

21st Mayor's Report to the Assembly Mayor's Question Time – 17th May 2018

This is my twenty-first Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 9th March – 3rd May 2018.

Executive summary

Historic statue of Suffragist leader Millicent Fawcett unveiled

The 24 April, was a historic day. I, alongside Caroline Criado Perez, Mishal Husain, Helen McCrory, Theresa Lola and the Prime Minister attended the statue unveiling of suffragist leader Millicent Fawcett in Parliament Square.

From the very first week of my Mayoralty, I supported Caroline Criado Perez campaign to put up a statue the first statue of a woman in Parliament Square, and I'm proud that together we have made this a reality.

The statue of Millicent Fawcett, the great suffragist leader, stands near Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela – two other heroic leaders who campaigned for change and equality.

I hope this statue sparks further change across society – driving forward gender equality and inspiring women and girls across the capital and the UK. My huge thanks to Caroline Criado Perez OBE, for her passionate campaigning and to Turner Prize-winning artist Gillian Wearing OBE – for bringing Millicent Fawcett and her legacy to life through this magnificent work.

Young Londoners quiz world leaders at City Hall

On 18 April, I invited over 60 young Londoners from secondary schools in Lewisham, Southwark and Haringey to a townhall event with the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau and the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern. Young Londoners discussed gender equality and issues affecting young people at a workshop run by the Fawcett Society, before they took part in a question and answer session with the two Prime Ministers.

Working together to tackle violent crime

On 7 April, I invited the former Home Secretary Amber Rudd, London MPs, Council leaders and Assembly Members from all political parties across London to a City Hall summit about tackling violent crime on the city's streets.

Keeping Londoners safe is my top priority and I want to reassure everyone that we're doing everything we can. We need to all work together to tackle the rise in violent crime. That's why it's more important than ever to find consensus where possible and work together to make sure every Londoner, regardless of age or background, feels safe in our great city. It's what Londoners deserve.

Welcoming the decision not to release John Worboys

On 28 March, I welcomed the news that the Parole Board's decision to release John Worboys had been quashed after a Judicial Review. I was approached by some of his victims and I felt it was my duty to seek a Judicial Review into the Parole Board's irrational decision.

The shocking failures in the way John Worboys' victims were treated has damaged confidence in the criminal justice system and the time has come for more transparency surrounding decisions to let offenders out of prison.

My top priority as Mayor of London is to keep Londoners safe and I will always do everything within my power to keep them safe from harm.

Unveiling new work by Michael Rakowitz on fourth plinth

On 28 March, I was delighted to unveil Michael Rakowitz's new work 'The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist' on the Fourth Plinth in London's Trafalgar Square. Michael's work shows the power of art to bring to life politics, cultures and personal stories from around the world and across generations.

The reconstructions in The Invisible Enemy are made from recycled food packaging, similar to the reliefs at the base of Nelson's Column being made from canons salvaged from the wreck of HMS Royal George. The Lamassu is made of 10,500 empty Iraqi date syrup cans, representative of a once-renowned industry decimated by the Iraq Wars.

£412m investment in new counter-terrorism hub

On 26 March, I announced a £412m investment to create a new counter-terrorism and organised crime hub in the capital. The major new investment includes the £250m purchase of the Empress State Building in Hammersmith and Fulham, and a significant upgrade project to make the building and associated sites fully secure and fit for purpose.

London's new counter-terrorism hub will streamline operations and capabilities, and ensure more effective and efficient working to keep the capital as safe as possible from the constant and evolving threat of terrorism.

New Chair of Arts Council England's London Area Council

On 26 March, I announced the appoint of Ruth Mackenzie CBE as the new Chair of Arts Council England's London Area Council.

Joining the Arts Council in London, Ruth will take on its goals of increasing the reach of arts and culture in the capital, improving diversity and supporting more children and young people to access the benefits of the arts. Ruth is a well-respected cultural leader, with experience of working at the heart of the arts sector both in the UK and internationally.

New agreement to join up London's justice services

On 26 March, I, alongside the Justice Secretary Rt Honourable David Gauke MP announced a new agreement to reduce reoffending and provide a more integrated approach to victims of crime in London.

We will work alongside local councils towards justice devolution and explore how to better join up local criminal justice services in the capital.

By joining up local services I believe we can increase support for victims of crime and reduce the rate of reoffending in London, helping make our communities safer. This agreement will ensure that decisions about justice services in London prioritise the interests of Londoners, and it is an important step towards the devolution of powers over criminal justice in our city.

New public water fountains, bids open for next 16 fountains

On 25 March, I announced the installation of a new public water fountain in Carnaby Street the first of 20 new water fountains across the city this year. This is a key part of my work to reduce single-use plastic bottles in London

In addition to the new fountain in Kingly Court, Carnaby, three more will follow this summer - two in Liverpool Street Station and one in Bankside's Flat Iron Square.

To help secure locations for the next 16 fountains, I am calling on land and site owners to bid for funding from a pot of up to £75,000. I will provide up to £50,000, with an additional £25,000 provided by water fountain specialists MIW.

Paul Lindley to lead Child Obesity Taskforce for London

On 23 March, I appointed award-winning entrepreneur, children's welfare campaigner and founder of Ella's Kitchen, Paul Lindley, as Chair of a new taskforce which aims to combat the epidemic of childhood obesity across the capital.

Paul will work with the members of the Child Obesity Taskforce to devise a programme of work to improve the health of young Londoners and transform the way in which children and families live healthier lives.

My aim is to significantly reduce this unacceptable level of child obesity in London by 2028 and to tackle the stark differences between different individual boroughs in the city.

#LondonUnited anniversary tribute to Westminster, London Bridge, Finsbury Park and Parsons Green attacks

On 21 March, after consultation with 14 bereaved families, survivors, the emergency services and local councils, I announced plans to mark the anniversaries of the four terrorist attacks in London last year

The first anniversary of the attack in Westminster was marked by projecting #LondonUnited on to the Houses of Parliament. #LondonUnited will be projected on to London Bridge, Finsbury Park Mosque and Parsons Green Tube station respectively on the anniversary dates of each terrorist attack.

I also laid a wreath at Parliament Square in remembrance of those who lost their lives, and opened a 3D installation of #LondonUnited together with a digital book of hope at City Hall where members of the public can pay their respects. Any messages of strength, hope and resilience using #LondonUnited on social media will be projected onto a map of London at City Hall until 19 June.

Shortlist for first-ever Creative Enterprise Zones

On 20 March, I announced a shortlist of ten submissions that will each receive a grant of £50,000 to develop their plans to become Creative Enterprise Zones. These ten submissions represent 11 boroughs.

This groundbreaking new initiative, was one of my key manifesto priorities, which will help creatives put down roots, establish themselves in local areas, attract new artists and creative businesses, and develop skills in local people. In total 25 boroughs applied, demonstrating the level of interest in this new initiative.

Claire Pritchard to lead the London Food Board

On 20 March, I appointed Claire Pritchard as the new Chair of the London Food Board following the departure of Rosie Boycott earlier this year, after nine successful years as Chair.

Claire has been a member of the Board since 2005, and Chief Executive of Greenwich Cooperative Development Agency (GCCDA) for more than a decade. She brings nearly 30 years' experience of the food sector to her new role. She has also worked extensively with local authorities and property developers all over London to make food better all across the capital.

Gender Pay Gap

On 19 March, I published the latest gender pay details in the Greater London Authority (GLA) Group.

I am determined to do everything in my power to address the gender pay gap that has existed both unchallenged and hidden away for far too long. While the data I published makes for painful reading for all at City Hall and the majority of the GLA group, it's only by taking these steps and highlighting that there is a problem, that we will properly address the inequalities in our society.

It's abundantly clear that we all need to do more to understand why there are not enough women in senior leadership roles, and then ensure we remove those barriers, so that across our great city we are adopting the highest possible standards for fair pay, good working conditions and gender equality.

I am a proud feminist at City Hall and that's why earlier this year I launched the #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign not only to mark the progress that's been made on women's equality over the past 100 years, but to tackle gender inequality in all its forms. I reiterate my call to London's businesses and organisations to step up efforts to address the pay gap and help make our capital one of equality, opportunity and progress.

100 rapid charging points across London

On 19 March, I unveiled a new network of rapid charge points for electric vehicles across the capital. The network includes 51 points for use by taxis and is part of my programme to improve the capital's air quality, by helping phase out the use of diesel and encouraging the use of zero-emission vehicles.

As of this year no more diesel taxis are being licensed, and all taxis that are licensed for the first time need to be zero-emission capable. Over the past six months Transport for London

has worked with suppliers on the installation of 100 rapid charge points across the capital where a vehicle can be charged in 20 to 30 minutes, compared to the seven or eight hours it takes at regular charging points.

Ethics Panel to consider use of facial recognition technologies

On 16 March, I have requested that an independent panel that advises City Hall on the ethics of policing in the capital is to examine the use by the Metropolitan Police of facial recognition technology, and how they prioritise in the face of Government cuts to their budgets.

Bringing Londoners together with first social integration strategy

On 16 March, I alongside my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement Matthew Ryder QC, launched a new fund that will bring together more parents and families from all backgrounds in the capital and reduce social isolation.

The “London Family Fund” will help parents across the city build social networks and support each other when embarking on one of life’s greatest challenges – becoming a parent. The funding was announced at MumSpace in Camberwell, a local support group for parents, with £600,000 being invested in projects to help parents from all backgrounds build relationships and set up support networks.

Social integration is an issue for all of us – because it benefits all of us. It goes to the heart of who we are – how we treat each other and what kind of city we want London to be in the future. To achieve a truly integrated society, we must face up to some of the changes that have shaped our city. Our communities are changing rapidly, inequality across the capital is increasing – in these unsettling times our sense of social cohesion is being put to the test like never before.

I strongly believe that we can tackle the barriers to social integration and the inequalities which divide people. We can ensure that all Londoners can become active citizens, participating fully in the life of the best city in the world

£10m for new projects to prevent serious crimes

On 16 March, I announced £10m of funding for crime prevention projects that tackle child sexual exploitation, female offending and youth offending in the capital. My investment will be directed at four new projects that would not have been created without the funding. The four projects are:

- Advance Women Centre’s and Advance Minerva Wrap Around support services for female offenders – £2,996,940 over three years for a service for female offenders in 15 London boroughs
- Taith (Journey) London - £1,857,863 over three years for a specialist service targeted at the perpetrators of harmful sexual behaviour in nine London boroughs
- Whole System Approach to Female Offending – South London Alliance - £1,606,173 over three years for a female offending service in six London boroughs (Croydon, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Sutton and Wandsworth). The service will put in place an approach to supporting female offenders and those at risk of offending, including early intervention, triage, resettlement and increasing women centre provisions.

