

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]  
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA270418-0677

9 May 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your follow up email regarding your Freedom of Information request (reference MGLA280318-7755) in which you asked for "emails sent or received by the mayor of London from 1.3.18 - 14.3.18 concerning the squat on Great Portland Street".

The GLA provided you with everything it held within scope of your request at the time it was received. Since that time the following response has been sent in relation to MGLA130318-6243:

- I am an ardent supporter of Streets Kitchen who help the homeless at the Sofia Solidarity Centre, 204 Gt Portland Street, London, W1W. Today, they received notification of a court hearing tomorrow with the intention to evict. They are doing all they can to prevent this, but it appears that a Jersey-registered business is about to kick 100 vulnerable homeless people out of a building which has stood empty for 5 years - back onto the street, with nothing and no one. They are doing such brilliant work with these people, please raise this in the House of Commons as a matter of urgency.*
- Response:** *Many thanks for your message regarding 204 Great Portland Street. I am part of the Rough Sleeping Team at the GLA and I have been asked to respond on behalf of the Mayor. Although Westminster City Council are the lead authority regarding this matter, you may have recently seen the Mayor's statement, which was released on social media:*

*"I want to thank all Londoners who have contacted me in regards to the well-being of residents at 204 Great Portland Street. My team have spoken to Westminster Council & we have made a direct offer of my "No Second Night Out" service for those rough sleepers who may be moved on." If you would like to know how the Mayor is supporting those sleeping rough in London I would invite you to read more about the services which he funds (found in this briefing).*

*The Mayor's statement also included a call on national government to invest in services which provide a sustainable route off the streets for people sleeping rough. Although I am unable to comment further on the specifics of this case, I am aware that 204 Great Portland Street is no longer occupied, and as per the Mayor's statement, offers of access to the "No*

*Second Night Out" services were made to all those occupying the building. I hope that this has provided you with some helpful additional information.*

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA270418-0677.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Robinson**  
**Information Governance Officer**

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>