

35th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time – 17th October 2019

This is my Thirty-Fifth Mayor's Report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 30th August – 3rd October 2019.

Executive Summary

City Hall gender pay gap under one per cent

On 1 October, I published gender pay data for City Hall and organisations which make up the Greater London Authority (GLA) group. The majority of the organisations have made progress since I became Mayor, with a gender pay gap lower than both the London average of 16.7 per cent and the national average of 17.9 per cent.

I've made it a priority to address the gender pay gap which has existed unchallenged for too long and I'm proud that City Hall is leading by example, with the gap reduced to nearly zero – but there is still much more work to do to tackle pay disparity across the GLA group.

I want London to be a city where everyone can fulfil their potential – regardless of their gender – and where all workplaces are a level playing field. We absolutely cannot rest until we have made pay disparity a thing of the past. It is shameful that in 2019 women remain under-represented at all levels of government and in leadership roles, and I'm urging employers of all sizes and sectors across the city to join me in tackling this injustice.

Since first publishing gender pay gap data in 2016, City Hall has introduced a number of measures to promote training and promotional opportunities for women, including creating and increasing flexible working options, launching unconscious bias learning and other family friendly benefits, such as support for parents of premature babies and those requiring neonatal care.

New agreement to make London 5G ready

On 27 September, I published a new standard agreement to help commercial landlords and public property owners address poor areas of mobile phone coverage.

The business community has often raised the complex and differing approaches in this area and has long requested guidance. The new arrangement will speed up the process which allows mobile providers access to rooftops and other sites to install kit to address mobile 'not spots'. Access to mobile services is an important requirement for Londoners and businesses – with Londoners currently using 38 million gigabytes of mobile data – a fifth of all the mobile data in the UK. Each year the amount of data used rises by an estimated 25% to 42%.

The standard agreement delivers on my manifesto commitment to better use public sector property for digital connectivity, and forms part of my Connected London programme, which aims to enhance mobile and fixed fibre connectivity in London through investment, new data and working with local authorities.

The agreement has been developed in partnership with the British Standards Institution, with the support of City of London, and a steering committee made up of legal representatives of land owners and from the telecommunications sector. The move will support existing 4G mobile users in areas where connectivity is poor and assist the future roll out of 5G - which will also require access to buildings - by establishing a consistent approach to be followed across London.

New scheme to cut violence in London prisons

On 26 September, I announced the new 'Prison Pathfinder' programme. The programme will work to address the causes of violence in prisons, driving down violence in both prisons as well as in communities, upon a prisoners release at the end of a sentence.

The most effective way to reduce violence in our city is to stop it before it starts. As a result of damaging Government cuts, London's police and prison services are under huge amounts of pressure and we know that violence in our prisons is at an unacceptable level. That's why I am investing in this new programme. But while being tough on crime, we must be tough on the causes of crime and that's why we are determined to give those in the criminal justice system the support and the proper life opportunities they need to be successfully rehabilitate.

We are all Londoners: Celebrating our European Culture and Communities

London is the home to over one million EU citizens, who continue to face significant uncertainty about how they will be impacted by Brexit. On 21 September, I opened City Hall for a free event celebrating and recognising our European friends and neighbours and supporting them through this difficult time.

The event sold out, with over 1,200 people attending, and was a key moment in my #LondonIsOpen campaign. It was a day of sharing European language, food, art, music and stories, and the UK's first settled status ceremony, where we saw over 40 Londoners celebrated for their contribution to our great city. We also offered free immigration advice on the EU Settlement Scheme to over 500 Londoners to support vulnerable citizens who are seeking help and advice.

The event generated over 4,000 new sign ups to our settled status online advice service so that we are able to continue to support European Londoners in the lead up to Brexit. We will also be sharing useful advice resources collected on the day with those who were not able to attend the event.

The true scale of County Lines

On 19 September, I lifted the lid on the impact of County Lines activity. New figures revealed over 4,000 young people are involved in lines operating out of London and across the country.

London is the highest exporting area for so-called County Lines with 15 per cent of all activity originating from the capital and driving gang-related violence and the criminal exploitation of vulnerable young people.

Now, for the first time, through the Rescue and Response programme funded by City Hall, we are beginning to see the devastating scale of the impact with thousands of young people involved in lines reaching all corners of the country. We are supporting young people where we

can, but we know we're only scratching the surface of a major national issue that is driving violence in London and across the country.

The Government has finally admitted that its cuts to policing have gone too far – but it also needs to follow City Hall's lead by being tough on the causes of crime. That means proper investment to help us prevent and support more young people being exploited and reversing the damaging cuts to local services, such as social services, which are at the frontline in the battle to tackle this issue.

'London Power' – a new, fairer energy company

On 18 September, I announced plans for a new, fair-priced, green energy company, available exclusively to Londoners from this December. London Power is a partnership between City Hall and Octopus Energy, the only Which? Approved energy supplier in the UK. Any profits made by City Hall will be reinvested into community projects to help tackle fuel poverty and make London a zero-carbon city.

It is a sad fact that millions of Londoners struggle to pay fuel bills and are subject to high prices from major energy companies. My Energy for Londoners programme has concentrated on tackling fuel poverty, expanding solar energy and retrofitting homes. I want London Power to give Londoners a better, fairer deal on fuel prices, as well as the knowledge they won't be switched over to a rip-off tariff when their contract ends.

New £6.4 million investment to support further education and skills

On 16 September, I alongside London Councils called on Government to devolve more powers and funding for skills and employment to City Hall and London boroughs. I also announced a new £6.4 million Skills for Londoners Innovation Fund which will help Londoners gain skills in areas such as English, maths and digital, and enable more disabled Londoners and those who are vulnerable to serious youth violence to access learning.

Londoners encouraged to join in capital's biggest ever Car Free Day

On 22 September, we held the capital's biggest ever Car Free Day. It was a great opportunity to encourage Londoners to experience their city from a different perspective and inspire more people to walk, cycle and use public transport as part of their everyday routine.

Twenty-seven boroughs hosted Car Free Day activities resulting in a total of 385 Play Streets held across London, way beyond the 200 we had hoped to achieve. Thousands of children took on the rain to reclaim their streets with space hoppers, scooters, bikes and chalk. I have seen beautiful pictures of our residential streets as they should be – public spaces for children to play safely and neighbours to get together.

The 'Reimagine' central London event involved closing 27km of roads including the square mile and Tower Bridge. It enabled Londoners to explore the capital on foot and participate in a range of activities. Londoners could enjoy Sunrise Yoga on Tower Bridge, live music performances, arts & crafts for children, a food market and Free Santander Cycles across London.

These were just some of the highlights - approximately 600 people took part in the Sunrise yoga on Tower Bridge. Over 500 children taking part in the Go-kart activity. Over 500 enjoyed 'having a go' riding a bike across Tower Bridge. Over 800 children and their parents visited the

Arts & Crafts activation. It was the first time RNIB held a combined sports event on a London street engaging both partially and impaired and full sighted members of the public side by side.

Support for teaching of healthy relationships in London schools

On 12 September, I wrote to every headteacher in London to give my full support to LGBTQ+ inclusive relationships education in the capital's schools. Our schools must be places where all children feel safe and included, regardless of their gender identity and sexual orientation, or that of their families. Young people should be able to learn about healthy relationships of all kinds, and that includes LGBTQ+ relationships.

In my letter I also congratulated schools on the fantastic job they have been doing despite the government's cuts, and called on them to continue to work together in the fight to tackle violent crime and hate crime as well as breaking down gender stereotypes to help young Londoners reach their full potential.

Support for the next generation of underrepresented sports journalists

On 11 September, I was delighted to join forces with the Black Collective of Media in Sport (BCOMS). London's diversity is one of its greatest strengths and this should be reflected across all sectors, including the media. The participants of elite level sports are exceptionally diverse but it's clear that there is a stark underrepresentation in our television studios and in the press. This network presents a unique opportunity to identify, support and develop the next generation of sports writers and broadcasters from all backgrounds and to help to shake up the status quo within an industry that for too long has been unrepresentative of modern Britain.

Unite Construction Charter

On 11 September, I backed Unite the Union's Construction Charter. The Construction Charter leads the way in best practice by ensuring building contractors and sub-contractors under the control of local authorities provide apprentice training, a safe working environment, and the industry rate of pay to workers.

This Charter sets out to improve the city's construction standards, protect workers, and outlaw poor construction practices – by making signing up to it a requirement of building projects under City Hall's control.

World Suicide Prevention Day

On 10 September, to mark World Suicide Prevention Day, I called for 100,000 Londoners to complete the Zero Suicide Alliance's free online suicide prevention training so they can help play their part in saving lives.

Suicide is the highest cause of death for people between 15 - 29 years, with the most disadvantaged groups most at risk. It's important that we break the stigma of talking about suicide so we can all play our part in helping those in need. Together, by having more open and honest conversations we can support each other and move closer to achieving our ultimate ambition of becoming a zero-suicide city.

Walthamstow named first-ever Night Time Enterprise Zone

On 10 September, I announced that Walthamstow High Street will become the capital's first-ever Night Time Enterprise Zone. The pilot zone will receive £75,000 funding from City Hall, in response to a recommendation from my Night Time Commission. Research last year showed that 92 per cent of councils in England believe that the night-time economy can be key in preventing the decline of high street retail. This pilot in Walthamstow will be a real opportunity to develop the ideas that can boost our high streets and help realise our vision for a 24-hour city.

Launch for development partner for St. Ann's site

On 6 September, I launched a search for a development partner for the St Ann's hospital site in Haringey, through my London Development Panel.

These plans will result in a minimum of 700 homes – with the aim for this number to be closer to 800 – of which 60 per cent will be genuinely affordable. My intervention will boost the number of genuinely affordable homes on the site by five times compared to the existing planning permission, which included around 400 homes of which just 14 per cent were to be affordable.

The development will also deliver key worker housing for NHS staff, with nominations for at least 22 homes for London Living Rent given to the Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust for 10 years to ensure staff can be housed locally.