- Out There Response and Rescue - £3,036,916 over three years for a pan-London service across the 32 boroughs to develop and deliver support for vulnerable young Londoners exploited by criminal gangs to sell drugs in other towns and cities known as 'county lines'.

This funding will help boroughs to tackle and prevent serious crimes from child sexual exploitation to youth offending and female offending using a more joined-up approach, allowing them to spend the money where it is needed most.

First projects benefiting from £45m Young Londoners Fund announced

On 14 March I met the former Home Secretary to call on the Government to take real action to tackle the causes of knife crime and other violent crimes, which are rising across the UK.

I have created the new £45m Young Londoners Fund to support education, sport and cultural activities for young people to help tackle crime and youth violence, which has been rising across the country since 2014. The Young Londoners Fund will support a wide range of activities to help those aged between 10 and 25, particularly marginalised, low income and Black And Minority Ethnic (BAME) young Londoners who might otherwise be at risk of getting caught up in crime. It will provide aspirational and positive activities to help young people reach their true potential.

£750,000 of TfL funding to support Croydon community

On 12 March, I announced that Transport for London (TfL) is providing £750,000 in support of Croydon Council's community recovery activities following the tram tragedy at Sandilands in November 2016. Croydon and local commissioning groups have proposed a range of action to help local people, including more community and social care and increases to adult and child mental health resources.

I have worked hard to provide the support needed to everyone affected since that devastating day and to ensure that TfL does all it can to prevent such a tragedy from ever happening again.

The tech revolution must be shaped for the benefit of everyone

On 12 March, I gave a keynote speech covering social media, the shared economy and the consequences of increased automation - at the South by Southwest (SXSW) Interactive Conference in Texas.

I made clear that the onus for change should not just be on tech companies and innovators. One of the biggest problems over the last few years is that politicians and governments have just been passive – sitting on their hands - while the tech revolution has happened around them. There's been a failure to ensure that our economies and our regulatory structures are prepared and relevant. It must ultimately fall to government – working with tech businesses and leaders - to ensure that this revolution is not detrimental to our long-term progress.

In London, we're harnessing the power of new technology to transform live but we've been clear with Uber and other companies - that everyone - no matter how big or small - must play by the rules. No exceptions.

In addition to making one of this year's keynote speeches, I held bilateral meetings with US-based business leaders to encourage future investment in the capital. I also spoke to over 150 guests from the UK and US-based tech and creative industries at an event organised by L&P to highlight the benefits of promoting inclusivity and diversity in the technology sector.

Record £44m commitment to make London safe for women and girls

On 9 March, I published my strategy to tackle violence against women and girls, and the misogynistic attitudes that allow these crimes to continue, backed by a record £44m investment up to 2020.

My new strategy puts forward a comprehensive package of measures to intervene and prevent violence against women and girls, to tackle dangerous individuals who pose a risk in our communities, and to improve services for victims who have already suffered so much.

This new wide-ranging strategy follows the biggest in-depth consultation with survivors as well as Londoners, police and partners. It includes measures to tackle rape, sexual assault, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), trafficking, controlling behaviour, forced marriages, stalking, harassment, and misogyny - building on the recent international #MeToo and #TimesUp campaigns.

Policing, Crime and Security

Tackling the scourge of knife crime and violence on our streets

Any life lost to knife crime and violence is a tragedy, and I have been appalled and heartbroken by the recent spate of senseless killings in our city. I am determined that we at City Hall – and all our partner agencies across the city – are doing everything possible to counter this violence and stop the bloodshed.

As you know, I have set out a comprehensive Knife Crime Strategy for London last summer, taking a public health approach to the issue and considering not just enforcement but also prevention and intervention. Over the last few weeks, I have announced further investments and measures to further strengthen our work to end knife crime in London:

Strengthening enforcement

City Hall has invested a record £110m additional in policing this year. The Met Commissioner has my full support in cracking down on violent individuals and gangs.

On 5 April, Commissioner Cressida Dick announced a new violent crime taskforce of 120 officers, created using the additional £15m of funding I announced for the police response to knife crime in February. The taskforce will focus solely on violent crime, weapon-enabled crime and serious criminality.

In addition, the Met Police has increased the number of officers on the streets in the areas worst affected by knife crime, using targeted patrols and stop and search powers. Operation Sceptre – the Met's regular operation to tackle knife crime, is being stepped up from monthly to fortnightly across the city. The Commissioner, the DMPC and I have accompanied Met

officers on some of these operations to hear from officers on the front line about the challenges they are facing and to give our full support to them in doing their vital and often dangerous work.

Preventing future violence

In February, I announced the creation of the £45m Young Londoners Fund to help steer young people away from violent crime. I know Assembly Members have been concerned as I have about the loss of vital youth services in this city, and this new money will go some way towards ensuring that young Londoners can access support and guidance if they need it, as well as positive activities and opportunities to learn and develop.

The Fund will be opening for bids shortly, and I will update Members with information to encourage bids from their constituents in the coming days. But I remain clear – whilst I'm doing everything I can as Mayor to support and protect youth services in London, I can't make up for all of the lost funding alone. The Government must reverse the cuts it has made to these vital local services if we are to ensure that every young person can access opportunities, help and support so they can reach their potential and avoid becoming the victims or the perpetrators of crime.

It is vital that we ensure that schools are places of safety and that support is available for pupils at risk of becoming involved in crime or who have concerns about their safety. 150 metal-detecting knife wands have now been issued to London schools who requested them, funded by City Hall and we continue to receive additional requests. We also continue to work to increase the number of Safer Schools Officers in London also.

On 18th April, DMPC Sophie Linden visited Newman Catholic Academy in Harlesden to meet with teachers and the school's Safer Schools Officer to hear from them about the work they are doing to safeguard their pupils and ensure that the Academy is a safe place in which to learn.

Communities must be at the heart of our efforts to stop knife crime, and that's why in the Knife Crime Strategy I pledged funding to support community efforts against knife crime.

A £250k allocation for the Knife Crime Seed Fund was approved in the London Knife Crime Strategy for financial year 2017/18 and on 20th March I was pleased to announce the first nine successful bids for grassroots projects against knife crime. The successful groups work with young people to help prevent and protect them from knife crime. They include a boxing club in Brixton, music training in Hackney and Tower Hamlets, and support workshops and activities in Croydon, Southwark, and Lambeth. I have further increased the money available to £1.4m as part of my commitment to supporting young people and communities tackling knife crime, so we can help spread the good work further across the city.

We continue to say to our young people – London Needs You Alive. The campaign launched last year to send a clear message that every young life is valued, and that carrying a knife is more likely to end your life than save it. I ask Members to continue to support the campaign and to help us keep getting the message out to our young people.

Intervening with young people caught up in violence

I have announced the investment of an additional £1m in London Gang Exit services to support young people at risk of or engaged in serious violence and help them into

employment, education or training. It is essential that we offer young people caught up in gang crime the best possible chance of escaping that lifestyle, and the additional investment takes total funding up to £2m for the project, creating 260 places for young people to take part in the scheme. A further £5.2m is being invested in youth services through the London Crime Prevention Fund.

Members will also be aware of the excellent work being done in Major Trauma Centres to intervene with young victims of knife crime at a vital 'teachable moment'. MOPAC had previously committed £1.4m to maintaining the service provision in Major Trauma Centres and developing and extending this programme to key A&E departments in boroughs that have high levels of knife crime to maximise the power and value of this teachable moment. Through the Mayor's Youth Fund, I have extended this funding by an additional £1.2m bringing total investment in specialist youth support in hospitals to £2.6m over the next two years.

Bringing partners together

On 10 April, I brought together an urgent City Hall summit about tackling violent crime on the city's streets. Politicians of all parties, including the Home Secretary, the Policing Minister and senior shadow cabinet members, came to City Hall to be briefed on the current actions being taken and to have their say on the issues and potential solutions. I'm grateful to all who made the time to take part in this Summit, which underlined the cross-party determination to protect our young people from the tragedy of knife crime and violence.

On 11 April, I appeared before the special session of the Police and Crime Committee, alongside DMPC Sophie Linden and Assistant Commissioner Martin Hewitt to discuss the current situation, speak in greater depth on our activities to counter these crimes and to answer questions from Members about our strategy.

VAWG Strategy launch

On 9 March I visited students and staff at the Central School of Speech and Drama to launch my VAWG Strategy for London, participating in discussion groups with students facilitated by BAME women's organisation Imkaan, who conducted the consultation with survivors of VAWG that informed the Strategy. The VAWG Strategy – backed with £44m in investment – puts forward a comprehensive package of measures to intervene and prevent violence against women and girls, to tackle dangerous individuals who pose a risk in our communities, and to improve services for victims who have already suffered so much. I want every woman and girl to be safe and to feel safe wherever they are in our great city – and will use all the levers available to us at City Hall to make this a reality.

Tackling disproportionality in the Justice Service

On 13 March, Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden and the Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Matthew Ryder, chaired a public meeting at City Hall to discuss the findings of the Lammy Review and the disproportionate number of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) individuals across the capital who come into contact with the police and criminal justice system, particularly as the victims of crime. Representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Metropolitan Police Service and many other key organisations will answer questions from City Hall about why the figures are disproportionate and discuss how they might be able to tackle the issue.

Encouraging partnership work to prevent crime

On 16 March I announced four successful bids totalling £10m to the London Crime Prevention Fund Co-Commissioning Fund. The Co-Commissioning Fund – part of a wider £72m London Crime Prevention Fund – encourages boroughs and other services to work together to ensure that every Londoner has the access to the services they need to help support them and keep them safe. By working across boroughs, the Fund aims to address gaps in provision, promote and build upon best practice, and drive innovation by bringing partners together. The four successful bids will fund projects to tackle child sexual exploitation, female offending, county lines and youth offending in the capital.

Independent Policing Ethics Panel to scrutinise facial recognition and police prioritisation.

