

5th Mayor's Report to the Assembly

Mayor's Question Time 14th October 2021

This is my fifth report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 27th August – 30th September 2021.

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

Executive Summary

Covid-19 and Recovery update

The London Recovery Board meeting I chaired on the 21 September focused on three major issues facing London. We looked first at ensuring we have proper oversight of the Covid-19 pandemic over autumn and winter. The pandemic will continue to be a risk to the capital and our everyday lives over the coming months, and London's strategic response will remain in place, evolving to support our pan-London response.

We also discussed the progress in tackling the disproportionate impacts of Covid-19 and the existing inequalities that were perpetuated by the impacts the pandemic. The Recovery Board has established an Addressing Structural Inequalities Subgroup, which has been tasked with preparing action plans. Work had begun on a 'vision statement' for groups of Londoners with different protected characteristics, which will be used to inform the development of the plans.

Since I declared a climate emergency in 2018, I have been clear that achieving net zero is a top priority. The retrofit of London's buildings will go a long way towards this goal and is sits at the heart of the Green New Deal recovery mission. The Recovery Board heard from a variety of attendees on their plans for retrofit, and from the mission team on how we will go about building a pipeline for widespread and deep retrofit. There is a need to accelerate and scale up delivery, which would then bring significant benefits to Londoners and to London's recovery by tackling fuel poverty and creating new jobs at scale.

London's Anchor Institutions programme continues to make good progress. Its working group on Hiring and Skills Building met for the first time in September while the Procurement, Youth Mentoring and Measuring Impacts groups will hold their second meetings shortly. Colleagues from the GLA and Bloomberg have been meeting to discuss a further group focused on the Green New Deal.

Two new step-free Northern line stations open in South London

On 20 September two step-free, Zone 1 Northern line stations at Battersea Power Station and Nine Elms opened to the public, dramatically improving the connectivity of these vibrant south London neighbourhoods and contributing to the capital's recovery from the pandemic at a vital time.

Tube services are now running from Kennington station on the Charing Cross branch. There will be an initial peak time service of six trains per hour on the extension, increasing to 12 trains per hour by mid-2022. There will be five trains per hour during off-peak times, doubling to 10 trains per hour next year.

The Northern Line Extension is the first major Tube extension this century and is supporting around 25,000 new jobs and more than 20,000 new homes. In addition, construction of the extension boosted the UK economy and supported around 1,000 jobs, including 79 apprenticeships.

TfL has delivered the Northern Line Extension £160m under budget, bringing its estimated final total cost to £1.1bn, despite the cost pressures brought about by the pandemic.

Let's Do London

On 2 September I unveiled the new TfL station 'After Work Social' roundel installed in three central London Tube stations, to celebrate the return of after work socialising. Alongside this, I launched the Lates season of my Let's Do London domestic tourism campaign with a wide range of exciting activities for Londoners to experience the city at night at world-leading cultural venues such as The Tate Modern, Royal Opera House and Science Museum, and to celebrate the unique and diverse nightlife London has to offer. My campaign continues to support jobs, and increases footfall, spend and consumer confidence in the capital. Data shows that confidence to visit London continues to grow, with audiences who recall the campaign more than twice as likely to visit London than those who did not recall it.

On 16 September, I launched the Autumn season of my Let's Do London domestic tourism campaign, unveiling 'Bring London Together' a new public art project by award winning London based artist Yinka Ilori. The project reimagines 18 pedestrian crossings with distinctive playful designs of bright colours along Tottenham Court Road and in the City of London. It is part of London Design Festival and supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies as part of their global Asphalt Art programme and will draw Londoners and visitors to central London to support the capital's creative, retail and hospitality sectors. As part of the autumn season, I'm also supporting an ambitious series of photo shoots of the cast and crew of London's West End which will culminate in a landmark exhibition led by world photographer Rankin in support of London's theatre industry.

First deal to secure homes for Afghan refugees

On 30 September I was pleased to announce that Islington is the first borough to secure funding from our Right to Buy-back scheme to secure long-term housing for Afghan refugees.

The north London borough has agreed a deal to bring 80 homes back into council ownership, including 20 family-sized homes for Afghan refugees.

Our Right to Buy-back fund was established earlier this year to give boroughs the funds to purchase former council homes that have been sold into the private market through the Government's Right to Buy programme. These homes are then made available to those on boroughs' council home waiting lists.

London has a proud history of providing sanctuary to those in need and I have been clear that I want to do everything in my power to support Afghan refugees to establish a long-term future in the city. In late August, as thousands of Afghans fled the advancing Taliban, we announced we were expanding our Right to Buy-back fund to help councils buy homes that can be used to resettle families arriving from Afghanistan. In recognition of the emergency situation, we agreed to provide increased funding for family-sized homes purchased through the programme,

which has led to the deal being made with Islington. These homes are on the open market so are expected to be purchased shortly.

