

MAYOR OF LONDON

Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Chair of the Health Committee
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
More London
London SE1 2AA

Our Ref: MGLA110417-8903

Date: 06 JUL 2017

Dear Onkar,

Once again I would like to thank both yourself and the members of the London Assembly Health Committee for the series of engagement activities that you have delivered in recent months. Particularly, I congratulate you on the excellent investigation on the specific mental health experiences, needs and aspirations for Deaf and disabled people.

I want to see a city where all citizens can live a healthy life. I have always said I am an advocate for disabled Londoners. I am committed to removing barriers to full access and participation. This includes addressing the barriers faced by disabled Londoners in accessing health services that fully meet their needs. My team has been working closely with Deaf and disabled People's organisations to map the range of barriers faced by disabled Londoners and develop practical responses in every area of our work. The needs of disabled Londoners have a prominent place in my Diversity and Inclusion vision and I am keen to continue to engage with Londoners about how to translate this vision into action that improves their lives.

Whilst mental health affects everyone, it does not do so equally and some groups are more likely to experience worse mental health than others. Thrive LDN is clear that it aims to tackle these inequalities. On 4 July I announced Thrive London and enclose a copy of the report. The report outlines some of our first steps, including a number of actions and aspirations to address some of the day-to-day challenges all Londoners face that negatively impact on their mental health.

We now want to have an open conversation with Londoners to come up with more ideas and solutions that will make a difference. I look forward to the final report of the London Health Assembly in the summer that pulls together learning and common themes from each of the areas of focus. These investigations are a valuable source of intelligence and have helped to shape the initial actions and aspirations.

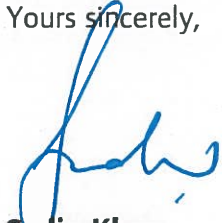
Thrive LDN have been actively involved in some of the Health Committee investigation and I encourage you to discuss the next steps for Thrive LDN and how London Assembly Health Committee Members can join-in and get behind this campaign. There will be many opportunities for all Londoners to engage with Thrive LDN over the summer and to contribute their ideas through the website at: www.london.gov.uk/thriveldn.

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Thrive LDN will be open to all who share our aims and will engage with and support existing networks of local champions and leaders to campaign and take action. We will continue to work with elected members who are taking part in the Mental Health Challenge <http://www.mentalhealthchallenge.org.uk/champions/> and want to see a councillor in each borough making sure that mental health is a priority across London. Should the Health Committee be able to support this challenge then the Thrive LDN team can ensure that the Health Committee is involved in these conversations.

Should you wish to discuss this further, please contact the team by email at thrive@london.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

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