

2nd Mayor's Report to the Assembly Mayor's Question Time 24th June 2021

This is my second report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 14th May 2021 – 10th June 2021.

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

Executive Summary

Covid-19 and Recovery update

We continue to see a steady increase in infection rates in London with the dominant strain being the Delta variant of concern, first identified in India. Thankfully currently this is not translating into an increase in hospital admissions.

Londoners have done so much to suppress the virus over the last year, and we need to collectively continue to follow the rules to keep our communities safe. This includes getting a vaccine when offered one – we know this is our best form of defence to protect ourselves, our loved ones and the NHS.

In some boroughs where the Delta variant has been detected, we are asking people to come forward to be tested. This is understandably worrying if you live in these areas, but this is an important tool in helping us recover and ensuring those that test positive isolate, helping stop the spread. If you are asked to take a test, please do so without delay.

I'm continuing to work with partners across London, doing everything we can to continue our cautious steps to reopening. I want to thank Londoners again for their hard work and all the sacrifices they have made over the past year – we are nearly there.

The London Recovery Board met for the first time in the new Mayoral term on 3rd June. The Board received an update from PHE and the NHS on the rollout of the vaccine and rate of infection in London, and discussed some of the issues partners are facing as London begins to reopen.

London's economic recovery is at a pivotal moment. The capital is now reopening, bringing relief for many businesses, but the end of Government support in the autumn has the potential to cause a further jobs and skills crisis across London. The recovery partnership, including boroughs, the GLA, sub regional partnerships and London Councils, set out priority areas for intervention at the Board meeting, based on the latest analysis of impacts on London's economy and labour market.

The Board agreed a series of short-term actions to address the crisis, including: targeted support for the CAZ, building on our Let's Do London campaign; making the case for targeted support for communities affected by pressures on the aviation, tourism and hospitality sectors; and the expansion of the Academies Programme to include the Hospitality sector. Longer-term actions are proposed, including reviewing business and employment support to ensure we are addressing any gaps, and the creation of an infrastructure framework.

Progress on the Anchor Institutions Charter was also presented to the Board. This programme brings the city's biggest organisations together to create new jobs, to provide pathways to jobs that pay at least the London Living Wage, to buy more goods and services from small businesses, and to provide more opportunities for local young people out of work, education or training. The programme team will continue to seek new signatories to the charter, and work with partners to put in place more interventions to support this approach.

We also need to continue to ensure that our work on London's recovery prioritises fairness and that the nine recovery missions narrow social, economic and health inequalities. I'm not prepared to accept that structural inequalities are inevitable or that we are powerless to do anything about them. It is for that reason that I proposed at this month's London Recovery Board that a new subgroup on inequalities meets to drive this forward, tracking our progress as we build back better.

London Blossom Garden

On 24 May, I was immensely proud to join with some of our capital's key workers to officially open the London Blossom Garden which will be a lasting living memorial in recognition of the impact that COVID has had, and continues to have, on our city. I also announced the first phase of a new bereavement support programme to help grieving Londoners.

I was joined by Hilary McGrady, Director General of the National Trust and representatives from across the key worker sector including NHS, TfL, LFB, MPS and other frontline roles to open the new public garden at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The ceremony was hosted by Gardeners' World presenter Arit Anderson who collaborated on the project with the landscape architects Davis White. There was a poetry reading by Jay Bernard and performance by the London International Gospel Choir which beautifully reflected the mood of the event.

This new garden has been designed to be a place to contemplate and reflect on the impact of the pandemic, honour the vital efforts of key workers and remember those who have died. It has been created in partnership with the National Trust and with support from Bloomberg and features 33 blossom trees to represent all London boroughs and the City of London. The garden is the first and flagship site in a series of national blossom plantings in towns and cities across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

It continues to be an incredibly difficult time for Londoners as we battle the virus, and I want all those who have experienced loss to know that there is support available to them. Nothing will make losing someone you love any easier, but we want Londoners to know they are not alone. We are here for you, as a city.

TfL Funding Update

On 1st June it was announced that an agreement had been reached with the Government which extends its financial support to TfL to 11 December 2021.

The latest funding agreement with the Government provides £1.08bn in base funding and further support should our passenger revenue income be lower than forecast until 11 December 2021 to enable TfL to continue to run near full levels of service to stimulate London's recovery and deliver a host of improvements like the Elizabeth line, Northern line extension and expansion of London Overground.

I have tried to build bridges with the Government as this is in the best interest of Londoners and our businesses. I want to be honest with Londoners – this is not the deal we wanted, but we have fought hard to get it to the best place possible and to ensure we can continue to run vital transport services at this crucial time for our city.

After some extremely tough negotiations, we have successfully managed to see off the worst of the conditions the Government wanted to impose on London, which would not only have required huge cuts to transport services equivalent to cancelling 1 in 5 bus routes or closing a Tube line, but would have hampered London's economic recovery as well as the national recovery.

The conditions placed on us by the Government agreement and the amount of funding we will receive means we need to find a further £900m of savings or new income this year compared to our approved Budget and on top of the £730m of savings already assumed in our Business Plan. We will work through this while protecting front line services to deliver what London needs and to play our full part in recovery, decarbonisation, improving air quality and promoting active travel.

This short-term settlement is yet another sticking plaster so I will seek to work with the Government over the months ahead to agree a longer-term funding deal for TfL that is both fair and right for Londoners and the whole country.

Waterloo and City line reopens ahead of schedule

On Monday 7th June, Transport for London reopened the Waterloo & City line, which connects Waterloo and Bank stations, and has been closed since March last year. It had been due to stay closed until 21st June, but reopened early to boost the capacity of the transport network as London continues to recover from the pandemic.

The Waterloo & City line will run every five minutes Monday to Friday from 06:00 to 10:00 in the morning and 15:30 to 19:00 in the afternoon. This will enable customers to stagger their journeys during the morning and afternoon peak, and add extra capacity for people who are unable to change their working hours and have to travel at these times. Customers should still follow all the Government's advice and when using the network, people are encouraged to travel at quieter times where possible. TfL will continue to monitor demand across the network.

Since March 2020, Waterloo & City line drivers have played an important role in the fight against COVID-19 by supporting the Central line. Using these drivers on the Central line has ensured that TfL could run as many services as possible to enable social distancing.

The line will not only make transport a lot more convenient for people travelling to and from the heart of the City of London, but it will support our businesses in the City that help to drive London and the UK's economy and help our eco-system of retail, hospitality and cultural venues, which are vital to our economic prosperity.

Standing together against hatred and intolerance

I continue to remain in close contact with the Jewish community across our city, who are deeply concerned about a rise in antisemitism stemming from the violence we have seen in the Middle East in recent weeks.

On 21st May I met with the MPS Commissioner where we discussed these concerns, and Londoners will have seen an increased police presence around synagogues and Jewish faith schools. On 26th May, DMPC Sophie Linden and Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, met with the London Jewish Forum to further discuss their concerns and underline our commitment to tackling antisemitism whenever and wherever it is encountered in our city.

We will not allow antisemitism, Islamophobia or any racism in London and I'm determined to do everything I can to stamp it out. The Met Police's zero tolerance approach to hate crime, and the work of partners such as the Community Security Trust, continues to have my full support.

Violent Crime Task Force ride along

On 7th June, I was out on the frontline with MPS Violent Crime Task Force officers in Islington to see for myself the work they're doing to target the most serious offenders and take dangerous weapons off our streets.

I am determined to use all the powers I have to be tough on crime – by supporting our hardworking police officers to keep our city safe – and tough on the complex causes of crime, like poverty, inequality and lack of opportunity.

Our officers work tremendously hard to tackle violence in our city, and I'm pleased that we saw incidents starting to fall before the pandemic hit and that they have continued to do so – with knife crime, gun crime and youth violence all down. But it's clear we still have a lot more to do.

