

6th Mayor's Report to the Assembly MQT – 16 November 2016

This is my sixth Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 6 October to 2 November

Executive Summary

Announcing increase in the London Living Wage

On 31 October, I was pleased to announce an increase in the London Living Wage, which has now increased from £9.40 to £9.75 per hour. I also revealed that another 309 employers have signed up to pay their staff the capital's hourly rate over the last 12 months. That brings the total number of accredited businesses in London to 1,033 and means that London accounts for over one third of businesses paying the Living Wage in the United Kingdom.

Devolution plans to deliver transformed services for rail passengers

On 14 October, I presented the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, with the business case for the further devolution of London's suburban rail services to TfL.

The plan sets out how a better integrated and more reliable suburban rail network would improve services for millions of passengers, many of whom are being severely let down by suburban rail services out of stations like London Bridge and Waterloo.

Heroes' Return Parade

On 18 October, London welcomed the record-breaking Olympic and Paralympic athletes who thrilled the nation at the Rio 2016 Games.

Trafalgar Square hosted Heroes' Return, with the Queen's Bands of the Grenadier Guards and Coldstream Guards providing a spectacular opening to the event. The Olympic and Paralympic teams were then introduced to the crowds for a jubilant celebration that included big-screen footage of their achievements in Rio, as well as music performances and interviews with the athletes. I also spoke in praise of the achievements of all athletes who took part.

Lord Harris launches report on improving London's terror preparedness

On 28 October, Lord Toby Harris launched his significant and wide-ranging independent report into what could be done to improve London's resources and readiness to respond to a major terrorist incident. Lord Harris goes on to make 127 recommendations for the GLA and functional bodies, the Government and other agencies to consider.

A formal response to the Lord Harris Review will be published in due course.

Outlining my plans to create 'A City for all Londoners'

On 24 October, I outlined my plans to create a better city for all Londoners, where no community is left behind and where everyone has the opportunities they need to fulfil their potential.

My 'A City for all Londoners' document is the first step towards the creation of a new London Plan, the document which sets the rules for how London develops, as well as my other statutory strategies.

It builds on my election manifesto and sets out how I plan to respond to the big changes London faces.

The document is now open to consultation and I am calling on all Londoners to feed back their views on London's future. The document can be viewed online at www.london.gov.uk/cityforall.

Policing, Crime and Security

Lord Harris launches report on improving London's terror preparedness

On 28 October, Lord Toby Harris launched his significant and wide-ranging independent report into what could be done to improve London's resources and readiness to respond to a major terrorist incident.

I appointed Lord Toby Harris of Haringey to undertake this independent London-wide strategic review in my first weeks in office, following the terrorist attacks in Paris and Brussels, which were followed by an attack in Nice.

The Lord Harris review commends London's emergency services for their improved major incident readiness, with responses now substantially faster and more effective than five years ago. He believes that the quality and effectiveness of the work done by the intelligence agencies and the counter-terrorist police here is amongst the best in the world.

Lord Harris goes on to make 127 recommendations for the GLA and functional bodies, the Government and other agencies to consider, including:

- The Metropolitan Police to further explore the use of temporary barriers to protect against a Nice style attack in London.
- A London-wide pilot of a new public alert technology – so Londoners can be advised of a major terrorist attack with messages sent direct to mobile devices.
- CCTV to be installed on all underground and mainline trains and more easily accessible to emergency services in an emergency.
- COBR protocol to be changed so that the Mayor always attends meetings that affect London – with greater clarity around the role of the Mayor in a major incident.
- Consideration to be given to the introduction of a new MOPAC adviser on counter-terrorism, and Mayoral Adviser for Resilience.
- The Home Office to fully fund the National and International Capital Cities Grant (NICC), which currently costs the Metropolitan Police approximately £340 million a year.
- Security measure on the river Thames to be strengthened.

- The police and security services should work with businesses, local authorities and others to provide better information on how to prevent a terrorist attack, and what to do if the worst happens.
- The Department of Health should provide extra resources to the London Ambulance Service in recognition of the additional demands placed on them as the provider of services in the capital.

Lord Toby Harris says he would not at present recommend any further increase in the number of armed officers beyond the current planned uplift of 600, given the resources available and the essential need to preserve our model of policing by consent.

A formal response to the Lord Harris Review will be published in due course.

Knife Crime Summit

On 13 October, my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, held a special summit to help inform a tough new approach to tackling knife crime, which the Commissioner and I also attended.

The event brought together around 150 Londoners, including young adults, victims, community leaders, experts and professionals from schools, hospitals, the police and criminal justice partners, in order to help pave the way for a more collaborative and effective strategy for keeping young Londoners safe.

Co-chairing the event alongside my Deputy Mayor for Policing was 22-year-old Reiss Hall from Battersea, who has witnessed knife crime at first hand.

Yvonne Lawson, who lost her 17-year-old son Godwin to a knife attack in 2010, and Headteacher Dr Susan Tranter, who lost a pupil at her Edmonton school, both now work in knife crime prevention also addressed the summit to share their experiences. Other speakers included Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, Islington community leader Reverend Gavin Jacobs, surgeon Professor Roger Kneebone, and Emily Thomas, Governor of HMP Young Offenders Institute Isis in South London, which holds sentenced young adults and category C offenders who are aged 18-30.

Knife crime accounts for almost half of all fatal homicides in the capital and has risen 16 per cent in the last two years. I am determined to crack down on this deadly problem.

Calling on Londoners to help inform new policing strategy

On 26 October, I invited Londoners to voice their experiences, ideas and concerns as I launched a major new survey to help inform my new strategy for policing and crime.

Londoners are being asked to give their opinions and insights on a range of policing issues, from local policing and tackling violence against women and girls, to protecting young people and preventing terrorism.

This also includes their own experiences of being a victim of crime, interacting with the police and how safe they feel in the capital.

The new survey will run for three weeks and the results will help finalise my plans for policing the capital over the next four years, and inform my work to prevent crime, seek swifter justice, cut reoffending and make the city safer for everyone.

The survey is running on the Talk London website until 16th November. A draft Plan will be published following the survey, for formal consultation, with the final Police and Crime Plan published before the end of this financial year.

Launch of first 'live chat' service for victims

On 27 October, I launched a new online 'live chat' service for victims of crime in the capital who may find it difficult to access support over the phone or in person.

London live chat is the first service of its kind in the UK. It is run by the independent charity, Victim Support (VS) and funded by MOPAC.

The text-based London live chat service offers a safe online space for people to talk openly about their experience of crime, providing anonymity and a quick response. The service is free, confidential and staffed by trained support workers, who offer emotional and practical support tailored to people's needs.

Anyone who has been affected by crime in London, whether or not the crime has been reported to the police, can use the service.

London live chat can be accessed on Victim Support's website at: www.victimsupport.org.uk/livechatlondon and children and young people will have access to the live chat service via the charity's youth programme website at: www.youandco.org.uk/livechatlondon.

Live chat users will be able to type their comments or questions into the designated section and will receive responses almost immediately. The service operates Monday to Friday, from noon-7.30pm.

Roll out of Body Worn Video

On 17 October, to mark the roll out of body worn video across the MPS, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe and I visited Lewisham to meet MPS officers and learn about their experience of using the cameras, whilst witnessing first-hand how the technology works. This follows the world's largest trial of body worn video, across ten London boroughs over 12 months and wide-ranging public consultation and academic evaluation.

