

**MAYOR OF LONDON**

**Dr Onkar Sahota AM**  
City Hall  
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More London  
London SE1 2AA

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**Date:**

**09 DEC 2015**

Dear Onkar

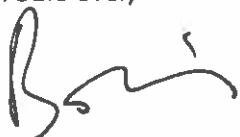
Thank you very much for your letter of 10 November kindly providing me with a copy of the London Assembly Health Committee report, *Healthy minds, healthy Londoners*. I applaud the Assembly for this report, both for taking on this very important issue and for the quality of the recommendations that have been produced.

As you are aware, last year my then Deputy Mayor, Victoria Borwick, published 'London Mental Health: The invisible costs of mental ill health'. This report shed light on the scope and scale of mental ill health in London, to highlight the wider impacts beyond those to health and social care. These wider impacts result in around £26b each year in total economic and social costs to London and impact every facet of our community. We are putting mental health firmly at the heart of our plans to improve Londoners' wellbeing. In any given year, an estimated 1 in 4 individuals will experience a diagnosable mental health condition. A third of these will experience two or more conditions at once. Mental ill health impacts every aspect of a person's life, from their happiness to their relationships, their ability to succeed at work and school, and the opportunity to live the lives they want to live. Across the population, the net effects of these wider impacts substantially affect London's economy, infrastructure and population. Because of this, mental health is not simply an issue for health and social care.

Regarding Recommendation 7, as you know, it is not within my remit to deliver health or social services. However, I do work closely with the NHS, social care and Public Health England on how best to deliver care to Londoners, and it is through this joint work that I feel the Mayor of London offers the greatest value to London's health. The London Health Board will continue to add value best by co-ordinating work between partners who have a more direct role in delivery. In line with Recommendation 6, the London Health Board will be holding a meeting in December, to explore further how it might address mental illness in the capital, for which your report will be useful.

Thank you again for writing to me.

Yours ever,



**Boris Johnson**  
Mayor of London