The easing of Covid restrictions and warmer weather has brought fresh challenges, and London's Violence Reduction Unit continues to lead a public health approach to tackling the root causes of crime by reducing school exclusions, helping young people leave criminal gangs and creating more positive opportunities for young Londoners – particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Let's Do London – London Eats

On 17th May, I launched London Eats as part of my Let's Do London campaign – the biggest domestic tourism campaign the capital has ever seen. I kicked off the campaign in Chinatown by visiting Dumplings Legend where I was joined by renowned chefs Angela Hartnett and Monica Galetti.

Later the same week, I participated in the official opening of Eataly, a major new Italian food venue in the City.

London Eats is a celebration of our city's world-beating food and drink offer. I joined up with our famous chefs, foodies and hospitality venues to promote the hospitality industry and encourage Londoners and visitors alike to explore all the delicious things the city has to offer – sharing the places they're most looking forward to getting back to as London comes alive again over the spring and summer on the Visit London website - <https://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/food-and-drink> - and launching a series of tube tannoys across the centre of the capital, with a host of Londoners sharing their favourite foodie hotspots, including football legend Harry Redknapp and paramedic Jennifer Jackson.

Our hospitality businesses, cultural institutions and attractions have suffered greatly during the pandemic, but I'm determined to get the message out to Londoners and people across the

country that our capital stands ready to entertain, inspire and enthral once again. There is no doubt that our capital has the greatest food and drink offer in the world, and I am committed to supporting London's restaurants, businesses and attractions.

Countdown to UEFA EURO 2020

On 4th June, I was thrilled to greet the UEFA EURO 2020 Trophy at Kings Cross Station to welcome the start of the final leg of the Trophy Tour. I was joined by some of our amazing Team London volunteers and talked to media to mark one week to go before the start of the tournament in Rome.

The trophy then went to visit several key local community venues across the capital before finishing its journey at Wembley Stadium. Wembley is set to host eight games as part of the tournament, including England's group stage matches, both semi-finals and the final.

As the countdown to the tournament continued, EURO 2020 in London was celebrated across the city and the TfL network.

Artist David Shrigley updated his original artwork – which launched the Art on the Underground project in 2016 as part of the Mayor's London is Open campaign – to celebrate UEFA EURO 2020. He replaced the globes with footballs to help remind the city and the world that London remains open for everyone and that the capital will celebrate its diversity as one of its key strengths as it reopens for the tournament. The artwork will be on display across the TfL network and at the festival tower in the Football Village at Potters Fields Park.

We also launched a new video to promote the tournament, This Is London. Led by TV sports presenter Seema Jaswal, who will be the lead co-presenter of ITV's UEFA EURO 2020 coverage, it takes viewers on a journey through London – its culture, values, communities – interspersed with football references to demonstrate its power to bring people together. It includes a cameo from Sadiq where he shows off his keepy uppy skills.

Special tannoy announcements by legendary veteran commentator John Motson will be played at five major Tube stations from June 11. The football theme will continue within these Tube stations, with the creation of mock up dug outs at Baker Street and Wembley Park, player tunnels at Paddington and Kings Cross, a corner flag at London Bridge and even a replica pitch at Kings Cross so fans can take photos and post about the EUROS in London on their own social media profiles.

First expanded ULEZ signs installed

On 14th May, I reconfirmed my commitment to expanding the Ultra-Low Emission Zone up to, but not including, the North and South Circular roads by revealing the first signs on the border of the expanded ULEZ. The ULEZ and its expansion is central to my work to clean up London's toxic air and to protect the health and wellbeing of Londoners. The central London ULEZ has already cleaned up toxic nitrogen dioxide by nearly half. Now an estimated 3.8 million people living in the expanded zone are set to benefit directly from the scheme and there will be knock-on benefits across the whole city.

Visit to electric bus factory in Yorkshire

On 19 May, I visited Switch Mobility, an electric bus manufacturer in Yorkshire that is a key supplier of London's electric double deck buses. I met with Tracy Brabin, the newly elected Mayor of West Yorkshire and Andy Palmer the Vice-Chairman of Switch Mobility to discuss the role that London plays in levelling up across the country and the importance of investment in green technology. We also discussed Switch's nationwide supply chain and how London's investment in electric buses supports businesses across the country. London now has more than 500 zero emission buses, a huge increase from 20 when I was first elected in 2016. Significant steps have already been taken to reach London's goal of making London's bus network zero emission which can help secure 3,000 UK green jobs.

Dementia Friendly Venues Charter launch

On 18th May, I launched the world's first Dementia Friendly Venues Charter to make London's cultural venues more accessible for those living with dementia.

Nearly 70,000 people aged 65 and over in London are estimated to be living with dementia and I AM determined to make London the first dementia-friendly capital city in the world. Developed in partnership with Alzheimer's Society, the Dementia Friendly Venues charter will help make public venues more welcoming and accessible to those people living with dementia and their carers. The charter adds to the Alzheimer's Society existing work to deliver Dementia Friendly London, a partnership with organisations, including 25 boroughs, accredited or working towards Dementia-Friendly Community status.

To date over 40 cultural venues have signed up to become dementia-friendly cultural spaces for their communities. The venues share best practice through the Dementia Friendly Arts and Culture Network led by the Museum of London, a founding organisation.

London Design Biennale (1 – 27 June)

On 1 June, I launched the London Design Biennale at Somerset House. The opening included Forest for Change, an installation of 400 trees in the courtyard of Somerset House by artist Es Devlin. As one of the first major cultural events to take place following lockdown, the month-long Biennale is a great example of what Londoners and visitors can enjoy in our city this year as part of our Let's Do London campaign. It brings together prominent designers, curators and design institutes from around the world to our capital, showing creative solutions to significant global challenges, from climate change to inequality. The 400 trees in the Forest for Change will be planted across Islington and Southwark after the Biennale finishes.

On 4 June, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, hosted an 'In Conversation With' artist Ini Archibong at the Swiss Embassy in London. Ini, who is based in Switzerland, designed the Pavilion of African Diaspora for the London Design Biennale to give a voice to displaced Africans who don't feel represented by any one flag.

The Show Must Go On! at the Palace Theatre

On 6 June, I attended the final show of the sold-out run of 'The Show Must Go On!' at the Palace Theatre organised by the Theatres Support Fund. The show featured songs from 18 West End musicals and was streamed globally for free. The Theatres Support Fund, set up in May 2020 in response to the impact of the global pandemic, has raised over £1 million to provide financial assistance to many of the hardest hit within the theatre community. I continue

to champion and celebrate our capital's cultural venues as part of my Let's Do London domestic tourism campaign.

Opening of the Fourth Plinth Shortlist Exhibition

On 24th May my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended the opening of the new Fourth Plinth Shortlist Exhibition at the National Gallery. This year's shortlist is the most international and diverse yet, with artists from America, Germany, Ghana, Mexico and the UK.

The public vote for the winners opened on the same day, receiving 6,000 votes in the first 24 hours. Votes will inform the decision of the Fourth Plinth Commissioning Group, which will choose two winning sculptures to be unveiled on the Fourth Plinth in 2022 and 2024 respectively. A new online resource was also launched, allowing audiences to explore the history of the Fourth Plinth through an immersive online experience in partnership with Google Arts & Culture.

£150,000 to support London's early years sector

On 4th June, I announced the investment of £150,000 in a new programme to support London's under pressure nurseries and childminders. Strong Early Years London will be delivered in partnership with Early Years Alliance and CEEDA to provide London's nurseries and childminders with business support and to create a sector-specific one-stop-shop on the London Business Hub.

Research we published earlier this year found that early years providers across the capital will struggle to survive the year. The report found that 64 per cent of nurseries and 56 per cent of childminders consider their services to be at immediate risk of closure or to be facing potential closure in the next 12 months – with those in disadvantaged areas more likely to class themselves as 'struggling'.

But London's early years sector is a lifeline for so many families, providing their children with high-quality education and care and giving them the best possible start in life. By investing in London's early years education sector, we're investing in our social and economic recovery, and in our future as a city.

On 10th June, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, and my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, hosted an initial, virtual meeting with colleagues from the Early Years Alliance. This was a chance to discuss promotion of the programme and secure support from partners, across both London's early years and business sectors. The availability of high-quality early education will be essential to London's economic and social recovery from the pandemic.

