the Greenwich Peninsula in east London, the objectives of the scheme include boosting network performance and resilience while supporting economic and population growth, providing improved cross-river transport links and managing congestion in the area through road user charging.

Latest monitoring data from the first year of operation shows that the road network is more resilient and reliable, improving journeys for local businesses and essential freight. As well as providing a new cross-river route, the Silvertown Tunnel has reduced congestion in other areas, with quicker journeys through the Blackwall Tunnel at all times in both directions and a 23 per cent reduction in the number of over-height vehicle incidents at the Blackwall Tunnel.

Without the Silvertown Tunnel, it was predicted that air quality in the area would get worse alongside congestion - but monitoring reveals that nitrogen dioxide concentrations have decreased by 17 per cent on average compared with the year before the tunnel opened, helping Londoners breathe cleaner air. The nitrogen dioxide concentrations measured in the year since the tunnel opened were significantly below thresholds set by the UK Air Quality Strategy.

New double-deck, zero-emission buses are making use of the dedicated bus and HGV lane through the Silvertown Tunnel. More than 30,000 journeys are being made each day across the new SL4 and extended 129 routes through the new tunnel as well as the existing 108 service through the Blackwall Tunnel. It is estimated that around a third of these journeys cross the river through the two tunnels - up 290 per cent on the year before - meaning more than one in ten (11 per cent) cross-river trips through the two tunnels are made by public transport. The route 108 has also become more reliable, with shorter waits and journey times. These bus routes complement the free cycle shuttle service between North Greenwich and Royal Docks, which sees an average weekday demand of around 100-130 cyclists, supporting London's cycling boom and encouraging sustainable travel across the capital.

To manage traffic demand, minimise environmental impacts and ensure the new tunnel achieved its objectives, TfL was required to introduce user charges for both the Blackwall and Silvertown Tunnels, which analysis shows have been working successfully. Tunnel charges will increase in line with inflation from 21 September 2026 while existing discounts for eligible residents, businesses and Blue Badge holders will remain in place.

Bus and road journeys to be improved as more London boroughs join Lane Rental scheme

In July, TfL confirmed the next phase of the Lane Rental expansion, with Camden and Merton becoming the latest boroughs to introduce the scheme to reduce road disruption and cut congestion for bus passengers and road users. This follows the launch of schemes in Enfield and Lambeth earlier this year.

The expansion marks a key milestone in my pledge to widen the scheme across the capital, helping to reduce road disruption and keep London moving.

Lane Rental allows TfL and boroughs to charge utility companies for carrying out works on the busiest roads at the most disruptive times, encouraging better planning, closer collaboration and providing funds for innovative new ways to reduce delays on the roads.

The expansion of the scheme forms a central part of TfL's London on the Move strategy, which sets out how the capital's road network will be transformed over the coming years by cutting congestion and making use of new technology to better manage roadworks. A key benefit of expanding Lane Rental across London is creating a more consistent approach to managing streetworks on the capital's roads. As more boroughs join the scheme, companies carrying out works can better coordinate works, improve planning and reduce disruption across borough boundaries. This approach helps keep London moving while providing a more consistent experience for road users, bus passengers and local communities across the capital.

London's Cycleway network now an unprecedented five times larger than it was a decade ago

In August, TfL announced London's Cycleway network has reached a major new milestone, growing to 450km following the completion of new and extended routes across the capital - longer than the entire Tube network and further than the distance from London to Paris.

The achievement means London's Cycleway network is now five times larger than it was in 2016, when there were 90km of Cycleways. Since then, TfL and London's boroughs have worked closely to create a connected network of high-quality cycling routes that make it safer and easier for people of all ages and abilities to travel by bike. Data published last year by TfL revealed that London's cycling boom shows no sign of slowing, with an estimated 43 per cent increase in cycling journeys since 2016, and a massive 1.5 million daily journeys taking place in 2025.

The latest additions to the network include new sections of Cycleway in Islington, Wandsworth and Kingston, as well as TfL's completion of Cycleway 62 across Lambeth Bridge. The new schemes connect communities, town centres, public transport hubs, schools and workplaces, while providing safer and more attractive routes for people travelling around London.

The continued expansion of London's Cycleway network is a key part of my commitment to creating a greener, safer and healthier city. Safe cycling infrastructure plays a vital role in ensuring that Londoners can travel safely and sustainably, and helps to tackle air pollution, congestion and the climate emergency, improving the health and wellbeing of people in neighbourhoods across the capital.

British Transport Police trialling live facial recognition at TfL stations to enhance safety across the network

In August, British Transport Police (BTP) launched a trial of Live Facial Recognition (LFR) technology at selected TfL stations. The TfL-supported trial forms part of ongoing efforts to improve safety across the transport network and help tackle sexual violence, harassment and intimidation, which disproportionately affect women and girls. The use of LFR technology by the Met Police and other police forces is proven to deter and find wanted criminals, protect people from harm and ultimately reduce crime.

Technology used in this trial only seeks to generate alerts for individuals on an authorised BTP watchlist linked to serious and high-harm offences including robbery, knife crime and sexual assaults. While faces are scanned in real time, images of people who are not a match are not

retained, so anyone not on the watchlist will have their image automatically and immediately deleted as they continue their journey.

By focusing solely on people sought in connection with serious offences, LFR provides the police with an additional tool to intervene early and help prevent crime before it occurs. BTP chooses TfL stations for the trial based on operational intelligence and analysis of crime data to help ensure the technology is deployed where it can have the greatest impact.

TfL's new involvement in the trial will support its wider work to improve safety across the network – and also specifically tackle violence against women and girls, whose travel behaviours are shaped by experiences of sexual harassment and sexual offences, according to research TfL recently published.

Tackling violence against women and girls in all its forms, particularly sexual harassment and sexual offending on transport, is critical to ensuring everyone can travel with confidence and helping more women choose public transport and active travel. TfL continues to work with the police and specialist organisations on a range of initiatives, including targeted policing activity, behaviour change campaigns, staff training, bystander interventions, improvements to reporting and support services, and closer collaboration with specialist organisations.

This new trial will assess how LFR could be used as an additional policing tool to support those efforts. It is an important step in understanding how this technology can be used on the London Underground in a targeted, proportionate way with strict safeguards in place. TfL will continue to monitor and assess the impact of LFR through this trial over the coming months.

TfL to start major renewal works at A41 Brent Cross Flyover later this month

TfL will begin the first phase of a major programme to renew and strengthen Brent Cross Interchange overnight on 24 September, helping to ensure the long-term safety and reliability of one of London's most important road junctions. The initial phase of the project will focus on renewing the A41 Brent Cross Flyover, with work expected to start next month and continue for up to two years.

The A41 Brent Cross Flyover is one of London's most important road structures, with more than 120,000 vehicles using the wider Brent Cross Interchange every day. It is a vital strategic route for people, businesses and freight, connecting communities across north London and beyond. The programme has received £10.8 million of funding from the Department for Transport (DfT), allowing TfL to begin essential work to restore the flyover to full load-bearing capacity and improve its condition for decades to come.

Key improvements that the work will deliver include:

- Strengthening the flyover structure to enable the current safety-critical weight restriction to be removed
- Replacing safety barriers on the flyover and approach ramps, enhancing driver safety
- Installing a new waterproofing system to extend the life of the structure
- Improving the reliability of this key section of London's road network

To allow these essential works to take place while keeping the route open, TfL will introduce a series of traffic measures from the evening of 24 September 2026, reducing the A41 Brent Cross

Flyover to one lane in each direction. Drivers should expect reduced road space and longer journey times.

There will also be a number of overnight and weekend lane and road closures during different stages of the project, to allow construction activities to take place safely and efficiently. Signed diversion routes will be in place, and residents, and road users will be updated in advance.

Road users should expect longer journey times on the A41 and surrounding roads, including parts of the A406 North Circular Road, A5 Edgware Road and A1. TfL will implement a range of measures to minimise disruption, including traffic signal improvements, travel demand management activity and targeted travel advice.

Young people who have been in care to get training and jobs on some of Britain's biggest construction projects

Places for London, TfL's property company, and leading companies from across the construction and infrastructure industry have joined forces with Olympian Fatima Whitbread to bring career opportunities to those leaving or supporting people in the care system.

Nationally, around 40 per cent of young people aged 19–21 with care experience are unemployed or not in education, employment or training, according to ONS data - almost three times the rate among their peers (15 per cent). Care in Construction has been launched to help address this challenge by providing training, work placements, and direct routes into employment.

At an event in July the employer partners in the Care in Construction scheme and their wider working group came together with Fatima, who spent 14 years in the care system herself and has become one of the UK's most prominent advocates for young people with care experience to launch the scheme. The former Olympic champion has lent the expertise of her charity, FATIMA'S UK CAMPAIGN, to help connect the partners with care leavers and their families in order to support more people entering the construction industry.