Over the coming months cameras will now be issued across all 32 boroughs and a number of front-line specialist roles, including overt firearms officers. Once rolled out, the cameras will be in use by more officers in a single city than anywhere else in the world to date.

These confidence boosting cameras have helped reduce complaints and make our officers more accountable and we know most Londoners are supportive of them.

The deployment of all 22,000 cameras will be managed in a phased approach and is anticipated to be complete by next summer.

Annual police memorial service

On 20 October, I joined His Royal Highness Prince Harry and MPS Commissioner, Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, in attending the annual police memorial service at the Police Training College in Hendon.

Led by Senior Chaplin Jonathan Osborne and Rt Rev'd Robert Wickham, Bishop of Edmonton, the memorial honoured more than 650 officers and staff who have died whilst working for the MPS.

Every single day our brave and dedicated police officers put themselves in danger, out on the capital's streets, to keep us safe. I am incredibly proud to have such a committed police service working so tirelessly to protect us.

The service was about paying tribute to those men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Transport

Government's aviation announcement

On 25 October, following the announcement that the Government plans to support an additional runway at Heathrow airport, I made it clear that that I believe this to be the wrong decision for London and the whole of Britain.

A new runway at Heathrow will be devastating for air quality across London – air pollution around the airport is already above legal levels of NO2.

Heathrow already exposes more people to aircraft noise than Paris CDG, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Munich and Madrid combined. A third runway would mean an extra 200,000 people impacted, exposing 124 more schools and 43,200 more schoolchildren to an unacceptable level of noise.

I believe an expanded Gatwick would have boosted our economy without causing these huge air and noise pollution problems and it could be built quicker and cheaper.

I will continue to challenge this decision and I am exploring how I can best be involved in any legal process over the coming months.

Most urgently, the Government must set out how it's possible for Londoners not to suffer from the additional air and noise pollution that we know will be created by an additional runway at Heathrow.

They also need to guarantee that they will fully fund the billions of pounds needed to improve road and rail connections to Heathrow, as Londoners cannot be expected to pick up the bill for this.

Jubilee Line Night Tube launches

On 7 October, the Jubilee line became the third Night Tube service to be launched, providing links to key venues like The O2 and Wembley, as it runs from Stanmore to Stratford.

I am also pleased to announce that Northern line services will run from High Barnet and Edgware, via the Charing Cross branch, to Morden, from Friday 18 November.

In addition, Piccadilly line Night Tube services will now also start on 16 December, fulfilling my pledge to get to have five lines running by the end of the year.

The Piccadilly Night Tube will run between Cockfosters and Heathrow Terminal 5. It will help Londoners working shifts to get to and from work and make it even easier to access the capital's nightlife. The services will also make travel to the airport quicker and easier for those catching early weekend flights.

The Night Tube services have proven a huge success with Londoners, with more than one million journeys already made so far.

TfL is also introducing two completely new bus routes to complement the Jubilee line Night Tube service.

Route 114 will travel between Mill Hill and Ruislip Station, via Queensbury, Harrow and South Harrow and the 183 will operate between Golders Green and Pinner, calling at Kingsbury and Harrow. Both will run every half an hour through the night on Friday and Saturdays.

Devolution plans to deliver transformed services for rail passengers

On 14 October, I presented the Secretary of State for Transport, the Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP, with the business case for the further devolution of London's suburban rail services to TfL.

The plan sets out how a better integrated and more reliable suburban rail network would improve services for millions of passengers, many of whom are being severely let down by suburban rail services out of stations like London Bridge and Waterloo.

The principle of the further devolution of suburban rail services has already been agreed by the Government in a joint DfT/TfL prospectus in January 2016. However, the business case sets out how further rail devolution would also deliver substantial economic benefits, supporting the development of thousands of new homes and jobs in outer London, all while remaining cost neutral to Government.

Improvements TfL would introduce for passengers include:

- More frequent services, including increasing services longer term between Orpington and Victoria from 6 trains to 8 trains an hour, and trains from Bexleyheath to London from 7 trains to 9 trains per hour.
- Integrated fares and ticketing, with any freeze in TfL fares also being applied to devolved rail routes within London.
- Cleaner, refurbished and safer stations with all day staffing, turn up and go services for those with accessibility needs, and more reliable trains.
- Installing more ticket gates, introducing Oyster and contactless payment where they're not already available, and providing more or better ticket machines.
- Integrated branding and information for passengers across London's entire public transport network, including adding newly devolved stations/lines to the Tube map

Rail devolution would ensure better links between London rail services and the local communities they serve, with better coordinated decision-making across rail networks, and closer collaboration with local authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships. It would be a catalyst for further regeneration and support thousands of new homes and jobs.

Ten million journeys made with new 'Hopper' fare

On 21 October, I was delighted to reveal that more than 10 million journeys have already been made using my new bus 'Hopper' fare. The new fare enables passengers to take a £1.50 bus or tram journey and then change onto another bus or tram for free within one hour of touching in at the start of their journey.

It is automatically given to anyone who uses pay as you go with a contactless bank payment or Oyster card. The 'Hopper' is of particular benefit to Londoners on lower incomes who rely on the bus service to get around.

The most popular bus to 'Hop' onto is the Route 18, which runs from Sudbury & Harrow Road station to Euston Station via Kensal Green.

Around 200,000 journeys also involved the London Tram network in south London, with 80,000 switching from a bus to a tram and 65,000 changing from a tram to a bus.

National Hate Crime Awareness Week

During National Hate Crime Awareness Week between 8-15 October, TfL joined with the Police to reassure passengers and transport staff alike that hate crime on the transport network will not be tolerated.

TfL worked with British Transport Police, Metropolitan Police Service and City of London Police, in hosting a series of more than 50 joint engagement events across London, advising that if anyone witnesses, or is a victim of any sort of hate crime, they should report it, and it would be taken seriously and investigated.

TfL and the Police used the #WeStandTogether message to reassure the millions of people who use London's public transport each day that travelling across the capital is safe and welcoming for all.

A1 closures as part of Upper Holloway Bridge replacement

TfL has been reminding residents of a series of closures of a section of the A1 in Holloway that will enable the replacement of the century-old Upper Holloway Bridge. Once replaced, the new bridge will ensure the A1 is operational for many years to come.

TfL has been liaising closely with Islington Council to ensure that those affected by are kept fully informed about the closures and the work being undertaken to mitigate their impact on residents and businesses.

The programme of closures began on 21 October, and will allow vital utility services to be moved from the Upper Holloway Bridge to a specially-made utilities bridge. The road bridge needs to be replaced and the utilities bridge has been built to ensure Londoners do not experience an interruption to their services when it is rebuilt, and that future utility work will

not result in road closures or disruption. The most impactful closures have been scheduled to take place when the roads are quietest during the school holidays

The timing of the work is vital so that the electrification of the Gospel Oak to Barking line can take place on schedule, improving rail services and doubling capacity on this route.

TfL advertising contract with Outdoor Plus to generate £13m

TfL has announced the appointment of Outdoor Plus as its advertising partner to bring digital advertising screens to road underpasses across the capital. The selection followed a competitive tender process and will see the network of roadside screens generate at least £13 million to reinvest in modernising the transport network over ten years.

The contract will see the introduction of these new screens at six road underpass locations along main arterial routes, including the A3 Kingston, the A40 in Ealing and the northern ring road at Wembley Way. These six sites will be viewed by an estimated half a million road users a day. Subject to planning permission, a further three sites could also be added.