You can find more information about Strong Early Years London at www.london.gov.uk/early-years-business-support

Anniversary of the terrorist attack on London Bridge

3rd June was the fourth anniversary of the appalling terrorist attack on London Bridge, and Londoners once again united to remember the victims, their loved ones and the heroic first responders who ran towards danger to try to save lives. I took part in a virtual service from

Southwark Cathedral, laying flowers at the olive tree that was planted on the first anniversary of the attack.

The cowardly attack sought to fracture our communities and destroy our way of life. It was not only an attack on London, but an attack on the freedoms and values we as Londoners hold dear. Despite the loss of eight precious lives, the unshakeable spirit of our city serves as a reminder to all who would seek to divide us that they will never succeed.

Four years have passed but Londoners will never forget the innocent victims of that tragic day. We will continue to mourn their passing and honour their memory by remaining united. I am proud that Londoners recognise we have so much more in common than that which divides us, and I know we will help heal our great city by staying true to the values that bind us together.

Policing, Crime and Security

Tough on crime, tough on the causes of crime

On 27th May I was pleased to announce increased investment in the London Gang Exit (LGE) programme – from £1.2m to £1.9m – so it can support more young people to leave gangs.

The LGE programme, led by Safer London, aims to divert young people caught up in gangs and violence to leave their destructive lifestyle behind and move onto a more positive path by providing specialist one-to-one mentoring support, and help for young Londoners with employment, training, housing, family and relationship support. Between 2016 and March 2021, 273 young people have completed intervention activity with London Gang Exit, and 85 per cent having reported either a reduction in involvement in criminal gangs or a complete exit.

The additional funding will boost the number of support workers and provide specialist capacity where it is most needed across the capital, ensuring that LGE can provide more support as restrictions continue to ease.

This investment comes on top of £900,000 further funding I announced last month for the MPS DIVERT programme, which supports young adults coming into police custody to leave violence and crime behind.

As part of the DIVERT programme, specially trained custody intervention coaches – who are not police officers – meet young people following their arrest at what is known as a ‘teachable moment’. They work to offer long-term support and guidance and develop plans that can lead to training, education and employment opportunities. The programme has helped 1,169 people – of which nearly 800 have either entered into employment, education or training. Others continue to be assisted with specific packages of support, including those on remand or in prison, to ensure they have the best chance to turn their back on violence.

The new funding will enable the MPS to deliver the DIVERT programme across all of its 12 Basic Command Units (BCU), with more coaches working with more young adults across the city.

Confirmation of Sophie Linden as London’s Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime

On 26th May, I welcomed the decision of the Police and Crime Committee to confirm my nominated Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, in post. I look forward to continuing to work with Sophie and with the PCC in the years ahead as she drives ahead with our work to make London a safer city for all.

Transport

TfL and London Councils announce London's e-scooter trial to begin in June

On 18th May, TfL and London Councils announced that Dott, Lime and TIER had been selected to take part in a rental e-scooter trial of up to 12 months.

The new trial began on Monday 7th June, in a core group of boroughs, Canary Wharf and the City of London with more areas expected to join the 12-month trial as it progresses.

Following the government's announcement last year to legalise rental trials of e-scooters run by local authorities, TfL and London Councils launched an open and competitive procurement process for the planned trial of an e-scooter rental scheme in London.

Operators Dott, Lime and TIER have been appointed to take part in the trial following the process, where their ability to meet strict safety requirements and high operating standards was carefully considered.

Santander extends sponsorship of TfL's Santander Cycles scheme with e-bikes set to be introduced next summer

On 28th May, TfL announced it had reached a new agreement with cycle hire sponsor Santander that will see the financial services provider continue its sponsorship of London's flagship cycle hire scheme, Santander Cycles, for another three years until 2025.

The extension of the sponsorship will support TfL as it moves forward with planned investment in cycle hire, ensuring the scheme keeps pace with its extraordinary growth in recent years. The next three years will see Santander Cycles expanded to new areas of London and the introduction of e-bikes to the fleet for the first time. TfL and Santander are working on plans to introduce around 500 electric bikes into the scheme from next summer, helping to break down the barriers that stop some people from cycling, including fitness, age and journey length.

Santander's sponsorship renewal comes as TfL's cycle hire scheme has enjoyed one of its most successful years. In March, the scheme passed 100 million hires, marking a significant milestone in the scheme's ten-year history.

Cycling has been a lifeline for many Londoners over the past year and I'm determined to make it even more accessible to help us rebuild as a cleaner and greener city. Santander Cycle hire is key to this, so I'm delighted that TfL will be rolling out the scheme's first e-bikes in summer next year and expanding it to cover new parts of our city thanks to Santander's continued support.

TfL urges riders and drivers to watch out for each other as too many young lives are lost each year

17th – 21st May was Global Road Safety Week, and TfL and the police were encouraging road users to watch out for each other in a new advertising campaign, following a worrying number of young men being tragically killed or seriously injured in motorcycle collisions.

People riding motorcycles face the greatest likelihood of death or serious injury of anyone driving on the roads. Provisional data for 2020 shows that 31 people in London were tragically

killed in a collision involving a power two-wheel (PTW) vehicle, such as a motorcycle, moped or scooter and 12 of these collisions are believed to involve no other vehicle.

As PTW drivers are statistically the most vulnerable drivers on London's streets, TfL is asking all road users to watch out for each other to eliminate people being killed or seriously injured in collisions involving these vehicles.

Every death or injury on our roads is one too many, and as motorcycle journeys increase, it's vital riders are accessing the proper training to keep themselves and other road users safe.

Pedestrian priority introduced at more crossings as part of London's drive to be the world's most walkable city

On 27th May, TfL announced that 18 pedestrian crossings that are programmed to show a continuous 'green person' signal until traffic approaches are being introduced to prioritise people walking. These will be in place by the end of June and will help make the capital's transport network even more sustainable and support a green recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

'Green Person Authority' traffic signals are being introduced across the capital, which are configured to show a green signal to pedestrians continuously. The signals show this green light until a vehicle is detected, making it easier for people to cross the road, enabling more journeys on foot. 'Green Person Authority' has now been delivered at seven locations in Tower Hamlets, Newham, Hounslow, Richmond and Hillingdon and will be installed at a further 11 location over the coming weeks.

The number of journeys made on foot has hugely increased throughout the pandemic, with TfL data from earlier this year showing that 31 per cent of Londoners say they are walking to places where they used to travel by a different mode, and 57 per cent say they now go on more walks for exercise or walk for longer than they did before.

Walking has so many benefits – it doesn't just enable us to get from A to B, but also improves our mental and physical health. We know that safety is a key concern for people walking around London, and giving pedestrians priority is a powerful way of putting them first and making it easier to cross London's roads.

Three months on from the launch of TfL's world-first Direct Vision Standard lorries across London are becoming safer

TfL, working with the London boroughs, the freight industry and campaign groups, delivered a radical improvement to road safety in the UK in March with the introduction of the pioneering Direct Vision Standard (DVS). In June, three months on, data shows that the vital lorry safety scheme, which reduces lethal blind spots, is already helping to save lives and prevent life-changing injuries.

At 1st June, more than 136,000 permits had been issued, including more than 4,000 to 5-star vehicles, which provide the highest levels of direct vision. Around 70,000 0-star HGVs have had safe systems fitted, improving protection for people walking, cycling or riding e-scooters or motorcycles and saving lives.

Introduced with the support of London Councils, the Direct Vision Standard forms part of our Vision Zero plan to eliminate all death and serious injuries from London's streets by 2041.

Our world-first Direct Vision Standard has saved lives and improved road safety from day one, and I'm delighted that three months in the number of lorries fitted with vehicle safety measures has more than doubled to around 70,000 HGVs.

TfL asks for feedback on cycling upgrades in Lambeth and Southwark

Since 17th May, TfL has been asking Londoners for feedback on a series of improvements made earlier this year to three south London cycle routes in Lambeth and Southwark.

The trial changes along the A23 between Oval and Streatham, Tooley Street and Duke Street Hill in central London and on the CS7 cycle route between Oval and Elephant & Castle are enabling thousands of cycle journeys every week and giving people confidence to use a bike to get around.