No young person should be disadvantaged because they grew up in care. By bringing together some of the construction industry's biggest employers, Care in Construction is creating real opportunities for young people to gain valuable skills, access rewarding careers and fulfil their potential. This programme is about confidence, ambition and showing young people with care experience that there is a place for them in an industry that helps shape the future of our towns, cities and communities.

London Cable Car celebrates 20 million journeys with chance to win 20-year Golden Ticket pass

London's cable car has welcomed 20 million passengers. To celebrate this milestone, TfL hosted a free competition offering customers the chance to win an exclusive 20-year cable car Golden Ticket one-way or round-trip pass.

The London Cable Car – the only urban cable car in the UK – opened in June 2012 as part of TfL's preparations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Over the last 14 years, the cable car has grown to become one of the capital's most popular visitor attractions and was recently awarded a Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Award for the second year in a row, for its positive customer service, visitor experience and smooth operations.

TfL and London Marathon funding returns to help break down barriers to walking and cycling for even more Londoners

TfL has opened applications for the Walking and Cycling Grants London (WGCL) programme, with grant funding available for community and not-for-profit organisations. Since 2015, the scheme has helped more than 100,000 Londoners build the confidence to walk and cycle through projects tailored to the needs of local communities. Successful applicants can receive up to £10,000 to deliver projects over three years.

The WGCL programme supports organisations to identify and address the barriers that can prevent people from walking and cycling. Through community-led activities, the scheme helps more Londoners build confidence, get active and make healthier, more sustainable travel choices. Participants will be given the chance to engage their local communities in being more active, improving both their physical and mental health.

Funded jointly by TfL and The London Marathon Foundation, and administered by Groundwork London, the grants aim to help Londoners develop the confidence to opt for active travel, including cycling and walking. Applicants for the grants will be considered based on how their idea could positively impact their local community and encourage more walking and cycling.

Applications for both grants can be accessed at wcgl.london and the application window for both programmes is open until 28 September. Those applying will receive comprehensive support throughout the application process and further support will be provided to successful groups during the delivery of their projects.

To date, the scheme has supported more than 500 projects across 32 boroughs and the City of London through activities tailored to their needs.

I am committed to creating a London where walking and cycling are accessible, inclusive and enjoyable options for everyone. That's why I'm delighted that TfL's grants programme continues to support community groups in breaking down barriers to active travel.

TfL encourages parents and guardians not to miss out on free or discounted travel for their children

With the summer holiday ending and Londoners preparing for the start of the new school term, TfL reminded parents and guardians to apply for their child's Zip Oyster photocard and check that existing cards are still valid so they can continue to benefit from free or discounted travel across London.

Zip Oyster photocards are available for children and young people aged 5-10, 11-15 and 16+, providing free or discounted travel on buses, trams and trains across London. The photocard has an administration fee and parents can apply online through the TfL website. Once their photo and documents have been accepted, the Zip Oyster photocard will usually arrive within two weeks.

For school children, a Zip Oyster photocard helps them travel independently while giving families peace of mind that they can spend less getting to school or visiting friends.

The 5-10 Zip Oyster photocard allows free travel on all bus, Tube, tram, DLR, London Overground, Elizabeth line (except West Drayton-Reading) and most National Rail services in London. The 11-15 Zip Oyster photocard gives free bus and tram travel, child-rate pay as you go fares on Tube, DLR, London Overground, Elizabeth line, London Cable Car and most National Rail services in

London as well as 50 per cent off adult rate fares on the Uber Boat by Thames Clippers River Bus services.

TfL celebrates 70 years of London Transport's Caribbean recruitment campaign and 60 years of Notting Hill Carnival

TfL celebrated the 70th anniversary of London Transport's Caribbean recruitment campaign and the 60th anniversary of Notting Hill Carnival, recognising the generations of Londoners of Caribbean heritage whose contribution has helped shape both the capital's transport network and one of its most iconic cultural events.

In 1956, London Transport launched a recruitment campaign across the Caribbean, encouraging people to build careers in London's transport system at a time when the capital's growing network needed workers. The men and women who answered that call played a vital role in keeping London moving and helped build a more diverse workforce whose contribution continues to be felt across TfL today.

This 60th anniversary of Notting Hill Carnival provided an opportunity to recognise and honour that legacy while celebrating the rich culture, creativity and community spirit that Caribbean communities have contributed to London for generations.

As part of the celebrations, a plaque created by Nubian Jak Community Trust, honours the Notting Hill Carnival Pioneers who started the carnival 60 years ago. The plaque is located at Westbourne Park Underground station, the location where Notting Hill Carnival starts.

The plaque represents a diverse mix of people and cultures, with 70 names selected through a consultation process of people who contributed organically to the development of the festival, through costume design, Mas, Pan, sound systems, and other creative and cultural contributions.

A specially branded Go-Ahead London bus featuring bespoke Carnival advertising panels took part in the Carnival parade on Sunday 30 August. The showcased this year's Carnival theme of 'Generations in Motion', which celebrates the passing of culture, knowledge and creativity through generations and reflects the enduring contribution of Caribbean communities to the capital.

TfL partnered with Ebony Steel Band and Ebony Mas, one of London's most respected and long-standing Carnival groups to bring the theme to life, and celebrate the rich histories, shared experiences and creativity through generations that have shaped Notting Hill Carnival over the past six decades. Earlier this year, staff entered into an artwork competition to honour this year's theme. The five winning artworks are currently on display at Paddington Underground station and will run until the end of September.

Art on the Underground launches Spaghetti Map, a children's art map for the summer holidays

This July, TfL's world-leading Art on the Underground programme collaborated with artist Michael Crowe and schools across the capital to launch a free activity leaflet for the summer holidays. Exploring artworks on the Underground network, *Spaghetti Map* calls on children to think like artists while underground.

Art on the Underground commissions artists each year to create works for London's Underground network, including paintings, installations and custom Tube map covers. Six commissions, including Larry Achiampong's 2022 pan-African roundel at Westminster Underground station, have been selected by artist Michael Crowe to feature in a newly launched art map. The *Spaghetti Map* leaflet

is created by Spaghetti Club, an art and creative writing collaboration between the artist and more than 100 children across five London primary schools.

The leaflet is available online and at 11 London Underground stations including those where artworks are displayed and stations local to collaborating primary schools, such as Blackhorse Road, South Kensington and Whitechapel. Seven new posters with original drawings and writing by four primary students have been on display in the South Kensington Subway, which links South Kensington Underground station to the Natural History, Science and Victoria & Albert museums.

Art on the Underground is a jewel in London's cultural crown, bringing world class artwork to millions of Londoners and visitors every day on TfL's Underground network.

The *Spaghetti Map* is the latest brilliant example of how this project sparks creativity and imagination in children and young people during the summer holidays. I am committed to ensuring everyone in the capital has access to fantastic art and culture as we continue to build a better and more creative London for all.

Environment

Helping Londoners with bills with £58m fund boosting energy efficiency and living conditions

On 22 July, I launched a new Home Energy Saving Fund with £58.7 million investment secured from Government, following the launch of the Warm Homes Plan earlier this year.

Funding will benefit up to 5,000 households living in some of London's most energy inefficient social homes – saving residents up to £500 a year on their energy bills, keeping them cooler during more frequent summer heatwaves, and making it more affordable to heat homes in winter.

This new funding builds on the £10million investment into making London's homes more comfortable and affordable to heat through the Warmer Homes London programme.

The new Home Energy Saving Fund is the first devolved funding for retrofit and marks a step change in how Government is delivering grants to London, giving us new powers and funding to deliver at a regional level, better meeting the specific needs of the capital and Londoners.

This new funding will be made available to London local authorities, and the investment will allow social housing providers across London to improve their housing stock. It will make homes more affordable to heat through the installation of better insulation, solar panels and heat pumps – lowering energy usage and bills, while also improving health by reducing the risk of damp and mould and improving indoor air quality. Insulation and ventilation measures included in the scheme will also help keep homes cooler during heatwaves, helping Londoners manage the impacts of rising global temperatures.

Energising Britain Regional Event

On 6 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote speech at Energising Britain, an event showcasing and celebrating regional achievements in community-led electrification. London is leading the way in community energy, which aligns with the Government's forthcoming Local Power Plan to decentralise elements of renewable energy generation. Specifically, my London Community Energy Fund has a nine-year track record of funding community energy projects that put power back in the hands of Londoners.

Air Quality Roundtable

On 6 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, and my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, chaired a roundtable on improving air quality communications and public messaging, in the context of the 70th anniversary of the Clean Air Act. The roundtable provided an opportunity to share lessons learned and discuss challenges in raising awareness of air pollution across the sports, culture, voluntary and community sectors, helping us to identify gaps and barriers to accessing, understanding and communicating information on air quality.