On 16 March I announced the new membership of the London Policing Ethics Panel. Chaired by ethical policy expert Dr. Suzanne Shale, the panel is completed by: Professor Deborah Bowman MBE – Professor of Bioethics and Clinical Ethics at St George’s, University of London; Dr Priya Singh – an experienced executive director with a medical and legal services background; and Professor Leif Wenar – Chair of Philosophy and Law at the School of Law, King’s College. They have set out their work plan which will begin with a review of the Metropolitan Police’s use of facial-recognition technology, as part of a wider look at digital policing. The Panel will also scrutinise how the Met prioritises its resources to meet rising and changing demands at a time when its funding is reducing.

A new counter-terror and organised crime hub for London.

On 26 March, the Commissioner and I announced the purchase of the Empress State Building in Hammersmith and Fulham as part of a £412m investment to create a new counter-terrorism and organised crime hub in the capital. The funding will provide for the purchase of the building and a significant upgrade project to make the building and associated sites fully secure and fit for purpose.

The new site will, for the first time, bring the Met’s counter-terrorism command and specialist crime and operations teams under one roof – in line with other cities such as Manchester and Birmingham. Combining these functions was one of the recommendations of Lord Harris’ review into emergency preparedness in London, and he has been closely involved in reviewing and approving the plan.

A new agreement to join up London’s justice services.

On 26 March, the Justice Secretary and I announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at reducing reoffending and providing a more integrated approach to victims of crime in London. Following this agreement, MOPAC, the Ministry of Justice and London Councils will initiate a programme to tackle major challenges facing London’s criminal justice service and ultimately devolve powers and more authority and accountability for criminal justice from the Government to the capital. By joining up local services I believe we can increase support for victims of crime and reduce the rate of reoffending in London, helping make our communities safer. This agreement will ensure that decisions about justice services in London prioritise the interests of Londoners, and it is an important step towards the devolution of powers over criminal justice in our city.

Parole Board decision on John Worboys overturned

Like many others, I welcomed the news on 28 March that the High Court had overturned the Parole Board's decision to release convicted serial rapist John Worboys. The initial decision to release Worboys shocked us all, and I was clear that it should not go unchallenged. My legal appeal was one of a number lodged against the decision, from victims of John Worboys and from a national newspaper. Whilst the rulings were welcome, I am clear that there needs to be an urgent overhaul of the way Parole Board decisions to release offenders are taken. The shocking failures in the way John Worboys' victims were treated has damaged confidence in the criminal justice system and the time has come for more transparency surrounding decisions to let offenders out of prison.

Review of MPS Digital Policing

During the reporting period I asked the MPS to provide an internal review of all Digital Policing investment over the last year. This showed progress on many fronts. The MPS are world leaders in body worn video (BWV) with over twenty thousand devices rolled out so far. Officers can now immediately share digital footage of an incident with the courts and Crown Prosecution Service. It is hoped that in due course court time will be saved due to early guilty pleas resulting from this footage. The usage of BWV has led to a significant reduction in complaints against officers.

In addition, well over twenty thousand laptops and tablets have been rolled out to MPS officers and staff making flexible mobile working a reality. Digital investments are also changing the way the public interact with the police. The Online Crime reporting service which was launched last year already accounts for 10% or all non-emergency crime reporting. The MPS website is held up nationally as an example of best practice and will form the basis for a national Single Online Home for Policing. It is these developments in officer mobility and public access which enable the rationalisation of the MPS estate, delivering £56m in total estates savings by 2021/22. Furthermore, the MPS have modernised their legacy systems and exited a number of data centres saving £10m.

Transport

Transport for London launches 'Priority Seating Week' to mark first anniversary of the 'Please Offer Me A Seat' badge

On 23 April Transport for London launched its first 'Priority Seating Week' campaign to make travelling easier for people with a range of conditions whose needs may not be immediately obvious. This also marked the one-year anniversary of the 'Please Offer Me A Seat' badge – with more than 30,000 issued to disabled customers and those with invisible conditions since the initiative was launched.

Specially designed to make travelling easier for people who find it difficult to stand, the free badge and card helps customers who otherwise struggle to get a seat on public transport. To help improve awareness of the importance of priority seats, 'Priority Seating Week' will see new posters featuring customers, including pregnant women and people with visible and non-visible impairments, talking about the difference a seat makes to them, often having an impact on the rest of their day.

Newly designed Priority Seating signs are also being displayed on selected London Overground and London Underground trains, asking customers to consider others when using the seats with the aim of encouraging everyone to think about their fellow commuters who may have a greater need.

Property developments above Elizabeth line stations to create jobs, growth and revenue to modernise transport

Transport for London has announced that a huge programme of retail, commercial and residential developments are being taken forward at a number of Elizabeth Line stations in central London. Plans are in place for 12 major property developments over and around the new Elizabeth line stations and construction sites as the historic launch of the new railway draws closer.

In total, the development plans cover more than three million square feet of high-quality office, retail and residential space between Paddington in the west and Woolwich in the east and could raise £500m for reinvestment in improving transport in London.

Overwhelming support for Camden Town Tube station modernisation plans

Proposals to modernise and upgrade Camden Town Tube station have received strong backing from the local community. Transport for London announced that a recent consultation found that 97 per cent of respondents supported the plans to hugely increase the size of the station.

The proposals would see the station treble in size, and would include the construction of a new entrance on Buck Street. Three new escalators and new lifts providing step-free access would also be installed, making the vibrant Camden area much more accessible for everyone. Customers using the four Northern line platforms would benefit from more circulating space - making journeys more comfortable, particularly in the busiest periods of the day.

Plans for new crossing between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf

Plans for a proposed walking and cycling crossing across the Thames between Rotherhithe and Canary Wharf have been welcomed by Londoners, Transport for London has confirmed.

Ninety-three per cent of the 6,094 public responses received in the consultation supported the creation of a new crossing, which would link existing and planned cycle routes on both sides of the river. Once delivered, the crossing would enable more people to cycle and walk in the local area and support the aim for 80 per cent of Londoners' trips to be by cycling, walking or by public transport by 2041. Work is now underway to further develop engineering options ahead of a further consultation on a preferred design option later this year

Londoners back new Cycle Superhighway in southeast London

The initial results of a public consultation into the proposed Cycle Superhighway 4 (CS4), has revealed overwhelming support given to the plans. More than 3,000 people responded to the consultation on the route between Tower Bridge and Greenwich, with 83 per cent in favour. Many respondents have suggested that it would make cycling safer, increase the number of people choosing to cycle in the area and help reduce air and noise pollution.

TfL has been working with Lewisham, Southwark and Greenwich councils on the proposals and will be continuing to work closely with them to take the plans forward.

Highbury Corner to be transformed to make it safer

Work to improve a junction with one of the poorest safety records in London will start this year following a joint announcement from Transport for London, the Mayor of London and Islington Council. The work at Highbury Corner will see the intimidating 1960s roundabout removed and replaced with two-way roads, with the installation of segregated cycle lanes on all three remaining sides of the roundabout. The work, which will begin in the summer and is due to finish in 2019, will give pedestrians and cyclists better facilities and create a new public space.

During consultation nearly two thirds of respondents supported aspects of the plans to improve the junction which is already heavily used by cyclists with bikes making up nearly a quarter of all traffic in the morning rush hour.

The creation of safer cycling infrastructure will enable more people to cycle in and through the area who are currently put off by the traffic-dominated roundabout. The thorough consultation has allowed TfL and Islington to amend the designs to improve access to the arboretum and pedestrian access to Highbury & Islington station.

British Telecom fined record amount for unsafe street works

On 29 March Transport for London announced the successful prosecution of British Telecom for putting the public at risk during street works in the City of London, with the telecommunications giant ordered to pay a record £90,000 fine.

During works at Bishopsgate in August 2017, part of TfL's strategic road network, BT failed to properly sign and guard the work area and also used the wrong traffic management methods. Despite repeated demands by TfL, BT also failed to take actions to improve the situation, leading to unsafe conditions for road users, pedestrians and cyclists.

On 28 March, BT pleaded guilty to the unsafe execution of street works with significant risk to public safety at Westminster Magistrates Court and was fined £90,000 and ordered to pay a further £3,394 in court costs.

This marks the second time in 12 months that TfL has taken the utility company to court for unsafe working practices as part of its commitment to tackle poorly managed, or unsafe roadworks.

Since 2010, TfL has issued BT over 1066 Fixed Penalty Notices and has prosecuted the telecommunications company 47 times for street works offences, including those for dangerous and disruptive work.

TfL launches consultation to further improve safety for private hire passengers

On 26 March Transport for London launched a consultation seeking views on how to improve safety for private hire passengers. The 12-week consultation is the latest phase of an ambitious programme that is raising standards across the private hire industry.

The consultation invites views on an advanced driving test for private hire drivers, providing passengers with clear information on who to contact to provide feedback or to raise a complaint, and whether more robust background checks could be introduced for drivers. TfL is also seeking views on whether changes are needed to insurance arrangements for private hire services.

TfL brings forward 600 homes in Harrow and names Northwood partner

On 26 March Transport for London announced that it is working the London Borough of Harrow to bring forward a development at Harrow on the Hill Tube station on the Metropolitan line which will provide over 600 homes, 35 per cent of which will be affordable.

In addition, TfL announced the selection of Triangle London Developments (TLD), a consortium between Notting Hill Housing and U+I, as its preferred partner for a joint venture partnership to develop a 4.7-acre site around Northwood Tube station on the Metropolitan line. The site has the potential to provide over 150 new homes, 35 per cent of which will be affordable.

These schemes will now bring the number of homes that have been brought forward in 2017/18 to more than 3,000. Earlier this year, TfL brought to market Limmo Peninsula, in Newham, through its Property Partnerships Framework and launched to market 10 small sites through the Mayor of London's Small Sites Small Builders portal which is targeted at the SME sector.

TfL exploring whether a new 'demand responsive' TfL bus service could complement existing bus network

On 23 March Transport for London announced that it is exploring the potential of using a new 'demand responsive' TfL bus service to enhance London's public transport network in the future. TfL is approaching a range of businesses – including traditional bus operators and tech companies – to see if the latest innovations in ride-booking technology can be used to create a new TfL bus service that complements the capital's existing bus network. The services, for nine passengers or more, would not replace any existing TfL services.

Businesses are being asked to express their interest in trialing a new TfL service that would operate flexibly in an area in need of improved public transport. The partnership with TfL could, for example, be an on-demand minibus ordered through an app, or perhaps a service running on a semi-fixed route that can be diverted to pick up individual passengers.