London's electric bus fleet becomes the largest in Europe

London's toxic air is a shameful health crisis which is causing premature deaths and stunting the growth of children's lungs. On 5 September, as part of our work to tackle the harmful emissions we breathe and to help tackle the climate emergency, I announced the first two routes which will exclusively use electric double deck buses.

Routes 43 and 134 will become the UK's first bus routes to use only electric double-deck buses. London currently has more than 200 electric buses, making it Europe's largest electric bus fleet, and this will grow significantly next year as Transport for London (TfL) has awarded contracts to operators for a further 78 electric double-deck buses.

I am also pleased to announce that we have now delivered all 12 of the Low Emission Bus Zones I promised in my manifesto, much sooner than the planned delivery date of 2020.

This is part of our £300 million plan to transform London's entire bus fleet, which is set to reduce bus NOx emissions London-wide by an average of 90 per cent by October 2020. We are doing everything in our power to improve our air, but with half of the UK's roads which exceed legal limits located in London, the Government urgently needs to step up and introduce the legislation and funding required to tackle this problem once and for all.

Taskforce calls for powerful action to end childhood obesity

On 4 September, London's Child Obesity Taskforce set out its 'Ten Ambitions for London' so that every child in the capital can grow up eating healthily, drinking plenty of water and being physically active.

It's shocking that our city has such high levels of child obesity. That's why I've already set out proposals cracking down on takeaways near schools and increasing the number of water fountains in the capital, overseen pioneering changes to the Transport for London advertising network, supported the Daily Mile and tackling inequalities through my Healthy Early Years London programme.

London's Child Obesity Taskforce's report rightly calls for action right across the capital with everyone having a role to play in making the city healthier. I will carefully consider their report.

Call to London MPs to stop no-deal Brexit

On 2 September, I wrote to every London MP – from all political parties – to immediately put aside their differences to prevent a no-deal Brexit for the good of their constituents, our capital and our country.

A no-deal Brexit would cause huge disruption, make us poorer, less safe and diminish our global standing. It would cost hundreds of thousands of jobs, tens of billions of pounds in investment and put the rights and freedoms of EU citizens at risk.

History will judge our Parliamentarians on this issue like few before. MPs must think carefully about how they will be remembered if they fail to use their position at this pivotal moment to help stop a damaging no-deal Brexit.

Visit to Gdansk and Warsaw

On 1 and 2 September, I visited Poland to bang the drum for London in one of the EU's fastest growing economies. At meetings with senior politicians, businesses, young people and community groups in both Gdansk and Warsaw, I emphasised the message that - despite Brexit - London is open and committed to cooperating with our European partners. I also sought to reassure the nearly 200,000 Polish nationals who live in the capital that they are Londoners and will always be welcome here.

In Gdansk, at the invitation of Mayor Aleksandra Dulkiewicz, I took part in a special ceremony at Westerplatte to mark the 80th anniversary of the outbreak of World War Two. This was a symbolic moment to reflect on the importance of promoting solidarity and peace whilst standing together against hate and discrimination.

I also took part in a panel discussion with the Mayors of Gdansk and Białystok, and a State Senator from Berlin, about the need to resist the emergence of new divisions between countries and within our communities. This event was attended by over 200 people, including a delegation of young Londoners who were taking part in an international youth conference in Gdansk.

In Warsaw, I spoke to over one hundred Polish business leaders and entrepreneurs about what makes London such a fantastic place to invest and do business, before joining thirty young people for a roundtable discussion about the challenges and opportunities facing cities and civil society. I also laid a wreath at the Monument to the Warsaw Ghetto Heroes, before joining the Mayor of Warsaw at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews (POLIN) for a debate about how progressive leaders can work together to combat the rise of the far-right extremism across Europe.

Call for new devolution deal for cities and regions

On 30 August, I urged the Government to bring about a step-change in devolution to cities and regions across the UK in order to bolster growth and prosperity for the entire country.

This is a pivotal moment in our nation's history - to ensure greater prosperity for London and the rest of the UK, we need to see an ambitious new devolution settlement for the English cities and regions.

Policing, Crime and Security

A new pilot to tackle female reoffending

On 16 September, my Office for Policing and Crime launched an innovative pilot programme which aims to reduce female reoffending rates through targeted intervention to help them onto a more positive path.

The pilot will work with women who have committed lower-level, non-violent offences to reduce the likelihood of reoffending after their sentence. This means instead of serving a custodial sentence, women and girls will be referred to specialist support services in mental health and substance misuse. This approach is being introduced in order to address the difficulties facing women in the criminal justice system.

The estimated annual cost of female offending is around £1.7 billion. This new approach - which is being piloted over two years in Camden, Islington, Lambeth and Southwark - is a key part of my plan to address the root causes of offending, preventing reoffending and ensuring women have the support they need after leaving prison.

The programme will work with women who have committed lower-level offences, such as theft and shoplifting, and has been designed to target the factors that can influence reoffending rates amongst women, such as mental health, relationships and financial security.

As part of a joined-up approach, the police, prisons, local authorities and rehabilitation organisations will work together to help women build financial stability, find jobs and safe and secure accommodation.

Lifting the lid on the scale of County Lines

On 19 September, I released new figures that show more than 4,000 young people are currently involved in County Lines activity in London and across the country.

In 2018 I invested £3 million in a three-year Rescue and Response programme to work to better understand, target and respond to County Lines. The programme is led by a coalition of London boroughs - Brent, Lewisham, Islington and Tower Hamlets - that help coordinate support across London for young people up to the age of 25. Now, for the first time, through the Rescue and Response programme funded by City Hall, we are beginning to see the devastating scale of the impact with thousands of young people involved in lines reaching all corners of the country.

In its first year, 568 young people were referred to the programme, with children as young as 11 identified to have been coerced by criminal gangs. Those being supported by the programme are linked to lines spread across 41 counties in the UK, with the 'top five' being Norfolk, Hampshire, Essex, Sussex and Thames Valley.

While we're working hard to tackle County Lines in London, we know we're only scratching the surface of a major national issue that is driving violence across the country. That's why I reiterate my calls on the Government to follow City Hall's lead by being tough on the causes of crime. That means proper investment to help us prevent and support more young people being exploited and reversing the damaging cuts to local services, such as social services, which are at the frontline in the battle to tackle this issue.

New measures to reduce violence in prisons

On 26 September, I announced a package of new measures combining enforcement and targeted interventions to help reduce violence in prisons as well as in communities.

Violence in prisons remains a serious concern, with assaults continuing to rise. Most recent figures show that assaults in prisons reached a record high over the past year, increasing by 11 per cent to more than 30,000 incidents of assault and more than 3,900 serious assaults – incidents that result in major injury or hospital treatment. Assaults on prison staff are also continuing to rise to record highs, with more than 10,000 assaults on staff in the past year.

The new 'Prison Pathfinder' programme is a key part of our public health approach to violence reduction, starting with a scheme to be introduced at HMP Isis in October funded by my Office for Policing and Crime, followed by investment from London's Violence Reduction Unit to roll-out the programme in HMP Wormwood Scrubs later this year. The programme will work to address the causes of violence in prisons, driving down violence in prisons and the wider community, after the end of a sentence.

In HMP Isis, the two-year programme will work with nearly 900 offenders and will include an increased police presence to tackle violence in prison and targeted interventions to support mental health, relationships and build employment skills. In HMP Wormwood Scrubs, the new investment will provide gang screening for all new prisoners, intervening to reduce gang membership by delivering one-to-one sessions for prisoners to help them challenge gang affiliation. There will also be a mediation service for conflicts between prisoners which aims to help individuals understand and address the driving factors behind their violence, and cut the number of assaults.

Transport

Uber London Limited licensing decision

TfL has announced its decision to issue Uber London Limited (ULL) with a two-month private hire operator licence ahead of consideration of any potential further licensing application. The new two-month licence will have the same conditions that ULL has been subject to over the last 15 months, along with new conditions to ensure passenger safety. TfL's original decision not to license ULL has led to the app-based firm improving its culture and governance. TfL is requesting additional material from ULL and this additional information will help inform any future licensing decision.

More than 368 million journeys have now been made using my Hopper fare

Three years since it launched in September 2016, new figures from TfL show that more than 368 million journeys have now been made using my Hopper fare. The Hopper fare allows passengers to make unlimited journeys on London's bus and tram network for £1.50 within one hour of touching in.

Along with the freeze on fares set by TfL, the Hopper continues to make bus travel across the capital more affordable and accessible to everyone. Fares for a single bus or tram journey have also been frozen at £1.50 since I became Mayor, and the Hopper is one of a range of measures that I have introduced to encourage people across London to switch from their cars to public transport.

Latest figures show that more than 450,000 bus and tram journeys are made every day using the Hopper fare. In terms of popularity, Route 18 is the most popular bus route to 'hop' onto, with around 4,600 'hops' made every day (Sudbury & Harrow Road station to Euston station via Kensal Green and Baker Street).

TfL analysis of Hopper journeys shows that across the whole of London, eight boroughs saw more than a million 'hops' made during an eight-week period.

London's devolved integrated bus service puts customers at the heart in terms of price, quality of service and convenience. Whichever bus operator people use, they pay the same fare and use the same ticket. I support wider calls by metro Mayors for regional bus services to be devolved, giving more local control over route planning, fares policies and improving the quality and value of services for customers.

New way of maintaining roads saves south-east London's road users over a month's worth of disruption

TfL has been undertaking a new approach to maintenance work on one of London's major roads to tackle some of the knock-on issues caused by vital safety inspections and repairs, which need to take place every year.

Using traditional methods of road closures, maintenance work on the A2 between Blackwall Lane and Dartford Heath has taken up to 58 nights in previous years. This year, TfL has worked closely with its contractors and the Royal Borough of Greenwich and London Borough of Bexley to put in place a faster and less disruptive programme of maintenance work on the route, which is one of London's most important road arteries. By closing the road fully each night, TfL

reduced the number of night closures needed to 20, which reduced the disruption caused by maintenance by two-thirds.

