

36th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time – 14th November 2019

This is my Thirty-Sixth Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 4th October – 31st October 2019.

Executive Summary

Grenfell Tower Inquiry Phase 1 Report

On 30 October, the Grenfell Tower Inquiry published its Phase 1 Report, covering the terrible events of the night of the fire. I want to pay tribute to the survivors, the bereaved and the community for the determination they have shown to secure change.

The report shows that our firefighters and other emergency services showed incredible courage and bravery, working in the most challenging of conditions, in what was a catastrophic building failure.

The Inquiry clearly points to the external cladding on the building – which failed to comply with building regulations – as the cause of the rapid spread of fire at Grenfell Tower. Phase 2 of the Inquiry will hear evidence from those responsible for the refurbishment that turned the building into a deathtrap for residents and firefighters.

It is clear there are significant lessons to learn for London Fire Brigade, and the Brigade has accepted all of the report's recommendations. While institutional failures meant that the overall response to the disaster was not good enough, every single person who attended that night did so to save lives.

I personally will do everything within my power to ensure that the Inquiry's recommendations are implemented, and I will be relentless in holding to account those responsible for implementing the remaining recommendations.

Diwali and Temple visits

On Monday 28 October, I visited Hindu and Jain temples across north-west London to mark Diwali. I also held an evening Diwali celebration in City Hall on Thursday 24 October alongside AMG Media Group.

World-leading scheme to revolutionise lorry safety

On 29 October, I was proud to launch world-leading plans to remove the most dangerous lorries from London's streets. So many of the tragic deaths on our roads involve Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) and this new scheme will help save lives.

These vehicles will need to meet a minimum 'one-star' rating by the time enforcement begins to enable them to operate in London, or will need to fit 'Safe System' measures to improve the vehicle's safety.

Forward-looking businesses have already been choosing safer vehicles in the run up to HGV safety permits becoming available. Operators now have 12 months to upgrade their fleets, helping make our streets much safer for people walking and cycling.

£10 million boost for full fibre connectivity across London

High-speed connectivity is crucial for businesses of all sizes and sectors, not to mention Londoners accessing digital services at home and around the city.

That is why, I was pleased to announce on 24 October a £10 million investment which will upgrade large areas of London from copper cables to full fibre. This represents the largest investment in connectivity City Hall has ever made – unlocking the potential for us to use the Tube network and public buildings in bringing gigabit-speed connectivity to Londoners currently putting up with poor service.

£25 million polluting car fund for low income Londoners launched

On 23 October, I launched a £25 million scrappage scheme for eligible low income and disabled Londoners to help them get rid of polluting vehicles. Polluting vehicles account for around half of London's harmful nitrogen oxides emissions. The scrappage scheme aims to help Londoners on low incomes or with disabilities make the switch to less polluting vehicles and cleaner forms of transport, ahead of the ULEZ expansion in 2021 up to the North and South Circular roads.

We need Government Ministers to follow London's lead and help clean our filthy air once and for all, by toughening up targets to meet the WHO air quality guidelines by 2030 and supporting a national vehicle renewal fund that will help all UK motorists to ditch their polluting cars.

Call on Government to stop the roll out of Universal Credit

On 23 October, I called on Government to stop the roll out of Universal Credit, after new analysis from City Hall showed welfare cuts over the last decade have led to a rise in the number of people in London forced into homelessness. Last year, 8,855 people were seen sleeping rough on the streets of London by outreach workers – more than double the number in 2010/11.

We are doing all we can to help Londoners affected by high rents, but without the powers to do more we need the Government to play their part. They should urgently reverse their damaging benefit cuts, overhaul tenancy laws to make them fit for purpose, and give me the power to bring in the rent controls Londoners so urgently need.

London kids exposed to five times more air pollution on school run

On 22 October, in partnership with King's College London and C40 Cities, I published the latest air quality data from the Breathe London Network. The new study revealed that children travelling to primary schools across the capital are five times more exposed to air pollution than at any other time of the day.

All the schools who took part in this study are using the results to educate pupils and their families on air quality and helping them find the least polluting routes for their journeys. We have also provided air quality audits and funding at each school to help deliver urgent pollution reduction measures from installing green 'barrier' walls around playgrounds, to working with

boroughs on car restrictions around main entrances. I remain committed to doing everything in my power to ensure London children can breathe clean air.

ULEZ cuts toxic air pollution by a third

On 21 October, I published a report evaluating the impact of the central London ULEZ in its first six months of operation. Thanks to the ULEZ, there are now 13,500 fewer polluting vehicles being driven into central London every day, and there has been a significant drop in harmful air pollution.

These figures prove without a doubt that ULEZ is exceeding expectations, reducing polluting vehicles and cleaning up our lethal air. I am determined to stop Londoners breathing air so filthy it is damaging our children's lungs and causing thousands of premature deaths.

Budget doubled to help London's rough sleepers

On 21 October, I doubled the rough sleeping budget to £19.2 million to help more homeless Londoners than ever off the streets.

This funding will support a wide range of projects, helping people who are already sleeping rough or at risk of homelessness, and ensure they are given the best possible chance of pursuing a life off the streets. But we can't do it alone – the Government must urgently address the root causes of rough sleeping, and reverse their policies which are forcing people onto the streets in the first place – including reversing welfare cuts and funding more council and social housing.

New affordable homes in Wandsworth approved

On 18 October, I approved a new 100 per cent affordable development for 168 homes at Osiers Road in Wandsworth.

This development will provide a significant number of much-needed new social rented and other genuinely affordable homes in an area where supply has consistently failed to meet targets. I have been clear, I will use all the levers at my disposal to increase the delivery of new genuinely affordable homes across the capital.

Since I called this application in for further scrutiny, my team has been successful in ensuring every new home in this development will be genuinely affordable. The design is high quality and includes commercial space which will have a positive impact on the local economy. As such, having considered all the evidence available to me, I decided to approve this development.

New online hub to help Londoners understand their rights

On 17 October, I launched the Employment Rights Hub to help Londoners of all backgrounds and professions to know, understand and enforce their rights at work.

This hub is yet another way in which City Hall is leading by example and supporting the great work of trade unions in helping working Londoners understand their employment status and access their rights. That's why I continue to urge all Londoners to join a trade union.

Multi-billion impact of London's creative industries

On 15 October, I launched a report on Creative Industries' Supply Chains. The report shows that the creative industries collectively contributed an estimated £40 billion into supply chains. Of the £40 billion, half (£20 billion) is spent outside of the creative industries, generating economic outputs for a range of other sectors.

This shows that London's creative industries drive jobs and growth across a whole range of other sectors and throughout the whole country. That's why it's vital that we support the sector to grow and develop. It's also why I've introduced a range of policies to support these industries including Creative Enterprise Zones to help them flourish.

Over £4 million investment to increase youth workers in hospitals

It is a tragedy that our city is being robbed of young people with so much potential and it is vital we do all we can to help them move away from a life of violence. On 14 October, I announced more than £4 million to fund additional teams of youth workers in five Accident & Emergency hospitals in areas with high levels of young victims of violent crime.

Embedding youth workers in hospitals has already made a profound difference to the lives of some of the most vulnerable young Londoners, reaching them at a crucial junction in their lives and helping them choose a different path away from violence. This is why, we at City Hall are investing record amounts to significantly expand this work and introduce specialist youth workers to more A&E departments.

Additional £500,000 invested to combat rising hate crime in the capital

On 12 October, I announced an additional £500k to tackle the growing threat of hate crime in the capital, including new support for communities that have experienced hate crime following the 2016 Brexit referendum. My new package of measures includes:

- Doubling the funding City Hall has allocated for the hate crime victim advocacy service delivered by Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH), enabling the organisation to support around 900 victims to 'navigate' the criminal justice system, and to help them to improve their safety.
- Providing funding to support communities that suffered a spike in hate crime incidents following the EU referendum. This additional support to tackle hate crime is even more crucial as the UK prepares for the possibility of leaving the EU on 31 October.
- Funding grassroots community organisations that help people to stand up to hate and intolerance.