Bromley-by-Bow becomes step-free in boost to Tube accessibility

On 13 March Bromley-by-Bow became the 73rd step-free station on London's Underground network with the installation of two new lifts, funded in partnership with Tower Hamlets and the London Legacy Development Corporation

The station, which serves nearly four million customers every year, now offers step-free access to both the east and westbound platforms of the District and Hammersmith & City lines making travel easier for disabled customers, buggy users, older people and customers with mobility impairments.

In total, £200m is being invested in transforming accessibility as part of the largest boost to step-free access in the Tube's 155-year history. This will help make 40 per cent of the Tube network step-free by 2022 – a significant increase on the current level of 27 per cent.

TfL budget

On 12 March Transport for London's published its draft budget for 2018/19, setting out how it will deliver vital transport improvements for London over the first year of its latest five-year Business Plan.

The Business Plan, published in December last year, set out a fully funded plan for delivering the Mayor's Transport Strategy, including investing record amounts in public transport and prioritising safer and less polluted streets, with an unprecedented focus on walking and cycling over the next five years.

The budget sets out how TfL will work to achieve the first year of that plan, continuing to modernise transport services and deliver further recurrent savings, which will help it to manage an average £700m per year reduction in Government funding.

TfL completes biggest test yet of new signalling system set to transform the Tube

Transport for London recently has completed a phase of expanded testing of the new, modern Tube signalling system, which is set to transform the Circle, District, Hammersmith & City and Metropolitan lines, to its largest area yet.

The new system was successfully tested from Hammersmith through to Euston Square and Paddington, with the work involving the complex Baker Street junction – the first such junction to be tested with the state-of-the-art Thales communications-based train control (CBTC) system. The system will be introduced progressively over 14 sections across the network, each improving in reliability as it is introduced. Customers will see quicker, more frequent services from 2021, with all four lines using the new system by 2023. The new, modern signalling will allow trains to run closer together, which will increase the frequency of train services across these lines with 32 trains per hour set to operate in the central London section. This will boost capacity by a third across all four lines – equivalent to space for an additional 36,500 customers during the busiest times of day.

TfL joins forces with the cycling industry to get more Londoners on e-bikes

On 15 March Transport for London launched a new scheme with the Association of Cycle Traders and e-bike retailers to help raise awareness of the benefits of e-bikes and encourage more Londoners to take up cycling.

Research by TfL shows that more than a fifth of people who don't cycle are put off because they think they aren't fit enough, feel distances are too long or say they are too old. E-bikes can help overcome these concerns as the power assisted bikes allow the rider to cycle further, and uphill, with ease. Now TfL and the Association of Cycle Traders have launched a website to allow Londoners to benefit from exclusive discounts and improved access to e-bikes to encourage more to take up cycling.

This website, available through tfl.gov.uk/electric-bikes, brings together more than 100 stores offering free test rides across the capital – meaning that everyone can try an e-bike that suits

them. TfL has also negotiated exclusive offers on e-bikes with many retailers, which are only available through the website.

Half of all Tube and rail pay as you go journeys across London now made using contactless payments

Half of all Tube and rail pay as you go journeys are now regularly made using contactless payment cards or mobile devices, the latest figures from Transport for London reveal.

The convenient payment method, which launched on buses in London in December 2012 and across Tube and rail services in London in September 2014, is now being used to make around 17 million journeys a week across London. Since it launched, more than 1.7 billion journeys have been made across the capital, showing how Londoners and visitors have taken to using contactless payments as part of their daily life.

The number of journeys made in London using contactless has risen from around 25 per cent just two years ago. On buses and trams, the use of contactless is also increasing rapidly - with around 45 per cent of all pay as you go journeys now being made using contactless.

The success of contactless in London is now leading to more world cities introducing the technology as a convenient method of paying for travel. In 2016 TfL signed a deal worth up to £15m with Cubic Transportation Systems, allowing them to adapt the capital's contactless ticketing system worldwide. Since then, New York, Sydney, Miami and Boston have all announced that they plan to introduce contactless payments in the coming years.

From May 2018, pay as you go will also be extended to cover TfL Rail services between Heathrow airport and Paddington station, and will also cover the entire Elizabeth line when it launches from December 2018.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

Building a better London

On 3 April, members were recruited to my Architecture and Urbanism Panel. Forming part of my Good Growth by Design programme, the Architecture and Urbanism Panel exists to advise London's public sector on how to deliver the best quality building and design work to guarantee excellent urban design, public realm, architecture and housing across London, including in and around the Transport for London estate.

Over 1,100 submissions were received at the first qualifying stage from which 92 Practices have been appointed across 14 Category lots. This round of the Architecture and Urbanism Panel requires all authorities using the panel to embed a diversity and inclusion requirement into the project briefs and individual call-off contracts. Design teams will need to consider 'equality and diversity' principles within their practice and within the project that they are being invited to tender for. This will account for at least 5% of evaluation scores at the 'Invitation to Tender' stage. This represents an important opportunity to influence the diversity of the profession through procurement.

Supporting diversity – ‘London’s Architecture Sector’

On 14 March, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, Jules Pipe, launched the [‘London’s Architecture Sector- 2018’](#) report. This highlights our commitment to supporting diversity as part of my Good Growth by Design programme.

The updated report provides insight into the value and makeup of the architecture sector. While revealing that London’s architecture sector is going from strength to strength, producing £1.9 billion in gross value added (GVA) last year, the report also highlights that there is still a significant need to address the issue of diversity in the sector. Women and minority groups are under-represented; only around 16% of all architecture and engineering jobs in London are held by BAME people, compared with 31% across all sectors

Under-representation of minority groups and women not only denies opportunities in a growing sector in London, it also poses a wider problem in that those designing London do not represent the diversity of London itself. That’s why I have assembled a Sounding Board of practitioners and experts in this field to help develop understanding of what the real-world barriers are to a diverse sector – including issues like procurement, employment policy and working cultures.

Forces for London

In March, my [‘Forces for London’](#) programme launched to support military veterans into employment. For some veterans, particularly Early Service Leaders, finding a job and earning a living after leaving military service is a huge challenge. Barriers such as poverty, poor health, lack of skills and qualifications and lack of professional support, can prevent veterans from realising their true potential and achieving their aspirations.

Over the next 3 years, this jointly funded ESF and City Hall project will help over 200 veterans who face such barriers. By working with veteran support charities, social enterprises, and local businesses we will give veterans access to a broad range of volunteering opportunities, mentoring and employability training. This will help them to translate their military skills and experience to those required in the civilian workspace, and, to reintegrate into their communities.

Adult Education Budget

In March, I published a Mayoral Decision setting out my intention to accept the Government’s proposal to devolve the Adult Education Budget (AEB) in London to City Hall from 2019/20 (subject to meeting a series of principles set out in a devolution arrangement to be confirmed by the Secretary of State for Education). This proposal means that for the first time, London will have the opportunity to tailor the skills and adult education system to better address local priorities. I will use the devolved funding to create a localised skills system that is more responsive to the diverse needs of the capital’s population and employers, ensuring that Londoners have the opportunity to access high quality adult education throughout their working lives.

Mayor’s Construction Academy

In line with my manifesto commitment to “establish a construction academy scheme with the housebuilding industry, to close the gap between our ambitious housing targets and the need

for more skilled construction workers in London”, a prospectus was launched for the first stage of my Mayor’s Construction Academy (MCA) programme on 23 March.

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
- providing capital funding for up-to-date training equipment and premises

The first stage of the programme will involve awarding an MCA Quality Mark to the best construction skills providers in London. I will be announcing successful applicants later in the year.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

New report on access to the medicines and medical technologies after Brexit

On 26 March, I launched a new report looking at the impact of leaving the Customs Union and Single Market on patients and the NHS. The report argues that Brexit risks new medicines and treatments taking much longer to come to the UK market - potentially affecting the NHS’s ability to treat patients. The UK outside of the EU Single Market will become a much smaller market for innovative new medical products, in contrast with the EU and US, which are much larger markets. I also highlighted that leaving the Single Market and Customs Union risks closing off UK patients’ access to a large number of pan-EU clinical trials. In some cases, these trials may be the only option for those with an advanced or rare disease.

The report also outlines the results of a recent GLA survey of London doctors. The majority of respondents believe that patients would have slower access to new medicines and that fewer clinical trials would be carried out in the UK after Brexit. 85 per cent of London doctors who responded believe that leaving the EU will have a negative impact on the NHS. The full report, entitled ‘Post Brexit access to the Medicines and Medical Technologies’ can be accessed at www.london.gov.uk/brexit-nhs

Chinese Investor Reception

On 21 March, I hosted the annual Chinese Investor reception with HE Ambassador Liu Xioaming at City Hall. China is London’s second largest investor and the event celebrated the cultural and economic bonds between China and London and how we value and remain open for Chinese investors, tourists and students.

Promoting Fintech and Healthtech in Vienna

On the 20 and 21 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, took a trade delegation of 12 Fintech and HealthTech businesses on a trip to Vienna in March.

In addition to a number of productive business meetings, Rajesh also met with the Mayor of Vienna. A City 2 City agreement was also signed between Vienna and London enabling support for entrepreneurs from both cities.

Grenfell Business Support

Through the London Growth Hub, my business support initiative, I have provided local enterprise agency Portobello Business Centre (PBC) £65,000 of funding to deliver 10 hours of business support to 85 businesses affected by the tragedy at Grenfell.

£8.5million to improve London's Digital Connectivity

On 13 March, London secured £8.5 million following a successful bid to government's Local Full Fibre Network Challenge Fund. The bid was a collaborative effort representing a partnership between my Connected London team at the GLA and TfL, and boroughs including Camden, the City of London, Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Tower Hamlets, Southwark, Westminster, and the Old Oak Park Royal regeneration area.

The funding will upgrade public buildings across the partnership and, using the underground tunnels to roll out accessible fibre infrastructure, extend the coverage of world-class full-fibre digital connectivity to up to 100,000 premises.

Smart London

Our Smart London Listening Exercise was led by my Chief Digital Officer, Theo Blackwell. We reached out to Londoners through a ['how many people share your commute' tool](#), which led to almost 90,000 visits to learn about my priorities for making London one of the smartest cities in the world.

Theo hosted our first 'unconference', the Smart London Camp, with more than 250 attendees discussing how best to help our public sector collaborate and innovate using data and digital technologies, how to tackle not-spots in connectivity, how to get digital skills in the hands of Londoners, and how to use technology openly and responsibly. We will be publishing our response to the Listening Exercise in the coming weeks.

