

10th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time 24th March 2022

This is my tenth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 11 February - 10 March 2022.

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

Executive Summary

Covid-19 and Recovery update

On 1 March, I chaired the London Recovery Board (LRB). The Board discussed important pan-London recovery priorities, including items on high streets recovery, the Helping Londoners into Good Work mission, and action plans to tackle the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic. It received an update on the Anchor Institutions Programme, one year on from its launch. At the Board, I spoke about the £10 million investment to help attract more tourists back to the capital – which includes launching a new international tourism campaign and commented on the government's plans for living with COVID-19 – highlighting that ministers must rethink their plans to abandon free testing and ensure there's financial support for those who can't work from home if they test positive.

Prior to the Board meeting on the 1 March, my Recovery Programme team, supported by policy colleagues, held a series of pre-meetings with Board members to prepare them for items on the agenda and to hear feedback in advance, as well as discuss points they may have wished to raise.

On 11 February, to support our work on High Streets and to inform the discussion at the Recovery Board meeting, John Dickie, CEO of London First, chaired a recovery seminar on the future of high streets with partners across London.

On 23 February, colleagues from across all nine recovery missions participated in a cost-of-living seminar, chaired by my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weeks-Bernard, which aimed to increase mission teams and partners' understanding the cost-of-living crisis and provide an opportunity for them to explore the role their respective missions could play in helping address this. Over the last few months, strong economic growth has masked the rise and persistence of inequality and poverty across London, coupled with a cost of living crisis which is now one of London's biggest challenges, this threatens London's recovery.

On 22 February, my Community Engagement team held a workshop on Community Recovery Lessons Learned, which focussed on reflecting on grant design and grant delivery during the pandemic. This included the challenges successes and learnings from the community led recovery programme, which was launched in January 2021 to enable communities disproportionately impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic to help shape London's recovery.

Supporting Ukraine

On 25 February, I signed the Pact of Free Cities declaration denouncing the Russian invasion of Ukraine and extending support to Ukraine and the Mayor of Kyiv.

On 2 March, I met with Vadym Prystaiko, Ukraine's Ambassador to the UK at the Ukrainian Institute London to extend the offer of assistance on behalf of all Londoners and highlight the need for safe passage for Ukrainian refugees. The Ambassador and I also met with Ukrainian community leaders to reiterate my support for Ukraine and Ukrainian Londoners.

New calls for an overseas buyers levy, and to seize property owned by oligarchs linked to Putin

On 25 February, I set out new measures I believe Ministers should take to seize property linked to Kremlin-backed oligarchs, as well to place additional levies on overseas owners and buyers of property in London. Transparency International estimate that 100 London properties, worth £1.1 billion are owned by Russians accused of corruption or links to the Kremlin.

City Hall analysis shows the levies that I am calling for, if properly implemented, could raise up to £370 million a year, which could then be used to help tackle London's housing crisis by funding more than 2,500 new council and genuinely affordable homes for Londoners annually. Alongside new supply, these reforms could start to cool London's overheated property market and make buying a home more achievable and affordable for Londoners.

These new policies would only apply to property owners who are resident overseas, not those who move to London and make the capital their home. An established residency test, such as that introduced as part of the existing stamp duty surcharge on overseas buyers, could be used as the basis for these measures.

Expanding the Ultra Low Emission Zone

On 4 March, I visited Forest Hill School where I announced I have ruled out the Clean Air Charge and the Greater London Boundary Charge and have asked TfL to consult on expanding the Ultra Low Emission Zone London-wide in 2023 to further tackle emissions from road transport in London. This strikes a balance between improving our air, tackling the climate emergency and addressing congestion while being fair for all Londoners.

In weighing up the different options, the rising cost of living was a key consideration alongside the need to protect the health of Londoners and reduce congestion. I also announced that I am proposing to introduce the biggest scrappage scheme feasible to help Londoners on low incomes, disabled Londoners, charities and small businesses. Londoners can join a new Talk London discussion on reducing emissions from transport here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/talk-london/reducing-emissions-transport>

London AQ Summit

On 17 February, I hosted the London Clean Air and Health Summit, convening leaders from national and local government, health experts and campaigners to agree actions to raise awareness of air pollution and health. The summit was chaired by Professor Sir Stephen Holgate. Attendees included Professor Chris Whitty, Defra Minister Jo Churchill MP, Dr Maria Neira from World Health Organization and Rosamund Adoo-Kissi-Debrah. We discussed a complete review of the messaging and distribution of existing alerts systems, guidance for medical professionals to speak about the impact of pollution with their patients and the steps the NHS and wider health system can take to raise awareness Londoners. Attendees agreed to work collaboratively to ensure momentum is maintained, and to meet within the year to assess progress.

Visiting Ballymena Factory

On 7 March, I visited Wrightbus' Ballymena factory to see the production of previously ordered new electric double decker buses - due to appear on London's roads in October. The high specification buses, ordered by Abellio London, are the first electric double deckers to be manufactured for London in Northern Ireland and will be rolled out in October on the route 111, linking Kingston to Heathrow - adding another 30 double decker electric buses to the capital's roads, to improve toxic air and tackle the climate emergency.

Ballymena's Wrightbus factory is a prime example of how TfL's supply chain stretches around the country, alongside two other main bus manufacturers covering Leeds (Switch) and Scarborough and Falkirk (ADL), creating jobs, capacity and certainty for the wider national zero emission bus market. TfL contracts support tens of thousands of jobs outside London and contribute around £7bn to the UK economy, with 55 pence of every pound spent on London Underground investment going outside of London – indicating how essential sustained funding for TfL is to the wider UK economy.

Retrofit Summit

On 23 February, the Chair of London Councils, Cllr Georgia Gould and I hosted the Greener and Warmer Buildings Summit to inspire action and accelerate building improvements in London. Business leaders joined us in a 'call to action' to London's businesses to decarbonise existing buildings. As well a Public Hour workshops were held with invited stakeholders to discuss accelerating progress to meet a net zero by 2030 London. My Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy gave a speech at the Public Sector Workshop in support of my Retrofit Accelerator – Workplaces and Local Energy Accelerator Programmes. The Summit set out the importance and benefits of ambitious retrofit and showcased practical examples from homes, businesses and the public sector. The GLA and London Councils will now work with key stakeholders to implement key outcomes and actions arising from the Summit, including enlisting further businesses to the 'call to action', developing retrofit delivery plans to help the supply chain build capacity, and providing Government with information on London's insights from recent rounds of public sector funding.