Plans for 20mph speed limit in central London given the green light

On 6 September, TfL announced that proposals to lower speed limits on TfL roads across central London will go ahead, following a positive response to its public consultation earlier in the year

TfL will introduce 20mph speed limits on all its roads in the Congestion Charge Zone by early 2020 - mirroring the lower speed limits already in place on the majority of borough roads in the central London area. The lower speed limit will be supported by new 20mph signage and road markings, as well as raised pedestrian crossings in seven locations where a high number of people walk, including near Embankment and Tower Hill Tube stations and outside the Tate Britain.

TfL will recalibrate all speed cameras in central London and use mobile speed cameras to ensure that drivers are complying with the new safer speed limit. TfL aims to complete work overnight to minimise the impact on road users and will use single lane closures, avoiding any roads being fully closed, subject to permits.

Lost Property Office to move to new home in South Kensington

TfL's Lost Property Office will be moving to new premises in Pelham Street in South Kensington in October. Its new home offers more space for the processing and storage of found items, allowing the department to deal with increased demand as London's population continues to grow, with more and more people using public transport.

More than 900 items of lost property are found every day on London's transport network and the current premises at 200 Baker Street - which first became home to the Lost Property Office in 1933 - are no longer suitable for the efficient running of the service.

The relocation will take place over several weeks, with the processing of found items commencing from the new site in September. The full relocation is expected to be complete by 21 October and the office at Baker Street will remain open to customers until then for the collection of their property.

Work begins to repair Hammersmith Bridge

Following detailed investigation by a team of world-leading specialist engineers, TfL and Hammersmith & Fulham Council have agreed the works needed to repair Hammersmith Bridge. The first stage of the work has now begun and TfL has provided £25million to pay for it.

TfL and H&F Council are continuing to explore the most appropriate funding for the next phase of construction, ahead of the planned award of a contract for the next stage of the works next spring. The work is expected to take approximately three years.

This comprehensive structural review was the first in decades. It has revealed corrosion and significant failings throughout the 132-year-old suspension structure that, had they been allowed to continue unchecked, would have been a threat to public safety.

Early stage estimates indicate the work could cost £120m, although as this is purely early estimates it includes a contingency due to the unknowns, complexities and challenges inherent

in repairing such an aged, Historic England listed structure. Engineers will continue to refine this estimate as the project progresses. TfL and H&F Council are continuing to explore the most appropriate funding route for the main construction.

Four new Cycleways set to launch across London in the next month

TfL has been working worked with the London Boroughs of Southwark, Enfield, Waltham Forest and Camden to launch four new Cycleways across the capital in the coming month – making cycling safer and easier and enabling more people to walk and cycle more often.

The routes will be the first in London to be signed as Cycleways, which is the new name for London’s network of high-quality cycle routes.

I’m investing record amounts of funding in walking and cycling, which are vital to tackle some of the biggest challenges the capital faces, including the climate emergency, toxic air, road danger reduction and obesity. The new routes, which will add more protected space to London’s cycle network, include an extension of the popular Cycleway 6 route at King’s Cross, which was officially opened on 12 September.

Raising the roof at Bank station as project reaches major milestone

A landmark moment in the project to upgrade Bank Tube station was reached in September, with the roof on the new station entrance, located on Cannon Street, ‘topped out’ and now complete. The new entrance will provide customers with direct access to the Northern line, as well as connecting a new moving walkway to the Central line. The upgrade of Bank station, due for completion in 2022, will boost capacity at the busy interchange by 40 per cent.

Work will now continue to fit out the entrance, with the next stage focused on creating the dividing walls and operational rooms within the new station entrance, which is spread across 11 storeys.

Bank Tube station is one of the busiest on the Tube network, with over 120 million customers using it every year. Once complete, the upgrade will make journeys through the station quicker and more comfortable for everyone, providing greater capacity at this vitally important interchange.

Installation of three new DLR escalators begins as part of Bank station modernisation

TfL has been advising customers at Bank station that essential works to make way for the installation of three new escalators in the DLR concourse has started. The milestone marks a crucial phase of the planned upgrade as the modernisation of Bank station continues to gather pace, with capacity set to increase by 40 per cent by 2022.

The DLR concourse will be reduced to make way for the three new escalators to the Northern line, which will help to improve journeys through the station by boosting capacity. A one-way system will be put in place with a new dedicated team of staff on hand to help customers familiarise themselves with the closure.

Demand at Bank Tube station has risen by around a quarter in recent years and the new escalators to the DLR from the Northern line are essential to managing this increase while making customer journeys quicker and more comfortable by increasing capacity. I apologise to customers who may be affected by the concourse closure. TfL has planned this work to

minimise any disruption to customers and staff will be on hand to help people move around the station. The full Bank station modernisation project is now over half way to completion with over 1000m of new tunnels having been built. Passenger disruption has been minimal throughout.

Five new safety innovations to be trialled on London buses

Cutting-edge technologies are to be trialled on buses this year as part of the TfL Bus Safety Innovation Challenge. The challenge pairs bus operators with innovative developers to come up with solutions to road danger that could complement TfL's Bus Safety Standard.

Over the past decade the number of people killed or seriously injured as a result of a collision involving a bus or coach has decreased by 54 per cent, but I recognise that much more needs to be done to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries altogether and achieve Vision Zero. The Bus Safety Innovation Challenge has an important role to play in this.

TfL will support these trials by funding specialist independent analysis. This means that robust evidence will be produced to test the effectiveness of each product in reducing casualties. TfL would then explore how to introduce any of the successful innovations into its Bus Safety Standard.

Winner of TfL's Retail Innovation competition offers businesses retail space by the hour

TfL has announced that Sook is the winner of its first retail innovation competition, which it launched in May to encourage new and innovative methods of using retail space across its estate. The competition encouraged businesses to consider how they can utilise technology and create a novel concept to meet the needs of TfL's customers and push the boundaries of retail.

Sook uses technology to offer adaptive retail space and enables businesses and individuals to have a physical space as and when they need it – with time slots for as short as one hour. It also enables them to tailor the space by encouraging them to create their own digital interior to display their branding.

Sook will now have the opportunity to launch its concept in London. For the first time, TfL is providing the company with free retail space on its estate as part of the prize for twelve months. While the exact location is still being finalised, through this competition, Sook will be expanding to London for the first time.

Sook was chosen as the winner following stiff competition from the other shortlisted organisations. The volume and quality of the concepts presented as part of the competition was of a high calibre, having initially received 29 entries from a range of exciting and innovative companies. TfL is now seeking to work with many of the shortlisted companies, so that they can realise the potential that the TfL retail estate can offer them and their business as they look to grow.

Network Rail awards Ilford and Romford station upgrade contract

The contract to complete Network Rail's upgrade of east London stations for the Crossrail project has been awarded to VolkerFitzpatrick. The contract worth almost £20m will deliver the vital upgrades at both Romford and Ilford stations including improved entrances and step free

access to accommodate the higher numbers of passengers expected to use the new Elizabeth line services.

Both Ilford and Romford are busy stations on the TfL Rail route and it is great news Network Rail has awarded the contract which will see vital improvement work get underway at both stations. Once completed the stations will see new lifts and improved ticket halls, helping Londoners make easier and more accessible journeys. This is another positive step in the preparation for the Elizabeth line.

Transforming London Overground Journeys For Deaf Passengers

Arriva Rail London (ARL) has started the roll out of deaf awareness training to hundreds of London Overground employees to improve journeys for deaf people and those with a hearing loss travelling across the capital.

ARL, which operates the London Overground on behalf of TfL, has developed a comprehensive training programme alongside Signly, Deafax and DCAL, University College London's Deafness Cognition and Language Research Centre. The development of the programme has been funded by the Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) and hopes to open up the world of travel for deaf people and those with a hearing loss in London, giving them the confidence and support they need from staff to make safe journeys on the London Overground.

This is a great initiative by Arriva Rail London, which we fully support. Alongside TfL I am committed to London's transport network being accessible for everyone and giving frontline staff the tools and training to support customers who are deaf or have a hearing loss is an important way we can deliver a first class service on London Overground.

Fire and Resilience

Brexit Contingency Planning Group

On 4 September and 30 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, chaired meetings of the London Resilience Partnership's Brexit Contingency Planning Group. The Group continues to oversee the Partnership's preparedness for EU Exit.

London Assembly's EU Exit Workshop

On 5 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, appeared before the London Assembly's EU Exit Working Group, along with John Hetherington, Head of London Resilience. The session provided an opportunity for my team to update the Working Group on ongoing contingency planning.

London and South East LRF Meeting

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, attended a meeting of the Local Resilience Forum Chairs from London and the South East. The Forum discussed EU Exit, as well as wider resilience issues.

Worcester Park fire

On 9 September, a fire destroyed Richmond House, a four-storey residential block in Worcester Park. London Fire Brigade worked hard to get the fire under control and thankfully no one was injured. Later in the day, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, the London Fire Commissioner, Dany Cotton, and I spoke with the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government Robert Jenrick MP to discuss the fire and the changes to building regulations that are urgently needed to make homes safe. The call was constructive, and I subsequently wrote to the Secretary of State to follow up on the key issues.

London Resilience Partnership Brexit Planning Event

On 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at the London Resilience Partnership Brexit Planning Event. The event brought together Brexit leads from across the partnership including the Metropolitan Police, NHS, London Resilience Forum and the London Resilience Group and provided to discuss Brexit planning.

Sutton Fire Station Visit

On 18 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, visited Sutton Fire Station to promote the 35 textile banks that have been installed at fire stations across London, in aid of The Fire Fighters Charity. The charity, which supports serving and retired firefighters and their families, raises more than £500,000 a year from its textiles recycling scheme.

Water Resilience in London Workshop

On 18 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at a Water Resilience in London Workshop. The workshop discussed water resilience with a focus on water re-use, making us more capable of managing drought and flooding. The main objective of the workshop was to identify London-specific barriers to water reuse and innovative solutions to address those barriers.

NHS EU Exit – London Regional Workshop

On 19 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at the second Regional Workshop held by the NHS. The event focused on advancing NHS plans and preparations for Brexit.