Changes to roads to support increased levels of walking and cycling are a vital part of TfL's response to the coronavirus pandemic and have contributed to significant increases in cycling across London - including a seven per cent increase in inner London and a 22 per cent increase in outer London in autumn 2020 compared to the previous count in spring 2019.

The changes have been delivered as 18-month trials and TfL is encouraging people to use its new engagement and consultation website - haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk - to comment on how successful they think the trial changes have been. The consultations are open in 17th November.

Step-free access at Ealing Broadway station as new enlarged ticket hall opens to customers

On 27th May the new ticket hall at Ealing Broadway station opened for customers with new lifts enabling step-free journeys on TfL Rail, London Underground (District and Central lines) and Great Western Railway.

The station is staffed at all times while trains are running with ramps available for those that need them to board trains.

As the latest station to reach this milestone ahead of the Elizabeth line opening, Ealing Broadway has undergone a significant transformation by Network Rail to build a large new ticket hall with more space for customers. A glass frontage makes the entrance brighter with a longer gateline replacing the cramped entrance previously used to enter and leave the station.

The extended platforms are capable of accommodating the longer Elizabeth line trains, which are more than 200 metres in length. The station also benefits from improved lighting, signage and customer information screens providing a better customer experience.

Data from TfL and Halfords shows continued boom in numbers of people cycling and learning to cycle safely

New data from TfL and UK cycling retailer Halfords, published on 4th June, revealed record increases in the number of people cycling in London, with an increase of more than 200 per cent on some weekends, while survey data from Halfords suggests bike owners are cycling more often and feel safer on the roads.

TfL and Halfords launched a partnership last November to enable safer cycling through better training and safety equipment. Since then, more than 12,000 people have registered for TfL's free online Cycle Skills course. Everyone who completed the course received 15 per cent off Halfords own brand cycle locks, lights and helmets, encouraging uptake. In addition to the free online Cycle Skills course, face-to-face cycle training across London's boroughs restarted in March, making it even easier for people to learn the skills they need to cycle safely.

Despite fewer journeys being made during the pandemic, cycling numbers continue to be significantly above the long-term average at weekends, with a 68 per cent increase across 29 – 30 May compared to the baseline year. One weekend (26-28 February 2021) saw an increase of 240 per cent compared to the same weekend in 2020. Santander Cycles hires have also been strong in recent weeks, with 150,000 hires across the bank holiday weekend of 29 – 31 May, and more than 53,000 hires on Monday 31 May – the highest of any day so far this year and this week is expected to be one of the busiest in the scheme's history. A survey commissioned by Halfords has also reported bike owners cycling in the capital more often.

Cycling has been a lifeline for people across London during the coronavirus pandemic and it's vital that everybody who wants to cycle is able to feel confident when doing so.

Confirmation of Heidi Alexander as Deputy Chair of Transport for London

On 1st June, I welcomed the decision of the Confirmation Hearings Committee to confirm my nomination of Heidi Alexander to continue in the role of Deputy Chair of Transport for London. I look forward to continuing to work with Heidi in the years ahead.

Fire and Resilience

London Strategic Coordinating Group

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

London Fire Commissioner meeting

On 14th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, and I met with London Fire Commissioner, Andy Roe, for an update on the work of the London Fire Brigade.

COVID-19 London MPs briefings

On 14th and 28th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, chaired virtual meetings to update London MPs on London's response to COVID-19.

London COVID-19 Leaders Committee

My Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, my Chief of Staff, David Bellamy, and I continued to attend regular virtual meetings with London Councils Leaders and representatives of London's Strategic Coordinating Outbreak Control Group to consider London's response to COVID-19 throughout the month.

PHE/NHS conference call

My Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, and I continued to attend virtual meetings with Regional Directors of PHE and NHS London to receive an update on London's response to COVID-19.

Summer Preparedness

On 18th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, attended a virtual meeting of London Resilience Partners on Summer Preparedness chaired by my Chief of Staff.

House of Lords Resilience Review

On 19th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, in her role as Chair of the London Resilience Forum, provided evidence to the House of Lords Committee on Risk Assessment and Risk Planning.

London's response to COVID- 19

On 19th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, held a virtual meeting to update Leaders of the London Assembly's political groups on London's response to COVID-19.

Chronic Incident Review - Overarching Group

On 20th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, chaired a meeting of the Chronic Incident Review Overarching Group. The purpose of the review is to define a set of arrangements for strategic coordination during chronic incidents.

National Preparedness

On 27th May, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, attended a meeting of the National Preparedness Commission.

COVID-19 Assembly Member Leaders updates

On 4th June, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, held a virtual meeting to update Leaders of the London Assembly political groups on London's response to COVID-19.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

The Mayor's London Skills and Employment priorities for local skills improvement plan (LSIP) trailblazers

On 14th May, I published a guide for Employer Representative Bodies and partners in London interested in becoming Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) Trailblazers as part of the Department for Education's Skills Accelerator programme. The London Guidance for LSIPs highlights the priorities, geography and partnerships that we hope to see in any LSIP trailblazers in London, and can be viewed online here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/file/59282573>

I recognise the important role that businesses have to play in delivering the new LSIPs and will continue to work closely with London's businesses and business groups to make sure that London's labour market is working for everyone and that the skills and employment system supports residents and employers to get the skills they need.

London Careers Hubs Launch

On 3rd June, I launched the competitive application process for grant funds totalling £6.9 million for four London Careers Hubs projects (one in each sub-regional partnership area). These projects are funded by the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) and matched with European Social Funds (ESF). Each Hub will build on the work of the London Enterprise Adviser Network (LEAN) in that area and be supported by organisations delivering employability activity for the schools and colleges in the Hub. These projects contribute to my recovery plans from COVID-19 by providing targeted skills development and employment support to Londoners who are disadvantaged in the labour market, and likely to be further disadvantaged by the impact of COVID-19 on London's economy.

Make London

39 applicants to my Make London programme across 20 boroughs were successful in hitting or exceeding their crowdfunding targets by the May deadline, unlocking nearly £500,000 in Mayoral pledges. 73% of applicants had not received GLA funding or run a Crowdfunding campaign previously, while 74% will reach one or more vulnerable or under-represented groups, helping deliver upon my manifesto commitment to support more creative, locally led projects that bring people together, improve public spaces and support community hubs and high streets.

Boosting Community Business London

This month, my Regeneration Team, working with Power to Change and Co-ops UK, approved the first 9 successful applicants to Boosting Community Business London, an initiative to grow the community business sector in London. This programme helps deliver upon my manifesto commitment to support more democratic business models like cooperatives, mutuals, social enterprises, and employee-owned or municipally-owned businesses. These first nine applicants will receive nearly £40,000 in seed funding to access legal, business planning and governance expertise. Track 2 of the programme, which offers grants of up to £10,000 to cover the costs of share offer development, is still open for applications.

High Streets for All Challenge

My Regeneration and Economic Development team received more than 100 submissions to my High Streets for All Challenge in May. Delivered in partnership with London Councils, as part of the London Recovery Programme, the Challenge is an invitation to local partnerships to bring forward and co-design innovative high street recovery strategies and proposals. London boroughs, with support from City Hall, will now assess responses to the call to identify their high street exemplar location for the Challenge.

Londoners have also been sharing their ideas to revitalise their local neighbourhoods through the Reimagine London campaign on Talk London, a collaborative engagement campaign across three of my missions – High Streets for All, Green New Deal and Building Strong Communities – inviting all Londoners to play an important role in our recovery. We've so far received 130 ideas, with Londoners calling for better public spaces, community hubs which offer ways for people to connect, exciting new uses for underused high street buildings and ideas on how our high streets can become healthier and greener.