ReStage Launch

On 7 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, provided opening remarks and joined a panel discussion at the launch of ReStage's first publication, *The ReStage Script: A National Infrastructure Vision for Circular Stage & Screen Production*. The Script sets out a practical roadmap for building circular production infrastructure across the UK's stage and screen sectors.

Breathing Life: A Decade of Clean Air Action

On 13 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote address at UK100's event "Breathing Life: A Decade of Clean Air Action" which celebrated 10 years of local, cross-party action across the UK. London has led the way nationally on air quality, and in 2024, air pollution levels fell within legal limits for all pollutants for the first time, 184 years earlier than was estimated when I was first elected in 2016. At the event, Mete highlighted this success and encouraged and advocated for bold action nationally.

Waterways, Placemaking and Long-term Stewardship roundtable

On 15 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered closing remarks at a roundtable with developers, housing and environmental sector organisations, hosted by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and convened by Sukhvinder Kaur-Stubbs. The roundtable explored best practice access to waterways within new development and public realm projects and supported an action within the Access theme of my Clean Rivers and Waterways Plan.

Pledgeball football screening

On 15 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote address at a screening of Pledgeball's *US World Cup Road Trip* docuseries. The docuseries highlighted the impacts on the climate crisis on cultural events and activities, such as the FIFA World Cup and football more broadly. Mete emphasised the importance of winning the hearts and minds of people in our effort to tackle the climate crisis.

Art Ain't Trash: International Youth Day event

On 12 August, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, joined the 'Art Ain't Trash' community event in Victoria Gardens to mark International Youth Day. The event highlighted the importance of the circular economy, with a particular focus on reducing waste and reusing plastics and explored how valuing materials can create opportunities and strengthen communities. The event showcased the work of young Londoners leading positive environmental change and demonstrated the important role that community organisations play in empowering the next generation to drive a more sustainable future.

Hackney Green Futures Event

On 26 August, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, delivered a keynote address to open the Hackney Green Futures event at Teesside University London, Here East. The event was delivered by Hackney Council in partnership with Teesside University London and Here East and brought together employers, education providers and community organisations to inspire Hackney residents about careers, skills and opportunities linked to sustainability and the green economy.

Visit to Pear Tree Park

On 26 August, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, visited Pear Tree Park in Ealing with Tony Juniper, Chair of Natural England. The park is part of the West London Regional Park project, which I am supporting with funding of £1.46m. They discussed the importance of equitable access to green and blue nature rich places and met community groups who were involved in tree planting, food growing and river restoration activities to hear about the mental and physical benefits of London's green and blue spaces.

Housing

Helping London's Renters Use Their New Rights and Stand Up To Rogue Landlords

On 6 August, I announced funding to ensure the Government's landmark Renters' Rights Act provides robust protection and improved conditions for the capital's private renters.

As millions of renters gain strengthened legal rights, I launched a three-year funding programme to help tenants understand their rights, challenge rogue landlords, and secure justice.

Most of the £400,000 Renters' Rights Enforcement Fund will go directly to up to two organisations providing free advice and support to renters across London. Whether someone is facing dangerous housing conditions, an unfair rent increase, or a landlord who refuses to follow the law, the funding will help ensure they have somewhere to turn.

The rest of the funding will help train council officers, so they have the knowledge and confidence to use the new powers available to them, crack down on rogue landlords and make sure renters' rights are properly enforced.

The investment comes as the Government's landmark Renters' Rights Act delivers the biggest boost to tenants' rights in a generation, including ending Section 21 "no-fault" evictions and giving renters greater security in their homes.

By backing trusted renters' organisations and strengthening council enforcement, I am helping ensure that tenants can stand up for themselves, challenge poor treatment and hold rogue landlords to account.

Growth and Skills

National Youth Employment Week - West London Alliance, South London Partnership and Local London Youth Summits

In July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended a series of youth employment events across London, organised by three of London's Sub-Regional Partnerships. The events demonstrated how partners are working through my Youth Guarantee Trailblazer to improve pathways into education, skills and sustainable employment for young Londoners.

On 8 July, Howard delivered closing remarks at the launch of the West London Youth Employment Roadmap. Howard welcomed the Roadmap as an important step towards coordinated local and regional delivery, highlighting my ambition for stronger employer engagement and cross-sector collaboration to tackle youth unemployment and economic inactivity across London.

On 10 July, Howard opened the South London Partnership Youth Futures Summit, bringing together borough leaders, employers, education providers, youth organisations and policymakers. Howard reaffirmed my commitment to ensuring every young Londoner can access the opportunities and support they need to succeed drawing on the emerging findings of the Alan Milburn Review. He also emphasised the need for a more integrated system that removes barriers to opportunity and creates clearer pathways into education, skills and good work.

On 15 July, Howard delivered the keynote address and participated in a moderated Q&A at the Local London Youth-Led Employment Network Summit. Howard recognised Local London's Youth Representatives in delivering the summit, reinforcing my commitment to embedding young people's voices at the heart of policy and service design.

Meeting with Capital City College Group

On 9 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Angela Joyce, Principal and CEO of Capital City College Group, to discuss further education (FE).

Howard recognised the FE sector as a critical partner in delivering my Workforce Plan and set out how the GLA is targeting significant investment in London's skills and employment system.

Roundtable at Barnet & Southgate College

On 9 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, visited Barnet and Southgate College to join a panel discussion on Routes for All - Breaking Down Barriers to Employment. This discussion was part of Barnet & Southgate College's engagement with local, regional and national stakeholders to discuss the college's vision 2030. Howard reiterated my commitment to the FE sector as a critical partner in working collaboratively across public services to deliver better training and employment outcomes particularly for young people in London.

London Higher - Higher Education Capital of the World publication and launch event

On 14 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, spoke at London Higher's event and report launch on London - the Higher Education Capital of the World. The event was attended by Vice-Chancellors from London's universities as well as many from across local government, business and education. The event included performances and pop-ups by students from across London's higher education sector.

Construction & Built Environment Interim Talent Board meeting

On 15 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the final interim Construction and Built Environment Talent Board meeting. Members reflected on achievements since the board's establishment in November 2025 and made recommendations for the future of the Talent Board. Howard thanked members for their time, expertise and commitment over the last 8 months.

The interim board, chaired by The Crown Estate, has played a significant role in shaping London's construction skills agenda. Its work has informed the refresh of the London Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) and led to the launch of a new funding commission, the Construction Skills Pilot on 27 July.

The final meeting focused on the transition to the permanent Built Environment Talent Board and endorsed the pan London Built Environment Hub delivery plan.

Get Britain Working Trailblazers Year 1 Celebration

On 22 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, spoke at London's Get Britain Working (GBW) Trailblazers celebration event – celebrating the achievements of the first year of delivery.

The event was attended by over 100 people; each of whom have played an important role in one of London's five Trailblazers – providing essential support to Londoners who have struggled to access the right opportunity for them in education, training or work.

Howard highlighted the impact of the Trailblazers programme in supporting over 6000 Londoners who are not currently working, often due to complex barriers, and young people not in education, employment or training; and over 1700 of them into employment, education, or training. He highlighted the value of the "test and learn" approach, which has enabled London's Sub-Regional Partnerships, FE Colleges, boroughs, health services, voluntary and community sector, and others, to develop innovative ways of providing support that really works, responding to local needs and tailor support around individual circumstances.

Life Science Talent Board meeting

On 24 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, attended the final interim Life Science Talent Board meeting. Howard thanked members for their valuable contributions since the board's establishment in November 2025.

The interim board, comprising of Cogent Skills, BIA, SRG Talent, King's Health Partners, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, and MedCity, has played a role in shaping London's life sciences skills agenda. Its work has informed the refresh of the London LSIP and London's response to Government's Life Science Jobs Plan, alongside feeding into the permanent Board model and the pan-London Life Science Hub. The final meeting focused on the transition to the permanent Life Science Talent Board.

New City College - Construction Technical Excellence College

On 24 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, spoke with Gerry McDonald, Principal of New City College and the Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC), ahead of the launch of my Construction Skills Package on 27 July.

They discussed New City College's role as an advisor to the Interim Sector Talent Board for Construction and the Built Environment, and how providers such as CTEC can continue to contribute to the Board's work and to the wider delivery of the Construction Skills Package going forward.

Creative Talent Board meeting

On 29 July, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, joined the final meeting of the Interim Creative Talent Board. In his remarks, Howard thanked members for their valuable contributions since the board's establishment in November 2025. Alongside informing the refresh of the London Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), members have identified several priority occupations to pilot within the skills bootcamp programme and designing a Teacher-Industry Exchange model to support FE staff in the sector. The final meeting endorsed the first-year Delivery Plan for the Pan-London Creative Hub and reviewed arrangements for the transition to the permanent Board.

