

18th Mayor's Report to the Assembly MQT – 18th January 2018

This is my eighteenth Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 1 December - 4 January 2018.

Executive summary

Unlimited Hopper fare launched and fares freeze continues

On 2 January 2018, I announced that new unlimited one-hour Hopper fare - helping millions of passengers make two bus or tram journeys within an hour for the price of one - will be live by the end of the month, with weekly capping on Oyster introduced during the year.

Fares increased by more than 42 per cent in the eight years before I became Mayor, but thanks to my freeze around four million journeys a day across London are the same price as they were in 2016. By 2020, this will have saved the average London household around £200.

It is simply not right that millions of rail passengers face eye-watering fare hikes this week after suffering 12 months of delays, cancellations and disruption. It's time for the government and private rail companies to step up and give the passengers the service they deserve at a price they deserve. We've shown them it can be done – my TfL fares freeze is helping millions of Londoners every single day while we maintain a much better service.

I have challenged the Government and private train operating companies to follow my example.

Delivering on my neighbourhood policing pledge

On 28 December, I was pleased to announce that I delivered on my promise to put London's communities at the heart of my policing strategy, with at least two dedicated PCs and a dedicated Police Community Support Officer now in place in every London neighbourhood.

529 new dedicated ward officers have been appointed and are now helping to police London neighbourhoods, with additional dedicated officers on patrol in some areas according to local need.

My plan for additional dedicated ward officers, who both know and are known by the community, is the first step towards helping re-establish real neighbourhood policing.

In a year in which London suffered four devastating terrorist attacks, these local officers are the eyes and ears of our police and security services, and have a crucial role in keeping our city safe.

#BehindEveryGreatCity gender equality campaign

On 27 December, I launched my new women's equality campaign - #BehindEveryGreatCity - calling on Londoners, businesses and organisations across the capital to make their New Year's resolutions for gender equality in 2018.

It is incredibly important to mark the centenary of this momentous time in history, but also to take stock of the huge inequalities women still face 100 years on from first winning the right to vote. That's why I'm determined to take action - my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign will work with Londoners and businesses to remove barriers to women's success and level the playing field.

Over the next year, and beyond, I commit to redoubling my efforts to fight for gender equality. And I will be encouraging Londoners to celebrate the women of all ages, ethnicities, faiths and backgrounds who make London the greatest city in the world.

Rogue Landlord and Agent Checker now online

On 19 December, I fulfilled my manifesto promise to launch an online Rogue Landlord and Agent Checker. My new database allows more than 600,000 renters to check dodgy landlords and letting agents and sends rogue operators a clear message: you have nowhere to hide.

Before Ministers have even laid the regulations for their database, we've planned, built and launched ours - and unlike the Government's plans, we have made our database accessible to the public.

I have once again, called on the Government to follow my lead and stop dragging their feet on the creation of the compulsory national database that they promised to set-up with a publicly accessible national database.

Night Overground services launched

On 15 December, 24-hour Night Overground services began in the capital for the first time, making it faster and easier for thousands of Londoners working late hours or enjoying nights out, to get around.

The huge success of the Night Tube has seen more than nine million journeys, helped cut late night journey times by an average of 20 minutes, created more than 3,600 jobs and contributed more than £170 million to London's economy in its first year.

I am confident that the Night Overground will help more people enjoy this diverse and buzzing area of east London, rich with museums, galleries, restaurants, bars and nightspots. Enhancing transport options throughout the weekend will help those working shifts or in the service sector, providing safer journeys and reduced journey times.

The Night Overground is part of my draft Transport Strategy, which aims to create a fairer, greener, healthier and more prosperous city by improving public transport.

Joining charities in the fight to ensure no one forced to sleep rough

On 15 December, I launched the 'no one needs to sleep rough in London' campaign. 18 charities with decades of experience in helping people sleeping rough in the capital, came together to form a coalition - the 'London Homeless Charities Group' - that will offer Londoners an easily accessible single donation point. All funds generated will go equally to all 18 charities to direct vital services for people sleeping rough where they are needed most. The campaign will also show Londoners how they can direct outreach services towards people found sleeping rough

Alongside City Hall's record levels of investment in services to give people sleeping rough somewhere to sleep and access to the support and help they need, the 'No one needs to sleep rough in London' campaign aims to raise awareness and sets out how Londoners can help ensure there is a way off the streets for rough sleepers this winter.

Creative Enterprise Zones Launch

On 13 December, I launched my bold plans to establish Creative Enterprise Zones across the capital to ensure that artists, creative talent and communities can thrive.

The creative industries contribute £42bn to London's economy every year and account for one in six jobs in the capital. However, rising rents, increased property prices and the decline of affordable workspace have all contributed to the pressure on creative communities, with London predicted to lose 30 per cent of affordable creative workspace by 2019. Creative Enterprise Zones are a brand new initiative designed help creatives put down roots and establish themselves in local areas.

I am working with boroughs to offer incentives such as permanent affordable workspaces and relief from business rates.

I am calling on boroughs to bid for one of ten £50,000 grants to develop their own zones as part of this ground-breaking plan.

My vision for a growing and inclusive economy

On 13 December, I set out my vision for a new Economic Development Strategy that aims to create an economy that works for all Londoners, with new measures to support small businesses and entrepreneurship

The Economic Development Strategy sets out how I will help to ensure that all Londoners share in the benefits of our city's prosperity as it grows, alongside a package of new initiatives which will support entrepreneurs and help small businesses across London to grow and flourish - including plans for a brand new £100m fund to support small businesses in the capital.

Tackling London's black, Asian and minority ethnic pay gap

On 11 December, I pledged to lead by example on London's black, Asian and minority ethnicity (BAME) pay gap, as part of my drive to tackle inequality.

I am publishing data on the pay gap affecting BAME employees in City Hall and across the Greater London Authority (GLA) group, as well as an action plan on how I will bring about changes to address this.

Last year I fulfilled a manifesto commitment by publishing a gender pay audit for organisations across the GLA family, including Transport for London (TfL) and the Metropolitan Police, along with changes to the GLA's recruitment practices.

I will be leading by example from City Hall and have urged all London's businesses to join me in doing what they can to right this injustice.

Independent economic Brexit analysis for London

The government's chaotic approach to Brexit is putting jobs and growth at risk in London – that's why on 8 December, I announced that I have commissioned an independent economic analysis due to be published this month, on the impact of different Brexit scenarios on Londoners' jobs and prosperity.

The analysis will be from independent economic experts Cambridge Econometrics will include the impact different Brexit scenarios will have on nine different sectors of the economy in London and across the UK - including financial and professional services, the construction and the hospitality sectors, and science and technology.

Once I know the likely impact of different scenarios, I will come forward with a plan for the Government to mitigate the worst impacts of Brexit on London's economy.

