

22nd Mayor's Report to the Assembly Mayor's Question Time – 21st June 2018

This is my twenty-second Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 4th May – 7th June 2018.

Executive summary

First map of London's music spaces

London has a great musical heritage but it's not something we can take for granted. On 7 June, I published new figures that revealed the decline in grassroots music venues in the city had stabilised following a number of measures to champion and protect them. However, it is still crucial that we support new venues in opening and ensure improved access to rehearsal and recording studios – these spaces are vital in finding the next Adele, Dua Lipa or Stormzy.

A core part of my Cultural Infrastructure Plan was to identify what is needed in order to sustain London's future as a cultural capital. I published the first-ever interactive map of London's music spaces that can be used to help protect and nurture the music scene and the facilities it needs across the capital. I want all Boroughs, the music industry and communities to make the most of this extensive new research. This way we can support the music scene in every part of our city to flourish, nurture new talent from all backgrounds, and continue to keep London's music scene on the map.

New academy to boost construction skills for Londoners

On 6 June, I published London's first ever Skills and Adult Education Strategy – Skills for Londoners – which aims to ensure all Londoners have the skills, education and training they need to succeed and help the capital's economy to thrive.

The Strategy places social mobility, inclusion and diversity at its heart. It focuses on post 16 technical and vocational education, adult education and employment support, and seeks to improve pathways from school into further learning and work.

I'm committed to building the workforce of the future and a key part of this is recognising the best skills providers across the city and using them as exemplars from which others can learn.

Rough sleeping campaign raises almost £200k

On 5 June, I recognised the efforts of Londoners for their help in connecting more rough sleepers with services in the capital than ever before, and for their generosity in donating almost £200,000 towards my 'No one needs to sleep rough in London' campaign.

Referrals through the app, 'StreetLink' was the highest it has ever been since the start of campaign, up almost 45 per cent compared to equivalent period last year. The money raised will be divided equally between the charities, meaning each one will benefit from more than £10,000 towards vital services.

This campaign has shown what a difference we can make when we all work together, and the Government needs to go much further in giving us the resources we need to help rough sleepers, and in addressing the root causes of homelessness.

£1.1bn vision for East Bank at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

On 5 June, I unveiled new plans and building designs for Sadler's Wells, London College of Fashion (part of University of the Arts London) and the V&A including a partnership with the Smithsonian Institution, across Stratford Waterfront. In addition, at least 50 per cent of new homes across the remaining development sites on the Park will be affordable. This is the most ambitious new project of its kind for decades.

I have made culture, innovation and growth a top priority, and as London's centre of gravity extends east, I'm delighted that we're placing culture and education at the heart of this development and the Olympic legacy.

Volunteers' Week 2018 - volunteer and support their communities

On 4 June, I joined staff at City Hall using one of their annual days of volunteering leave to help create 500 boxes for this year's Poppy Appeal, in support of the Royal British Legion. The day of action coincide with Volunteers' Week to recognise the invaluable and diverse contribution volunteers make.

Call on Government to appoint a social housing tenant as Commissioner

On 4 June, I called on the Government to appoint a social housing tenant as a national Commissioner for Social Housing Residents.

I grew up on a council estate, so I know just how important social housing is. I'm deeply concerned that social housing tenants' voices are not being heard in the corridors of power and that's why we need an independent Commissioner to stand up for social tenants. It is clear to me, and to many Londoners who contributed ideas to my strategy, that this person should themselves be someone who lives in social housing.

#LondonUnited anniversary tribute to London Bridge Attack

Our city faced some incredibly difficult times last year, with the terrorist attacks in Westminster, London Bridge, Finsbury Park and Parsons Green. The cowardly terrorists who commit these horrific acts do so to try to divide us, to fuel fear and to destroy our way of life. I'm proud of the way we have responded: standing united in defiance and staying true to our values and way of life.

On 1 June, I confirmed the plans to mark the anniversary of last year's London Bridge terror attack. These plans were agreed following consultation with the 14 families who have lost loved ones, survivors, the Met police and emergency services, as well as the local authorities in the areas affected.

On 3 June, as part of the ongoing tribute to those affected the hashtag #LondonUnited was projected onto London Bridge. A digital book of hope, usually located at was moved to Southwark Cathedral for the public to sign.

New taskforce dedicated to expanding electric vehicle infrastructure

On 31 May, I launched a new taskforce dedicated to bringing together industry, businesses and the public sector to work together to deliver electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the capital. London's filthy air is a public health crisis, and encouraging more Londoners to switch from diesel to electric vehicles is critical to tackling it. This initiative will support London boroughs and ensure electric vehicle infrastructure is installed in the right places to help make our city an even better place to live.

Great progress has already been made with the rollout of electric buses, electric taxis and rapid charging points, alongside launching the Toxicity Charge (T-Charge) for the oldest polluting vehicles in central London and bringing forward the introduction of the world's first Ultra-Low Emission Zone. But we cannot do this alone.

Review into senior staff severance pay

On 31 May, I commissioned a review into notice periods and severance arrangements for senior staff across the GLA Group, to assess whether contractual requirements for pay-outs for departing senior staff across the GLA Group is appropriate and in the best interests of the London taxpayer.

To conduct the review, I have appointed Dawn Jarvis, previously HR Director at the Department of Education. Dawn has worked in the public sector for 27 years, working across six central government departments including the Department for Education where she was Director of People and Change.

It is essential that London and the GLA continues to attract the very best talent from around the world. However, with cuts in funding from central Government across the GLA group, we have to continue to be sharply focused on ensuring taxpayer money is always well spent.

Mary Harpley appointed Chief Officer at the Greater London Authority (GLA)

On 29 May, I appointed Mary Harpley as the Greater London Authority's new Chief Officer. Mary will act as the GLA's Head of Paid Service and becomes the first woman to lead the GLA staff as its most senior officer. She replaces Jeff Jacobs, who retired as Head of Paid Service after serving seven years in the role.

Mary Harpley has more than 30 years' experience both in the public and private sectors and joins the GLA from the London Borough of Hounslow where she has been Chief Executive for seven years. Mary will be responsible for the strategic direction and management of the GLA and will lead the corporate management team of executive directors. She will also act as Greater London Returning Officer.

On behalf of all at the GLA, I want to thank Jeff for his decades of dedicated service as a public servant and wish him a very happy retirement.

Working with the Red Box project to tackle period poverty

On 28 May, I announced that I will work with The Red Box Project to support girls at risk of experiencing period poverty in London's schools, and help provide them with the products that they need. It is hard to believe that young women and girls in the capital are experiencing this type of poverty. Not being able to afford the products that they need is putting their health at risk and preventing them from fully engaging in their education. I am calling on the Government to take urgent action and end period poverty.

To tackle the issue of women experiencing period poverty in London, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) is working to ensure that women in police custody always have access to a female officer and a sanitary hygiene pack when on their period, which is currently not always the case.

This year, through our #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, I have pledged to fight gender inequality in all its forms, and we must tackle the issue of period poverty and ensure that no woman or girl goes without this basic right.

New £1m fund to help worst affected schools protect pupils from pollution

On 24 May, I announced my new £1 million fund to help some of London's most polluted primary schools. Each of the 50 audited schools will be given a £10,000 starter grant and enable any of the other London schools located in areas exceeding legal air pollution limits to apply for green infrastructure funding.

The fund includes:

- £500,000 to deliver non-transport interventions at all 50 audited schools,
- £300,000 to deliver green infrastructure at any London school located in an area exceeding legal pollution limits (from the Greener City Fund);
- £250,000 in funding to launch a new nursery audit programme that will trial filtration systems to reduce indoor air pollution at 20 of the most polluted nurseries in the most polluted areas

Boroughs have been provided with a total of £237 million by Transport for London this year to help them manage their streets. They will be encouraged to use some of this to deliver the transport recommendations around the audited schools, which will also support the Healthy Streets approach. I have also developed a toolkit to help boroughs apply the audits approach to other schools located in areas exceeding legal pollution limits.

Judge rules in favour of affordable housing threshold

On 23 May, I welcomed the judgement handed down by the High Court that backs my 'threshold' approach to affordable housing. This will allow developments to be fast tracked through the planning system where they provide at least 35 per cent affordable housing. Our guidance sets out a clear approach that makes the planning system in London clearer, quicker and more consistent. This approach will help us to turn around years of neglect when it comes to building the homes Londoners so desperately need.

