

15th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time 13th October 2022

This is my fourteenth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 2 September – 29 September 2022.

Please note that the information in the Mayor's Report is accurate at the time of publishing.

Executive Summary

Leading the GLA through the period of national period and funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

While the country was in mourning, the GLA coordinated successful partnership working between London agencies and central government to ensure that the events during the period were delivered safely and compassionately. It was the epitome of the best of government at all levels, and our partners, working together.

I am immensely proud of the work of GLA officers during the delivery of Operation London Bridge. The dedication, long hours and expertise officers gave during this time ensured that Londoners, visitors and international dignitaries were able to honour the life and service of Her Majesty safely and with dignity. In particular, I am grateful to the work of officers in the Palestra Event Liaison Facility (PELF) and the London Coordination Centre (LCC), who I visited and thanked with Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

I was pleased to represent the GLA and London on the daily meetings chaired by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, during which I updated ministers on London's preparedness and response over the period.

I was also incredibly proud to represent Londoners at Her Majesty The Queen's state funeral, to honour her life and service to our country.

Service of Remembrance for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

I was honoured to join Assembly Members in welcoming guests, including Council Leaders, Members of Parliament and Faith Leaders, to a special service of remembrance for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at City Hall, on 13 September.

The nation and the world came together to mourn the extraordinary service of our Queen, who served for 70 years with unrivalled grace, dignity, and purpose. I am immensely proud to have served as Mayor of London while Queen Elizabeth II was our monarch. I know Londoners, and people across the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, are immensely proud and grateful for what she achieved for us all over so many years.

Keeping London safe during the period of national mourning and funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

I'm incredibly proud of the work of our police officers, security services and all those who contributed to keeping London safe throughout the period of national mourning following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. On 17 September, I was honoured to join Sir Mark Rowley, Dame Lynne Owens, and new Home Secretary Suella Braverman MP to welcome His Majesty the King and the Prince of Wales on a visit to the Met's Special Operations Room as they gave their personal thanks to some of the people and teams involved in the policing operation.

This has been the largest policing event that the Metropolitan Police Service has ever undertaken, and, together with hundreds of officers from other forces from across the country they have worked tirelessly to support Londoners and the hundreds of thousands of visitors to our capital. It is thanks to their efforts and the work of our transport workers, armed forces personnel, civil servants, health workers and mass of volunteers, that we have been able to say goodbye to our longest serving monarch in a manner that befitted her extraordinary reign.

Keeping the city moving during the period of national mourning and funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

I'm extremely grateful to Andy Byford and his team of all the staff at TfL for working around the clock to help keep our city moving – not least the thousands of staff who volunteered as travel ambassadors, showing tremendous commitment as they helped passengers to get around the capital.

To all those who turned up in their thousands to bear witness to and be part what was a remarkable day for the Capital, thanks for your patience and understanding as Andy and his team worked to help people get to where they needed to be and to travel home safely after paying their respects.

Volunteer support for Operation London Bridge

Following the announcement on 8 September 2022 of the death of Her Majesty The Queen, my Civil Society and Sport Team mobilised their plans to support Operation London Bridge. This team supported by providing on the ground volunteer support from Saturday 9 September to Wednesday 21 September 2022. In this period, my Civil Society and Sport Team deployed a total of 1,599 individuals over 2,816 shifts. Those completing shifts included 354 GLA staff, who were redeployed from Saturday 9 September to provide immediate help to The Royal Parks in supporting the floral tribute sites in Green Park and Hyde Park, and who also acted as Team Leaders, responsible for the welfare of groups of volunteers throughout deployment. 1,245 volunteers also attended shifts across the period. This volunteer pool was comprised of my Major Events and Team London Ambassador Volunteers, as well as volunteers from the London Marathon, Citizens Advice, the Corporation of London, Transport for London, the London Fire Brigade, Volunteering Matters, RE; ACT and Girlguiding UK.

My volunteers were deployed across the event footprint and grey spaces (transport hubs and routes) to be the welcoming and dignified face of London during this time of mourning.

They provided information and wayfinding services, as well as working with voluntary sector agencies, to identify and signpost members of the public who were in need of emotional or bereavement support, or medical assistance. My Civil Society and Sport Team worked with Cruse, the British Red Cross, the Salvation Army and the Samaritans to provide on the ground specialist support. My team operated out of eight churches which were set up and operational as welfare centres, for volunteer teams and our voluntary sector agencies to deploy from.