Green Bonds

On 15 February, I Mayor announced proposals to raise more than £500 million in green bonds, supported by £90 million of GLA funds for a zero carbon projects. The investment will support the plans for London to be net zero by 2030. I am committing £4 million to develop high-impact green investment opportunities for the public and private sector; and £86 million to support a substantial GLA Green Bond programme, financing direct decarbonisation investment by the GLA Group and its strategic partners as part of the Mayor's Green Financing Facility. This investment will support projects making social housing and public buildings energy efficient, as well as clean, local energy projects providing solar PV, heat pumps and district heating across London.

St Patrick's Day Festival Launch

On 23 February, I joined the Ambassador of Ireland at the Irish Embassy to launch the London St Patrick's Day Festival. The event was attended by members of the Irish business community, community members and Irish cultural institutions in the Capital. Hosted by the Irish Embassy, the event gave me an opportunity to thank both sponsors and the community advisory board for their contribution to the festival. I was joined by Hannah Pender from the London Irish Centre, Larry O'Leary, chair of the community advisory board and the Ambassador Adrian O'Neill in welcoming guests and providing an overview of this year's festivities.

International Tourism Campaign

On 16 February, I announced proposals to invest an additional £10 million to attract more tourists back to the capital – including launching a new international tourism campaign.

My £6 million domestic tourism campaign – 'Let's Do London', the biggest domestic tourism campaign ever, has already proved hugely successful – bringing in an additional £70 million in spending and 280,000 visitors to the capital, delivering a return on investment of £18 for every £1 spent.

I now plan to invest a further £3 million to attract more domestic tourists back to the capital, with a campaign to drive confidence in London as a destination and promoting cultural and sporting activities happening in London this year.

I will also invest £7 million in a dedicated international marketing campaign to drive international tourists to London from this Spring, which will be led by London's business growth and destination agency, London & Partners, alongside the domestic marketing campaign.

Better Renting: Private rented sector qualification

On Wednesday 16 February, I attended an inspection of a privately rented property in Waltham Forest to highlight the poor conditions that too many Londoners live in, as well as promote my new 'Better Renting' qualification, which launched in September 2021. I carried out the inspection with two enforcement officers from Waltham Forest's PRS enforcement team, who are both currently studying for the qualification.

Nearly one fifth of London's private rental accommodation fails to meet basic housing standards and too many rogue landlords are exploiting renters for high rents. It was shocking to see the standards of the property in Waltham Forest, with the tenant and her young children suffering from damp, mould and dangerous electrics. The work of enforcement teams across London is critical to properly inspecting these properties and reporting them, to serve notices against rogue landlords, improve conditions and support vulnerable tenants. Local authority budget cuts have resulted in a shortage of appropriately skills staff in environmental health and enforcement teams across the capital.

My new qualification, a year-long level 5 course delivered by the University of Middlesex and accredited by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, aims to turn this tide. It will upskill local authority private rented sector staff with the skills required to better tackle rogue landlords and support learning and development for local authority teams across the city.

A new campaign to help end violence against women and girls

On 27 February I announced plans to launch a new campaign to address sexist attitudes and inappropriate behaviours exhibited by some men, in order to tackle the epidemic of misogyny and violence towards women and girls.

The high-profile campaign, which launches in March, will focus on the role men must play in ending violence against women and girls. It will highlight that seemingly 'harmless' attitudes and behaviour can lead to intimidation, threats, and violence, and make the case that it is men's responsibility to be allies for women and girls by changing their behaviour and challenging the behaviour of those around them.

City Hall has partnered with advertising, marketing, and public relations agency Ogilvy, who have offered their pro bono support to create the campaign. I am extremely grateful to them for their generosity and for their commitment to helping to end VAWG in our great city.

World leading menopause policy

On 8 March, International Women's Day, I announced a world-leading menopause policy which will put in place practical steps to better support women and all colleagues going through menopause transition at City Hall and introduce measures to shift perceptions surrounding menopause in the workplace.

The new menopause policy, one of my manifesto promises following thorough consultation with staff and unions and will apply to City Hall staff.

Policing, Crime and Security

More funding to keep Londoners safe

Keeping Londoners safe is my first priority as Mayor, and on 14 February I announced my plan for a permanent increase in funding of £23.2m every year for violence prevention programmes, tackling violence against women and girls, and better supporting victims of crime.

As part of this, £13.2m will be specifically focused on work to reduce teen homicides and serious violence. In addition, this package includes funds to help provide a swifter service to Londoners through boosting the Met's contact centre, and funds to tackle illegal drug use which is a key driver of crime and violence in London.

£5m every year will be dedicated to tackling violence against women and girls - supporting victims and survivors and tackling the perpetrators of these appalling crimes, as part of supporting my forthcoming violence against women and girls strategy.

New funding for women's safety at night

Currently more than 700 venues and organisations have signed up to London's Women's Night Safety Charter - seven pledges for any business or organisation that operates between 6pm and 6am to sign up to and show their commitment to women's safety. On 1st March I was joined Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, and London's Night Czar, Amy Lamé, on a visit to the Gym Group in Battersea – following their commitment to sign up to the Charter.

At the visit I met with representatives from the #Letmelift campaign group which was co-founded by Gym Safe Ladies and The 97 March. I have been working with these groups, together with ukactive and Sport England's 'This Girl Can' campaign to support and build upon the work the sector is doing to improve personal safety for women and tackle harassment in sporting and fitness facilities. I am delighted to welcome the Gym Group – together with Everyone Active and the Jubilee Hall in Covent Garden – to the Charter, underlining their commitment to making their facilities safer for women and girls.

I was also pleased to announce £108,000 in new funding to further increase the impact of the Women's Night Safety Charter by developing specialist training, online resources, an interactive toolkit and best practice guidance to drive up standards to make venues and public spaces safer for women at night. These new resources will be delivered in partnership with Safer Business Network.

Transport

TfL Funding Settlement

On 21 February, TfL and the Government confirmed that an extension of its funding support for TfL through until 24 June 2022 had been agreed. While I welcome this funding, once again the Government has just provided a short-term funding deal that will only enable TfL to continue running transport services for a few more months.

The agreement refers to future capital investment for TfL, but it's essential that this quickly turns into a concrete commitment from the Government. The only way we will be able to avoid significant and damaging cuts to tube and bus services is if the Government steps up and provides the longer-term capital funding TfL urgently needs.

The pandemic is the only reason TfL is facing a financial crisis. TfL has a critical role to play in driving the recovery and it supports tens of thousands of jobs across the UK, but the Government's short-term deals are trapping TfL on life support and putting economic growth and jobs at risk.