New commissioners to head up London Sustainable Development Commission

On 4 December, I appointed ten new commissioners to the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC) following a formal recruitment process.

The new commissioners will serve alongside the newly appointed Chair, Dr Ashok Sinha, and existing commissioners, to help the city meet the challenges of a rapidly growing population, rising inequality and mitigating climate change.

London Stadium: independent review

On 1 December, I published an independent review into the true scale of the mismanagement of the London Stadium by the former Mayor. The independent review by forensic accountants Moore Stephens, revealed a catalogue of errors that led to transformation costs of the London Stadium soaring and a bungled decision that has left the taxpayer to foot an annual loss of around £20 million.

As a result, I took the decision to take over control of the London Stadium to put it on a more secure financial footing and – through the London Legacy Development Corporation - am putting together a plan to ensure its long-term future as a world-class multi-purpose venue and to continue providing community benefits.

I am determined to put the London Stadium towards a stronger financial footing and secure its long-term future, but I'm under no illusion that this is going to take time and some real commitment from all partners to make this work.

India and Pakistan trade trip

Over 6 days I visited Mumbai, New Delhi, Amritsar in India and Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi in Pakistan, attending 37 meetings/events and speaking to an estimated 2500 people across the course of the visit.

The purpose of my trade mission was to promote London as the world's number one location for investment, talent and ideas - encouraging increased trade links between London and the countries and cities I visited, strengthening connections across cultural and creative industries, and promoting the opportunities in London for tourism, students and business leaders. I am pleased to say that this message was very warmly received in all locations.

During my visit, I met with senior politicians in both countries to promote London. In India, I met the Finance Minister; Minister of Commerce and Industry; Minister for Road Transport and Highways; Chief Minister of Maharashtra; Mayor of Bengaluru and the Chief Minister of Punjab. In Pakistan, I met with the Prime Minister; Foreign Minister; Commerce Minister; Chief Minister of Punjab; Chief Minister of Sindh; Governor of Sindh; Mayor of Lahore and the Mayor of Islamabad.

In both countries, I met with a range of senior business people and discussed the opportunities and challenges of doing business with the UK. This included delivering speeches to Indian business representatives at the Growth Summit and separately at WeWork in Mumbai, and meeting senior business leaders and young entrepreneurs in Islamabad and Lahore. The recurrent message I received was that the visa regime to enter the UK is difficult and time-consuming and was discouraging business people from coming to London - consequently restricting the amount of business they were willing to undertake here. A similar message was heard from students wishing to come to London to study - they were keen to come, but were put off by the difficulties in obtaining a visa.

As part of this trade mission I took along a delegation of London's businesses. In India, I was accompanied by 18 of London's high-growth companies participating in the Mayor's International Business Programme mission to Mumbai and Bengaluru. The business delegates attended company visits presenting opportunities for them to grow their businesses, met with Indian counterparts and corporations including Infosys and BDO India, and participated in pitching and networking events with local business leaders, VCs and entrepreneurs. In Pakistan, I was accompanied by a smaller delegation of senior business people who met with senior politicians and business people - decision makers that otherwise would have been difficult for them to access.

During the visit, I was pleased to announce that London and Partners had secured more than 400 new jobs in London's tech sector because of investment from Indian firms. ICT company Wipro - which already employs more than 1800 Londoners - revealed plans to open third office in the City of London. In Pakistan, I was pleased to announce that Habib Bank AG Zurich, which already has eight branches in Britain, is planning two new branches in London, creating 50 new jobs in our city.

Cementing London's position as the world-leading centre for VFX (visual effects) and post-production facilities, I also announced the biggest-ever TV co-production between London and India - a remake of The Far Pavilions, worth £113 million. The unique collaboration will be produced by both Indian and British technicians, and the post-production for the high-end drama will be based in London.

I also undertook a range of media interviews with both in-country, international and London media in all of the cities I visited.

Policing, Crime and Security

Knife crime

Knife crime ruins lives and devastates communities, and my thoughts remain with the families of the four young men tragically killed in four unrelated stabbings on New Year's Eve. These heartbreaking deaths reinforce our determination to rid London's streets of this scourge, and I know that the Met police are urgently working to bring those responsible for these horrific acts of violence to justice.

But this is a problem that cannot be solved by the police alone. Schools have a vital part to play in our fight against knife crime by creating a safe, positive place for students, spotting danger signs and spreading the message that carrying a knife is more likely to ruin your life than save it.

That's why, as part of my ongoing knife crime strategy – a package of measures to tackle these crimes – I am providing a knife wand to any school across London that wants one, and I am pleased that many are already taking up the offer. I urge other headteachers, governing bodies and parents to follow suit and put these wands in place to help ensure our schools are safe places for all students.

We are working tirelessly to stamp out this terrible violence, with dedicated police operations, interventions in hospitals and funding for community projects steering young people away from a life of knife crime. Only by working together can we prevent any more senseless, tragic deaths on our streets.

On 3 January, I announced that since October, 76 metal-detecting knife wands had been provided by MOPAC to schools in London, as part of my Knife Crime Strategy. These wands can be invaluable in ensuring that schools are the safe places they should be, and I am keen to encourage Headteachers across the city to consider asking for one if they feel it is needed. We are providing these wands free-of-charge, and I would welcome the continued support of Assembly Members in extending that invitation to schools in your respective constituencies, so that we can ensure that knives are kept out of our schools. Please contact MOPAC if you have any questions or would like any further information.

Budget

Despite the four terror attacks on London and the devastating fire at Grenfell Tower in the last year, the Government confirmed that it is proposing another year of real-term cuts to the funding of the Met. The Met has had to make more than £600 million of savings over recent years, and must find several hundreds of millions of savings by 2021/22.

Keeping Londoners safe is my top priority. With the Government refusing to give the Met the resources it needs to do its job, I am being forced to increase my share of council tax that goes to the Police by the maximum amount allowed by the Government without requiring a referendum. The total increase in the precept (which also contributes to funding for the London Fire Brigade) is the equivalent of 27p a week per household – an increase of 5.1% or £14.20 a year in cash terms. I'm sensitive to the fact that council tax hits those who can least afford to pay it the hardest, so this is certainly not a decision I take lightly.

Domestic Homicide Review

On 8 December, as part of the 16 Days of Action, my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, in partnership with Standing Together, hosted a learning event for practitioners on Domestic Homicide Reviews. Its aim was to share an analysis that Standing Together have undertaken into hundreds of Domestic Homicide Reviews over the last few years. This analysis highlighted key commonalities and themes and provided an assessment of what organisations must do differently; what they can do more effectively in partnership and what they must consider and address when working with survivors' families. It is only by continuing to work together and continuing to learn from these reviews will we be able to prevent and eventually end any further need for domestic homicide reviews.

