

4th Mayor's Report to the Assembly MQT – 14 September 2016

This is my fourth Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the 7th July – 31st August.

Executive Summary

First 100 days in office

On 16 August, I outlined my ambition to provide every Londoner with the opportunities the city gave me and my family as I marked my first 100 days in office.

I also expressed my determination to maintain the fast pace of work I have brought to City Hall and I am intent on delivering major improvements for Londoners.

In my first 100 days in office I have already:

- Put together the most ambitious plan to tackle air pollution anywhere in the world.
- Published the first ever gender pay audit at City Hall and a real plan to tackle pay inequality.
- Overseen the launch of the Night Tube.
- Announced a TfL fares freeze for four years – and pushed the Government to freeze the fares on their lines.
- Announced the Hopper bus fare
- Blocked plans to develop on London's vital greenbelt
- Begun building my Homes for Londoners team to ensure there are genuinely affordable homes to rent and buy.
- Focused on real neighbourhood policing – announcing an extra dedicated police officer in every ward by 2017.
- Launched a terror preparedness review into London's ability to respond to a major terrorist incident.
- Introduced Low emission bus zones – with clean bus lanes secured in some of the most polluted areas of London.
- Supported arts and culture – begun working on plans for London's first cultural enterprise zone.

The EU referendum result announced shortly after my election presented me with an extra challenge. As part of the response to that challenge I have launched the #LondonIsOpen campaign – to show that our city will always be outward looking and open to the world.

#LondonIsOpen campaign

On 18 July, I launched a major campaign to show that London is united and open for business and to the world following the EU referendum.

#LondonIsOpen is showing the world that London remains entrepreneurial, international, and full of creativity and possibility, while reassuring the more than one million foreign nationals

who live in London that they will always be welcome, and that any form of discrimination will not be tolerated.

A second dedicated PC in every London ward

On 21 July, I provided clear evidence that I am putting the capital's communities at the heart of my policing strategy by announcing that there will be a second dedicated Police Constable in every London ward by the end of 2017.

The newly dedicated ward officers will be drawn from existing non-dedicated neighbourhood roles and will be 'ring-fenced' from being called away to other duties. At the moment there is just one dedicated PC and one dedicated PCSO in most wards.

Launch of the Night Tube

On 19 August, I was delighted to launch the 24 hour weekend Night Tube services. I launched the new service in the early hours of Saturday morning, travelling from Brixton on the first Victoria Line Night Tube. I'm pleased that the first weekend of service saw around 100,000 passengers using the Night Tube on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 August.

London Devolution Summit

On 14 July, I hosted a summit of political and business leaders from across London as I began forging an ambitious new cross-party consensus on further devolution to London.

The aim was to reach a broad agreement on a more ambitious push for further devolution to London Government in the aftermath of the EU referendum result.

Policing, Crime and Security

Tackling hate crime on public transport

On 8 July, I pledged to work with the capital's police forces to tackle hate crime on London's transport network.

Since the EU referendum result there has been a rise in reports of racist or xenophobic abuse in the capital, and I am urging Londoners to "stand together" in support of a campaign that targets all hate crime on public transport.

The #WeStandTogether campaign has been adopted by police forces in London and around the country to co-ordinate awareness of hate crimes and efforts to tackle them. It makes it clear that behaviour where someone is targeted or made to feel uncomfortable on their journey because they are different will not be tolerated.

The #WeStandTogether campaign encourages anyone who witnesses or is the victim of any kind of hate crime on London's transport network to report it to the police. People can report an incident discreetly by texting 61016 from a mobile phone or by calling 101. In an emergency they should call 999.

There are also contact details available for anyone who feels uncomfortable speaking to the police about a hate crime incident. They can visit report-it.org.uk where reports can be submitted that are anonymous. Anti-Muslim incidents can also be reported at Tell MAMA on 0800 456 1226, WhatsApp 0734 184 6086 or at tellmamauk.org. And for antisemitic incidents CST can be called on 0208 457 9999 or reported at cst.org.uk.

Putting young victims at the heart of work to tackle knife crime

On 13 July, whilst visiting specialist youth workers at St Mary's hospital in Paddington, I made clear that I am putting London's most vulnerable young victims at the heart of my plans to tackle knife crime, as I announced £400,000 in funding for projects across the capital.

In the last two years knife crime in London has increased by 16 per cent and I am determined to tackle this grave threat to young lives. I have therefore given the green light to the allocation of £400,000 for two London Resettlement Consortia projects which offer support for vulnerable young offenders across 12 London boroughs.

I also revealed plans for a City Hall Knife Crime Summit aimed at giving young people a voice and bringing together experts, community members and project workers to find a better way of dealing with the problem and help stop young people from making the choices that lead them into violence.

A second dedicated PC in every London ward

On 21 July, I provided clear evidence that I am putting the capital's communities at the heart of my policing strategy by announcing that there will be a second dedicated Police Constable in every London ward by the end of 2017.

Dedicated ward officers, both known to the community and by the community, are the first step in my new approach to re-establish real neighbourhood policing. It means stronger relations between Londoners and their police officers, where local communities are served by dedicated officers they know and trust, and who understand the area and people they police.

Alongside the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, I announced that all of London's 629 wards will have two dedicated ward PCs and a dedicated Police Community Support Officer by the end of next year. More than half of London will benefit by the end of this year, with 260 newly dedicated ward officers in place across all boroughs by Christmas.

The newly dedicated ward officers will be drawn from existing non-dedicated neighbourhood roles and will be 'ring-fenced' from being called away to other duties. At the moment there is just one dedicated PC and one dedicated PCSO in most wards.

Launch of £1.3m restorative justice service

On 26 August, I launched a new £1.3m support programme led by victims of crime, and for victims of crime, to cut reoffending rates and help victims recover and move on with their lives.

Londoners who have been affected by crime will have the chance to meet their offender if they wish, in an approach which has already proved successful in helping victims to recover from their ordeal and also reduced reoffending rates.

The first ever Pan-London Restorative Justice programme is the UK's single biggest restorative justice commission and will offer access at every stage of the criminal justice system. The approach holds offenders to account for what they have done, helping them understand the impact of their crime and make amends to their victims.

The move follows a poll conducted by Ipsos MORI during March/April 2015 which found that 46 per cent of victims would want to meet their offender, however current service access across London is inconsistent. This new London-wide programme will complement and enhance existing services, filling gaps in provision and operating alongside criminal justice procedures.

MOPAC has appointed Restore: London, a non-profit consortium led by social business Catch22, to develop the London-wide initiative. Together with key partners, the consortium aims to raise awareness of restorative justice among victims and offenders, improve access to services and victim satisfaction, increase referral speed and develop information-sharing between agencies. They will develop the programme in detail over the coming months.

Restore: London has begun recruiting a steering group to oversee and evaluate the programme. Once appointed, the new steering group will use the next few months to assess borough demand for the project and develop an operational model, with the programme set to roll out across the capital early next year.

Transport

Night Tube Launch

On 19 August, I was delighted to launch the start of 24 hour weekend Night Tube services. I launched the new service in the early hours of Saturday morning, travelling from Brixton on the first Victoria Line Night Tube. I'm pleased that the first weekend of service saw around 100,000 passengers using the Night Tube on Friday 19 and Saturday 20 August.

The services are now running on the Central and Victoria lines, cutting late-night journey times by an average of 20 minutes, and in some cases by more than hour. I am also pleased to announce that on 7 October the Jubilee line will now become the third active Night Tube service.

The new service will help Londoners get to work or get home at night quickly, safely and affordably, and will particularly benefit people working shifts early in the morning or late at night.

Figures from TfL show that more than 50 per cent of people using Night Buses are going to or returning from work – many of whom will benefit directly from the Night Tube. To meet the expected demand for Night Tube services, there will be six trains per hour through central London on all Night Tube lines between 00:30 and 05:30.

The Night Tube will also play a vital role in showing the world that London Is Open by boosting the capital's economy by £77m a year, supporting around 2,000 permanent jobs and opening up London's night-time economy to a host of new opportunities.

An investment by TfL of an extra £3.4 million towards policing for the Night Tube will see around 100 officers out on the network when full services are underway, with at least as many officers out during the night as would be seen during the day.