Working leaving furlough can retrain for free

As the Government's furlough scheme came to an end on 30 September, I encouraged low paid Londoners and those facing unemployment as a result to retrain for free and find good jobs in sectors with skills shortages.

London has the highest uptake of furlough in the country with around 8 per cent of eligible workers (297,100) still on furlough at the end of July 2021 against a UK average of 5 per cent. Eight of the ten local authorities with the highest furlough rates were in London. Hounslow, Newham, Barnet, Brent and Redbridge all had furlough rates of 10 per cent.

With furlough coming to an end, there is a risk that there will be a rise in unemployment as Londoners are no longer supported by the scheme. That's why we are providing free training to low skilled and unemployed Londoners, regardless of their prior qualifications, to help them get jobs in futureproof sectors of our economy that are vital to London's recovery.

Earlier in September, we announced a total package of £11m to help Londoners to gain qualifications and get jobs in the hospitality, digital, creative, green and health and social care sectors. These fully funded training opportunities will be delivered through local colleges and adult education providers across the city.

Air pollution linked to greater risk of COVID-19 hospitalisation

On 6 September, I published a report from researchers at Imperial College London which confirms that exposure to air pollution before the pandemic increases the risk of hospital admissions from COVID-19. It also highlights air pollution's role in increasing hospital admissions for other lung infections, which has been previously overlooked. This emerging evidence highlights how reducing air pollution is a crucial part of building resilience to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. These findings add further urgency to our work to improve air quality in London and address related health inequalities. You can read the report here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/WHAT-WE-DO/environment/environment-publications/investigating-links-between-air-pollution-and-covid-19>

Zero Emission Bus Summit

On 17 September, I hosted a Zero Emission Bus Summit at City Hall. The summit brought together representatives from central and local government, bus operators, manufacturers and wider stakeholders to discuss how we can best cooperate to bring transformational change faster to the nation's towns, cities and rural areas. During the summit I announced that all new buses in London will be zero emission, and that I am bringing forward the date by which all buses in London will be zero emission from 2037 to 2034. With additional Government funding, London could have a fully zero emission bus fleet by 2030.

Weekly capping on Oyster for Tube and rail passengers introduced

On 27 September, weekly capping on Oyster for adult pay as you go customers was introduced, meaning that anyone travelling on Tube and rail services across London will benefit from never needing to buy a weekly Travelcard again.

The upgrade follows significant technical development and successful discussions with the train operating companies, and means that those who regularly use the smartcard to travel around London will no longer need to plan how to pay for travel throughout the week, as the system will give them the best possible fares for all their journeys made between Monday and Sunday.

Daily caps on Tube and rail services are set at one fifth of the price of a weekly cap, and if customers travel more frequently, weekly caps ensure they don't pay more than the equivalent weekly Travelcard. Weekly capping is already available for those using pay as you go with contactless, and Oyster customers who only travel on bus and tram services across London. As well as providing weekly capping, the new technology will also make it easier for taps that have been accidentally missed to be refunded. Weekly capping for those with Zip cards and other discounts is expected to launch during 2022 following further technical development.

London has led the way globally in developing transport ticketing technology, with the first trials of smartcard technology, which would lead to the Oyster card, beginning as early as 1992. This led TfL towards the wider development of ticketing using contactless bank cards, which was first introduced on buses in 2012 and was later expanded to the Tube and rail services.

Step-free access comes to Hayes & Harlington station

On 14 September TfL announced the completion of upgrades at Hayes & Harlington station ahead of the Elizabeth line opening in the first half of 2022. It is the sixth TfL Rail station to be upgraded by Network Rail to provide step-free access in the past seven months as part of the Crossrail project.

New lifts, ticket machines and other station improvements including clearer customer information for planning onward journeys have also been provided along the TfL Rail western route at Acton Main Line, West Ealing, Ealing Broadway, West Drayton and Southall since March this year.

Every station on the transformational Elizabeth line will have step-free access available when the line opens in the first half of 2022. Customers are already benefitting from new lifts to London Underground platforms at Moorgate station and London Underground and London Overground platforms at Whitechapel following the stations transferring from Crossrail to London Underground this summer.

Standing together against hatred, intolerance and extremism

September saw the twentieth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and the fourth anniversary of the Parsons Green attack. I paid respects to those killed and injured in these awful attacks, and to the emergency services personnel and other members of the public who showed the very best of humanity to help others in the face of unspeakable evil.

I am committed to doing everything in my power as Mayor to tackle violent extremism in all its forms, and on 9th September I announced an additional £400,000 investment in a grassroots fund to empower communities to counter extremism, tackle the rise in hate crime offences and keep vulnerable Londoners safe from radicalisation.