I urge the Government to engage with TfL in good faith so that we can finally agree a fair, longer-term funding deal that will protect London's transport network – for the sake of the capital and the whole country.

New green, productivity boosting buses introduced – but no more will be delivered until a long-term funding deal is secured

On 11 February, TfL announced the introduction of a fleet of new, higher specification all-electric buses on a key London bus route to encourage even more people back on to public transport as London recovers from the pandemic.

TfL is introducing new buses to the north-south route 63 that have a range of innovative features aimed at making them an even more attractive, green alternative to the car. In development over the last couple of years, the first buses came into service in December, with the whole route transformed in the coming weeks. It comes as ridership on the route, between King's Cross and Honor Oak, has returned to close to pre-pandemic levels.

The new route 63 buses were manufactured by ADL, the country's largest bus and coach manufacturer, in Scarborough. ADL employs 2,000 people in skilled jobs, as well as supporting a successful apprenticeship scheme. Other London buses are produced around the UK in places such as Ballymena and Falkirk, demonstrating how investment in the capital's transport network helps level up the whole country.

TfL will use customer feedback from the route 63 to inform plans for the wider bus network, with sustained Government funding essential to enable TfL to continue supporting the city's economic recovery.

TfL asks people to have their say on next phase of work to transform streets in Nine Elms, making them safer and more accessible

TfL is asking people to have their say on a series of upgrades and improvements to Nine Elms Lane and Battersea Park Road. The planned changes would make it much easier and safer for people to walk and cycle around the area and beyond. Enabling more people to walk, cycle and use public transport is a vital part of the area's regeneration, as well as London's green recovery from the pandemic.

The changes planned would be fully funded through developer contributions from the regeneration along Battersea Park Road and Nine Elms Lane and a public consultation on them is open at tfl.gov.uk/Battersea-park-road until Sunday 27 March. Subject to the consultation, the changes would be brought in on local roads over the next three years, co-ordinating with other development and construction work in the area.

Ensuring that people can walk and cycle safely across the capital is vital to London's green recovery. Our plans for Nine Elms would support the extension of the Northern line and the major regeneration of the area, bringing new homes, jobs and open spaces to the local community. I'd encourage everybody to take a look at our plans and have their say on the proposals, as people's feedback will be vital to ensuring the changes work for everyone.

TfL no longer requires face coverings to be worn on its services but strongly recommends them

TfL has made the decision to no longer require customers to wear face coverings as a condition of carriage on its services, having considered a variety of factors including the shift in the Government's approach towards living with the virus and decreasing infection rates in London. The changes respond to the current pandemic situation in London and will allow TfL to continue to provide safe transport services for its customers and colleagues.

TfL is strongly encouraging customers to wear face coverings on its services to drive down transmission of the virus and keep each other as safe as possible. Research suggests a good-quality face covering can help reduce the chance of catching COVID-19 and passing it onto others, and face coverings have also played an important role in giving people confidence to use public transport throughout the pandemic, particularly people who are vulnerable.

A near-normal service continues to operate across London's public transport network and a number of active travel options, including walking and cycling routes in central London and the Santander Cycles network, are available to customers all over the capital.

Transport is an essential element of London's recovery from the pandemic. We have seen increasing numbers of customers return to our network as they begin to return to offices and workplaces, as well as to bars, theatres, restaurants and other cultural venues. That return is due in part to the confidence that Londoners have in our ongoing work to ensure that the transport network is clean, reliable, and safe.

New TfL data shows success of innovative ‘pedestrian priority’ traffic signals

TfL has published new data that shows how innovative Green Person Authority traffic signals could be used to make walking in the capital safer and easier.

In May 2021, TfL installed the new technology at 18 crossings across London. These priority signals show a continuous green signal to pedestrians until a vehicle is detected approaching the crossing. The signal then changes to red for pedestrians, allowing the vehicle to cross the junction before returning to a green signal for pedestrians.

New data from the trial suggests that the pedestrian priority signals reduced journey times for people walking and made it easier and safer for them to cross. The average location involved in the trial displayed a green pedestrian signal for an extra 56 minutes a day. By reducing the waiting time for a green signal, the total time saved by all pedestrians at the average crossing in the trial was 1.3 hours a day.

Compliance with traffic signals by people walking increased by 13 per cent, reducing the risk of a collision with a vehicle, while compliance by people driving stayed the same. The data also shows that the signals had virtually no impact on traffic, with only minimal changes to journey times for buses and general traffic - the largest increase for buses was only 9 seconds and for general traffic only 11 seconds. Several sites showed improvements in journey times.

Walking is one of the best ways to get around London. It's green, it's clean, it's healthy and it is great way to enjoy your local neighbourhood. Making our streets safer is key to enabling more people to switch more trips from cars to walking. I'm delighted that this innovative new technology is making pedestrian crossings safer and more convenient for people walking. I look forward to seeing how it can be rolled out to benefit other locations soon.

Fire and Resilience

London Strategic Coordinating Group

My Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, continued to co-chair regular virtual meetings of the London Strategic Coordinating Group to discuss London’s response to COVID-19.

Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network

On 22 February, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, met with the Mayor of Stockholm, Anna König Jerlmyr, to discuss the Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN) which the City of Stockholm is currently hosting. My Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross also attended the international Board meeting of the Counter Terror Preparedness Network (CTPN), on 22 February.

London Resilience Forum

On 24 February, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, chaired a virtual meeting of the London Resilience Forum. The forum discussed some of the initial learning from COVID- 19 in relation to future protracted incidents and received updates from members with regard to their ongoing preparedness for COVID- 19 and other incidents.

Long Service Awards

On 28 February, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience Fiona Twycross, spoke at London Fire Brigade's 20-year Long Service Awards. The Awards recognise the contribution both uniformed and non-uniformed London Fire Brigade staff make to keeping London safe.

Ukraine Conflict - London Resilience Partnership Preparedness

On 1 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, convened a meeting as Chair of the London Resilience Forum to develop an understanding of the impacts the situation in Ukraine might have on London's resilience and to identify further information requirements.

Pact of Free Cities Meeting, Warsaw

On 4 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, joined a virtual meeting hosted by the Mayor of Warsaw, [Rafał Trzaskowski](#). This was part of a special meeting in the context of Mayor Anne Hidalgo's in-person visit to Poland. The call included other Mayors and Deputy Mayors from across Europe. Each Mayor reiterated the key role cities will play in responding to this crisis, and the need to coordinate information and assistance where possible. They also stressed the need for support to cities to carry out a proper response.