The TfL advertising estate is one of the largest in the world, making up 20 per cent of all out-of-home advertising in the UK and 40 per cent of the London market. Making the best use of this estate is part of TfL's wider commercial approach, ensuring TfL can deliver a modern and affordable public transport network.

Through work with advertising partners like Outdoor Plus, TfL is revitalising the estate with new advertising assets, giving the TfL advertising portfolio both reach and relevance in a continually changing market.

Deputy Mayor for Transport officially opens new West Croydon bus station

On October 12, my Deputy Mayor for Transport, Val Shawcross, officially opened a new bus station in West Croydon.

The station which cost £4.5 million has been completely rebuilt with an open, pedestrian-friendly layout, and 21 per cent increased capacity. The station will serve 25 bus routes and 150 buses per hour at peak times, with 23,000 passengers able to use it every day.

Situated on the site of the previous station, it will provide close links to the London Overground station and Tram station.

The new bus station was designed by TfL's in-house team. They ensured the new low-rise building will make a significant and positive contribution to both the immediate environment and the wider Croydon town centre.

Plans for major transformation of Ilford station unveiled

On 17 October, Network Rail announced it had submitted proposals for a new station building in Ilford, as part of the improvements being delivered for the Crossrail project.

The new station building has been designed to stand out as a recognisable landmark on Cranbrook Road and to be a prominent building that is visible from the surrounding area.

Further improvements will also be delivered to prepare the station for the start of Elizabeth line services, including longer platforms, improved lighting, signage, customer information points, CCTV and overhead information screens.

TfL has recently opened a new ticket hall at Ilford station on York Road as part of its station upgrades. The London Borough of Redbridge is also carrying out improvements to the appearance of the local area around the station as part of work to improve public spaces.

From May 2017, the first new trains will be progressively introduced between Shenfield in Essex and Liverpool Street Main Line station. From May 2019, up to 12 Elizabeth line trains an hour will allow passengers from Ilford to travel right through central London, making it quicker and easier to get to a range of destinations across the capital.

Santander Cycles light the way for Jessica Ennis-Hill and London's cyclists

TfL and Santander have announced that 4,000 Santander Cycles have been fitted with innovative Blaze Laserlights to make riders more visible and increase their confidence on the roads. Over the next nine months, the lights will be fitted to the rest of the fleet of 11,500 bicycles.

As the evenings get darker and with the clocks now having gone back, Santander ambassador and Olympian, Jessica Ennis-Hill, led a cycle ride along the East-West Cycle Superhighway with the Blaze Laserlights guiding their way. The women following Jessica Ennis-Hill were new to cycling and with safer infrastructure and improved Santander Cycles, they will hopefully now feel more confident on the roads.

Blaze Laserlights project the symbol of a bicycle six metres in front of the cycle, onto the ground, making the cyclist more visible to those around them. Over the winter months the number of rides each day falls below the warmer seasons, but with the lights the aim is to encourage more people to keep up the cycling habit.

After a successful trial with overwhelmingly positive feedback and strong independent test results, the lights will provide a bigger, brighter presence on the road and early warning of a cyclist's approach.

All London black cabs to take cards and contactless payments from Monday

From 31 October, taxi passengers are now able to pay for any journey using just credit and debit cards, including contactless payments.

Although many of London's black taxis have accepted cards for years, cash has remained the standard form of payment, but now all taxis will have to carry a card payment device, ending uncertainty for customers about how they will be able to pay.

As part of my Taxi and Private Hire Action Plan, this will make life easier for passengers, improve safety and ensure London has a world-class taxi and private hire market where all providers can thrive.

It has the support of the campaign group Future Taxis, which represents the major London taxi driver associations (including the LTDA, the LCDC and Unite), the taxi booking apps (Hailo and Gett) and LTC, the largest London taxi manufacturer.

Until next year, card payment devices can be fixed or hand-held, but from January 2017 they will need to be installed in the passenger compartment.

Review of the Garden Bridge Project

I am committed to ensuring that Londoners have full information about how public money is being spent and, as part of this commitment, I have initiated a review of the Garden Bridge project.

The Garden Bridge review will consider whether taxpayers are receiving value for money. It will look in detail at the procurement process around the project, and whether required standards have been met around transparency and openness, going back to the beginning of the project.

I have approved the appointment of Dame Margaret Hodge MP to lead the independent review of the Garden Bridge project and expenditure of up to £25,000, to procure and appoint specialist consultancy support for the review, if this is required.

Appeals services to the Congestion Charging Scheme

I have approved the award of a new contract for the provision of appeals services to the central London Congestion Charging Scheme and the Low Emission Zone, for a period of five years, with the right to extend for a further two years at an estimated value of £5.6 million.

I have agreed to delegate powers to the Executive Director of Development and Environment to execute the contract with the bidder submitting the most economically advantageous tender.

The Economy, Business, Enterprise and Regeneration

Announcing increase in the London Living Wage

On 31 October, I was pleased to announce an increase in the London Living Wage, which has now increased from £9.40 to £9.75 per hour. I also revealed that another 309 employers have signed up to pay their staff the capital's hourly rate over the last 12 months. That brings the total number of accredited businesses in London to 1,033 and means that London accounts for over one third of businesses paying the Living Wage in the United Kingdom.

Since 2011, the London Living Wage has increased by 17.5 per cent and more than 60,000 workers in the capital have benefited from the increase. Over the last year, major brands including the British Library, IKEA, Majestic Wine, Lloyds TSB and London's Borough Market have all become accredited as London Living Wage employers.

I made the announcement at the British Library, a newly accredited London Living Wage employer, and I then visited Alchemy Café on Ludgate Broadway, who have also signed up to pay the London Living Wage.

I am leading by example by ensuring that all staff in the GLA Group are now paid the London Living Wage and I am also working with local authorities to encourage them to follow the excellent example set by the London Boroughs of Brent, Ealing and Greenwich, who have increased accreditations by offering discounts in business rates to London Living Wage employers.

Leading by example on low pay

I am determined to create a fairer and more equal city, where all employees are safe in the comfort that they will be paid a decent wage and I believe that City Hall and the Mayoral bodies must lead by example on this crucial issue.

I was therefore shocked to learn that some Transport for London subcontractors were being paid less than the London Living Wage under my predecessor. These 18 contracted cleaning and security staff were working at the London Transport Museum.

Their cases were brought to my attention by trade union representatives, during the regular discussions I now hold in my drive for a constructive engagement with unions.

I immediately acted to increase their salary and to insist that as part of TfL's new cleaning and security contracts, all employees, whether directly employed by TfL, or employed through an agency, are to be paid the London Living Wage.

I will also work to ensure that all staff working across the GLA family are paid the London Living Wage and I've tasked my Deputy Mayor's with carrying out a full look at each of their areas to ensure that there is nobody being paid less than the London Living Wage across the GLA Group.

I hope that more and more businesses across our great city will follow suit.

Meeting Indian businesses to show London is open

On 12 October, I met leading Indian businesses to explore investment opportunities and to reassure them London is open for business.

I hosted a meeting at City Hall with 17 leading Indian foreign investment companies, who are already working with London, to discuss further expanding their links with the capital following the EU referendum result.

I reassured them that Indian businesses, which employ nearly 50,000 people in the capital, remain welcome post-Brexit and that London is open to investment, trade and talent from around the globe.