This new investment builds on the work of the Shared Endeavour Fund, which has directly benefited 25,000 participants and reached more than 600,000 Londoners overall since it

launched in 2020 - enabling community groups to deliver vital grassroots projects that tackle all forms of violent extremism, racism, antisemitism, Islamophobia and misogyny.

Projects have taken place in every London borough, including during lockdown, and the new funding will empower grassroots organisations to continue to engage with Londoners of all ages and backgrounds to tackle a broad array of issues, from right-wing extremism, racism, Islamophobia and anti-Semitism to extremist content online and misogyny. It will include activities such as community activism, sports and arts through to education workshops and guest speakers to help empower Londoners of all ages to effectively and positively challenge racist, extremist and prejudicial ideas in their community.

Young Londoners Fund

In September my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, attended two events celebrating the achievements of projects funded through my Young Londoners Fund.

On 15 September she joined the London Borough of Haringey to hear about the success of its Haringey Community Gold programme. Joanne watched a film made by the programme's participants, highlighting its impact. Joanne congratulated the consortium of ten community partners who are delivering the programme for exceeding their target of reaching 6,000 young people at risk of exclusion or involvement in crime across the borough. She heard directly from young people, as well as the Mayor of Haringey, Councillor Adam Jogee, and the Chief Executive of Haringey, Zina Etheridge, about some of the challenges residents of the borough have faced and how the programme has been vital in supporting them to make positive changes in their lives.

On 16 September Joanne had the pleasure of joining The Avenues Youth Project, to celebrate them achieving the London Youth Quality Mark Gold Award. The Gold Award is a badge of excellence for youth organisations that are committed to continuous improvement. The Avenues welcomed 150 guests to their celebration, including staff, young trainees, funders, youth service providers and programme delivery partners in North Westminster. Joanne spoke at the event, acknowledging the fantastic quality of the work delivered by the team, as well as enjoying performances from talented young people who have trained in The Avenues music studio.

I am delighted that my Young Londoners Fund has now provided positive opportunities for over 100,000 vulnerable young people across the capital and is on track to meet its target of 110,000 by December 2022.

Confirmation of allocations worth £3.5bn for the Affordable Homes Programme 21-26

On 31 August, I agreed a new deal with Government confirming funding worth £3.46bn for 29,456 genuinely affordable homes for Londoners following the first round of bidding for my new £4bn Affordable Homes Programme 2021-2026.

The new programme, combined with the remainder of my existing 2016-23 Affordable Homes Programme, will see a total of 79,000 new homes started over the next five years in London. In total, almost six in ten of the homes funded by the first round of this affordable homes programme will be made available at the cheapest social rent. The remainder will be for shared ownership and London Living Rent which can help Londoners on average incomes move into homeownership.

I am incredibly proud to have championed a renaissance in council homebuilding, with more new council homes started in 2019/20 than in any year since 1983. This bidding round cements the return of councils as homebuilders in London, with more than half of the social rented homes being built by councils.

Under the new programme, delivery partners will have to meet ambitious new conditions relating to building safety, environmental sustainability and design. Delivery partners will also live up to new equality, diversity and inclusion standards.

This is my second affordable homes programme. I have hit every one of the delivery targets in the current Affordable Homes Programme 2016-2023, with more than more than 72,550 genuinely affordable homes started to date, despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Leaseholders Together Rally

On Thursday 16 September, I spoke at the Leaseholders Together Rally, at Parliament Square. The rally was organised jointly by the EndOurCladdingScandal, the National Leasehold Campaign, and the Leasehold Knowledge Partnership.

I am proud to have been part of an event that united leaseholders to draw attention to the issues they face. I heard compelling stories from leaseholders angry and frustrated by their experiences of the building safety crisis, but also wider frustrations with ground rent and service charges. I'm determined to continue to fight to resolve one of the most important challenges facing our country.

Opening of Tonic@Bankhouse

On 20 September I was delighted to formally open Tonic@Bankhouse, alongside my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley. It is the UK's first LGBTQ+ affirming retirement community. I have been pleased to support this exciting initiative with a loan from my Community Housing Fund. This is a major milestone for LGBTQ+ housing, and for London as a truly open, diverse, and inclusive city.

Emerging Technology Charter

On 22 September, as part of London Tech Week, I launched my Emerging Technology Charter – which lays out a clear pathway for the ethical use of future technologies in London.

London's Emerging Technology Charter, the first of its kind in any UK city, is a set of practical and ethical guidelines focussed on openness, digital rights, use of data and sustainability of technology which will:

- Set common expectations to tech buyers and makers to innovate successfully.
- Give Londoners and their elected representatives a clear framework to ask questions about the technologies proposed or deployed in London.
- Establish enhanced transparency for Londoners on products and services that data protection law considers potentially high risk to privacy.