Supporting grassroots music scene with 'Sounds Like London'

On 23 May, I announced the full programme for 'Sounds Like London' - a month-long celebration of live music taking place throughout June 2018 which aims to encourage Londoners and visitors to support grassroots music venues.

As part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, the programme will also champion women working in all aspects of the music industry putting women artists, DJs, producers and promoters front and centre - showcasing the best of the industry and inspiring the next generation of female talent.

Local authorities sign up to the Checker to protect London's renters

On 22 May, we reached an important milestone in protecting London's renters with all local authorities now signed up to the Checker. When I launched the Checker I made it clear unscrupulous landlords and agents would have nowhere to hide. I am confident this will be a major step in tackling unscrupulous and illegal practices in the rented sector.

I am also proud to announce the publication of my London Housing Strategy. Once again, I would like to call on the Government to appoint a Commissioner for Social Housing Residents. In line with the views of many Londoners, this role should be fulfilled by someone who is a social housing resident themselves.

£2m investment for green spaces in the Capital

On 21 May, I announced the six winners to receive over £2m of grant funding for green space improvements, as part of my drive to make London the world's first National Park City. The winning projects, selected by a panel of experts, include cycling and walking greenways in Barking and Ealing, park regenerations in Barnet and Lewisham, river restorations in Enfield, and new wetlands in Harrow, which will help preserve a 14th century moat.

In addition to the £2m for the winners I am also allocating an extra £3 million to the fund, bringing the total to £12 million. The fund provides grants for community green spaces and tree planting (£5m), greening the built environment (£800k), trees and woodlands (£3m) and community engagement to help make London a National Park City (£1m).

Launch of online resource for aspiring teachers

On 18 May, I launched Teach London, an online resource to help teachers enter the profession. The website sets out and promotes the benefits of starting and continuing a teaching career in London.

New powers granted to combat illegal taxi and private hire activity

On 17 May, our compliance officers were given real powers by the Metropolitan Police to clamp down on illegal activity, and take action against unsafe and unlicensed vehicles. The majority of taxi and private hire drivers provide a good and safe service for Londoners, but drivers who haven't got a valid licence or are breaching the terms of their licence shouldn't be on London's streets.

These new powers are part of my Taxi and Private Hire Action Plan, which includes a range of far-reaching improvements that will drive up standards, boost the quality of service for Londoners and will help deliver the greenest taxi fleet in the world. Having increased the number of compliance officers across London last year, I'm delighted they will now have the powers to pull over vehicles and take action against drivers breaking the rules and putting the safety of Londoners at risk.

Our Time: Supporting Future Leaders launch – 14 May

On 14 May, as part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, I launched *Our Time – Supporting Future Leaders* at an event at City Hall attended by 90 representatives from the private, public and third sector in London. This new initiative will take crucial action to help more women into senior leadership roles in workplaces across the capital. *Our Time* will work through pairing high-potential women with senior staff champions (men and women) who will help to open up the professional networks, opportunities and contacts often needed to progress within workplaces. The initiative is the first and largest-scale programme of its kind to be adopted in the public sector.

Government must act to avoid second Windrush-style scandal

On 14 May, I called on Government to act quickly and waive the unacceptably high £1000-plus fees for the many children and young people who have lived all or most of their lives in the UK, but currently do not officially have British citizenship.

The recent Windrush scandal has shone a light on an immigration system that is simply unfit for purpose. Since I became Mayor, I have repeatedly called on the Government to address the issue of young people who lack secure immigration status. The Government must act now to avoid a second Windrush-style scandal. They need to remove the so-called “hostile environment”, streamline the application process so young people’s lives are not needlessly interrupted and waive the astronomically high fees they charge to confirm something we already know to be true – that they are British citizens, that they are Londoners.

New Land Fund used to purchase multi-million pound hospital site

On 11 May, I used the new Land Fund to purchase a site at St Ann’s Hospital in Haringey. This deal will enable the redevelopment of the hospital, provide hundreds of new homes, and crucially increase six-fold the number of affordable homes that had previously been given planning permission. I am pleased my investment will see the redevelopment of a new mental health facility and in due course we will recycle this fund to buy more sites so that we can build more affordable homes.

Further funding for local anti-knife crime projects across London

On 10 May, I announced an additional £1.15m of new money through the Young Londoners Fund. This will support an extra 34 community projects which include a martial arts club in Croydon, boxing clubs in Lambeth and Southwark, and mentoring workshops in Newham, Waltham Forest, Merton, Haringey and Hammersmith & Fulham.

I have made it a priority not only to be tough on knife crime in London, but tough on the causes of knife crime too. In the face of ongoing Government cuts we are stepping up from City Hall to provide unprecedented additional funds to the Met police, as well as driving forward a full and comprehensive Knife Crime Strategy and my £45m Young Londoners Fund, which will help many young people to thrive, prosper.

First-ever junk food advert ban on transport network

On 10 May, I published my draft London Food Strategy which is currently open for consultation until 5 July. As part of this I have taken steps to ban junk food advertising from the entire Transport for London network to tackle the ‘ticking timebomb’ of child obesity.

Children from poorer areas of the capital are disproportionately affected, with young people in Barking and Dagenham almost twice as likely to be overweight as children from Richmond.

Launch of the Workforce Integration Network

On 9 May, I launched the Workforce Integration Network to help tackle unacceptably high unemployment levels of young black men in London. Initially the focus will be to support young black men into employment in the construction and digital sectors. Over time this new approach will offer additional support to Londoners from a range of backgrounds.

Heidi Alexander MP to succeed Val Shawcross as Deputy Mayor for Transport

On 8 May, I appointed Heidi Alexander as the new Deputy Mayor for Transport following the retirement of Val Shawcross CBE.

I want to thank Val for the exceptional service she has given to London as an Assembly Member and Deputy Mayor – and for her personal friendship. I am delighted that Heidi Alexander has agreed to become our new Deputy Mayor for Transport. Heidi knows this city inside out, and her work both as Shadow Health Secretary and campaigning over the best Brexit deal. Londoners can be confident she will ensure we deliver our ambitious plans to transform London's transport network over the coming years.

Policing, Crime and Security

Remembering the victims of the London Bridge terror attack

3 June marked the first anniversary of the horrific attack at London Bridge, an incident which will forever remain in our memory. At a time where we saw humanity at its very worst, we also saw humanity at its very best, with the heroic response of our police and emergency services and other members of the public during the attack, and the tremendous outpouring of solidarity, love and support from across our city, our country and the world in the aftermath. The anniversary weekend was a chance for us to reflect on the events of a year ago, and to stand together, united against hatred and extremism

The victims of this attack and their families remain in our thoughts and prayers as they continue to come to terms with the horrific events of that evening, and Londoners continue to share their messages of remembrance, hope and support through #LondonUnited.

Protecting and supporting our young people

On 15 May, I was pleased to invite community groups, charities, youth centres and schools to bid for funding from the new Young Londoners Fund, to help young people at risk of being caught up in crime.

The Young Londoners Fund totals £45m over three years. I'm encouraging groups across the city to apply for a share of this year's funding – £15m - for projects that offer skills, training, mentoring and help young people aspire to reach their potential and avoid getting caught up in crime. I welcome the support of Assembly Members in spreading the word about these new funding opportunities, so we can give children and young people in this city the best possible encouragement and support to achieve their ambitions and grow up in safety.

Information and advice on how to apply is available in the Young Londoners Fund prospectus at www.london.gov.uk/apply-young-londoners-fund. The deadline for the first round of applications is Monday 9 July.

Supporting community efforts against knife crime

On 10 May, I announced that a further 34 community projects helping to prevent and protect young people from knife crime had received a share of £1.15m funding from City Hall. The 34 successful groups announced include a martial arts club in Croydon, boxing clubs in Lambeth and Southwark, and mentoring workshops in Newham, Waltham Forest, Merton, Haringey and Hammersmith & Fulham.

A total of £1.4m has now been allocated to 43 anti-knife crime projects across the capital, after nine schemes were awarded a share of £250,000 in March. Schemes across 19 boroughs will benefit from the new funding, including the ten boroughs most affected by knife crime. The funding is part of my comprehensive Knife Crime Strategy published in June 2017, which included a £250,000 Knife Crime Community Seed Fund. In my budget for 2018/19, I provided an additional £1.15m of new money for these projects through the new Young Londoners Fund after consultation with young people revealed that they want to be engaged with by people from their communities who they know and trust, and who have experienced some of the same issues and challenges around knife crime.