Serious Violence Strategy Police and Crime Commissioner Roundtable

On 6 December my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime attended a roundtable with Victoria Atkins MP and other Police and Crime Commissioners, seeking views on developing a Serious Violence Strategy for England and Wales. MOPAC will be contributing to the development of the National Serious Violence Strategy to be published by the Home Office in the New Year.

London Crime Reduction Board

On 11 December I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board where members and I were updated on plans regarding devolution for London and further improving joint work on safeguarding. We set plans underway for further analysis to reduce disproportionality in the criminal justice system including the response to the Lammy Review, and heard positive updates on progress against my Police and Crime Plan for London.

Tri-Force Commendation Ceremony

On 4 December my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime attended a joint award ceremony between the Metropolitan Police Service, City of London Police and British Transport Police to recognise the bravery, professionalism and compassion of members of the public and police officers during the dreadful terrorist attacks earlier this year.

Christmas

On 19 December I attended the Met Carol Service at Westminster Abbey, at which I had the honour of reading a lesson. This is always a beautiful and moving service, but was especially poignant this year given the tragic events of the last 12 months.

Met Senior Leadership Event

On 21 December I attended a Met Senior Leadership group event. This is a bi-monthly meeting of the Met's senior officers and staff. It is a chance for them to discuss future plans, be updated and feedback on issues of note. I addressed the group and took questions alongside the Commissioner; we discussed past achievements and future challenges.

Countering Violent Extremism

On 20 December I announced plans to launch a new programme of work in early 2018 to tackle the threat of violent extremism – in all its forms – in London. The new work on Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) will involve an in-depth consultation with experts, local authorities,

stakeholders, women's groups and all of the capital's communities to identify a London-specific tool-kit of operational improvements that can be implemented as soon as possible to help counter hate crime and violent extremism.

Delivering my promise on Dedicated Ward Officers

On 28 December I was delighted to announce that my pledge to increase Dedicated Ward Officer numbers to ensure that every Ward in the city has at least two by the end of 2017, has been delivered. Until last year most wards had just one dedicated PC and one dedicated PCSO, with two dedicated PCs in around 100 of the areas with the highest demand. Achieving this commitment brings the total number of dedicated officers working across London's 629 wards - smaller sections of parliamentary constituencies - to 1258, with additional numbers who can work across their borough in areas of high demand. The new ward officers are drawn from existing non-dedicated neighbourhood roles, and 'ring-fenced' from being called away to other duties, other than in exceptional circumstances or a major emergency.

Transport

New signal testing successfully completed on Circle and Hammersmith & City line trains

On 4 December, TfL announced the successful completion of the test of a brand new signalling system that will bring more frequent and reliable journeys to forty per cent of the Tube network.

Engineers from TfL and from Thales worked around the clock, rigorously testing trains on a new computer-based signalling and control system between Hammersmith and Latimer Road, which will be the first section of the Tube to go live with the new signalling system in 2018.

The new Thales signalling and control system will allow trains to run closer together, meaning a more frequent service and shorter waiting times for customers. Similar technology, which means thousands more passengers can be carried each hour, is used on the Jubilee and Northern lines. Customers using the Victoria line are already experiencing the benefits of shorter waiting times following a separate upgrade of its signalling system, which finished in May.

Work moves ahead on transformation of Old Street Roundabout

On 5 December, Islington Council issued an open call for design ideas to create an exciting 'iconic gateway' for Old Street. It followed the announcement from TfL that works to transform the whole area will begin late next year.

The 1960s-era roundabout will undergo a major transformation as part of work by the Mayor of London and TfL in partnership with Islington and Hackney Councils.

Islington Council is looking for innovative design concepts for the public space that encompass public art and embrace the spirit of "Tech City" - the technological, economic and cultural powerhouse around Old Street.

Multi-disciplinary ideas, such as those that make the most of public art and technology, are strongly encouraged. The creation of the work, which will be funded by Islington, will add to the transformative changes already planned for the roundabout.

The initial plans were strongly supported in a public consultation. Once the final design is completed by summer 2018 construction will follow later that year - with the majority of the construction work taking place throughout 2019.

Transport for London shares festive joy by giving lost toys to children this Christmas

Transport for London's Lost Property Office kick-started the festive period on 1 December by donating hundreds of toys and games for children as part of The Salvation Army's Christmas Present Appeal.

The Lost Property Office has been giving joy to disadvantaged children for the last 11 years by providing presents for them during the Christmas season. The donation includes children's toys and games that have been lost on the network and have remained unclaimed for over three months.

The Salvation Army will work with care services in south London, such as Lewisham Council, so children can have something to unwrap and enjoy this Christmas when they might not otherwise receive any presents.

RAIB report on Croydon tram tragedy

On 7 December the Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) published its report on the tragedy that took place at Sandilands.

Our thoughts remain with the families and loved ones of the seven Londoners who tragically lost their lives in the incident, and all of those who were injured and affected by that dreadful day.

The safety of Londoners is my number one priority and the top priority of TfL. I have been personally assured by the RAIB Chief Inspector that TfL has been working closely with RAIB to assist their investigation, to ensure that all necessary safety measures are implemented so that an incident like this can never happen again.

Over the last year TfL have been working with First Group on a wide range of new safety measures, including new signage and speed monitoring, and an in-cab device in every tram to protect drivers against distraction or fatigue. TfL take any allegations of safety breaches extremely seriously, and a new enhanced customer complaints system will ensure that any concerns raised over safety are dealt with immediately by a dedicated TfL team.

Our public transport system must be a place where people are always safe, and I will continue to demand reassurances from TfL and First Group that every possible action is being taken to keep their passengers safe. We owe this to the victims, their families and to every Londoner.

Step-free access at more stations as the Elizabeth line moves closer

On 8 December Transport for London announced the award of a contract to deliver step-free access and station improvements at four future Elizabeth line stations in west London and Buckinghamshire to J. Murphy & Sons Limited.

Hanwell, Iver, Langley and Taplow will become accessible, opening up journey options between west London, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire and central London.

All 41 stations on the Elizabeth line will have step-free access when the new railway is fully open in December 2019. This is in addition to the Mayoral target for 40 per cent of the London Underground network to be step-free by 2022.

Making public transport more accessible will also help meet some of the aims of the draft Mayor's Transport Strategy, which seeks to reduce reliance on the car, tackle air pollution and change the face of travel in London so that 80 per cent of journeys are made by public transport, cycling or walking by 2041.

The station improvements will include new lifts and footbridges to Elizabeth line platforms. TfL will also be constructing a brand new station building at Iver, replacing the current structure that dates back to the 1920s. The new building and ticket hall will include new ticket machines and information screens for an improved customer experience.