Meeting with the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and the Fire Service

On 24 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, and the London Fire Commissioner, had a meeting with the Minister of State for Crime, Policing and the Fire Service to discuss issues affecting London Fire Brigade.

London Assembly Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee

On 26 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, and the London Fire Commissioner, Dany Cotton, appeared before the London Assembly Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee.

Resilience First Dinner

On 26 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, attended a roundtable dinner discussion on Resilience in the Finance Sector, with Ian Stuart, CEO of HSBC UK, who shared his thoughts on the resilience of the financial sector.

Women's Action Committee of the FBU 30-year celebration event

On 27 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, spoke at an event celebrating the achievements of the Women's Action Committee over the past 30 years and their actions in ensuring women could join the fire service.

Woodside Fire Station Visit

On 2 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, visited Woodside Fire Station to meet the firefighters and discuss local issues.

Meeting with the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

On 3 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, and I met with Rt Hon Michael Gove, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to discuss Brexit resilience and the need for the Government to support London in the event of a departure from the EU.

Meeting with Unions representing the London Fire Brigade

On 3 October, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Fiona Twycross AM, and I met with Unions representing the London Fire Brigade to discuss a range of issues affecting their members. Fiona Twycross met with unions individually on 19th September in advance of this meeting.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

National Infrastructure Commission Cities Summit

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, spoke at the National Infrastructure Commission's Cities Summit. The summit was convened to discuss expectations for the Government's National Infrastructure Strategy and the need for the UK's cities to be equipped with devolved powers and new funding to drive local growth and support investment in vital infrastructure, including transport.

Jules participated on a panel alongside Mayors Andy Burnham (Greater Manchester), Steve Rotherham (Liverpool City Region), James Palmer (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough), Tim Bowles (West of England) and Jamie Driscoll (North of Tyne) as well as, Laura Shoaf (on behalf of the Mayor of West Midlands). The key message from all was that Government must entrust cities with the powers and funding needed to deliver infrastructure that works for local people.

London First Infrastructure Summit

On 12 September, four of my Deputy Mayors spoke at London First's annual London Infrastructure Summit at the new Tottenham Stadium. The conference examined London's infrastructure priorities post 2020 and the need for Government support to deliver on these priorities.

My Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Transport, Heidi Alexander, and Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, participated on a series of panels examining housing, utilities, transport and infrastructure resilience issues in London alongside industry, government and business leaders.

City Lit Centenary

On 16 September, I spoke at a centenary event at City Lit to celebrate 100 years of adult learning in London. This coincided with the first month of delivery under the delegated Adult Education Budget. At the event I officially opened the Institute's new gallery space, which is part of a project delivered with £480,000 from my Skills for Londoners Capital Fund to create a design and digital hub and gallery space to display students' work.

Call for Action

On 16 September, London Councils and I published a joint document - Skills for Londoners: A Call for Action. This makes London government's case for a new devolution and funding deal to establish an integrated, properly funded skills and employment system that can meet the city's challenges now and in the future. It shows how London could build on the recent delegation of the Adult Education Budget to tackle poverty, exclusion and inequality, and ensure London's businesses have access to the skills they need to grow.

The proposals are based on extensive consultation with stakeholders, and the report has support from London's businesses, learning providers, trade unions and community groups. I have shared the 'Call for Action' with Ministers and look forward to a productive dialogue with them about further devolution.

Skills for Londoners Innovation Fund

On 16 September, I also announced a new £6.4 million Skills for Londoners Innovation Fund, helping Londoners gain skills in areas such as English, maths and digital, and enabling more disabled Londoners and those who are vulnerable to serious youth violence to access learning.

This will allow Adult Education Budget grant-funded providers to bid for additional funding in 2019/2020 to support projects that meet my priorities for skills and training in London, demonstrate innovation and are outcomes-focused.

Mayor's Construction Academy hubs funding – round 2

On 16 September, I launched the second round of my Mayor's Construction Academy hub funding to strengthen relationships and improve coordination between skills providers and construction employers. Up to £1.6 million revenue funding is available for the creation of new hubs or the expansion of existing ones. Hubs can focus on a particular geographical area, an

occupation, training need or theme (such as the move to precision manufactured housing), or specific disadvantaged or underrepresented groups in the construction industry.

Start Up, Step Up London Launch

On 18 September, Start Up, Step Up London launched at City Hall. This new programme, co-funded by the European Social Fund and London Growth Hub will help Londoners underrepresented in entrepreneurship to improve their enterprise skills. Delivered by Visionnaires, part of Capital City College Group, the programme will give participants access to workshops, targeted skills training, coaching and mentoring. Find out more here:

<https://www.growthhub.london/susul/>

Investing in 'good growth'

On 2 September, the third round of my Good Growth Fund opened for applications with more than £20 million of funding available to a range of public, private and third sector organisations. Working with the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), the fund supports innovative regeneration activities that empower local people, make better places and grow prosperity in London's most deprived communities.

I have provided an additional £4 million of funding in this round for projects that will improve London's air quality. This ringfenced portion is available to support a wide range of interventions, including supporting SMEs to reduce emissions from their buildings and operations, boosting electric vehicle infrastructure, improving the public realm and prioritising active travel in London's town centres. Applications close on 14 October 2019.

Supporting local community-led ideas

On 23 September, the next round of my Crowdfund London programme launched. With up to £1 million funding available, Crowdfund London encourages Londoners with innovative ideas to transform their neighbourhoods to pitch their community-led project – big or small – to City Hall to be in with a chance to receive a pledge of up to £50,000.

This internationally recognised programme is supported through the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP) and delivered with the civic crowdfunding platform Spacehive. Through the last round of Crowdfund London 17 projects ran successful campaigns, securing £387,500 from City Hall and a further £513,540 from 3,036 other backers.

Investing in state-of-the-art skills facilities for Londoners

On 16 September, I announced the second round of my Small Projects and Equipment Fund and invited further education and skills providers to bid for a share of £3.75 million capital funding. Working with the London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), this fund supports London's skills sector to implement small projects that deliver industry standard facilities and innovative, inclusive new learning environments. The application window will run for one month from 7 October, with bids welcomed for between £25,000 - £300,000.

'Bee Kind' community garden opens in Battersea

On 27 September, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, officially opened the 'Bee Kind' community garden project in Battersea, Wandsworth. The project, funded through my Crowdfund London programme, transformed a disused piece of land into a wildlife garden. It was delivered by Christ Church CE Primary Battersea with volunteer support

from Cleve West, an award-winning garden designer. The 'Bee Kind' garden project aims to tackle a broad range of issues, such as social isolation and mental health, while enabling access to sustainable fruit and vegetables for the local community.

Housing

Homes for Londoners board

On 4 September, I was pleased to attend Homes for Londoners board, and welcome both Helen Evans, who has recently been appointed as chair of the G15, and Raji Hunjan, chair of the London Housing Panel, to their first meeting. My Homes for Londoners board brings together London councils with the housing and voluntary sectors, and at this meeting we discussed Leadership 2025 – an initiative supported by City Hall to increase BAME leadership in the housing sector – as well as my new winter programme for rough sleepers and the upcoming Homes for Londoners conference.

St Ann's site goes to market

On 6 September, we launched the search for a development partner for the St Ann's Hospital site in the London Borough of Haringey. This site will deliver at least 700 homes of which 50 per cent will be affordable. This represents a fivefold increase in the number of affordable homes compared to the existing planning permission before the Greater London Authority got involved. We look forward to receiving responses from of the London Development Panel and hope to appoint a development partner in Spring of next year.

The team, including my Deputy Mayor for Housing, James Murray, have worked closely with the local community through the St Ann's Redevelopment Trust (StART) to understand and reflect their priorities for the site, including, for example, 50 community-led homes.

Dodgy short-term lets banned on Transport for London

On 17 September, Transport for London (TfL) published new guidelines for short-term lettings operators wishing to advertise on its network. This follows concern raised by Generation Rent and others about adverts on the TfL network earlier this year which appeared to encourage Londoners to rent their properties out unlawfully.

These guidelines will prevent advertising on the TfL network that encourages hosts to break the law by promoting short-term lets for more than 90 days a year, or that encourages homes to be taken out of long-term renting for financial gain.

Supporting new Community-led housing in Southall

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing, James Murray, met with Assembly Member Dr. Onkar Sahota and representatives from the community-led housing group Southall Community Habitat. The group shared details of a number of projects they are currently exploring. Community-led housing is an important part of tackling London's housing crisis and my team are keen to engage with groups like Southall Community Habitat across London.

Engaging with Londoners on tenancy reform

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing, James Murray, hosted a roundtable for stakeholders from across the private rented sector to discuss my London Model of tenure reform. This model was published in July as part of my blueprint for private renting, and it will form the basis of my response to the Government's proposals for reforming the sector, as set out in their consultation 'A new deal for renting'. Private renters urgently need a better deal, and although I have no powers over the private rented sector, I am working with campaign groups to ensure Government fulfils its promise to scrap 'no fault' evictions.

Build to Rent roundtable

On 19 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing, James Murray, hosted a roundtable meeting of Build to Rent providers to discuss my proposals for rent control in London. Despite having no powers over the private rented sector – unlike other Mayors around the world – I am committed to improving the lives of London's private renters and have called on Government to give me the powers to bring rents down. This event provided a useful discussion of Build to Rent providers' views on models of rent control.

Private Sector Cladding Remediation Fund

On 23 September, the Private Sector ACM Cladding Remediation Fund opened for applications. This fund was announced by the Government after much delay – it was not confirmed until two years after the fire at Grenfell Tower. The GLA is administering the fund for eligible buildings in London, whilst the Government is responsible for the design of the programme and decisions on individual applications.

Whilst this fund is something I and others have long-called for, the scope of the fund should be widened to cover all types of unsafe cladding and interim fire safety measures. My team and I will continue to put pressure on the Government to make this happen.

New winter rough sleeping programme

As Mayor, I have been expanding my 'Life off the Streets' service to help make sure there is a route off the streets for everyone sleeping rough in London. This month I launched our winter programme, which will see City Hall's shelters for rough sleepers open continuously from Christmas till at least the end of February, whatever the weather.