Violent Crime Taskforce cracking down on offenders

Knives, guns and violence have no place on the streets of London. In the early hours of 23 May, I went out with the Met's Violent Crime Task Force in north London to see how it is targeting criminals and seizing dangerous weapons. I was greatly impressed by the skill and professionalism of the officers and staff involved in the planning and execution of the operation, and I was really pleased to have the chance to thank them personally for what they are doing. They do a tremendous job for our city. In the first three months of 2018, the Met conducted over 3,600 weapons sweeps, seized more than 900 weapons and made more than 1,500 arrests connected to weapons-related crime. This activity is intensifying through the work of the Task Force and through the efforts of the whole MPS.

Violent crime destroys lives and devastates communities. I want to reassure all Londoners that our police officers are working tirelessly to crack down on this scourge and to bring those responsible to justice. But like the rest of the country, the Met are overstretched and under-resourced. That is why I provided an additional £15m to help set up the Violent Crime Task Force, and an additional £110m to keep police officer numbers as high as possible. The Government is failing in its basic duty to keep people safe. Violent crime has been rising across the country since 2014 and by imposing cuts of £1bn on the Met Police, the Government risks sending police numbers to historically low levels. The Home Office's own evidence shows you cannot keep cutting without consequences.

An innovative new approach to tackling stalking

On 10 May, a new Stalking Threat Assessment Centre was launched. Designed to be a centre of excellence, the Stalking Threat Assessment Centre (STAC) will offer a range of services from different agencies, all working together to combat stalking and protect victims.

The project will be overseen and managed by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, who will also provide advocacy services to victims. This partnership approach will see three police forces, three NHS Trusts and charities working together to pilot innovative responses to stalking through the

Multi-Agency Stalking Intervention Programme (MASIP). The new STAC is part of the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy I published earlier this year. The project as a whole has been awarded over £4m over two years from the Home Office's Police Transformation Fund, secured through the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime. Around £1.4m of this funding will be dedicated to the STAC in London. Stalking can have a devastating effect, and victims often suffer extreme psychological trauma. By bringing together expertise and professionals to help combat this devastating crime, we hope to significantly reduce the risk to the public and help keep Londoners safe.

Transport

Communities across London to benefit from TfL's Growth Fund

On 21 May, the latest schemes to receive financial assistance from Transport for London's Growth Fund were announced.

The latest funding, which totals around £24m, will help accelerate the delivery of a range of important transport improvements across the capital, helping to unlock homes, jobs and growth.

The four latest schemes receiving funding are:

- Upgrade of Walthamstow Central Station:
- New station building at Colindale
- Enhanced capacity on Elmers End branch of London Trams
- New southern entrance at Ilford Station on TfL Rail

TfL is working with the local councils, property developers and stakeholders to finalise the funding packages for these four schemes, with a hope that work can begin on delivering them later this year.

Transport for London's new campaign 'Risk Up'

Transport for London has been reminding motorists including motorbike riders of the dangers they pose when travelling at an inappropriate speed.

A new campaign called 'Risk Up' warns drivers' that inappropriate speed, driving too fast for the condition of the road, increases the risk of injury to themselves and other road users and to slow down. The campaign, states simply, 'Drivers. On built-up streets, when your foot goes down, the risks go up.'

There are also advertisements aimed at motorbike riders reminding them of the dangers they face, and pose to others, when travelling at inappropriate speeds, stating 'Motorcyclists. If you're in a hurry, when you throttle up the risks go up.'

TfL is committed to reducing road danger, by working in partnership with the police and London boroughs to achieve the Vision Zero ambition of creating a road network free from death and serious injury by 2041. TfL's full action plan to achieve Vision Zero will be published in July.

TfL set to begin construction on CS11 at Swiss Cottage in July

Work will begin to build Cycle Superhighway 11 (CS11) at Swiss Cottage in mid-July, the first section of a new route that will enable safer cycling to the West End.

The gyratory will be removed and two-way working introduced on Finchley Road and Adelaide Road. Avenue Road between College Crescent and Adelaide Road will become bus and cycle only with a stepped cycle track, creating a new public space.

The transformation of Swiss Cottage is expected to be complete in September 2019.

Measures to reduce disruption will be in place, including adjusting traffic light timings and suspending parking and loading bays to increase traffic flow, as well as taking advantage of the quieter summer holiday period.

Work progresses on automatic braking system for London Trams

Transport for London has begun the tender process for the installation of a new safety system on the London Trams network that will automatically apply the brakes should the speed limit be exceeded at high risk locations.

Work began on the feasibility of introducing this system shortly after the tragic overturning of a tram at Sandilands in November 2016, as part of a wider programme that has already seen a permanent speed reduction across the tram network, more speed monitoring, enhanced signage at significant bends, and the installation of a driver protection device that alerts to any incident of fatigue, distraction or speeding.

The new system will automatically bring a moving tram to a controlled stop if it were to exceed the speed limit at a designated location. The system would also automatically alert the operations control centre.

The system will initially be configured to priority locations as suggested by the Rail Accident Investigations Branch (RAIB) but will have the flexibility to be introduced elsewhere on the tram network.

New powers to combat illegal taxi and private hire activity

Transport for London's Taxi and Private Hire Compliance Officers have been given new powers by the Metropolitan Police to crack down on illegal activity

TfL's Taxi and Private Hire (TPH) Compliance Officers have been granted new powers to carry out road stops without police presence for the first time.

This will enable more enforcement against illegal and non-compliant activity to be carried out, improving the safety of taxi and private hire passengers while freeing up valuable police resources.

TfL's TPH Compliance Officers are now being specially trained with powers to stop any TPH vehicle for inspection, testing and verification of licensing conditions without the presence of police - this could include checking for valid insurance, inspecting the driver's licence or photo ID, and inspecting the vehicle for any defects.

For the first-time compliance officers will have the powers to pull a driver off the road and stop them driving if they're breaching their license.

Buckhurst Hill station to benefit from £200m investment boost in step-free stations

On 14 May Buckhurst Hill Tube station was announced as the 74th to become step-free on the Underground and is the first of five stations on the eastern section of the Central line that will be made step-free over the coming years.

The station serves the Central line, one of London's busiest Tube lines, and is the first to benefit from my £200m fund to boost accessibility across the capital.

My investment, announced last year, will provide step-free access at a number of stations around London in order to increase the total to over 100.

Investment across TfL will mean that by 2022, 40% of the network will be step-free - a significant increase on the current level of 27%.

This will significantly improve the accessibility of the Tube for older and disabled people, as well as parents or carers with buggies.

Northern Line Extension work

Northern and Victoria line customers are advised that until mid-September Bank branch trains will not stop at Kennington to allow four new customer passageways to be built as part of work on the Northern Line Extension.

Once complete, the passageways will make it quicker and easier for customers to change between different branches of the Northern line at Kennington, and will be essential for those using the new Northern Line Extension from Kennington to Battersea Power Station, which is due for completion in 2020.

The extension, from Battersea to Kennington via Nine Elms, will add further vital new capacity to the Capital's transport network, bringing Battersea and surrounding areas to within 15 minutes of the City and the West End. It will also enable the regeneration of the Vauxhall, Nine Elms and Battersea areas, spurring economic growth by supporting around 25,000 new jobs and more than 20,000 new homes. In addition, the construction of the extension is boosting the UK economy and supporting around 1,000 jobs, including around 50 apprenticeships.

Modernisation of Tube closer than ever after successful weekend of trial operation

A brand-new Thales signalling system was operated for the first time by Transport for London staff over the weekend 12-13 May. This means customers can begin to benefit from the new signalling on the first section of the Circle and Hammersmith & City lines later this summer.

After extensive testing by Thales, supported by the TfL project team, the trial was the first time that operational Tube staff used the new system, ensuring it can be used safely and reliably later this year.

The project will introduce the new signalling system in stages, and is set to transform nearly half the network when complete in 2023.

The new, state-of-the-art, control centre for all four lines at Hammersmith has also been completed and is now operational. The centre brings together operations and asset teams under one roof to ensure a smoother and more integrated service and more accurate, up-to-date customer information.

TfL granted powers to progress with Silvertown Tunnel

On 10 May, Transport for London was granted a Development Consent Order (DCO) by the Department for Transport to deliver the Silvertown Tunnel – a new twin-bore road tunnel under the Thames in east London.