The Charter covers technology such as driverless cars, facial recognition software, drones, sensor networks, robotics, mobility services, augmented and virtual reality, and automated and algorithmic decision-making.

The Charter is voluntary, but local government and public services, makers, innovators, technologists, elected representatives and interested Londoners are all encouraged to adopt it to improve how technology is implemented in the capital.

Visit to Mercato Metropolitano

On 1 September I visited food and drinks market Mercato Metropolitano, to announce £11m of funding that will support Londoners into good jobs in sectors that are key to London's recovery and long-term economic growth. In addition to £5m of core funding for my Academies Programme to address skills shortages in priority sectors such as digital and hospitality, I am making £6m of funding available from the Adult Education Budget to support Academy providers to deliver additional employability activity for Londoners.

During the visit I was delighted to meet some of the Londoners who have benefited from skills provision that we have funded, transforming their lives and career prospects. To coincide with the visit, we launched a new section on the GLA website to more effectively signpost Londoners to local training and skills provision.

Live and Breathe London

On 23 September, with around one month until the ULEZ expansion, and the start of COP26, the global climate summit, I launched my new "Live and Breathe London" campaign to positively engage Londoners with environmental action and inspire all Londoners—individuals, businesses and communities—to take action to tackle the most urgent issue facing our planet. The city-wide campaign led with an art installation, delivered in partnership with Bloomberg, by street artist Julian Beever outside Prior Weston Primary School, a school which now meets the legal air pollution limits as a result of our funding. This installation was created to visually show that London is at a crossroads when it comes to action on the twin challenges of the climate emergency and air pollution, and raise the alarm that bold action is needed. I also delivered a keynote speech at the Barbican Centre in the lead-up to COP26, urging leaders around the world to match London's ambition to avert a climate catastrophe, and create a greener, healthier planet fit for future generations.

The first phase of the campaign will raise awareness of the upcoming ULEZ expansion and its benefits, and will run across radio, podcasts, websites, social media and across the TfL network. The second phase will focus on climate action.

Well-known LGBT+ Londoners and TfL staff design new Pride roundels

From 22 September, Londoners using the Tube network started to see the new Pride roundels specially designed by staff and prominent figures in the LGBT+ London Community as part of TfL's continuing support for the community.

Ten roundels have been installed across London, carrying positive messages and vibrant colours as well as visual representations of the London LGBT+ community. Each location was specially chosen by the creators to best reflect their designs, including Vauxhall station - which is in the heart of an area of strong significance to the LGBT+ community - Brixton, Caledonian Road, Hammersmith and Baker Street

Five thought-provoking designs have been created by TfL staff and five more have been created by talented and inspiring LGBT+ Londoners: London's Night Czar, Amy Lamé;

broadcaster and historian, Tim Dunn; activist and campaigner, Marc Thompson; designer and creator of the 'La' T-shirt, Philip Normal and prominent museum curator, Dan Vo.

Their designs carry stories of lived experiences, personal journeys and hopes for the future across the LGBT+ community as well as how the pandemic has affected people in the community and more widely.

Notting Hill Carnival

It was a huge shame that for a second year running we were not able to unite on the streets of west London for the world-famous Notting Hill Carnival over the August bank holiday weekend. The great celebration of our capital's diversity is a highlight of the year but, the restrictions in place during the planning of the event gave the Carnival Board little choice but to change this year's celebrations again.

Nevertheless, the community organisers were able to put on some smaller events, celebrating different elements of Carnival including Panorama, a steel pan showcase, and a fantastic online programme.

During the long planning cycle of Carnival, my events team worked closely with the organisers and statutory agencies on their plans. Support was given to the community stewarding and engagement programmes, which are critical to the event's delivery and contingency plans.

Carnival is an important event for London, not just because it celebrates our diversity, but it brings together more than a million people to West London and elsewhere in our city, so we are looking forward to when we see Carnival back on our streets again.

London Refugee Response (LRR)

On 6 September I launched the London Refugee Response (LRR), a city-wide effort supported by London Community Foundation, London Councils and London's funding community via London Funders. The fund was set up in response to requests regarding public donations.

The following day, I sent a welcome message to Afghan refugees on large partner screens across the capital. The message 'Refugees welcome' was translated into Dari and Pashto and promoted through large partner screens at no cost, including 3 large digital roadside screens, 42 digital screens and 7 large gateway screens on the TfL network and a full takeover of Piccadilly lights for 10 minutes, repeated each week throughout the month. This moment received widespread media coverage including the Evening Standard, Time Out, City AM and Choose Love with an additional reach of 2.5 million through social media and over 238,000 social media engagements.