Free travel for TfL contract workers

On 25 September I announced that I have asked Transport for London to extend free travel on the capital's public transport for the lowest paid contract workers, as the cost of living spirals.

At a time when the cost of living is increasing, and Londoners on the lowest incomes are being hit the hardest, I am doing all I can to ease the pressure being faced by the lowest paid transport workers.

These 5,000 workers – cleaners, catering staff, security staff – weren't previously able to access this benefit as they are employed by TfL's suppliers rather than by TfL directly.

I have also asked TfL to look into whether sick-pay standards for the lowest paid workers could be improved in future, and to conduct work early next year to assess TfL's ability to bring cleaning services in house.

Policing, Crime and Security

Welcoming the new MPS Commissioner, Sir Mark Rowley

On 12 September, I welcomed Sir Mark Rowley as he took office as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service. He not only took over as Commissioner at a momentous time for our nation, but at a critical juncture in the history of the Metropolitan Police Service, which is facing some extremely difficult challenges.

I look forward to working with Sir Mark to make London even safer and working closely with him to deliver more trust, less crime and higher standards - as I continue to hold the Met to account.

Independent investigation following the death of Chris Kaba

The Independent Office for Police Conduct has launched a homicide investigation into the fatal shooting of Chris Kaba by an MPS officer in Streatham Hill on 5 September. My heartfelt sympathies remain with Chris Kaba's family, friends and loved ones, who are having to come to terms with a young life cut short.

I've said from the outset that the IOPC must go wherever the evidence takes them and they have a duty to examine all the factors involved without fear or favour. I hope they can do so as swiftly as possible.

I fully understand the grave concerns and impact of Chris Kaba's death on Black Londoners across our city and the anger, pain and fear it has caused across our communities – as well as the desire for justice and change.

The IOPC have confirmed to me that they are fully committed to carrying out a thorough and comprehensive investigation to establish all of the facts – with all key findings made public. I'm clear that the independent investigation must be fearless and leave no stone unturned.

Condemning the violent attack on two police officers in Soho

The violent attack on two serving police officers in Soho on 16 September was utterly appalling. These brave officers were doing their duty and assisting the public at a momentous time for our country. My thoughts and prayers remain with them, their loved ones and police colleagues as they recover from this disgraceful attack.

Our police officers run towards danger to protect others and keep us safe and we owe them a huge debt of gratitude. Attacks against the police will not be tolerated and any perpetrators will be caught and prosecuted.

I spoke with Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley following awful incident and remain in close contact. A man has been arrested, charged and remanded in custody for these offences, and will appear in court next month.

Transport

London's Transport Commissioner Andy Byford set to leave TfL

On 22 September, Transport for London announced that London's Transport Commissioner, Andy Byford, will be leaving the organisation to resume life in the United States, having delivered against the priorities he set at the start of his tenure – to get the Elizabeth line opened without any further delay, and to lead TfL out of the financial crisis caused by the pandemic. Byford will leave TfL at the end of October, closing out a 33 year public service career, with current Chief Operating Officer Andy Lord taking on the role of Commissioner on an interim basis.

Andy Byford deserves huge thanks for his hard work and dedication, leading TfL through an exceptional time in its history.

From keeping the city moving during the COVID-19 pandemic, to the historic opening of the Elizabeth line this year, Andy has provided Londoners with an exceptional service and his work has ensured that despite the challenges we have faced, our public transport network remains world-class.

I'm grateful to Andy Lord for stepping into the role of interim Transport Commissioner. Andy brings with him a wealth of experience and commitment to leading our city's public transport network, and the recruitment for the new permanent Commissioner will commence shortly.

I want to thank Andy Byford for his service to Londoners and, as he and his wife move back to the United States, I wish them all the very best.

New DLR timetable promises quicker, easier and more comfortable journeys

Customers are enjoying quicker, easier, and more comfortable journeys across the DLR network following the introduction of a new timetable from Monday 26 September.

The changes will help people access housing, employment, and leisure opportunities more easily across Docklands and east London.

Since the opening of the Elizabeth line in May and with people travelling to the office and leisure activities more frequently, the way customers use the DLR has changed.

The new timetable will help ensure there are more trains available where people need them.