Learning & Skills Hub

On 29 July, Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, opened the new Ealing Skills and Learning Hub, supported by £677,000 from my Skills for Londoners Capital Fund. The hub will provide modern learning facilities and connect with seven local learning centres across the borough. Howard highlighted my wider investment in skills, including over £1 million in Adult Skills Fund support for Learn Ealing in 2025/26. He encouraged local learners, employers and education providers to use the hub to build partnerships and improve opportunities.

Howard shared his career journey and commitment to tackling disadvantage through skills and employment initiatives. He also joined Councillor Nagpal in presenting certificates to Early Years Educator Diploma Level 3 graduates.

Meeting with Nicki Hay, Chair of the Association of Employment and Learning Providers

On 5 August, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, met with Nicki Hay, Chair of the Association of Employment and Learning Providers. The discussion covered how we will work with independent training providers and the wider further education sector to respond to recent Government announcements on skills devolution. The conversation also highlighted the importance of working with employers to expand work experience opportunities, and the need to support SMEs to provide opportunities for young people, including apprenticeships.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

New Pinterest UK office

On 28 July, I was pleased to open the new Pinterest UK office located on Oxford Street, where I was joined by Jamie Oliver. I'm proud that London is Pinterest's UK and European headquarters, where the company runs its advertising business and oversees its strategy across the region.

Business engagement and support

During this period, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Growth, Howard Dawber, continued to engage with and support London's businesses, including:

- On 3 July, he spoke about the proposed Overnight Visitor Levy for London at the South Bank and Waterloo Partnership meeting chaired by London Assembly Member Marina Ahmad
- On 6 July, he spoke at a British Services Association event on London Growth Plan delivery.
- On 6 July, he spoke at the first meeting of the Business Support Investor Group, convened by London & Partners following the publication of London's Business Support Strategy in March 2026. Its founding members span public, private and philanthropic funders of business support. Its first year will focus on shared priorities for SME productivity and access to finance.
- On 7 July, he visited Places for London arches at Wood City with Blair McDougall, MP, Minister for Small Business.
- On 7 July, he attended the Living Wage Champions Awards and received an award for 'Making London a Living Wage City' and present an award 'Living Wage Leader in a SME Organisation'.
- On 8 July, he spoke at a breakfast roundtable with hospitality multi-site operators hosted by Mike Joslin CEO and Co-founder, Bombe.
- On 13 July, he met with the Credit Unions to explore collaborations.
- On 14 July, he spoke at the Islington Inclusive Growth Plan breakfast event at the Institute of Physics to help shape Islington's emerging Inclusive Growth Plan, ahead of its formal launch later in 2026.
- On 14 July, he attended a small business prompt payment celebration event to celebrate the GLA performance in 2025/26 for prompt payment to small and medium sized business.
- On 15 July, he chaired the London Business Forum. This included a presentation from Marsha Kuye, Head of Licensing and 24 Hour London, on strategic licensing powers.
- On 15 July, he attended the London & Partners Frontier Innovation Board meeting.
- On 16 July, he met with representatives of Marks & Spencer, alongside my Deputy Mayor for Policing & Crime, Kaya Comer-Schwartz.
- On 21 July, he met with Walpole to discuss tourism and London's attractiveness to international visitors.
- On 22 July, he met with Eli Dias, CEO of The Galliard Group, to discuss their latest development projects across London.
- On 23 July, he visited London City Airport and met with the CEO, Andy Cliffe.
- On 28 July, spoke at the Croydon Business Association's event – covering Croydon's future growth.
- On 28 July, he met with Mari-Carmen Sanchez-Morris to discuss life sciences.
- On 30 July, Howard visited three office buildings near Oxford Street that are owned and managed by Places for London.
- On 5 August, he met with Emilie Giles, CEO of Knight Dragon, to discuss progress being made at Greenwich Peninsula.
- On 6 August, he met with the commissioners from the London Climate and Sustainability Commission to discuss the London Growth Plan.
- On 11 August, he visited Harrow Town Centre arranged by Harrow Business Improvement District
- On 13 August, he met with Omar Ali, partner at EY and Chair of TheCityUK, to discuss the TheCityUK's priorities for the financial and professional services sector in London.

- On 13 August, he met with James Saunders, CEO of Battersea Power Station Development Company, to discuss their future plans for the Battersea Power Station development.
- On 19 August, he met with The Arch Co to learn more about their future investment plans in London.
- On 19 August, he met with SEGRO to see first-hand the role that industrial and logistics space plays in supporting the London economy.
- On 19 August, he met with Minimal, who are a Grow London Global-supported business that build last-mile electric delivery vehicles.
- On 20 August, Howard met with Katherine Chapman, CEO, Investors in People, to discuss the Good Work Standard and Inclusive Talent Strategy.
- On 24 August, he met with Harry Fox CEO & Co-Founder of Hubber.
- On 24 August, he visited Dot Dot Tea Factory and met co-founder Yandis Ying. The London-based producer of canned and bottled bubble tea is one of the female-led businesses supported by the British Business Bank, which organised the visit to mark £100 million in Start Up Loans provided to female entrepreneurs in London.
- On 28 August, he met with Harshit Vyas, General Manager of The Lalit Hotel.

International Promotion

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

- On 19 July, he spoke at the London Riverboat Reception hosted by the governments of Washington, Oregon and California, with the support of FCDO and Boeing, ahead of the Farnborough International Airshow to promote London as the place to do business and strengthen our ties with key US states.
- On 21 July, he met with Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor of California to discuss California's and London's economic priorities and opportunities to strengthen collaborations between California and London.
- Between 25-27 August, he visited Copenhagen and spoke at Tech BBQ, Europe's leading tech event for founders to strengthen the trade and investment relations between London and the Nordic countries. During his visit, he met the British Ambassador, the Mayor of Employment, Integration, and Business Administration of Copenhagen, and key investors and tech leaders. He visited the Nordic Innovation Hub, BLOXHUB and the BioInnovation Institute.

Fire

Plaistow Training Centre visit

On 20 July, my Deputy Mayor for the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, attended Plaistow Training Centre to discuss firefighter training, on-boarding and development. He observed a demonstration of pumps and ladders training and met with trainees to hear their experiences of the course.

Culture

Summer Streets

I'm delighted that my Summer Streets Fund has supported 14 projects across 12 boroughs to deliver outdoor events, al fresco dining, markets and cultural activities for Londoners and visitors. Al fresco dining and extended operating hours for hospitality have transformed our streets and town centres into places for theatre, performance and connection.

On 31 July, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, and my Deputy Mayor for Business, Howard Dawber OBE, visited Brent Council's Summer Streets scheme on Ealing Road. At the visit, they saw first-hand how the Summer Streets programme was being enjoyed by Londoners and visitors, from delicious food and drink to Bollywood dancing.

On 21 August, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, visited Woolwich town centre for the latest event in the Royal Borough of Greenwich's Summer Streets programme. The event brought together local businesses, cultural organisations and community partners to extend town centre activity into the evening and create a welcoming al fresco atmosphere to support Woolwich's growing evening economy.

Liberty Advisory Group New Members

Two new members were recruited to the Liberty Advisory Group, to help provide advice and support around my flagship festival for D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent artists. Following a competitive recruitment process, Dais Hale and Maya Lloyd have been appointed to join 11 other disability arts specialists on the Group. The Group's chief focus currently is the next Liberty Festival which will be staged in autumn 2027 in Haringey as part of its year as my London Borough of Culture.

Arts Professional Article

In July, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, was interviewed in Arts Professional, an arts and culture-specific publication, to reflect on her ten-year tenure as my Deputy Mayor. Justine talked about the cultural achievements in the capital over my ten years in office - including East Bank, London's newest Cultural Quarter with the V&A and Sadler's Wells already drawing thousands of visitors, introduction of initiatives such as the Creative Enterprise Zones, Cultural Infrastructure Map and the London Borough of Culture Programme.

Licensing and Nightlife in Westminster

On 6 August, I wrote to Westminster City Council, following the publication of their Draft Statement of Licensing Policy 2026, setting out my formal response to their consultation. My response is the first of its kind since I was granted new powers over licensing by the Government under the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026. These new powers mean that licensing authorities like Westminster City Council must consult with me on changes to their licensing policies.

Once further powers have come in later this year, and I have published my London Strategic Licensing Policy (currently in draft form following consultation), London licensing authorities will also have to have regard to my policy when determining their own local licensing policies. These new powers from Government will help make sure decisions around licensing consider the wider benefits to London of our £21bn nightlife sector, which supports 630,000 jobs.

Greenwich+Docklands International Festival

On 21 August, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the opening night of the Greenwich+Docklands International Festival in Woolwich. The Festival, which has run for over thirty years, spans the London Boroughs of Greenwich, Newham and Havering this year.