Hate crime of any kind has absolutely no place in our city and there must be zero tolerance of hate crime in London. We know this form of crime has a devastating and long-lasting impact on those who are targeted, and I am clear that the police have my full support in enforcing the law against anybody who commits these crimes.

Launch of innovative microgrant scheme

Next summer England will be united in its support for Gareth Southgate's side and I'm committed to helping Londoners of all backgrounds join in the celebrations in a way which can have a lasting, positive impact on our communities.

On 11 October, I launched my London EURO 2020 Grants Programme which will offer funding to local projects from a total pot of up to £525,000, enabling Londoners to get involved with the tournament at a grassroots level. I'm encouraging individuals and local organisations across London to apply for funding for their events and projects to make sure that EURO 2020 doesn't just create long-lasting memories – but some tangible benefits for the capital as well.

New £2.25 million scheme to help rough sleepers with mental health needs

On 10 October, I announced a new £2.35 million scheme to support people with mental health needs sleeping rough in the capital. Last year, half of all people sleeping rough in London were recorded as having mental health needs, but many do not have access to the specialist support and treatment they need. Co-ordinated by Imperial College Health Partners, supported by UCL Partners and the Health Innovation Network, the two-year project will test how new collaborative ways of working can provide targeted support and help people leave the streets for good.

It's a scandal how many people living rough on the streets are suffering severe mental ill health. I have been consistently clear that the Government must stop ignoring the root causes of homelessness and urgently invest far more in the services we need to truly end homelessness, and that includes mental health care.

'Home for Londoners' conference

On 8 October, I launched my first 'Homes for Londoners' conference, making clear to homebuilders my priority is council, social rented, and other genuinely affordable housing, and that development must win the support of Londoners. I'll do everything I can to help, and I'll continue to lobby government hard for the money London needs, but everyone has a role to play, and that includes developers.

New support for London's small businesses preparing for Brexit

Brexit is a disaster for London and one of the biggest risks of a hard or no-deal Brexit is that the majority of small businesses remain unprepared.

On 7 October, I unveiled a range of new, free-to-access support options for London's million-plus small businesses as they prepare for Brexit. The London Growth Hub is a vital resource for SMEs – and whether you need help with Brexit preparation, or other challenges facing your business, I urge all of London's entrepreneurs to make use of the brilliant new business advice centres we are establishing across the city.

Policing, Crime and Security

Standing together against hatred and intolerance

On 12 October, ahead of the start of this year's National Hate Crime Awareness Week, I announced an additional £500k investment to tackle hate crime in the capital, including new support for communities that have experienced hate crime following the 2016 Brexit referendum.

Overall, reports of hate crime in London have increased by 31 per cent since 2015 with recent figures showing that there are on average 290 racist hate crime offences per week. There was a 'spike' in hate crime incidents following the EU referendum in July 2016, with the number of incidents almost doubling to 547 in the week following the referendum result. There have also been spikes in hate crime following UK and international terrorist attacks, with sharp increases in incidents reported in June 2017 and March this year, following the London Bridge and Christchurch New Zealand terror attacks.

The new investment will double the funding City Hall has allocated for the hate crime victim advocacy service delivered by Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH), enabling the organisation to support around 900 victims to 'navigate' the criminal justice system, and to help them to improve their safety. The investment also provides funding to support communities that suffered a spike in hate crime incidents following the EU referendum, and funding for grassroots community organisations that help people to stand up to hate and intolerance.

New £4 million investment to embed more youth workers in hospitals

Visiting the A&E at North Middlesex University Hospital in Enfield on 14 October, I joined my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, my Director of London's Violence Reduction Unit, Lib Peck, and NHS Clinical Director for Violence Reduction in London, Martin Griffiths, to meet the hospital's A&E staff to hear about the successful interventions City Hall-funded youth workers have been making with young victims of violence. Basing these youth workers in Major Trauma Centres and A&E departments lets them intervene much earlier and engage with young people when they arrive at hospital with injuries resulting from violence – a time when they are most receptive to changing their behaviour.

During the visit, I announced record investment to increase the number of youth workers in hospitals across the city and help steer young people away from violence. More than £4 million will fund additional teams of youth workers to be based for the first time in five Accident & Emergency hospitals in areas with high levels of young victims of violent crime - Newham General Hospital in Plaistow, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Woolwich, Croydon University Hospital, University Hospital Lewisham and Whittington Hospital, covering Islington and Haringey. This investment will also provide an increase in the number of specialist youth workers already based in London's four Major Trauma Centres – Kings, St George's, St Marys and the Royal London hospitals. I will continue to invest in youth workers in A&E departments at North Middlesex University Hospital in Enfield and St Thomas Hospital in Lambeth, as well as providing funding for the first time to youth workers who are currently working in Homerton A&E in Hackney. This funding will now mean that City Hall is funding more than half of all the youth worker posts in London hospitals.

Tackling knife crime in our communities

We have had further tragic reminders this month of the terrible toll knife crime and violence continues to take in our communities, with a number of appalling homicides and violent incidents which have shocked all of us. On 16 October, I joined Commissioner Cressida Dick, MPS officers, representatives from the London Ambulance Service, London Fire Brigade, councillors, council workers, local residents and local high school students on a cross-generation community weapons sweep in Camden, as part of our efforts to tackle violence. These weapons sweeps take place regularly across the city, and are an important element of the comprehensive actions being taken by the MPS and partners to tackle knife crime and keep people safe.

The following day, 17 October, the Office for National Statistics published the latest crime statistics for England and Wales, for the year to June 2019. The latest figures revealed that knife crime continues to increase significantly across England and Wales, with a 13 per cent rise over the period. However, in London, the statistics indicate that knife crime is beginning to stabilise, with a 0.1 per cent increase (17 offences) over the same period. The number of homicides in London decreased by 18 per cent. However, these levels remain unacceptably high and there is much more to do. While our efforts both to be tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime are beginning to make an impact, we can't afford to be complacent for a second - one violent incident is always one too many.

Transport

London's Transport Commissioner, Mike Brown MVO set to leave TfL

On 17 October, Transport for London (TfL) announced that London's Transport Commissioner, Mike Brown MVO, will be leaving the organisation to take up the role of Chair of the Delivery Authority for the Restoration & Renewal of the Houses of Parliament after the next Mayoral election in May 2020.

Mike became Transport Commissioner in July 2015 and has led TfL's delivery of my Transport Strategy and multi-billion pound transport investment programme. He has transformed the efficiency of the organisation and has overseen a step-change in TfL's focus on tackling safety on London's roads, improving London's air quality and encouraging a shift to public transport, cycling and walking.

Mike deserves huge thanks for the exceptional service he has given to London, both for the excellent job he has done as TfL Commissioner, but also for all the work he has done for the capital since starting at TfL in 1989.

The recent transformation of the London's public transport network into one of the very best in the world is testament to Mike's expertise, and much of the exciting investment we're continuing to see in transport across the capital is a result of Mike's leadership and vision and we wish him well in the future.

Plans to make works on the capital's busy road network safer and less disruptive

Transport for London (TfL) has set out measures to make works on the capital's road network safer and less disruptive, by making changes to its pioneering Lane Rental scheme and introducing a new Roadworks Charter for utility companies.

The scheme allows TfL to charge utility companies a daily fee for digging up the busiest sections of London's roads at the busiest times, encouraging companies to plan the works they need to carry out outside of the most sensitive times.

The proposed changes to the scheme are intended to better reflect how London's roads are being used, with more Cycleways and some of London's busiest footways being subject to charges. To support the Vision Zero aim to eliminate death and serious injury from London's roads, TfL is also proposing to offer discounts to those who demonstrate high safety standards.

Ordnance Survey to help reduce unnecessary traffic disruption

Freight and fleet operators are now able to access better information about height restrictions for tunnels and bridges across London, thanks to Ordnance Survey permitting Transport for London to release a new free to use dataset.

Available via the TfL website, the new dataset will provide freight and delivery operators, as well as developers and academics, more detailed information about height restrictions on low bridges, tunnels and barriers across London roads.