I am delighted that as of the 21 September the LRR has raised over £36,000. In the coming weeks the response will continue to work with partners and experts on the ground to assess the needs as resettlement plans are further developed, with funds being directed to those on the ground who provide support to refugees as they rebuild their lives in London.

West End Live

The cultural and the creative industries are critically important to the fabric of our city and will play an essential part in our economic and social recovery. So, I was delighted to support the return of the annual West End Live on Trafalgar Square on 18/19 September. Around 50,000

people over the weekend enjoyed excerpts of musical shows from London's West End theatres – including exclusive debuts of new shows soon to be opening across London. West End Live is delivered by Westminster City Council in association with the Society of London Theatres (SOLT).

It's exciting to see so many great festivals, events and activities taking place in the capital in the coming months, and we are ready to welcome and entertain visitors from across the UK and around the world.

Policing, Crime and Security

Dame Cressida Dick reappointed as Commissioner of the MPS

On 10 September, the Home Secretary confirmed that Dame Cressida Dick will continue to lead the Metropolitan Police Service until April 2024. The two-year extension to Dame Cressida's current fixed-term appointment – which was due to end in April 2022 – was granted by Her Majesty the Queen upon the recommendation of the Home Secretary, in consultation with me as Mayor of London.

I support the Home Secretary's decision to extend the Commissioner's contract. This will provide the experienced and strong leadership we need as our city emerges from the pandemic.

The Met Commissioner has the most difficult policing job in the country, overseeing the safety of more than ten million people living, working and visiting our global city. The last four-and-a-half years have also presented significant additional challenges for the Met, including terror attacks, the tragedy of Grenfell Tower, rising public order incidents and policing challenging Covid-19 restrictions.

It's my role as Mayor to both support the Commissioner and hold her to account and I will continue to do so to ensure we continue to reduce serious violence in all its forms and increase trust and confidence in our police force among London's diverse communities.

Recognising and thanking our police

On 2 September I was honoured to attend the Met Excellence Awards, celebrating some of the outstanding work done by the officers, staff and volunteers of the Met over the last year. One of the great pleasures of my job is being able to meet with such great people and to say thank you on behalf of Londoners for the dedication, skill and selflessness with which they serve our city.

I want to re-iterate my congratulations to all of the award winners and nominees, and to say thank you to everyone at the Met for the vital work they do for all of us. I also want to say thank you to the wider police family – policing is a difficult job that often entails high risk, trauma and long, unpredictable hours, and the families of officers and staff often feel that too. The love and support they give to their relatives in service is recognised and deeply appreciated.

Transport

TfL opens consultation on making walking improvements to Earls Court Road permanent

On 27 August Transport for London began consulting on plans for making the extension of the pavement on Earls Court Road permanent.

The need to create space on London's roads for walking and cycling has become even more important since the coronavirus pandemic began, with record numbers of Londoners walking and cycling to make regular journeys. TfL data from earlier this year showed that 31 per cent of Londoners say they are walking to places where they used to travel by a different mode, and 57 per cent say they now go on more walks for exercise or walk for longer than they did before.

In May last year, TfL made some changes to Earls Court Road to provide more space for people walking and to allow them to properly social distance while travelling.

The scheme will make the area much more welcoming to people walking and will also help buses to serve bus stops, making it easier for people to use public transport too. TfL's consultation will run until 24 September 2021.

New Electric Vehicle Charging Hub, Glass Yard, Opens in Woolwich

On 1 September TfL announced the opening of a new rapid charging hub at Glass Yard in Woolwich. The 'petrol station' for electric vehicles allows drivers to charge up in 20-30 minutes and with eight charging points, it means a space is more likely to be available.

The facility in south London is part of TfL's strategy to have a rapid charging hub in every one of the capital's five sub-regions. The first was in east London at Stratford International and a site at Baynard House in the City of London, the central location, is currently being constructed. More will follow in the north and west.

Londoners need a range of options when charging their vehicle as part of the move to net zero. In partnership with the city's 33 boroughs through the Go Ultra Low Cities scheme more than 3,000 residential charging points have already been delivered. Last year saw us hit our target of 300 rapid charging points in London.

The points allow drivers to plug their vehicle in overnight and return to it fully charged in the morning. London leads the way in the UK with around a third of the country's charging points.

Giving drivers certainty that they will have a place to plug in is key to helping people switch to electric vehicles.

London's cable car celebrates passing 13 million journeys as TfL looks for a new title partner

On 7 September, TfL revealed that more than 13 million journeys have been made on the Emirates Air Line, as it began the search for a new sponsor for London's only cable car.

The cable car, which opened in the summer of 2012 as part of TfL's preparations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, crosses the River Thames and has complemented major regeneration in both the Royal Docks and the Greenwich Peninsula. Journeys start from

just £4 for adults, £2 for children, and under-5s travelling for free, making it one of London's best value experiences for a unique day out.