The announcement was made just ahead of TfL taking over the management of 11 stations between Taplow and Acton Main Line on 10 December. GWR will continue to run the train services until next May.

TfL seeks six exclusive commercial partners for the launch year of the Elizabeth line

On 11 December, Transport for London announced that the Elizabeth line is to be launched in partnership with six sector-exclusive brands, offering a unique opportunity that will align with this historic moment for London.

Connecting Reading and Heathrow in the west, and Shenfield and Abbey Wood in the east via ten new central London stations, the iconic new railway will dramatically improve transport links across the South East. The six commercial partners will be offered 12 months of sector-exclusive, advertising rights across the Elizabeth line's brand new, premium environment as well as the chance to work with TfL on marketing integration across the railway.

Further details on the Elizabeth line's advertising infrastructure will be published when the tender process opens to brands in February 2018. The six official launch partners are set to be announced in autumn 2018

TfL works with Waze and Eurotunnel to prevent Blackwall Tunnel closures

Delays at the Blackwall Tunnel caused by drivers running out of fuel have reduced following innovative trials between TfL, social navigation app Waze and Eurotunnel.

Over 36m journeys are made through the tunnel every year and it is one of the busiest sections on London's road network. Cars running out of petrol, and lorry drivers unaware their vehicles are over-height, cause delays at the tunnel which cost the Capital almost £7m, and result in nearly 400 hours of delays, each year.

TfL and Waze have been reminding drivers approaching Blackwall Tunnel to ensure that they have enough fuel. Over a six month period 459 drivers acted on this message and re-routed to local petrol stations, reducing the risk of breaking down the tunnel. There was also a reduction in the number of tunnel breakdowns compared to the same period last year.

The trial forms part of a range of new measures by TfL to reduce delays at the tunnel. This includes working closely with Eurotunnel Le Shuttle Freight to tackle the number of over-height incidents occurring at the Blackwall Tunnel. TfL has also recently launched a campaign to advise

users of the busiest times at Blackwall Tunnel and this saw two per cent of frequent drivers retime their journeys to reduce delays.

TfL to increase Penalty Charge Notice to help tackle congestion

On 15 December, Transport for London confirmed plans to increase the Congestion Charge Penalty Charge Notice from 2 January 2018, with a proposed rise for offences on TfL's road network to follow later in the year, subject to Secretary of State review.

Over the past five years there has been a 12 per cent increase in the number of motorists being issued with Congestion Charge PCNs. The rise from around 1.3m in 2011/12 to around 1.5m in 2016/17 is a clear indicator that the effectiveness of the current PCN fine has reduced over time. The increase, from £65 to £80 or £130 to £160 for late payment, followed a public consultation that received more than 7,400 responses. It is expected to encourage greater compliance and help to improve traffic.

Subject to the required Secretary of State review, later this year TfL is proposing to increase PCNs for offences which take place on its own road network. More than a third of all London's traffic uses TfL's road network, and by keeping these main routes clear, road danger, congestion, vehicle emissions and delays to bus passengers are reduced, ensuring that London remains an efficient, well-functioning global city.

TfL has also launched an official TfL Congestion Charge app. This will allow motorists to pay using a mobile device for the first time, so they can pay the Congestion Charge and T-Charge much quicker than paying by phone or online, save vehicles and payment cards to their app and see if a postcode is in the Congestion Charge zone.

Waterloo's transformation to start in early 2020

On 18 December, I joined Transport for London and Lambeth Council in announcing that work to transform the Waterloo area will start in early 2020.

The work will improve the area for walking, cycling and public transport users through what is currently an intimidating and dangerous junction that cuts through the local community. Waterloo Roundabout was identified earlier this year as among the 73 junctions in the Capital with the worst safety record for pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists in TfL's evidence-led Safer Junctions programme.

The dramatic changes to be delivered at the junction will include segregated cycle lanes, cycle-specific traffic lights, wider footpaths, a full redesign of the intimidating junction and vastly improved public spaces. The improvements will also open up new areas of London for safer cycling and will provide another valuable piece in London's growing network of safe cycle routes.

Concerns over safety are frequently cited as one of the key reasons people do not cycle in the Waterloo area. Overhauling this notorious junction will help reach the target for all deaths and serious injuries from road collisions to be eliminated from London's streets by 2041. Removing these barriers will help achieve the ambitious target that 80 per cent of all trips are made on foot, by bike or public transport by 2041, which will help reduce congestion and improve air quality.

One year to go until the beginning of Elizabeth line services that will transform travel across London and the South East

The start of Elizabeth line services, which will transform transport in London with quicker, easier and more accessible journeys, is now just a year away. To mark the countdown, Transport for London released a December 2018 Tube map with the Elizabeth line displayed. Its inclusion will be among the most significant changes to the look of the Tube map in recent decades.

The construction of the Elizabeth line has now entered its final stages and will open to the public in phases from December next year, when ten new state-of-the-art stations will open. The new railway, jointly sponsored by the Department for Transport and TfL, will connect stations such as Paddington to Canary Wharf in only 17 minutes, transforming how Londoners and visitors move quickly across the Capital.

From December 2018, the line will initially operate as three services:

- Paddington (Elizabeth line station) to Abbey Wood via central London
- Paddington (mainline station) to Heathrow (Terminals 2 & 3 and 4)
- Liverpool Street (mainline station) to Shenfield

From December 2019, customers from Reading and Heathrow will be able to travel all the way through central London to the West End and the City and beyond without needing to change trains. By linking Berkshire and Heathrow in the west, to east London and Essex in the east, the line will transform travel across the South East, carrying over 200 million passengers every year. It will increase rail capacity in central London by ten per cent, reduce congestion on the London Underground, and an extra 1.5 million people will be within 45 minutes commuting distance of London's key employment districts.

New figures show huge success of 'Please Offer Me a Seat' badge

Over 26,000 blue 'Please Offer Me a Seat' badges and complimentary cards have been issued to disabled passengers and those with invisible conditions, a year since the new scheme was announced.

Plans for the new badge, specially designed to make travelling easier for people who find it difficult to stand, were announced by Transport for London a year ago, and the badge launched in April 2017. It helps customers who otherwise struggle to get a seat on public transport as their need is not immediately obvious.

Working in a similar way as the famous 'Baby on Board' badge, the 'Please Offer Me a Seat' badge means that vulnerable passengers are able to travel in comfort without being put in the position of having to explain why they need to sit down.

A survey of badge users carried out last month found more than 78 per cent of users found it easier to get a seat as a result of the badge and 95 per cent of users are likely to recommend the scheme to someone who needs it. The free badge and card is available through the TfL website - www.tfl.gov.uk/accessibility.