Three temporary roads schemes in London to be made permanent, with the number of people cycling boosted

Transport for London has announced that it will be making three cycling schemes introduced during the pandemic permanent, following public consultations.

During the pandemic, TfL worked with councils to make it easier for people to walk and cycle safely across the capital. Many of these schemes have since been kept in place on an experimental basis, to allow for data to be gathered and to allow people to have their say on how the schemes have performed.

The new lanes were introduced to separate people cycling from motor traffic. The schemes that are being retained are:

- Cycleway 4 on Tooley Street in Southwark, where a new protected cycle lane was installed to make it easier for people to travel between existing cycle routes in the area, including on London Bridge and towards Greenwich
- Cycleway 8 between Chelsea Bridge and Wandsworth Town Centre. New sections of protected cycle lane and a new section of bus lane were installed to make it easier for people to travel between southwest and central London. A banned turned was also introduced from York Road into York Place
- Cycleway 7 between Elephant & Castle and Oval, where new 24-hour bus lanes were introduced.

More than five million journeys made on the Northern Line Extension to Battersea in its first year

The Northern Line Extension has clocked more than five million passenger journeys since it opened a year ago, according to Transport for London's latest data.

The doors to the extension's two new Tube stations, at Nine Elms and Battersea Power Station, opened on 20 September 2021. Since then, the two new step-free Zone 1 stations have given a huge boost to the area's connectivity, reducing journey times and helping to support the ongoing delivery of around 25,000 new jobs and more than 20,000 new homes.

Battersea Power Station is the busier of the two new stations with approximately 80,000 trips per week and almost 15,000 trips routinely recorded on the busiest day of the week (Wednesday). Nine Elms station attracts more than 40,000 trips each week and almost 8,000 trips on the busiest day. In June, TfL doubled the frequency of trains on the extension, from six to 12 trains per hour during peak times, and from five to 10 trains per hour at off-peak times.

I'm delighted that one year on from opening, the Northern Line Extension has seen more than five million journeys made. As London continues to recover from the pandemic, it's vital that we encourage people back on to our public transport in order to make a cleaner, greener and better London for everyone. The two new stations on the Northern Line are at the heart of these efforts – the Northern Line Extension has improved the links between these south London neighbourhoods and the rest of the capital, cut journey times, and played an important role in drawing people back onto the network.

Fire and Resilience

London Resilience Forum Oversight and Strategy Group

On 8 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, chaired a meeting of the London Resilience Forum Oversight and Strategy Group.

Visit to London Fire Brigade's Operational Response Team

On 13 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, visited London Fire Brigade's Operational Response Team to thank them for their work on Operation London Bridge.

Visit to London Control Centre

On 15 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, visited the London Control Centre to thank the teams working to support Operation London Bridge.

Power Industry - Winter Preparedness

On 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, met with UK Power Networks, to discuss winter preparedness in the power industry.

Meeting with London Fire Commissioner

On 28 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, and I met with the London Fire Commissioner for our regular discussion on matters relating to the London Fire Brigade.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

Raise the Barn

On 18 September, the Good Growth Fund supported 'Raise the Barn' project launched at Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses, LB Lambeth. I invested £160,000 in the new classroom and kitchen training barn which supports increased education programmes, volunteering opportunities, skills workshops, community events and school visits. For example healthy cooking courses for SEND students and horticulture workshops about sustainable growing.

Located in Brockwell Park, the new and refurbished spaces also accommodate the Learning Yard; an enclosed outdoor play space, as well as additional volunteer facilities, improved access and year-round amenities. This project is an example of community led regeneration and meaningful collaboration with partners.

Response to the Department for Education’s Funding and Accountability consultation

On 21 September the GLA responded to the Department for Education’s (DfE) consultation on ‘Implementing a new Further Education funding and accountability system’ on my behalf. The response welcomes the introduction of a new ‘Single Skills Fund’, including the Adult Education Budget and Free Courses for Jobs, but calls for this to be widened to include Traineeships, Skills Bootcamps and the People and Skills Element of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The response also emphasises the importance of resetting and building a closer relationship between the DfE and City Hall to deliver adult education more effectively for Londoners and London’s economy. The response also makes it clear that City Hall and other devolved authorities should retain autonomy for setting and assessing local performance objectives, in line with the local needs of learners and businesses, including measuring the social outcomes of learning. This is a second stage consultation, and the [GLA responded](#) to the first stage consultation last year.