There also has been major engagement with the tech community through meetings and workshops with London First, London Chamber of Commerce, Tech UK and the CBI and meetings with scale-ups and start-ups.

Environment

Greener City Fund tree planting grants open for applications

On 18 April, I opened the call for applications for the second round of Community Tree Planting Grants as part of my £9m Greener City Fund. I'm looking for projects that will help increase the number of trees in London, make the city greener and improve children's access to nature.

Community groups, schools, charities and boroughs can apply for between £5,000 and £50,000 to create new woodlands, plant trees in parks and green spaces, create orchards or

organise a large-scale planting event. Applications close on 18 June, for projects to take place from September 2018 to March 2019.

Details of projects funded to date through the Greener City Fund can be found online at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/greener-city-fund/greener-city-map>

Solar Together London pilot scheme and Community Energy fund

As part of my Energy for Londoners programme I recently launched Solar Together London, a group-buying scheme for high-quality solar photovoltaic panels. The scheme is being piloted in 5 London boroughs for the first time in London and is aimed at homeowners and SMEs and saw over 3,600 Londoners register their interest. A 'reverse auction', where a pre-vetted group of solar installers submitted their lowest bid for the work, was held on 18 April and resulted in one of the UK's leading solar companies winning.

Registrants will be sent personalised offers from early-May and have until 15 June to decide if they want to take up the offer.

I also announced that I am awarding £150,000 of my London Community Energy Fund to 13 solar energy projects across eight boroughs, including solar panels on schools, churches, sports centres, and even a city farm. Grants awarded will help fund the development costs associated with setting up solar projects before they can move to installation and start supplying clean and cheap electricity to the community. The projects include solar for ten tower blocks in Lambeth, five schools in Ealing, a spectator stand at a sports centre in Haringey, and a Methodist Church in Southwark.

Mayor's Entrepreneur

On 16 April, 'WithLula' from Imperial College London were crowned the 2018 Mayor's Entrepreneur after the final ten teams of university students pitched their ideas for new products and services to cut London's carbon emissions to a panel of judges. WithLula are developing zero-waste, fully flushable sanitary products that will be delivered to customers. They received prize money of £20,000 from the Citi Foundation to take their idea to market.

All finalists will receive mentoring from either Citi staff or the GLA family to help them develop their ideas further. Additionally, it was announced at the Awards event that as part of the #BehindEveryGreatCity celebrations ten women applicants to the scheme, also receive mentoring from senior business, third sector and government mentors this year.

C40 Steering Committee – April

On 12 April, My Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues attended the C40 Climate Leadership Group Steering Committee on my behalf in my role as Vice Chair for Europe. The Steering Committee is comprised of 13 elected Mayors, representing their regions and provides strategic guidance and steer to C40 in their support of over 90 cities on city climate change action. Outcomes from this meeting included the agreement to renew the term of Mayor Hidalgo of Paris as C40 chair and the expansion of C40 support to new cities in Africa, South America and South-East Asia.

Divestment of fossil fuel assets

On 26 March, I called on local authorities from across London to join me in fighting climate change by divesting their pension funds from fossil fuel companies, in support of my manifesto commitment on divestment. I asked local authorities to work with their pension fund managers to recognise the risk of climate change to their investments and start to divest from fossil fuels and invest in more clean projects. Local authorities were asked to follow the lead of the LPFA who have put in place a climate change policy that includes undertaking all necessary divestment by 2020 and pursuing sustainable investment. The call was supported by Divest London, Hammersmith and Fulham council, Share Action and The Ashden Trust.

Licence Lite

My Licence Lite project went into operation on 1 January 2018 as a 12-month pilot project. The project buys electricity from the Scottish and Southern Energy combined heat and power plant in Woolwich and sells it to two Transport for London tube depots. On 1 April, I added to the range of generators I buy electricity from as planned by purchasing electricity from 11 PV installations belonging to the housing association, Peabody.

Public Water Fountains

On 25 March, I announced the first of up to 20 new public water fountains which will be installed across the capital this year as part of my work to reduce single-use plastic bottles. The first new fountain was installed in Kingly Court off Carnaby Street, with three more to follow this summer - two in Liverpool Street Station and one in Bankside's Flat Iron Square.

I also launched the London Drinking Fountain Fund inviting bids from land and site owners to secure locations for the next 16 fountains. I have provided up to £50,000 towards this fund, with an additional £25,000 provided by water fountain specialists MIW. Applications will be considered from site owners bidding for fountains in busy shopping streets, business districts, public attractions and other places that have high public footfall. The bids will be assessed by the #OneLess campaign, which is led by Zoological Society of London (ZSL).

Women in the cleantech sector

On 22 March, the London Sustainable Development Commission launched a new work programme to investigate the issues being faced by women in the cleantech sector in London. A number of workshops were held along with an online survey to investigate the challenges and the opportunities for women-led cleantech enterprises, and women looking to start one. These workshops will help inform a recommendations report, expected later in 2018. The findings from this work will help to build solutions into the development of a cleantech innovation cluster for London.

100 rapid charge points in London

On 19 March, to mark the installation of over a hundred TfL-led rapid electric vehicle charge point since I've been in office, I was given a demonstration of a new rapid charger on Southwark Street in action using one of the new zero emission capable taxis. These new charge points will power up cars, vans and London's new zero emission capable taxis in record time. They only take 20-30 minutes to charge, compared with 7-8 hours with a standard charger. These new chargers will help to ensure that drivers can always access power quickly

when they are out and about, helping to make the switch to electric vehicles easier for individuals, businesses and taxi drivers.

Refill London

On 15 March, I launched the pilot of Refill London, a free tap water initiative which encourages shops and business to offer free tap water ‘refills’. This is part of my plans to reduce single-use plastic bottles in the capital.

Participating shops and businesses will have ‘Refill London’ stickers in their windows letting people know they are offering free tap water and that there is no need to feel uncomfortable or embarrassed asking for it. They also appear on an app which helps Londoners find their nearest Refill station.

Refill London is initially operating in five areas of London: Greenwich town centre, Lewisham High Street, the Southbank and Bankside, Regent St, and London Bridge. The scheme is running in partnership with Thames Water and City to Sea, a campaign group that aims to help stop ocean pollution. The #OneLess campaign, led by The Zoological Society of London, will evaluate the first phase of the scheme and their analysis will feed into plans for a wider roll-out.

Education and Youth

Primary Careers Conference in Camden

On 26 April my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, opened the fourth Primary Careers Conference in Camden. Run by Camden Council and Netley Primary School, the conference was attended by just under 200 Year 5 students - most of them from schools in the borough, although Islington, Haringey and Greenwich were also represented. With some fantastic speakers and interactive workshops, the conference aimed to raise the aspirations of Year 5 students and inspire them to think about their future careers. They have all now returned to school as ‘Careers Champions’ and will be running their own careers activities to inspire their classmates.

Events like this are so important for our city’s young people. Although careers education was traditionally the preserve of secondary schools, we now know that children start to define jobs by gender and rule out certain career routes long before they leave primary school. Socio-economic background is also a huge influencing factor, meaning that some children are closing down their options from a very young age. Joanne and I are committed to ensuring that all young Londoners feel excited and prepared for the world of work, making the most of all the opportunities that our city can offer.

The First Mayor’s London Scientists.

On 20 April, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney welcomed the first cohort of Mayor’s London Scientists to City Hall. Year 9 students have developed projects to meet London’s environmental challenges through Imperial College's Schools Challenge programme. As part of my pledge to encourage more young Londoners into STEM, I have provided funding through my [Mayor’s London Scientist](#) programme. This enables students to

achieve the CREST Award – the top nationally recognised accreditation scheme for STEM project work.

World leaders and young Londoner’s debate gender equality at City Hall

On 18 April, I welcomed the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, and the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, to City Hall to be questioned by young Londoners on gender equality.

Students from secondary schools in Lewisham, Southwark and Haringey discussed feminism and issues affecting young people at a workshop run by the Fawcett Society, before they took part in a Q&A session with me and the two Prime Ministers.

The event was part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, which celebrates 100 years since the first women secured the right to vote in the UK. Both Canada and New Zealand have led the way in universal suffrage and celebrating diversity, and both Prime Minister Trudeau and Prime Minister Ardern are well known for their work to improve gender equality.

It was both Prime Ministers’ first official engagement on their UK trip. Their attendance preceded the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, where leaders from all the member countries gathered in London and Windsor to reaffirm their common values, address the shared global challenges and agree how to work to create a better future for all our citizens, particularly young people. I was delighted to host them at City Hall and share London’s successes.

TfL Schools Challenge

On 9 March, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney spoke at the finals of the TfL Schools Challenge “Innovate TfL in association with Cleshar” in the Year of the Engineer. The competition is for students attending sixth form or college to present innovative solutions to address the Mayor’s priority to improve London’s transport.

Communities and Social Policy

Citizenship Integration Initiative (CII)

In April, we welcomed new 2018-2019 Citizenship and Integration Initiative (CII) Secondees from civil society organisations, who will be working at City Hall for the next year. The CII is a partnership between City Hall and civil society which delivers activities through a pooled fund, supported by the Mayor and several independent trusts and foundations. The CII’s 2017-2018 achievements include raising the profile of young Londoners with insecure status among policy makers, schools and local authorities; and piloting of new approaches to citizenship ceremonies.

Stephen Lawrence Anniversary reception

On 23 April, I was privileged to host Baroness Doreen Lawrence and her family here at City Hall to celebrate the life and legacy of Stephen Lawrence. The reception was held in partnership with the Stephen Lawrence Trust, and a film co-produced by City Hall’s Peer Outreach Team was shown as part of the programme.

Older Londoners stakeholder meeting

On 23 April, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement Matthew Ryder hosted a meeting with groups representing older Londoners to discuss engaging with them and older Londoners, particularly on the soon-to-be-launched Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.

Community meeting on serious youth violence.

On 18 April, I hosted a roundtable exploring what's working tackling the underlying drivers of serious youth violence, and how the GLA, MOPAC and other key players can work more closely with the community in the future on these issues. The event was attended by well over 100 community and grassroots organisations working on the frontline to tackle this issue.

Windrush Generation and Commonwealth citizens

On 17 April, I wrote to the Prime Minister to outline my concerns with regards to the treatment of Commonwealth citizens living in the UK. Everyone who holds legal rights to live here should be legally recognised and able to access their rights, and in my letter, I asked that the situation be resolved quickly and fairly.