Since it opened in 2012, more than 13 million passenger journeys have been made since it opened, with it regularly seeing 40,000 passengers a week during the summer months. By providing a new and spectacular way to cross the river, it has helped encourage new shops, experiences and homes to be built on either side of the Thames.

TfL's initial ten-year deal for the sponsored naming rights for the cable car will end in June 2022 and TfL has now begun the process of seeking a new commercial partner who shares the ambition to build on this success and cement the cable car's position as one of the best things to do in London.

The new deal will be for a minimum of three years and would provide the new partner with a unique opportunity to rename London's cable car in collaboration with TfL, helping to promote their brand to a massive public audience in London as well as across the globe on the iconic Tube map.

First phase of work to transform streets in Nine Elms now complete, making them safer and more accessible for everyone

On 16 September TfL announced that, working with Battersea Power Station and Wandsworth Council, it had completed the first phase of improvement work in the transformation of the streets around Nine Elms.

This work is making travel in the area safer and more enjoyable for people walking, cycling and using public transport, including the new Northern line extension.

The project supports the wider regeneration in the area along with the extension of the Northern line and will see the 2.5km stretch of Nine Elms Lane and Battersea Park Road completely redesigned to make it more attractive, accessible and people friendly.

It is part of a £1bn package of dedicated infrastructure investment to support the size and scale of the area's growth.

The area around Nine Elms is undergoing significant regeneration with approximately 40 major development sites building 20,000 new homes and creating 25,000 new jobs between now and 2030.

Camden joins London's rental e-scooter trial

On 27 September, Camden became the tenth borough to join London's e-scooter trial alongside Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea, Richmond, Tower Hamlets (including Canary Wharf), City of London, Lambeth, Southwark and Westminster.

There have been 165,000 trips made on the rental e-scooters since the trial launched, with the average rental lasting 22 minutes over an average distance of 2.8km. As Camden joins the trial area, the number of vehicles in the trial will increase to a maximum of 3,480.

The number of vehicles has quadrupled since June and TfL has been working with London Councils and the London boroughs to ensure that high safety standards have been met by closely monitoring the trial.

We're really pleased that Camden has joined London's rental e-scooter trial and TfL will continue to work closely with them to ensure that this expansion meets the needs of everybody in the area.

Safety continues to be at the heart of this trial and we continue to work with the e-scooter operators, London Councils and the London boroughs to ensure rigorous standards are being met.

London's e-scooter trial continues to provide data and insight into the long-term role e-scooters could play in a green and sustainable future for the capital, as well as the role they can play in avoiding a car-led recovery from the pandemic.

Fire and Resilience

Big Resilience Conversation -Roles and Responsibilities and Structures

On 1 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, in her role as Chair of the London Resilience Forum, attended the Big Resilience Conversation Workshop held by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The workshop discussed the roles, responsibilities and structures of Local Resilience Forums.

PHE/NHS conference call

On 2 and 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, and I attended virtual meetings with Regional Directors of Public Health England and NHS London to receive an update on London's response to Covid-19.

London Strategic Coordinating Group

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

London Resilience Forum Response to the National Resilience Strategy

On 8 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, attended a workshop held by the London Resilience Forum to discuss key aspects of the Government's National Resilience Strategy.

LFB Control Centre visit

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, visited LFB's Control Centre with Shadow Fire Minister, Sarah Jones MP. They were given a tour of London Operations Centre (LOC) and an update on developments in the work of staff at the LOC, including new technology and training.

Dockhead Fire Station visit

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, the London Fire Commissioner, Andy Roe, and I welcomed the Duke of Cambridge to Dockhead Fire Station to commemorate Emergency Services Day.

London & South East LRF

On 14 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, attended a meeting of the Local Resilience Forum Chairs from London and the South East.

Fire Efficiency and Productivity Forum

On 17 September, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Dr Fiona Twycross, attended the Fire Efficiency and Productivity Forum. The forum brought together representatives from across the fire sector to improve understanding of efficiency in the sector and support and monitor the implementation of improvements.

Growth, Skills and Regeneration

Skills for Londoners Board

My Skills for Londoners (SfL) Board met on 22 September 2021. Members provided input to help shape our plans for a new Adult Education Marketing and Community Outreach programme, as well as next steps in the development of the Adult Education Roadmap and No Wrong Door programme. They also received an update on the findings and recommendations of the London Learner Survey Pilot, which trialled a new way of tracking learner outcomes from GLA-funded skills provision. Full delivery of the new London Learner Survey commenced on 31 August 2021.