A state-of-the-art BTP Control Centre is co-located with London Underground's Control Centre, both of which operate 24-hours a day, meaning that any incident can be spotted and responded to quickly. Officers will be supported by BTP rapid-response vehicles spread across London and by more than 12,000 CCTV cameras across the network.

All stations will be staffed throughout the night, ensuring passengers always have someone to speak to should they have any questions or need assistance. Officers from the MPS, responsible for policing beyond the Tube stations, will also be at key hubs and bus stations assisting passengers where necessary.

TfL introduces brand new night bus services in support of Night Tube

I am pleased that onward bus connections for Night Tube customers will be boosted following the introduction of eight new 24-hour bus services.

The eight new 24-hour bus services will run throughout Friday and Saturday nights to complement the Night Tube and ensure customers travelling in the early hours of the morning have easy options to get home.

The following bus routes will have 24-hour services for the first time:

- 34 (Barnet Church to Walthamstow Central)
- 123 (Ilford High Road to Wood Green)
- 145 (Leytonstone to Dagenham)
- 158 (Stratford to Chingford Mount)
- 296 (Ilford Broadway to Romford)
- E1 (Greenford Broadway to Ealing Broadway)
- W3 (Finsbury Park to Northumberland Park)
- W7 (Finsbury Park to Muswell Hill Broadway).

The new services will run every 30 minutes throughout Friday and Saturday nights, other than the W7, which will run every 20 minutes. The enhancements follow the introduction of seven new night bus services already made in anticipation of the introduction of the Night Tube.

Ridership levels on all night bus services will be monitored to see how demand changes following the introduction of the Night Tube.

TfL introduces new taxi ranks in support of Night Tube

In partnership with boroughs across the capital, TfL has introduced eight new taxi ranks, bringing the total number of Night Tube taxi ranks to 26. Taxis offer a safe and reliable service to the public, particularly late at night, and increasing the number of ranks at Night Tube stations gives customers even greater choice when completing the final stage of their journey home.

The new ranks have been appointed at eight Night Tube stations on the Central line: Fairlop, Wanstead, Gants Hill, Hainault, South Woodford, Woodford, East Acton and White City. In total 26 Night Tube stations – across the Central and Victoria lines – are served by taxi ranks.

Hailing Gatwick's decision to boost £1.2bn investment

On 15 July, I visited Gatwick to hail the airport's decision to boost its investment in the airport by an additional £200 million.

The £200 million increase in investment announced by Gatwick will be spent transforming, revitalising and improving the existing airport – and will bring the total investment over the coming five years to £1.2 billion. The total invested in improving the airport since new ownership (2009) through to 2021 will be £2.5 billion.

This investment will allow Gatwick to bring forward planned projects to cater for and support the airport's rapid growth. The airport has also identified some new projects which will provide the additional capacity for future passengers while a decision on expansion is awaited.

On 10 August, I called on the Prime Minister to show the world that #LondonIsOpen by making a swift decision on airport expansion in the south east. I wrote to Theresa May to urge her to make the decision a top priority for the Government, and agree in favour of a second runway at Gatwick Airport.

Backing Gatwick now would send a message to the world that London is open for business, providing the additional aviation capacity needed to keep the capital competing with other major global cities.

A second runway at Gatwick is the right choice, as it would bring substantial economic benefits to London and the UK, but would not come with the significant environmental cost of expanding Heathrow.

Taskforce calls for substantial investment in West Anglia Main Line

The West Anglia Taskforce have found that rail infrastructure on the West Anglia Main Line between London, Cambridge and Stansted Airport makes services slow, unreliable and does not have the capacity to cater for more passengers and new housing, without substantial investment to coincide with the introduction of Crossrail 2.

The Taskforce say that new funding must be secured to build a further two tracks between Tottenham Hale and Broxbourne as an early phase of Crossrail 2. That work will also help accelerate the delivery of 25,000 new homes and up to 10,000 new jobs.

The Taskforce published a report in which it calls for investment to address transport constraints that would provide a faster and more reliable rail service. It says it would add up to £15bn to the region's economy and provide an additional four trains per hour to some stops and significantly reduce journey times from Cambridge to London.

The Taskforce has been working closely with four Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) across this area – the London Enterprise Panel, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough, South East and Hertfordshire – that recognise the importance of investment in the West Anglia Main Line. The LEPs have joined together to make a case to Government via their Growth Deals to secure funding for vital improvements.

Investment in the West Anglia Main Line will also take a first step towards Crossrail 2, the proposed railway linking Surrey and Hertfordshire through the south west and north east of

London and would improve access to more than 170 destinations worldwide at Stansted Airport.

Growing Places Fund – West Anglia route improvements

I have approved the receipt of a £250,000 funding contribution from the London Borough of Enfield for the Stratford to Angel Road (STAR) scheme and its subsequent transfer to TfL, who are taking on the sponsor and administration role of the Stratford to Angel Road route improvement project.

I also approved the receipt of a £250,000 funding contribution from the London Borough of Haringey for the STAR scheme and its subsequent transfer to TfL.

Calling for TfL to take immediate control of Southern Rail service

On 20 July, I made it clear that I want to put a top Transport for London team in charge of the failing Govia Thameslink Railway Southern franchise. The TfL team would run Southern Rail until the Government is able to resolve the longer-term problems that have led to widespread disruption for thousands of commuters.

In July, Govia Thameslink Railway brought in an emergency timetable, with 350 services cancelled a day, leaving commuters crammed onto packed trains or stranded on replacement buses. The decision followed months of delays and cancellations to services.

I believe that TfL are best placed to sort out the problems that are an embarrassment to our city. This follows on from earlier call for the Department for Transport to take temporary control of the railway.

I have also urged the Department for Transport to work with my team towards putting in place a speedier timetable for the transfer of suburban rail services to Transport for London in order to improve efficiency in rail services in London.

Massive boost to team tackling illegal taxi and minicab activity

On 2 August, I announced a dramatic expansion of the TfL team responsible for tackling touting and illegal activity affecting the capital's taxi and private hire trades

As part of a concerted drive to improve customer safety, an extra 250 Compliance Officers will be recruited and deployed over the next year to patrol London's streets and crack down on illegal activity and improve safety. These additional officers quadruple the size of the team which will provide a highly visible, uniformed presence in the West End, City and other areas across London.

The new officers will be funded through changes to private hire operator licensing so that larger firms pay a greater share of the costs of enforcement.

This activity will sit alongside improvements already underway following TfL's review of Private Hire Regulations. From 3 October, all taxis in the capital will be required to accept card payments, including contactless, to make services even more accessible to the public.

Taking step forward in plan to power Tube with clean electricity

On 25 July, I announced that City Hall has taken an important step closer to securing a license which could be used to provide 'clean electricity' to power TfL's underground stations and other facilities.

The government regulator for gas and electricity markets, Ofgem, has confirmed that I can formally advertise the application for a new type of junior electricity supply licence called 'licence lite', with the aim of the licence being granted in September.

When the licence is granted, City Hall will become the first local authority in the UK to hold a special 'licence lite' that will allow it to buy energy from small, low and zero carbon energy generators and sell it directly to the public sector to help meet the sector's electricity needs.

Moving Tube maintenance in-house to save £80m

On 24 August, in a move that will save TfL tens of millions of pounds, the TfL board has announced that it will now manage maintenance work on the Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly lines through its own in-house management team.

The announcement is part of my drive to cut waste and improve efficiency within TfL, and pay for a freeze in all TfL fares over the next four years.

For the past 13 years the private company Amey has been contracted to manage maintenance work across the three lines – a legacy of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) contract that previously existed between Tube Lines and London Underground. However, the arrangement will now be brought to an end at the end of next year – the earliest possible point the contract allows.

The move is expected to save at least £80 million over the next decade in expensive management fees.

Riding the Elizabeth line route to mark Crossrail milestone

On 31 August, I visited the Crossrail project at Custom House to mark the construction programme reaching the 75 per cent complete milestone.

I boarded a construction train to make the first station-to-station journey from the new Elizabeth line station at Custom House to Canary Wharf and I also met a number of engineers and apprentices working on Europe's largest infrastructure project.

Half of the permanent track on the line has now been laid, and nearly all of the platform structures, which will give step-free access to the 200m long trains at all of the 10 new stations, have also been built.

First Elizabeth line train takes to the test track

On 29 July, TfL unveiled the first state-of-the-art Elizabeth line train as it took to the test track at Bombardier Transportation in Derby.