The DCO is the formal process by which the Government gives the green light to any development categorised as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).

The tunnel, which is set to open in 2023, will help ease the current serious congestion at Blackwall Tunnel and improve the reliability and resilience of the road network in east London. It will enable significantly improved cross-river public transport connections, with up to 37 buses an hour using the tunnel – all of which will be hybrid, electric or at least with the highest Euro VI emission standard. Further pedestrian and cycling improvements will also be made on both sides of the river.

Work will be carried out on the areas surrounding the entrances to the tunnel to improve conditions for local residents and create safe, attractive new walking and cycling routes around Royal Victoria and the Greenwich Peninsula.

Elizabeth line: Services commencing between Paddington and Heathrow and new environmentally-friendly depot opening

On 10 May, TfL held a media event to showcase operations underway at the new, purpose-built Elizabeth line train depot at Old Oak Common.

The first stage of services at the depot began to support the start of TfL Rail services in west London on Sunday 20 May when TfL took over the Heathrow Connect service between Paddington and Heathrow Terminals 2/3 and 4, and the half hourly Great Western Railway (GWR) services from Paddington to Hayes & Harlington on Monday 21 May.

These services will be operated as TfL Rail initially, becoming part of the Elizabeth line in December when the line opens through central London, transforming travel with quicker, easier and more accessible journeys for customers.

The current service frequency of two trains an hour between Paddington and Heathrow will be maintained using the existing trains which have been deep-cleaned and rebranded. This is in addition to two trains an hour between Paddington and Hayes & Harlington using new Elizabeth line trains.

The new railway, jointly sponsored by the Department for Transport and TfL with support from London's business community, will connect stations such as Paddington to Canary Wharf in only 17 minutes, transforming how Londoners and visitors move across the capital.

When the line is fully open in December 2019, the depot will be able to provide stabling and maintenance for up to 42 of the Elizabeth line's 70 new trains at a time. The depot at Old Oak Common is opening in stages and will play a critical role in the day-to-day operation of the Elizabeth line when it launches in December, helping to transform travel across London and the South East.

Over thirty per cent of the power at TfL's new maintenance facility will be generated by innovative renewable energy sources, bringing impressive sustainability credentials to the TfL network. Old Oak Common is the first rail depot in the UK to introduce these environmentally-friendly measures to this extent by fully integrating separate systems, which will help TfL to reduce its running costs and save over 500 tonnes of CO₂ emissions each year compared to depots built without these energy sources.

Skills and Employment

Skills for Londoners Strategy launch

On 6 June, I launched Skills for Londoners - the first ever stand-alone skills strategy for London. The strategy sets out my vision and ambition to create a 'City for all Londoners' - where Londoners, employers and businesses get the skills they need to succeed in a fair, inclusive society and thriving economy. The strategy also looks ahead to the momentous opportunity presented by devolution of the Adult Education Budget - the first time that London will see true devolution of skills funding and associated responsibilities.

London Enterprise Adviser Network

Alongside the Skills for Londoners strategy, I also announced a major expansion of the London Enterprise Adviser Network on 6 June. The network supports careers leaders in schools and colleges to improve their careers provision and boost employer engagement, through matching them with trained senior business volunteers. The network will now triple in size, so that it is available to every state secondary school and college in London, working with around 470 secondary schools and colleges and 700 senior business volunteers by August 2020.

This will ensure schools and colleges are better connected with the world of work and that young Londoners have the skills and experiences they need for the future. The network will be managed by my volunteering team, Team London, and delivered on a sub-regional basis. The expansion is being co-funded by City Hall and the Careers and Enterprise Company. It is managed by Team London, my volunteering and social action team.

Mayor's Construction Academy (MCA)

In line with my manifesto commitment to "establish a construction academy with the housebuilding industry", on 6 June I launched Stage 2 of the Mayor's Construction Academy programme inviting organisations to come forward to form a series of hubs.

The MCA will ensure that construction skills training provision better meets employer needs and that Londoners receive the high-quality training they need to access construction-sector vacancies on the capital's house-building sites.

It will do this by:

- identifying and accrediting high-quality construction skills training provision in London;
- strengthening co-ordination between construction skills training providers and construction sector employers through the creation of revenue-funded MCA hubs across the capital; and
- providing capital funding for up-to-date training equipment and premises

The first stage of the programme involved awarding an MCA Quality Mark to the best construction skills providers in London which were also announced at the Skills for Londoners Strategy launch.

Digital Talent Programme

On 24 May, my Chief Digital Officer, Theo Blackwell, announced a £1m funding opportunity at a market warming event as part of my Digital Talent Programme. The Higher Level Digital Skills project aims to improve the labour market relevance of higher level (level 4+) digital skills in London. The event was well-attended by representatives from higher and further education providers, independent training providers and digital / tech businesses (SMEs). The project is co-funded by the London Economic Action Partnership and European Social Fund to plug the digital skills shortage in London's labour market with diverse, homegrown young talent.

Regeneration

Round 2 of the Good Growth Fund open for applications

On 4 June, applications opened for the second round of my Good Growth Fund. Working with the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), my £70m fund supports locally developed projects that empower people, improve places and boost prosperity. There is £20m available in the second round for partnership proposals led by a wide range of public, private and third-sector organisations. Details of projects funded to date through the Good Growth Fund and how to apply for the second round can be [found online](#).

Growing Places Fund - New Overground Station for Hackney Wick

On 24 May, the new Hackney Wick Overground station reopened, following improvement works supported by loan funding of £8.5m from the Growing Places Fund. The upgraded station will improve accessibility and support the area's growing business community. The station improvements are part of a wider project that will deliver over 900m² of public realm enhancements, 850 new homes and 37,000 m² of space for new jobs through a new community centre.

The Granville, South Kilburn

The Granville, a new multi-purpose workspace, community and event space in South Kilburn, opened on 17 May.

Established in partnership with LB Brent and the South Kilburn Trust, with £750,000 from the London Regeneration Fund, the Granville is a fantastic example of a place and community bringing together workspace, social infrastructure and cultural infrastructure by refurbishing an existing local community asset. The Granville is an example of successful regeneration, providing social, economic and environmental benefits for Londoners.

Good Growth by Design - Public Practice

On 16 May, I launched the first ever cohort of Public Practice, an innovative new social enterprise boosting the capacity and skills of planning departments in local authorities. Public Practice is a key initiative of my Good Growth by Design Programme, which aims to tackle the housing crisis and deliver good growth across London. The 17 'Associates' that make up the first cohort are a new generation of planners, architects and urbanists with the skills to shape our cities for the future and an appetite for doing socially engaged work for the public good. They are doing one-year placements with trailblazing local authorities and other public bodies across London and the South East. The Associates will also support my Good Growth by Design agenda by providing design scrutiny, developing research and policy for the most pertinent issues facing London's built environment, and promoting the design sector in London.

Crowdfund London – Round Four Results Arriving.

I am pleased that this month has seen the completion of several community-led projects whose Crowdfund London campaigns I backed last Autumn. Highlights include:

- **The Shine Café in Turnpike Lane** launched on 11 May. They received £9,000 to create a new coffee shop that provides training and income to at-risk locals experiencing difficulties with homelessness, drug or alcohol addiction and mental health issues.
- **The Crystal Palace Library of Things** launched on 5 May, having received £3,000. It provides a new and affordable resource for the community to borrow anything from carpet cleaners to musical instruments

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Launch of Draft London Food Strategy

On 11 May, I launched my Draft London Food Strategy for an eight-week consultation period.

I want all Londoners to have access to healthy, affordable and culturally-appropriate good food regardless of where they live, their personal circumstances or income. The Draft Strategy sets out actions across six key settings including good food at home, shopping and eating out, and good food for the environment.

Tacking child obesity is one of my top priorities. The Draft Strategy includes a proposal to ban all unhealthy food and drink advertising across the Transport for London network in order to reduce children and young people's exposure to unhealthy food advertising. As part of the consultation I am seeking views on whether this ban should take place. The consultation closes on 5 July.

Housing and Land

London Housing Strategy

On 21 May I published my London Housing Strategy, which sets out my approach to tackling London's housing crisis. The strategy will be considered by the London Assembly at its next meeting on 4 June.