I am keen to further strengthen ties as Indian companies are the second biggest foreign investors in London. According to data from London & Partners, in the last ten years London has attracted more foreign direct investment from India than Japan and China and only the US invests more in our capital. India is also a crucial trading partner for London and a significant market for the capital's businesses, with the value of London exports to India amounting to £1.29bn in 2014.

Both the Confederation of Indian Industry and UK Business India Council were represented at the meeting, which was chaired by Rajesh Agrawal, my Deputy Mayor for Business and Enterprise.

Calling for more powers over skills to protect London's economy

On 20 October, I called on the Government to devolve more powers to London to develop skills among our workforce and to keep the capital globally competitive in the wake of Brexit.

I have stressed to ministers the importance of pressing ahead with a skills devolution deal so City Hall has the tools it needs to ensure the training available in the capital plugs the skills gaps for businesses.

London's continuing success, underlined by the capital being named the most powerful city in the Global Power City Index, relies both on boosting Londoners' skills and having access to the very best global talent.

Businesses in London employ a large number of workers from the EU who contribute a great deal to the vibrancy of the city's economy. Following Britain's decision to leave the EU, the impact on the flow of skilled migrant workers remains unclear.

The number of skills shortage vacancies in London has more than doubled in four years from 14,000 in 2011 to 37,000 in 2015, a figure which could worsen because of the uncertainty of leaving the EU. Currently European workers from the European Economic Area contribute significantly to London's economy, filling 25 per cent of all construction jobs and 32 per cent of accommodation and food services jobs.

I have stressed that if the Government opts for a so-called 'hard Brexit' London does not currently have sufficient powers to train workers in the capital. I remain committed to maintaining a strong mixed local labour base and skills system to meet the capital's needs, as well as retaining and attracting the very best talent from around the globe.

I am calling for:

- The powers to develop a home-grown talent pipeline equipped with the skills London's businesses need to ensure they are globally competitive.
- The powers, funding and responsibility London needs to take a strategic approach to post-16 skills to meet the needs of London's economy and help reduce youth unemployment. This includes 16-18 skills provision, adult skills and the careers information, advice and guidance needed.
- Replacement funding for the European Social Fund post-Brexit, which is an important source of investment in skills and employment support in London.
- The devolution of further education funding for 16-19 year olds and adults to create high-performing colleges to meet the needs of London's economy and help reduce youth unemployment.

I am also launching a Skills for Londoners taskforce, which will develop a city-wide, strategic approach to skills, mapping gaps and commissioning provision that meets the needs of London's economy.

Issuing as strong warning that Brexit must work for the City

On 27 October, I used a keynote speech at the City of London Corporation dinner to deliver a strong warning about the potential impact of Brexit on Britain's economy.

I warned that Britain's decision to leave the EU could have the biggest impact on the City of London since the reforms of the 1980s.

I am calling for a seat at the Brexit negotiating table and for the UK to retain access to the both the single market and the best talent from around the world.

More than 10 per cent of City workers are from other EU countries, and I am determined to ensure that businesses will be able to retain and attract the very best talent from around the globe, and I am therefore urging the Government to reform the system.

I am also calling for the Government to follow my lead by investing in infrastructure projects, that will not only help to reassure investors and stimulate growth, but protect us from the potential economic bumps from Brexit.

I am urging the Chancellor to use the Autumn Statement to boost confidence with a number of measures, such as improving the proposed reforms to business rates and providing a cast-iron commitment to delivering Crossrail 2, the Bakerloo Line extension and improvements to suburban rail services.

Electric Avenue, Brixton

On 17 October, I visited Brixton to celebrate the launch of the refurbishment of Electric Avenue and was joined by music legend Eddie Grant.

Electric Avenue, so called because it was the first street in the UK to be lit by electric light, has been completely renovated thanks to more than £1 million investment from the GLA High Street Fund, Lambeth council and TfL.

The scheme has not only provided new gazebo style stalls for market traders, with improved power and water supplies, but traders will soon be able to take advantage of electronic payment devices, making transactions more efficient.

The market has also received more authentic lighting and resurfaced pavements and new crossings are making Electric Avenue and the surrounding area more pedestrian friendly and accessible.

London's diverse markets are an essential part of our city, not least because they create a place for communities to come together and celebrate culture and heritage but they also play an important role in wider efforts to promote London to international visitors.

Ada National College Digital Skills launch

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, helped officially launch Ada, The National College for Digital Skills with Robert Halfon MP, Minister of State for Education.

This is the first Further Education College in 23 years and will be devoted to teaching advanced technical skills to support the rapidly-growing digital economy. The college received £18.2 million from the London Local Enterprise Partnership's Further Education Capital Fund and £13.4 million from the Department for Education.

The College, based in Tottenham Hale, will support over 6,000 students of which over 100 will be Higher Level Apprenticeships. The College is focused on using digital skills as a tool for social mobility and within 5 years, has the ambition for 50% of their students to be young

women (to address the gender imbalance in the sector) and 50% to come from low income households. It will also create 78 full time jobs and support SME's and micro start-ups.

L&P International Student and Innovation Award Event

On 2 November, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, spoke at the L&P International Student and Innovation Award Event at Central St Martins in Granary Square.

Joanne spoke about how London remains open to talent and also championed London's university sector. Each year London's international students, who contribute an estimated £3 billion to London's economy, design amazing products and come up with innovative ideas and inventions in tech, science, creative arts.

The event brought together, for the first time, the city's universities and the best ideas to find London's most 'innovative international students'.

Croydon Growth Zone – Business Rates Funding

I have endorsed, in principle, the proposed funding package for the critical infrastructure required for redevelopment in the Croydon Opportunity Area.

This will include the creation of a designated area by the Secretary of State which will allow the London Borough of Croydon to retain 50 per cent of the growth in business rate income locally for a period of up to 16 years, with an option for a 3 year extension if required. This is in order to finance and repay the £309 million of borrowing it will be undertaking to finance its proposed contribution to the design and construction costs of the infrastructure investment.

The GLA's share of business rates will go directly towards funding the critical infrastructure costs. This would result in the GLA foregoing an estimated 20 per cent of any growth under the business rates retention scheme.

I have also agreed to delegate to the Executive Director, Development, Enterprise and Environment, and the Executive Director of Resources, to agree the detailed terms of the GLA's commitment to forego its 20 per cent share of growth under the business rates retention scheme, and the associated legal and funding arrangements, in consultation with LB Croydon and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

European Regional Development Fund commitment of funding

I have approved the commitment and award of up to £24,448,443 European Regional Development Fund monies to applicants of Calls for Proposals to support jobs and growth, and that, following on from the award of funding, officers of the GLA's European Programmes Management Unit will manage the Funding Agreements.

Housing and Land

No Nights Sleeping Rough taskforce

On 6 October, I launched a new taskforce dedicated to helping tackle the rise in the number of people sleeping rough on London's streets.

Recent statistics have revealed that 8,096 people slept on the streets of the capital last year (at least one night), a seven per cent increase compared to the previous year.

To address this issue I have set up a 'No Nights Sleeping Rough' taskforce, chaired by my Deputy Mayor for Housing, James Murray, to bring together key players to help rough sleepers and prevent rough sleeping. The group will focus efforts across the capital to tackle rough sleeping, identifying what new interventions may be needed to tackle specific problems, and lobbying Government for support where necessary.

The taskforce will see officials from the Government working together with the five London boroughs with the highest number of rough sleepers - Westminster, Camden, Lambeth, Tower Hamlets, and the City - and four leading voluntary sector organisations that play a leading role in tackling rough sleeping in the capital - Crisis, St Mungo's, Thames Reach, and Homeless Link. The taskforce will also work with players across the public sector, including the Metropolitan Police, the NHS, and TfL.