London joined its sister cities in expressing solidarity with Ukrainians and proposing ways forward to support Ukraine now and in the weeks and months to come. The Mayor of Lviv briefly joined the call to thank members of the Pact for their solidarity and reiterate the need for humanitarian assistance.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

Launch of the ESF Academies Programme

On 14 February I launched the prospectus for the ESF Academies Programme. This £6.7m fund will support the aims of the Mayor's Academies Programme, as part of the London Recovery Programme's Good Work mission. It will provide employability support to Londoners who are underrepresented in jobs in key sectors, and who are furthest away from the labour market. This includes Londoners who have been most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as young people, older Londoners and people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups.

Skills for Londoners Board

My Skills for Londoners (SfL) Board met on 15 February 2022. Board members approved the second annual [Local Skills Report](#) (LSR) for London and discussed the Adult Education Budget (AEB) and National Skills Fund (NSF) grant allocation approach for the 2022-23 academic year as well as the latest delivery in support of the Helping Londoners into Good Work mission, and the GLA's current asks to HM Government around the Skills and Post-16 Education Bill.

Launch of the Mayor's Academies Programme Quality Mark

On 2 March, I launched a Quality Mark, to recognise and accredit high-quality training in the capital, as a key part of the Mayor's Academies Programme. This Quality Mark will be awarded annually to London adult learning providers offering high quality sector-specific training in future-proof industries, such as digital, health and the creative sector. Londoners and employers will be able to use the Quality Mark to identify excellent, industry-relevant training in the capital. Applications are now open, and I would encourage adult learning providers across London to apply for this award.

Adult Education Budget (AEB) Mayoral Board

My Adult Education Budget (AEB) Mayoral Board met on 8 March. The main items that were discussed and endorsed included a report on AEB financial management, confirming London's main AEB allocation for the 2022-23 academic year (AY) as £318,266,810 and an additional sum of £26,437, for the National Skills Fund (NSF) Level 3 Adult Offer. Final AEB Grant allocations for the 2022-23 AY were also endorsed, as were proposed changes to the GLA's AEB Funding and Performance Management Rules for Grant Providers for 2021-22.

I will submit my AEB annual report to the Department for Education by the end of March. The report will be published on the GLA website and will include a summary of my policies for adult education; spend from the AEB; analysis of delivery; and local impact.

Housing

Deputy Mayor chairs roundtable on improving the quality of social housing

On 17 February, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley chaired a roundtable with local authorities and housing associations from across London to discuss social housing quality in response to concerns raised by Londoners. The roundtable focused on the emerging regulatory regime for social housing, including proactive monitoring of consumer standards and enhanced tenant and resident engagement.

My Deputy Mayor set out our commitment to supporting providers to improve standards for social housing residents in order to ensure landlords meet their obligations to tenants. Following the roundtable, I will respond to the Regulator of Social Housing's consultation on Tenant Satisfaction Measures and will ensure Londoners' priorities are reflected in the new social housing legislation.

Publication of EWS1 best practice guidance

On 28 February, the GLA published the External Wall System (EWS1) best practice guidance. The guidance offers a constructive set of best practice aiming to improve and standardise landlords' approaches to EWS1. The guidance is expected to act as a critical point of reference for social landlords, private landlords, and managing agents to adequately support leaseholders who need an EWS1 certificate to complete mortgage negotiations.

The guidance has been informed by the experience of leaseholder groups, delivery partners and other key stakeholders in the housing sector. It is the result of work conducted by the EWS1 Task and Finish Working Group, which was created by my Homes for Londoners Board last June and was chaired by Geeta Nanda, chair of the G15. My team is now disseminating the guidance through various organisations, including London Councils, the National Housing Federation and the G15.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Designing London's Recovery

On 4 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Chief Digital Officer announced the innovation teams who have been awarded funding from the Mayor's Open Innovation Challenge, 'Designing London's Recovery', to bring forward innovation that will accelerate progress towards delivering the four missions critical to London's recovery: Helping Londoners into Good Work, Building Stronger Communities, High Streets for All, and A Green New Deal. Over the next 6 months, the 11 winning innovation teams will share £240,000 to work with Londoners to codesign, prototype, test and iterate their design-led innovations to bring benefit to London's diverse communities, funded through the London Economic Action Partnership.

London Covid Business Forum

On 28 February, I convened a meeting of the London Covid Business Forum, through which we have been working with business to progress the 'Roadmap to the Safe and Full Reopening of London's Economy'. The Forum discussed businesses' responses to the recent lifting of remaining legal pandemic restrictions and impacts for businesses of the Government's 'Living with Covid' plan.

Workspace Advisory Group

On 3 February, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, hosted the first meeting of the reconstituted Workspace Advisory Group. Members agreed that they would explore the impact of changing working patterns in the flexible office sector; how to ensure that London's micro and small businesses can access affordable workspaces and develop initiatives that support workspaces operators to make their buildings carbon neutral.

Business Advisory Board

On 9 March, I met with my Business Advisory Board, to which four new members were welcomed. The meeting focused on international promotion and tourism. Laura Citron, CEO of London and Partners provided the Board with an update on the international tourism marketing campaign.

Business engagement

On 2 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, provided a keynote address and Q&A at the Capital West London Growth Summit. He highlighted opportunities for West London as we come out of the pandemic, including skills and employment, business support and West London's transport links.

On 7 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, visited the new Albra office and met with Nizam Uddin OBE, Chief Strategy Officer. The meeting involved a discussion on what Albra does and Rajesh gave an overview of the support City Hall provides for the Fintech and Financial Services sectors in London.

Promoting London internationally

From 21-23 February, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, led a delegation of fintech firms to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as part of the Mayor's International Business Programme (MIBP). The programme included a range of meetings with business stakeholders in the finance and technology sectors, and a reception with potential business contacts.

Environment

C40 Steering Committee Meeting

On 15 February, I hosted my first C40 Steering Committee meeting as C40 Chair, bringing together Mayors from around the globe. I highlighted my 3 key priorities as C40 Chair: addressing the twin challenges of climate change and air pollution, addressing inequality, and calling on national governments to do more. Attendees welcomed new vice-chairs from Africa and Europe, discussed the C40 World Mayors Summit in October in Buenos Aires, heard updates on major projects such as the Breathe Global Initiative, and voted to involve innovator cities with an excellent climate action record. Further information on the C40's work can be found at [C40.org](https://c40.org)

TfL Pension Fund

On 15 February my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues met with the TfL Pension Fund Chief Investment Officer to discuss its approach to reducing its climate impact and increase investments in climate solutions in line with my manifesto commitment and their commitment for a net zero portfolio by 2045, more information on which can be found here: <https://tfl.gov.uk/pensions/news-and-publications/net-zero-by-2045>

Meeting with the Cabinet Minister of Tourism and Environment for Government of Maharashtra, Aditya Thackeray

On 15 February, I met with the Cabinet Minister of Tourism and Environment for Government of Maharashtra, Aditya Thackeray in the context of C40's work. We discussed priorities for climate action including the C40's work programmes on Inclusive Climate Action, reducing inequality, the Global Green New Deal programme and Just Transition.