A fleet of 66 new trains will operate on the TfL-run line, serving the West End, City and Docklands and running from Reading and Heathrow in the west across to Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east, through 40 accessible stations.

The first train will undergo a rigorous testing programme in Derby and at the Old Dalby test centre in Leicestershire. The trains will be extensively tested to ensure they meet TfL's high safety, performance and reliability requirements.

Once trials are completed, testing equipment will be removed from the first trains and the interiors of the trains will be completed with seats and moquette seat-covers before delivery for passenger service.

New lifts transform accessibility at Tower Hill Tube station

On 1 August, Tower Hill station became the 68th station on the Tube network to become step-free, following the installation of two new lifts between the ticket halls and all three platforms.

Alongside the installation of the new lifts, step-free routes have also been created between the Tube station and both Tower Gateway DLR and National Rail services at Fenchurch Street station.

This step free access scheme was part-funded through an agreement between TfL and the hotel group citizenM who also constructed some of the lift infrastructure as part of their development adjacent to the station.

Real-time traffic updates to be displayed on buses

Since 10 August, London's buses have been helping to improve traffic in the capital as TfL started a trial of displaying live traffic information on the back of buses.

In a world's first, a number of buses on route 344 are displaying real-time traffic information using digital information boards. This innovative technology is being trialled on buses between Clapham Junction and Liverpool Street, to provide London's drivers with a new source of information to help avoid congestion and improve their journeys and the reliability and efficiency of the roads.

This ground-breaking approach will be used on a further bus route – route 415 between Tulse Hill and Old Kent Road – in the autumn. This follows the successful trial of live traffic information displayed on taxi advertising boards by Brightmove Media Limited, which proved the concept of real-time traffic information delivered in this form.

Second round of TfL's 'Cycling Grants London' launches

TfL has invited community groups and not-for-profit organisations to apply for a second round of grants to help equip them to encourage more people to cycle. The programme is funded by TfL and managed by the environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork London. The next funding round opened on 1 August and closes on 19 September.

Up to 24 new projects run by organisations such as resident's associations, charities and youth groups will receive funding in this round. Organisations can apply for up to £10,000 over a three year period for projects that encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to cycle more often, more safely.

Overwhelming support for extension of North-South Cycle Superhighway to King's Cross

The proposals for an extension of the North-South Cycle Superhighway (CS6) have received strong support, with more than 70 per cent of the responses fully or partially supporting the proposals.

The proposed new section, would link with the first section of CS6, running from Elephant and Castle and crossing Blackfriars Bridge. In the King's Cross area, the route will connect with the Central London Grid and to Quietway 2 to Waltham Forest via Islington and Hackney.

Pedestrians will also benefit from the plans with over 1,600sqm of new footway along the route to make walking easier and more attractive, as well as 14 new and upgraded signalised pedestrian crossings with tactile paving and pedestrian countdown.

Strong support for new cycle route from Swiss Cottage to the West End

Proposals for a new Cycle Superhighway in the West End received strong support in a recent TfL consultation with 60 per cent of respondents supporting or partially supporting them. TfL will now work with Camden, Westminster, The Royal Parks and other stakeholders to address the issues raised in the consultation before setting out the next steps.

The new cycling route (CS11) would provide a direct and continuous way for cyclists to travel between Swiss Cottage and the West End, improving safety and reducing conflict with motor vehicles.

This would link with the Central London Grid and other cycling routes across London and was developed in close collaboration with the London Borough of Camden, Westminster City Council and The Royal Parks.

The proposed changes to road layouts and junctions would make them safer for pedestrians as well as cyclists and encourage more active travel for people living, working or passing through the area.

London Infrastructure Mapping Application – Phase 2 development

I have approved the receipt of £248,600 from Transport for London's London Lane Rental Scheme Fund and approved the subsequent expenditure of up to £248,600 to undertake Phase 2 development of the London Infrastructure Mapping Application.

The Economy, Business, Enterprise and Regeneration

London Devolution Summit

On 14 July, I hosted a summit of political and business leaders from across London as I began forging an ambitious new cross-party consensus on further devolution to London.

I hosted Conservative and Labour MPs and council leaders at City Hall for the discussions, which also included business representatives from the Corporation of London, London First and the London Chamber of Commerce.

The aim was to reach a broad agreement on a more ambitious push for further devolution to London Government in the aftermath of the EU referendum result.

I am pushing for an ambitious settlement for London, which will give City Hall and the boroughs significantly more control over taxes raised in the capital and how public services are run.

I believe that we can't protect Londoners from the economic fallout of leaving the EU without more autonomy for London government. This is essential to protecting Londoners' jobs, wealth and prosperity.

London needs stronger voice and new powers to boost growth

On 26 July, I stepped up the capital's drive for further powers in the aftermath of the decision to leave the European Union.

I revealed that I have tasked the London Finance Commission to bring forward a new, beefed-up set of devolution proposals, arguing that "nothing should be ruled out" when it comes to giving London a stronger voice and the tools it needs to protect jobs, wealth and prosperity.

I have commissioned Professor Tony Travers from the London School of Economics to reconvene the London Finance Commission – a group of political and business leaders which outlined an initial set of devolution measures for the capital in 2013.

I expect the Commission to report back with a more comprehensive, wide-ranging suite of devolution requests that will then be presented to ministers.

In 2013, the London Finance Commission concluded that Londoners should have a more direct say over a greater proportion of taxes raised in their city. It proposed devolving the full suite of property tax revenues streams – including council tax, stamp duty land tax and business rates – giving London the ability to invest in its own infrastructure and promote economic growth.

I have already held initial discussions with the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, who indicated that he is open to further devolution for London.

London is open for scientific research and innovation

On 28 July, I vowed that London will continue to thrive as a centre for life science research and innovation during a visit to what will be Europe's largest biological research facility.

I visited the Francis Crick Institute, near St Pancras in Camden, ahead of its official opening in November, when it will welcome scientists from Europe and all around the world. The £700million centre for biomedical research and life sciences will house 1,250 of the world's best scientists from 70 different countries.

Its work is helping to understand why disease develops and to find new ways to treat, diagnose and prevent illnesses such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, infections, and neurodegenerative diseases.

London has become a major hub for life science companies and continues to be a powerhouse for scientific innovation and research, attracting and retaining leading institutions such as the

Francis Crick, University College London and Imperial College, as well as having world-class Universities in Oxford and Cambridge on its doorstep.

The capital is also boosted by MedCity, an organisation launched in 2013 to drive forward life sciences research, development, entrepreneurship and commercialisation.

I met with world-leading scientist Sir Paul Nurse, a world-renowned geneticist and cell biologist and Director of the Francis Crick Institute, to discuss the opportunities for life sciences and see first-hand how the knowledge and innovation of this cluster of world-leading research centres will continue to thrive following the European referendum result.

The life sciences industry is dependent on having access to the world's best talent. I want to reassure all European nationals who live in the capital that they are welcome and London is open to talent and entrepreneurship from across Europe and around the world.

Meeting with London university heads to discuss implications of Brexit

On 31 August, I met with leaders of London's higher education institutions (HEIs) to discuss how the capital's world-leading universities can continue to thrive following the vote to leave the EU, and to reassure them that London is more open than ever to top international talent.

The meeting presented an opportunity me and my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, and my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, to meet key leaders from across the sector, bringing them together to ensure that London's top HEIs are able to continue to flourish and innovate, and that students from around the world still feel welcome here and regard London as a top place to study.

I reassured them that I recognise the contribution London's HEIs make to the capital's global reputation and competitiveness and that the quality of research and teaching was a major part of attracting the world's most talented students. I fully value the diversity of HEIs in London, including the world-class arts and creative institutions, which play a core part in the capital's innovation ecosystem and cultural life.

I also spoke about the opportunities open to London's HEIs of the growing international student market, stating the importance of a supportive visa system which encourages international students to work in the UK post-graduation.

I have pledged to push the Government to ensure that the concerns of HEIs are properly represented in the UK's negotiations with the EU.

Central Parade Walthamstow

On 12 July 2016, Central Parade in Walthamstow reopened, a prominent locally listed building owned by Waltham Forest Council. It houses a mixture of commercial, residential and public units over four floors and was, until recently, a Council customer service centre.