This new data will support the wider work of the Smart London Board which advises me on implementing new digital technologies across London's infrastructure, utilities and public services, as well as shapes the vision for London's smart cities agenda.

New consultation on Bakerloo line extension opens

Transport for London has invited the public to give their views on the most detailed proposals yet for an extension of the Bakerloo line, including suggestions for the names for two new stations being proposed.

This latest consultation follows feedback given in previous public consultations in 2014, which focused on a comprehensive analysis of the route options, and in 2017 which highlighted potential station and shaft locations.

The extension, proposed to run from Elephant & Castle to Lewisham via Old Kent Road and New Cross Gate, will be vital in improving public transport capacity for south east London by providing a high frequency Tube service directly into central London. It will help meet the needs of the capital's growing population, which is forecast to increase by more than 10 million people by 2030, and will help deliver more than 5,000 new jobs and at least 25,000 new homes when built.

London Overground's West Hampstead station becomes step-free

Customers using the London Overground station at West Hampstead are now enjoying easier and more accessible journeys after Transport for London opened two new lifts providing step-free access from street to platform for the first time.

Both platforms are now served by lifts helping ensure the station is accessible to all customers, including disabled or older customers, parents or carers with buggies and people with heavy luggage.

West Hampstead is joining the growing number of accessible TfL stations and supports my Transport Strategy of making the transport network more accessible and inclusive.

Their introduction was made possible with the help of the Department of Transport's Access for All scheme. It provided £3 million worth of funding and has been the largest project to date to benefit from this programme which aims to provide obstacle free, accessible routes from station entrances to platform.

TfL invites feedback on proposals for building above Southwark Tube station

Transport for London has invited the local community to give feedback on its proposals for an over-station development at Southwark Tube station, following previous consultation on its vision for the area in June earlier this year.

The proposals for the over-station development include the provision of around 180,000 sq. ft. of commercial space and 7,500 sq. ft. of retail space, creating a landmark for the area. The initial public consultation showed a need for a community hub and a focal point in order for Southwark to be recognised as a vibrant destination.

The building has been designed in order to take on board comments from the local community, with a staggered structure that at its lowest is of a comparable height to the nearby Styles House in the westerly section.

The development will also retain the station entrance, ticket hall and lightwells down to the Jubilee line platforms. It will also be set further back from the homes by its side with the area in between being used as a shared space for neighbouring residents and occupants of the new buildings.

New research reveals two-thirds of car passengers have felt uncomfortable with speed when driven by a friend or family member

Car passengers often feel uncomfortable with the speeds driven by friends or family members and many are quietly hiding their concerns, Transport for London has revealed. The new research, carried out by YouGov, showed that of 524 people who have travelled as a passenger in a friend or family member's car at least once a month, 61 per cent felt uncomfortable about the speed they were driven. Also 29 per cent felt uncomfortable telling a friend or family member to slow down

To help tackle unsafe speed across London, TfL has launched a powerful new marketing campaign 'Watch Your Speed', which is designed to generate understanding amongst drivers that the speed at which they travel has a wider impact. Also that speeds that they may feel comfortable with behind the wheel can be unsafe for passengers and other road users.

The campaign supports TfL's commitment to Vision Zero, which aims to eliminate death and serious injury from London's roads by 2041. This includes TfL's wider work on reducing speed-related collisions across London, which includes new 20mph speed limits to be introduced in central London early next year, increased speed enforcement by the Metropolitan Police and

fitting more than 700 buses with Intelligent Speed Assistance to limit the speed at which they can travel.

Major milestone in multimillion pound transformation of Waltham Forest

On 17 October, my Deputy Mayor for Transport, Heidi Alexander, and Transport for London joined Waltham Forest Council and the City of London Corporation in officially opening a major part of the multimillion pound transformation of Waltham Forest.

The Enjoy Waltham Forest programme is part of a £2.3 billion investment in creating Healthy Streets across the capital. TfL awarded Waltham Forest £30 million in 2014 through the Mini Holland programme, which provided three boroughs Waltham Forest, Enfield and Kingston with funds to reduce car use and turn local areas into safer, greener and healthier places for Londoners to live.

The intimidating, busy and outdated Whipps Cross roundabout has been transformed with a new public space, pedestrian crossings, segregated cycle lanes and dedicated bus lanes. The land was originally part of Epping Forest, which is owned and managed by the City of London Corporation, before it became a traffic-dominated roundabout and road junction in June 1939.

The new 21st century road layout has enabled 1,800 square metres of former road space to be returned to the protection of Epping Forest, and has been turned back into a local flower-rich meadow for pollinating insects.

Competition to improve advertising diversity

On 25 October, both City Hall and Transport for London joined forces to launch an innovative competition that will challenge brands to make their advertising more representative of the capital.

This competition is designed to combat the sometimes-superficial representation of people of colour in advertising by inviting brands to create campaigns that authentically reflect London's Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities. It follows the success of last year's competition aimed at better representing the capital's women in advertising.

Fire and Resilience

Age UK London Conference

On 4 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, opened an event which highlighted Fire Safety among older Londoners. Age UK London held the Pan-London Conference with London Fire Brigade as part of the Age Friendly London campaign which covers supporting older Londoners to age safely and well and give the local Age UKs and older people's organisations the tools to lead on promoting fire safety in their communities.

MHCLG South East Local Resilience Forum

On 7 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, attended the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government South East Local Resilience Forum to discuss preparedness for the EU Exit.

London Councils Resilience Strategy Roundtable

On 9 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, attended a roundtable discussion with representatives of London local authorities, organised in partnership with London Councils. The roundtable brought together emergency services in London local authorities to discuss resilience challenges and identify potential actions and policy priorities to deliver resilience.

Mayor's Advisory Group

On 10 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience Fiona Twycross AM, attended the Mayor's Advisory Group to brief the Mayor on London's readiness for a no-deal Brexit.

Long Service Awards

On 11 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at London Fire Brigade's Long Service Awards. The Awards recognise the contribution both uniformed and non-uniformed London Fire Brigade staff make to keeping London safe.

London Brexit Strategic Co-ordination Group

In October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, attended a number of Brexit London Strategic Coordinating Group meetings to discuss preparations for an EU Exit.

Meeting with Residents of 8 Albert Embankment

On 14 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, met with residents surrounding 8 Albert Embankment regarding London Fire Brigades plans to renovate the station and surrounding area.

Grenfell Tower Report

On 16 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, attended the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee alongside Commissioner Dany Cotton to answer questions from London Assembly Members regarding the Grenfell Tower Report published by London Fire Brigade. Throughout the week she has met with key stakeholders to brief them on the report's findings.

Winter Preparedness

On 16 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, attended a meeting of the London Resilience Forum on Winter Preparedness.

London Resilience Forum

On 17 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, chaired the London Resilience Forum.

World Menopause Awareness Day

On 18 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at an event which raised awareness of the issues surrounding menopause.

Kentish Town Fire Station visit

On 18 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr. Fiona Twycross AM, visited Kentish Town Fire Station to meet firefighters with Sir Keir Starmer MP and London Fire Brigade Officers.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

Transitioning to a circular economy

On 7 October, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, launched the 'Design for a Circular Economy Primer', as part of my Good Growth by Design programme, at Public Practice's Autumn Forum at the Design Museum. The Primer calls on London's built environment sector to move to a circular economy model, which is an important step on the transition to environmental sustainability. Working in partnership with my Mayor's Design Advocates and industry experts, we have ensured that circular economy principles are embedded into the draft London Plan. I'm now calling on the built environment sector to adopt circular economy thinking in their everyday practice.

Industrial growth in the Upper Lee Valley

On 10 October, the Productive Valley Fund - a new flexible £2.7 million loan fund - launched to support industry-led growth and celebrate production and enterprise in the Upper Lee Valley. As a joint initiative between Haringey, Enfield and Waltham Forest Councils, with support from City Hall, the Fund is as a great example of a collaborative sub-regional approach to economic development in a key industrial location. The Productive Valley Fund is open to industrial estate-based businesses located in, or looking to relocate to, the Upper Lee Valley.