The document sets out a range of priorities, including:

- plans to spend the additional £1.67 billion that I negotiated with Government to deliver more genuinely affordable homes by 2022 – with the majority being for homes based on social rent levels;
- calling on Government to establish an independent Commissioner for Social Housing Residents, a role that would be filled by someone who is a social tenant and who would act as a watchdog and ensure the voices of those living in social housing are heard at a national level;
- My intention to require the use of resident ballots in estate regeneration schemes which are seeking Mayoral funding where existing affordable homes are being demolished;
- proposals for helping London's private rented sector tenants by improving the quality and security of the private rented sector; and
- a commitment to working with community-led housing organisations to identify a pipeline of schemes by 2021 which could deliver at least 1,000 new homes.

The strategy was published following a successful public consultation, to which more than 2,000 people responded – more than any statutory housing strategy in the history of the London mayoralty.

Environment

New taskforce to expand electric vehicle infrastructure across London

On the 31 May I launched the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure taskforce to boost the infrastructure needed to increase the take-up of electric vehicles across the capital. The taskforce is chaired by my Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy and comprises 16 organisations including UK Power Networks, the British Retail Consortium and the RAC Foundation will prepare a shared delivery plan which will be published next year.

I also called on boroughs and Government to step up and do more to install vital rapid charging points and help tackle London's filthy air given the capital requires a major expansion in charging infrastructure to help businesses, taxi drivers and Londoners switch to electric vehicles.

Whilst London is already leading the way in this field, with the rollout of electric buses, electric taxis and the installation of 104 rapid charging points, this new rapid network has mostly been delivered on land or roads managed by TfL. The capital requires a major expansion in charging infrastructure and this will only be achieved through a partnership involving government, boroughs and the private sector.

London Environment Strategy

On 21 May, I set out my plans to improve London's environment until 2050, presenting my London Environment Strategy to the London Assembly for consideration before its publication on 31 May.

My London Environment Strategy provides the strategic framework for environmental improvements across London, helping to deliver my ambitions:

- for London to have the best air quality of any major world city by 2050, going beyond the legal requirements to protect human health and minimise inequalities
- for London to be the world's first National Park City, where more than half of its area is green, where the natural environment is protected, and where the network of green infrastructure is managed to benefit all Londoners
- for London to be a zero-carbon city by 2050, with energy efficient buildings, clean transport and clean energy
- to make London a zero-waste city. By 2026 no biodegradable or recyclable waste will be sent to landfill, and by 2030 65 per cent of London's municipal waste will be recycled
- for London and Londoners to be resilient to severe weather and longer-term climate change impacts. This will include flooding, heat risk and drought
- for Londoners' quality of life to be improved by reducing the number of people adversely affected by noise and promoting more quiet and tranquil spaces
- for London to transition to a low carbon circular economy

Last August, I published a draft of my strategy for statutory consultation, and there was strong support for the vision and ambitions of the strategy. Consultees suggested amendments or additions to the draft strategy's policies and proposals, which have been incorporated where I considered these strengthened the strategy. The London Environment Strategy, and more information about it, can be found at: www.london.gov.uk/environment-strategy.

Green Capital grants awarded

On 21 May I announced the six projects which have been awarded over £2 million of grant funding for green space improvements as part of my Greener City Fund. The winning projects include cycling and walking greenways in Barking and Ealing, park regenerations in Barnet and Lewisham, river restorations in Enfield, and new wetlands in Harrow. Beckenham Place Park in Lewisham will include a new lake for wild swimming and kayaking. These six projects will draw even more people into our outstanding parks by making green spaces more attractive and better for the environment.

I also announced that I have allocated an extra £3 million to the Greener City Fund, bringing the total to £12 million. This will increase the grant funding available through my popular community green spaces and tree planting grants and help make London the world's first National Park City.

More details of the funded projects: www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/greener-city-fund/green-capital-grants

All projects funded through the Greener City Fund can be seen on this map: www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/greener-city-fund/greener-city-map

School Air Quality Audit programme

On the 24 May I visited St Mary's Bryanston Square Primary School in Westminster to find out about the improvements planned to help reduce pollution in the school. The school is one of 50 audited as part of my air quality schools audit programme, which has identified a range of tailored recommendations to improve air quality. On the day of my visit I published all 50 of the audit reports on my website, along with a toolkit to help other schools undertake their own audits.

I also announced £1m in funding to help the 50 audited schools deliver the recommendations from the reports, and to deliver a programme of audits and improvements at 20 of London's most polluted nurseries.

St Mary's Bryanston Square Primary School is a great example of the benefits of the programme; supported with funding from the GLA and Westminster Council they are delivering a range of improvements. This includes testing a new air filtration system to reduce pollution inside the school, closing a busy road outside the school to traffic at the start and end of the school day, and turning the staff car park into a garden.

Green Week 2018

On 24 May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, spoke at the closing session of Green Week in Brussels, the largest environment pan-EU event of the year, alongside Environment Commissioner Vella and the President of the Committee of the Regions Lambertz.

As this year's theme was "Green cities for a greener future", it provided an opportunity to outline the actions set out in my London Environment Strategy to make London a green and sustainable city and discuss the effectiveness of the EU's clean air policies, including the Ambient Air Quality Directive, in helping deliver action to improve air quality across London.

New partnership formed to tackle fuel poverty in London

On 23 May my Fuel Poverty Partnership met for the first time. This high-level body includes representatives of the boroughs, health sector, private and social landlords, energy companies, central government, Ofgem, London Fire Brigade and many more. Co-chaired by my Deputy Mayors Shirley Rodrigues and Matthew Ryder, the partnership will work with me to deliver the objectives of my Fuel Poverty Action Plan. It will enable an effective and collaborative approach to finding and helping Londoners who are struggling with their energy bills, through both income maximisation and energy efficiency interventions.

Among the key objectives of the Partnership will be to tackle fuel poverty in the private rented sector, advocating for London to receive its fair share of national energy efficiency funding and engaging the health sector in tackling cold, damp homes.

Ensuring efficient, secure, resilient and affordable water supplies for Londoners

I continue to hold London's water companies to account to ensure they provide efficient, secure, resilient and affordable water supplies to Londoners.

In May, I responded to draft proposals from the four water companies that serve London – Thames Water, Affinity Water, SES Water and Essex & Suffolk Water on their proposals to meet the water supply and demand needs for London over the next 25-80 years as well as their plans on how they will pay for their water and wastewater services and engage with customers over the next five years.

I have asked these water companies to do more to reduce leakage, improve their responses to incidents like main bursts, promote metering and reducing water use, work better with the water retailers that now serve business customers, improve engagement with vulnerable customers, and ensure new strategic water supplies that are likely to be needed in the next 25 years are being planned now.

On 22 May my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, also met with Ofwat to raise issues on water company performance in London.

Energy for Londoners supply company

On 14 May a tender was issued to set up an energy supply company as part of my Energy for Londoners programme. Suppliers have been invited to work innovatively with the GLA to deliver fairer energy prices to Londoners, supporting fuel poor homes and offering a green tariff. Alongside exemplary service, the energy company will also be accountable to its customers. Responding to consultation feedback on the London Environment Strategy, I am continuing to keep the option to move to a fully licensed supply company in the future under review. A supplier event was held on 25 May.

Education and Youth

Envision's Community Apprenticeship: The Boardroom Final

On 4 June, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, was lead panellist on Envision's Community Apprenticeship: The Boardroom Final, an inter-school competition requiring young people to work as a team to develop and demonstrate the competencies most valued by employers whilst making a big difference to their community. Four finalists delivered their digital story outlining the social impact they have made and a winner was announced.

London History Schools Day

On 25 May, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, joined 180 Year 5 and 6 children at Highlands Primary School to celebrate the London History Schools Day 2018. My Culture and Education and Youth teams hosted the first ever London History Schools Day in 2017, in partnership with the Museum of London and Historic England. It encourages primary schools across the capital to explore history, including dressing up as their favourite historic Londoner. This year, the spotlight was on women in London's history as part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign.

The Early Years Leaders Programme

On 15 May, I launched the application process for the Early Years Leaders Programme which will support early years practitioners to progress in their careers and improve outcomes for children, particularly those from less advantaged backgrounds. This three-year £500,000 programme, supported by the European Social Fund, will help early years practitioners to increase their leadership and management skills, knowledge and confidence. As Mayor I am working with stakeholders to increase the take-up and quality of early years education in London. Improving the skills of those working in the sector, through programmes such as this, is vital to achieve these aims.