Housing

Deputy Mayor presents award at Housing Design Awards

On 20 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing & Residential Development, Tom Copley presented an award to the London Borough of Camden for their ground-breaking Agar Grove development.

The Housing Design Awards were created in 1948 by Government to drive quality during the rebuild of post-war Britain, with a focus on health. The initiative was part of the creation of the NHS, the aim being free health care and healthier homes.

Agar Grove is the largest of Camden Council’s community investment projects. It will provide 500 genuinely affordable homes for new and existing tenants, and once complete will be Passivhaus accredited promoting a ‘fabric-first’ approach to energy performance and human comfort - at the time of planning permission Agar Grove was the largest Passivhaus scheme in the country.

Deputy Mayor launches Small Sites x Small Builders report

On 23 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing & Residential Development, Tom Copley launched a report into the Mayor’s Small sites x Small Builders Programme.

The report explores the small sites opportunity for London, and the barriers to delivery which must be overcome to enable more homes to be built on small sites. The research in the report will inform all those involved in small sites delivery, including public and private landowners, policymakers, small builders and developers, and built environment professionals. The benefits of the Small Sites x Small Builders programme were recognised in the Kerslake Review, which recommended for its continuation and expansion as part of the GLA Group’s strategy for housing delivery

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

The Government's Fiscal Statement

On 23 September, I issued a statement in response to the Government's fiscal statement, and the lack of support for families and businesses who need it most. The measures announced are not only unfair, but will put public finances on an unsustainable footing, which we are already seeing and risks harming our economy for years to come.

As the country grapples with the worst cost of living crisis in decades, the Chancellor prioritised massive unfunded tax giveaways for the wealthy, rather than helping those households that are really struggling.

The Chancellor could have made a real difference to millions of Londoners by providing free school meals to all primary school children, uplifting Universal Credit and ensuring that the most vulnerable receive a basic amount of free energy. He should also have given me the power to freeze private rents in London, which would save people £3,000 over two years. Instead the Government has chosen to bring in an swathe of tax cuts that they admit will disproportionately benefit the most wealthy in society.

London Covid Business Forum

On 6 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, chaired a London Covid Business Forum meeting on my behalf to discuss the rising cost of doing business and how we can support the business response to the energy emergency. Forum members were also updated with the initial results of my Let's Do London international campaign and the GLA-led Love London domestic tourism campaign.

Environment

Cities Climate Investment Commission (3Ci) Advisory Board meeting

On 7 September my Deputy Chief of Staff, Richard Watts, attended the Cities Climate Investment Commission's (3Ci) Advisory Board as a representative for both London and the M10 Combined Authorities. The 3Ci's founder members are Connected Catapult, London Councils and the Core Cities Group and their aim is to aggregate and optimise opportunities for sustainable investment into net zero cities. My Deputy Chief of Staff attended the meeting to provide a London and M10 perspective on their approach to financing net zero, ensuring they are aware of our work, approach and ambitions in the green finance space, and to help shape the design and approach of their programme.

Sheila Watson, FIA Foundation Catch Up

On 15 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with FIA Foundation's Deputy Director of Environment and Research, Sheila Watson, for a catch-up to share knowledge, explore opportunities for future collaborations and build on the successes of previous joint projects.

Call with Mayor of Buenos Aires – Horacio Laretta

On 20 September, I spoke with Horacio Laretta, Mayor of Buenos Aires, ahead of the C40 meeting in his city to discuss plans to ensure a successful summit.

Community and Social Policy

WIN Event: ‘A Journey Towards Inclusion: Young, Black and Talented’

On 28 September, my Deputy Mayor Debbie Weekes-Bernard attended ‘A Journey Towards Inclusion: Young, Black and Talented’ at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, an event organised as part of my Workforce Integration Network (WIN) programme in partnership with Moving on Up.

The event was attended by 100 people and brought together young black men looking to enter or progress in the Construction, Tech and Finance sectors and employers and senior leaders looking to advance workforce diversity across London, including Bola Abisogun OBE FRICS and Jeremy Crook OBE.

Insights from a forthcoming supplementary resource to my Inclusive Employers Toolkit were shared through a lively panel discussion, in order to give employers the tools and motivation they need to take further meaningful action and shift the dial on workforce diversity. Young black men also had the opportunity to discover opportunities and pathways into the sectors and hold honest discussions with employers about the barriers they face.