Royal Academy of Dance - Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Award

On 2 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended Royal Academy of Dance, Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Award, which is the highest honour for services to dance.

Communities

Christian Leaders Roundtable on community cohesion

On 22 July, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and Deputy Mayor for Policing, Kaya Comer-Schwartz, convened a roundtable of Christian leaders to discuss community cohesion and the role of faith communities in building resilience across London.

Participants highlighted the important role that churches play as trusted institutions and their ability to foster dialogue, tackle hate, and create spaces for constructive conversations across differences.

The discussion included a range of topics, including poverty and inequality, misinformation and a lack of belonging, alongside the importance of positive narratives, visible solidarity and stronger partnerships between City Hall and faith leaders. Attendees welcomed our commitment to promoting shared values and community safety and expressed interest in working more closely with City Hall including through programmes such as the Shared Endeavour Fund, to support local dialogue, counter extremism and strengthen community resilience

Convened the London Volunteering Strategy Group

On 21 July, the London Volunteering Strategy Group met to progress recommendations from the London Vision for Volunteering, furthering my commitment to ensure Londoners benefit from accessible volunteering opportunities. Funded by City Hall and convened by London Plus, the group is a cross civil society collaboration, with 40+ members representing the diversity and scope of voluntary groups across the capital. Current priorities include work to support the ethical use of technology in connecting with communities to encourage volunteering, to strengthen the role of volunteering in tackling inequality, and supporting pathways into employment through volunteering.

Grenfell Tower Trust Report Launch

On 27 July, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, gave the opening address at the launch of the report 'The Journey of Recovery - Grenfell Lived Experience Insights' by the Grenfell Tower Trust at Al Manaar. The event was attended by family members of some of the bereaved and local MP Joe Powell. The report contains reflections from survivors, highlighting the importance of reflecting on lived experience in disasters, their journeys to recovery and justice, and the power of community led healing.

Visit to South Norwood Community Kitchen, one of my Loved and Wanted Community Spaces

On 28 July, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard joined the local community at South Norwood Community Kitchen, one of 30 Loved and Wanted Community Spaces, to celebrate the South Asian Heritage Month at a joint cooking event with Yog Foundation, a Hindu faith led organisation. I'm proud that City Hall is helping to connect organisations with similar missions, enabling them to learn from one another, extend their reach and maximise their impact. At a time when many communities continue to face increasing pressures, partnerships like these show the importance of local organisations working together to build resilience, reduce isolation and create a stronger sense of belonging.

Muslim Women's Roundtable

On 6 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, convened a roundtable with Muslim women to discuss community cohesion, the recent rise in gendered Islamophobic incidents, and the emerging needs of Muslim women in terms of inclusion, safety and wellbeing.

Attendees included community organisation and faith space leaders, who welcomed City Hall's ongoing commitment to ensuring London is a welcoming city for all, including through programmes such as the Loved and Wanted Fund.

Visit to Remark! Deaf Club

On 21 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, joined the British Deaf Association and local community members at Remark!, who are the UK's leading Deaf-led organisation for British Sign Language. Remark! hosted one of their regular Lunch Clubs to celebrate the GLA meeting the BSL Charter recommendations, an achievement that I am very proud of. My Deputy Mayor met with community users and provided a short address alongside the British Deaf Association Chair.

Health

Publication of the Children's Health in London and Luton (CHILL) Study

On 18 August, I was delighted to welcome the findings of a new, independent study led by Queen Mary University of London published in the Lancet Public Health. The study provides compelling evidence of how the ULEZ is improving the lungs and lives of central London's children.

This study is one of the most comprehensive of its kind. Researchers tracked the lung growth of more than 3,400 children in Luton and central London, starting before the ULEZ was introduced in 2019, and concluding five years later. The results are remarkable.

Before we introduced the ULEZ, London's filthy air meant that children in the capital had significantly poorer lung function than children in Luton. But, across the five-year period when ULEZ was in place, children's exposure to NO₂ fell twice as fast in central London as it did in Luton. When scientists measured lung function again at the end of the study, young Londoners' lungs had caught up. This shows that cutting air pollution is helping Londoners born today, as well as helping children whose lungs have already been stunted by toxic air to recover.

Expanding the ULEZ involved difficult decisions, but this independent research shows why acting and implementing ULEZ was so important.

Brocklebank Health Centre Opening

On 27 July, I was delighted to open the new Brocklebank Health Centre in Wandsworth alongside my Health Adviser, Dr Tom Coffey OBE.

The state-of-the-art centre brings together general practice, community health services, podiatry, health visitors, nurses and specialist dental services under one roof, making it easier for local people to access the care they need when they need it.

The centre has been developed as part of the wider Atheldene regeneration programme and achieved through the partnership between Brocklebank Group Practice, NHS South West London, NHS Property Services Ltd, Wandsworth Council, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust. Projects like this only happen when organisations work together with a shared ambition to improve health outcomes for local communities.

This is the direction of travel set out in the NHS 10 Year Health Plan: from hospital to community, shifting more care into our neighbourhoods and is a great example of how integrated care can help improve the lives of Londoners, as we build a healthier London for everyone.

Young London

Visit to Argyle Square Basketball Court

On 4 August, I attended Argyle Square basketball court in Camden alongside London-born NBA star OG Anunoby and members of the local basketball community. The visit highlighted the partnership between City Hall, Camden Council, OG Anunoby, and the National Basketball Players Association (NBPA) to improve basketball facilities and create more opportunities for young Londoners to play basketball.

During the visit, OG Anunoby announced his personal investment towards refurbishing the Argyle Square court, supported by a further contribution of over \$25,000 (£18,500) from the NBPA Foundation. The investment builds on the £2 million we've already committed to growing basketball across London, including £500,000 to refurbish up to 10 basketball courts across the capital.

The visit highlighted the importance of investing in high-quality, accessible facilities that provide safe spaces for young people and communities to play, develop and connect through basketball. It also demonstrated my commitment to expanding opportunities to play basketball in London and supporting partnerships that can help inspire the next generation of players.

Go! London Innovation Challenge Awards

On 3 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, opened the Go! London Innovation Challenge Awards at City Hall. The event brought together finalists from across London to present innovative, community-led ideas exploring how to create safer, more inclusive spaces for young people to be active, and to explore how sport and physical activity can be used for climate action.

Following pitches to expert judging panels, eight initiatives were selected to receive funding of up to £100,000 each to test and scale their ideas. The awards highlighted the power of collaboration between communities, local authorities, charities and partners to address barriers to participation and create new opportunities for underserved young Londoners through sport and physical activity.

Visit to Family Hub, New River Green Children's Centre & Child Poverty Roundtable

On 8 July, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, joined Pat McFadden, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, at New River Green Children's Centre in Islington, where she met staff and parents, and participated in a roundtable on the Government's Child Poverty Strategy. During the discussion, she highlighted my wide-ranging work to tackle child poverty, including through my landmark Universal Free School Meals programme, support for families through Family Hubs, and initiatives to help increase household incomes and improve opportunities for young Londoners.

Basketball Showcase for Jr NBA 3v3 Finals

On 9 July, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Mete Coban, attended the Jr. NBA 3v3 finals at Trafalgar Square, delivered by London Marathon Events, in collaboration with the NBA. The event brought together some of London's most talented young basketball players involving more than 350 teams from diverse backgrounds across the capital.

The finals featured a wheelchair basketball tournament for the first time, alongside primary school coaching clinics support by coaches from the London Coaches Program. The event highlighted the continued growth of basketball in London, with 9,000 young people now regularly playing 3v3 basketball through the Jr. NBA programme.

The finals demonstrated the positive impact of the partnership between London Marathon Events and the NBA in increasing participation and creating opportunities for young people across the capital and highlighted the importance of providing young Londoners with high-quality facilities and opportunities to participate in basketball.

Visit to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice

On 6 August, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited Noah's Ark Hospice in Barnet to mark the 20th anniversary of the charity.

Noah's Ark provides vital practical and emotional support to children with life-limiting conditions and those who love and care for them.

Joanne was given a tour of the facility, alongside Sophie Andrews OBE, local councillors and members of the hospice team. During the tour, Joanne met with the remarkable children, families, staff and volunteers that make the Ark special, and saw firsthand the compassion, expertise and commitment that has made the charity such an important source of support for children and families.

The tour ended with a burial of a time-capsule containing 20 messages from children and families the hospice supports, marking the charities two-decades of extraordinary service.

Visit to Prospex at The Underground Youth Centre in Islington

On 11 August, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited Prospex at The Underground Youth Centre in Islington to see first-hand the impact of my investment in free holiday activities on children and young people during the summer holidays. During the visit, Joanne met with staff and young people taking part in a range of free activities, including arts, sports and a film-making workshop designed to help participants develop their creative and teamwork skills.