The Young Londoners Fund

On 15 May, the Young Londoners Fund opened for applications. The £45m Fund aims to help children and young people between the ages of 10 – 21 make positive choices. The key groups that it will target are young people who are at risk of being excluded or getting caught up in crime and young people that have been involved in crime.

To support applicants, we are holding Young Londoners Fund information sessions across London throughout the month of June. The Fund has also dedicated resources to supporting the sustainability of effective projects and the well-being and capacity of front line youth workers. This forms part of the activities that will be funded by City Bridge Trust, who have provided £1m to add to the Fund.

This fund will make a real difference to young Londoners, and City Hall is committed to working with London's amazing community groups to get this right. There's a huge breadth and depth of experts out there, already doing great work in difficult circumstances. I know we will receive an array of exciting ideas which will help London's children and young adults make the most of our amazing city.

Further details about the Young Londoners Fund <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/education-and-youth/young-londoners/apply-young-londoners-fund>. The deadline for the first round of applications is Monday 9 July.

Communities and Social Policy

The Red Box Project

On 28 May, I launched a partnership with community organisation The Red Box Project to help address the issue of Period Poverty in London. Period Poverty refers to women and girls being prevented from taking part in their usual daily activities due to not being able to afford sanitary products. We have partnered with a local secondary school, and will be collecting and delivering staff donations to support disadvantaged girls through their periods. I am calling on the Government to eradicate this very specific gender-based poverty, and to ensure that no woman or girl has to go without appropriate menstrual products because of a lack of resources.

Inclusive London

On 24 May, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community engagement, Matthew Ryder, launched 'Inclusive London', my equality, diversity and inclusion strategy. Inclusive London addresses the inequalities, barriers and discrimination that different groups of Londoners face. It contains strategic objectives to influence the work of the GLA group. This strategy focuses on, but is not limited to, those groups protected by the Equality Act 2010. It goes further by looking at wider issues like those affecting low income Londoners, young people in care, care leavers, single parents, and migrants and refugees.

British Future event

On 17 May, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community engagement, Matthew Ryder, spoke at a British Future event; 'Immigration and integration: getting in right locally'. He shared the key themes of my Social Integration Strategy 'All of us', which takes as its starting point the idea that integration is a matter for everyone, involving and benefiting us all. He emphasised that it was a mistake to separate out work with migration from broader work on social integration in a place, while recognising some migrants will face specific inclusion barriers and needs.

Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee

On 17 May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM appeared before the Assembly Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee. The meeting gave the Committee an opportunity to put questions to the Deputy Mayor and London Fire Commissioner on a range of issues.

Windrush scandal

On 9 and 14 May, I wrote to Home Secretary Sajid Javid MP and Communities Secretary James Brokenshire MP expressing my outrage about the Windrush scandal, and calling for an end to the hostile environment. I urged immediate action over people being wrongly deported or denied access to services. In these letters, I asked that the Home Office ensure that all those who have a right to be here can access those rights, including reducing and waiving fees, access to legal advice, and ensuring application processes are simple and fast.

Workforce Integration Network (WIN) programme

On 9 May, I launched the Workforce Integration Network programme in partnership with Moving On Up. It is designed to improve pathways for underrepresented groups in the workplace, and will begin with supporting young black men aged 16 - 24 years into living wage employment in London.

Health

Healthy Schools London

On 24 May, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, visited Newport School in LB Waltham Forest to congratulate them on their fantastic work as part of my Healthy Schools London programme. They have achieved bronze, silver and gold awards for their work on increasing pupils' healthy food choices including fruit and vegetables, improving packed lunches and increasing participation in physical activity clubs.

On 10 May, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, visited the Royal Free Hospital Children's School in LB Camden to congratulate them on their fantastic work as part of my Healthy Schools London programme. The school has achieved bronze and silver awards for their work on pupils' mental health, emotional literacy and healthy eating.

Dementia-friendly London summit

On 21 May, I hosted a dementia-friendly London summit at City Hall in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society. 25 sector leaders joined 75 people with dementia and their carers to hear what a dementia-friendly London would mean to them and the changes they would like to see. I have pledged my support to make London a dementia-friendly capital city.

Team London and Volunteering

Team London Ambassadors programme

During the month of May, Team London successfully recruited 200 new volunteers to join the Ambassadors programme. Each summer, hundreds of volunteers welcome tourists to destinations around the city. Known as London's 'friendly face', they show the world the best our city has to offer. This year, we encouraged applications from younger volunteers, those from diverse backgrounds, and those with disabilities.

Major Events Volunteers

On 26 and 27 May, my Team London programme provided volunteer support for the Street League Skateboarding Pro Open London Event, held at the Copper Box Arena. The world's most prestigious skateboarding competition saw some of the world's best athletes take part. Volunteers were on hand to support fans with guidance to the arena and answers questions about the event.

Inspiring young Londoners to volunteer

On 9 May, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community engagement, Matthew Ryder, welcomed guests to City Hall on behalf of the youth volunteering charity, v·Inspired. Team London is supporting v·Inspired's 'London Inspired' programme. Using a data driven approach, the programme will help even more young Londoners to take part in volunteering and social action projects. By utilising new innovations, volunteering opportunities will be tailored to young people's interests, and rewards will be offered that support their personal development.

Culture and Events

Heather Phillipson – launch of new commission

On 7 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the press launch of the new Art on the Underground commission for Gloucester Road Underground station by London based artist Heather Phillipson, titled 'my name is lettie eggysrub'. It is Phillipson's first public commission in the UK and will be on view for a year. As part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign Art on the Underground, Transport for London's public art programme, has commissioned work exclusively from an international selection of renowned women artists. This aims to address the fact that women are underrepresented in public gallery and museum collections and exhibitions in the U.K.

Phillipson's work has also been selected for my world leading Fourth Plinth programme; her new artwork will be unveiled in Trafalgar Square in March 2020.

Amy Lamé and Kate Nicholls at London Assembly plenary meeting

On 7 June, my Night Czar, Amy Lamé and the Chair of my London Night Time Commission, Kate Nicholls appeared before the London Assembly at a plenary meeting. Also in attendance was the former Chair of the Commission, Philip Kolvin QC.

The purpose of the meeting was to allow Members of the London Assembly to put questions on London's night time economy to the Night Czar, Commission Chair, and former Chair.

Launch of East Bank, the Culture and Education District at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

On 5 June, I launched my new vision for East Bank my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE. It will be a brand-new destination for London with world class culture and education at its heart. Internationally renowned cultural institutions Sadler's Wells, the V&A in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and BBC Symphony Orchestra & Chorus and BBC Singers will join universities University College London (UCL) and London College of Fashion (University of the Arts London – UAL) to create a new creative district for London. East Bank will bring huge benefits to residents and businesses in east London – providing skills and jobs for local people, and creating a destination for culture and education which will attract hundreds of thousands of visitors from London and beyond to Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park each year.

Mayor's Cultural Leadership Board open meeting

On 5 June, chaired by board members Ben Evans and Moira Sinclair, my Cultural Leadership Board hosted their Annual Open Meeting at the Museum of Docklands as part of the public consultation programme on my draft Culture Strategy, *Culture for all Londoners*. Over 100 representatives attended from across the culture and creative industries. The consultation for my draft Culture Strategy is open for responses until 19 June 2018.

Jade Bird performance at Tower Bridge

On 1 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the first ever performance in Tower Bridge's North Tower, a concert by up-and-coming artist Jade Bird which was one of the first events of my Sounds Like London

programme. It is part of a series presented by Little Concert and Airbnb, all showcasing female talent as part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign.

Launch of new 'Women of Courage' London Curriculum Family Explorer Trail

On 31 May, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, attended an event with hundreds of families at the National Portrait Gallery to celebrate the launch of the latest London Curriculum Family Explorer Trail, Women of Courage.

This exciting new trail explores Westminster and Waterloo and follows in the footsteps of the inspirational women who made London great. It is part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, marking 100 years since women first won the right to vote.

Coinciding with London History Day, the event offered a range of free activities for families, including badge making, portrait sketching and a fascinating talk by campaigner Caroline Criado Perez who led the campaign for the recently unveiled statue of suffragist Millicent Fawcett on Parliament Square.