Publication of Air Quality Guides for Public Health Professionals

On 17 February I published updated Air Quality Guides for Public Health Professionals to be used by local officials in every London borough. The guides contain borough-specific information on air pollution levels, including around priority sites such as schools, hospitals and care homes. The guides will help local authorities prepare their statutory Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs) as part of their work to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community and reduce health inequalities. The guides are available here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/pollution-and-air-quality/borough-air-quality-guidance>

Solar Together Launch

On 21 February the fifth phase of my Solar Together London programme launched with a mail-out going to homes across the capital, supported by wider communications activities in boroughs. Solar Together London is a group-buying programme that enables Londoners to install solar panels on their homes at an affordable price. To date over 1,000 Londoners have taken up the offer of solar PV through this programme.

Meeting with COP President Alok Sharma MP

On 22 February, I met with COP26 President Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, alongside C40 Executive Director, Mark Watts, and my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, to discuss how C40 and London could engage in preparations for COP27 given the vital role that cities can play in tackling climate emergency. I highlighted how cities are leading the way in tackling the climate crisis, with over 1000 cities around the world signing up to net zero commitments ahead of COP26. We discussed engagement with the next hosts of the COP in Egypt and the importance of governments around the world devolving resources and powers to cities to deal with climate change.

Keynote speaker Retrofit Conference

On 23 February my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, gave a keynote speech at the New London Architecture (NLA) Retrofit Conference. This emphasised the role of retrofitting buildings to help with cost of living challenges facing Londoners as well as meeting my 2030 Net Zero target. The speech also repeated the 'call to action' to London's businesses made the day before at my Greener and Warmer Buildings Summit, in association with business organisations including the NLA.

New Asthma Research


On 28 February I published new asthma research produced by Imperial College London. This showed that the rapid improvement in air pollution since I became Mayor, with the number of hospital admissions for asthma and serious lung conditions reducing by 30 per cent – from 2,450 (2014 – 2016) to 1,700 (2017 – 2019). The largest improvement was among children under 14 years old. Even so this showed that bold action is required to reduce air pollution, tackle the climate emergency and cut congestion in the capital.

Breathe Global

On 9th March my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with key partners from Clean Air Fund and C40 who are helping to design and deliver Breathe Global. Breathe Global is one of my signature initiatives as Chair of C40 which will help replicate the success of Breathe London (a monitoring network using cheaper sensors to increase the amount of real-time air pollution available to Londoners) and action on air pollution in cities around the world, including many located in the Global South.

Education and Youth

We The Planet

On 14 February, my Peer Outreach Team led a fantastic youth-focussed event titled We  The Planet. Run in partnership with Royal Holloway University and the Museum of London, it focussed on the climate crisis and how we, as Londoners, can help to combat it. If we're going to be successful in meeting our target of making London net zero carbon by 2030, we need to harness the energy, ideas and imagination of young Londoners

Young people from across London attended, including members of my Lync Up Crew of 7 to 14 year olds. I recorded a video message to welcome them and outline some of the bold actions I'm taking as Mayor. For the rest of the day, they enjoyed a range of brilliant speakers, performances, and panel events – including opportunities to suggest how else my team and I can help make London greener.

New Deal for Young People - grantees identified for mentoring programmes

On 21 February, a panel chaired by Lib Peck, Head of London's Violence Reduction Unit, identified 18 grantees to deliver the second phase of mentoring programmes delivered through the New Deal for Young People recovery mission. This follows my announcement on 9 February regarding investment in three key mentoring programmes that will help young people most in need to fulfil their potential - Mentoring Leaders, STEAM mentoring and Headstart Action.

106 applications for grants were reviewed in a thorough assessment process that included young people on the interview and decision panels, ensuring that their voices were at the heart of the decision making.

The 18 successful grantees will be delivering mentoring projects targeting groups such as autistic young Londoners, those affected by homelessness, care affected young women and young people who are experiencing mental ill health. Grantees will be responsible not only for delivering mentoring, but also for supporting voluntary and community sector organisations and employers to develop mentoring best practice. Their two-year projects will begin in March 2022 and collectively aim to reach over 5,000 young people.

National School Governors Awareness Day

The inaugural National School Governors Awareness Day took place on 22 February, aiming to raise awareness about governance in schools and to celebrate the contribution that governors make to improving the experiences of children and young people.

My Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, was a school governor for more than 20 years, including as Chair of Governors at her local primary school. She showed her support on the day through a [video message](#) to celebrate and inspire those in governance. My Deputy Mayor and I place tremendous value in the role that governors play in supporting schools - particularly over the past two years, where the pandemic has posed numerous challenges. I am committed to working with partners to encourage every governing board to have a health professional - they bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and expertise to support schools.

Culture

Let's Do London

On 7 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, provided opening remarks at the Murphia List 2022. The Murphia List showcases Irish Londoners who contribute to the creativity and success of London's food and drink scene. Guests to the event included prominent Irish figures from London's hospitality sector, from chefs, restaurateurs, pub and bar owners, to front of house staff and food writers. My Deputy Mayor highlighted City Hall's on-going support for the hospitality sector, including the success of my Let's Do London campaign and my announcement of an additional £10 million to attract more tourist back to the capital.

London Music Fund Gala

On 23 February, I was delighted to attend the London Music Fund's 10th Anniversary Gala concert at the Southbank Centre in my role as Patron. The concert featured over 150 young musicians from across London. It included current and former Scholars, as well as performances from projects that have previously benefitted from funding.

Since 2011, the Fund has awarded over £3 million directly in grants to support music education in London and enabled 600 young Londoners from low-income families to learn a musical instrument. Access to musical learning should be a right, not a privilege and I'm proud to support the work of this amazing charity.

Communities and Social Policy

Civil Society Roots launch

On February 16, I launched Civil Society Roots, a £1million funding programme in partnership with City Bridge Trust. My Deputy Mayor, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, hosted an online event to launch the programme which will support organisations led by and for those impacted by structural inequalities, to build relationships, establish networks and strengthen collective voice and advocacy.