Expansion of the Right Course completed

Through my Skills for Londoners Capital Fund Small Projects and Equipment Fund Round 2, in partnership with LEAP, I have funded a state of the art, industry-standard restaurant at HMP Wormwood Scrubs prison. The project completed in May 2021 and is now operational. The prison and Novus, the educational partner, are committed to developing curricula for prisoners in custody to support them to gain the skills required for employment upon release. The new restaurant is part of a Catering Career Routeway into employment. It will provide an opportunity for progression and accreditation of skills. Prisoners will be recruited from the prison kitchen, holding applications and interviews for positions in the restaurant, followed by job matching with employers in the community. The new and improved facility is providing learners with a real-work environment to develop the skills they need to find meaningful employment in the catering industry.

Meadowbank - Digital Technology Training Centre completed

On 17th May, the Meadowbank Digital Technology Training centre was completed. This was supported by a grant of £254k from my *Skills for Londoners Capital Fund* Round 2. The project has created two new digital ICT training rooms in the Borough of Hounslow. The project will develop ICT and digital related skills, creating 4,000 training and apprenticeship opportunities and long-term employment for residents supporting the borough's Skills and Employment Strategy.

Ground-breaking ceremony for the new London South Bank Technical College

On 19th May, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe CBE, joined Gillian Keegan MP, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for Apprenticeships and Skills, Florence Eshalomi MP for Vauxhall and Cllr Jacqui Dyer, Deputy Leader of Lambeth Council (Jobs, Skills and Community Safety) on a visit to see the construction of the new London South Bank Technical College (LSBTC). This will be the UK's first new technical college to be built within a generation.

Works have recently begun to transform the site, supported by a grant of over £21 million from my *Skills for Londoners Capital Fund*, in partnership with the *London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP)*. The project will also create 8,000 sqm student accommodation. LSBTC will feature extensive modern workshop facilities and tuition will follow an employer-led curriculum,

training young people and adults in creative digital, dentistry, engineering and construction skills, along with English & maths. The centre will expand delivery of apprenticeships as well as increasing opportunities for NEET and SEND students and is set to attract over £25 million additional investment, playing an active role in regeneration of the local economy.

Housing

Kerslake Commission on COVID-19 and rough sleeping

On 18th May, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, attended a meeting of the Kerslake Commission on COVID-19 and rough sleeping. I am proud that under my leadership, City Hall led the country in taking action to support people sleeping rough off the streets in the face of the pandemic. Our rapid and comprehensive response has kept the rates of COVID-19 infection among London's rough sleepers far below that seen in other world cities. The Kerslake Commission will seek to make recommendations for the future based on what has been learned during this exceptional period.

End of renter evictions ban

On 31st May, the ban on rental property evictions enforced by bailiffs came to an end. With thousands of Londoners facing possible eviction proceedings and homelessness, Ministers must now belatedly offer suitable financial help to tenants. This should be coupled with Government finally committing on its promise to end 'no fault' evictions and giving councils the resources to address the increase in homelessness the end of the eviction ban could trigger.

Visit to William Cuffay House and new council housing statistics

On 1st June, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, and I visited William Cuffay House in Southwark to meet residents moving into new council homes part-funded by City Hall. The visit coincided with impressive new figures showing that in 2020/21, work started on 3,156 new council homes funded by the GLA. These figures have only been exceeded once, in 2019/20, when City Hall funded work to start on 3,304 new council homes. This was the highest number since 1983 and a record-high since housing funding was devolved in 2012.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

London Covid Business Forum

On 18th May, I convened a meeting of the London Covid Business Forum, through which we have been working with business to progress the 'Roadmap to the Safe and Full Reopening of London's Economy' and developing our plans for the 'Let's Do London' campaign. You can read about the roadmap online here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/publications/roadmap-safe-and-full-reopening-londons-economy-next-12-months>

London Transition Board

On 20th May, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, co-chaired the London Transition Board with Paul Scully, the Minister for London. The Board oversees London's strategic transition out of the emergency response phase of the pandemic, bringing together senior representatives from national, regional and local government, business, health, communities, arts and culture and education.

The Minister provided an update on the progress of the Government Roadmap and London & Partners provided an update on the Let's Do London campaign.

The Board also heard an update from the London Recovery Board and the ongoing work focused on London's recovery from the pandemic.

Business Engagement

On 26th May, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, welcomed attendees at London & Partners' Open Innovation Fellowship Senior Sponsor Roundtable. The Open Innovation Fellowship provides training via a series of modules delivered across four months, including open innovation strategy, operating models, and culture, as well as peer-to-peer learning and highly-focused networking.

On 8th June, I welcomed Sebastian Siemiatkowski, CEO and Founder of Klarna, to London, helping to bang the drum for investment.

On 8th June, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, participated in the opening panel of the Recovery with Purpose Conference, which focused on various aspects of recovery and rebuilding urban society during and after Covid-19.

On 9th June, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with Tony Prestedge, Deputy Chief Executive, Santander, to discuss my renewed focus on jobs and recovery, as well as opportunities for collaboration on key initiatives.

On 10th June, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with John Allan, Commissioner of the Covid Recovery Commission (CRC) to discuss the CRC's final report, Ambition 2030: A Partnership for Growth. The report looks into how the long-term National Prosperity Plan can deliver growth and increase living standards across the UK.

Environment

Meeting with the Natural History Museum's Youth Advisory Panel

On 20th May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with the Natural History Museum's Youth Advisory Panel to hear the results of their review into the causes and consequences of inequality of access to green spaces and nature. They discussed how the Mayor is tackling this issue through the Enhancing Green Spaces and Climate Resilience Green New Deal recovery mission and how the Panel can contribute their ideas to future policy development through City Hall's youth networks.

Meeting with Richard Benwell, Wildlife and Countryside Link

On 24th May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with Richard Benwell, the CEO of Wildlife and Countryside Link, to discuss their priorities for London. Discussions included ensuring that the Environment Bill delivers meaningful targets on air pollution and nature's recovery. Discussions also included how examples and evidence from London can be used to support the case for greater government investment in nature-based solutions.

GND Expert Advisory Group Meeting

On 25th May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, co-chaired the third meeting of the Green New Deal Advisory Group with Mayor of Hackney Philip Glanville. The group has been set up to provide strategic advice, review guidance on the implementation of the Green New Deal and ensure sustainability is embedded across all of London's recovery work. At the meeting, group members discussed progress on the city's activity to retrofit domestic buildings, with a focus on how attendees can best support moving this important area of work forward.

ReLondon Board Meeting

On 26th May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, attended the ReLondon Board meeting (formerly the London Waste and Recycling Board). ReLondon is a partnership of the Mayor of London and the London boroughs to improve waste and resource management and transform the city into a leading low carbon circular economy. The Deputy Mayor received updates on the progress of their projects to reduce waste, increase recycling and support London's transition to a circular economy.

Amongst a number of initiatives that the GLA is working on in partnership with ReLondon, updates included ReLondon's business transformation programme which received £900k from the Mayor's Green New Deal fund to create and safeguard jobs with circular SMEs through emergency and pilot grants. The Deputy Mayor also heard about progress on the Food Flagship Initiative which is led by the Ellen Macarthur Foundation with participation from the GLA and ReLondon to help create a more circular urban food system. The group discussed the ongoing opportunities for ReLondon to align their projects with the Green New Deal and Future Neighbourhoods 2030 programme.

Sustainable City Awards

On 27th May, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, gave the opening address at the Sustainable City Awards (SCA). The awards are designed to drive and inspire individuals, organisations, and businesses to innovate and improve their impacts on the city's communities and environment. This was a chance to recognise that despite such an unexpected and challenging year, individuals and organisations across London have been developing imaginative solutions and approaches to help Londoners from all backgrounds live, work and spend their leisure time in ways that are good for health, wealth and the planet.

Winners included: Hammersmith Academy (London Sustainable School of the Year); Dr Jess Tipton (London School Changemaker of the Year); May Project Gardens (Trailblazing London VCS organisation/group of the year); Carolyn Axtell (Individual VCS Changemaker of the year); Islington Council (Trailblazing public sector organisation of the year); Dr Anant Patel, Royal Free London NHS Foundation (London public sector Changemaker of the year).