Since 2025, Prospex has received funding through my investment in free holiday activities, enabling it to expand its holiday provision through free healthy meals, skill-development sessions, equipment and support with rising running costs.

During the visit, Joanne observed the lunch service, toured the centre and spoke with young people and staff about the importance of having access to safe spaces, healthy food and enriching opportunities during the school holidays. The visit highlighted how my funding is helping community organisations provide young people with something to do, something to aspire to and something to eat, while supporting them to build confidence, develop new skills and stay connected to their communities. This work directly contributes to my pledge to provide 250,000 young people with activities and positive opportunities.

Visit to Go! London funded organisation Outrunners

On 18 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, visited The Outrunners' annual Sports Day at Haggerston Park. Delivered in partnership with Hackney Quest and SkyWay, the event brought together young people from across east London for a day of sport, teamwork and positive summer activities.

Welcomed by Tyler Williams-Green, Chief Executive of The Outrunners, Debbie had the opportunity to meet young participants, coaches and community leaders and hear first-hand about the difference that sport and physical activity can make to young people's confidence, wellbeing, social connections and sense of belonging.

The visit showcased the impact of organisations supported through Go! London, the capital's largest community sport fund, which I launched in 2022 in partnership with London Marathon Foundation and Sport England, supported by London Sport and London Marathon Events. Grassroots groups play a critical role in enabling underserved young Londoners to fulfil their potential, and I am committed to expanding access to these opportunities, with an additional £1.5m grant awarded through Go! London in July to grassroots organisations who will deliver a range of sports and physical activity, and wraparound support, across the capital.

Opening speech for The Danish Board Study Visit to London

On 19 August, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, hosted a visit to London by the Danish Centre for Childhood Health. Seven board members and four officers from the Centre for Childhood Health, including representatives from the Danish Government, University of Copenhagen and the Novo Nordisk Foundation, came to City Hall to hear about some of the work we are doing across London to support children and families. The visit was a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas, learn from one another's experiences, and explore the approaches that are making a difference for children and young people in both London and Denmark.

I am committed to putting children and young people at the heart of my health agenda. This means ensuring every child has the best start in life, growing up with good mental and physical health, supporting families, and reducing the inequalities that affect children's life chances.

London Zoo visit to see funded holiday activities

On 19 August, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, visited London Zoo to meet more than 200 young people, community leaders and volunteers to see the impact of our investment in free holiday activities across London.

During the visit, Joanne observed educational activities delivered in partnership with London Zoo and Bloomberg volunteers and heard first-hand about the impact that holiday provision has on local communities. For many of the young people attending, it was their first visit to the Zoo, providing a unique opportunity to explore one of London's most iconic attractions while building confidence, friendships and new experiences.

The event demonstrates the impact of my investment in holiday activities for children and young people, ensuring they have access to safe spaces, enriching experiences and healthy meals during the school holidays. I will continue to work to make London the best city in the world for children and young people to grow up in.

Age of Enlightenment Orchestra

On 24 August, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, attended *A Musical Adventure* at Gospel Oak Primary School. It was an interactive concert for young children and their families, delivered by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment (OAE), in partnership with Camden Council. She had the opportunity to see first-hand how live music, storytelling and participation can inspire creativity, confidence and enjoyment among young children. The event demonstrated the value of making arts and culture accessible to all families and highlighted OAE's important contribution to music education and community engagement in Camden. I am committed to giving every child the best possible start in life, recognising that the early years are critical to future health and wellbeing.

The launch of funding applications for Youth Clubs

On 20 July, organisations were invited to apply for my £32m investment in youth clubs, the biggest ever single investment in youth clubs in London. The funding will help youth clubs stay open later and longer, providing safe spaces for young people on evening and weekends, as well as additional specialist support. This recognises the vital role that youth clubs and youth workers play in keeping young people safe, supported, and connected.

Since the launch, we've worked hard to ensure organisations across London are aware of the opportunity ahead of the 14 September application deadline. This has included pre-application webinars for the youth sector on 21 and 23 July, attended by Lib Peck, Director of the VRU.

Lib and I also wrote to MPs, borough leaders and Assembly Members, encouraging them to share information with organisations in their areas. I've also instructed my officers to scale up a campaign activity, increasing out-of-home marketing and social media content with trusted voices. That's why I recently met with AJ Tracey, a successful UK rapper, who shared how a youth club in North Kensington helped shape his life and career.

I know first-hand the impact that a youth club can have on a young life. This investment is about creating those same opportunities for our young people. It's about giving them safe spaces to go with their friends, trusted adults to turn to, and a chance to discover their talents. It's also about backing the community organisations and youth workers who open doors for young Londoners every day, making our city safer, fairer and full of opportunity.

We want every borough of London to benefit from this funding, so we can reach the young people who need these opportunities most.

Financial and Economic Inclusion

Visit to Inclusive Talent Brokerage grantee GoodWork

On 14 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, visited Inclusive Talent Brokerage grantee GoodWork at a Careers Insight Day hosted by Havas.

The visit highlighted the impact of my Inclusive Talent Brokerage programme in supporting young Londoners from underrepresented backgrounds to access employment and career development opportunities. My Deputy Mayor met young people who had secured jobs through the programme, including one participant now employed at Havas, demonstrating the tangible outcomes being achieved through partnerships between employers and community organisations.

The visit reinforced the value of employer partnerships such as Havas in creating pathways into meaningful and sustainable employment for young Londoners.

Migration

Borough of Sanctuary Tour: visit to Kingston

On 5 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, visited Kingston Council as part of the Boroughs of Sanctuary tour. She had the chance to see local projects and services in action under the council's Borough of Sanctuary programme, including the council's Information and Advice Centre and local charity, Save the World Club.

She met with migrant residents to hear first-hand about their experiences and resilience and highlighted that City Hall stands in solidarity with those seeking sanctuary in London. The visit highlighted the strong partnership between the Council, voluntary and community organisations and local communities.

Borough of Sanctuary Tour: visit to Richmond

On 12 August, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, visited Richmond Council.

This visit was an opportunity for the Deputy Mayor to see Richmond's programme of services as a Borough of Sanctuary. Debbie met with those who run services at the Loved and Wanted Community Centre ETNA and spoke to local councillors and staff in the Refugee Services team about the important collaboration between the Council and the community. She also had the chance to hear from residents from the People with Lived Experience Board about how the Board is shaping decision making in the borough for people seeking sanctuary.

Events

Pride

On 4 July, I was delighted to join Pride in London, the UK's longest running pride event, which took over London once again to showcase and celebrate the LGBTQ+ Community in London.

I am hugely proud to have been the only Mayor to help lead the parade every year throughout my mayoralty, alongside my family and ambassadors from across the community. Pride in London is one of the biggest events in London's LGBTQ+ calendar and a huge opportunity for us to come out in support and allyship for the community in London, across the UK and internationally.

We marched with many floats and over 30,000 people in central London, with a staggering 1.5 million people taking part in activations and performance from Soho to Trafalgar Square. While the event is a huge celebration and a day of joy for many, it serves as a reminder of the incredible amount of work there is still to be done.

Streets in central London were packed out throughout the day, sending the message loud and clear, that London's strength is in its diversity, and that in our city, you are free to live without discrimination.

LatinoLife in the Park

On 19 July, LatinoLife in the Park returned to Walpole Park, Ealing. Having supported the event since its launch 10 years ago, I've seen it grow from a small community festival into one of London's largest free park events, bringing together Londoners and the Latin American community to celebrate culture, music and dance.

The festival featured four stages and a range of immersive experiences showcasing some of the best UK-based and international Latin American talent. Performers included Grupo Luma, Herman Jacinto, The Bernal Folkloric Company and Carlos Paul. Hosting duties were shared by Jemelin Artigas, BBC *The Apprentice* contestant and presenter, and Cuban dancer and actress Yanet Fuentes.

With live Latin music, family-friendly activities and a wide variety of food stalls, the park was filled with energy throughout the day.

I am proud to support LatinoLife in delivering this unique event, celebrating the rich contribution London's Latin American community makes to our city.

WorldPride 2032 bid

On 6 August, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, supported the launch of London's bid for WorldPride 2032 at an event in Amsterdam - this year's host city.

2032 will mark 60 years since the first official Pride event in London, organised by the Gay Liberation Front just three years after the Stonewall uprising. Hosting WorldPride in 2032 would give us the chance to celebrate the extraordinary progress we've made in London and the UK, while recognising how much further we must go. It would be an opportunity to showcase London's values to the world — and encourage others to stand up for equality, celebrate diversity and defend people's right to be themselves.

I'm proud to support London's bid to host WorldPride in 2032 and - working with Pride in London, UK Black Pride, Outernet, Trip Advisor, The Standard and The Independent — we'll be doing everything we can to make the strongest possible case for London hosting this landmark event.