London Research and Policy Partnership Forum

On 3 March, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard co-chaired (alongside co-chair, Professor Tony Travers, Director of LSE London), the inaugural meeting of the London Research and Policy Partnership Forum. The Forum seeks to convene a wide range of academic, policy and civil society partners to explore London's policy challenges, as part of the London Research and Policy Partnership's wider work programme. The meeting included a deep dive roundtable discussion on the cost-of-living crisis. This first meeting included a wide range of London's policy organisations, universities, funders and civil society representatives.

Debt Free London funding

I have provided £210,000 in funding for the charity Debt Free London to extend their debt advice phone line into a 24/7 service, to help more Londoners struggling with problem debt to access advice and support when they need it.

The 24/7 service is funded from February to May 2022 to support Londoners affected by the cost-of-living crisis. On 22 February, my Deputy Mayor, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the launch of the 24/7 adviceline, as well as the Debt BUS-ter advice bus which will travel around London and offer in-person advice in places like supermarkets and libraries. My officers are working with community partners to promote the adviceline and the advice bus to help Londoners in financial hardship.

Elections Bill

Before the Second Reading of the Elections Bill in the House of Lords, I have sent all Peers evidence that certain provisions in the Bill have the potential to disenfranchise already under-registered and under-represented Londoners. London Voices research shows that the majority of London's civil society has deep concerns about the equality implications of photo voter IDs and supports inclusive democratic reform, including votes at 16 and residence-based voting rights for all Londoners. I remain very concerned that provisions in the Bill will undermine the independence and powers of the Electoral Commission, and that the plans to introduce a First-past-the-post voting system for Mayor of London elections would overturn the 1998 Greater London Authority referendum result, when Londoners voted overwhelmingly in favour of a supplementary vote system.

Health

The London Health Board

On 2 March, I chaired the London Health Board meeting where I discussed a number of health and care issues with elected leaders from London's Local Authorities and key London professional health leads. Topics that we explored include how the NHS, Social Care and Public Health are supporting the COVID-19 Response including how they are tackling health inequalities, collaborative efforts around improving Air Quality in London and the development of Integrated Care Systems (ICS) in London.

Independent study finds Mayoral policy to restrict ads of less healthy foods on TfL is effective

On 17 February, I worked with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to announce the impact and success of [my policy to restrict advertisement of less healthy food across the TfL network](#). This move was part of a suite of actions designed to help tackle the high rates of child obesity in the capital. The independent evaluation was published on the same day, in the peer reviewed [Public Library of Science medical journal](#). The ad restrictions were introduced in order to influence purchasing behaviour of high fat, salt and sugar (HFFS) foods, to improve diet and reduce obesity.

I am delighted to say that the paper finds that the policy met its primary goal of reducing purchasing of these foods. The policy was estimated:

- To having contributed to a 1,000 calorie decrease in energy from unhealthy purchases in consumers' weekly shopping. This works out to be around 385 calories per person per week - equivalent to every Londoner in the study purchasing about 1.5 fewer standard size bars of milk chocolate per week.
- To having contributed to a nearly 20 per cent decrease in average weekly purchases of energy from chocolate and confectionary.

It was great to see the story covered positively in national and regional press, including, [The Guardian](#), [The Independent](#), [Sky News](#), [Evening Standard](#), [Mail Online](#), [The Grocer](#). All of this is important, as it shows how valuable a policy like this one - which also received overwhelming support from Londoners in surveys - can be, and further counters some of the criticism previously received.

We also took the opportunity to promote the [Sustain](#) toolkit to support local authorities in establishing Healthier Food Advertising Policies. I am committed to this work, and supporting local councils address and make changes at a local level so Londoners' lives can be improved.

Pandemic Response

I am pleased that case rates for all ages in London are declining. Case rates remain highest in young people aged 17-34, with rates in children having sharply dropped, likely reflecting a drop in transmission during the half-term period.

I continue to meet with senior leaders from the London NHS, from the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and from the Office for Health Promotion and Disparities (OHID), including with my statutory health adviser, though less frequently than at the height of the Omicron wave. Following the Government's lifting of legal restrictions related to COVID-19, and a range of other changes including an end to free access to testing and routine contact tracing, TfL is strongly recommending customers to wear face coverings on its services.

We have discussed how Londoners can 'live with Covid' as we open up our wonderful city, including continuing to reinforce key public health messages, and the ongoing importance of vaccination. I am pleased to see that many Londoners are continuing to come forward for their first ever vaccines.

As a major internationally connected city and travel hub, London has increased vulnerability to imported variants of concern, and throughout the pandemic London has been the first to experience new variants, and often the hardest hit by the consequences. I will continue to urge the Government to maintain our world class surveillance system, so that we can identify variants rapidly.

I have been reassured by NHS partners that daily admissions and overall numbers in hospital have continued to fall, albeit very slowly, with far fewer people experiencing severe disease and requiring intensive care than in earlier waves. I am pleased that London is making inroads into the backlog of people waiting for treatment, and I have passed on my thanks to all the frontline staff.

Meeting with London Ambulance Service

On Wednesday 16 February I met with Daniel Elkeles, Chief Executive and Heather Lawrence OBE, Chair of the London Ambulance Service (LAS). We discussed the on-going pressure on the service regarding the upward trend in the number of 999 and 111 calls and what they are doing to ensure Londoners get the timely medical support they need. For example, with more clinicians being able to support with diagnosis and treatment on calls and recruitment of more paramedics and support staff. We also talked about LAS staff welfare issues including the fact that the LAS are now bringing all of their cleaning staff back in-house and are increasing their pay to ensure that they all receive the London Living Wage. The LAS also have some exciting additions to their vehicle fleet, having secured £16.6 million pounds in funding to purchase new greener vehicles. This will make it the NHS trust with the largest electric response fleet in the country.

Civil Society and Sport

Facemasks for Community groups

From 14 to 28 February, my Civil Society and Sport team worked with TfL to manage their donation of one-time-use facemasks to local community groups. 356,000 masks were distributed to community groups and local charities who work with the most vulnerable people in all boroughs of London.

Research into the Role of Safe Spaces and Sporting Facilities for Young Londoners

On 18 February, my Sport Team awarded £9,000 to a research team in Lambeth to identify what impact safe sporting facilities and spaces have on young people, especially in the areas of higher deprivation or those with higher rates of violence and crime. The research will seek to identify the impact that local facilities (or lack thereof) can have on young people and how the local support systems can engage young people through these. The research will also seek to understand the 'key success factors': including what these facilities or safe spaces need to look like, what function(s) they need to provide, and what traditional/non-traditional spaces are appropriate as tools of engagement.

The project will employ a supported peer research approach, co-produced and co-delivered with young people in the area.