Fast-tracking more public land for affordable homes

On 1 November, I announced two more sites that TfL will bring forward as part of my plan to fast-track public land to deliver more genuinely affordable homes for Londoners.

I have speeded up the building of new homes on land owned by TfL after it identified the potential for up to 10,000 new homes at 75 sites across 300 acres of its land.

The two sites announced are at Landmark Court in Southwark and Fenwick South, near Clapham North station, in Lambeth, both of which have the capacity to deliver new homes alongside commercial and retail space.

Fenwick South will deliver a community centre and 55 new homes, all of which will be social housing. TfL is delivering the project on land owned by Lambeth Council as part of a planning agreement, although there was no obligation to build out the homes until 2025. In line with my commitment, TfL will now fast-track this site, with work expected to begin early next year.

Landmark Court, which is in walking distance from Borough Market and London Bridge station, has the potential to unlock more than 25,000 sqm of development. The site has potential for mixed use development, including commercial and retail space, and potentially more than 100 homes, of which at least 35 per cent will be affordable. TfL has now launched the tender for developers and is aiming to have a partner identified early next year to develop the site.

The two sites will contribute towards my commitment to bring forward TfL land for homes, of which 50 per cent across the TfL portfolio will be affordable.

Environment

Second Phase of Air Quality Consultation

Following my first air quality consultation, I have now set out bold proposals for improving air quality in the capital. These proposals include:

- Delivering the Central London Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in 2019, a year ahead of schedule;
- Extending the ULEZ to the North and South Circular in 2019 or later; and
- Starting the formal consultation necessary to introduce the 'T charge' for older polluting vehicles in October 2017.

The proposals are part of my second air quality consultation, and I now ask for Londoners to let me have their views on my detailed proposals to help clean-up our filthy air.

New research shows that people living in London's most deprived communities, often by busy roads, are on average exposed to 25 per cent higher levels of harmful NO₂ pollution.

It is estimated that the equivalent of 9,400 premature deaths occur each year in London due to illnesses caused by long-term exposure to air pollution and 448 schools in London are in areas exceeding legal air quality levels. Diesel vehicles are recognised as a major contributor to pollution and associated health impacts in London and I want to phase out these vehicles from the bus, taxi and other fleets.

I have also called on Government to put in place a national diesel scrappage scheme to help people replace vehicles affected by the proposals. There was overwhelming support for this in the first round of my consultation. I also want fiscal incentives, like vehicle excise duty, to be reformed so they support my proposals and encourage people to own and use the cleanest vehicles.

To further support the ULEZ, TfL is leading by example and will ensure all double decker buses operating in the ULEZ will be hybrid and all single decker buses will be fully electric or hydrogen.

For full details of the consultation proposals please visit: www.tfl.gov.uk/airquality-consultation.

ClientEarth judicial review

On 2 November, I welcomed a High Court ruling that the Government has broken the law by failing to tackle illegal levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) air pollution as quickly as possible.

The case, which was brought by environmental legal group ClientEarth, must be a wake-up call to the Government to finally take effective action to improve air quality in London and around the country.

It is estimated that 9,400 deaths occur each year in London due to illnesses caused by long-term exposure to air pollution, while 448 schools in London are in areas exceeding legal air quality levels.

The ruling on ClientEarth's challenge, in which I took part as an interested party, means that the Government's existing plan for improving air quality will be quashed and ministers will now have to put in place new measures to remove illegal levels of NO₂ air pollution.

Just one week after the decision to expand Heathrow, I believe that the Government must use this opportunity to set out clearly how it is possible for Londoners not to suffer from the additional air and noise pollution that will be created by an additional runway. This ruling also raises serious questions about whether such a runway can ever be legally delivered.

Launch of anti-engine idling project

My Air Quality Fund is supporting a consortium of 12 London boroughs (led by the City of London) with £127,000 over 3 years to deliver a London-wide anti-engine idling project. The project trains volunteers to go out and engage with drivers and passers-by about engine idling in a positive and friendly way, and for the duration of the project volunteers will go out one day a month.

In the week commencing 17 October, the 12 participating boroughs each ran their first idling action day in their borough and this was marked by an event at City Hall on 18 October, which was attended by my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues and representatives of the participating boroughs.

Mayor's Entrepreneur Competition 2017

On 19 October, I met the 15 student interns helping to promote my 2017 Entrepreneur Competition.

I heard about what they have been doing to promote the competition in order to ensure as many students as possible are aware of my call for innovative business ideas to improve London's environment in ground-breaking, smart ways.

The winners will be announced in March 2017 and all London higher education students can now submit their ideas on the website at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/smart-london-and-innovation/mayor-entrepreneur-2017#acc-i-40812>.

Education and Youth

London Teachers Innovation Fund

On 12 October, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, welcomed the 11 winners of my London Teachers Innovation Fund to City Hall to introduce and share good practice on their projects.

The London Teachers Innovation Fund offers exceptional teachers in London a chance to win up to £10,000 to support innovative educational projects. The 11 teachers will work on projects that will reach 49 schools and over 3000 pupils this academic year.

There are a wide range of projects focusing on supporting subject expertise and pedagogical teaching approaches as well as targeting specific groups of children who traditionally underachieve, for example those with Special Education Needs (SEN), at both primary and secondary phase. The Fund is managed by education charity SHINE and details of the 11 winning projects can be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/education-and-youth/improving-standards-schools-and-teaching/london-teacher-innovation>.

Food Growing Schools event

My Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, spoke at the Food Growing Schools (FGSL)

celebration event, which aims to get every school in London growing their own food. This event celebrated the achievements of the FGSL project to date and launched its interim evaluation report.

Joanne also visited the Schools' Marketplace, where school children were selling their school grown fruit and vegetables to GLA staff and City Hall visitors.

Diversity, Social Policy and Community Relations

Encouraging Londoners to learn more about city's communities

On 17 October, I visited the Black Cultural Archives (BCA) heritage centre in Brixton as part of Black History Month celebrations. I praised the work of the BCA in highlighting and celebrating the lives of people of African and Caribbean descent in the capital and across the country.

I had a tour of BCA's new 'Rights of Passage: A Century of People Power' exhibition, and called on Londoners of all backgrounds to use Black History Month as an opportunity to learn about the stories, experiences and heritage of the city's diverse communities.

The BCA in Brixton is the first of its kind in the country, and I met with staff and volunteers to hear about the work they do to collect, preserve and celebrate the histories of people of African and Caribbean descent in Britain.

All London Voices' report

On 13 October, my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Matthew Ryder QC, spoke at the All London Voices report launch, together with Joanne McCartney, my Statutory Deputy Mayor.

The report, which was produced by the Black Training and Enterprise Group and the Coalition for Racial Equality Organisations, highlights the concerns, challenges and aspirations of young Londoners from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. The event provided a timely opportunity to engage with the community on these issues, and the start of an important dialogue on how we can collectively improve outcomes for all Londoners.

Multi-Faith Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Cathedral

On 19 October, my Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, spoke at the Multi-Faith Thanksgiving Service in St Paul's Cathedral to mark Barnardo's 150th Anniversary.

The audience was made up of 2,500 parents and children, volunteers, staff and supports and Barnardo's beneficiaries from London all over the UK.