I also contributed a video message reiterating my commitment to the WIN programme and highlighting the importance of working in partnership to tackle structural racism in work and build a fairer, more equal and more inclusive London.

Children and Young Londoners

Response to government consultations on early education and childcare

My Children and Young Londoners Team responded to two government consultations on early education and childcare, which both closed on 16 September.

The first of these covered childcare regulatory changes, including the government’s much publicised plan to relax staff: child ratios for two-year-olds in England. I am deeply concerned about this proposal, which could detrimentally impact the quality of early education on offer for children, including the most vulnerable. Relaxing ratios would place additional strain on an already struggling workforce. What’s more, there is limited evidence to support the government’s claim that it would reduce childcare costs for parents.

The government's second consultation set out intended changes to the early years funding formulae, including a long-overdue proposal to update the data used to calculate funding rates, plus additional investment in maintained nursery schools to create a fairer distribution of supplementary funding. I welcome these practical changes; however, the government must recognise that the proposals put forward do not go far enough to address years of chronic underfunding for the early years sector, which have been compounded by the devastating effects of the pandemic and now the cost-of-living crisis.

The government must listen to feedback from both consultations and take wholesale action to ensure the viability of our essential early years providers. This includes ensuring quality provision is accessible for all families, addressing the ongoing workforce crisis and providing adequate and long-term funding for the sector.

Young Londoners Fund project visit

On 29 September, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, was delighted to visit the 'Roads to Community' project, run by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The project, funded by my Young Londoners Fund, has reached over 1,700 young people so far and takes a community development approach to meet the challenges of youth safety across the borough.

The programme provides a variety of activities delivered by local youth organisations including detached youth work, boxing, mentoring and leadership opportunities for young people and an enterprise development programme.

Culture

Design Medal Award Dinner and Designing London's Futures Key Not

On 26 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended this year's Design Medal Award Dinner, part of the London Design Festival which I fund through my Creative Economy Growth Programme. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the annual London Design Festival, now replicated in countries all over the world. The awards ceremony recognised some of London's world-leading design talents: Yinka Ilori, Peter Adjaye and Gaika as well as photographer, Sir Don McCullin, who received the lifetime achievement medal.

London Fashion Week, Burberry Spring Summer Event

On 26 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE attended a Burberry fashion show as part of London Fashion Week, run by the British Fashion Council, which I provide an annual grant fund to, as part of my Creative Economy Growth Programme. The event was Burberry's first in-person show since the pandemic and celebrated the brand's British heritage, innovation and craftsmanship. This year London Fashion Week and London Fashion Week Men's are expected to generate £50 million for British designers, the majority of which are small businesses.

14th Fourth Plinth Unveiling

On 28 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE unveiled the 14th Fourth Plinth commission in Trafalgar Square. The new sculpture, 'Antelope' by Samson Kambalu restages a photograph of Malawian preacher and pan-Africanist John Chilembwe and European missionary John Chorley taken in 1914 outside Chilembwe's church in Malawi. In the photograph Chilembwe is wearing a hat, defying the colonial rule that forbade Africans from wearing hats in front of white people. The sculpture was selected in 2021 from six works exhibited at the National Gallery. The sculpture will remain on the Fourth Plinth for two years.

Civil Society and Sport

London refugee programme

On 23 September I announced funding for a London refugee programme focused on getting more female refugee and asylum seekers into sport through football. This is part of the legacy work that we will be doing with partners following on from this summer's Women's EURO 2022. The project will be run by Queens Park Rangers Community Trust and is jointly funded project with the FA and Middlesex FA.

Health

Public Health Response: COVID-19, Monkeypox, Poliovirus

My new GLA Group Public Health Unit has continued to brief me on the current situation in London on coronavirus, monkeypox and polio.

I was encouraged by the continuing decrease in the percentage of people testing positive for COVID-19 across all age groups, and that the number of patients in hospital with COVID-19 had dropped again to similar levels seen in late May/early June. However, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) said in July that winter remains the season when the threat from COVID-19 is greatest and that a wave of influenza infections was also to be expected. This could pose increased risks to the health of individuals and to the NHS.