This research piece was commissioned based on recommendations from my Sport and Serious Youth Violence Steering Group. The steering group is the first of its kind in the sport sector. It consists of representatives from 20 organisations previously funded through my £45m Young Londoners Fund Sport Unites programme. Each of these organisations have also selected a young person involved in their prevention programme to join the group. The young people have an equal seat at the table and play a key role in coordinating the work of the group. Over the last 18 months, the group has identified key issues/factors affecting young people's life outcomes and has produced a report outlining proposals for the use of sport and other activities to best tackle these issues.

Mayor of London Leadership Academy Pilot initiative

On 2 March, my Sport Team awarded £20,000 to a consortium of five organisations using sport to promote social change, to pilot a Sports Leadership Academy programme. This pilot programme will engage up to 30 young people at risk of being involved in violence and crime in a programme of training, coaching, and mentoring activities. This pilot programme was commissioned following the recommendations from my Sport and Serious Youth Violence Steering Group.

This initiative offers new approaches to collaboration between community sport organisations and facilitates the pulling together of the best practice currently in existence across the sector.

London Legacy Development Corporation

National Apprenticeship Week

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park marked National Apprenticeship Week with a visit to Build East – a joint training centre between TfL and LLDC on the Park – by Homes for Londoners board members including TfL Commissioner Andy Byford on 10 February.

Elm Tree Planting Week

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park joined other major parks and sites in London including Hyde Park and Royal Hospital Chelsea in planting disease resistant elm trees on 24 February. The initiative is part of a wider campaign to encourage planting of this species which was decimated by Dutch elm disease.

Mumbli

To mark World Hearing Day the smart hearing wellness platform [Mumbli](#) launched a Hearing Wellness District on the Park on 3 March. This innovative project aims to make hearing wellness and healthy sound experiences a standard feature of public spaces through the installation of smart sound monitoring devices and acoustic sound upgrades.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

Western Lands: Strategic Outline Business Case

On 16 February, I was pleased to submit OPDC's Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC) for London's largest brownfield housing opportunity to Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities and Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport

Focused on an area referred to as the 'Western Lands' in which Network Rail and High Speed 2 are the dominant landowners, the SOC makes the case to endorse a cross-government and collaborative approach to bring forward 10,000 new homes, tens of thousands of new jobs and associated facilities and public space, all in close proximity to High Speed 2's new Old Oak Common Station.

The submission marks a huge milestone for OPDC, who have worked closely with officials at the Department for Transport, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, the Infrastructure Projects Authority and Homes England to prepare it.

Land Fund

On Friday 4th March, I was pleased to award OPDC £50m from my Land Fund to accelerate the delivery of between 1,100 and 1,500 homes by 2029. This capital funding is a significant milestone for OPDC, providing funding for land acquisition and infrastructure to enable early delivery of affordable homes in Old Oak.

Local Plan

The adoption of OPDC's Local Plan remains on track. Arising from the hearings held in January, OPDC submitted a limited number of further minor modifications to the Planning Inspector and is expecting his final Interim Report in the coming weeks. Once adopted, OPDC's Local Plan will set the planning policy framework to deliver an inclusive, accessible and connected new urban district for London, delivering tens of thousands of new and affordable homes and job opportunities set to benefit Londoners and the UK.

National Apprenticeship Week

On 11 February, as part of National Apprenticeship week, Forge@ParkRoyal, OPDC's employment and skills hub, partnered with High Speed 2 to hold an event for West Londoners from Brent, Ealing and Hammersmith & Fulham to discuss the hundreds of apprenticeship opportunities that are currently available, share what it's like to work as an apprentice on the project and help the attendees apply.

Planning

Design and Characterisation London Plan Guidance

On Friday 11 February I began public engagement on four pieces of draft London Plan Guidance (LPG), which will support the implementation of the design-led approach in my London Plan.

The Characterisation and Growth Strategy guidance provides information on how to carry out a borough or neighbourhood-wide characterisation assessment, which should be used to inform a borough or neighbourhood's capacity for change and growth. This includes identifying locations where tall buildings may be appropriate.

The Optimising Site Capacity guidance sets out how the design-led approach, set out in Policy D3 of the London Plan, should be applied. This sets out how site-specific design parameters and design codes for development sites can be drawn up, to provide clarity over the future design. The guidance should be used to determine the most appropriate form of development on a site.

The Small Site Design Codes guidance provides information on how to prepare housing design codes for small sites. These codes should be used to guide decision-making and encourage additional housing on small sites, informed by the character of the area and its potential for intensification.

The Housing Design Standards LPG provides a set of specific standards for housing, covering:

- Placemaking and the public realm – the area around the site
- Shared spaces and ancillary spaces – communal spaces within the site
- Homes and private outside space – private homes and spaces within the site.

The public engagement on the four pieces of guidance will run until 27 March 2022.

Fire Safety London Plan Guidance

On Friday 11 February I began public engagement on draft fire safety London Plan Guidance (LPG). This guidance builds on policy D12 of the London Plan, which seeks to ensure that development in London achieves the highest standards of fire safety.

The draft Fire Safety LPG highlights that it is the responsibility of developers to demonstrate that their developments can be constructed and occupied safely. To ensure this, the design of the development needs to consider fire safety and safe and dignified evacuation from the outset. Applications will need to provide a range of information setting out where a fire engine would park, a safe and accessible evacuation route for occupants, that external walls would be made of non-combustible materials, and what fire safety measures will be incorporated into the buildings. The guidance also builds on requirements in the policy for evacuation lifts, to ensure safe and dignified emergency exit for disabled residents and others who would not be able to use the stairs in an emergency.

The public engagement will be carried out in two phases: a first public engagement phase for six weeks, lasting up to 27 March, and a second six week public engagement following the local elections in May, lasting up to 20 June 2022.

Planning for London Programme engagement on Talk London

On Tuesday 1 March, I launched the initial phase of public engagement of the Planning for London Programme. The engagement is being carried out on Talk London (City Hall's online community of over 62,000 Londoners) and poses some broad, longer-term questions about London might evolve over time. This gives Londoners a chance to give their perspective early in the process on issues such as housing, climate change, families, inclusion and the possible effects of remote working.

These discussions will help inform the next stages of the Planning for London Programme, which will support work towards a future London Plan after this Mayoral term. These later phases of engagement will enable more detailed discussions on specific issues, including the long-term challenges facing London and the range of approaches that could help address them. More information about these phases will be published from May, including on what questions the programme will consider and when there will be further opportunities to take part.