Great response to round three of the Good Growth Fund

My Regeneration & Economic Development team received a total of 170 applications in round three of my Good Growth Fund, totalling just over £177 million. The team will now work with others across City Hall and with the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), to assess which project proposals will best meet the Fund's aims of empowering people, making better places and growing prosperity in London. Applicants who are successful in progressing to Stage Two will be informed in December 2019 and funding awards will be made in March 2020.

Future x Skills – Mayor's Digital Careers Event

On 21 October, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, opened the *Future x Skills – Mayor's Digital Careers Event* at the Barbican Centre. This successful event was attended by over 250 young Londoners, mainly from BAME backgrounds.

The event highlighted the growing career opportunities in tech, presented different routes into the sector, and showcased opportunities from an impressive range of organisations, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, Deloitte, TfL, Goldman Sachs, Ustwo Games, Channel 4, Hs2, Wates and GoCardless. 36 organisations participated in the event, offering a wealth of skills and employment opportunities, from free digital training opportunities, apprenticeship positions, paid roles and career advice to mentorship opportunities.

Housing

Homes for Londoners Conference

On 8 October, I hosted my first 'Homes for Londoners' Conference, attended by over 450 representatives from the housing sector. This conference brought together community groups, architects, developers, housing associations and London's 33 local authorities to discuss my plans for building more council and genuinely affordable housing in London. Unlike other housing conferences, the needs of Londoners were at the heart of all conversations, with a community representative on every panel alongside speakers from the private and public sectors.

As well as affordable housing, the conference focused on engaging with community groups, developing infrastructure, and maintaining high building quality standards. There was an exhibition where attendees could meet with representatives from the GLA Group and London boroughs, alongside roundtables on areas including Build to Rent and tackling homelessness. Attendees were given the opportunity to learn more about the Royal Docks Enterprise Zone with tours of the area throughout the afternoon.

At the conference I met students from Sarah Bonnell School in Newham who presented me with their priorities for the future of their local area, and I answered questions on the main stage in conversation with the Mayor of Newham, Rokhsana Fiaz.

Doubling City Hall's 2019/20 budget for rough sleeping services.

By doubling City Hall's rough sleeping budget in 2019/20, I am continuing to expand my 'Life Off the Streets' programme in London. My raft of new and expanded services for people sleeping rough in the capital include:

- improved shelter provision for rough sleepers during the coldest months of the year;
- an enhanced 'Routes Home' programme, to help non-UK national rough sleepers;
- a new 'Rapid Response Team' outreach service;
- grants to ensure night shelters across London have the equipment they need to help rough sleepers; and
- two new shelters designed specifically for people at risk of sleeping rough that night.

These services will help people who are already sleeping rough or at risk of homelessness, and ensure they are given the best possible chance of pursuing a life off the streets.

But we will never be able to end homelessness until the Government urgently addresses its root causes, and reverses their policies which are forcing people onto the streets in the first place – including their welfare cuts and their failure to fund enough council and social housing

City Hall report shows housing benefits cuts have hit Londoners hardest

On 23 October, I published my Welfare and Homelessness Report. It shows that the Government's welfare cuts since 2010 - to Local Housing Allowance (LHA), the Benefit Cap and the Bedroom Tax - and the introduction of Universal Credit have fuelled arrears, evictions and homelessness.

The report outlines the scale of reductions in the help available to Londoners to help cover housing costs. For example, private renters claiming Housing Benefit, most of whom work, will be an average of £1,400 a year poorer by 2020/21 as a result to changes in LHA. At the same time, the operation of Universal Credit, including its long waiting times and the model of monthly assessment, is making it harder for Londoners to cover their rent.

Following this shocking revelation, I reiterated my calls on the Government to stop the roll-out of Universal Credit, reverse benefit cuts, overhaul tenancy laws, and to give me the power to bring in the rent controls in London.

No Nights Sleeping Rough Taskforce

My 'No Nights Sleeping Rough' taskforce chaired by my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, James Murray, met on 31 October. The Taskforce brings together partners key to tackling rough sleeping in London. This meeting discussed my forthcoming Winter Programme, my new and expanded services, as well as discussing what more we can do to help young people affected by homelessness.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity Unit – Connected London team

On 24 October, I launched Vodafone's London HQ 'The Speechmark' in Southwark with Vodafone's UK CEO Nick Jeffrey and Helen Lamprell, General Counsel and External Affairs Director. Vodafone have relocated their Consumer and Digital HQ and Centre of Excellence from Newbury, bringing around 1000 employees to London. Vodafone's £6.5 million investment cements Bankside and the area in and around Southwark Street as one of the fastest growing centres for creative and digital expertise in London.

I also announced a new £10 million fund for London boroughs to roll out full fibre and tackle not spots, expecting to benefit around 118,000 homes and businesses. This latest funding joins other investments of £15.4 million from London Councils for west and north London, and £8.5 million for central London from the Department for Digital, Culture Media & Sport (DCMS).

Visit of Mayor of Stockholm to City Hall

On 4 October, I was pleased to welcome the Mayor of Stockholm, Anna König Jerlmyr, to City Hall where we discussed London and Stockholm's ever growing tech sectors, our shared environmental challenges, and the importance of international cooperation on the big issues facing cities today, especially in light of Brexit.

Environment

Chatham House annual climate change conference

On 7 October, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, spoke at the Chatham House Climate Conference, focusing on climate resilience and adaptation. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues focused on London's declaration of a climate emergency and highlighted that London faces a complex set of challenges from climate change which will affect the city for decades meaning adaptation will be necessary alongside mitigation. The Deputy Mayor also raised the importance of adaptation in protecting jobs and promoting sustainable growth, and that to improve resilience to a changing climate, partnership working between sectors is needed to ensure that climate risk is considered across London's strategies, plans and decision making.

C40 World Mayors Summit

Between 9 and 11 October, London participated in the C40 World Mayors Summit. The Summit brought together city leaders from across the world to showcase their innovative actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, influence decision-makers and inspire citizens to take climate action in their own lives. The summit demonstrated to national governments that cities are advancing ambitious action on climate but need more powers and resources to accelerate this.

As part of the Summit, I joined the C40 Steering Committee Mayors' meeting by videocall from London. The Committee confirmed the handover of C40 Chair role from Mayor Hidalgo of Paris to Mayor Garcetti of Los Angeles and discussed the need to ensure the role of cities was recognised in the United Nations COP process. I updated the Committee on recent developments from London, including progress made on tackling air quality with the implementation of the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) and my London Business Climate Leaders programme which works with 11 global businesses in London to reduce their emissions.

My initiative is to be replicated through C40's new City Business Alliance Programme. I also updated fellow Mayors on the new C40 Divest/Invest toolkit which will be released in November through the network I co-chair with the Mayor of New York, and called on them to join the movement to divest from fossil fuels. The toolkit, uses examples of the action we have been taking in London to accelerate divestment and will help other cities pursue similar action. My Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, spoke at several events during the Summit to share the ambitious work we are leading in London on climate change.

This included opening the City Business Climate Summit outlining how I am partnering with London's businesses to deliver climate action in London, briefing Danish and Scandinavian city leaders on my 1.5°C climate action plan, and hosting a breakfast for European Mayors attending the Summit. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues also spoke at a separate event on Divestment together with the Mayor's Office of New York to encourage cities to join the C40 Divest/Invest network.

London joins C40 Commitments for a Global Green New Deal, on Air Quality and on reducing emissions from food

During the C40 summit, I reaffirmed my commitment to taking bold action to address the climate emergency by committing London to three new C40 declarations. Notably, London led and helped to develop the Clean Air Cities Declaration which builds on the action I have taken to clean up London's toxic air. The declaration commits cities to ambitious pollution reduction targets, with substantive clean air policies by 2025, in excess of national governments. 35 C40 cities have signed the declaration in total.