Programme Launch - Sounds Like London

On 23 May, I announced the programme line-up for Sounds Like London, building on my work to support the capital's grassroots music scene. Over 200 gigs and events taking place every night throughout June will showcase the outstanding talent London has to offer. Many will take place in grassroots venues, promote these crucial spaces which help to sustain the capital's world leading music scene. Working with a wide range of partners, Sounds Like London will focus on the talented women who make such a valuable contribution to the industry, supporting my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign to promote gender equality.

Supporting PROCESSIONS – a walk for solidarity

On 21 May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, invited women Deputy Mayors, Assembly Members and the GLA Women's Network to be part of a photo call to support PROCESSIONS. PROCESSIONS will be a celebratory mass participation event for girls and women, on 10 June in London, Edinburgh, Belfast and Cardiff, produced by Artichoke. PROCESSIONS will be the next major cultural moment in London's diary to mark the centenary of the first women receiving the vote. The photograph was a call to action encouraging Londoners to take part on the event on the 10 June and supports my ongoing commitment to achieving gender equality through my #BehindEveryGreatCity Campaign.

World Cities Culture Forum's Leadership Exchange Programme to New York

On 21 May, my Culture Unit led a delegation to New York as awardees of the World Cities Culture Forum's Leadership Exchange Programme, funded by Bloomberg and Google Arts & Culture. The focus of the exchange is to explore the Materials for the Arts initiative in New York, which diverts and repurposes waste material for creative and educational purposes. The delegation included officers from the GLA Culture and Education teams and the London Borough of Lewisham, and representatives from the Lyric Hammersmith theatre and waste company Veolia who collect waste in 14 London Boroughs. Over 3 days the delegation met with members of New York City Hall and Materials of the Arts as well as schools and arts organisations. The delegation will now develop a proposal for a similar project in London.

Creative Enterprise Zones conference

On 15 May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, gave a keynote speech at the first Creative Enterprise Zones conference at Goldsmiths, University of London, attended by over 120 representatives from twenty London boroughs – Lewisham, Haringey, Croydon, Greenwich, Hackney, Islington, Kingston, Harrow, City of London, Barking and Dagenham, Waltham Forest, Lambeth, Brent, Hounslow, Tower Hamlets, Camden, Havering, Southwark, Bexley and Redbridge. Creative businesses from prospective Creative Enterprise Zones also attended with members of my Cultural Leadership Board John Newbigin OBE and Pam Alexander who chaired and presented sessions. It was the inaugural event of the Creative Enterprise Zones Exchange Forum, which will provide a platform to share ambitious new ideas and best practice, and will establish a partnership across the Creative Enterprise Zones as they develop.

Opening of Royal Academy extension

On 15 May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the opening of the newly renovated Royal Academy Gallery. The renovations have been designed by British architect Sir David Chipperfield RA and have created new spaces for making, exhibiting and debating art and architecture as well as increased visibility of the RA Schools and a suite of new gallery names, The Gabrielle Jungels-Winkler Galleries. The first exhibition in these spaces is by the renowned British artist Tacita Dean OBE RA.

Our Time: Supporting Future Leaders launch – 14 May

On 14 May, as part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, I launched *Our Time – Supporting Future Leaders* at an event at City Hall attended by 90 representatives from the private, public and third sector in London. This new initiative will take crucial action to help more women into senior leadership roles in workplaces across the capital. *Our Time* will work through pairing high-potential women with senior staff champions (men and women) who will help to open up the professional networks, opportunities and contacts often needed to progress within workplaces.

The initiative is the first and largest-scale programme of its kind to be adopted in the public sector. The first cohort of women from across the Group (GLA, MOPCAC, TfL, LLDC, MPS and OPDC) will start on the programme in the autumn and a toolkit will be created so that companies and organisations across all sectors in London can learn how to apply this model to their organisations. Following my call for other organisations across the capital to adopt this approach Waltham Forest Council, Lambeth Council and Westfield have all pledged to introduce the 'Our Time' initiative.

London Music Fund fundraising lunch

On 14 May, I gave a keynote speech at a fundraising lunch for the London Music Fund at the May Fair Hotel, with my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, and my Night Czar, Amy Lamé. The London Music Fund is an independent charity of which I am patron. It provides grants of around £300,000 every year to enable thousands of children and young people across every London borough to develop their musical potential.

Over 140 guests from the music and business worlds attended the event which raised over £100,000 in pledges and donations. The guests watched a trumpet performance by one of the Fund's graduates, 16-year-old Bishal from Hounslow and current cello Scholar, Tyrone, aged 11 from Newham, gave an inspirational speech which received a standing ovation.

Key culture and creative industry launches

Throughout May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE attended a number of key culture launches including the Royal Academy of Arts 250 Years of the Summer Exhibition with the new Chipperfield-designed extension, the launch of the Azzedine Alaïa exhibition at the Design Museum, the opening night Nightfall at the Bridge Theatre, and the opening night of celebrated choreographer of Akram Khan at Sadler's Wells as part of 14-18 NOW final season commemorating the First World War centenary.

Sport and Olympic and Paralympic Legacy

Launch of YLF small grants

On 15 May, I launched the Young Londoners Fund– of which £500,000 is from Sport Unites. The fund will support projects that use sport to support children and young people (aged 10-21) across London, who are either at risk of exclusion or involvement in criminal activity or have been involved in criminal activity.

SportsAid Launch Event

On 30 May, Deputy Mayor Matthew Ryder hosted a SportsAid Reception at City Hall. This event launched the 'Performance Pathways' strand of Sport Unites. The pathway has awarded 63 of London's most talented young athletes with individual £1,000 grants to support their sporting careers. This investment allows more young athletes in London to pursue their dream of representing their country in a sporting competition. It also supports them to become local roles models, who can inspire those in their local community to take part in sport and physical activity

Hockey Seat Fill

In partnership with England Hockey, I offered free tickets to children under the age of 18 in London to enjoy live, world-class hockey this summer at the Vitality Hockey Women's World Cup 2018. This will be one of the biggest one-off sporting events in the UK this year.

The Rugby Football League Seat Fill

In partnership with The Rugby Football League, I offered free tickets to emergency services staff to attend the Ladbrokes Challenge Cup Final, which will take place in Wembley Stadium in August.

London Stadium

The Bank Holiday weekend on 5 and 6 May saw 30,000 people attend the Arcadia music festival on the Park. The second Bank Holiday on 26 and 27 May welcomed the Street League Skateboarding event to the Copper Box Arena as part of its summer events programme.

The London Stadium hosted the final premier league matches of the season with West Ham playing Manchester United (10 May) and Everton (13 May). After a successful seat move, the stadium held The Rolling Stones No Filter Tour for two nights (22 and 25 May), playing to a

capacity crowd. I'm pleased to report the Stadium has also attracted Major League Baseball (announced 8 May) with two fixtures due to be held in 2019.

On the 5 June, I launched my vision for the Park's new cultural and education district – East Bank. The V&A with the Smithsonian Institution, BBC Music, UAL's London College of Fashion, Sadler's Wells Theatre, and UCL, who will be opening new buildings on the Park, joined us for the launch. The site will not only bring much-needed new homes and jobs to east London, but will continue to support our legacy aims to regenerate the area for the benefit of local communities and businesses.

New look for Hackney Wick Station

On 24 May, a new look Hackney Wick Station was unveiled by Chair of Network Rail and LLDC, Sir Peter Hendy. As a result of the £25m scheme, passengers will be able to get to their trains more quickly with a new underpass, lifts and overall improved access to the station. The redevelopment of the station forms the first phase of the Hackney Wick Central development which will provide low cost studios, new employment space, as well as 900 new homes.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

'We Made That' appointed as Masterplanners for Park Royal Centre

On 10 May, Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) in collaboration with the London Borough of Brent, Brent Clinical Commissioning Group, London North West Healthcare NHS Trust and Central Middlesex Hospital, have appointed "We Made That" as Masterplanners for centre of London's largest industrial estate'.

To develop the new Park Royal neighbourhood Centre, a masterplan is needed to guide the coordinated delivery of 3,000 sqm of new town Centre floorspace, the creation of 1,400 new jobs and 650 new homes.

Park Royal in west London is already home to 2,000 businesses and employs more than 40,000 people. It is London's largest industrial estate with 450ha of industrial land, contributing £2.1 billion in Gross Value Added to the UK economy and is where world-leading businesses from Diageo to GSK are proud to call home.

'We Made That', an architecture and urbanism practice, that will translate the ambitious vision into a deliverable plan. The emerging masterplan will be discussed at a public consultation event in July, with the final masterplan expected to be completed in early Autumn.