I also want to help other organisations in London expand their services on a similar basis, and so I have made available a £2.2 million Winter Programme Fund to all boroughs and providers for local service to open continuously alongside ours. Pan-London Severe Weather Emergency Provision will continue to operate as normal but through expanding our provision services will have more of an opportunity to help rough sleepers find a long-term solution.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Brexit

I believe that a no-deal Brexit must be avoided at all costs given the negative impact it would have on London and the country. On 2 September, during my visit to Gdansk and Warsaw I wrote to all London MPs urging them to vote to stop a no deal Brexit at end of October. I was pleased that MPs from all political parties succeeded in enacting this legislation. As a result, the Prime Minister is required to seek an extension from the EU by 19 October. The Supreme Court's decision since then has allowed MPs to return to Parliament to hold the Government to account on their obligations.

On 18 September, I launched a revamped offer of information and advice for SMEs via my Brexit Business Resource Hub, as well as face-to-face workshops and advice surgeries around London. This is currently being promoted via a new phase of my London is Open campaign.

The Government has asked the LEAP to lead on one of ten 'Growth Hub Clusters', working with the Hertfordshire and South East LEPs, and will provide some funding to augment support to SMEs. I used my meeting with the London Business Board to encourage these business groups to support the London Growth Hub to promote Brexit advice to SMEs who are unprepared.

On 20 August, I wrote to Michael Gove the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to set out my grave concerns that a no deal Brexit is the Government's preferred scenario despite the warnings from its Project Yellowhammer. I had a meeting with Michael Gove on 3 October, alongside Deputy Mayor Dr Fiona Twycross who is leading the London Resilience Forum's work.

London and the UK – a declaration of interdependence

On 30 August, I published my report 'London and the UK – a declaration of interdependence'. The report sets out the economic case for how success for the capital means success for the UK as a whole. It challenges the notion that London receives more than its fair share of investment, highlighting how its needs in areas such as transport and infrastructure are greater than any other city or region. It also highlights how jobs and growth in our city lead to greater economic demand in the rest of the UK and vice versa. Finally, it makes the case for further devolution so that towns, cities and regions can decide their own investments and spending priorities.

London Business Board

On 11 September, I met with the London Business Board to discuss Brexit and immigration policy. The London Business Board includes senior representatives of the main business groups (London Fris, LCCI, FSB, CBI and IoD) who come together to discuss key business issues. I updated the London Business Board on our work to support business in the run-up to 31st October 2019 leave date including the next phase of my London is Open campaign, which will focus on supporting business in the capital and the Growth Hub Brexit support centres. Philip Rycroft (former Perm Secretary at the Department for Exiting the EU) also attended the meeting to provide insight on the Government's no-deal preparations. I also gave an update on my Good Work Standard and the London Local Industrial Strategy.

CBI Director General, Carolyn Fairbairn

I met with the CBI's Director General, Carolyn Fairbairn on 19 September to discuss my priorities and identify opportunities for collaboration between CBI and City Hall. We discussed some key initiatives that CBI could potentially help to drive forward, including around skills, diversity and inclusion, air quality, and the Good Works Standard.

Environment

London Power

On 18 September, I announced plans for London Power, a new kind of energy company for Londoners. I am working with Octopus Energy to provide a new, fair-priced energy company, with 100 per cent green electricity. This is a key part of my Energy for Londoners programme which aims to make London's homes and workplaces more energy efficient, tackle fuel poverty and supply the capital with more clean energy. Londoners will be able to sign up to London Power from December and can register their interest immediately at:

www.mylondonpower.co.uk

Give It A Grow

On 14 September, I gave away 10,000 free planting kits to Londoners, working in partnership with environmental charity Hubbub. 'Give it a Grow' is part of London's status as the world's first National Park City, which is helping to tackle the ecological emergency by supporting Londoners to make our capital greener, healthier and wilder. The kits, which included bee and butterfly friendly bulbs and seeds, as well as growing matter and planting tips, are suitable for gardens, balconies or windowsills. They were given out from selected Starbucks and B&Q stores across the capital, and IKEA Greenwich. Details of the scheme and growing tips can be found at: www.giveitagrow.info

Community Tree Planting Grants

On 19 September, I awarded more than £600,000 to 33 projects across London through the Community Tree Planting Grants, part of my £12 million Greener City Fund. These projects will plant over 40,000 trees across the capital this winter, including 32,000 at three mass planting events to be held in Redbridge, Newham and Camden during National Tree Week (23 November – 1 December). More details about funded projects can be found on our website at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/greener-city-fund/community-tree-planting-grants-2019-20>

Trees for Londoners Ballot

On 3 October, I announced my plans to help Londoners plant tens of thousands of trees during National Tree Week 2019 (23 November to 1 December). In partnership with the Woodland Trust, I am making 30,000 trees available for Londoners to plant at home. Londoners can apply now to enter the ballot, which runs until 11 November. A further 25,000 trees are available to community groups from The Conservation Volunteers, and Londoners will be able to volunteer at planting events across the city during National Tree Week. This is all part of my plan to increase London's tree cover by 10 per cent by 2050, which will help cool the city, provide a

habitat for wildlife, as well as helping to combat climate change and air pollution. Full details on how to get involved can be found at: www.london.gov.uk/trees

London's electric bus fleet now the largest in Europe

On 5 September, I announced that two of London's bus routes will become exclusively electric. Routes 43 and 134 will become the UK's first full routes of electric double deck buses, which will help reduce carbon emissions and improve the air quality for Londoners. The new buses are smoother and quieter than traditional buses and they offer free-to-use USB charging points. London currently has more than 200 electric buses, making it Europe's largest electric bus fleet, and this will grow significantly next year as Transport for London has awarded contracts to operators for a further 78 electric double-deck buses.

Low Emission Bus Zones completed ahead of schedule

On 5 September, I confirmed completion of the final two Low Emission Bus Zones at Chiswick High Road and Uxbridge Road. This means that all 12 Low Emission Bus Zones have been completed much sooner than my planned delivery date of 2020. These zones have been introduced in areas where Londoners are exposed to some of the highest levels of harmful nitrogen dioxide pollution. Only buses which meet or exceed the strict emissions standards of the central London Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) can be used on these routes. As a result, we estimate that annual bus nitrogen oxides emissions have been reduced by an average of 90 per cent across the routes operating in the zones.

Central London Ultra Low Emission Zone: 'Four months on' report

On 16 September, I released a report evaluating the impact of the central London ULEZ in its first four months of operation. Results continue to be impressive, with 75 per cent of vehicles in the zone now meeting the strict emissions standards, 24 hours, 7 days a week. There has also been a large reduction in the number of older, more polluting vehicles entering the zone. On an average day in July 2019 compared to March 2019 (before the ULEZ was introduced), around 12,500 fewer older more polluting vehicles were detected in the zone during Congestion Charging hours. A report outlining the impact of the ULEZ on concentrations of air pollutants will be published later in the year.

Global Climate Strike

On 20 September, as part of my commitment to tackle the climate emergency, I gave my support to all those who were taking part in the Global Climate Strike and called on government to take real and ambitious climate action - to fund a Green New Deal, to insulate our buildings, to decarbonise our transport networks and to create high-quality, high-skilled green jobs. City Hall staff were encouraged to observe the strike by taking time out of their day to send a message to the world that London demands more ambitious climate action from governments.

Sustainable drainage to manage rainfall

In September, I provided £55,000 of grants to help Londoners remove paving and unused concrete to reduce the risk of surface water flooding. This has funded twenty community projects across London. I also published a guide called 'Greening the Grey' that includes hints and tips for Londoners to remove hard surfacing from their own gardens and community spaces to reduce flood risk.

Meeting with Ian Marchant, Interim Executive Chairman of Thames Water

On 4 September, I met with Ian Marchant (Interim Executive Chairman of Thames Water) and Steve Spencer (Chief Operating Officer) to discuss my concerns with Thames Water's performance in London. In this meeting I expressed my disappointment over Thames Water's performance both on the management of the network and service to Londoners, and also the historic underinvestment in infrastructure which must be addressed to deal with London's expected growth. Thames Water agreed to provide London specific performance and investment data so that I can best hold them to account on behalf of Londoners. I also discussed my partnership with Thames Water to deliver over 100 drinking fountains across London. I have asked that Thames Water focuses its attention to this programme, including additional resource, to ensure there is a network of at least 50 fountains installed by the end of the year.

Estee Lauder – Sustainability in business event

On 18 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, spoke on a diverse panel at an Estee Lauder event on how businesses can positively contribute to a more sustainable future. She was accompanied by speakers from other businesses (ASOS, Selfridges), as well as the climate campaigner, Fatimah Ibrahim.

LoCITY Fourth Annual Conference

On 25 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, gave a keynote speech at the fourth Annual Conference of the Low Emission City (LoCITY) Programme managed by TfL. The LoCITY Programme is a platform for City Hall and TfL to engage and support the freight sector in switching to ultra-low emission freight vehicles. My Deputy Mayor spoke on the continued commitment from City Hall and TfL in supporting the freight sector to do this.

Hubbub's Cup Fund award ceremony

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues spoke at Hubbub's first Cup Fund award ceremony. The Cup Fund is the UK's largest grant fund to bolster and scale paper cup recycling. Twelve programmes have been selected (five are in London) to receive grants (of between £50,000 and £100,000, all funded by Starbucks 5p cup charge), to each develop long-term infrastructure which prevent single-use cups from ending up in landfill or being incinerated.

Fossil Fuel Divestment

I have been clear that encouraging the capital's pension funds to divest from fossil fuels is an important part of my work to tackling the climate emergency, including leading by example here at city hall. On 19 September, I announced that I have joined a group of over 200 cross-party MPs and former MPs to sign the Divest Parliament pledge which calls for a review of MP's pension funds to phase out investments in fossil fuel companies. I signed this pledge both as a former MP and as part of my ongoing call to encourage London institutions to commit to divestment from fossil fuels.