Oxford Street Development Corporation

Oxford Street Development Corporation Planning Service Goes Live

I am delighted that a major milestone in the delivery of the Oxford Street transformation was reached on 10 August, when the Oxford Street Development Corporation (OSDC) formally assumed its planning powers and launched its new planning service.

Since go-live, the team has focused on ensuring a seamless transition of planning responsibilities from Westminster City Council and Camden Council. I am pleased to report that the service has been operating effectively from day one, with OSDC already issuing its first planning approvals and providing continuity for residents, businesses and applicants across the Mayoral Development Area.

This important step moves OSDC firmly into its delivery phase and provides the planning framework needed to support the long-term regeneration of Oxford Street and the wider West End.

Launch of the Community Place Shaping Panel

To ensure local communities help shape the future of Oxford Street, recruitment has now opened for OSDC's new Community Place Shaping Panel.

The panel will play an important role in informing conversations about future development opportunities and helping to ensure that local perspectives are embedded in decision-making. We are particularly keen to hear from people whose voices may not traditionally be represented in planning discussions, as well as those who regularly use and experience Oxford Street and the surrounding area.

By broadening participation and bringing together a diverse range of experiences, the panel will help ensure the transformation of Oxford Street reflects the needs and aspirations of all who live, work and visit the West End.

Progress Towards the Pedestrianisation of Oxford Street

I am pleased that plans for the closure of Oxford Street to traffic continue to progress at pace in partnership with TfL, OSDC and delivery partners.

TfL has now appointed FM Conway to undertake the construction programme, including enabling works on surrounding Westminster roads and the infrastructure works required on Oxford Street itself.

Preparatory works are scheduled to begin next month, marking the next significant stage in delivering a safer, greener and more attractive Oxford Street. Alongside this, TfL has launched a customer communications campaign to ensure bus and Tube passengers are informed of upcoming changes and can plan their journeys accordingly.

These works represent another important step towards delivering a world-class public space at the heart of London's West End, improving the experience for visitors, businesses and local communities alike.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Post Occupancy Evaluation Report

On 20 July, LLDC published findings from its Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) study at Chobham Manor, the first completed neighbourhood on the Park. The evaluation explores how the neighbourhood is functioning now that its community is fully established. The report captures data on the neighbourhood's social and environmental impact, alongside insights and lessons that can help shape future neighbourhoods across the Park and beyond.

East Summer School

This summer, LLDC celebrated its ninth year of East Summer School which took place from 27 July to 7 August. The programme gave more than 300 east Londoners aged 12 to 17 the chance to explore future careers through immersive, hands-on courses covering everything from fashion and design to technology, engineering and media.

Delivered as part of East Education, one of LLDC's flagship learning and skills programme, East Summer School brings together schools, educators, East Bank partners, universities, employers and creative organisations from across and around Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to create experiences that inspire, empower and ignite curiosity. Since launching in 2018, the programme has engaged over 2,500 young people, helping participants build confidence, make new connections and develop valuable, sought-after skills for their future.

Green Flag Award

On 30 July, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park was awarded the prestigious Green Flag Award for a 13th successive year. The award is an internationally recognised mark of excellence for parks and green spaces and highlights the Park's success in creating a safe, inclusive and welcoming place for local communities to enjoy.

Pudding Mill Lane Progress

A key milestone in the delivery of Pudding Mill Lane was reached as plans for Phase 2a were submitted to the London Borough of Newham in August. The proposals include 266 homes as part of a wider masterplan that will deliver more than 1,000 new homes (45% affordable), alongside new public spaces, landscaping and improved connections which will support a vibrant new neighbourhood.

Development Awards

Sadler's Wells and LLDC have been shortlisted for the RIBA Client of the Year Award 2026 for Sadler's Wells East, with the winner due to be announced this October. In addition, UCL's new east London campus has been recognised with two RIBA National Awards, with both Marshgate and One Pool Street honoured in this year's awards programme. The prestigious award recognises the vital role a good client plays in delivering outstanding architecture, championing innovation and creating buildings that change the lives of the people and communities who use them. Alongside this, Stratford Waterfront Masterplan and Stratford Public Realm have been shortlisted for the NLA Awards 2026, with the winners to be announced this November.

The Music is Black Festival by East Bank

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. The third weekend of live performances between 22 to 23 August - *Queer Frequencies* took place, attracting approximately 10,000 visitors to the Park across two days.

As part of the wider festival programme, a free exhibition *Black Football Culture* is taking place at UCL East Marshgate until 9 September, exploring the relationship between Black British music, identity, sport and fashion, and the longstanding cultural connections between Arsenal Football Club and Black communities. The Festival is the first season of combined event programming from East Bank. Inspired by V&A East Museum's inaugural exhibition 'The Music is Black: A British

Story', the programming is led by East Bank partners V&A East, Sadler's Wells East, UCL, the BBC and London College of Fashion, UAL.

East Bank represents my biggest ever cultural investment - it will contribute an estimated £1.5bn to the local economy and bring an additional 1.5m visitors to the Park and surrounding area each year.

Sports

NUEL (Newham and University of East London) Swim Club, partnered with Everyone Active this summer to deliver Newham Future Swimmers at London Aquatics Centre - a free summer programme that provided swimming lessons for 780 children from across Newham.

Bola Beach Tennis returned to the Park throughout August, bringing its unique blend of tennis, badminton and padel, while offering accessible, high-energy activities for visitors of all ages. A pop-up padel court was also available until the end of August, giving visitors the chance to try one of the world's fastest-growing sports.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

OPDC and Construction Youth Trust partner to get local young people into construction careers

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) has teamed up with Construction Youth Trust to unlock real career pathways for young people across Brent, Ealing and Hammersmith & Fulham, placing local talent at the heart of one of the UK's biggest regeneration projects.

OPDC covers over 650 hectares of west London that spans Brent, Ealing and Hammersmith & Fulham. Its flagship regeneration project at Old Oak will create up to 11,000 jobs and 8,000 homes, generating a huge pipeline of employment opportunities in the built environment. This new partnership will ensure local young people can access them.

Construction Youth Trust, a leading social mobility charity, will work with OPDC to deliver a two-year programme reaching 1,800 young people, inspiring them to explore careers in construction and connecting them directly with employers, industry professionals and hands-on experiences.

The programme will link major employers with local schools, offering workshops, site visits and immersive projects that help young people build confidence, skills and networks - whether they're interested in engineering, architecture, trades or other future-focused careers - and will run across nine local schools, with delivery beginning this month.

Small Grants Programme celebration event

On 8 July, OPDC hosted a celebration event for community organisations involved in its Small Grants Programme, bringing together recipients from both the 2024/25 and 2025/26 funding rounds.

Organisations funded last year shared details on the impact of their projects that included photography workshops, health ambassador training and a steelpan Windrush celebration. Newly funded groups also presented their plans and objectives for the year ahead.

The 19 organisations receiving funding this year will deliver a wide range of community initiatives, including home makeovers for deprived families, intergenerational health and dance sessions, youth and creative media opportunities, greater access to nature at Wormwood Scrubs, and evening meal provision for people experiencing homelessness.

Old Oak Lane and Victoria Road improvements

On 14 July, OPDC hosted a drop-in event to update local communities on emerging plans for improvements to Old Oak Lane and Victoria Road.

Building on engagement undertaken in autumn 2025, the event gave residents an opportunity to view updated proposals, ask questions and provide feedback.

In partnership with Ealing Council, OPDC is developing plans for early active travel improvements to support walking and cycling along both routes.

Summer Streets programme

Throughout July and August, OPDC worked with Park Royal Design District, North Acton BID, Ealing Council and The Republic Community Project, to deliver a programme of events as part of my Summer Streets initiative.

Activities included food and craft markets, community dinners, live music events and outdoor film screenings, helping to animate public spaces and bring communities together.

The programme has attracted strong local participation, with further events planned through to early October.

Planning and Regeneration

Plans for redevelopment of Crystal Palace National Sports Centre approved

On 24 July, the planning application for the transformative renovation of Crystal Palace National Sports Centre was formally approved.

The centre, which first opened in South London in 1964, comprises an athletics stadium, indoor arena, swimming and diving pools, together with a large gym and a multitude of other internal and external sports facilities.

In 2023, I announced major plans for a redevelopment of the site to upgrade sporting facilities for the local community, including a refurbishment of the 50m swimming and diving pools and improvements to the indoor facilities, external pitches and athletics stadium.

Proposals for a sustainable, accessible, and world-class transformation of the centre were submitted in March this year and have now formally been approved by the London Borough of Bromley, with work expected to start on the 15-hectare site in late 2026.

The renovation plans have been publicly backed by more than 15 national governing sports bodies and clubs, alongside local political leaders and Historic England, who praised the proposal for making the centre 'fit for the future'.