The Economy, Business, Enterprise and Regeneration

Supporting London's Street Markets

On 20 December, I launched the first-ever London Markets Board alongside a package of measures supporting markets and the crucial role they play in London's economic, cultural and social life.

London's markets are a key part of the capital's international identity. In 2010 there were 162 markets – today there are 280. Street markets contribute almost £250 million to London's economy each year and retail markets account for 13,250 jobs. I am committed in supporting London's vibrant street markets in order to ensure they continue to prosper and grow.

The newly established London Markets Board, a team of industry experts and experienced business leaders, have been tasked with ensuring that markets continue to flourish, support growth in high streets and town centres, and remain vibrant attractions for all Londoners and visitors to the capital.

The board which is co-chaired by Jules Pipe, Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, will advise on the delivery of a London markets strategy, and on action to support and promote the capital's wholesale, street and covered markets.

I have published a new report- 'Understanding London's Markets'- examining the social and economic value of markets in London. The report communicates the many opportunities that are available to London's markets and makes 12 recommendations addressing the following questions:

- How can markets work more effectively?
- How can markets better support *people*?
- How can markets better support *prosperity*?
- And how can markets better support *local places*?

This will be followed by a toolkit to support people working in this sector.

As part of the report, the first-ever interactive online map capturing London's markets has been created (<http://maps.london.gov.uk/street-markets>). The map allows people to search for local markets and filter by functions such as market type and opening times. The map also includes a feature to allow users to submit information on markets to keep it updated over time.

As well as the Board and the report, I was happy to announce a further opportunity for London's Markets: in June 2019 London will co-host the 10th International Public Markets Conference with the charity Project for Public Spaces. The conference will provide an ideal opportunity to share all that London's markets have to offer with an international audience.

Supporting businesses in the areas Grenfell Tower and Borough market

My Business Continuity Fund has supported over 50 businesses in the areas of Grenfell Tower and Borough Market. The fund was established to help businesses get back on their feet following the tragic events earlier in 2017. £282k of the original £300k allocation has now been distributed to businesses via partner organisations. This funding has levered in a further £200k from the Department for Community and Local Government and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Housing and Land

Newington Butts project

On 14th December, my project at Newington Butts completed. The scheme is Rogers Stirk Harbour-designed 46 storey tower and terrace with 458 new homes. 179 (39%) homes are genuinely affordable housing with Peabody. The remaining 279 homes are purpose built PRS with Realstar, the Canadian Real Estate company. The base of the tower will be a theatre for Southwark Playhouse and a café.

Environment

Water Advisory Group

On 4 December my Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, chaired my first Water Advisory Group meeting. The group is made up of senior representatives and key decision makers from across the water and flood risk sectors, including water companies, regulators and the third sector. I have brought the group together at City Hall, which will meet three times per year on an ongoing basis, to ensure we manage water issues across the capital in an efficient and integrated way and that we plan effectively for the future. At the 4 December meeting London's water companies and the regulators updated the group on the upcoming water resource management plans and business plans. Water companies also updated on water resource levels and operational issues including an update on performance against leakage targets. This allowed best practice to be shared and identified opportunities for joint working.

London Sustainable Development Commission announce new Commissioners

On 4 December, I announced the appointment of ten new commissioners to the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC), following a formal recruitment process. The new commissioners' biographies can be seen [here](#). They will bring the LSDC to its full contingent of 18: made up of equal numbers of highly-talented women and men from across London's diverse sustainability sector.

The new commissioners will serve alongside the newly appointed Chair, Dr Ashok Sinha, and existing commissioners to promote good economic growth and ways to improve the quality of life for all Londoners that respect the environment and enhance social cohesion and inclusion. Current focus areas include cleantech and innovation, quality of life indicators and green finance.

On 14th December, the Commission also published an [update of the Quality of Life Indicators](#) on sustainable development in the capital, and will be using the results to define its future priorities.

Cutting edge air pollution sensor roll out and new international air quality partnership

On 5 December, during a visit to India, I announced a new partnership with the Mayor of Bengaluru, Sampath Raj, that once again puts London at the forefront of tackling air pollution; this time delivering a £750,000 (\$1 million) cutting-edge sensor air quality monitoring system which will be used to analyse harmful pollution in up to 1,000 toxic hot spots across the city including near schools, hospitals, construction sites and busy roads. The pilot project could

also feature mobile monitoring devices, so data will potentially be available from hundreds of thousands of locations across the city. The initiative and pilot project will be delivered by the C40 Climate Leadership Group.

Launch of Brixton Low Emission Bus Zone

On 12 December I launched the second of my 12 Low Emission Bus Zones in one of the most polluted areas of London, Brixton Road.

The new clean bus zone, running from Brixton Hill via Stockwell Road and Streatham High Road to Streatham Place, carries 130,000 passengers a day on a total of 450 buses on 23 scheduled routes. The route travels close to a number of primary schools, meaning more than 1,000 local children are now breathing cleaner air, as well as past Brixton Tube station which sees over 50,000 passengers a day enter and exit via Brixton Road.

From now on only buses that meet the toughest emission standards will be permitted to run within the Brixton Low Emission Bus Zone. Every bus on the route meets Euro VI standards through a combination of new and retrofitted buses.

It is the second of 12 new Low Emission Bus Zones to be introduced in heavily polluted areas. The first zone launched on Putney High Street in March 2017. Already, after less than six months, the Putney route has seen a 90 per cent reduction in hourly pollution level breaches and early analysis suggests a 40 per cent reduction in annual NO₂ concentrations at Putney High Street.

Meeting with Therese Coffey MP

On 14 December 2017 my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with the Rt Hon Therese Coffey MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs), to discuss air quality, waste and green infrastructure challenges in London. Items discussed included the governments Clean Air Fund, controls over wood burning, river powers, how to increase London's recycling rate and tree cover. The meeting was productive with common areas of interest identified and an agreement for GLA officers and Defra officials to further scope opportunities to work together.

Electric delivery vans trial

On 29 December I launched my electric delivery van trial. I have teamed up with Gnewt Cargo on a project to trial a fleet of 100 per cent electric vans that will deliver parcels in central London, helping to cut London's air pollution. Commercial freight vehicles represent 30 per cent of all traffic in central London and make an estimated 281,000 journeys per day. The two-year trial will test the viability of freight companies switching to zero emissions electric vehicles.

Education and Youth

Subject Knowledge Hubs Celebration

On 11 December, Joanne McCartney, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, had the pleasure of hosting a fantastic evening in the London Living Room to celebrate the achievements of our Subject Knowledge Hubs programme. The Hubs have enabled teachers from a range of

schools to work together, alongside subject and business experts, to sustainably improve their confidence and subject knowledge.