Adult Education Budget Mayoral board

My Adult Education Budget (AEB) Mayoral Board met on 30 September 2021. At the meeting, Board members discussed proposals to use £6m of unallocated European Social Funds (ESF), match-funded by £5m AEB Procured funding, for an ESF Academies funding opportunity that will support the aim of my Mayor's Academies Programme to address underrepresentation in London's priority sectors. Once in delivery, the programme will support those most affected by the pandemic on the journey to employment.

Members also discussed proposals to provide AEB eligible asylum seekers with full funding for adult education. Currently Asylum seekers who meet the AEB eligibility criteria are only eligible for co-funding. The Board endorsed the proposal, which will improve access to AEB-funded provision for all eligible asylum seekers from the 2021-22 academic year.

Lea Bridge Rd Library extension

On 20 September my Head of Regeneration joined colleagues in the London Borough of Waltham Forrest to mark the opening of Lea Bridge Library, which received £410k funding from my Good Growth Fund. The funding contributed to the refurbishment of the existing Grade II Listed Lea Bridge Library and the construction of a new extension. The new extension creates flexible indoor and outdoor space for the library to expand into for different activities. In a great example of sustainable construction, much of the wood used in the new building has been sourced by designers Studio Weave from trees that had to be felled, for safety and other reasons, around north east London.

New Finsbury Park workspace brings creativity and skills into the heart of the community

On 17 September my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe, visited FC Designer Workspace to celebrate the opening of an affordable maker space in Finsbury Park that will support budding entrepreneurs and help small businesses flourish in the garment industry. With £943,000 in support from my Good Growth Fund, disused garages on an estate in Islington have been fitted out with the latest industry-grade sewing machines and equipment. Workspace provider and industry practitioners Fashion Enter offer workshops, exhibition and training space for local designers and the community. The nearby FC Designer Collective provides retail space supporting entrepreneurs to maximise their potential and boost the local economy.

Holborn House – A community centre for central London

In September, Holborn Community Association (HCA) re-opened Holborn House to the community. The £3.4m renovation provides high quality community facilities for sport, play and creative activities that aim to bridge the gap between inequality and opportunity for the local community. Funded with £635,000 from my Good Growth Fund, the building has been designed to support integration across the generations and a new street level access lift and accessible facilities will allow it to be truly multi-generational for the first time in its 100-year history. I am pleased to see how my investment is supporting this vital piece of community infrastructure in the Central Activities Zone, to become self-sustaining and increase its provision of affordable activities and vital support services for Holborn's communities.

The High Streets Data Service

Launched in June, the High Streets Data Service brings together essential information about the economic and social health of high streets and town centres, and is an excellent example of the collaboration between the GLA and boroughs enabled by the London Recovery Programme, with both the GLA and boroughs contributing to the funding of the service. Since its launch more than 150 officers from 21 subscribing London boroughs have used the data service to understand spend and footfall activity across London's 600 High Streets and 200 Town Centres. The GLA has delivered training to more than 80 borough officers on interpreting and using the data.

Housing

Chartered Institute of Housing annual conference

On 9 September, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley spoke at the housing sector's major annual conference 'Housing 2021'. Tom spoke about our ambitious plans for building more council and social housing, and our track-record to date which has seen record-breaking delivery of genuinely affordable homes and more new council homes started than in any year since 1983.

Open letter on Fire Risk Assessments

On 16 September, I wrote an open letter to London's building owners and landlords, to urge them to disclose fire safety information to their residents. I asked them to proactively share Fire Risk Assessments, and where possible, also share External Wall System (EWS1) forms.

I have repeatedly asked the Government to introduce a duty for building owners and landlords to disclose important building safety information. While I welcome the changes to the Building Safety Bill that will bring along those statutory responsibilities, we can't wait until then to improve resident's access to information. I will continue using every available platform to encourage transparent communications with Londoners.

I hear from too many Londoners who are kept in the dark about the safety of their buildings. I also recognise the value of these forms in supporting Londoners make informed decisions before renting or buying property.

RUSS Church Grove ground breaking

On 21 September my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, attended the ground breaking for 36 genuinely affordable community-led homes at Church Grove in Ladywell, Lewisham. These new homes are being built on a disused school site gifted to the Rural Urban Synthesis Society (RUSS) – a community land trust – by Lewisham Council. The scheme will involve an element of self/custom build, and is part-funded by my Community Housing Fund.

The Economy, Business and Enterprise

Tackling staff shortages

On 14 September, I was invited to speak at Bloomberg's 'The Future of Global Financial Centres' event where I provided the keynote welcome address. I used the platform to highlight the current staff shortages facing the hospitality, construction and haulage sectors and called on the Government to introduce a 'Covid Recovery Visa', which would help maintain critical services whilst UK workers are recruited and trained. I also called for a more flexible and devolved approach within the immigration system, with London and other cities given the ability to create a more demand-led regional list of shortage occupations. Finally, I encouraged the Government to create a Youth Mobility Scheme for EU and UK nationals.