In addition, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, hosted a global webinar with the Mayor's Office of New York and C40 outlining the work I have been undertaking in London on divestment and sharing best practice from London and New York to

encourage the divestment from fossil fuels and responsible investment as a key way to tackle the climate emergency.

Greening Inland Shipping Conference

On 10 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, presented the keynote speech at the Port of London Authority's annual conference aimed at reducing emissions from vessels on inland waterways. The conference was an opportunity to demonstrate my leadership on reducing vessel emissions by raising awareness of the £500,000 Mayor's Air Quality Fund (MAQF) project to retrofit 11 vessels on the river to pave the way for operators to make the changes needed to reduce their emissions. Shirley followed her speech with a panel debate on the regulatory and policy landscape for inland waterways and was accompanied by the Chief Executive of the Port of London Authority, Robin Mortimer, as well as Claire McAlister from the Department for Transport.

Education and Youth

Expansion of Getting Ahead London

On 11 September, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, welcomed 72 new participants to Getting Ahead London - my programme to help talented middle and senior leaders progress their careers in London schools. Over the next year, these participants will be coached, mentored and supported to develop as leaders and secure their next promotion towards headship.

Getting Ahead London is now in its fourth year and almost 250 leaders have taken part. This is the first time it has expanded to include middle leaders. The high rates of these experienced teachers leaving the profession or moving to other areas means that the Getting Ahead London programme is piloting a middle leader strand designed to increase their retention and provide leadership development.

Schools for Success

On 27 September, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, presented awards to around 90 Schools for Success 2019/2020. Professor Anne Bamford OBE, Strategic Director of Education and Culture for the City of London, was the guest speaker and Mike Sheridan, Ofsted's London Regional Director also recognised the schools' achievements.

This Mayoral programme, in its third year, celebrates primary and secondary schools that do exceptionally well with low prior attaining pupils. Schools for Success is a tribute to them but also an opportunity for other schools to learn from the brilliant progress they have made, especially with pupils who may have been in care, have special educational needs or are eligible for free school meals. Participating schools agree to share profiles of their journeys to success and extend invitations for other schools to visit them.

Young Londoners Fund Round 2 - Small Grants

On 30 September, I was delighted to announce 35 new projects that will be delivering activities for young Londoners, through my Young Londoners Fund.

The Young Londoners Fund is a £45 million Fund, available for community groups, charities, youth centres and schools to provide much-needed positive events, activities and opportunities for young people in the capital.

These 35 projects are being given grants of up to £90,000 - totalling £2.4 million - to work with 8,000 young people over 3 years. Other successful projects which have been awarded medium and large grants will be announced in the coming month.

The Young Londoners Fund was designed to help young Londoners reach their potential, particularly those at risk of getting caught up in crime. It supports the public health approach I am taking to tackling violent crime.

Children's Society Pop-Up 'Store of Modern Childhood'

On 29 August, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, visited the Children's Society's pop-up 'Store of Modern Childhood' which brought to life the themes of The Good Childhood Report, based on the day-to-day experiences of children across the capital. The report shows that childhood is complicated, and whilst most children are happy an increasing number are unhappy and anxious about their future. I am determined to do all I can to ensure all our children succeed.

Communities and Social Policy

Civic Futures Programme

On 17 September, City Hall welcomed the first cohort of the Civic Futures programme, a collective leadership programme funded by Communities and Social Policy and Team London. The cohort is made up of civic leaders from across London, representing charities, local organisations, activists and change makers. The group learned more about the programme, with a focus on coaching, and met with numerous teams from across city hall. My Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, met the civic leaders and launched the programme.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group Meeting

On 19 September, my Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Group met for their second formal meeting. Chaired by my Deputy Mayor, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, the Advisory Group brings together expert representatives from equalities groups and civil society to shape, influence and guide the delivery of my Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. As part of September's meeting, the Members considered a summary of findings from three key pieces of work recently published by City Hall: the Survey of Londoners, the Cumulative Impact Assessment (CIA) of tax and welfare reform, and my Annual Equality Report. Members discussed the specific barriers highlighted by the research. They also reflected on their activities as Advisory Group Members over the last 6 months.

We Are All Londoners Event

On 21 September, City Hall opened its doors for the We are all Londoners event, celebrating our European culture and communities. I opened the day with a speech at the EU Settlement

Ceremony which recognised Londoners representing 33 European countries and communities. Legal advisors offered immigration advice to over 500 people. Other elements of the programme include a panel discussion exploring the impact of Brexit on EU Londoners, a language café, films and a music stage on The Scoop.

London Family Fund

In September, I awarded five boroughs grant funding for the second round of the London Family Fund. The London Family Fund is one of my flagship social integration programmes and supports innovative projects that promote social integration and the building of meaningful relationships among diverse families in London in the early years' context.

WIN Tech Employers Panel

On 26 September, City Hall held the WIN Tech Employers Panel to encourage more tech employers to improve diversity in recruitment and develop inclusive work cultures through Workforce Integration Network (WIN) support. The event had a high-profile panel lineup including senior representatives from EY and ITV, with over 90 employers registered to attend. My Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Dr. Debbie Weekes-Bernard, attended the event and met with the employers.

Black Majority Churches Breakfast Meeting

On Friday 27 September, I held another quarterly black majority Churches Breakfast meeting. The meetings are an opportunity to connect with leaders from black majority churches and highlight work being done at City Hall. The meeting was attended by my Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility and Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes Bernard and my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden.

Health

London Health Board Conference

On 2 October, I chaired the London Health Board Conference, welcoming to City Hall around 200 leaders from across the health and care sector, including elected members, clinicians, senior executives, voluntary and community sector representatives and trade unions.

The conference was an opportunity for the London health and care partnership – the GLA, London Councils and London's local authorities, Public Health England and the NHS in London – to publish the London Health and Care Vision; recognise and celebrate a year of progress on the Health Inequalities Strategy; and to showcase inspiring health and care initiatives across London. The conference marked a key milestone, a point in our partnership's ongoing journey to improve health and care outcomes for Londoners.

Fast Track Cities International Conference

On 9 September, I was pleased to open the Fast Track Cities conference at the Barbican, the first international gathering of over 300 cities and municipalities accelerating their response to

HIV with the aim of eliminating new HIV infections and HIV-related stigma and discrimination by 2030.

London has made huge progress in tackling HIV, but it still presents a significant problem, with the infection impacting on Londoners more than any other part of the UK. Tackling HIV, and the stigma that surrounds it, remains one of my priorities and I again called on the Government to make PrEP, a drug that can reduce the chance of acquiring HIV, available to everyone who needs it.

World Suicide Prevention Day

On 10 September, to mark World Suicide Prevention Day, I launched a new campaign, #ZeroSuicideLDN calling for 100,000 Londoners to complete free online suicide prevention training so they can help play their part supporting others and preventing suicides in the capital. This free 20-minute training – which I have completed – is designed to show how to have a direct and honest conversation about suicide with friends and family.

Our aim is to break the stigma of talking about suicidal thoughts and bereavement, and help London become a ‘zero suicide city’. Read more here:

<https://www.thriveldn.co.uk/campaigns/zerosuicideldn/>

Launch of ‘Every Child a Healthy Weight: 10 Ambitions for London’

On 4 September, London’s Child Obesity Taskforce published ‘Every Child a Healthy Weight: 10 Ambitions for London’ a specific call-to-action to stakeholders across the city. The publication was followed by an event at City Hall where the document was introduced, and stakeholders shared their reactions.

This call to action is a response to my request to the London Child Obesity Taskforce to identify what actions are needed for London’s children to be a healthy weight. Paul Lindley OBE, Chair of the Taskforce, also shared a blog post discussing the challenge of setting these 10 ambitions. London’s Child Obesity Taskforce’s report rightly calls for action right across the capital with everyone having a role to play, and I will be carefully considering their report.

You can read the call to action here:

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/every_child_a_healthy_weight.pdf

Meeting with Paul Plant, Regional Director for PHE London and Statutory Health Advisor

On 27 September, I met with Professor Paul Plant, Regional Director for PHE London and my Statutory Health Advisor. We discussed the action being taken by PHE nationally and in London to prepare for EU Exit in the event of no deal by 31st October, with the aim of ensuring continuation of vital public health services.

One year on from the publication of my Health Inequalities Strategy we looked at progress to date and at how delivery is being embedded through the NHS planning process. We spoke about Every Child a Healthy Weight: Ten Ambitions for London which was published by London’s Child Obesity Taskforce, of which Professor Plant is a member, and how partners in London will be looking to take on board their recommendations. We also spoke about a new forthcoming mental health campaign from PHE; and looked at the issue of low immunisations uptake in London and what more could be done to reach the most at risk.

Deputy Mayor visit to Albert Road Children’s Centre, Redbridge

On 4 September, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney AM, visited Albert Road Children’s Centre, Redbridge on September 4th this year to recognise and celebrate their Healthy Early Years London Silver award on mental health and school readiness. My Deputy Mayor met with staff members, parents and children as she was shown examples of the centre’s work. This included looking at ‘talking’ photo albums which provide clear advice on how parents may access the Early Educational Entitlement for two-year-olds. My Deputy Mayor also attended a wellbeing group where she met staff who had been providing targeted mental health support to families.

London Ambulance Service public meeting

On 27 September, I was pleased that my Director of the Violence Reduction Unit, Lib Peck, was able to attend the London Ambulance Service’s annual public meeting. Violence reduction is a shared priority with the NHS and Lib spoke alongside the NHS London Clinical Director for Violence Reduction, Martin Griffiths, about how we will work closely with all parts of the health and care system to tackle this vital issue.

Team London, Sports and Volunteering

London Together grants

In September, I awarded the second round of London Together grantees in partnership with Comic Relief. I am co-funding nine projects with the total value of £958,615.

The London Together fund invests in sport for change projects that aim to improve social integration in London. These projects use sport to reduce social isolation and loneliness among vulnerable groups and increase opportunities to bring people together from different backgrounds to reduce prejudice, negative stereotyping and increase trust between people and communities. This is in line with my ambition to make London the most active and socially integrated city in the world and is part of my £8.8 million Sport Unites programme.