Funding from the High Street Fund has contributed to its refurbishment and transformation into a hub for creative industry in the area. The building will host an 'indoor mall' of 50 independent creative businesses, including a series of small 'maker' shops which will be available for up to 6-months for people interesting in trial marketing a service or product alongside more private office and studio spaces in the ground floor and basement floors, and a co-working area with 16 desks.

London Borough of Waltham Forest successfully secured £670,000 GLA funding from the High Street Fund which has contributed to a £1.34 million suite of projects aimed specifically at helping Walthamstow grow and become more vibrant, in particular developing the night-time and creative economies. Within and around Central Parade the area now also has a new night-time market, a strategy to help unlock small and challenging sites behind the High Street for innovative forms of housing, and a range of workspaces for the creative industries.

These projects also help to support London Blackhorse Housing Zone, which will see 2,500 new homes and 1,000 new jobs delivered over the next 10 years.

Housing and Land

First TfL site to deliver homes for Londoners

On 23 August, I announced the first TfL owned site that has been released for development, creating hundreds of new homes for Londoners.

I have directed TfL to bring forward the site in Kidbrooke, which will provide 400 new homes – 50 per cent of which will be affordable to rent and buy. This is part of my long-term strategic goal for 50 per cent of new homes in London to be affordable – in contrast to the 13 per cent affordable housing that was approved in the previous Mayor's final year in office.

The four-acre Greenwich site, which sat empty for the eight years of my predecessors time in office, is the first in a wave of sites ready to be developed for thousands of new homes for Londoners and marks a key manifesto commitment to bring forward TfL-owned land for development across London. It will be followed by a further batch of brownfield sites unlocked in the autumn.

It has been identified there is the potential to build up to 10,000 new homes at 75 sites across 300 acres on land owned by TfL across the capital and I am working to fast-track sites to provide genuinely affordable homes for Londoners.

I also plan to bid to develop other public sector land across London and will work with Government ministers to ensure a far more active role for City Hall in identifying surplus public land that can be used for the construction of the new affordable housing London needs.

First details of my new Homes for Londoners team

On 23 August, I released the first details of my plans to set up a powerful 'Homes for Londoners' team at City Hall to oversee homebuilding in the capital and boost the delivery of new and affordable homes.

I have begun work to pull together and bolster housing and development capacity at City Hall and across the GLA family. As a first step, I have begun recruiting new experts to scrutinise 'viability assessments' - the financial details that lie behind how much affordable housing new developments include.

The experts, who will be drawn from finance surveyors and property consultant experts and be based at City Hall, will support housing delivery by making planning decisions faster and more consistent, and by ensuring new developments include the maximum amount of affordable housing.

I will also lead a new 'Homes for Londoners' board, formed of London Boroughs, housing associations, and developers. The board will oversee delivery, land assembly and investment decisions, and will draw on expertise from across the housing and property sectors to help develop new policy for the capital.

Environment

Air quality consultation

On 5 July 2016, I launched the first stage of consultation on my new air quality proposals and this ran until 29 July 2016. I'm pleased to report that interest and engagement in the consultation was unprecedented, with around 15,000 people contributing to the consultation, a record for a GLA consultation.

My officials are now working on the second round of consultation, which will begin in the autumn. Proposals include introducing a new emissions surcharge (known as the 'T-charge') on the most polluting vehicles from 2017 and expanding the ULEZ to the north/south circular for all vehicles and Londonwide for buses, coaches and lorries.

I also expect TfL to lead by example, accelerating improvements to the London fleet and retrofitting more buses to help improve air quality, especially in outer London. Taken together this is the most ambitious air quality programme of any major city in the world.

Elected to the role of Vice Chair on the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Steering Committee

This summer I was pleased to be elected by cities across Europe to be their representative on the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Steering Committee and I now hold the position of Vice Chair.

On 11 and 12 August, I was delighted to welcome the C40 Steering Committee to City Hall for my first Steering Committee meeting and their Business Plan workshop. During the meeting I set out my priorities, including that I wish to use the C40 Cities network to champion new innovations, and to share knowledge and solutions for tackling climate change in order to create better, healthier and more resilient cities.

The C40 advances climate action agendas of the world's megacities in order to achieve meaningful reductions of greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks. It is a network of engaged cities from around the world and recognizes the role tackling climate change can play in growing city economies and creating jobs, tackling local pollution and improving our cities as places to live and work.

Increasing pollution fund to tackle London toxic air hotspots

On 19 July, I announced that I am helping some of London's most polluted boroughs implement new hard-hitting measures to tackle toxic air quality hot spots and filthy emission fumes with an £11 million fund.

Five 'Low Emission Neighbourhoods' will be set up across eight boroughs, with pollution-busting measures including strict new penalties for the most polluting vehicles, car-free days, green taxi ranks for zero emission-capable cabs and parking reserved for the cleanest vehicles.

By injecting more cash and securing 'like-for-like' funding from boroughs, I have expanded the number of 'Low Emission Neighbourhoods' from two to five, benefiting eight London boroughs. The new Low Emissions Neighbourhoods will come into full effect by the start of 2019.

The five Low Emissions Neighbourhoods will take place in:

- Westminster – the Marylebone Low Emission Neighbourhood
- Hackney, Islington and Tower Hamlets – the City Fringe Low Emissions Neighbourhood
- City of London – the Barbican Low Emission Neighbourhood
- Greenwich – the Town Centre and Trafalgar Road Low Emissions Neighbourhood
- Redbridge and Newham – the Ilford Garden Junction Low Emission Neighbourhood

Air quality alerts to warn Londoners about air pollution

On 4 August, I announced that I am introducing air quality alerts at bus stops, Tube stations and road-sides across the capital, to notify Londoners during the worst incidents of air pollution.

Following the initial consultation on a comprehensive package of measures to clean-up the capital's filthy air, 79 per cent of respondents stated that they wish to receive information when air pollution is high or very high so that they can take action to protect their health and reduce its impact.

Having listened to Londoners, I have taken swift and decisive action to implement a new programme of air quality advice and alerts for the public.

Therefore from August 15, during and on the day before high and very high air pollution days, air quality alerts will be displayed at:

- 2,500 bus countdown signs and river pier signs across London.
- 140 road-side dot matrix message signs on the busiest main roads into London, with instructions to switch engines off when stationary to reduce emissions.
- Electronic update signs in the entrances of all 270 London Underground stations.

Depending on the alert level and communication channel, different information and guidance will be provided, including advising people to walk, cycle or use public transport if possible to help improve air quality; to reduce strenuous activity if someone experiences symptoms; or advising asthma sufferers and other vulnerable groups that they may need to use their reliever inhaler more often.

The alerts will use a three-day ahead forecast about air pollution levels provided by airTEXT. More vulnerable Londoners with particular health needs will continue to have access to the airTEXT service enabling them to get regular forecasts via text, voicemail, email, mobile app and online.

I will also use my Twitter account and other social media channels to make people aware of moderate air quality incidents, which occur around 40 times a year.

First clean, green bus routes

On 8 August, I confirmed plans for the first of a series of 'Low Emission Bus Zones', which are prioritising the greenest buses on the worst polluted routes, as part of my far-reaching plans to clean up the capital's toxic air.

From February next year, the first route along Putney High Street will see exclusive use of hybrid or diesel buses with top-of-the-range anti-pollutant systems that meet or exceed Euro VI emissions standards. The second route - between Brixton and Streatham - will be converted in October 2017.

These are the first of the Low Emission Bus Zones I promised in my manifesto and which will all be operational by 2020. These are expected to reduce NOx emissions from buses along these routes by around 84 per cent. They will be focussed on London's worst air quality hotspots outside central London and prioritised in areas where buses would otherwise contribute significantly to road transport emissions.

The Low Emission Bus Zones will also incorporate a number of changes to the road layout to ensure buses have priority over other traffic and are able to keep moving, cutting emissions from unnecessary idling and speeding up journey times.

2nd Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Network

On 12 July, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, attended the opening reception of the 2nd Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Network, a Commonwealth Local Government Forum event at Marlborough House, London.

Equality, Social Integration and Community Relations

#LondonIsOpen campaign

On 18 July, I launched a major campaign to show that London is united and open for business and to the world following the EU referendum.

#LondonIsOpen is showing the world that London remains entrepreneurial, international, and full of creativity and possibility, while reassuring the more than one million foreign nationals who live in London that they will always be welcome, and that any form of discrimination will not be tolerated.