I understand that since my briefing the reproduction number (R-value) has increased slightly, and there has been a slight uptick in reported cases – which is not surprising since pupils have returned to school. I will therefore be encouraging all eligible Londoners to take up the offer of the autumn 2022 booster vaccine (4th dose) when called. Two new 'bivalent' vaccines (which target two different coronavirus variants) are being offered to those coming forward.

On monkeypox, I'm also encouraged by the continued decline in new cases, and that supplies of vaccine had been front-loaded to London, as a high proportion of England cases were London residents. I heard that concerns had been escalated to the senior leadership of NHS England and the UK Health Security Agency about the speed of rollout of smallpox vaccines. Further supplies are expected later in September.

Following the identification of poliovirus in London, and the campaign to give boosters to all 1–9-year-olds in London, NHS London has been promoting uptake with a wide range of communications at regional level, supported locally. Specific targeted work has been taken to improve uptake in underserved communities, including some BAME and inclusion health groups.

Active London: Places and Spaces

On 21 September, my Health Advisor Dr Tom Coffey delivered a speech at the 'Active London: Places and Spaces' conference which focused on health inequalities, design of active environments, and children and young people.

His speech included a look at how important physical activity is to Londoners' mental and physical health, and how active travel can be incorporated into our daily routines. He also highlighted that inequalities can impact how accessible certain types of physical activity can be – even the most equitable form, like active travel. More importantly, he took the opportunity to highlight what we're doing at City Hall - alongside all of our partners – to promote and support healthy behaviours that ultimately transform Londoners' health through our creation of healthy environments.

He included examples of some of our flagship programmes and policies, which are working to address the environmental hazards that threaten the most disadvantaged Londoners' health, including School Superzones and the restriction of unhealthy food adverts across the TfL estate. Finally, he took the opportunity to discuss our current work in partnership with TfL, the NHS, London Boroughs, and the VCSE which will both improve the physical health of Londoners and have a big impact on the environment, for example on air pollution.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

Park Royal Design District, Creative Enterprise Zone launch

On Friday 23 September, hundreds of artists, creatives and makers gathered to launch Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) and Ealing Council's new Creative Enterprise Zone.

Unveiled by Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, the event was a prominent moment in the Park Royal Design District's three-day celebration of the annual London Design Festival.

The Acton and Park Royal Creative Enterprise Zone will unlock unique opportunities for homegrown creative industries, artists and businesses by shining a light and driving investment into the amazing creative talent the area holds. The Creative Enterprise Zone will also provide much-needed funding to kick-start creative projects and includes a small grants programme to deliver affordable community and creative space.

The Acton and Park Royal Creative Enterprise Zone is one of nine zones across London which will benefit from £800,000 of Mayoral funding to kick-start jobs, training and affordable workspace for creatives. The ground-breaking initiative has already established nearly 1,000 creative apprenticeships, training and work placements across London, and by 2025 will have increased new, permanent, affordable workspace by more than 65,000sqm.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Future of LLDC

Early in September, I approved a 'reset LLDC' model of operation, which will take effect from April 1, 2025. The removal of its town-planning functions will happen on December 1, 2024. LLDC will then continue with a reconstituted Board and governance structure.

Your Neighbourhood Talks

LLDC's biannual community engagement event took place on September 27. Your Neighbourhood Talks is designed to bring local people together to consider key issues and opportunities relating to Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. September's event centred on the theme of opportunity and gave stallholders a chance to showcase and talk about the wide range of businesses and organisations that call the Park home. The stallholders were split into themes of opportunity: Young people, sustainability, employment and skills, local business, health and wellbeing, and neighbourhood and venues. Your Neighbourhood Talks allows local people to come together and share their thoughts about the Park.

STEP applications open

Applications for LLDC's Shared Training and Employment Programme have opened for this year. The programme, which is delivered through the Good Growth Hub, helps connect local people with local businesses in the creative or cultural sector. Those on the yearly programme get paid, as a minimum, the London Living Wage. The 12-month programme, which is designed to help those on it get a foot in the door of the creative industry, has already benefited about 70 people. Ten places are available for this year's programme.

Planning

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, under powers delegated to him by the Mayor, sent a letter in response to the following statutory stage 2 referrals. The Deputy Mayor informed the relevant Local Planning Authorities that he was content for them to determine the case itself.