Letter to solid fuel suppliers

On 27th May, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, sent a letter, co-signed by Mayor Philip Glanville, Chair of London Councils' Transport & Environment Committee, to solid fuel suppliers in Greater London making them aware of recent regulatory changes which impact the types of solid fuel they are able to sell. These measures are being taken to reduce the impact of burning solid fuels by banning the sale of some of the worst polluting types of fuel which can have a major impact on public health.

Cool Spots launch

On 1st June, a London map of cool and shaded places of refuge for Londoners when temperatures are excessively high was established. Cool spaces are areas where Londoners can take respite on hot days. Outdoor cool spaces are available from 1 June 2021. Indoor Cool Spaces will be available from 21 June 2021 (in line with Government guidance on the easing of social distancing). Advice is also provided for groups at risk during a heatwave.

Retrofit revolution and green jobs announcement

On 2nd June, I reconfirmed my commitment to make London zero carbon by 2030 and a 'retrofit revolution', with a package of measures to create ultra-low carbon buildings, to tackle climate change and create green jobs. I made my announcement at West Acton Primary School in Ealing, which received funding from the fourth phase of my London Community Energy Fund, with the community energy groups Ealing Transition & School's Energy Co-op receiving funding to install solar photovoltaic panels. As part of my 'retrofit revolution', I announced the following programmes:

- **Innovation Partnership** - a new programme that will make it easier for social landlords and UK building firms to work together to upgrade ageing homes in the capital. The scheme will link up housing providers and builders through all stages of home retrofitting, from planning through to large-scale delivery. The partnership has the potential value of £10 billion in retrofit works to 100,000-190,000 homes, which would create around 150,000 jobs over the decade.
- **Retrofit centre of excellence** - in recognition of the best practice support offered by my Retrofit Accelerator - Homes £3.45m funding has been provided from the

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). My team will deliver the first national centre with a programme to help social housing providers develop retrofit scale-up plans by building capacity, and provide tools and best practice, to improve their chances of being successful through the next round of the £160m Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund.

- **Solar Skills London** – working with Solar Energy UK this programme will focus on skills and training which will enable Londoners to learn more about solar technologies and help to create more green jobs. Training and apprenticeships will focus on the installation of battery storage, electric vehicle charging, and related smart technologies. The programme will also include a placement programme for trainees into solar businesses and targeted grant schemes to deliver quality training to staff at a 100 solar installation companies in London.

C40 Cities – Board Meeting

On 2nd June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with the C40 Cities Board for a strategic discussion on our joint plans for COP26 taking place in Glasgow in November. In this meeting Deputy Mayor Rodrigues provided an update on the GLA's international and national advocacy work in the lead up to COP26 and discussed the role that London can play in C40's activity at the conference. This follows the C40 Steering Committee meeting on 26 May, which my Deputy Mayor Shirley Rodrigues also attended on my behalf to discuss our joint plans for COP26 in November with fellow international Mayors.

Association for Decentralised Energy

On 7th June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with Ian Calvert and Lucy Symons-Jones of the Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE). They discussed the Mayor's and ADE's work to support decentralised energy and how ADE is collaborating with industry to help meet net zero GHG targets. They discussed the work and needs of the sector and opportunities for accelerating action to support London's Green New Deal mission.

C40 Cities Invest / Divest Forum workshop

On 9th June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, opened the C40 Cities Divest/Invest Forum workshop, which is co-chaired by London and New York City. My Deputy Mayor outlined the progress that London has made with the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA) in divesting from fossil fuel assets in the last Mayoral term, and the plans to continue to reduce the emissions associated with the LPFA's fund as well as TfL's pension fund over the coming term. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues also described how London and the C40 forum will support and encourage other cities to push on to make similar commitments to divestment.

Meeting with Dr Ashok Sinha, Chair London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC)

On 9th June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with Ashok Sinha, Chair of the LSDC. The LSDC provides independent advice to the Mayor on his sustainable development duty. Dr Sinha outlined progress against the LSDC current work programme and discussed ideas for future work areas and new mayoral priorities for the new mayoral term including, green finance, Green New Deal and the recovery. The LSDC is currently undergoing an effectiveness review, the results of which will be fed into an options paper on

the future role and remit of the LSDC post Sept 2021, when the current chair and commissioners' terms are due to end.

Meeting with the Chair of ReLondon Dr Liz Goodwin OBE

On 10th June, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with Dr Liz Goodwin OBE, Chair of ReLondon. Dr Goodwin outlined ReLondon's priorities for the coming year and how their programmes will support the commitments made by the Mayor in his manifesto including supporting his 10 Point Plan for the Green New Deal, particularly in relation to increasing food waste collections. The discussion also covered how the two organisations could work together on their shared asks of government, especially in relation to the implications of the Resources and Waste Strategy for England which is currently out for consultation.

Education and Youth

Virtually Explore London – new resource for teachers

My London Curriculum team have just launched Virtually Explore London - a supplementary guide to help teachers adapt all five of our fantastic key stage 2 resources whilst school trips may still be challenging. We have included lots of great online alternatives to visiting London's museums and institutions, keeping young Londoners connected to their incredible city.

You can explore the resources at: www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/education-and-youth/london-curriculum/london-curriculum-key-stage-2

Children's Conference

On 27th May, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, welcomed guests to our first ever Children's Conference, aimed at 7-11-year-olds across London. The virtual event was designed and run by my fantastic Lynk Up Crew and Peer Outreach Team. It was all about the impact that COVID-19 has had on young Londoners – giving them a chance to talk about what they've done to help them cope with the pandemic and, if they were Mayor for the day, what they would do to make children's lives better.

90 children joined the event, representing 23 schools across London. It's so important that we engage with young Londoners of this age-group – not only for us, as policy makers, but for children and young people, to know that their views are being listened to. My Peer Outreach Team are producing a report to explore how we can continue with this great work in future.

Launch of Strong Early Years London - business support for London's early years sector

I am pleased that, after submitting a successful application, the Early Years Alliance has been appointed to deliver my Strong Early Years London programme.

This programme will build on findings from last year's GLA commissioned research into the business support needs of London's early years sector. This confirmed that early years providers have been hit hard by the pandemic, with 64 per cent of nurseries surveyed indicating that they were at risk of closure within the next 12 months. This figure rises to 70 per cent in more deprived areas of the city.

As recommended by the research, Strong Early Years London will support the sector in three key ways: firstly by creating a one-stop-shop for sector-specific business support (to be housed on the London Business Hub), secondly by piloting a triage service to direct early years providers to the support that they need and, finally, by offering intensive business support (during the 2021-22 financial year) to those providers most risk of closure.

On 10th June, Joanne McCartney, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare and Rajesh Agrawal, my Deputy Mayor for Business, hosted an initial, virtual meeting with colleagues from the Early Years Alliance. This was a chance to discuss promotion of the programme and ensure support from partners, across both London's early years and business sectors. The availability of high-quality early education will be essential to London's economic and social recovery from the pandemic. It's vital that stakeholders across London work together to ensure the sector's sustainability.

Wave 5 of the London Community Response – supporting young Londoners

My New Deal for Young People recovery mission prioritises the role of mentoring - developing, supporting and celebrating existing mentoring and tailored support and increasing their capacity - alongside investment in greater numbers of programmes to support those young people most in need.

As part of this, I have contributed £1m to Wave 5 of the London Community Response. This investment is providing grants of up to £50k to 20 projects delivering positive mentoring and personalised support activities for over 4,000 young Londoners, especially those facing the greatest barriers to realising their potential. These projects are due to start delivery in June 2021 and will run for 12 months.

Communities and Social Policy

Meeting with London Jewish Forum and Jewish Community Leaders

On 26th May, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, met with Jewish community leaders to discuss their concerns around the recent spike in antisemitic attacks across London, and the wider issues of social cohesion. Officers in our Community Engagement Team continue to work closely with the London Jewish Forum and others to ensure that London's Jewish community are connected with teams across City Hall effectively.

EU Settlement Scheme 30th June, call for deadline extension

To mark the 30-day countdown to the EU Settlement Scheme deadline, I called on ministers to extend the 30th June 2021 deadline to prevent EU citizens becoming undocumented and vulnerable to discrimination. I expressed my concern about the backlog of over 100,000 Londoners, 300,000 across the UK, whose status is yet to be confirmed. I launched new guidance, explaining the Home Office's recent position on late applications to the Scheme, on my EU Londoners Hub.