Social Integration Strategy

On 16 March, I launched [All of Us: The Mayor's Strategy for Social Integration](#) which sets out a range of programmes and initiatives designed to improve social integration in London. Improving social integration means helping Londoners to build meaningful and lasting relationships with each other. It involves supporting them to be active in their communities and to play a part in the decisions that affect them. It also means reducing barriers and inequalities, so that Londoners can relate to each other as equals.

The London Family Fund

On 16 March, I launched The London Family Fund, offering £600,000 over three years to improve social networks, reduce isolation and bring families with young children together. The London Family Fund provides grants of up to £85,000 to innovative projects that promote social integration in London.

European Londoners Advice Portal

In March, I announced plans to launch a new online portal to make it easier for European Londoners to get the information they need to secure their status in the UK after Brexit. The [new webpage](#) will signpost European Londoners to information about their rights post-Brexit and direct those most at risk to expert legal advice, support services and guidance.

Health

London's Child Obesity Taskforce

I'm delighted to have appointed Paul Lindley as chair of London's Child Obesity Taskforce. Paul's passion for improving the health and wellbeing of children is both inspiring and

infectious and will provide just the momentum needed to take on this challenge. His exceptional track record as an entrepreneur and campaigner is very impressive and I'm confident he'll do a fantastic job.

I'm also excited to welcome Corinna Hawkes to the taskforce as vice-chair. As one of the world's leading academics on obesity, she will be an invaluable asset to the team.

The London's Child Obesity Taskforce, with the support of partners including Guy's and St Thomas' Charity, will focus on tackling the capital's childhood obesity epidemic head on – ensuring that all young Londoners are able to thrive and lead happy, healthy lives.

NHS leaders' meetings

On 23 March I met Jane Cummings, Chief Nurse for England and Regional Director for NHS England (London), where we discussed NHS performance and devolution. On 19 April I met the chair and Garrett Emmerson CEO of the London Ambulance Service, where we discussed a range of NHS issues including ambulance handovers at London's A&E departments and other LAS performance issues. These are regular meetings with NHS leaders which I use as an opportunity to champion and challenge the work they do for Londoners.

London Health Board

On 19 April, I chaired the quarterly meeting of the London Health Board. The Board considered options to further increase the transparency of its proceedings. Following final approval at the June meeting, arrangements will be made to webcast meetings and publish agenda, papers and minutes - except for FOI-exempt information. This will begin from the first Board meeting following the public meeting of the London Health board scheduled for October 2018.

The Board also considered Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Schools and requested a mapping exercise of current provision to be undertaken and the conclusions be fed into local plans. Ahead of this the Board was keen to build involvement of young people and promote the range of effective, evidence-based apps such as NHS Go.

The Board also received an update setting out the Strategic Partnership Board's (SPB) proposed priority themes and outline work programme, highlighting in particular the themes of integration, estates and transformation funding and sought the Board's views on prioritisation. The agendas, papers and minutes of the SPB meetings are made public on the Healthy London Partnership website.

Members also gave their views on the draft programme for the London Health Board's public conference which will be held in October 2018.

Thrive Greenwich

On 23 March, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, visited Greenwich Borough Council to support the launch of Thrive Greenwich; a local approach to the citywide movement Thrive LDN.

Healthy Schools London

On 13 March, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, visited Snowfields Primary School, LB Southwark to congratulate them on their fantastic work as part of my Healthy Schools London programme. They have achieved bronze and silver awards for their work on pupils' mental health, emotional literacy and increasing levels of confidence and self-esteem.

On 21 March, Joanne McCartney visited Byron Court Primary School in London Borough of Brent to congratulate them on their fantastic work as part of my Healthy Schools London programme. They have achieved bronze and silver awards for their work on pupils' physical activity, encouraging pupils to take part in the Daily Mile, and oral health promotion.

Team London and Volunteering

Team London Major Events – London Marathon

My volunteering team, Team London, provided 151 volunteers in 8 locations to support the smooth running of the London Marathon. Volunteers were on hand to provide route maps, answer questions from spectators and cheer on marathon runners. Team London has also provided volunteer opportunities at The Boat Race, The St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival, the Trafalgar Square Games Festival and The Feast of St. George.

I was also pleased to support two teams of firefighters from the London Fire Brigade who ran the London Marathon. The teams from Paddington and North Kensington fire stations, who were among the first to attend the Grenfell Tower fire, have raised almost £150,000 for Grenfell community charities. Congratulations to them and all those who took part in the event.

Team London/Thrive LDN grants

On 4 April, Team London hosted a monitoring and evaluation workshop with the community and voluntary sector organisations who have received grant funding through my Team London/Thrive LDN grants. The grants are funded in partnership with #Iwill and Step Up to Serve. The event gave groups the opportunity to discuss challenges and opportunities around output and outcome measurement and understand the overall theory of change for the programme of work.

HeadStart Action

On 28 March, Team London and The Challenge hosted an event which allowed young people from Ark Globe Academy the chance to present their social action projects. This marked the completion of the first phase of the HeadStart Action pilot in Southwark, supported by Lendlease. HeadStart Action is a geographic and demographic focused personal and social development programme. It is targeted at young people who are at risk of becoming NEET and require greater support to be in education, employment or training.

Forces for London

On 22 March, I launched our new employment support programme for veterans and early service leavers. The programme is co-funded by the European Social Fund and the GLA, and delivered in partnership with Team London and RFEA: The Forces Employment Charity. Forces for London will help 200 veterans and early service leavers to access high quality volunteering opportunities and employability training. This will provide them with the skills, confidence and experience needed for the world of work. By 2020, 100 veterans will have been supported to enter sustained employment, education or training.

Team London Ambassadors programme

On 21 March, I launched the recruitment drive for my 2018 Team London Ambassador Programme. Every summer, hundreds of Team London Ambassadors welcome tourists at destinations around the city. Known as London's 'friendly face', they show the world the best our city has to offer. This year, we are focusing on recruiting volunteers from diverse backgrounds, younger volunteers and those with disabilities. We are pleased to have received over 300 applications and look forward to welcoming these new volunteers to join our established community of Ambassadors – many of whom have been volunteering with the programme since its inception in 2012.

Culture and Events

Vaisakhi 2018

On 28 April I attended Vaisakhi on Trafalgar Square, which was delivered together with representatives from across the Sikh community. The stage programme, hosted by BBC Asian Network's Harpz Kaur, was filled with the best of Sikh culture and heritage. This included world-class musicians leading the dharmic and Gurbani kirtan music-making, Lehmbur Hussainpuri, London's own Golden Roots and Qi-Rattan. Younger performers included Manvir Singh Mani, who made the 2017 final of Voice of Punjab and Karanjit Singh from Dharam Seva records.

Highlighting my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, Vaisakhi also shone a light on great female figures of Sikh history, including the role played by Princess Sophia Alexandra Duleep Singh in the Suffrage Movement 100 years ago.

Over 200 volunteers from the Sikh community supported the event, which focussed on Seva, Kirtan and langar (free meal), to create a day that was inclusive for both Sikhs and non-Sikhs alike.

Fourth Plinth Schools Award Ceremony

On 26 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, hosted the Fourth Plinth Schools Awards Ceremony at City Hall. This annual competition invites London's primary and secondary schoolchildren to create artworks inspired by the commissions for the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square. With more than 3,800 entries by almost 4,500 students, this has been another record year for the competition. Once again, London's

school children have astounded us with their originality and imagination. London's teachers have shown extraordinary commitment in helping students realise their creative visions.

Unveiling of Millicent Fawcett by Gillian Wearing on Parliament Square

On 24 April I held the public unveiling of the first statue of a woman on Parliament Square; that of suffragist leader Millicent Fawcett. Created by Turner Prize-winning artist Gillian Wearing OBE, this historic statue is also the first created by a woman to stand within the Square.

Marking 100 years since some women received the vote, the statue was unveiled by three generations of women - Jennifer Loehnis, a close relative of Millicent Fawcett; campaigner and activist Caroline Criado Perez OBE; Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE; artist Theresa Lola; and Agatha and Precious, schoolgirls from Millbank Academy, Westminster and Platanos College, Lambeth. The event was attended by several thousand and broadcast live on national and international media, and was a key moment in my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign.

Feast of St George – 21 April 2018

On Saturday 21 April, I attended our annual Feast of St George event at Trafalgar Square, in celebration of St George's Day for England's patron saint, and inspired by its 13th century origins as a national day of feasting. The day was very much in the English tradition of fetes and festivals, and included a programme of traditional and modern music and entertainment enjoyed by a diverse audience of Londoners and visitors. The event brings into a focus England's amazing heritage, culture and creativity, and also how the flag of St George can be a positive symbol, with people of all ages and backgrounds enjoying the opportunity to wave a flag and join in the fun. I was pleased to see the flag raised outside City Hall in the week leading up to St George's Day on 23 April.

The event included a stage programme of traditional and contemporary artists with content that reflected the theme of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, just a few days before the Millicent Fawcett statue was unveiled on Parliament Square. Amongst the acts on stage were Pop London, a band whose performance celebrated great UK contemporary female artists, and the Player's Theatre, whose Victorian Music Hall show celebrated female stars of a hundred years ago, at a time when women were campaigning for the vote. The Players' Theatre show included special guest artist Anita Harris, who has had a long and successful career in music, theatre, film and TV.

I'm incredibly proud to have hosted Feast of St George in Trafalgar Square, England is at its best when we both honour our heritage and embrace our future. For me, St George's Day is about the phenomenal history of this country but is also about celebrating our modern diversity and the many different ways we can all feel proud to be English.

New Chair and Vice Chair of the London Night Time Commission appointed

On 12 April, I appointed Kate Nicholls as the new Chair of the London Night Time Commission. Kate is an existing member of the Commission and brings sound expertise to the role. She is CEO of UK Hospitality and has an excellent track record working with business, government and public authorities.

I want to ensure that London can thrive as a vibrant 24-hour city. Kate's appointment will ensure continuity in the important work of the London Night Time Commission. I look forward to receiving their final report and recommendations later this year.

Meetings with Lisbon's Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Mayor of Bogota

On 9 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, welcomed Lisbon's Deputy Mayor for Culture, Catarina Vaz Pinto to City Hall. The meeting strengthened relationships between our two cities, shared learning from cultural initiatives from both cities and reaffirm Lisbon's active participation in the World Cities Culture Forum initiative.