Volunteering

Team London Young Ambassadors Youth Summit

On 11 October, Team London delivered a youth summit at the Copper Box at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park as part of the Team London Young Ambassador programme.

The Youth Conference was an excellent opportunity for over 1000 passionate young people to come together to hear inspirational stories about volunteering and learn how to make their own positive social change in their local communities. Participants also received a guided tour of the Olympic Park and its facilities.

The Team London Young Ambassadors programme aims to inspire young people to engage in social action, both in their school and their local community. The programme is already engaging with over 1,900 schools in London reaching over 400,000 young people across all boroughs. I hope that all those who attended left the event feeling excited to create even more positive impact in their local communities.

UK's largest careers speed-networking event for young people

On 20 October, Team London held its second careers speed-networking event for young people in the Nursey Pavilion at Lord's Ground. This youth careers education event saw over 500 volunteers from a variety of business sectors including finance, construction and IT, giving over 500 young people the benefit of their career experience, as well as guidance and advice in order to broaden horizons, raise aspirations and achieve their goals.

Annual Team London Awards

On 31 October, the 2016 Team London awards ceremony was held in the Chamber at City Hall. The annual awards are held to reward and recognise the valuable and vital contribution that volunteers in London make to both their local community and to our city.

The 2016 awards were the fifth Team London Award ceremony, with over 26 awards being announced across the four categories which are: my community, sports and healthy living, our environment and mentoring and coaching.

Volunteering brings about so many positive changes to the capitals communities, whilst also improving the quality of life of so many of London's residents.

I was delighted to address all of the guests at the Team London awards this year, including the many dedicated and committed volunteers in attendance and would like to congratulate all of those who received an award.

Culture and Events

Film Studios in Dagenham - Barking & Dagenham Tour

On 6 October, I opened The Cube, which is a scientific Research and Development site for small companies on the LondonEast-UK business park, and I then visited The White House artist-in-residency to meet the OnSide Youth Zone Team, followed by a meeting with local artists and Cultural Connectors at the Ice House Quarter.

As part of this tour, I announced a feasibility study into the creation of London's largest film studio in Dagenham, the first of its kind in 25 years. My Culture Team have partnered with

Film London, the London Local Enterprise Panel and the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, to investigate the cost benefits of developing a 17-acre site in Dagenham East.

The potential site for new studios at Dagenham East is located in front of London-east industrial park and has been scoped out because of its significantly large size, which presents the opportunity to build a new, bespoke facility. The area is also well connected with the District Line and Crossrail services nearby, allowing quick access to central London.

60th London Film Festival - Mayor's Gala

I was pleased to open the Mayor's Gala screening at the 60th London Film Festival at Odeon Leicester Square. The screening was the premiere of *Their Finest*, a British film directed by Danish director Lone Scherfig and starring Gemma Arterton and Bill Nighy.

London is the third busiest city for film production in the world after only Los Angeles and New York. The capital's world-class crew, locations, talent and competitive tax reliefs have sustained London's position in the top three cities.

Approximately three-quarters of the UK's film industry is based in and around London, and last year £1 billion was attracted to the city in inward investment from international film production.

Creative Land Trust to support artists' workspace

On 26 October, I gave a speech at the opening of Somerset House Studios, a new experimental workspace pioneered by Somerset House, where I announced that I am exploring plans for a Creative Land Trust to support London's artists through affordable creative workspace across the capital.

I am working with a consortium of entrepreneurs and philanthropists, known as 'Studiomakers', to tackle the problem of rising rents in the capital to ensure that artists and creatives are able to flourish and help to maintain London's status as the world's cultural capital.

The Creative Land Trust is an innovative solution to finance affordable creative workspace in London. The Artists' Workspace Study, commissioned in 2014, predicted the loss of 30 per cent of artists' workspace in London by 2019, leaving some 3,500 creatives without workspace in the capital. The booming residential market and liberalisation of planning regulations have resulted in hundreds of artists forced out of their workspaces and many out of the city.

Somerset House Studios is a model example of how genuinely affordable workspace can be made available to a wide range of artistic talent, bringing together producers, choreographers, architects, fashion designers, visual artists and creative entrepreneurs to create a vibrant community.

The proposed Creative Land Trust will enable access to finance and soft loans to secure ownership for permanent creative workspace. It will ensure that rents for creative workspace are kept affordable in the long term.

Firstly, there would be a loan fund to acquire workspace and secondly, the trust would look to protect buildings in perpetuity for use as affordable workspace. The trust will combine public funds, philanthropy and social impact investment.

Arts Council England and Outset Contemporary Art Fund are also supporting the feasibility study into the Creative Land Trust fund.

World Cities Culture Summit 2016

My Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons, gave the keynote speech at the fifth World Cities Culture Summit which took place in Moscow from 5 to 7 October. The World Cities Culture Forum is the biggest global network of senior leaders from 33 city governments, who are all championing the pivotal role of culture in cities. It has grown from 9 to 33 cities over the past 4 years.

As Chair of the World Cities Culture Forum, Justine opened this year's annual Summit alongside the Mayor of Moscow, Sergey Sobyenin, and she also led a panel discussion on culture as the golden thread for global cities.

The Summit received extensive media coverage and gathered leading cultural officials to share ideas and knowledge about culture's role in public policy in a world city context.

Music Venues Day

On 18 October, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries, Justine Simons, gave the opening address at the 3rd annual Music Venues Day, the industry gathering for grassroots music venues across the country. It took place at The Roundhouse, the iconic music venue celebrating its 50th birthday this year.

My Deputy Mayor's address outlined the work my team and I are doing to protect London's grassroots music venues and encourage new ones to open. She told over 500 venue owners my plan to introduce the 'agent of change' principle, so developers pay for soundproofing of flats built near venues and plans to introduce a Night Czar to work with all stakeholders in London to support our vibrant night time economy.

London Culture Forum

On 1 November, my Culture team led the first London Culture Forum Conference.

This inaugural conference is a collaboration between the GLA, London Councils, London First and Arts Council England, and brought together 100 senior officers from across all local authorities, City of London and other key agencies committed to improving London through arts and culture.

Africa on the Square

On 15 October, I attended Africa on the Square on Trafalgar Square, one of the highlights of the Black History Month programme for 2016. The event celebrates the culture of African communities in London and included a programme of live music, fashion show, talent show, family arts and crafts workshops and an African Market with a diverse mix of traders and caterers of African heritage.

I welcomed the audience from the stage, following a speech given by Kanya King MBE, the CEO and founder of the MOBO Awards. I spoke about how African cultures are beautifully woven into the tapestry of London life; from sports and popular culture to fashion and

academia. I also emphasised the valued contribution that African communities make to our city. I thanked the sponsors of Africa on the Square which this year included Air France, Lebara, World Remit and The Voice newspaper.

I was pleased to see the involvement of cultural and educational groups on the day, such as Black Cultural Archives, The Africa Centre and SOAS, University of London, and also promotions to encourage more people from the Black community to come forward as blood donors.

The event attracted up to 25,000 people throughout the day. My Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Matthew Ryder, also joined me at the event.

Diwali Festival

On 16 October, my Deputy Mayor for Business Rajesh Agrawal and I attended the Diwali Festival celebrations on Trafalgar Square. With a diverse audience of over 35,000 people enjoying the event, it was another great showcase of London's diversity with people of all backgrounds coming together. The day offered something for everyone, with Bollywood dance classes, children's activities such as lamp-making, as well as yoga, meditation and sari dressing workshops.