Key aspects the work will include:

- A full refurbishment of the Grade II*- listed Crystal Palace National Sports Centre building. This will include improved accessibility, an enlarged gym and new dedicated spaces for sporting clubs.
- The creation of a six-court Padel centre, 3x3 basketball courts, five-a-side football pitches and a full-size artificial multi-sports pitch.
- The diving pool and 50m swimming pool will return in the aquatics hall – meaning that shallow water, 25m swimming, 50m swimming and diving will all be provided in one space and on one level for the first time.
- Improvements to the indoor sports zones to elevate elite performance by providing year-round use for clubs, athletes and the community – including an indoor 100m track, specialist weightlifting facility, and climbing centre.
- A new community space combining sports, leisure, and play, with a 200m running track, a 3x3 basketball court, and an outdoor gym, as well as a café.
- A refurbished and re-developed stadium is also planned, including accessible seating for the first time in its history.

I continue to seek partners and funders to help deliver the long-term vision for the stadium, ensuring the whole site can reach its full potential and continue to inspire Londoners for years to come. Last year, I confirmed the appointment of Morgan Sindall Construction to deliver the design and build of the centre. The leading UK contractor specialises in sustainable, community-focused projects.

Representation Hearing

On 21 July, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service, Jules Pipe, held a representation hearing at City Hall for the redevelopment of Motspur Park Gasholders site (in the London Boroughs of Kingston and Merton) to provide 586 homes with 35% affordable housing and resolved to grant planning permission (subject to completion of a s106 legal agreement). This brings the total number of homes approved via call-ins since January 2026 to 6,750.

Local Plans

On 7 July, GLA officers responded on my behalf to the Newham Local Plan Main Modifications consultation. The response noted that my requested changes as set out in the Statement of Common Ground were largely reflected in the Main Modifications. This included proposed main modifications to adequately resolve the two outstanding general conformity matters relating to housing targets prior to 2029 and affordable housing. The response confirmed that with these amendments the Newham Local Plan was in general conformity with the London Plan 2021.

On 31 July, GLA officers responded on my behalf to the Sutton Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation. While the response broadly supported the vision and objectives of the draft Plan, it highlighted that the draft Plan was not in general conformity with the London Plan due to the proposed approach to Gypsy and Traveller accommodation and the proposed release of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL). Concerns were also noted with the approach to setting the Local Plan's annual housing target. My officers will continue to offer support to resolve these issues prior to the Local Plan being submitted for examination.

On 18 August, GLA officers responded on my behalf to the Islington Gypsy & Traveller Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation. This welcomed the positive approach being taken by London Borough of Islington to meet identified need, especially given the borough's historic unmet need, and confirmed that, as drafted, the Regulation 19 plan was in general conformity with the London Plan.

On 21 August, GLA officers responded on my behalf to the Hillingdon New Local Plan Scoping Consultation. The response noted that the scoping consultation is an early stage of the borough's Local Plan preparation. My officers did not provide detailed comments at this early stage but welcomed the recognition that the review of the Local Plan would need to take into consideration the new London Plan and highlighted that Hillingdon's Local Plan timetable means they are well-placed to take account of the policies in the draft new London Plan.

Good Growth Fund – Project Awards

On 16 July, Catford House in Lewisham, a project supported through my Good Growth Fund, was awarded Best Project at the 2026 Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) London Awards for Planning Excellence. The judges commended the project as an outstanding example of sustainable, heritage-led town centre regeneration. Through an investment of £2.8m from my Good Growth Fund, this locally significant historic building has been brought back into use as a vital community hub for local people.

Charlton Riverside

On 30 July, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, signed an agreement on my behalf to work with the Royal Borough of Greenwich and TfL to realise the development potential of Charlton Riverside Opportunity Area. The long-term vision is to create a new neighbourhood with 8,000 new homes and 1,000 new jobs to help unlock one of London's biggest regeneration sites.

Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

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

GLA Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision
2026/0329	Crowlands Golf Course	Barking and Dagenham	17/08/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0378	Organic Waste Treatment Centre	Barking and Dagenham	10/08/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0266	Land adjacent to Holiday Inn, Wembley	Brent	13/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0330	Premier Inn, Wembley	Brent	17/08/2026	Does not comply with the London Plan
2026/0331	Land at Rookery Estates, Bromley Common	Bromley	10/08/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0313	Royal College Place	Camden	13/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0395	Colville Estate	Hackney	21/08/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0308	1 - 3 Sussex Place	Hammersmith and Fulham	20/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0309	Brockley Hill, Stanmore	Harrow	13/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0297	Land at Lee Gardens, Hornchurch	Havering	06/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0345	Land at Rom Valley Way (formerly Romford Ice Rink) Romford	Havering	13/07/2026	No Strategic Issues

2026/0347	Crowlands Golf Centre	Havering	17/08/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0305	The Dower House	Hillingdon	11/07/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0342	Holland & Holland Shooting School	Hillingdon	21/07/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0311	Heathrow International Trading Estate	Hounslow	20/07/2026	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2026/0355	12-20 Wyvil Road	Lambeth	24/07/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0366	High Path Estate	Merton	24/07/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0318	Nakhon Thai Restaurant	Newham	17/08/2026	Does not comply with the London Plan
2026/0367	Allianz Stadium	Richmond upon Thames	31/07/2026	No Strategic Issues
2026/0349	202, 203-208 Blackfriars Road Hotel	Southwark	10/08/2026	Does not comply with the London Plan

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
2025/0906	Grahame Park North East	Barnet	20/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2026/0251	Trinity Church	Barnet	06/07/2026	Allow LPA to refuse
2025/0800	Juniper Crescent	Camden	13/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/0817	Martinbridge Industrial Estate	Enfield	06/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/1017	STC Ivor Grove Sports Club	Greenwich	10/08/2026	Allow LPA to refuse
2024/0315	Shoreditch Island	Hackney	13/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2024/0092	Land at Bridge Close	Havering	10/08/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/0500	Union Park, UP4	Hillingdon	13/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/0142	Central Park Estate	Hounslow	17/08/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2024/0059	North Kensington Gate North	Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation	13/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/0176	Ilderton Wharf	Southwark	20/07/2026	Allow LPA to approve
2025/1035	Lea Bridge Gasworks Site	Waltham Forest	10/08/2026	Allow LPA to approve

Key engagements

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

- I visited the Srebrenica Memorial Center and joined the International Day of Remembrance for Srebrenica from 2-4 July
- I joined London Pride on 4 July
- I met with James Purnell on 6 July
- I met with Met Police Assistant Commissioner, Laurence Taylor, on 6 July
- I met with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on 6 July
- I attended the national wreath laying for the 7/7 bombings on 7 July
- I attended a Q&A session at the Guardian on 7 July
- I chaired the Transport for London Board on 8 July
- I attended the British Fashion Council summer reception on 8 July
- I visited the Nova exhibition on 9 July
- I met with Dr Gillian Fairfield on 9 July
- I met with Rajesh Agrawal on 9 July
- I attended the Wimbledon Men's Final on 12 July
- I spoke at the official reopening of Grosvenor Square on 13 July
- I spoke at the UK National Srebrenica Memorial Ceremony on 13 July
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 16 July
- I joined the launch of the London Plan on 16 July
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 16 July
- I spoke at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry summer reception on 16 July
- I spoke with the Mayor of Riyadh on 20 July
- I met with Baroness Martha Lane-Fox on 20 July
- I met with the UAE Ambassador to the UK on 22 July
- I spoke with the Mayor of Paris on 22 July
- I met with the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham Council on 22 July
- I met with summer school students at City Hall on 22 July
- I joined a Met Police patrol on 23 July
- I met with the President of AEG on 23 July
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Commissioner on 23 July
- I joined the first National Economic Council with the Prime Minister in Manchester on 24 July
- I officially opened Brocklebank GP Surgery on 27 July
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 28 July
- I spoke at the Pinterest new London office opening on 28 July
- I spoke at a vigil for the Berlin Pride attack on 28 July
- I visited West Reservoir and officially announced the 10-Year Clean Rivers and Waterways Plan on 29 July
- I visited Tottenham Hotspur Training Ground to announce the Premier League Kicks Programme on 31 July
- I met with the Ambassador of Bahrain to the UK on 4 August
- I met with a group of council leaders on 5 August
- I met with the Prime Minister on 13 August

- I marked 10 years of the Night Tube on 13 August
- I spoke with the General Secretary of the FBU on 13 August
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Police Commissioner on 13 August
- I joined the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government at Kidbrooke Park on 25 August
- I joined the Prime Minister for a visit to Sainsbury's Nine Elms on 26 August
- I held my regular meeting with the Met Commissioner on 27 August
- I attended Notting Hill Carnival on 30 August
- I chaired the London Policing Board on 3 September
- I met with Varun Chandra on 3 September
- I spoke at "Ringside on the Terrace" in the House of Lords on 3 September