I am continuing to urge all Londoners, organisations and businesses to show their support for the #LondonIsOpen message via social media, through other creative ways. The starting idea for the campaign is built around London opening its doors to welcome people in, and will encourage people to use this as a platform for their own contributions.

#LondonIsOpen is being promoted at major events and leading visitor attractions across the capital this summer.

Calling for employers to close the gender pay gap

On 11 July, I called on employers to close the pay gap for women, as I launched a major action plan to ensure full pay equality across the Greater London Authority and its functional bodies.

I have vowed to support women in gaining equal pay and equal access to senior positions and I am leading by example with the publication of a full gender pay audit of all GLA staff.

I have also instructed the other bodies within the Greater London Authority family, including Transport for London, the Metropolitan Police and the London Fire Brigade, to follow suit by producing their own gender pay audit and publishing follow-up plans on how they propose to narrow any gaps.

My plan to boost female representation at the most senior levels at City Hall includes increasing the availability of part-time and flexible-working options and aiding career progression within those roles. City Hall is also offering mentoring, career-support programmes and sponsorship for qualifications. It is training managers to ensure the recruitment process is as fair as possible and piloting “no name” application forms.

Since I became Mayor, I have appointed women to a series of top positions at City Hall, including Valerie Shawcross as Deputy Mayor for Transport, Sophie Linden as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Justine Simons as Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Shirley Rodrigues as my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Joanne McCartney as my Statutory Deputy Mayor. I have also appointed Fiona Twycross as Chair of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority.

To view details of the City Hall gender pay gap audit visit www.london.gov.uk/gender-pay-audit.

Reassuring ambassadors that EU nationals will always be welcome

On 12 July, I held a roundtable for ambassadors from across the continent to reassure them that EU nationals who live in the capital will always be welcome.

London is home to around one million EU nationals, who make a huge contribution to the city - working hard, paying taxes and playing a major role in civic and cultural life.

I therefore told ambassadors and senior dignitaries representing the 10 European Union countries with the largest number of nationals living in London that they will continue to play a valuable role in the city.

I also assure them that, following the rise in reports of racist or xenophobic abuse in the capital since the EU referendum, I will not tolerate hate crimes of any form, anywhere in London.

Closer joint working between London and Paris

On 25 August, I visited Paris and met with Anne Hidalgo, the Mayor of Paris, where we both pledged closer collaboration between our two cities following the EU referendum result.

I embarked on my first international trip as the Mayor of London to foster a closer working relationship between our two great capitals in order to help tackle the joint challenges we face,

including boosting post-Brexit trade and business opportunities, tackling the growing problem of air pollution and common security issues.

Anne and I also discussed our ambitious plans for tackling pollution and improving public health as we visited the popular pop-up 'beach' at the Paris Plage, an artificial beach which runs along the river Seine. Mayor Hidalgo has been instrumental in banning traffic along nearby roads to enhance the enjoyment for pedestrians and improve air quality. This is one of many measures Paris is introducing to tackle pollution. I am determined to tackle air pollution in London and to work closely with major world cities on co-ordinated action.

I was also invited by Mayor Hidalgo as a special guest of honour to help mark the anniversary of the liberation of Paris at Hotel de Ville, Paris City Hall. There Anne and I laid wreaths in remembrance of the people that died in the Battle of Paris during the Second World War.

In addition, whilst attending a meeting with leading French business people at Halle Freyssinet, Europe's largest new tech start-up campus that will promote London and Paris joint innovation opportunities, I made it clear that I am lobbying the Government for greater devolution to help London continue to work closely with the rest of Europe on business, skills and growth sectors, like tech.

Flanders Day Reception

On 7 July, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, attended a Belgian Embassy reception to celebrate Flanders Day at the Travellers Club, Pall Mall.

Remembering Srebrenica

On 11 July, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, attended a memorial event "Remembering Srebrenica" on Srebrenica Memorial Day at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

Education and Youth

Careers Clusters

On 10 August, my Education Team held the first meeting of the Careers Clusters Network. This brought together the project leads for London's twelve new clusters of schools and colleges who will be working together to improve careers education across the capital.

This significant £8 million European Social Funded programme has been commissioned by the Skills Funding Agency on behalf of the London Enterprise Panel. Careers Clusters are part of the London Ambitions programme to help schools and businesses to connect to provide school pupils with more opportunities for engagement with the world of work.

Volunteering

Barbara Windsor & Team London Ambassadors show #LondonIsOpen

On 8 August 2016, I revealed that as tourists from around the world flock to London this summer, the Team London Ambassadors are taking to the streets, welcoming visitors to the capital at hotspots across the city and to show that London is open to all.

Throughout the summer, 550 Team London Ambassadors, recognisable in their distinctive magenta uniforms, are providing maps, information and local knowledge from purpose-built 'welcome pods' stationed in a number of key tourist hotspots including Southbank, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus, Parliament Square, Exhibition Road, St James's Park, Tower of London, Gatwick North and Gatwick South. Over the summer they will volunteer 15,000 hours over 4,000 shifts, helping more than 250,000 visitors.

Team London is supporting my #LondonIsOpen campaign to show the world that London is united and open for business and that people of all backgrounds and nationalities are welcome. The Ambassadors themselves come from a wide range of backgrounds, reflecting the diverse nature of London's population, and speak over 50 languages between them, including Cantonese, Chinese, Hindi, Italian, Punjabi, French, German, Spanish and British Sign Language. Those who speak a second language wear a badge, making it easier for tourists to seek help in their native tongue.

Due to the success of the initiative, Team London has been asked to deliver the volunteering programme for the London 2017 Summer of Athletics, which includes the IPC ParaAthletics World Championships and the IAAF World Championships.

Team London Young Leaders

The Team London Young Ambassadors programme is now in its third year. The programme to date has engaged almost 400,000 young people in over 1,800 schools and aims to build the next generation of volunteers by inspiring and supporting young people to develop community projects on social issues they are passionate about.

In 2015-16, Team London introduced an extension to the programme, Team London Young Leaders. This project has seen clusters of schools in five boroughs across London form youth panels. These small groups of young people were then given a small budget to design and run their own project that benefits their local communities.

On 12 July, Team London held a celebration event to thank all Young Leaders and teachers for being involved in this year's pilot, and running inspiring projects within their local communities, helping to bring about more positive change.

Culture and Events

West End stars to spread the message that #LondonIsOpen

On 28 July, I trod the boards in the capital's West End as world-renowned shows and big international stars lent their support to my #LondonIsOpen campaign to remind the world that London is open to creativity and talent.

38 shows across the capital simultaneously released photos of their casts gathered on stage to show the industry's collective support for my #LondonIsOpen campaign, which launched to spread the message that, following the EU referendum, London remains united, full of creativity and open for business.

I also joined the cast of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at London's oldest theatre, the Theatre Royal on Drury Lane, along with Jonathan Slinger who plays Willy Wonka, and the President of the Society of London Theatre (SOLT) and show producer, Caro Newling.

The #LondonIsOpen logo will be visible across Theatreland this summer with venues and shows beaming the hashtag inside and outside of their iconic auditoriums. Theatre fans will be able to see #LondonIsOpen in lights at performances of The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time, Impossible, The Play That Goes Wrong, The Railway Children, In The Heights and Guys and Dolls and outside at TKTS in Leicester Square and Young Vic.

I am continuing to urge all Londoners, organisations and businesses to show their support for the #LondonIsOpen message via social media.

The best of London's culture & creative industries celebrated at Rio

Artists, performers and ambassadors from across London's creative industries have been promoting London as a world capital of culture and creativity in Rio over the last few weeks to show that London really is open to the world.

The official home of all things British at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, British House celebrated the sporting achievements of Team GB, along with the expertise, creativity and dynamism of the UK and its capital.

British House is a unique partnership between the British Olympic Association, the British Paralympic Association, the Mayor of London and the UK Government's GREAT Britain campaign.

Beyond its role as a venue for the British athletes during the games, the house has been providing a global platform for UK businesses, including the culture and creative industries, to promote their work and partnership opportunities.

London is the world's artistic and cultural capital. The capital's unique cultural scene makes a substantial and vital contribution to our city's economic prosperity and I'm delighted that London's creative sector has been able to showcase its extraordinary talent at the Rio Olympics on an international stage, sending out a signal that London is truly open to the world.