On 10 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, met with Enrique Peñalosa, Mayor of Bogota, to discuss the cultural challenges facing Bogota and London, share learnings around my Creative Enterprise Zones programme and re-activate Bogota's participation in the World Cities Culture Forum initiative.

Olivier Awards Ceremony

On 8 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE attended the Olivier Awards at the Royal Albert Hall. The event foregrounded London's theatre talent and ongoing success, with David Lan, the outgoing director of London's Young Vic Theatre, receiving an Outstanding Contribution to Theatre Award. Individual awards were won by actors Bryan Cranston, Sheila Atim, Michael Jibson and Laura Donnelly, and by The Ferryman's director Sam Mendes and its writer Jez Butterworth, all for outstanding work taking place the capital. *Hamilton*, the hip hop musical now showing in the West End, won 7 awards from 13 nominations. The Time's Up campaign against sexual harassment against women in theatre took centre stage throughout the evening.

London Games Festival 2018

On 5 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, opened this year's London Games Festival at Somerset House alongside Somerset House's Chief Executive Jonathan Reekie. Justine confirmed my ongoing support providing £1.2 million to deliver three further festivals until 2021 as part of a wider package called Games London. This support funds the UK's only Games Production Finance Market which will deliver an estimated £40 million of new investment into video games over the next three years. The programme will also deliver trade missions and inbound trips for overseas investors. The UK is currently the fifth largest country for games production in the world. The three-year investment package shines a spotlight on the capital's world class games talent.

Visit to Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts and South London Gallery

On 4 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, visited the site of the new Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts school and community venue. Mountview were successful in their bid for Good Growth funding from my Regeneration team, to relocate from Tottenham to Peckham. The site is due to open in late 2018. The new building will be a state of the art public building for education and culture.

Justine also visited the new Fire Station development on Peckham Road, which will become an additional public space for South London Gallery, bringing this derelict fire station back into use and preserving its heritage. It has also been funded through my London Regeneration

Fund. The project, which is due to open later this year, will increase South London Gallery's community outreach work through expanded programmes for children and young people, focusing on training, apprentice and volunteering opportunities.

Fourth Plinth unveiling

On 28 March I unveiled 'The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist' by Michael Rakowitz on the Fourth Plinth – the world's most famous public art platform. This is the 12th work to appear on the Fourth Plinth since the commissioning programme began in 1998, and will be on display for free to the public until March 2020.

The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist is a project that Rakowitz started in 2006 through which the artist is attempting to recreate over 7,000 objects looted from the Iraq Museum or destroyed at archaeological sites across the country in the aftermath of the Iraq war. For the Fourth Plinth, Rakowitz has recreated the Lamassu, a winged bull and protective deity that stood at the entrance to Nergal Gate of Nineveh (near modern day Mosul) from c 700 B.C, until it was destroyed by ISIS in 2015.

LSO Trafalgar Square Concert launch

On 27 March my Night Czar, Amy Lamé, spoke at the launch event for the London Symphony Orchestra's annual free concert on Trafalgar Square, the first with new LSO conductor Sir Simon Rattle at the helm. This event allows thousands of Londoners and visitors to experience world-class music-making in the heart of the city for free. It also gives talented young musicians involved in the orchestra's education work the chance to perform alongside professional musicians.

Draft Culture Strategy presented to the London Assembly Economy Committee

On 26 March, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE attended the London Assembly Economy Committee, chaired by Caroline Russell to discuss my draft Culture Strategy: *Culture for all Londoners*. The Deputy Mayor was accompanied by Ben Evans, CEO of the London Design Festival and Chair of my Cultural Leadership Board and Shonagh Manson, Assistant Director for my Culture and Creative Industries team. Additional panel members included Sharon Ament, Director of Museum of London and member of my cultural Leadership Board, Jenny Waldman CBE, Director of 14-18 NOW, and Councillor Clare Coghill, Leader of the London Borough of Waltham Forest.

Launch of my draft Culture Strategy and Culture Seeds

On 23 March, I launched my draft Culture Strategy, *Culture for All Londoners*, for public consultation with my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE and Ben Evans, Chair of my Cultural Leadership Board, at Battersea Arts Centre in Wandsworth. With a welcome from David Jubb, Battersea Arts Centre's Artistic Director and Chief Executive, the event included performances from a Community Choir and Beatbox Academy. Consultation on the draft Culture Strategy is open until 19 June during which time my Culture and Creative Industries team will consult widely across London and the sector.

I also launched my new £1million micro grant programme, Culture Seeds. This two-year rolling fund will support community-led grassroots cultural activities by individuals and groups, prioritising those who have not previously benefited from public funding.

Dagenham Film Studios

On 23 March, Darren Rodwell, Leader of Barking and Dagenham Council, and member of my Cultural Leadership Board announced the preferred bidder for the construction and operation of the proposed Dagenham Film Studios. I supported the feasibility study of these new facilities, the largest studios to be built in London for the past 25 years. This study showed that the studios could generate around 780 full-time jobs in the local area and generate £35m each year for the UK economy.

Sounds Like London campaign launched

On 23 March, I announced Sounds Like London. This new campaign will take place in June 2018 and encourage audiences to visit their local grassroots music venues and will promote the capital's emerging female talent. Grassroots venues are the foundation of London's multi-billion-pound music industry and are the talent incubator that feeds our success as a leading world music city. Sounds Like London will be a month of high profile and grassroots music gigs and special events. It will also support my Behind Every Great City campaign, highlighting the vital role women play in the music industry's success.

#London United anniversary tribute to Westminster, London Bridge, Finsbury Park and Parsons Green attacks

Londoners will never forget the innocent lives lost in the horrific terror attacks in our city in 2017, nor the bravery of our emergency services and first responders who ran towards danger while urging the rest of us to run to safety. Following consultation with bereaved families, survivors and others, we announced plans to mark the anniversaries of each of the attacks on London last year. On 22nd March we marked the first anniversary of the attack in Westminster by projecting #LondonUnited on to the Houses of Parliament. #LondonUnited will be projected on to London Bridge, Finsbury Park Mosque and Parsons Green Tube station on the anniversary of each terrorist attack.

I also laid a wreath at Parliament Square in remembrance of those who lost their lives, and opened a 3D installation of #LondonUnited together with a digital book of hope at City Hall where members of the public can pay their respects. Any messages of strength, hope and resilience using #LondonUnited on social media will be projected onto a map of London at City Hall until 19 June. I hope #LondonUnited will help people to come together and remember those who were killed and injured, to show solidarity and support for their families and friends and the people whose lives have been affected by these tragic attacks.

Announcement of 10 development grants for Creative Enterprise Zones

On 20 March, I announced the eleven boroughs who will receive a share of my £500,000 fund to develop bids to become a Creative Enterprise Zone, enabling artists and creative business to put down roots in local areas. 25 boroughs applied for grants. Barking and Dagenham, Bexley, Camden, Croydon, Harrow, Hounslow, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Hackney, and Haringey, through their existing Tottenham Pathfinder research, have been selected to develop their bids. I will announce up to three Creative Enterprise Zones awards in autumn 2018.

St Patrick's Day Festival and Parade – 16-18 March 2018

I was delighted to host London's three day London St. Patrick's Day Festival, from 16-18 March, which was an opportunity for Londoners and visitors to the capital to immerse themselves in Irish culture at its best.

This year, as part of my #BehindEveryGreatCity campaign, the event celebrated the achievements of Irish women in London, with Irish icons Gloria Hunniford and Imelda Staunton joining me at the head of the parade surrounded by leading Irish women in London.

I spoke from the main stage at Trafalgar Square, and it was great to see people from all communities celebrating together, showing that London is truly open – to people, business and new ideas.

Other activities during the celebrations included an all-women Irish music trail; guided walks highlighting Irish women in London; celebrated Irish artist Pauline Bewick exhibiting in City Hall; and cinemas around the West End screening the very best of Irish cinema.

Into Film Awards

On 13 March, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the Into Film Awards 2018. Justine presented Suzanne Cohen from Summer University with the award for Educator of the Year. Into Film aims to give every child aged 5-19 in the UK the chance to experience film creatively.

The Mayor's busking competition is open for entries

Gigs, in association with Gibson, is now open for entries. My annual busking competition has helped hundreds of aspiring musicians. It is free to enter and participants receive mentoring from industry professional before taking to the streets to showcase their talents. Competitors are supported by the Gigs team as they perform to thousands of members of the public. The grand finalists will battle it out for a range of prizes and opportunities. Applications will close on 10 June.

Sport and Olympic and Paralympic Legacy

Launch of Sport Unites

On 21 March, I launched my new, multi-million-pound flagship community sports programme, Sport Unites. Sport Unites aims to harness the power of sport to make London the most active and socially integrated city in the world. The programme will invest in initiatives that use sport to bring people from different backgrounds together, strengthen local communities and improve the physical and mental health of all Londoners.

Launch of London Together Fund

As part of Sport Unites, I launched The London Together Fund in partnership with Comic Relief. The London Together Fund project is matched funded by Comic Relief and totals £3m over three years. The fund will offer large grants, investing in initiatives that use sport to

improve social integration across London. Grants of £25,000 to £150,000 to support projects that:

- reduce isolation and loneliness
- bring together people from different backgrounds to reduce prejudice, negative stereotyping and increase trust
- increase opportunities to support Londoners into work, employment and training
- provide opportunities for Londoners from all backgrounds to volunteer

The fund is currently open for applications and the deadline for submissions is 16th May.

The London Stadium

The London Stadium continued to stage Premier League matches with West Ham United playing games against Burnley (10 March), Southampton (31 March) and Manchester City (29 April) games. Following crowd unrest at the Burnley match significant additional stewarding was put in place with the other matches passing off without incident.

On 24 March, the London Stadium also hosted an Aviva Premiership Rugby match between Saracens and Harlequins in front of a capacity crowd.

A topping out ceremony was held for the third school to be built on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park since the London 2012 Games. The Bobby Moore Academy secondary school is located to the south of the London Stadium and is due to open its doors to Year 7 and 8 pupils in September.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

On 21 March, OPDC received news that the Corporation, working alongside GLA, is shortlisted for the Government's Housing Infrastructure Fund.

On 19 March, I published the Greater London Authority (GLA) Group gender pay gap report. Across GLA Group and OPDC has a gender pay gap of minus 20.66 per cent.