I joined 94 other C40 Mayors to reaffirm my commitment to a Global Green New Deal. Through this commitment cities will work to keep global temperatures below the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement and by ensuring that inclusive climate action across all communities is at the centre of all urban-decision making.

Finally, together with Mayors from 13 other cities, including Los Angeles and Barcelona, I signed a Good Food pledge, which will align food procurement controlled by city authorities to the Planetary Health Diet. This pledge is already in line with policies in my Food Strategy.

London wins C40 Award for ULEZ

The world-leading success of the London ULEZ was recognised during the C40 Summit, where I received the C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropy Clean Air Award. London was one of seven cities to receive one of these climate leadership awards, and the only European city to do so. Collecting the award on my behalf, was my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, who outlined the success of the scheme so far. The award demonstrates our leading role amongst C40 cities in addressing the climate emergency through tackling transport emissions.

Meeting with Chair of Ofwat to discuss Thames Water's performance in London

On 17 October, I met with Jonson Cox, Chair of Ofwat, the financial regulator for the water industry. In a very constructive meeting, I asked them to improve Thames Water's performance in managing London's water supply. This has been unacceptable for a number of years with regular burst water mains causing flooding and disruption and numerous water outages across the city impacting on Londoners.

London City Airport

On 18 October, I submitted my formal response to London City Airport's consultation on their masterplan. Changes in flight paths at London City in 2016 have led to some communities suffering from significantly increased noise. The draft masterplan proposes more flights, including in the mornings, evenings and weekends. Not only that but there are significant risks to local air quality and carbon emissions, which London City are yet to convincingly address. I have been clear that, until I see a credible tackling of these issues, it would not be in Londoners' interests for me to support the scheme.

The full response has been published on the TfL website here:

<https://tfl.gov.uk/corporate/publications-and-reports/aviation#on-this-page-2>.

Central London ULEZ: Six Month Report published

On 21 October, I published a report evaluating the impact of the central ULEZ in its first six months of operation. The ULEZ is the centrepiece of my bold action to tackle London's toxic air health crisis, and the report shows the scheme is already delivering exceptional results for Londoners. Thanks to the ULEZ, there are now 13,500 fewer polluting vehicles being driven into central London every day, and there has been a significant drop in harmful air pollution. Roadside nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) pollution has reduced by 36 per cent in the zone from February 2017 (when I publicly confirmed the Toxicity Charge – the predecessor to the ULEZ – and people started to prepare for the schemes) to September 2019.

None of the air quality monitoring sites located on the ULEZ boundary measured an increase in NO₂ pollution since the scheme was introduced. It is estimated the reduction in NO₂ pollution solely attributable to the ULEZ is 29 per cent. This is ahead of schedule to meet the 45 per cent NO_x emission reduction expected in the first year of operation. We expect even further air quality benefits for Londoners when the ULEZ expands up to the North and South Circular Roads in October 2021, and tighter emissions standards are introduced for buses, coaches and lorries across London in October 2020.

The report can be viewed at: www.london.gov.uk/WHAT-WE-DO/environment/environment-publications/central-london-ulez-six-month-report.

New Breathe London data published

On 22 October, in partnership with King's College London and C40 Cities, I published the latest air quality data from the Breathe London Network. Breathe London uses a range of cutting-edge equipment including Google Street View cars kitted out with air quality sensors that take pollution readings at thousands of locations while they travel through London's streets. This network builds on London's existing air quality monitoring network and enables us to understand the state of the capital's air at unprecedented scale and detail. This is helping us identify toxic air hotspots, and guide action to reduce air pollution and exposure to it.

Preliminary data from the Google cars shows that harmful nitrogen dioxide is on average 51 per cent higher on busy "A" roads than quieter, local roads. Breathe London also includes a study of the air quality exposure of 250 children, who wore backpacks with special sensors, on their way to school and in the classroom. Results from the study revealed that air pollution is on average five times higher on the journey to school than during lessons. As a result of the study, 31 per cent of children that took part changed the way they commute to and from school in order to reduce their exposure.

The report can be viewed at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/WHAT-WE-DO/environment/environment-publications/breathe-london-wearables-study>.

£25 million polluting car fund for low income Londoners launched

On 23 October, I launched a £25 million scrappage scheme for eligible low income and disabled Londoners to help them get rid of polluting vehicles. Polluting vehicles account for around half of London's harmful nitrogen oxides emissions. The scrappage scheme aims to help Londoners on low incomes or with disabilities make the switch to less polluting vehicles and cleaner forms of transport, ahead of the ULEZ expansion in 2021 up to the North and South Circular roads.

This scheme will run alongside the existing £23 million fund for micro business, sole traders and charity owners who want to scrap older vans. Under the new scheme, eligible applicants can apply for £1,000 for scrapping a motorcycle or moped, or £2,000 for scrapping a car. Alongside this, eligible applicants will be able to take advantage of a number of other offers and benefits such as one year's free membership for Santander Cycles for all journeys up to 30 minutes.

Details of the London scheme are available at: <http://tfl.gov.uk/car-motorcycle-scrappage>.

International Air Quality Summit: new report on meeting World Health Organization air quality limits, and a new all electric taxi

On 23 October, I hosted an International Air Quality Summit at City Hall in partnership with the cities network UK100. The Summit brought together government ministers, city leaders, policy makers, environmentalists, and businesses, and guests included the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Tedros Adhanom.

To coincide with the Summit, I published a report showing that London can meet the WHO's tough guidelines for fine particulate matter (PM2.5) but only if Government provide the additional powers and resources that we need to do so. I therefore urged ministers to follow London's leadership and adopt a legally-binding target of meeting WHO air quality guidelines by 2030 in its draft Environment Bill, and to give UK cities the power and funding to make this happen. This includes the creation of a £1.5 billion vehicle fleet renewal fund. At the Summit, I also launched the first all-electric London black cab by Dynamo. The Dynamo Taxi is expected to accelerate the retirement of polluting diesel taxis from city streets across the UK, improving air quality, tackling the climate emergency and showing how ambition on clean air can create a green economy.

The week of the Summit also included a workshop by the C40 Cities Air Quality Network. London leads this international network jointly with Bengaluru, and its focus is on helping cities develop and implement air quality policies and solutions to address climate change. This two-day workshop was designed to share knowledge, success stories, and resources to jumpstart implementation of the actions that cities like London have committed to in the Clean Air Cities Declaration.

The Conservation Volunteers' 60th Anniversary

On 23 October, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, opened The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) Hero Awards at City Hall. The event marked the anniversary of The Conservation Volunteers charity, and the Hero Awards recognised the impact of people and projects that support new skills and improve health and wellbeing. TCV have been an integral part of some of my key environmental projects. This autumn, I am working with them to give away 25,000 trees to community groups, part of a total of 95,000 trees to be planted during National Tree Week (23 November – 1 December) funded by City Hall projects.

Education and Youth

Visit to Alton Community Playschool

On 8 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, visited Alton Community Playschool in Wandsworth. Alton is a member of the Wandle Early Years Hub - one of three Early Years Hubs which I have funded until December 2020 to support access to quality early education in London.

Keen to see first-hand how local providers are benefiting from our funding, Joanne met the manager and staff at Alton Community Playschool, as well as some of the children and parents. Since joining the Hub (which supports providers across Wandsworth and Merton), Alton has benefitted from improved access to training opportunities for staff, as well as better links with other local providers and partners. For example, this year they will be offering placements to two students from Roehampton University - one of the Hub's core partners - who are working towards their BA in Early Childhood Studies.

Save the Children UK at London Challenge Poverty Week

On 18 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, hosted an early years event in City Hall as part of London Poverty Challenge Week 2019.

The event was organised by Save the Children, who launched their new report, exploring the experience that lower income London parents have of supporting their children's early learning.

Joanne was pleased to share the work we are already doing to support less advantaged families to access early education - for example, through our London Early Years Campaign. The Deputy Mayor also called on those present to support the aims of London Challenge Poverty Week and to come together to influence change.