On 14 and 18 August, my Culture team led a delegation of London's cultural organisations promoting #LondonIsOpen at British House. The team hosted a business event establishing a number of collaborations between Brazilian and London cultural organisations and launched a major collaboration between the Science Museum and Rio de Janeiro's newly opened Museum of the Future.

Two cultural showcase events at British House were attended by over 1,000 key and senior cultural leaders from Brazil. The events showed the best of the capital's music, dance and culture with a highlight on grime music from Elf Kid and Nadia Rose, and an evening with the

Royal Opera House, Studio Wayne McGregor, Shakespeare's Globe, the Philharmonia Orchestra, and musical duo Public Service Broadcasting.

My team also hosted a business dinner at the British House attended by the Culture Secretary of City Rio de Janeiro, Culture Secretary of Rio de Janeiro Estate and senior cultural leaders.

Launch of #LondonIsOpen underground campaign

On 29 July, alongside leading British artist David Shrigley, I launched a major new series of work by top UK and international artists to be featured across the Tube network, showing that London is open to all.

Art on the Underground, Transport for London's contemporary art programme, commissioned ten artists to respond to my #LondonIsOpen campaign, launched to show London is united and open for business and to the world following the EU referendum.

David Shrigley's design 'London: Everyone Welcome' joins work from Tania Bruguera, Gillian Wearing and Mark Titchner rolling out across the Tube network on large scale poster sites and digital displays, incorporating the themes of openness and diversity.

I joined David, my Deputy Mayor for Culture Justine Simons, and Team London Ambassadors at Southwark Tube Station to unveil the Turner prize nominee's work and distribute limited edition Oyster card wallets bearing his design to commuters.

7/7 11 Year Commemorations

7 July saw the 11th anniversary of the London bombings, at which 52 victims lost their lives and many others were injured or affected by the events. A number of events were held throughout the day to pay respects to those who suffered as a result of the events that took place that day.

In the morning, to mark the time of the bombings, I laid a wreath at the 7/7 Memorial in Hyde Park alongside Assembly Member Gareth Bacon, Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Transport Commissioner Mike Brown, Deputy Chief Constable BTP Adrian Hanstock, Commissioner City of London Police Ian Dyson, LAS Chief Executive Fionna Moore and Fire Commissioner Ron Dobson.

Meanwhile, as in previous years, TfL staff laid wreaths at each of the impacted sites, and arranged for a private space for families and survivors to attend for private reflection. Later in the morning there was a service at the Hyde Park memorial for families and survivors.

Eid Festival

On 9 July, I was joined by Konnie Huq and performers from across the London and the country at the Eid Festival in Trafalgar Square. This event is a hugely popular celebration marking the end of Ramadan for the many different Muslim communities in London, as well as Londoners and visitors from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Around 25,000 people attended throughout the day, and enjoyed an exciting stage programme with traditional and contemporary acts, and a global food festival with cuisines from around the Islamic world.

This year, the event highlighted the contribution of Muslim women. There was a great selection of activities for children and families such as calligraphy, Islamic art workshops, storytelling, and a 'bazaar' style market. There was also a special exhibition 'The Art of Integration', a graceful and visually poetic reminder that Muslims have been a part of British life for well over a century and continue to make an important contribution to the United Kingdom's rich cultural diversity.

The Eid Festival has been developed with collaboration from various Embassies, Middle East organisations, British Council, cultural institutions and grass root organisations. Supporters were Lebara, Islamic Relief and BBC Asian Network.

My Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, attended the event on my behalf, and saw first-hand what a fantastic job the police do, in conjunction with the event stewards and organisers, in helping to ensure visitors to Carnival have an enjoyable time.

Notting Hill Carnival

On 28 and 29 August, I was pleased to be able to support London's Notting Hill Carnival, one of the longest-running and biggest street parties in Europe and a great celebration of Caribbean culture. An estimated 1 million Londoners and visitors came together, contributing to London's economy and showing that London is united and open for business.

With a mix of masquerade bands, calypso, steel pan and sound systems, the event reflected artistic diversity, cultural identity and heritage, community cohesion and celebrated the history of Carnival.

My Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, attended the event on my behalf, and saw first-hand what a fantastic job the police do in conjunction with the event stewards and organisers, in helping to ensure visitors to Carnival have an enjoyable time.

In common with other mass gatherings and crowded places, there are inevitably a small number of people who are intent on committing crime. Our frontline police officers work hard and do a great job to keep Carnival-goers safe.

I approved additional expenditure of £190,000 to the London Notting Hill Carnival Enterprises Trust to support the enhanced stewarding plan for the 2016 Notting Hill Carnival.

I also noted that £150,000 funding has already been agreed for the basic stewarding plan for the event and therefore the total GLA grant funding towards stewarding at Notting Hill Carnival in 2016 will be £340,000.

Busk in London

On 22 July, I was joined on Trafalgar Square by Jessie Ware, Tinchy Stryder and The Vamps to launch International Busking Day as part of #LondonIsOpen.

Busk in London Festival took over Trafalgar Square on 23 and 24 July, showcasing some of the best street performers from around the world. One million Londoners were wowed by the talents of the musicians taking part in Gigs, our search for the best young busker. Two weeks of performances took place at iconic and high footfall locations across the capital.

On Saturday 23 July, International Busking Day had music events in 100 locations across six continents, including 50 cities across the UK. Locations included the Panama jungle and the Australian outback. Performers posted photos and videos via social media, forming a massive global community for the day.

Search for London's Night Czar begins

Following the launch of the 24-hour tube, I have begun the search for a 'Night Czar' to help make the capital a 24-hour city and champion the value of London's night time economy.

Similar roles already exist in cities like Amsterdam and Berlin with a track record of balancing the needs of residents whilst sustaining a vibrant nightlife. The successful applicant will work with me and my Deputy Mayor for Culture & Creative Industries, Justine Simons, creating a vision for London as 24-hour city and working with local and regional politicians, transport authorities, police and businesses.

Big Dance Week 2016

From 2-10 July my Culture team hosted the Big Dance Question Time with Dance Umbrella at City Hall as one of the Big Dance Week highlights.

Other activities, included dance events, workshops, debates and photo exhibitions in parks, libraries and shopping centres across London boroughs engaging thousands of Londoners.

Events included film screenings at the Lyric Hammersmith, the Big Dance Bus tour, and activities presented by the five Big Dance Hubs: East London Dance, Greenwich Dance, English National Ballet, Sadler's Wells and Siobhan Davies Dance.

Bankside Summer Festival

On 27 August, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, opened the Bankside Summer Festival which is hosted by the Park Street Residents and supported by Bankside Residents' Forum, to celebrate the summer in Bankside.

Appointments

Shirley Rodrigues named as Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy

On 17 August, I was pleased to announce the latest addition to my top City Hall team by welcoming Shirley Rodrigues as the new Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy.

Shirley is currently Acting Executive Director for Climate Change at the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), an independent philanthropic organisation that works to transform the lives of poor and vulnerable children in developing countries, where she oversees a £155 million global strategy and portfolio.

Shirley has an impressive track record of developing and implementing new environmental policies in London. She is no stranger to City Hall, having worked in senior environmental policy roles from 2005 to 2009, helping to implement the London Low Emission Zone and programmes to retrofit London's residential and commercial buildings.

She helped establish Cliff's cities and climate strategy and represents Cliff on the board of the C40 Large Cities Leadership Group – a network of global cities committed to addressing climate change.

With around 9,500 Londoners dying from long-term exposure to air pollution every year, cleaning up London's toxic air is one of the biggest health emergencies facing London. Shirley will use her wealth of environmental expertise to drive forward my hard-hitting plans for tackling air pollution across the capital, including expanding the ULEZ, new charges for the oldest most polluting vehicles and creating Low Emission Bus Zones.

Shirley will also oversee the delivery of Energy for Londoners, helping Londoners generate more low-carbon electricity and will help boost London's recycling rates and cut landfill.

Joanne McCartney AM assumes responsibility for education and childcare

On 25 August, I announced that Joanne McCartney, my Statutory Deputy Mayor of London and Assembly Member for Enfield and Haringey, will extend her statutory brief to include education and childcare.