Collectively, the Hubs have supported over 900 schools, 16,000 teachers and 26,000 pupils across London. Joanne launched the new website (www.london.gov.uk/hubs) and brochure to showcase this, and share the lessons learnt across London and beyond.

Mayor's London Scientist

On 12 December, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, judged the Grand Final of Imperial's Schools Challenge programme at the Science Museum. 160 students from backgrounds underrepresented in the STEM sector investigated and pitched solutions to air pollution, transport and waste.

All students received funding through my new 'Mayor's London Scientist' programme to enter their projects for the national CREST Award – the top science award in the country for schoolchildren. My Education & Youth Team are looking to host an event at City Hall in the new year, so they can learn how research informs my environmental policies and programmes.

Health

Health Inequalities Strategy consultation

On the 30th November the public consultation for Better Health for London; our strategy for improving health and addressing health inequalities in London, closed. City Hall received over 200 submissions from organisations – including community groups, London boroughs, and businesses – as well as over 2000 responses from Londoners via TalkLondon. I will consider all these responses over the next few months as we shape the final strategy.

This strategy is about improving health for all Londoners – and we all need to work towards together to achieve this. As we move forward I would like to invite you take a look at our Better Health For London pledge board, and share what you are already doing - and what you plan to do - to improve Londoner's health and wellbeing: www.gethealthy.london/better-health-for-londoners/

London Health Board

On 20 December I chaired the London Health Board. Members were pleased to note that the devolution MoU between London and national partners had been signed and discussed priorities including prevention (tobacco, alcohol and obesity), the health and care workforce and NHS estates where the board and were keen to align the work with Homes for Londoners Board and One Public Estate. A draft work programme will be brought to the next LHB meeting on 19 April.

Progress on Thrive LDN was noted including Cllr Sachin Shah, Leader Harrow Council taking over as Chair of the Steering Group. The Board received an overview of mental health services in London and acknowledged progress in relation to adults with further work need on children recognising the historic underinvestment.

Later this month, I am due to meet with Murdoch and Matthew Patrick, Chief Executive, South London and Maudsley Mental Health Trust to look at how to increase progress on Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and schools. The Board supported the proposal for London to work towards becoming the first dementia-friendly capital City to be launched in Spring 2018.

Team London and Volunteering

Team London Ambassadors

On New Year's Eve, one of London's busiest nights of the year, my Team London Ambassadors were out in force supporting the annual New Year's Eve Fireworks display. This year saw 48 Ambassadors take part, welcoming ticket holders and helping those without tickets to plan alternatives for their New Year's Eve festivities. Ambassadors were located in seven key areas within the New Year's Eve footprint, including key train stations such as Waterloo Station.

Team London & Thrive LDN Grants

In December, Team London opened the application process for my new Small Grants fund. In partnership with Thrive LDN and the #iWill Fund, I am offering up to £75,000 in grants of £5,000 - £10,000 to community groups, small charities and voluntary sector organisations to run projects that encourage young Londoners to volunteer. Applications are open until 5th January 2018. These projects can focus on any area of volunteering or social action but should encourage good mental health and wellbeing. The majority of young participants will come from groups that are disproportionately affected by mental health, such as those within the criminal justice system or young refugees or asylum seekers.

Team London Young Ambassadors

On 6 December, ten Team London Young Ambassadors schools successfully pitched for Unilever Small Grants. The Small Grants of up to £1,000 per school are funded by Unilever, the Team London Young Ambassadors 2017 programme sponsor. The grants help schools to develop social action projects which benefit their school and local community. Projects range from tackling knife crime and gang violence, to mental health and wellbeing, and literacy.

London 2017 Impact Report

On 19 December, I released the Event Impact Report which revealed the success of the IPC World Para Athletics Championships and IAAF World Championships. The report assessed the total direct economic impact on London of the Summer of World Athletics as exceeding £107 million – with over one million people buying tickets for the London Stadium.

UEFA Euro 2020

I am delighted that on 7 December, the UEFA Executive Committee announced that London will host four extra matches as part of UEFA Euro 2020. This means that London will now host seven matches, including the semi-finals and finals of the tournament.

Culture and Events

London Borough of Culture deadline

On 1 December, it was the deadline for my new London Borough of Culture Award. The response was strong and I received bids from 22 boroughs across the capital.

I will announce the winning boroughs next year for London Borough of Culture in 2019 and 2020 they will each receive over £1m to deliver a programme of ambitious cultural activities and put culture at the heart of the community. I will also award up to six exemplary awards to other boroughs for a new cultural project. These awards will celebrate the unique character and diversity of our people and places and bring Londoners together. #MyLocalCulture, the hashtag celebrating the campaign has created 5 million impressions on Twitter.

#MyLocalCulture film-making competition for young Londoners

I have invited all young Londoners to make a short film about why they love where they live This is part of my London Borough of Culture Award, working with film education charity, IntoFilm. The deadline for entries is 31 January and the competition is being promoted across London schools.

Night Czar Night Surgeries

On 2 December, my Night Czar, Amy Lamé, conducted a night surgery in Wimbledon hosted by the Met Police where she visited various locations and discussed the important work that the Met Police do to support the night time culture and economy. She met with a range of local stakeholders including representatives from Merton Council, the local Business Improvement District (BID) and local businesses and visited a number of locations within Wimbledon's diverse night time economy.

On 15 December, my Night Czar, Amy Lamé launched the 24-hour Night Overground and conducted a night surgery in between Dalston Junction and New Cross Gate where she met travellers and Transport for London staff.

British Fashion Awards

On 4 December, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the Fashion Awards at the Royal Albert Hall. The awards are the annual celebration of the fashion industry's best designers, emerging talent, business leaders and models. The UK fashion industry is now worth £26 billion to the UK economy. Last year's Fashion Awards raised £700,000 to support young British talent through scholarships the NEWGEN talent programme and start-up business support.

India & Pakistan trip

On 4 December, I announced the joint London and India film collaboration for new high-end TV drama of the iconic *The Far Pavilions* - a remake of the legendary novel and 1980s TV series. This new series is set to be the highest budget, UK/India co-production ever made with a potential £113 million investment will feature the very best of British and Indian talent.

Mumbai is first Indian city to join the World Cities Culture Forum

On 4 December, I met the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavisin and jointly announced that the city of Mumbai will be joining the World Cities Culture Forum. This Forum is a leading network of world cities chaired by my Deputy Mayor Justine Simons OBE which has over 35 cities and its aim is to advance the role of culture in cities. Mumbai is the first Indian city to join the network.

Night Time Economy Borough Champions and Night Time Commission

On 4 December, the fourth meeting of my Night Time Economy Borough Champions was convened at City Hall. This is a network with representatives from London boroughs which share best practice and discuss solutions to manage and support the growth of London's night time economy.