This cohort is round two of the three rounds of London Together partnership. Funding is awarded to projects for a minimum of £25,000 and a maximum of £150,000. Projects run for 1 to 2 years.

Team London Ambassadors

On 6 September, City Hall hosted a celebration event to thank my Team London Ambassadors for their outstanding commitment again this year. Over the summer period, more than 700 volunteers gave nearly 160,000 hours of their time and shared their knowledge and enthusiasm about our capital with over 24,000 visitors. These volunteers were based at hotspots across London, making sure that tourists and visitors received a warm welcome. This year, nearly 200 Ambassadors were new to the programme, supporting Team London’s focus to enable more Londoners to volunteer.

Team London and Thrive LDN Grants Launch

On 9 September, I launched the third and final round of the Team London and Thrive LDN Grants. These will provide funding to community organisations to deliver social action and volunteering projects with young people who are more susceptible to developing mental health issues than their peers.

As a part of the wider Young London Inspired Programme, the Team London and Thrive LDN fund will award grants of £10,000 to £15,000 to projects that use volunteering as a vehicle to improve the wellbeing and emotional resilience of the young volunteers. For the final round of this grant programme we have broadened the cohorts of young people this programme will support to include young people from the gypsy and traveller community, young people who have experienced domestic violence, LGBT+ young people and young people with physical disabilities.

Diversification of the Sports Media

On 11 September, I launched the new Diversification of the Sports Media programme in partnership with the Black Collective of Media in Sport (BCOMS). This partnership presents a unique opportunity to identify, support and develop the next generation of sports writers and broadcasters from all backgrounds and to help to shake up the status quo within an industry that for too long has been unrepresentative of modern Britain.

Forty aspiring journalists, aged 18-25, from groups who are currently underrepresented in the industry (BAME, LGBT+, disabled people and people from disadvantaged backgrounds) have been selected to receive training through masterclasses and networking events. This new generation of sports journalists will benefit from a range of opportunities to practise their newly learnt skills and gain real-world experience. This will include developing content throughout the EURO 2020 men's football championships in London, interviewing players, documenting the fan experience and reporting from matches.

London Enterprise Adviser Network

On 19 September, Team London welcomed over 200 people to London's Living Room to celebrate the success of the London Enterprise Adviser Network. My Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility, Community Engagement, Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, opened the evening and presented awards to recognise the hard work of school leaders and business volunteers in ensuring young Londoners have the skills and experiences they need to take advantage of the opportunities London has to offer.

Youth Social Action consultation

On 23 September, I welcomed over 40 young people and third sector organisations to City Hall for a consultation event on the role of youth social action in addressing London's challenges. This was in partnership with Step Up To Serve, the coordinating charity behind the UK-wide #iwill campaign. Over the course of the evening, attendees discussed the challenges, issues and barriers that young people face and how youth social action can help them to have meaningful impacts in their communities.

Team London Volunteers

On 21 September, 20 Team London Volunteers supported the We Are All Londoners event celebrating European communities and their contribution to the capital. Volunteers were the welcoming face of the event, signposting visitors to the varied activity across City Hall including storytelling, films and free 1-2-1 immigration advice.

On 22 September, 30 Team London volunteers supported the delivery of my Reimagine event as part of Car Free Day. Volunteers helped members of the public to access and enjoy free activities across 27km of traffic-free roads around Tower Bridge, London Bridge and the City of London. The event helped to promote my work to enable more Londoners to cycle, walk, and use public transport to help improve health and reduce car emission.

On 27 and 28 September, 60 Team London volunteers supported Culture24's Emerge Festival; a series of night-time events in museums, galleries, historic houses, visual arts venues and more. Volunteers signposted visitors to the wealth of activities and events on offer, helping to showcase London's diverse and inclusive night time culture.

Culture and Events

Night Time Enterprise Zone pilot project announced

On 10 September, I announced Walthamstow High Street as the capital's first-ever Night Time Enterprise Zone which will receive £75,000 of funding from City Hall. This scheme responds to a recommendation from the London Night Time Commission and will trial innovative strategies to support local businesses and residents, improving access to services after 6pm. It will support low-cost spaces to hire in the evenings, a new fund to help local business and community groups host events after 6pm, a local campaign to encourage late shopping, and a guide for night-time businesses on how to apply for planning and licensing approval.

Borough Night Time Champions conference

On 10 September, my Night Czar Amy Lamé hosted a day-long Borough Night Time Champions conference at the Museum of London Docklands, guiding boroughs to develop night time strategies as part of the London Night Time Commission's recommendations. The conference explored the positive role of culture and leisure in a 24-hour city. It was attended by Councillors and officers from London boroughs who took part in workshops and sessions with guest speakers, sharing best practice on licensing, planning, and supporting cultural infrastructure, to develop a night-time cultural offer.

Official Opening of English National Ballet at London City Island

On 12 September, I opened English Ballet's new state of the art home at London City Island with Tamara Rojo CBE, Artistic Director and Lead Principal Dancer. My Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE and I met a range of representatives from English National Ballet's programmes including ENBYouthCo, Dancing East and Dance for Parkinson's, along with costume designers, wardrobe staff and company dancers.

This purpose-built new home for English National Ballet and English National Ballet School received £1m from my Good Growth Fund, enabling the organisations to unite under one roof for the first time and deliver a three-year skills programme of training, apprenticeships, volunteering and learning opportunities for 4,000 Londoners. This includes creating new jobs for local people at the dance and production studios. The new ENB facilities form part of my vision to develop the Thames Estuary Production Corridor with a series of centres of excellence for creative industries.

London Design Festival

On 13 September, the London Design Festival opened with a focus on innovative design and sustainable products. The festival attracts over half a million visitors from 75 countries to London each year. 2,500 design companies make £26 million in sales annually as a result of the festival. This year, designers created installations across London to make people reconsider attitudes to waste and climate change.

On 23 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE attended the British Land Celebration of Design at the House of Commons, Westminster. Awards went to designers Tom Dixon OBE, Daniel Charny and Ross Atkin. They received their medals for design excellence, innovation, working with young people and designs that help disabled people live independently. Dame Vivienne Westwood received the London Design Lifetime Achievement Award.

London Fashion Week

On 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE attended London Fashion Week. For the first time, London Fashion Week ran events throughout the city so that Londoners from across the capital could get involved. This included 170 events, in partnership with 66 key brands, 74 stores and cultural institutions, who worked together to create events throughout the capital, from runway shows to sustainability workshops. All of London's most internationally renowned shopping destinations (including King's Road, Mount Street and Regent Street) supported London Fashion Week by hosting high profile fashion shows.

Wandsworth Night Surgery

On 13 September, my Night Czar Amy Lamé held a Night Surgery in the London Borough of Wandsworth. Over the course of the evening my Night Czar attended the opening night of the new Backyard Cinema in Wandsworth Town, met with councillors at the Business Improvement District, visited The Grand music hall in Clapham Junction, viewed late night markets and visited family-friendly cafés that open late in Tooting.

Launch of Croydon's Creative Enterprise Zone and Official Re-Opening of Fairfield Halls

On 16 September, I opened Fairfield Halls in Croydon following a £42 million council-led restoration, and launched Croydon's Creative Enterprise Zone. The Fairfield Halls transformation forms an essential part of Croydon's Creative Enterprise Zone, which puts creativity at the very heart of the community.

Croydon's Creative Enterprise Zone will provide many new opportunities for young people. As part of this initiative, I have invested £520,000 to develop the borough as a 'Music City' and

provide almost 5,000 square metres of affordable production space. Croydon has already received more than £1 million of funding from the Good Growth Fund, an investment which will breathe life into South Norwood High Street.

Launch of Lewisham's London Borough of Culture 'Cultural Impact Award'

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE launched 'Age Against the Machine' – a festival of creative ageing – with Lewisham's Mayor Damien Egan, at The Albany Theatre in Deptford. 'Age Against the Machine' forms part of Lewisham's Cultural Impact Award programme which will see over 70 events across three weeks including live music, theatre, dance, film and exhibitions. The festival aims to open up the subject of ageing in society. Events were held in community centres, care homes, libraries, parks, theatres and public spaces across the borough.

Launch of the Case for a River Thames Cultural Vision at Totally Thames Festival

On 24 September, my Culture and Creative Industries Unit launched a new report making the Case for a River Thames Cultural Vision at an event during Totally Thames Festival.

The research, commissioned with the Port of London Authority, highlights the potential to expand and promote the cultural offer along the Thames and engage all Londoners with our river. It builds on recent projects like Illuminated River, Leo Villareal's artwork which will light 15 bridges between Tower Bridge and Albert Bridge, becoming the longest public art installation in the world. The report provides recommendations to drive significant economic, environmental, social and cultural change, supporting London's position as a cultural capital. It will also promote the Thames as a cultural destination for visitors, ensuring that London remains one of the most visited cities in the world.

London Legacy Development Corporation

Innovation and Inclusion

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park played host to a two-week trial of driverless pods at the start of September. An AECOM-led Capri consortium led the trial, which was part of a research project into the future of mobility.

The East London Inclusive Enterprise Zone (ELIEZ) was formally announced on 20 September. The £1.2 million project, which will include the UK's first dedicated space for disabled entrepreneurs, has benefited from £500,000 funding from Research England, which will be match-funded by the zone's various partners, including the GLA, LLDC, the Global Disability Innovation Hub, University College London and Here East.

From 23-27 September, the London Legacy Development Corporation proudly supported National Inclusion Week 2019, holding a week-long programme of events including an Inclusivi-Tea, taster British Sign Language sessions and the launch of an Inclusive Library.

Events

From 9-15 September, 600 disabled athletes from 60 countries descended on the London Aquatics Centre to compete in the World Para Swimming Championships. I was honoured to

hand out medals to some of the winners – including Londoner Alice Tai who won four gold medals across the championship – and see London’s Paralympic legacy in action.

On 9 September, both of Great Britain’s FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifier fixtures were announced to take place in Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre on the Park in November.

On 16 September, the International Olympic Committee announced that the 2020 European boxing qualification event for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games would be held at the Copper Box Arena from 14-24 March 2020.