GLA Reference number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Decision
2020/6279	9, 40-45 Herringham Road, 55 New Lyndenberg Street, Units 1-32 New Lyndenberg Commercial Estate	Greenwich	15/09/2022	Allow LPA to approve
2022/0028	57-59 Lombard Road SW11 3RX	Wandsworth	12/09/2022	Allow LPA to refuse
2022/0580	Agar Grove	Camden	15/09/2022	Allow LPA to approve
2022/0296	Ibis Budget London City Airport	Newham	15/09/2022	Allow LPA to approve
2021/1090	Pike Close	Bromley	15/09/2022	Allow LPA to approve
2021/1089	Land Comprising Public Car Park, Business Premises, Roads And Adjacent Land Lying To The North West And Rear Of The Green And Adjoining Featherstone Terrace, Dominion Road And Dilloway Yard, Southall, UB2	Ealing	05/09/2022	Allow LPA to approve

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

I have asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

GLA reference	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Comments/decision
2022/0625	Hambrough Tavern	Ealing	26/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0701	St James's Market 2	Westminster	27/09/2022	No Strategic Issues
2022/0617	Dean Bradley House	Westminster	26/09/2022	Complies with the London Plan
2022/0662	Garfield House	Westminster	22/09/2022	No Strategic Issues
2022/0627	Bridge Point Enterprise East, Former Muller Factory	Barking and Dagenham	15/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0665	Camden Goods Yard	Camden	07/09/2022	No Strategic Issues
2022/0608	Sherwood Close (Former Dean Gardens Estate) - Phase 3	Ealing	12/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0578	The Albion	Greenwich	12/09/2022	Does not comply with the London Plan
2022/0582	Development House	Hackney	12/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0616	Land to the south of St Mary's Lane	Havering	15/09/2022	Does not comply with the London Plan
2022/0571	238 Kennington Lane, SE11 5RD	Lambeth	05/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0574	Development At Sainsburys 55, Roden Street, Ilford	Redbridge	15/09/2022	Does not fully comply with the London Plan
2022/0680	Development Site At Car Park And 706 To 720, High Road, Goodmayes, Ilford	Redbridge	13/09/2022	No Strategic Issues
2022/0642	9 Osier Way, Leyton, London, E10 5SB	Waltham Forest	15/09/2022	No Strategic Issues

Planning Decisions (Stopping Up Order)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, under powers delegated to him by the Mayor, has sent a letter giving comments about the following stopping up order referral:

GLA reference	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Comments/decision
2022/0663	Highway at/land adjacent to Little Strand, Grahame Park NW9 (Stopping Up Order No.1 2022)	Barnet	26/09/2022	Do not hold Inquiry

Key Engagements

Among my additional engagements since my last report were the following:

- I joined the London Fire Brigade for their new equipment showcase on 1 September
- I held my regular meeting with TfL on 6 September
- I met with Sir Mark Rowley on 6 September
- I had a phone call with Director of the IOPC, Michael Lockwood, on 7 September
- I had a phone call with Acting Met Commissioner, Stephen House, on 8 September
- I met with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Nadhim Zahawi, on 8 September
- I met with TfL to discuss Operation London Bridge on 8 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 8 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 9 September
- I joined a national service of reflection at St Paul's Cathedral on 9 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 10 September
- I attended the Reading of the Principal Proclamation at the Royal Exchange on 10 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 12 September
- I met with TfL for an Operation London Bridge update on 12 September
- I spoke at the GLA Official Service of Remembrance on 13 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 13 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 14 September
- I met with the new Met Police Commissioner, Sir Mark Rowley, on 14 September
- I visited the TfL Operation London Bridge control room on 14 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 15 September
- I visited Westminster Hall to pay my respects to Queen Elizabeth II Laying in State on 15 September
- I attended a COBR meeting of Operation London Bridge on 16 September
- I hosted the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Nadhim Zahawi, at the TfL Operation London Bridge operations room on 16 September
- I joined His Majesty the King on a visit to the Met Police Control Room on 17 September
- I attended the State Funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 19 September
- I chaired a meeting of the GLA Adult Education Board on 20 September
- I met with the Mayor of Buenos Aires, Horacio Laretta on 20 September
- I hosted the TfL Vision Zero listening session with victims of road trauma on 21 September
- I made a visited to a local London Living Wage employer on 22 September.
- I attended the Labour Party Conference 24-27 September