## **MAYOR OF LONDON**

Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Chair London Assembly Health Committee healthcommitte@london.gov.uk Our ref: MGLA020217-1395

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Jea Orla,

Thank you for the London Assembly Health Committee's findings from the summary report examining LGBT+ mental health in London.

I welcome the Health Committee's wide ranging and valuable investigation into mental health inequalities in the city. I have also now received the findings of the Committee's review into the mental health needs of Deaf and disabled people and I look forward to receiving the findings on review into offender mental health.

In December 2016 I supported the launch of Thrive London, which is a citywide movement that seeks to bring Londoners together and promote extensive citywide conversations on mental health and wellbeing, so that London can unite around a vision that is truly inclusive of London's diverse communities and the range of experiences and needs that they have.

I want to see a London that enables its citizens to lead healthier, happier lives. That means an inclusive London where people's lives are not limited by mental health stigma and discrimination; an empowered London where people have good mental health and wellbeing, and live in mentally healthy communities; and a London where fewer people develop mental health problems and those that do are supported to recover and lead meaningful lives. Through the Thrive London programme, this can become a reality.

Work has been underway on the brand identity for Thrive London; this is set to be launched in May alongside a TfL marketing campaign. In order to create a brand which resonates with Londoners, the brand has been developed and coproduced with broad involvement of London's diverse communities, including LGBT+.

This is really important, as we want to make sure that people are directly involved in shaping Thrive London to ensure that it both appeals to them and meets their needs, especially those who are more likely to experience mental ill health than the wider population.

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Coinciding with the launch of the Thrive London brand in May, there will be a series of engagement activities. This will include events for children and young people, for mental health lived experience champions, as well as a LGBT+ event.

Therefore, I will be seeking the involvement of those who attended the LGBT+ event in October in continuing to support this programme, so that we can work together to better equip mainstream and mental health services to support LGBT+ people to maintain good mental health and wellbeing.

For further information about Thrive London, as well as details about the engagement events, please email <a href="mailto:thrive@london.gov.uk">thrive@london.gov.uk</a>.

Thank you again for sending me the report along with your recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Sadiq Khan

Mayor of London