Improving support for pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND)

On 14 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, delivered the opening address at a seminar for London schools on 'Improving Support to SEND Pupils'. This was co-hosted by the GLA and Whole School SEND. Over 40 leaders and SEND specialists from mainstream schools and alternative provision attended.

Presentations from Professor Philip Garner from Brunel University London, and Margaret Mulholland a SEND and Inclusion Specialist at the Association of School and College Leaders, looked at ways of reducing the risk of exclusion and providing the right early support for SEND pupils. Whole School SEND launched a consultation on their new SEND Leadership Guide for Special Educational Needs Coordinators and their line managers.

Young Londoners Fund

I have invested over £23 million, so far, in 250 Young Londoners Fund projects that will reach more than 80,000 young Londoners over the next three years.

Over 17,000 young people across the capital have benefitted from these projects which offer a range of positive opportunities, including theatre groups, counselling, employability training, football clubs and art sessions.

The fund continues to be hugely popular. In round 2 we received over 550 applications requesting grants totalling £97 million for an available £16 million. I will shortly be announcing round 2 grant awards which I anticipate will reach a further 30,000 young Londoners.

One Young World Opening Ceremony

It was my honour to give the opening speech at the One Young World Summit, on 22 October, welcoming young leaders from 190 countries to London. The summit, which was also attended by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Sussex, was held between 22 - 25 October, and brought together the brightest young talent from every country and sector, working to accelerate social impact.

KidZania – World of Work Showcase

On 9 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, welcomed London teachers to a showcase event at KidZania – an ‘indoor city run by kids’. The evening was focussed on careers education in primary schools. Teachers got to experience KidZania and also learn about my fantastic London Curriculum World of Work trails, which encourage children to explore jobs around London through fun family activities.

Research has shown that the aspirations children have are too often based on gender stereotypes, socio-economic background and TV, film and radio influences. By broadening children’s horizons from a younger age, we can help London children feel that the sky’s the limit.

East London Children’s University Graduation Ceremony

On 19 October, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, gave the welcome address at the East London Children’s University Graduation event here at City Hall. The Children’s University provides 5 to 14 year olds (and their families) with access to exciting and innovative learning activities and experiences outside of the normal school day.

They work closely with employers, local authorities and schools to prepare young people for today’s workplace, boosting their job prospects and the calibre of candidates available to potential employers. At the graduation ceremony 40 children from five primary schools in Newham and Redbridge received certificates for participating in extra-curricular activities.

Communities and Social Policy

BAME Voluntary Sector and Launch of AVOCADO+ Acceleration Programme

On 4 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, delivered a speech at City Hall on the value of the BAME voluntary sector to London and the importance of funding for the race equality sector, including BAME groups and funders working together on these issues. Hosted by Race on the Agenda (ROTA), this special funder event also included the launch of the AVOCADO+ Accelerator Programme which helps BAME-led organisations become more financially sustainable.

Future Proofing English as a second foreign language

On 8 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, was invited to speak on Future Proofing English as a second foreign language (ESOL) at a conference by Ascentis Awarding Organisation. The GLA understands how ESOL is a crucial element in having better connected communities and Debbie reinforced the link between English language and integration. Dr Weekes-Bernard also updated the sector on what the GLA has been doing to shape skills provision in London to better suit the ESOL needs of Londoners.

Black Girl Fest 2019

On 12 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, spoke at Black Girl Fest, the UK's first annual arts and cultural festival celebrating Black women and girls. The day-long festival consisted of a curated range of talks, workshops, marketplace and performances. Black Girl Fest provides a space for Black women and girls to see themselves celebrated and acknowledged in all spaces.

The theme for this year was 'Taking Up Space'. my Deputy Mayor participated in an 'in-conversation with' talk titled 'Understanding policy and race' with Nasim Salad, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator at One Campaign. The discussion touched upon a mix of topics around her personal career journey and perspective as a Black woman, as well as her work at City Hall, wider programmes, policies and current issues.

New Institute for Community Studies

On 16 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, was invited by the Young Foundation to speak at the launch of the new Institute for Community Studies, discussing how research is conducted in and with communities. We know that communities and civil society are at the heart of a thriving London, and our Citizen Led Engagement and Civic Futures programmes are working to rebalance our relationship with people to help build a shared vision for London.

Citizen Led Programme

On 16 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, met with several of the Citizen Led funded project groups. The projects included are those conducting peer research in target communities e.g. BAME LGBT+ communities, deaf Londoners, young BAME people affected by serious youth violence and others. The Deputy Mayor heard some initial findings from the groups. They discussed project progress to date as well as planning for the end of project event in March 2020.

Child Poverty Summit 2019

On 17 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, spoke at the London Child Poverty Summit 2019 which was the cornerstone event of the London Challenge Poverty Week campaign. During her speech, she announced some of the interim findings from our pilot project to tackle child poverty in schools which, in the first five weeks alone, generated almost £50,000 additional income for low-income families. She also announced the launch of an Employment Rights Hub

on [london.gov.uk](https://www.london.gov.uk) to assist Londoners at risk of exploitation in the workplace in finding information about their rights and how to enforce them.

UN's International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and London Challenge Poverty Week Campaign

On 17 October, I posted a video message on social media to mark the UN's International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and to promote the London Challenge Poverty Week Campaign. In the video, I also referenced the launch of the Employment Rights Hub on [london.gov.uk](https://www.london.gov.uk) which was accompanied by a press release from my office.

Eastern Eye's Diwali Reception

On 24 October, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agarwal, and I attended and spoke at the Eastern Eye's Diwali Reception.

European Outreach Micro-Grants

This month, the third round of European outreach micro-grants was launched. These grants are awarded to community groups and civil society organisations to support vulnerable European Londoners who are most at risk of not being able to access information and advice about applying for Settled Status after the UK leaves the EU.

Black History Month Reception

On 30 October, I hosted my annual Black History Month Reception. The keynote was delivered by Dr Samantha Tross, first Black female orthopaedic surgeon.

In honour of Black History Month, we have showcased the Smile-ing Boys Project in our exhibition area at City Hall. The Smile-ing Boys Project, produced by creative Kay Rufai, was created to combat negative imagery of young Londoners.

Health

World Mental Health Day Festival

On 10 October, Thrive LDN and my Peer Outreach Team held an all-day young Londoner-led festival at City Hall to mark World Mental Health Day.

The festival welcomed more than 400 young Londoners, who saw various activities including immersive plays, film screenings, live music performances, creative workshops, and panel discussions.

It was a pleasure to meet the artist who created an installation spanning the length of City Hall's public entrance slope, as well as students from Middlesex University who screened their film about the potential impact of 'banter' on young men's mental health.

Too Black Too Queer

As part of our wider World Mental Health Day celebrations, on Saturday 12 October, Brixton Reel, Thrive LDN and partners held Too Black Too Queer - a one night extravaganza celebrating Black LGBTQ+ experience and wellbeing. The evening included screenings of new films, DJs and a live cabaret show including musicians, poets and performance artists.

The evening highlighted the importance of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing, with performers and members of the audience discussing the things that they do to look after their mental health.

Launch of Next Steps for Social Prescribing

On 9 October, we published Next Steps for Social Prescribing. This document sets out a partnership approach for growing social prescribing in London. It was developed by the GLA, Healthy London Partnership (HLP) and the London Social Prescribing Network, in collaboration with colleagues from NHS England, local authorities and the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector. The document has a foreword from my Health Advisor, Dr. Tom Coffey OBE, and Dr Jagan John, Chair of Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group.

Meeting with Sir David Sloman, Regional Director on NHS London

On 11 October, I had my regular meeting with the senior leadership of the NHS. Sir David and I discussed a range of issues, including the recent launch of the partnership's new Health and Care Vision for London. Sir David was able to brief me on preparations in the NHS for Brexit, and we discussed how we can continue to work closely with the NHS on violence reduction. We also spoke about issues raised with me by members of the Assembly, including access to IVF in London.