On 11 December, the second meeting of my Night Time Commission took place at City Hall. It was chaired by Philip Kolvin QC and attended by members representing a range of night time economy businesses, public authorities and the culture sector. The commission discussed proposed research and consultation to ensure that Londoners' views inform the work of the commission and their recommendations.

Creative Enterprise Zones Launch

On 14 December, I launched my search for Creative Enterprise Zones across London so that creative communities continue to flourish, delivering good growth, supporting local communities and creating jobs and opportunities for Londoners. I published my vision for this new initiative and will be offering ten grants of £50,000 to boroughs to identify and develop plans for Creative Enterprise Zones.

Creative Enterprise Zones are one of my key policy commitments which will retain and attract artists and creative businesses in the capital by providing affordable workspace, supporting small businesses, providing incentives to start ups and creating new jobs. In my new draft London Plan I outlined a new Creative Enterprise Zones policy which will support the implementation of new zones.

Chanukah – Lighting ceremony

On Tuesday 12 December I was invited to speak at the annual Chanukah on the Square celebrations, and participate in the ceremony to light the first candle of the giant Menorah that stands on the west viewing terrace of Trafalgar Square. Throughout the eight day Chanukah festival, a candle is illuminated each day (12 – 19 December). I was delighted to address the five thousand-fold audience of this ninth-annual Jewish event, alongside Rabbi Bentzi Sudak, Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis, Sharon Bar-li, Deputy Ambassador of Israel, and Yael Simons, Trustee, London Jewish Forum.

The lighting ceremony led by Chazzanim, where the Chanukah song Ma'oz Tzur was sung, was topped and tailed by more live music, including sets from the Akiva School Choir accompanied by Jcross band, Rabbi Levene band and a personal favourite of mine the Maccabeats. Free donuts were distributed amongst the crowd by volunteers from the Jewish Leadership Council.

This annual, free, community event is supported by the GLA and organised by the Jewish Leadership Council, London Jewish Forum and Chabad-Lubavitch UK. It is attended by the Jewish community, Londoners and visitors.

Announcement and Launch Campaign for Centenary of Women's Vote

On 18 December, I announced the campaign #BehindEveryGreatCity at Platanos College in Lambeth with my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE. This campaign is to launch our year-long campaign in London to celebrate the centenary of the first women gaining the right to vote, is a deliberate play on the feminist slogan used globally in the 60s and 70s. The campaign seeks to demonstrate the fact that it is the achievements of the many women, from all walks of life, that make cities like London great.

On 27 December, I launched the campaign asking all Londoners to join me with a pledge to address equal rights.

New Year's Eve 2017

Bringing a close to 2017 and heralding the start of a new year, over 100,000 people came together to watch the world-famous London New Year's Eve Fireworks.

As we entered 2018, it was fitting that the fireworks were themed around the #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign to ring in the centenary year of women gaining the vote. The music during the second half of the show, looking ahead to 2018, was for the first time exclusively by female artists including Annie Lennox, Aretha Franklin, Florence Welch, Ariana Grande and Dua Lipa. Londoners and visitors from around the world were again encouraged to make their resolution for gender equality.

2017 has been an extremely difficult year for London, a year marred by the devastating Grenfell Tower fire and appalling terrorist attacks. But during these tough times, the bravery of our emergency services has shone through, and their hard work and professionalism is again appreciated during times of celebration such as New Year's Eve. Seeing Londoners and visitors come together to celebrate after such a difficult year gives a renewed sense of hope and optimism for the future and shows exactly why London is the greatest city in the world.

Communities and Social Policy

Refugee resettlement

On the 11th December, a group of private landlords who have offered homes across London to resettled refugees came to City Hall to share their experiences and offer ideas on how to unlock more properties. On 17th December, Deputy Mayor Matthew Ryder appeared on BBC's Sunday Politics to talk about London's approach to refugee resettlement (available from 45:09 [here](#)).

London Strategic Migration Partnership

This month, my Social Integration team secured an extension to the deadline for undocumented survivors of the Grenfell Tower fire to apply for a 12-month period of leave to remain in the UK following [reports](#) that few residents had taken up the offer. Through the London Strategic

Migration Partnership, we will continue to represent the views of communities on the take-up and communication of the policy for undocumented survivors of Grenfell.

Citizenship and Integration Initiative

My Social Integration team continue to make progress supporting Londoners to access their legal rights to residency and citizenship, transforming citizenship ceremonies, and promoting social integration across London. On 6th December, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Matthew Ryder, shared evidence of this work with the House of Lords Select Committee on Citizenship and Civic Engagement. On 13th December, Matthew and I supported the call made by Citizens UK for the Government to abolish the profit element of citizenship applications.

World AIDS Day 2017

As Mayor and Chair of the London Health Board, I have made HIV prevention a top priority. I invited Adam Roberts and Paul Coleman, curators of The AIDS Since the 80s Project, to create an exclusive series of portraits to mark World AIDS Day 2017 at City Hall. The SURVIVORS portrait exhibition opened in City Hall on Monday 4 December 2017. The Belgian artist Danielle van Zadelhoff created 17 unique portraits, of predominantly Londoners, to change the narrative of living with HIV - focusing on individuals living rich and fulfilling lives, and their experiences over the past 30 years.

Christmas Carol Service 2017

I was pleased to share my Christmas message at the annual Mayor of London's Christmas Carol Service at Southwark Cathedral on 18 December. The service opened with a solo from 12-year-old Joe Davies from Bromley Youth Music Trust, an organisation supported by the London Music Fund. It was a poignant service attended by over 1,000 people on the doorstep of the London Bridge attacks. We reflected together on the challenges London has faced this year and recommitted ourselves as Londoners to being a generous and close-knit community. The service honoured our emergency services and included beautiful music sung by the Greenwich and Lewisham NHS Choir and the Metropolitan Police Choir. A special offering was collected to support the Mayor's campaign to end rough sleeping in the capital.

Sport and Olympic and Paralympic Legacy

London Legacy Development Corporation

On 1 December, I published the independent review into the historic decision making processes regarding the London Stadium's transformation and contracts. The report, a largely backward looking review carried out by forensic accountants Moore Stephens, revealed that the mismanagement of the previous Mayoral administration led to the taxpayer shouldering the cost and the financial risk of the venue's transformation and future operating costs. My predecessor, along with several other bodies made incorrect financial assumptions and failed to fully understand or investigate the commercial risks to the taxpayer. I am now seeking to redress many of the issues raised in the report and I have already started work on this. I have agreed with the Mayor of Newham that the Council will leave the E20 joint venture to allow a more streamlined governance structure. The GLA, through LLDC, has now taken full control of the London Stadium. A Corporate Restructuring Officer has been appointed to develop a new

commercial strategy to help place the venue on a more viable financial footing. The Stadium has a vital role to play in the long-term regeneration of the area and will help to maintain London's reputation as a key visitor destination, as evidenced by the success of the London 2017 World Athletics Championships and World ParaAthletics Championships.