Local Plans

- *London Borough of Tower Hamlets* response to Leaside Area Action Plan Regulation 18(2) Consultation. On 16 February the GLA responded on my behalf to this consultation providing guidance to ensure the borough's emerging Development Plan Document is consistent with the London Plan 2021.
- *London Borough of Croydon* response to the Proposed Submission Draft of the Croydon Local Plan 2019-2039. On 17 February the GLA responded on my behalf stating that, currently, this plan is not in general conformity with the London Plan

due to its failure to reflect the Mayor's strategic target for affordable housing and the proposed approach to tall buildings.

- *London Borough of Lambeth* response to the Draft Site Allocations Development Plan Document Regulation 18 consultation. On 22 February the GLA responded on my behalf to this consultation raising potential general conformity concerns and providing guidance to ensure the borough's emerging Development Plan Document is consistent with the London Plan 2021.
- *London Borough of Wandsworth* response to the Draft Local Plan: Publication Regulation 19 Consultation Version, January 2022. On 28 February the GLA responded on my behalf to this consultation stating that the plan, currently, is not in general conformity with the London Plan due to its approach to industrial land.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

21-23 Park House Street, LB Southwark

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

Site between Varden Street and Ashfield Street (Whitechapel Estate), 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.

Site at 2-6 Commercial Street, 98 and 101-105 Whitechapel High Street, Commercial Street, Gunthorpe Street, London, 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.

North Quay, Aspen Way, 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.

Morden Wharf, RB Greenwich

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

CP House, 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.

15-17 Uxbridge Road, Hayes, 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.

Bow Common Gas Works, 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.

London South East College (LSEC), RB Greenwich

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

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, under powers I delegated to him, has sent a letter in response to the following statutory referral:

Dulwich Hamlet Football Club, LB Southwark

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Southwark stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Bow Common Gas Works, LB Tower Hamlets

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Tesco Extra, 822 High Road, Goodmayes, LB Redbridge

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Redbridge stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Euro House, LB Brent

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Brent stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Marks and Spencer, 456-472 Oxford Street, City of Westminster

The Deputy Mayor has written to the City of Westminster stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Douglas Bader State, Colindale, LB Barnet

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Barnet 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:

- Plumstead/ West Thamesmead (PWT), RB Greenwich
- 1 Portal Way, OPDC
- B&Q Smugglers Way SW18 1EG, LB Wandsworth
- Former Jewson Site, LB Newham
- Kidbrooke Park Road South, RB Greenwich
- Murphy's Yard, Kentish Town NW5, LB Camden
- Sampson House (Bankside Yards East), LB Southwark
- Land South of Park Avenue, Southall, Middlesex UB1 3AD, LB Ealing
- 60-70 & 100 The Highway and 110 Pennington Street, London E1W 2BX, LB Tower Hamlets

- Gascoigne East Phase 3B, LB Hillingdon
- Denby Court, LB Lambeth
- Burrige Gardens St John's Hill SW11 1UA, LB Wandsworth
- Development At Land And Buildings On The South Side Of, Manor Road, Woodford Green, LB Redbridge
- South Quay Plaza, 183-189 Marsh Wall, London, LB Tower Hamlets
- 15-27 Byng Street, 29 Byng Street (Flats 1-6 Dowlen Court) and 1-12 Bellamy Close, London, E14, LB Tower Hamlets
- Meridian Water Phase 18, LB Enfield
- Former SCC HQ County Hall, LB Kingston Upon Thames
- 679 High road, LB Barnet
- Land as Atlas Wharf, OPDC
- Wornington Green Estate Phase 3, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Land at Albert and Swedish Wharf, LB Hammersmith & Fulham
- Segas Sports Ground, Beckenham, LB Bromley
- 8-10 Grafton Street, City of Westminster
- Showcase Cinema, East Ham, LB Newham
- Aberfeldy Estate Phase A, LB Tower Hamlets

Key engagements

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

- I met with the Independent Office for Police Conduct on 14 February
- I held my regular planning meeting on 14 February
- I met with the London Legacy Development Corporation on 14 February
- I met with Cabinet Minister for the Environment for the Government of Maharashtra, Aditya Thackeray on 15 February
- I chaired my first meeting of the C40 Steering Committee on 15 February
- I joined trainee environmental health officers for an inspection of a private rented home on 16 February
- I held my regular meeting with the CEO of the London Ambulance Service on 16 February
- I took questions from callers on LBC's regular "Speak to Sadiq" call in show on 17 February
- I chaired the London Air Quality Summit on 17 February
- I met with Sergeant Chris Excell, Chair - Black Police Association on 17 February
- I met with Ken Marsh, Chairman - Metropolitan Police Federation, on 21 February
- I held my regular planning decisions meeting on 21 February
- I met with Baroness Louise Casey on 21 February
- I met with MPS Deputy Commissioner Steve House on 21 February
- I spoke at the GLA Greener and Warmer Homes and Buildings Summit on 22 February
- I met with COP26 President Alok Sharma on 22 February
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 22 February
- I spoke at the Irish Embassy reception for the annual launch of the St Patrick's Day Festival on 23 February
- I attended and spoke at the London Music Fund's 10th Anniversary concert on 23 February
- I attended the London Assembly final budget (Mayor's Question Time) meeting on 24 February
- I chaired the London Covid Business Forum on 28 February
- I held my regular planning decisions meeting on 28 February
- I met with Minister for London Paul Scully on 28 February
- I officially launched the GLA Women's Night Safety Charter on 1 March
- I chaired the London Recovery Board on 1 March
- I chaired the London Health Board on 2 March
- I met with the Ukrainian Ambassador, Vadym Prystaiko, and Ukrainian diaspora on 2 March
- I attended and spoke at the Bangladesh at 50 celebrations on 2 March
- I attended the NME awards on 2 March
- I met with Lord Toby Harris on 3 March
- I met with the Executive Director of C40 Cities, Mark Watts, on 3 March
- I visited Forest Hill School in Lewisham, where I announced a public consultation into an expansion of the ULEZ on 4 March

- I visited the Wrightbus factory in Ballymena to see the production of new double decker electric buses for London on 7 March
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 8 March
- I chaired the Homes for Londoners Board on 9 March
- I met with Project Everyone on 9 March
- I chaired the Business Advisory Board on 9 March
- I met with SAYes Mentoring UK on 9 March
- I met Simba, the LFB Fire Investigation Dog and his handler to support their bid to win the Kennel Club Hero Dog Award 2022 on 9 March
- I met with Kwajo Tweneboa on 9 March
- I visited Gayhurst Community School to highlight the London School Streets programme on 10 March
- I chaired the Adult Education Board on 10 March