Restart a Heart

The 16 October was national Restart a Heart Day, an annual event to promote the importance of CPR and defibrillation to survival rates from cardiac arrest. The day encourages people to learn the lifesaving skills of CPR and is supported by organisations such as the British Heart Foundation and the London Ambulance Service. I was pleased to show my support and spread this important message across all my social media channels.

Team London, Sports and Volunteering

Major Sports Events Team

On Sunday 6 October, I was delighted to attend the first NFL game to be played at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, between the Oakland Raiders and Chicago Bears. I met with the NFL Commissioner, team owners and senior representatives of the sport.

London truly is the sporting capital of the world and these games cement the city's reputation as a home away from home for the NFL, with a huge fan base and an ever-growing love of the sport. I look forward to seeing many more matches in London in the years to come.

EURO 2020 community grants programme

On Friday 11 October, I announced my new EURO 2020 Grants Programme. The innovative microgrants programme will provide up to £525,000 in funding for community groups, local charities and individuals across London to deliver one-off events, football-based initiatives and community-led projects that celebrate EURO 2020 or improve social integration in the local area.

This grants programme forms part of my wider EURO 2020 community engagement programme.

Team London Small Grants 2019/20

My Team London Small Grants programme 2019/20 focuses on reducing loneliness and social isolation through social prescribing and closed with almost 100 applications. Following scoring and moderation, I will be awarding small grants totalling £150,000 to 15 small community and voluntary sector organisations. The projects will be delivered from January to December 2020 and will benefit a range of participants across London.

Mayor of London's Volunteering Awards 2019

On 14 October, I hosted my Mayor of London's Volunteering Awards 2019 at City Hall. This event was attended by 290 volunteers from across London. The awards recognise exceptional Londoners who are committed to making the city a better place – from individuals who have spent decades helping charities to volunteer groups supporting their local communities.

A total of 34 awards were presented on the night, in categories such as Bringing Londoners Together, Activity and Wellbeing, Improving Life Chances and London's Environment. This year's ceremony also included new awards reflecting interfaith volunteering and the growing contribution made by young volunteers. In recognition of the vital volunteering work supporting those Londoners involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, crime I also presented my Mayor's Special Achievement Award. All boroughs of London were represented, and awards went to winners of all abilities, backgrounds, ages and faiths.

Football Unites Launch

On 21 October, I announced the start of the Football Unites pilot project aiming to engage young Premier League club academy players in social action within their local communities.

I am committed to working with London's football clubs and other major sports clubs to support and expand their capacity to positively impact local communities – with a particular focus on engaging young people.

The Football Unites pilot will engage a cohort of young Premier League academy players in identifying social issues in their local areas. They will co-design community projects in partnership with local community organisations to tackle these social issues.

The launch event at Selhurst Park Stadium attracted academy players from three Premier League clubs: Crystal Palace F.C., West Ham United F.C. and Arsenal F.C., alongside representatives from major football governing bodies.

Major Events Volunteering

On 31 October, 37 Team London Volunteers supported the Royal British Legion at their Poppy Day Appeal. Volunteers were based at Clapham Junction, Vauxhall mainline and Wimbledon stations, where they encouraged members of the public to donate to the Poppy Appeal.

Stronger Communities round 2

In October, I awarded the second round of Stronger Communities rolling microgrants. I will be funding another 16 projects to the value of £71,114.

The Stronger Communities Fund is a 12-month rolling programme awarding grants of £2,000-£5,000 for projects delivered over 12 weeks. I will be supporting projects which use sport and physical activity to tackle social isolation and improve social mixing. These projects will bring Londoners together from different backgrounds, cultures and faiths, and help isolated, and lonely Londoners feel better connected within their communities.

The Stronger Communities Fund specifically supports not-for-profit, small or informal organisations and groups, as well as individuals who often find it harder to access funding. This is in line with my ambition to make London the most active and socially integrated city in the world and is part of my £8.8 million Sport Unites programme.

Impact Partnerships round 2

In October, I announced the second cohort of eight Impact Partnerships grantees totalling over £1 million.

The Impact Partnerships 2019 Fund is a large grants programme in place to scale-up existing projects that have a proven track record in tackling Serious Youth Violence through sport. The funded projects focus on creating employment, education and training opportunities for young people (aged 10-25) severely at risk of being involved in crime. Grants of £100,000 - £200,000 were made available for two-year projects between January 2020 and January 2022 (in 2018 I awarded four organisations funding in round 1 of this grant programme).

A majority of projects funded in this round are in VRU priority areas and Tier 1 at-risk boroughs.

Culture and Events

London Film Festival – Mayor’s Gala Screening

London is currently the third-largest city for filmmaking in the world, and the London Film Festival is a high-profile annual opportunity to promote London’s talent.

On 7 October, I hosted my annual Mayor of London Gala at the 63rd London Film Festival, screening the European premiere of *The Aeronauts*. The film, starring British actors Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne, was directed by Londoner Tom Harper and filmed in locations across the capital. The Gala was an opportunity to speak about the importance of diversity and inclusivity to London’s success as one of the world’s most attractive cities for filmmaking.

London Borough of Culture Waltham Forest – GIANT, Opera in Trees, opening show

On 18 October, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the premiere of GIANT, a show of tree-inspired music and poetry performed by young people in the tree canopies of Epping Forest. GIANT was a highlight of Waltham Forest's London Borough of Culture programme and featured thirty-five schoolchildren from four schools, guest soloists and singers from the London Forest Choir and Tottenham Community Choir. Over a thousand people attended over two nights.

World Cities Culture Summit, Lisbon

From 23 to 25 October, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, chaired the eighth annual World Cities Culture Summit in Lisbon, Portugal. Lisbon's Mayor, Fernando Medina, and Deputy Mayors from nine other cities participated. The Summit focused on Culture, Identity and Equity, sharing learning about how city leaders across the world are working across neighbourhoods to serve all their communities.

The World Cities Culture Forum is the largest global network of senior leaders from city governments, championing the pivotal role of culture in city policy and impact. This year's Summit was the largest to date, attended by 38 cities including Lagos, Melbourne, Amsterdam, New York, Taipei, Hong Kong and new members Abu Dhabi, Barcelona, Brasilia, Guangzhou, Sao Paulo and Vancouver.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Homes for Londoners conference

On 8 October, the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) participated in my inaugural Homes for Londoners conference, showcasing their work to increase housing delivery in east London.

With almost 10,000 homes expected to be completed by the end of the year, Chief Executive Lyn Garner and Executive Director of Regeneration Rosanna Lawes discussed schemes already underway – such as Chobham Manor, winner of the 2019 NLA Awards Mayor's Prize – as well as LLDC's future development pipeline. This includes Stratford Waterfront, Pudding Mill and Rick Roberts Way which will deliver 50 per cent affordable housing across the piece, following my £200 million funding announcement in September to boost the level of affordable housing.

Pudding Mill consultation

On 23 October, the first round of consultation closed on plans for Pudding Mill which will be the next new neighbourhood on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The scheme will deliver approximately 1,500 new homes, as well as workspace for almost 2,000 people and a new neighbourhood centre. Consultation responses are now being examined, with the next round of consultation due to begin early in the new year.

UCL Trellis

From 19–27 October, UCL staged the Trellis exhibition at the future site of UCL East on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Comprised of four art installations, inspired by the history of the Lea Valley and the future of the university's new east London campus, the exhibition brought together contemporary artists working in or from east London with UCL scientists and engineers.

Half term events

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park hosted a wide range of events taking place during the school half-term period. This included a free Family Fun Day at The Last Drop café, Ultimate Aqua Splash at the London Aquatics Centre and cycling at Lee Valley VeloPark.

Planning

London Plan Inspectors Report

On 8 October, the Panel of Inspectors appointed by the Secretary of State, issued their report and recommendations on my draft London Plan, following the Examination in Public held earlier this year. I am currently considering the panel's recommendations in full and have published the Panel's report and recommendations so everyone can read and digest their conclusions.

