

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA051119-6407

3 December 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 5 November 2019. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act of 2000. My request relates to emails concerning climate change protestors.

I would like to request the following information:

A full log and disclosure of emails by Sadiq Khan on the topic of climate change protestors in London or Extinction Rebellion dated from 1 October 2018 until the latest possible moment. This should include date, recipient and content of the email.

If you need information to be more specific to find these emails, then I'll be happy with any emails that have 'Climate Protestors', 'Climate Change Protestors', 'Climate protests' or 'Extinction Rebellion' quoted in the subject or in the body of the email.

Please find attached the information we hold within the scope of your request: One letter from the Mayor of London to the Chairman of the New West End Company which was sent by email by a member of staff on 18 April 2019. 'Extinction Rebellion' was mentioned in the email title.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA051119-6407.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
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>

MAYOR OF LONDON

Sir Peter Rogers

Chairman

New West End Company

C/o [REDACTED]

Our ref: MGLA170419-0671

Date: 18 APR 2019

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter. Like you, I respect the right to peaceful protest. I also acknowledge that we are facing a climate emergency, and I fully support the right of the protestors to highlight this vital issue.

However, while I have sympathy with their cause, I have been clear that the Extinction Rebellion protestors must consider the impact their actions are having on all Londoners, our communities and businesses, and I continue to urge the organisers to work with police to ensure their demonstrations are peaceful and lawful and that disruption is kept to a minimum.

I am particularly aware of the impact that the current protests are having on business on Oxford Street, and that takings have fallen severely as a result. As you are aware, a notice under Section 14 of the Public Order Act (1986) has been issued in relation to Oxford Circus and the protestors have been instructed that they must assemble at Marble Arch instead. Enforcement of this measure is an operational matter for the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), and I understand you are in contact with the Borough Commander.

My priority in this matter is ensuring that, while those protesting can do so peacefully, they do so in a way that causes as little impact to businesses, Londoners and visitors as possible. I welcome any assistance you and NWECC's member businesses can provide in supporting these aims. I will continue to work closely with the MPS and other agencies to minimise disruption and would urge you to continue to liaise closely with the Borough Commander. This ongoing situation once again highlights the strain the Met is under as a result of the Government's cuts to its funding.

I also believe it is vital that we work together to highlight the fact that the West End, and indeed all areas of London, are open for business. As you know, I have already backed up these words with action – through committing £600k funding and commissioning London and Partners to bring together a consortium of businesses to help promote London to a domestic audience – and your involvement in that has been particularly appreciated. While I appreciate these protests will cause some disruption, I would like to reassure you that the Police are working hard to ensure that London remains open for business and to visitors. If there is anything you feel I can do further to promote this message, I welcome your advice.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan

Mayor of London