Planning

Planning and Development Control 06 March 2018 to 24 April 2018

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Barnet House, Whetstone, 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.

150 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.

Camden Goods Yard, Chalk Farm, 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.

New Avenue Estate, LB Enfield

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

Woolwich Polytechnic School for Girls, RB Greenwich

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

The Hurlingham Club, Parsons Green, 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.

Land at Haringey Heartlands, Hornsey, LB Haringey

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

Tottenham Hale Bus Station, LB Haringey

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

Harrow View West, Harrow, LB Harrow

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

Dukes Meadows, Chiswick, 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.

Former Morrisons, Cavendish Parade, Hounslow, 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.

Morrison's Supermarket, 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.

Newcombe House, Notting Hill Gate, RB Kensington and Chelsea

I have written to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea stating that I will act as the local planning authority for the purposes of determining the planning application.

London Television Centre, Southbank, 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.

UCL East, Stratford, 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.

Former Co-op Site, 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.

Land to the rear of 1-51 Peckham High Street, LB Southwark

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

Former Southwark Fire Station, Southwark Bridge Road, LB Southwark

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

18 Blackfriars Road, Southwark, LB Southwark

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

former Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, LB Tower Hamlets

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

The Mall, Walthamstow, LB Waltham Forest

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

Palmerston Court, Battersea Park Road, 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.

Springfield Hospital, Tooting, 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.

Airwork House, 33-35 Piccadilly, 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 1 referrals)

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

- Pentavia Retail Park, Watford Way, Mill Hill, LB Barnet
- Colindale Telephone Exchange, Colindale, LB Barnet
- European Design Centre, Colindale, LB Barnet
- 6-10 Sherman Road, Bromley North, LB Bromley
- 10A Sherman Road, Bromley North, LB Bromley
- Langley Court, Beckenham, LB Bromley

- 2-6 St Pancras Way, Kings Cross, LB Camden
- 100 & 106-107 Leadenhall Street, City of London
- Selhurst Park Stadium, Selhurst, LB Croydon
- Land at Belgrave Road and Grosvenor Road, South Norwood, LB Croydon
- Belvue School, Northolt, LB Ealing
- School Evershed Sports Ground, Elthorne, LB Ealing
- The Chocolate Factory and Parma House, Wood Green, LB Haringey
- Land at Harmondsworth, Holloway Close, West Drayton, LB Hillingdon
- St John's School, Northwood, LB Hillingdon
- Heythrop College, Kensington Square, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Ladbroke Grove, 321-335 Kensal Road, Ladbroke Grove, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Triangle Site, Royal Dock, LB Newham
- 49-53 Glengall Road, Peckham, LB Southwark
- 5 Mandela Way, Walworth, LB Southwark
- 1-5 Paris Gardens and 16-19 Hatfields, Southwark, LB Southwark
- St George's Quarter, Elephant and Castle, LB Southwark
- 313-349 Ilderton Road, Old Kent Road, LB Southwark
- One Neathouse Place, Victoria, City of Westminster
- Whiteley's Shopping Centre, Bayswater, City of Westminster
- Queensway Parade, Bayswater, City of Westminster
- 268-282 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Victoria, City of Westminster
- 40 Broadway, St James's Park, City of Westminster

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- Gallions 3B, Magellan Boulevard, Gallions Reach, LB Newham

Planning Decisions (Stopping Up Order)

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

- Chester Gate, Regent's Park, LB Camden

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Ashmole Primary School, LB Barnet
- Hanson Quarry Products Europe Ltd, LB Bexley
- Crayford Materials Recycling Facility, LB Bexley
- Foreshore from Allhallows Lane, City of London
- 3-5 Norwich Street, City of London
- Sherwood Close Estate, LB Ealing
- Land Bounded by Deptford Creek, RB Greenwich
- Licensed Facility No. 3, Tripcock Point, RB Greenwich
- Inert Waste Recycling and Storage Facility, Tripcock Point, RB Greenwich

- 276 Bath Road, LB Hillingdon
- Land at Clockhouse Lane, LB Hounslow
- Railway Embankment adj 351 Caledonian Road, LB Islington
- Lancer Square and 10-14 Old Court Place, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Land at Marshgate Lane, London Legacy Development Corporation
- London Fruit and Wool Exchange, LB Tower Hamlets
- Leicester Square, City of Westminster
- Runnymede 2030 Draft Local Plan Consultation, Runnymede Borough Council
- Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Proposed Submission, Huntingdonshire District Council
- St Albans Local Plan Consultation 2018, St Albans City and District Council
- Bracknell Forest Draft Local Plan Consultation, Bracknell Forest Borough Council

Key Engagements

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

- I visited the Central School of Speech and Drama on 9 March to launch my new strategy to tackle Violence Against Women and Girls
- I attended the Excellence in Policing Awards Ceremony on 9 March
- I attended the launch of the GMB's Making It Campaign to support UK Manufacturing on 14 March
- I met with the Rt Hon David Gauke MP, the Lord Chancellor & Minister for Justice, on 14 March to discuss London criminal justice devolution
- I attended a Knife Crime Roundtable hosted by the Home Secretary on 14 March
- I attended the launch of the King's Commission on London final report at City Hall on 15 March
- I chaired the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) Board meeting on 15 March
- I attended the unveiling of the plaque in memory of Makram Ali on 15 March
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 15 March
- I visited Mumspace at St Michael's and All Angels Church in Southwark on 16 March to launch my Social Integration Strategy
- I addressed the St Patrick's Day Festival on Trafalgar Square on 18 March
- I visited the new TfL rapid charge point on Southwark Street on 19 March to launch the new Rapid Charging Point Network
- I met with Mike Brown, the Transport Commissioner, ahead of the Transport for London Board Meeting, on 19 March
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 19 March
- I attended AC Rowley's retirement reception at New Scotland Yard on 19 March
- I chaired the Transport for London Board meeting on 20 March
- I hosted a media reception at City Hall on 20 March
- I visited the Peckham Harris Academy on 21 March to launch the Sport Unites Programme with Comic Relief
- I addressed the Chinese Investor Spring Reception taking place at City Hall on 21 March

- I signed the digital Book of Hope being hosted at City Hall on 22 March to mark the anniversary of the Westminster terror attack
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 22 March
- I attended the Memorial Service for PC Keith Palmer at St Mary's Undercroft at the Houses of Parliament on 22 March
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 22 March
- I visited Battersea Arts Centre on 23 March to launch my draft Culture Strategy and to launch Culture Seeds, the new micro grants programme for culture
- I had my regular meeting with Professor Jane Cummings, Regional Director, NHS England (London), on 23 March
- I met with Baroness Brady, Vice-Chair West Ham FC, on 26 March to discuss the Olympic Stadium
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 26 March
- I visited the AB Foundry in Poplar on 27 March
- I had my regular meeting with AC Neil Basu on 27 March to discuss policing and security
- I unveiled the 12th commission for the Fourth Plinth, by Iraqi American artist Michael Rakowitz called The Invisible Enemy Should Not Exist, on Trafalgar Square on 28 March
- I met with Keith Prince AM and representatives from Redbridge and Havering on 28 March to discuss Islamic burial provision in London
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board on 28 March
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner on 29 March
- I attended the Dulwich Hamlet v Dorking Wanderers football match taking place at Tooting & Mitcham FC in Morden on 30 March
- I attended the Night to Honour Ian Rush on 30 March
- I visited Tottenham on 6 April
- I attended a Serious Violence Roundtable chaired by the Home Secretary on 9 April
- I met with the Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP, the Home Secretary, on 9 April to discuss violent crime
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 9 April
- I hosted a Violent Crime Summit at City Hall on 10 April
- I attended a Gun & Knife Crime Roundtable at the House of Commons on 10 April
- I had my regular meeting with representatives from the South-East Region TUC on 10 April
- I visited Croydon on 11 April to take part in a weapon sweep
- I addressed the GLA Unison AGM on 11 April
- I appeared before the Police & Crime Committee on 11 April
- I had my regular meeting with Cllr Claire Kober, Leader of London Councils, on 12 April
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 12 April
- I attended a community meeting in Hackney on 12 April
- I had a meeting with George Clarke on 13 April to discuss the Mayor's Construction Academy
- I addressed the Annual Ceremony of Yom HaShoah taking place this year in Hyde Park on 15 April
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 16 April

- I had an introductory meeting with President Nana Akufo-Addo, President of Ghana, and Adjei Sowah, Mayor of Accra, on 17 April
- I had a meeting with the Citizenship & Integration Initiative Secondees working at City Hall on 17 April
- I chaired the Mayor's Business Advisory Board meeting on 18 April
- I had an introductory meeting with the Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand, on 18 April
- I hosted a Town Hall meeting with the Rt Hon Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, and the Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand, at City Hall on 18 April
- I hosted a community meeting on Serious Youth Violence at City Hall on 18 April
- I attended the formal opening of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at Buckingham Palace on 19 April
- I chaired the London Health Board on 19 April
- I had my regular meeting with the London Ambulance Service on 19 April
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 19 April
- I addressed the Feast of St George Festival in Trafalgar Square on 21 April
- I attended HRH The Queen's Birthday Party Concert at the Royal Albert Hall on 21 April
- I attended the Stephen Lawrence 25th Anniversary Memorial Service at St Martins in the Fields on 23 April
- I hosted a reception at City Hall for the Stephen Lawrence Trust on 23 April
- I attended the unveiling of the Millicent Fawcett Statue in Parliament Square Gardens on 24 April
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 24 April
- I met with the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, the Secretary of State for Transport, on 25 April to discuss transport in London.
- I had my regular meeting with the Transport Unions on 25 April
- I had my regular meeting with AC Neil Basu on 25 April to discuss policing and security
- I had my regular meeting with Craig Mackey, the Deputy Police Commissioner, on 26 April
- I attended the first meeting of the Serious Violence Taskforce, convened by the Home Secretary, on 26 April
- I addressed the SERTUC Regional Council & AGM taking place at Congress House on 28 April
- I addressed the Vaisakhi Festival on Trafalgar Square on 28 April
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 30 April
- I met with the Rt Hon David Davis, the Secretary of State for Exiting the EU, on 30 April to discuss the implications of the vote to leave the EU
- I visited a London Living Rent case study in Newham on 30 April
- I attended the London Press Club Annual Press Awards on 1 May and gave a posthumous award to PC Keith Palmer
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 1 May
- I had my regular update with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 2 May on the work of the Violent Crime Taskforce

Ends