The festival began with a beautiful children's dance of the Four Eras of Hinduism on Trafalgar Square's main steps, and was swiftly followed by a public-participation garba dance on the main square. Guest Anita Rani joined me onstage for the formal opening of the event and the lighting of the Diwa lamp with the Diwali in London Committee Chair Sanjay Gadhbi.

The lively and varied stage line-up featured everything from classical, folk and popular dance and music artists to a BBC Asian Network programme hosted by Tommy Sandhu presenting Tasha Tah, Panjabi Hit Squad and Bhavan Dance. Audiences enjoyed a street food market alongside a wide variety of craft and community stalls, including one for Sewa Day (an international volunteering day celebrated primarily by Hindi and Sikh groups), and closing with a specially commissioned artistic performance of light dancers and light globes.

Diwali Festival was delivered with the support of the Diwali in London Committee, as well as presenting partner Lebara and supporting partners Jet Airways, Incredible India and BBC Asian Network.

Fire

No further cuts to London Fire Brigade

On 2 November, following my commissioning of an independent review into fire resource provision across London, Anthony Mayer has concluded that no further cuts should be made to the London Fire Brigade (LFB), and that overall, the Fire Brigade has dealt well with cuts imposed by my predecessor.

However, he argues that no more cuts can be made if the LFB it is to have sufficient resources to meet the challenges of the future and to keep Londoners safe.

I delivered on a key manifesto commitment when I appointed Anthony Mayer to assess the impact of reductions made to the service under the previous Mayor. Anthony was tasked with investigating whether the Fire Brigade needs any additional resources now or in the future, and its ability to effectively manage civil contingencies such as a flood or terror attack.

He has found that, despite reductions to frontline services, including the closure of 10 fire stations, the removal of 27 fire appliances and over 500 firefighter posts in order to make required savings of £100 million, the London Fire Brigade has performed well.

But while the Brigade has continued to hit its target of the first appliance being on the scene of an incident within an average of six minutes in nearly all of the capital's boroughs, he found the number of individual wards now not meeting average attendance time targets has risen, in particular where a fire station has been closed.

Anthony's report will help inform the next London Safety Plan. His recommendations include:

- Continual monitoring of performance data so that any negative impacts from cuts can be addressed.
- Considering options for rehousing some second appliances at different stations, to help improve second appliance response times.
- Assessing the resources needed to improve fire cover and second fire engine response times in higher risk areas.
- Asking the London Fire Commissioner to propose target response times for aerial appliances and fire rescue units, rather than just fire engines
- Ring-fencing funds to expand fire rescue unit capacity to tackle high-impact major incidents.

Sport and Olympic and Paralympic Legacy

Heroes' Return Parade

On 18 October, London welcomed the record-breaking Olympic and Paralympic athletes who thrilled the nation at the Rio 2016 Games.

Trafalgar Square hosted Heroes' Return, with the Queen's Bands of the Grenadier Guards and Coldstream Guards providing a spectacular opening to the event. The Olympic and Paralympic teams were then introduced to the crowds for a jubilant celebration that included big-screen footage of their achievements in Rio, as well as music performances and interviews with the athletes. I also spoke in praise of the achievements of all athletes who took part.

Team GB won 67 medals at Rio 2016, making history as the first ever nation to achieve more medals at an away Games having previously hosted. They also won more medals across more sports than at London 2012. In Rio they won medals across 19 sports, compared to 17 in London, and finished second in the medals table.

Paralympics GB won 147 medals and also finished second in the medal table. Their medal count was the highest since National Lottery funding was introduced for elite athletes in 1997. They smashed their medal target of 121 medals and won medals across 15 sports.

My Statutory Deputy Mayor, Joanne McCartney, also hosted a reception for 200 guests at Canada House, Trafalgar Square, who had attended the event. Joanne made a short speech to celebrate and honour the incredible efforts of our Olympians and Paralympians.

London 2017 World ParaAthletics Championships

I have approved the receipt of a maximum of £2 million from London 2017 to Team London, in order to support the volunteer delivery of the London 2017 World ParaAthletics Championships and IAAF World Championships (Summer of Athletics).

I have also given approval to enter into the required agreement with London 2017 for Team London to support the delivery of London 2017.

Finally, I agreed to spend up to £2 million on staffing, venues, selection events, training events and delivery partner, operational deployment, mobile volunteer pods, volunteer uniforms and expenses, refreshments and materials.

Here East

This month, the former Olympic Press and Broadcast Centre, Here East, launched a purpose-designed 68,000 sq ft space as its new innovation centre. The centre will provide a full range of services including accelerator and corporate innovation programmes, entrepreneurship courses for post-graduate students, prototyping facilities, and a state of the art technology lab.

At full occupancy, the centre will support up to 500 members and has capacity to spin-out scaling firms into other spaces across the estate. The innovation centre is set to open fully in spring 2017.

Old Oaks and Park Royal Development Corporation

Review findings reveals 'mess' left at Old Oak Common

On 1 November, I revealed that the plans to regenerate Old Oak in West London have been left in a mess by my predecessor, as I announced the findings of my review of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC).

I have given my full backing for the regeneration of Old Oak, but have called on Government to reduce the financial burden that the plans will place on Londoners.

I believe my predecessor rushed headlong into an agreement with Government to transfer land at Old Oak that was made on unfavourable terms compared to other major regeneration schemes in the country.

The review found that:

- A Memorandum of Understanding agreed by my predecessor and Government surrounding the proposed new station was hastily entered into and should have been agreed on more favourable terms.

- There is evidence that a greater level of Government funding has been made available to other areas along the HS2 line. For example, Birmingham will receive significant Government-led investment for a new Metro station.
- The positioning of a Crossrail Depot and maintenance facility in the core development area and the failures of the previous Mayor either to find a suitable relocation site, or to invest in engineering solutions that allow 'decking' over the facility, have meant that valuable development land has been lost, land values for adjacent sites depressed and the ability to create an attractive place has been compromised.

A series of recommendations were made, including:

- I will make a clear case to government that I will only agree to a land deal that is in the best interests of London. I believe the current offer could restrict the amount of genuinely affordable housing at Old Oak.
- I should continue to make a strong case to government to provide financial support and devolve further fiscal powers to London to meet the cost of infrastructure, which should not be the capital's burden alone.
- Discussions should take place with Government to determine if there are parcels of land in the north of Old Oak that can be transferred to OPDC early and ahead of the main deal being concluded to speed up development.
- A credible longer-term plan must be put in place for bringing forward a new commercial centre at Old Oak South, and TfL should conduct and present me with a thorough options appraisal for repositioning or retrofitting the Crossrail depot.
- A new Chair must be appointed to bring forward development and that residents and businesses should be involved in the planning process.
- Unnecessary cost and bureaucracy can be avoided by bringing some OPDC functions within my proposed new Homes for Londoners organisation.

Planning and Development

Outlining my plans to create 'A City for all Londoners'

On 24 October, I outlined my plans to create a better city for all Londoners, where no community is left behind and where everyone has the opportunities they need to fulfil their potential.

My 'A City for all Londoners' document is the first step towards the creation of a new 'London Plan' – the document which sets the rules for how London develops.

It builds on my election manifesto and sets out how I plan to respond to the big changes London faces. These include the pressure of a fast-growing population, the increasing diversity of Londoners, rising inequality, the uncertainty caused by the EU referendum result and the effects of climate change.