Joanne has been a member of the London Assembly since June 2004 and in May I appointed her to the position of Statutory Deputy Mayor of London. Joanne is a passionate advocate for children and young people. During her time as a local councillor, she chaired Enfield's Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

Joanne will be working with my team and a range of stakeholders to transform the life chances for young Londoners, ensuring that all children are able to get the best start in their lives and are able to reach their full potential by being prepared for life and work in a world city.

Her priorities will include improving access, quality and affordability of childcare and early-years education, working with the London boroughs to provide a good school place for every child and promoting and celebrating excellent teaching in London to improve standards in schools and increase staff retention.

She will also provide leadership and support to a city-wide effort to recruit a new generation of headteachers.

Anthony Mayer Appointed to lead review of London's fire service

On 30 August, I appointed Anthony Mayer to carry out a full and independent review of the London Fire Brigade to ensure it has sufficient resources to keep Londoners safe.

The review will assess the impact of cuts made to the service under the previous Mayor on the ability of the service to keep Londoners safe. Funding has been slashed by more than £150 million since 2009, which has led to the closure of 10 fire stations, the removal of 27 fire appliances and over 500 firefighter posts. Under the current budget agreed by the former Mayor, funding is due to be reduced by a further £22 million over the next three years.

While the Brigade has continued to meet attendance time targets, the length of time it takes for the service to attend an emergency has risen in more than half of London's neighbourhoods and concerns have been raised. This review aims to ensure the Brigade is fully

equipped to fight and prevent fires, and to respond effectively to a terror attack or a major incident such as flooding.

The review will consider:

- The impact of the cuts during the previous Mayoralty on prevention, protection and response;
- The Fire Brigade's ability to effectively manage civil contingencies; and
- Any additional resources required by the Brigade to work effectively now and in the future.

As part of the review, Anthony Mayer, a former Chief Executive of the Greater London Authority, will consult with fire brigade staff, members of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, local government and other emergency services and community groups. The review will be considered alongside my terror preparedness review being led by Lord Harris. It aims to report in the autumn, and will help to inform the sixth London Safety Plan, a draft of which will be published in November 2016.

Sport and Olympic and Paralympic Legacy

Sports stars spread the message that #LondonIsOpen

On 12 August, I revealed that that a formidable team of sporting superstars joined my unique campaign to tell the world that London is open to all.

From elite athletes and Premier League football clubs to amateur sports teams and grassroots organisations, the capital's sporting community has lent its support to my #LondonIsOpen campaign.

Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur, Fulham and QPR football clubs and Saracens rugby union club have given their backing, alongside a host of amateur clubs across the capital including boxing, netball and cricket organisations.

The England cricket team, including Captain Alastair Cook, has also added its support to #LondonIsOpen.

Double, double Olympic champion Mo Farah joined me in a new video promoting the campaign, along with an array of London-based sports clubs. England rugby player Chris Robshaw, professional boxer David Haye, footballer Rio Ferdinand and snowboarder Jenny Jones are also among high-profile names throwing their weight behind #LondonIsOpen in this video.

Surrey County Cricket Club also backed the historic initiative, and released their own version of the campaign's well received 'doors open' film, which features some of the club's most famous faces, both on the field and behind the scenes, including former England captain Alec Stewart.

Summer on the Olympic Park

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park has been incredibly busy this summer with the opening of the largest urban beach in Europe, Beach East, which continues to attract tens of thousands of visitors, and the annual sports festival Active August, which offers over 250 sports and activities for everyone to try including box fit, canoeing, and paddle boarding.

On 17 July, around 20,000 thousand runners descended on the Olympic Stadium for the Great Newham on Run, and 30,000 cyclists took off from Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to participate in Ride London.

On 27 July, in partnership with Centre for London, LLDC hosted Rising in the East: shaping the future of London conference to mark four years since the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The event brought together 170 political leaders, opinion formers, journalists, business leaders and strategic partners to debate the reshaping of east London to create a lasting legacy.

Olympic Stadium

The Olympic Stadium has now opened permanently, and in August we've seen around 250,000 visitors pass through the doors to watch the Muller Anniversary Games and West Ham United FC home-games.

The packed Stadium saw some 80,000 spectators get in to the Olympic spirit as they enjoyed a weekend of athletics and para-athletics before the 2016 Games kicked off in Rio (22 – 23 July) and football fans soaked up the atmosphere as West Ham United FC played Juventus (7 August), Bournemouth (21 August) and Astra Giurgiu (25 August).

Budget and Finance

GLA outturn 2015-16

I have noted the GLA financial performance and outturn for 2015-16 on which basis the final GLA statement of accounts will be prepared. I have also noted the transfers to and from reserves set out.

I have approved carry forwards and allocations to projects which supersede the carry forwards that were approved under cover of MD 1629.

I have also agreed to delegate authority to the Chief of Staff and the Executive Director of Resources, in consultation with the lead Executive Director, to agree any allocation from further 2015-16 carry forwards.

Finally, I have noted that the programme budget reprofiling, consideration of further carry forwards and a review of reserves will take place with the Chief of Staff and Director of Policy to reflect Mayoral priorities and expectations and to be incorporated into the Quarter One 2016-17 monitoring.

GLA European Social Fund (ESF) 2014-20 Programme

I have approved the receipt of ESF funding, and of match funding from the LLDC, OPDC, and the London Borough of Haringey, for the ESF projects they developed and which the GLA will manage.

I have also agreed that the projects can be tendered once sponsorship/match funding per project is confirmed and the ESF Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is in place, and that the GLA can enter into grant agreements with recipients for the delivery of the projects following an open and competitive process.

Planning and Development

Increase of number of affordable homes at Old Oak scheme

On 3 August, I approved plans for the first major housing development at the Old Oak regeneration site in West London, after intervening to boost the number of affordable homes in the scheme.

The Oaklands development will see 605 new homes built, together with a nursery, health centre and commercial space. A target of 50 per cent affordable housing has been agreed for the development, following my intervention to boost the number of affordable homes through investment and a profit-sharing mechanism.

Of the 242 affordable homes, half will be for social and affordable rent, with the other half being for shared ownership.

The application was approved by the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, the organisation that has planning control over the Old Oak regeneration site, on July 13, 2016. The project will also include a new link road into Old Oak which could unlock further development north of the Grand Union Canal.

Wimbledon stadium

On 22 August, I overturned a decision made by my predecessor to call in an application to build a new football stadium in Plough Lane, Wimbledon.

The plans include the demolition of Wimbledon greyhound track and replacing it with a new 20,000-seat stadium, homes and a fitness club.

The decision follows a 14-day consultation, in which the public was asked to comment on the application and the options available, which ended on 10 August.

The application has now been handed back to Merton Council to determine.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

1-5 Lansdowne Road and Voyager House, LB Croydon

I have written to the London Borough of Croydon stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

34-40 White Church Lane, LB Tower Hamlets

I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

The Nurseries Clamp Hill, LB Harrow

I have written to the London Borough of Harrow stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Wembley Retail Park, LB Brent

I have written to the London Borough of Brent stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

117-125 Bayswater Road, City of Westminster

I have written to the City of Westminster stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

South West Lands, LB Brent

I have written to the London Borough of Brent stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Canvas Bar Vince Street, LB Hackney

I have written to the London Borough of Hackney stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Denver Industrial Estate, LB Havering

I have written to the London Borough of Havering stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

New Regent's College Upper School, LB Hackney

I have written to the London Borough of Hackney stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Former Downsfield School, LB Hackney

I have written to the London Borough of Hackney stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Homebase Swandon Way, LB Wandsworth

I have written to the London Borough of Wandsworth stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Central Somers Town, LB Camden

I have written to the London Borough of Camden stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Former Toby Jug Site, RB Kingston upon Thames

I have written to the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Old Coal Depot, LB Hillingdon

I have written to the London Borough of Hillingdon stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Duncan House, Stratford High Street, London Legacy Development Corporation

I have written to London Legacy Development Corporation stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Thrayle House, LB Lambeth

I have written to the London Borough of Lambeth stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Wembley Masterplan and Blue Car Park, LB Brent

I have written to the London Borough of Brent stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

VDC/Careys Site Wembley, LB Brent

I have written to the London Borough of Brent stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Oaklands Old Oak Common, Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation

I have written to the Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Eden Walk Shopping Centre, RB Kingston upon Thames

I have written to the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Royal Mint Court, LB Tower Hamlets

I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Sainsbury's 55 Roden Street, LB Redbridge