Health

Pandemic Response

I have continued to meet weekly with the Regional Directors of Public Health England (PHE) and NHS London to discuss important aspects of the COVID-19 response and recovery in London. In these meetings I have been provided with the most recent public health data and intelligence on the pandemic in London and an assessment of current NHS capacity to support Londoners with COVID-19 and other health needs.

During this period, key topics discussed have also included Variants of Concern and surge testing, treatment and care for Long COVID patients, and progress in roll out of the vaccine and including ensuring London has the supplies it needs to be as resilient as possible when public health restrictions are further lifted through the Government's Roadmap.

Meeting with Dr Jenny Harries OBE, Chief Executive, UK Health Security Agency

On 10th June I had a second meeting with Dr Harries to discuss the UK response to the COVID-19 pandemic and what the creation of the new UK Health Security Agency would mean for London's health and care partners. We discussed how to best continue the strong health and care partnerships in London, building on the strong ties forged during the Covid-19 pandemic. I sought assurance that London would have continued access to regional level health protection expertise and information to ensure we are fully prepared for any future health crisis.

Launch of new bereavement support programme

On 24th May I announced the first phase of a new bereavement support programme. The Recovery Bereavement Programme will develop a range of support for Londoners with partners and begins with a city-wide public awareness campaign which I have funded and that is being led by Thrive LDN. The campaign was announced as I opened the London Blossom Garden to the public; a new garden in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park that provides a lasting living memorial to the impact that COVID has had, and continues to have, on our city.

The bereavement campaign - 'In loving memory of Londoners lost' - will help direct Londoners to information, advice, and support to cope with their grief. Through sensitive messaging and visuals, the campaign seeks to convey a message that - nothing will make losing someone you love any easier, but by starting our new bereavement support programme we will do all we can to help.

The campaign marks the first phase of London's Recovery Bereavement Programme, our first major activity as part of London's Mental Health and Wellbeing Recovery Mission. As the programme develops, it will seek to progress development of a range of bereavement support offers for Londoners.

Regular meeting with the London Ambulance Service

On 10th June I had my regular meeting with the London Ambulance Service leadership; Chief Executive Garrett Emmerson and Chair Heather Lawrence. I received an update to on the performance of the service and we discussed the continuing response to COVID-19. I was pleased to be able to thank the service for the involvement of their members in the recent opening of the London Blossoms Garden, and for their continuing dedication to keeping

Londoners safe. We also discussed other issues and opportunities to work together, including around capital projects, workforce and blue light collaboration.

Meeting with Dr Jo Sauvage

On 4 June I was pleased to meet with Dr Jo Sauvage, the NHS Regional Clinical Lead for Sustainability and Chair of North Central London CCG. We discussed how the GLA and the NHS could work together on our joint ambition to improve air quality in London. Dr Sauvage is a champion for cleaner air in London and we discussed how we can work with London's health and care sector to galvanise support for improving health by improving our air. We identified a number of key moments for partnership working in the months ahead; including Clean Air Day, ULEZ expansion and the COP26 climate summit. I look forward to working on these opportunities further with Dr Sauvage and her colleagues.

Team London, Sports and Volunteering

UEFA EURO 2020 Host City volunteer programme

Over a thousand UEFA EURO 2020 Host City volunteers have now collected their uniforms and attended live online training through my Team London major events volunteering programme. During the UEFA EURO 2020 tournament, a total of 1,400 Host City volunteers will provide a visitor welcome experience for football fans. They'll be deployed at key travel hubs across London, our Festival Football Village on Potters Fields Park and at our main Fan Zone at Trafalgar Square.

No Barriers project launch

On 24th May my Community Sport team awarded funding to Big Ideas for their No Barriers community engagement project. The project will help young Londoners feel a part of the UEFA EURO 2020 tournament by delivering workshops and festivals about 'overcoming barriers', with inspirational professional footballers, from past and present. Big Ideas have already had interest from over 100 schools, excited to take part. This project will support children and young people in London by reducing social isolation, increasing social mixing and using physical activity to promote positive mental health and well-being, while reducing inactivity. As part of the project I am very proud to be providing 66 young Londoners with a once-in-a-lifetime experience to be player escorts at 3 matches in Wembley stadium, during the tournament.

Culture and Events

World Cities Culture Forum

On 20th May, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, chaired an international webinar on 'Culture's Role in City Recovery'. Global cities shared approaches around reopening and driving activity into cities as part of recovery. This included a presentation about Toronto's 'ShowLoveTO' campaign, my 'Lets do London' domestic tourism campaign, Melbourne's City Recovery Fund and Barcelona's 'Right to Culture'.

This webinar is part of an ongoing series of international conversations to share policies and solutions to address the impact of the pandemic on culture and creative industries on global cities and share the learning with cultural partners in London.

International

Discussion with the Prime Minister of Canada

On 20th May, I spoke with the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, about the need for cities and national governments to focus on tackling inequalities, creating jobs and supporting economic growth as part of our recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. We agreed that Canadians and Londoners share many of the same values and priorities and committed to working together in the years ahead.

My Life My Say climate townhall with the Mayor of Los Angeles

On 7th June, I spoke alongside the Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti, at a virtual transatlantic climate townhall organised by My Life My Say and the Berggruen Institute. At this event, which was viewed by thousands of young climate leaders, I highlighted London's world leading efforts to tackle and mitigate climate change and called on young people to work with all levels of government on climate-based activities in the run up to COP26.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Events on the Park

On 23rd May, London Stadium opened its doors to 10,000 fans for the first time since December to watch West Ham win 3-0 against Southampton. West Ham supporters were delighted to secure the win, which now means the team has qualified for the UEFA Europa League.

From 28th May, up to 1,000 netball fans have been able to watch the remaining rounds of the 2021 Vitality Netball Super League Season at the Copper Box Arena with London Pulse beating the Celtic Dragons 51-30 during the first weekend of fans attending.

On 21st May, the ArcelorMittal Orbit also opened its doors to thrill seekers wishing to go down the world's longest and tallest tunnel slide. It is now open three days a week, with additional open days during school holiday weeks.

UCL East topping out ceremony

UCL East celebrated its topping out ceremony on Friday 28th May, led by UCL President and Provost, Dr Michael Spence, to mark the end of construction. The buildings comprise 50,000 sqm and have been designed for teaching, research, retail and community engagement, as well as accommodation for students.

As part of the East Bank development, the new campus will be a hub of creativity and collaboration between engineering, architecture, arts, humanities, social sciences, life sciences and population health studies.

5th Studio appointment for Stratford Station design work

LLDC has appointed 5th Studio to lead a multidisciplinary design and planning team to produce a planning and development framework. Their work is focused on Stratford Regional Station, how it can be improved as an interchange and how it links to the nearby International Station. A key part of this study will also assess how better connectivity could be formed between Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Stratford Town Centre. The team will also identify strategies to enable the station to be more accessible and passenger friendly.

This work will inform the strategic business case for the long-term redevelopment of Stratford Regional Station that is being progressed by LLDC, Network Rail, LB Newham and TfL.

East Summer School registration

Registration for East Summer School is now open, with the scheme running from 26 July – 6 August.

Aimed at 12-17 year olds living in Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest, courses are being delivered by East Bank partners such as the BBC, UAL's London College of Fashion, University College London and Studio Wayne McGregor. Young people can find out more information and sign up to East Summer School here:

<https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/our-story/supporting-communities/education-and-young-people/east-education-summer-school>

Pudding Mill consultation

LLDC has now published its public consultation for Pudding Mill, one of the Park's new neighbourhoods. Pudding Mill is comprised of two sites – Bridgewater Triangle and Pudding Mill Lane – which together will deliver around 1,500 new homes, public open space and workspace for around 2,000 people.

In addition, the LLDC is also developing proposals for an enhanced Bridgewater Road bridge to replace the existing and new towpath along the Waterworks River improving connections in the area.