The Park continued to deliver its events programme including four West Ham United home-games against Chelsea (9 December), Arsenal (13 December) . Newcastle United 23 December), and West Bromwich Albion (3 January). The Copper Box also hosted another round of World Championship Boxing on 9 December.

Budget and Finance

There are a series of separate meetings that will be taking place to discuss the budget. On 9 January 2018 I will be attending the Budget Performance committee.

On 25 January 2018 I will be attending the first Assembly Budget plenary.

On 22 February 2018 I will be attending the final Budget plenary.

Planning and Development

London Plan

I launched the consultation on my draft London Plan on 1 December 2017, which runs until 2 March 2018.

Planning and Development Control 21 November 2017 to 18 December 2017

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Ark Pioneer Academy, land at former Underhill Stadium, High Barnet, LB Barnet

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

Grahame Park Estate, Colindale, LB Barnet

I have written to the London Borough of Barnet directing the Council to refuse planning permission.

Cottrell House, 53-63 Wembley Hill Road, 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.

245-249 and 253 Ealing Road, Alperton, 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.

St Hughes Playing Fields, Bickley, LB Bromley

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

Land between 1 and 17 Scarbrook Road, Croydon, LB Croydon

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

Former Essex House, 101 George Street, Croydon, LB Croydon

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

Former Triangle Site, Hammersmith, LB Hammersmith and Fulham

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

Gateway Site, White City, LB Hammersmith and Fulham

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

Vyners School, Uxbridge, 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.

Layton Road, Brentford, LB Hounslow

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

Capital Interchange Way, Brentford, LB Hounslow

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

Vantage Logistics Centre, Hatton, LB Hounslow

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

Land adjacent to Jenkins Lane, East Ham, LB Newham

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

Welbeck Street Car Park, City of Westminster

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

Paddington Central Management Office, City of Westminster

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

54-62, 66-68 Oxford Street and 51-58 Rathbone Place, City of Westminster

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

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- Land at rear of 400 Edgware Road, Cricklewood, LB Barnet
- Barnet House, Whetstone, LB Barnet
- Former Slade Green Football Club, Erith, LB Bexley
- Gondar Gardens, West Hampstead, LB Camden
- Canterbury House, 2-6 Sydenham Road, Croydon, LB Croydon
- Morello Quarter (phase 2), Croydon, LB Croydon
- 75-117 Boston Road, Hanwell, LB Ealing
- Esso Filling Station, Southall, LB Ealing
- Phases 3 and 4, Woolwich Central, RB Greenwich
- 40 Victoria Way, Charlton, RB Greenwich
- The Hurlingham Club, Parsons Green, LB Hammersmith and Fulham
- Victoria Hall and Cumberland Hotel, Harrow Town Centre, LB Harrow
- Former Morrisons Supermarket, Hounslow, LB Hounslow
- Newcombe House, Notting Hill Gate, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Lewisham Retail Park, LB Lewisham
- Carpetright Site, Lewisham, LB Lewisham
- East Ham Market, LB Newham
- 187-191 High Road, Ilford, LB Redbridge
- 136-142 New Kent Road, Elephant and Castle, LB Southwark
- Roehampton Club, Roehampton Lane, Barnes, LB Wandsworth
- 70-88 Oxford Street, City of Westminster

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- 21 Moorfields, City of London
- Taberner House, LB Croydon
- Lovell's Granite, Badcocks and Pipers Wharves, RB Greenwich
- Land North of Westfield Shopping Centre, LB Hammersmith and Fulham
- Land at Lionel Road South, LB Hounslow
- 295 Holloway Road, LB Islington
- 1 Knights Road, LB Newham
- London Fruit and Wool Exchange, LB Tower Hamlets
- 3 Culvert Road, LB Wandsworth
- Development Site at Chelsea Barracks, City of Westminster
- 1-5 Grosvenor Place, City of Westminster
- Dudley House, City of Westminster
- 33 Broadwick Street, City of Westminster
- North Westminster Community School, City of Westminster
- Great West Corridor – Preferred options; West of Borough - Preferred options; Local Plan Partial Review, LB Hounslow
- Lambeth Local Plan Review 2017 - Issues Consultation, LB Lambeth
- Hertsmere Local Plan - Issues and Options consultation, Hertsmere Borough Council

Key Engagements

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

- I visited India & Pakistan between 3 December and 8 December to promote the message that London remains open following the outcome of the EU referendum
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board Meeting on 11 December
- I met with the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, Secretary of State for Transport, on 11 December to discuss transport in London
- I launched a new Low Emission Bus Zone running from Brixton to Streatham, the second of 12 Low Emission Bus Zones, on 12 December
- I had an introductory meeting with the organisers of Web Summit, Europe's largest tech conference, on 12 December
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 12 December
- I attended the Chanukah Celebration in Trafalgar Square on 12 December
- I launched my draft Economic Development Strategy for consultation at the Federation for Small Business (FSB) Winter Reception taking place at City Hall on 13 December
- I had my regular meeting with representatives from the GLA Unison Branch on 13 December
- I attended the National Memorial Service for Victims of the Grenfell Tower Fire taking place at St Paul's Cathedral on 14 December
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 14 December
- I visited the building site of the new permanent home for the City Hall-funded No Second Night Out service in Hackney on 15 December to launch the new 'No one needs to sleep rough in London' rough sleeping campaign
- I addressed GLA staff at the GLA Christmas Party on 15 December
- I attended a Christmas reception hosted by Evgeny Lebedev on 15 December
- I attended the unveiling of the Stairway to Heaven Memorial at Bethnal Green Tube Station on 17 December in memory of the victims of the 1943 Bethnal Green tube disaster
- I visited Platanos College in Clapham on 18 December to announce the women's equality campaign – #BehindEveryGreatCity
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 18 December
- I attended the annual GLA Carol Service at Southwark Cathedral on 18 December
- I chaired the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) Board Meeting on 19 December
- I had my regular meeting with the London Ambulance Service on 19 December
- I went to Southwark Police Station on 19 December to have my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner
- I attended the MPS Annual Carol Service at Westminster Abbey on 19 December
- I chaired the London Health Board Meeting on 20 December
- I had an introductory meeting with Alderman Charles Bowman, the Lord Mayor, on 20 December
- I addressed the Metropolitan Police Senior Leadership Group on 21 December
- I appeared before the Assembly alongside Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 21 December to answer questions on policing
- I attended the opening night of Hamilton on 21 December
- I attended the London New Year Fireworks on 31 December

- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 4 January
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 4 January

Ends