I'm concerned by the recommendations to delete the aviation policy (which reflects my concerns about Heathrow expansion), delete my policy to prevent fracking in London, and loosen protections for the Green Belt. Tackling London's filthy air, maintaining and improving green spaces, and addressing the climate emergency are amongst my top priorities. To prevent the worst effects of climate change, it's critical we move towards renewable energy rather than extracting more fossil fuels. It's also vital that we move quickly to improve the capital's toxic air quality. I will send my 'Intend to Publish' version of the London Plan to the Secretary of State by the end of this year, alongside a schedule of the panel's recommendations and my response to these.

The report can be found on our website: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/london-plan/new-london-plan/inspectors-report>.

Opening Up Planning Data

In line with the commitments in my Economic Development Strategy we have started the process of opening up planning data by publishing pan-London datasets to enable residents to access information about their homes and communities as well as to enable businesses to access the data for free, to enable them to stimulate new ways of thinking and innovate. This is available to use at: <https://maps.london.gov.uk/planning/>

Opportunity Area Planning Frameworks

On 14 October, I adopted the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar Opportunity Area Planning Framework as Supplementary Planning Guidance to the London Plan. This OAPF sets out a plan

for a unique and important area to help manage current impacts of growth and establish a framework for future delivery. This will enable the Isle of Dogs and South Poplar areas to become better integrated and connected and for the entire opportunity area to reach its full potential of well-supported and sustainable Good Growth.

Planning and Development Control 24 September 2019 – 21 October 2019

Planning Decisions (Stage III representation hearings)

9,11 & 19 Osiers Road, Wandsworth Town, LB Wandsworth

I held the hearing on the 18 October 2019 and I decided to grant planning permission.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referral update)

Bishopsgate Goods Yard, LB Hackney/LB Tower Hamlets

Having reviewed the decision to become the local planning authority for the above case, I have written to the London Boroughs of Hackney and Tower Hamlets confirming that I will act as the local planning authority for the purposes of determining the planning application.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Former Kelaty House, 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.

Former Educational Campus for the Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College, Acton, LB Ealing

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

Middlesex Business Park, Southall, LB Ealing

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

Petrol station and land to the rear of the Hoover Building, Perivale, LB Ealing

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

Park View Place, Greenford, LB Ealing

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

Land South of M4, Harmondsworth, 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.

Carpet Right, Lewisham Town Centre, LB Lewisham

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

White Peaks Café Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, LB Richmond upon Thames

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

Poplar Gasworks, Leven Road, 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.

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, under powers I delegated to him, has sent letters in response to the following statutory referrals:

Former Cyclotron Building and land adjacent to Hammersmith Hospital, LB Hammersmith and Fulham

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE has written to the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Chailey Industrial Estate, Hayes, LB Hillingdon

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, has written to the London Borough of Hillingdon stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

79-83 Beddington Lane, Beddington, LB Sutton

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, has written to the London Borough of Sutton stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- St Pancras Commercial Centre, LB Camden
- Friary Park, Acton, LB Ealing
- New Era Estate, Whitmore Road, LB Hackney
- Woodberry Down, Phase 3, LB Hackney
- Lambeth College STEAM Centre, South Bank College, LB Lambeth
- Carpet Right, Old Kent Road, LB Southwark
- 840 Old Kent Road, LB Southwark
- 156 Beddington Lane, Beddington, LB Sutton
- 5 Seaforth Place, Victoria, City of Westminster

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, has asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- National Institute Medical Research, Mill Hill, LB Barnet
- Land at Benedict Wharf, Mitcham, LB Merton
- 4 Portal Way, North Acton, Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Gascoigne Estate West, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Former Middlesex University Trent Park Campus, LB Enfield

- A New Local Plan: The Options Consultation, Elmbridge Borough Council
- Great West Corridor Pre-submission Regulation 19 Consultation, LB Hounslow
- West of the Borough Pre-submission Regulation 19 Consultation, LB Hounslow
- Site Allocations – Pre-submission Regulation 19 Consultation, LB Hounslow
- Article 4 Direction, LB Tower Hamlets
- Draft Local Plan Regulation 18 Consultation, LB Waltham Forest

Key Engagements

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

- I had an introductory meeting with Anna König Jerlmyr, the Mayor of Stockholm on 4 October
- I attended the NFL game between Oakland Raiders and Chicago Bears at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on 6 October
- I attended the London Growth Hub Business Roadshow at City Hall on 7 October
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 7 October
- I hosted the Mayor's Film Gala at the London Film Festival on 7 October
- I met with Mike Brown, the London Transport Commissioner, on 8 October
- I had an introductory meeting with John Preston the new Chair of the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA) on 8 October ahead of his Assembly Confirmation Hearing
- I addressed the Homes for Londoners Conference at The Crystal on 8 October
- I chaired the VRU Partnership Reference Group on 9 September
- I had my regular meeting with Ken Marsh, Chair of the Metropolitan Police Federation, on 9 October
- I attended the Leonard Cheshire Awards Ceremony at City Hall on 9 October
- I met with Paul Elliott and colleagues on 9 October to discuss proposals for a special purpose vehicle to invest in housing in London
- I attended the World Mental Health Day Festival at City Hall on 10 October
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 10 October
- I chaired a meeting of the Mayor's Advisory Group on 10 October to review London's preparedness for a 'no deal' exit from the EU
- I had my regular meeting with Sir David Sloman, the Regional Director (London) NHS, on 11 October
- I joined the C40 Mayoral Steering Committee by video link on 11 October
- I visited the A&E Department at the North Middlesex Hospital on 14 October to announce new funding of more than £4m to significantly increase the number of youth workers embedded in hospital locations across London
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 14 October
- I attend the Mayor of London's Volunteering Awards ceremony on 14 October
- I visited the Osiers Road Development site in Wandsworth on 15 October
- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon Esther McVey MP, the new Minister of State for Housing, on 15 October
- I met with Sir Stephen House, the Deputy Commissioner and Laurence Taylor, the Deputy Assistant Commissioner, on 15 October to discuss the policing of the Extinction Rebellion protests

- I chaired the Mayor's Business Advisory Board taking place at The AllBright Mayfair on 16 October
- I accompanied Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on a weapon sweep taking place on the Maiden Lane Estate in Camden on 16 October
- I attended Mayors Question Time on 17 October
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 17 October
- I met with Jonson Cox, Chair of OFWAT, on 17 October to discuss concerns about issues on London's water network and the investment needed
- I chaired the Osiers Road Representation Hearing at City Hall on 18 October
- I joined the People's Vote March on 19 October
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 21 October
- I attended the One Young World Opening Ceremony at The Royal Albert Hall on 22 October
- I addressed the annual London Transport Museum Fundraising Dinner at the Guildhall on 22 October
- I had an introductory meeting with Mr Changshan Zhao, Chairman of ZGC Group, on 22 October
- I addressed the International Air Quality Summit at City Hall on 23 October
- I had an introductory meeting with Sarah Friar, CEO NextDoor, on 23 October
- I opened The Speechmark, Vodafone's UK HQ office in London, on 24 October
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board on 24 October
- I had my regular meeting with representatives of the TUC LESE (TUC London East and South East) on 24 October
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 24 October
- I attended the AMG Diwali reception hosted by the Eastern Eye at City Hall on 24 October
- I visited the Shree Swaminarayan Mandir in Kingsbury and the Mahavir Foundation in Kenton on 28 October to mark Diwali
- I attended the VRU Young People's open evening at City Hall on 28 October
- I attended the Hinduja Annual Diwali Reception on 28 October
- I visited the CEMEX Stepney site on 29 October to launch the Direct Vision Standard Permits
- I met with Dany Cotton, the London Fire Commissioner on 29 October
- I met with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 29 October ahead of the Policing Plenary
- I hosted a business reception at City Hall on 29 October
- I attended the Asset Management Roundtable at City Hall on 30 October
- I had an introductory meeting with Lonnie G. Bunch III, the 14th Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, on 30 October to discuss East Bank
- I addressed the City Hall Black History Month reception on 30 October
- I attended the London Assembly Policing Plenary meeting on 31 October to answer questions alongside Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on policing in London
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 31 October

Ends