Renowned practitioners appointed as new panel members on OPDC Place Review Group

Leading industry experts have been appointed by Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) to join the independent OPDC Place Review Group. The new panel member appointments follow an open invitation for applications and aim to strengthen the expertise the panel provides to OPDC as the Mayoral Development Corporation continue to deliver the UK's largest regeneration project.

The Place Review Group operates as a panel of nationally and internationally recognised practitioners with a broad range of expertise and experience who will review and provide independent advice to OPDC on a range of planning applications, masterplans and other projects within Old Oak and Park Royal. The Group aims to support OPDC in achieving high quality, innovative and sustainable placemaking and will play an advisory role by providing impartial advice to the OPDC Planning Committee and OPDC Board for consideration. Experts from the planning, landscape, architecture, conservation and engineering industry make up the Group, including Peter Bishop, Professor of Urban Design at UCL and Director at Allies and Morrison, who is appointed Panel Chair.

Planning

Planning and Development Control 25 April 2018 to 29 May 2018

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Land at rear of 400 Edgware Road, Cricklewood, 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.

Templar House, 81-87 High Holborn, LB Camden

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

Mondial House, 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.

Meanwhile Space, White City Campus South, 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.

White City Living, Wood Lane, 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.

Ladbroke Grove, 321-335 Kensal Road, Ladbroke Grove, RB Kensington and Chelsea

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

Keybridge House, South Lambeth Road, Vauxhall, LB Lambeth

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

Former Tesco Car Park, 209 Conington Road, LB Lewisham

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

Land at Imperial Street, Bromley-by-Bow, London Legacy Development Corporation

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

58-70 York Road, Wandsworth Town, LB Wandsworth

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

198 York Road, Battersea Riverside, LB Wandsworth

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

Berkeley Hotel, Knightsbridge, City of Westminster

I have written to the City of Westminster directing the Council to refuse planning permission.

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

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

Beam Park, Rainham, LB Barking and Dagenham/LB Havering

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham and the London Borough of Havering stating that the Mayor will act as the local planning authority for the purposes of determining the planning application.

Former Nestle Factory, Hayes, LB Hillingdon

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

Trinity Buoy Wharf, Land at Orchard Place, Canning Town, 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.

Site at Luton Street and Capland Street, Lisson Grove, 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.

Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

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

- London East Business and Technical Park, Dagenham, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Former Abbey Sports Centre, Axe Street, Barking, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Northfields Industrial Estate, Beresford Avenue, Alperton, LB Brent
- 5-9 Surrey Street, Croydon, LB Croydon
- Queen's Hotel, Church Road, Crystal Palace, LB Croydon
- Essential Living Site, Perfume Factory, North Acton, LB Ealing
- The Arches Business Centre, Merrick Road, Southall, LB Ealing
- Spray Street Quarter, Woolwich, RB Greenwich
- Britannia Leisure Centre, Hyde Road, Shoreditch, LB Hackney
- Marian Court, Link Street, Homerton, LB Hackney
- White City Campus South Masterplan, LB Hammersmith and Fulham
- 141-163 Freston Road, North Kensington, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Kensington Aldridge Academy, Parade Ground, Wormwood Scrubs Park, Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation
- Kings Place, Harper Road, Borough, LB Southwark
- Former Biscuit Factory and LeSoCo Campus, Bermondsey, LB Southwark
- Barratt Industrial Estate, Gillender Street, Bromley by Bow, LB Tower Hamlets
- Ferry Lane Industrial Estate, Wickford Way, Walthamstow, LB Waltham Forest

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

The Deputy Mayor has asked officers to send a letter giving comments about the following stage one referral:

- The Goods Yard, 36 & 44-52 White Hart Lane, Tottenham, LB Haringey
- Dukes Meadows Tennis & Golf Club, Chiswick, LB Hounslow
- Gunnersbury Park, Popes Lane, South Acton, LB Hounslow

- West London College, Unit 1 Nucleus, Park Royal, Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation
- David Lloyd Hampton, Twickenham, LB Richmond upon Thames

Planning Decisions (Stopping Up Order)

I have sent a letter giving comments about the following stopping up order referral:

- Highway at Lensbury Way, Thamesmead, LB Bexley

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Stephenson House, LB Camden
- Prologis Park West London, LB Hillingdon
- Development Site at Post Office, Ashdown Road, RB Kingston upon Thames
- 42-44 Thomas Road, LB Tower Hamlets

Key Engagements

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

- I attended the Premier League football match between Chelsea FC and Liverpool FC at Stamford Bridge on 6 May
- I met with Rob Manfred, the Major League Baseball Commissioner on 8 May and I attended the announcement of a two-year deal for the London Series
- I attended the silent march in Peckham on 8 May
- I attended the Common Futures Forum launch with My Life My Say on 8 May
- I launched the Workforce Integration Network (WIN) programme on 9 May
- I met with Gerry Grimstone, Chairman, and Keith Skeoch, Co-CEO, of Standard Life Aberdeen on 9 May to discuss Standard Life Aberdeen's Brexit preparedness
- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 10 May
- I attended the Jimmy Mizen 10th Anniversary Memorial Service at St George's Cathedral on 10 May
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 10 May
- I met with the shortlisted candidates for the position of GLA Chief Officer on 11 May
- I visited the Violent Crime Taskforce Hub on 11 May
- I launched Our Time – Supporting Future Leaders at City Hall on 14 May
- I addressed the London Music Fund fundraising lunch at the Mayfair Hotel on 14 May
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 14 May
- I had an introductory meeting with the Beijing Party Secretary Cai Qi on 15 May
- I visited the East Croydon Master Plan area on 16 May and announced the first cohort of Associates being placed in local authorities through Public Practice
- I attended Mayors Question Time on 17 May
- I met with Mike Gerrard, Chair of the Crossrail 2 Independent Affordability Review, on 17 May to discuss Crossrail 2
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 17 May
- I had my regular update with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on the work of the Violent Crime Taskforce on 17 May
- I attended the Dementia Friendly Summit held at City Hall on 21 May
- I attended the Assembly Plenary on 21 May to answer questions on my Environment Strategy
- I met with Mike Brown, the Transport Commissioner, on 21 May ahead of the Transport for London Board meeting
- I met with the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, on 21 May to discuss environmental issues including Air Quality in London
- I attended the Mosaic Iftar at Westminster Academy School on 21 May
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 22 May
- I met with representatives of the Private Hire Trade on 22 May to discuss the subject of the requirement for a written English language test for private hire drivers
- I attended Jeff Jacob's retirement reception on 22 May
- I attended the reception hosted by Leonie Cooper AM for Merton & Wandsworth on 22 May
- I observed an early morning dawn raid carried out by the Violent Crime Taskforce on 23 May

- I chaired the Transport for London Board meeting on 23 May
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 23 May
- I addressed the Crossrail 2/London APPG Joint Meeting at the House of Commons on 23 May
- I visited St Mary's Bryanston Square School on 24 May to celebrate completion of the school air quality audits programme
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 29 May
- I attended the Grenfell Tower Inquiry Commemoration Hearing on 30 May
- I met with Cllr Ejiofor, the new Leader of LB Haringey, on 30 May to discuss borough issues
- I attended the annual Interfaith Iftar, organised by The Naz Legacy Foundation, held on 30 May at St John's Wood Synagogue and attended by the Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullaly and the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Vincent Nichols
- I launched the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Taskforce on 31 May
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 31 May
- I had my regular update with Craig Mackey, the Metropolitan Police Deputy Commissioner, on the work of the Violent Crime Taskforce on 31 May
- I attended a Community Iftar at the Aziziye Mosque in Stoke Newington on 31 May
- I met with the US Ambassador when he came to City Hall on 1 June to sign the London United book of condolence
- I attended the Memorial Service at Southwark Cathedral on 3 June to mark the anniversary of the London Bridge terror attack
- I attended the GLA Staff volunteering event, as part of Volunteering Week, on 4 June in support of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
- I attended the launch of East Bank at the QE Olympic Park on 5 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 5 June
- I visited King's Cross Construction Skills Centre on 6 June to launch my Skills Strategy
- I had an introductory meeting with Michael Müller, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, on 6 June
- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 7 June
- I met the Commissioners of the London Sustainable Development Commission on 7 June
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 7 June
- I attended the Ramadan Tent Open Iftar on 7 June

Ends