London Stadium hosted a Barclays FA Women’s Super League match for the first time on 29 September. The historic match saw West Ham Women play Tottenham Hotspur Women in what was the second-largest attended match in Women’s Super League history. This follows two successful home games for the West Ham men’s team; defeating Norwich City on 31 August and Manchester United on 22 September.

Community Engagement

Plexal Innovation Centre hosted the bi-annual Your Neighbourhood Talks event on 17 September, providing an opportunity for local people to hear from organisations and partners and find out more about what is happening in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

On 18 September, a consultation opened on the plans for the new Pudding Mill neighbourhood; a scheme which will deliver approximately 1,500 new homes and workspace for around 2,000 people. Comments received during the consultation, including those from Legacy Youth Voice, will help shape the design proposals before a planning application is submitted by late 2020.

The examination of LLDC’s Revised Local Plan took place from 16-20 September.

London Assembly

On 5 September, Lyn Garner, Chief Executive, and Sir Peter Hendy, Chair of the London Legacy Development Corporation, appeared before the London Assembly to provide an update on their work and answer questions on a range of topics including the London Stadium, biodiversity and sustainable travel.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

OPDC draft Local Plan Examination in Public

OPDC’s Local Plan examination in public continued over the summer and after considering the evidence presented at the final hearing the Inspector issued his interim findings report in mid-September. The findings were encouraging as they endorsed OPDC’s aim of bringing forward the first phase of development which is to be funded with the £250m of Housing Infrastructure Funding recently awarded by government. This will provide new access, utilities and other infrastructure to enable 3,000 homes and many new jobs for Londoners.

The Inspector’s decision not to designate the main Cargiant land for future housing development at this stage was not entirely unexpected. The Inspector has, however, de-designated the site from its protected strategic industrial designation and given the recent

announcement of a two-year delay to the opening of the HS2 station at Old Oak, and the Oakervee review of the entire HS2 scheme, it may be some time before the main site comes forward for redevelopment. OPDC has already met almost 30 per cent of its housing target, with the first residents due to move in later this year.

Open House

For a second year, OPDC partnered with Open City, to open a number of venues to the public to explore and celebrate the area's unique culture, creativity and heritage. The OPDC team hosted a range of walking tours and activities, including at The Collective and Ace Cafe, and opened up buildings including the ArtWest Open Studios, Park Royal Fire Station, the Old Torpedo Factory and the Chapel at Wormwood Scrubs.

Planning

Planning and Development Control 27 August 2019 – 23 September 2019

On 19 September, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, hosted a PlanTech event at City Hall as part of PlanTech Week, at which my Chief Digital Officer, Theo Blackwell also spoke. The event brought together 130 attendees from 61 planning authorities across the Southeast to showcase and review work that is happening in the planning technology sector to improve planning services for residents.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

Arthur Street Estate, Erith, LB Bexley

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

Quick and Tower House, Shoreditch, LB Hackney

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

Frogsditch Farm, Shepiston Lane, Hayes, 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.

Metro Tower, 226-244 High Road, Ilford, LB Redbridge

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

Cantium Retail Park, 520 Old Kent Road, Bermondsey, 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.

Whitechapel Central (Safestore Site), Stepney, 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.

Prices Candles, 100 York Road, Battersea, LB Wandsworth

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

Dora House, 60 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.

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

Parsloes Park Sports Hub, Off Terrace Walk, LB Barking and Dagenham

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

Central Depot, LB Harrow

The Deputy Mayor has written to the London Borough of Harrow stating that he is 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:

- Imperial House, Barnet, LB Barnet
- Petrol Station and land to the rear of the Hoover Building, Perivale, LB Ealing
- Odeon Cinema, 257-263 Kensington High Street, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- 304-312 Stratford High Street, London Legacy Development Corporation
- 265 Burlington Road and Tesco Car Park, LB Merton
- Hampton Pool, Hampton, LB Richmond upon Thames
- 812 Old Kent Road, LB Southwark
- Site at Hatton House, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End, LB Tower Hamlets
- Quay House, Isle of Dogs, LB Tower Hamlets
- 9 Osier Way, LB Waltham Forest
- Land adjacent to Harbet Road, Chingford, LB Waltham Forest
- Marlowe Road Estate, LB Waltham Forest
- Alton Estate, Roehampton, LB Wandsworth
- LTDA Taxi House, 11 Woodfield Road, City of Westminster

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills has asked officers to send a letter giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- Beam Park, Dagenham and Rainham, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Land adjoining The Whalebones, Wood Street, LB Barnet
- Station Yard, Thornton Heath, LB Croydon
- Land to rear of Red Lion Public House and 94 High Street, Southall, LB Ealing
- Beam Park, Dagenham and Rainham, LB Havering
- 90 New Road, Rainham, LB Havering
- G Park London Docklands, LB Newham
- Former Showcase, Cinema Jenkins Lane, East Ham, LB Newham

- 747-759 & 767 Old Kent Road and Land at Devonshire Grove, LB Southwark

Decisions made under delegation to Assistant Director - Planning

- Former Northfield Industrial Estate & units 2-18 Beresford Avenue & Abbey Works Estate, LB Brent
- St Mary Magdalene School - Peninsula Campus, RB Greenwich
- Kidbrooke Village: Blocks A and D, Phase 3, RB Greenwich
- Quattro UK Ltd Concrete Batching Plant, LB Hounslow
- 423-425 Caledonian Road, LB Islington
- Sambourne House, RB Kensington and Chelsea
- Royal Botanic Gardens, LB Richmond upon Thames
- Various locations in NW8, NW6, W9 within North Westminster including Prince Albert Road, City of Westminster

Key Engagements

Among my additional engagements were the following:

- I visited Gdansk and Warsaw on 1 and 2 September to make the case that, despite Brexit, London remains open to trade, investment, tourism and talent
- I attended the launch of the Show Racism the Red Card “Wear Red Day” campaign on 3 September
- I chaired the Homes for Londoners Board meeting on 4 September
- I attended the ‘In Conversation’ event with Caroline Criado-Perez at City Hall on 4 September
- I met with Ian Marchant, Interim Executive Chair, Thames Water, on 4 September to get assurance from Thames Water on the improvements they are making to their service in London and actions they are taking to reduce leaks and burst water mains and respond more effectively when they do occur
- I launched the final two Low Emission Bus Zones on 5 September
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 5 September
- I attended the Redthread reception at City Hall on 5 September
- I attended the Dwaynatics ABC Youth Boxing Awards at Lambeth Assembly Hall on 7 September
- I addressed the first international Fast Track Cities Conference on 9 September
- I chaired my regular planning decision meeting on 9 September
- I addressed the Thrive LDN – World Suicide Prevention Day Conference on 10 September
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 10 September
- I joined Afua Hirsch ‘in-conversation’ on 10 September to discuss Social Integration and Inequality in London as part of the London School of Economics and Political Science’s public lecture series
- I attended the BGC annual charity day on 11 September
- I chaired a meeting with the London Business Board on 11 September to discuss Brexit and immigration policy

- I had my regular meeting with Dany Cotton, the Fire Commissioner, on 11 September
- I launched my partnership with the Black Collective of Media in Sport (BCOMS) to deliver the Diversification of the Sports Media Programme (EURO 2020) on 11 September
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 12 September
- I attended a Joint Sponsor debrief during the Crossrail Limited Board on 12 September to receive a project update from Crossrail Limited Board members
- I opened the new world-class home of English National Ballet and English National Ballet School on London City Island on 12 September
- I attended the World Para Swimming Championships at the London Aquatics Centre on 12 September
- I attended an event at City Lit on 16 September to celebrate their centenary, open a new gallery and host a roundtable with leaders in Further Education
- I attended the opening event for the second GLA Group Cohort of the Our Time initiative on 16 September
- I met with Mike Brown, the Transport Commissioner, on 16 September, ahead of the Transport for London Board Meeting
- I chaired my regular planning decisions meeting on 16 September
- I attended the opening of the newly refurbished Fairfield Halls on 16 September and the formal launch of the Croydon Creative Enterprise Zone
- I had my regular meeting with Cllr Peter John, Chair of London Councils, on 17 September
- I had my regular meeting with Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu on 17 September to discuss policing and security
- I chaired the Transport for London Board meeting on 18 September
- I visited the TU/TfL Membership Fair at Endeavour Square on 18 September
- I met with Carolyn Fairbairn, Director General CBI, on 19 September to discuss key opportunities for collaboration with the CBI
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 19 September
- I attended the annual 'Harrow's Heroes' event in Harrow on 19 September
- I attended the public event at City Hall on 21 September called 'We are all Londoners: Celebrating our European culture and communities' to celebrate, support and recognise the contribution of European Londoners
- I attended Car Free Day in London on 22 September
- I attended the Labour Party Conference in Brighton from 21 to 23 September
- I chaired the London Economic Action Partnership Board Meeting on 26 September
- I attended the opening of the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice in Barnet on 26 September
- I had my regular meeting with Cressida Dick, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, on 26 September
- I hosted a breakfast meeting with representatives of London's Black Majority Churches on 27 September to discuss how we can work together to tackle violent crime in London
- I had my regular meeting with Paul Plant, the interim Director for PHE London and Statutory Health Advisor, on 27 September
- I attended a meeting of the Metro Mayors (M9) hosted by Andy Burnham, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, in Manchester on 30 September
- I met with George Clarke on 1 October to discuss his new campaign – George Clarke's Council House Scandal – to lobby the Government to build 100,000 council homes per year
- I opened the new public space at Highbury Corner on 2 October

- I chaired the London Health Board Conference at City Hall on 2 October
- I attended my monthly Speak to Sadiq radio phone in at LBC on 3 October
- I met with the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, on 3 October to discuss London's no-deal Brexit resilience and for an update on Government plans to support London and the wider UK in the event of a disorderly departure from the EU
- I met with representatives of Operation Shutdown on 3 October
- I had my regular meeting with the Fire Brigade Unions on 3 October
- I had my regular meeting with Transport for London on 3 October

Ends