This consultation is ahead of LLDC submitting the two outline applications in the Autumn.

Environmental Sustainability Report

In May, LLDC published its Environmental Sustainability Report 2019-20. The report summarises the success of bringing nature back to this part of east London, and the biodiversity which has resulted from the management of the Park. As part of my vision to ensure London is a Net Zero Carbon capital by 2030, the report also speaks to carbon reduction targets on the Park including securing the Park as a national testbed for low carbon future mobility solutions.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

Local Plan

On 17th May, OPDC began a full public consultation on modifications to its Local Plan. The proposals include a major residential and mixed-use urban district close to the major new High Speed 2 Station at Old Oak Common and over 1 million sqm of intensified industrial space, creating job opportunities and boosting the local economy.

The public consultation will run for seven weeks until 5 July, with five on-line consultation events, a bespoke online consultation portal at consult.opdc.london.gov.uk. and, Covid-19 regulations permitting, an in-person road show in July, before the close of the consultation.

Planning approvals

On 3rd June the Chair of OPDC's Planning Committee resolved (following consultation with the planning advisory panel) to grant outline planning permission for a data centre of up to 52,000 sqm and up to 2,500 sqm of work units, a third of which will be affordable workspace, at the Chandos Road Trading Estate in Park Royal.

Appointments

On 18th May, Cllr Peter Mason was confirmed as the leader of LB Ealing, and he has resigned from the OPDC Planning Committee to take Ealing's place on the OPDC Board. He has been replaced on the OPDC Planning Committee by Cllr Hitesh Tailor, the ward councillor for East Acton.

Planning

Local Plans

London Borough of Tower Hamlets - Leaside Area Action Plan Regulation 18 consultation

The GLA has responded on my behalf providing guidance to ensure that the emerging plan is consistent with the London Plan 2021.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Croydon College Annexe, LB Croydon

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

Gurnell Leisure Centre, LB Ealing

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

Tolworth Tower Complex, RB Kingston Upon Thames

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

25 Lavington 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.

196-200 The Broadway, LB Merton

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

2-3 Finsbury Avenue, City of London

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

Beaufort Park, 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.

Euro House, Fulton Road, LB Brent

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

National Autism Unit, LB Bromley

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

Lansdowne House, 57 Berkeley Square, 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.

St Nicholas House, LB Sutton

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

Former Nestles Factory, Nestles Avenue, LB Hillingdon

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

Prospects House, 19 Elmfield Road, LB Bromley

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

Grand Union, Beresford Avenue, LB Brent

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

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

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

Styles House, LB Southwark

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

The Mall, LB Walthamstow

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

Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, LB Ealing

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

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

- The Roehampton Club, LB Wandsworth
- Cavalry Barracks, LB Hounslow
- London South East College (LSEC), RB Greenwich
- Exchange House 12 Primrose Street, City of London
- Beam Park Phase 2A Former Ford Assembly Plant Site, LB Havering
- 550 and 550A Purley Way, Croydon
- 363 Edgware Road, Brent
- Stolthaven Dagenham Ltd, Hindmans Way, Dagenham, RM9 6PU, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Elephant and Castle Shopping Centre, LB Southwark
- Land To The East of Shakespeare Road, LB Lambeth
- Land North of Dobbies Garden Centre, LB Bromley
- Purley Station Car Park and Whytecliffe Rd South, LB Croydon
- City Tower and City Place House, City of London
- Sturt's Yard, LB Hackney
- 53-59 High Street New Malden KT3 4BU, RB Kingston upon Thames
- Block C- Land North of Westfield London Ariel way, LB Hammersmith and Fulham
- 30 Wootton Street, LB Lambeth
- Global Switch House, 3 Nutmeg Lane, London, LB Tower Hamlets
- Former Battersea Power Station, Kirtling Street, LB Wandsworth
- Westminster House, 7 Millbank, City of Westminster

Key Engagements

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

- I had my regular meeting with Andy Roe, the London Fire Commissioner, on 14 May
- I visited Dumplings' Legend in China Town and Mildreds in Soho on 17 May to launch London Eats – a celebration of the capital's diverse food and drink offer and part of the Let's Do London campaign
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 17 May
- I attended the Dementia Charter Launch at the Museum of London on 18 May
- I chaired the London COVID Business Forum on 18 May

- I visited Switch Mobility, an English bus manufacturer based in Sherburn-in-Elmet, North Yorkshire on 19 May to highlight London's leadership in bus electrification and to demonstrate how investment in London supports jobs and investment nationwide
- I attended the opening of the Eataly Food Hall in Bishopsgate on 20 May
- I hosted my regular conference call with NHS London & Public Health England on 20 May to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I joined a conference call of the London Leaders COVID-19 Committee on 20 May to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I visited the Northern Line Extension at Nine Elms Station on 21 May to see the progress that has been made and the ongoing works
- I had my regular meeting with Dame Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 21 May
- I attended the official opening of the London Blossom Garden at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 24 May
- I met with Dave Ward, General Secretary, Communication Workers Union, on 24 May to discuss issues facing communication and postal workers in London
- I joined a conference call hosted by Nadhim Zahawi MP, Minister for COVID Vaccine Deployment, Department of Health and Social Care, with the M10 Mayors on 25 May to discuss vaccine deployment
- I had my regular conference call with Transport for London on 25 May
- I met with the M10 group of Metro Mayors on 25 May
- I visited Liverpool on 26 May to meet with Steve Rotherham, Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, and to visit Tate Liverpool and the International Slavery Museum at the Royal Albert Dock
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 27 May
- I joined a conference call of the London Leaders COVID-19 Committee on 27 May to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I met with Nathan Bostock, Santander's UK CEO on 27 May to outline how significant improvements to the Santander bike scheme over the next three years – including the introduction of e-bikes next year and the scheme's expansion to new areas of London – will help it continue to thrive
- I visited William Cuffay House, Pellier St, Walworth, part of Southwark's ambitious New Homes Programme, on 1 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 1 June
- I joined a conference call of the London Leaders COVID-19 Committee on 1 June to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I attended the opening of the London Design Biennale at Somerset House on 1 June
- I visited West Acton Primary School on 2 June to reiterate my commitment to a zero carbon London by 2030 and announce a 'retrofit revolution' through a package of measures to create ultra-low carbon buildings, to tackle climate change and create green jobs
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Stephen House, the Deputy Police Commissioner, on 2 June
- I had an introductory meeting with Dr Josephine Sauvage, Regional Clinical Lead for Sustainability & Chair of North Central London CCG, on 3 June to discuss GLA and NHS ambitions and priorities on air quality and opportunities for collaboration
- I took part in the Memorial Service at Southwark Cathedral to mark the 4th Anniversary of the London Bridge Terror Attacks, on 3 June
- I hosted my regular conference call with NHS London & Public Health England on 3 June to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London

- I met with Cllr Georgia Gould, Chair of London Councils, on 3 June
- I chaired the London Recovery Board meeting on 3 June
- I attended The Show Must Go On! at the Palace Theatre on 6 June
- I visited the Waterloo & City Line along with William Russell, the Lord Mayor of London, when it reopened on 7 June
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 7 June
- I chaired the AEB Mayoral Board on 7 June
- I took part in the live virtual transatlantic climate town hall event “From Local to Global – The Fight Against Climate Change” with the Mayor of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti, on 7 June
- I joined the Violent Crime Taskforce for a ride-along in Camden & Islington on 7 June
- I had my regular conference call with Transport for London on 8 June
- I had an introductory meeting with Sebastian Siemiatkowski, Founder of Klarna, on 8 June
- I joined a conference call of the London Leaders COVID-19 Committee on 8 June to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I chaired the Transport for London Board meeting on 9 June
- I attended the London Assembly Plenary on 10 June to discuss COVID-19 and current performance and future challenges for the Greater London Authority, Transport for London, London Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Police Service
- I hosted my regular conference call with NHS London & Public Health England on 10 June to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London
- I had my regular meeting with the London Ambulance Service on 10 June
- I joined a conference call of the London Leaders COVID-19 Committee on 10 June to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on London

Ends