I have written to the London Borough of Redbridge stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Western Gateway Canning Town, LB Newham

I have written to the London Borough of Newham stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Leamouth South, LB Tower Hamlets

I have written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Beam Reach Business Park, LB Havering

I have written to the London Borough of Havering stating that I am content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

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

- 202-210 Bromley Road, LB Lewisham
- HG Wells Centre, LB Bromley
- Railway Approach Hampden Road, LB Haringey
- Land at Wandsworth Riverside, LB Wandsworth

- Former Apex House, LB Brent
- Monarch House Victoria Road, LB Ealing
- 46-76 Summerstown, LB Merton
- Mayfield High School, LB Ealing
- 42-44 Thomas Road, LB Tower Hamlets
- Ferry Lane Industrial Estate, LB Waltham Forest
- 150 Holborn, LB Camden
- Site Bounded by Stone House and Staple Hall, City of London
- New Avenue Estate, LB Enfield
- Purley Baptist Hall, LB Croydon
- Abbey Wood and South Thamesmead, LB Bexley
- 225 City Road, LB Hackney
- Dunedin Road, LB Waltham Forest
- South London Mail Centre, LB Wandsworth
- Hale Wharf Ferry Lane, LB Haringey

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Holland and Holland Shooting School, LB Hillingdon
- Eileen House, LB Southwark
- 99 Mansell Street, LB Tower Hamlets
- Tileman House, LB Wandsworth
- The Heygate Estate, LB Southwark
- Sleaford Industrial Estate, LB Wandsworth
- Crystal Palace Park, LB Bromley
- 3-5 Nightingale Lane, LB Wandsworth
- Newham Local Plan: Detailed Sites and Policies, Development Plan Document, LB Newham
- Gaelic Athletic Association Sports Ground, LB Hillingdon
- Eltham College, LB Bromley
- Equitable House, LB Harrow
- Land East of the Former EMI Site, LB Hillingdon
- Proposed Submission Local Plan: strategy and site, Guildford Borough Council
- Submission of a Sustainable Freight Transport Strategy for Chambers Wharf, LB Southwark
- Kelaty House, LB Brent
- Sites 1 and 2 Uxbridge Campus, LB Hillingdon
- Various locations within North Westminster, City of Westminster
- Olympic Stadium, London Legacy Development Corporation
- Heliport House, LB Wandsworth
- Proposed Submission Draft Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation, Development Planning Document, LB Newham
- Draft Wycombe Local Plan, Wycombe District Council
- Brentside High School, LB Ealing
- Leamouth Peninsula North, LB Tower Hamlets
- St Luke's Woodside Hospital, LB Haringey
- Embassy Gardens, LB Wandsworth
- Runnymede 2035 Issues, Options and Preferred Approaches Consultation, Runnymede Borough Council

- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough East Anglia Devolution Proposal, Cambridge City Council
- St Barts Estate, City of London
- Chelsea Barracks, City of Westminster

Key Engagements

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

- I attended the wreath laying ceremony at Hyde Park on 7 July, to mark the eleventh anniversary of the London Bombings
- I visited the London Borough of Redbridge with the Leader Cllr Jas Athwal to see the Redbridge Roundabout and Newbury Park Station, and I visited the London Borough of Havering with the Leader Cllr Roger Ramsey and Assembly Member Keith Prince to see Gallows Corner on 7 July
- I visited Fircroft School, Tooting on 8 July
- I attended the Eid Festival on Trafalgar Square on 9 July
- I attended the Gentlemen's Singles Final at Wimbledon on 10 July
- I attended the Stevie Wonder Concert in Hyde Park on 10 July to promote #LondonIsOpen
- I attended the Bureau of Leaders on 11 July
- I hosted a roundtable with Ambassadors representing the EU countries with the largest number of nationals living in London on 12 July to discuss the impact of the vote to leave the EU
- I visited RedThread's Youth Violence Intervention Programme at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington on 13 July
- I hosted a devolution roundtable on 14 July to discuss what powers would need to be devolved to London Government following the vote to leave the EU
- I met with representatives from London Citizens on 14 July
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 14 July
- I visited Gatwick Airport on 15 July to announce the next phase of the transformation of the airport including an increase of investment of £200m
- I met with Assistant Commissioner Mark Rowley on 18 July to discuss policing and security
- I met with Mike Brown, the Transport Commissioner, on 18 July ahead of the Transport for London Board Meeting taking place the next day
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 18 July
- I chaired the Transport for London Board Meeting on 19 July
- I attended the Low Emission Neighbourhoods award ceremony on 19 July
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 19 July
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 20 July
- I had my regular meeting with the Transport Unions on 20 July
- I attended an Eid Reception hosted by The Association of Muslim Police at the City of London Police on 20 July
- I met with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Inspector Barry Capper from the Wandsworth Common Safer Neighbourhood Team and the Furzedown dedicated ward PC Lucy Hartshorn on 21 July, for a brief walk-about in

Tooting to highlight the benefits of real neighbourhood policing and announce the move to two dedicated ward PCs by the end of 2017

- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, on 21 July
- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon Liam Fox MP, the new Secretary of State for International Trade, on 21 July
- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP, the new Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, on 21 July
- I had an introductory meeting with Cllr Claire Kober, the new Chair of London Councils, on 21 July
- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 21 July
- I took part in the JP Morgan Corporate Challenge in Battersea Part on 21 July
- I attended the launch of the first ever International Busking Day on Friday 22 July at Trafalgar Square
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 25 July
- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon David Davis MP, the new Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, on 27 July
- I joined the cast of Charlie And The Chocolate Factory at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane on 27 July to promote #LondonIsOpen
- I met with Lord Harris on 27 July to discuss the preparedness review
- I visited the London Borough of Camden with the Leader Cllr Sarah Hayward and Assembly Member Andrew Dismore on 28 July to see the area impact by HS2 and also to visit the Crick Institute
- I met with Gavin Barwell MP Croydon Central, Chris Philip MP Croydon South, Steve Reed MP Croydon North & Cllr Tony Newman, Leader of Croydon Council, on 28 July to discuss Croydon issues
- I had an introductory meeting with Gavin Barwell MP, the new Minister for London, on 28 July
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 28 July
- I launched a major new series of work by top UK and international artists to be featured across the Tube network, showing London is open to all, on 29 July
- I had my regular meeting with the South East Region Trade Union Congress on 29 July
- I attended the Harry Potter Premiere on 30 July
- I attended Ride London on 31 July
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 1 August
- I met with Siobhan McDonagh MP for Mitcham & Morden 1 August to discuss local issues
- I had an introductory meeting with Frank Lowy, Chairman of Westfield, on 2 August
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 2 August
- I had an introductory meeting with Fabian Picardo, the Chief Minister of Gibraltar, on 2 August
- I met with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner at Earlsfield Police Station on 2 August to announce that additional armed police are being deployed in visible roles across the capital
- I attended the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Steering Committee that took place at City Hall on 11 August
- I attended the 4th England v Pakistan Cricket Match at the Oval on 12 August

- I attended the London in Autumn Season of Culture launch event at the Science Museum on 17 August
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 18 August
- I visited the London Borough of Brent with the Leader Cllr Muhammed Butt on 18 August to see their two biggest regeneration sites - South Kilburn Estate and Wembley
- I visited the Night Tube Control Centre at Oxford Circus on 18 August
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 19 August
- I attended the launch of the Night Tube on the Central and Victoria Lines on 19 August
- I visited Paris on 25 August to participate in the formal commemoration of the liberation of Paris in WWII, to meet with leading French business people at Halle Freyssinet, Europe's largest new tech start-up campus and to meet with Anne Hidalgo, the Mayor of Paris.
- I joined the Mirror Pride Of Britain Bus Tour on 26 August
- I visited Kingsbury Temple on 28 August
- I visited Crossrail at Custom House on 31 August to ride station-to-station on an engineering train between Custom House and Canary Wharf on the first part of the completed Crossrail track
- I had lunch with News UK's CEO and editors on 31 August
- I met with Dame Louise Casey, Director General, Casey Review Team on 31 August to discuss some of the emerging themes from the independent review she is conducting into how we can boost opportunity and integration in our country
- I hosted a roundtable with a cross-section of London's higher education institutions (HEIs) on 31 August to discuss the implications for higher education of the vote to leave the EU

Ends