The document is now open to consultation and I am calling on all Londoners to feed back their views on London's future.

All feedback will help inform my policies across a range of areas – including planning, transport, housing, environment, culture, economic development, policing and crime and health inequalities.

Full versions of these strategies will be developed and published for further consultation in 2017.

The document can be viewed online at www.london.gov.uk/cityforall.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Orchard Lodge William Booth 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.

Whitechapel Estate, LB Tower Hamlets

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

Railway Approach Hampden Road, 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.

Dunedin Road, 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.

Hathaway House, 7D Woodfield Road, 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.

Former Trimite Site, 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.

Dora House, St John's Wood Road, 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.

Dulwich Hospital (secondary school), 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.

Dulwich Hospital (healthcare centre), 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.

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

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

- Ergon House Horseferry Road, City of Westminster
- Leven Wharf (known as Glaucus Works), LB Tower Hamlets
- Tower Court Clapton Common, LB Haringey
- Royal Brompton Hospital, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- The Nightingale Estate, LB Hackney

- 22 Bishopsgate, City of London
- 10 Whitechapel High Street, LB Tower Hamlets
- Conquest Club, Syon Lane, LB Hounslow
- Cambridge House, 16-18 Wellesley Road, LB Croydon
- The Catholic Club, 81-88 Beresford Street, RB Greenwich
- 101 Byng Road, LB Barnet
- Grand South, 12-20 Wyvil Road, LB Lambeth
- Vicarage Field Shopping Centre, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Former Hounslow House, 714-746 London Road, LB Hounslow
- Kings House, The Green, LB Ealing
- Former GlaxoSmithKline site and former Sunblest Bakery site, LB Ealing
- Royal Arsenal Buildings 19 and 11 and Royal Carriage Square, RB Greenwich
- Harrison Gibson Building, 193-207 High Road, LB Redbridge
- Former Honda Garage, LB Ealing
- 22 Hanover Square, City of Westminster
- Archbishop Lanfranc School, LB Croydon

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Redbridge Local Plan 2015-2030 Pre-Submission Draft, LB Redbridge
- Waverley BC – Proposed Submission Local Plan: strategy policy and sites, Waverley Borough Council
- 16-48 Cambridge Road, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Land bound by the East India Dock Basin, LB Tower Hamlets
- Land to the front of the Television Centre, LB Lambeth
- Bacton Low Rise Estate, LB Camden
- B Sky B, LB Hounslow
- The Waterfront Masterplan, Woolwich Arsenal, RB Greenwich
- Chase Farm Hospital, LB Enfield
- 67-71 Bondway, LB Lambeth
- Welwyn Hatfield Draft Local Plan – Proposed Submission, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
- LLDC Hackney Wick and Fish Island, Draft Supplementary Planning Document, London Legacy Development Corporation

Key Engagements

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

- I visited Barking & Dagenham with Cllr Darren Rodwell, Leader of Barking & Dagenham, on 6 October to officially open The Cube and to visit local artists at the White House and The Ice House Quarter
- I met with the Prime Minister on 6 October to discuss the implications of the vote to leave the EU
- I addressed the UEL Chancellor Inauguration Reception on 6 October
- I hosted a follow up devolution roundtable on 7 October to discuss what powers would need to be devolved to London Government following the vote to leave the EU

- I had my regular meeting with Cllr Claire Kober, the Chair of London Councils, on 7 October
- I had an introductory meeting with Minister Sandro Gozi, the Italian Minister for Europe, on 7 October
- I addressed the Battle of Cable Street 80th Anniversary Commemoration at Shoreditch Town Hall on 9 October
- I visited St Saviour's & St Olave's School in New Kent Road to launch my Air Quality Consultation round 2 on 10 October
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 10 October
- I addressed the Evening Standard Food Waste Campaign Debate at Kings College London on 10 October
- I addressed the Boxing Writers Club Annual Awards Dinner on 10 October
- I met with the London Councils Conservative Group on 11 October
- I addressed the CBI Autumn Lunch on 11 October
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 11 October
- I hosted a roundtable with Indian Businesses on 12 October
- I addressed the Knife Crime Summit on 13 October
- I had my regular meeting with the Transport Unions on 13 October
- I met with Lord Toby Harris on 13 October to discuss his report on London's preparedness to respond to a major terrorist incident
- I addressed the Mayor's Gala at the London Film Festival on 13 October
- I addressed the Muhammad Ali Commemoration event, hosted by the US Ambassador at Winfield House on 13 October
- I addressed the Africa on the Square festival in Trafalgar Square on 15 October
- I addressed the Diwali on the Square festival in Trafalgar Square on 16 October
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 17 October
- I visited Lewisham on 17 October to launch the roll-out of Body Worn Video technology across the Metropolitan Police Service
- I visited the Black Cultural Archives in Brixton on 17 October
- I switched on the new 'Electric Avenue' sign in Brixton on 17 October to highlight the regeneration of Electric Avenue, which included funding from the Mayor's High Street Fund
- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 18 October
- I addressed the Heroes' Return TeamGB Celebration in Trafalgar Square on 18 October
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 19 October
- I met the 15 student interns, helping to promote the 2017 Entrepreneur Competition, on 19 October
- I held a Budget Challenge meeting with the Metropolitan Police Service on 19 October
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, The Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 19 October
- I held a Budget Challenge meeting with Transport for London on 20 October
- I attended the Metropolitan Police Service Annual Service of Remembrance and the rededication of the memorial to fallen police officers and staff at the Peel Centre in Hendon on 20 October
- I had an introductory meeting with John Podesta, on 21 October
- I met with Roger Goodell, the NFL Commissioner, on 23 October to discuss the NFL's ongoing programme of games in London
- I attended the LA Rams and NY Giants NFL football game at Twickenham Stadium on 23 October

- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 24 October
- I had my regular meeting with representatives from the South East Region TUC on 25 October
- I met with the Rt Hon Lord Heseltine, Government Advisor on Local Growth, on 25 October to discuss the work of the Thames Estuary 2050 Growth Commission
- I addressed the Black Powerlist Awards Dinner on 25 October
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board Meeting on 26 October
- I addressed the London All Party Parliamentary Group on 26 October
- I met with Andy Slaughter MP, Shadow Minister for London, and John Healey MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Housing, on 26 October to discuss London issues
- I opened the new Somerset House Studios on 26 October
- I attended a dinner hosted by Ephraim Mirvis, the Chief Rabbi, on 26 October
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 27 October
- I addressed the City of London Policy Dinner on 27 October
- I attended the launch of the Lord Harris report on London's preparedness to respond to a major terrorist incident on 28 October
- I launched London Living Wage week at the British Library on 31 October and announced the new London Living Wage rate for the next 12 months
- I visited Alchemy Coffee on Ludgate Broadway on 31 October
- I hosted John Kerry, US Secretary of State, at City Hall for a 'Town Hall Meeting' Q&A with young people from the US Embassy's Young Leaders UK programme on 31 October
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 31 October
- I addressed the Team London Awards Ceremony taking place at City Hall on 31 October
- I launched the London Poppy Day appeal in Waltham Forest on 1 November
- I visited Waltham Forest with Cllr Chris Robins, Leader of Waltham Forest, on 1 November to launch the Borough's Economic Growth Strategy
- I met with Anthony Mayer on 1 November to discuss the Fire Preparedness Review
- I had my regular meeting with Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 1 November
- I visited SO15 CT command on 2 November
- I attended the Spectator Awards Ceremony on 2 November

Ends