Collaborating with Paris, Berlin and New York

On 14 September the Global Innovation Collaborative – a collaboration between London, Paris, Berlin and New York to codevelop sustainable and equitable solutions to support the cities' recovery – announced the 15 finalists for the recent call for innovation to speed recovery across the creative sectors. Over the course of the next two months, the finalists will further develop and pilot their ideas and help bring them to market, as a blueprint to support other cities around the world.

Business engagement

On 22 September, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with Joss Croft, CEO UKinbound, to discuss the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on international travel and the tourism sector in London.

Good Work for Fashion

On 24 September, the Good Work for Fashion campaign – a partnership between the GLA, The Trampery and the London Legacy Development Corporation to widen the reach of good work in the fashion industry - launched at the Fashion District Festival at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. This project will provide support, workshops and resources to help fashion employers improve their employment practices, and pursue London Living Wage and Good Work Standard accreditation over the next 6 months. Building on the ongoing work of the Sustainable Fashion Accelerator business support programme, it will support fashion businesses to share experiences and best-practice with other organisations in their sector.

Better Work Summit

On 22 September, My Deputy Mayor of London for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, provided a keynote speech to open the Learning and Work Institute's Better Work Summit.

London Covid Business Forum

On 21 September, I convened a meeting of the London Covid Business Forum, through which we have been working with business to progress the 'Roadmap to the Safe and Full Reopening of London's Economy' and developing our plans for the 'Let's Do London' campaign.

Recent survey data shows that those who can recall the campaign are twice as likely to have visited London since the launch in May 2021, with two-thirds of this audience having visited since the launch of the campaign. Consumer confidence to visit the capital in the future has also increased, with 9 in 10 people from outside London who recall the campaign intending to visit London within the next year. You can read about the roadmap online here:

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

Environment

Meeting with Jane Burston, Clean Air Fund

On 1 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with Jane Burston, the founding Executive Director of Clean Air Fund. They discussed how the Clean Air Fund can help support our work in tackling London's air pollution, including how we can work together to make the case to central Government to include legally binding air pollution targets in the Environment Bill.

Meeting with Environment Agency

On 1 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with the Environment Agency and the Thames Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Chair to discuss London's resilience and response to surface water flooding in July. The Environment Agency and Thames RFCC agreed to be part of the ongoing roundtable discussions and a new flooding task and finish group to collectively agree the actions needed to bring about these changes.

C40 Cities Steering Committee meeting

On 8 September I attended the C40 Cities Steering committee with other mayors from around the world to discuss the required action from COP26 to ensure there is sufficient funding for 1.5C degree climate action. I outlined my support for C40 Cities' work to develop an ambitious climate finance strategy and calls to national governments and donors to support this strategy. I highlighted that in London we face a significant funding gap – my 1.5C degree action plan estimates that £61 billion is needed to get London to net-zero by 2050, and updated modelling for our new 2030 ambition will no doubt increase this financial requirement. I also stated that financing mitigation and adaptation in the global south must be a priority of C40's finance for 1.5C degrees climate action.

Meeting with Sarah Woolnough – Asthma UK

On 9 September, Deputy Mayor Rodrigues met with Sarah Woolnough, Chief Executive of Asthma UK and British Lung Foundation, to discuss the launch of the Ultra Low Emission Zone expansion and share activity around COP26. Glasgow to engage Londoners and deliver the shared message of the health impact of air pollution and the climate emergency.

Interview with Business Green on Decarbonisation

On 10 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, was interviewed by Business Green's Michael Holder to discuss 'building a net zero London' for a short series of videos. The interview focused on work underway to support London's decarbonisation and delivering my target for London to be net zero carbon by 2030. In particular, the conversation covered efforts to reduce emissions from transport, buildings and making sure London adapts to a changing climate.

Dialogue between China Special Envoy for Climate Change and C40 Cities Mayors

On 10 September Deputy Mayor Rodrigues attended a C40 Cities and Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) which discussed China's next steps to deliver its climate targets and developing momentum ahead of COP26. The meeting discussed how Chinese cities are supporting national government targets and inspired international co-operation between nations in responding to the climate crisis.

London Infrastructure summit

On 14 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, joined the London First Infrastructure summit for a panel discussion entitled 'The Road to COP26 - Unlocking green growth for London'. This is London First's flagship event that brought together industry experts from the public and private sectors to explore the opportunities and challenges facing London's recovery from COVID-19. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues spoke about our work to tackle the climate emergency and meet my target for London to be net zero carbon by 2030, driving a green and fair recovery from the pandemic. The discussion also highlighted how we are supporting green jobs in London as part of this work and ensuring that our transition to a low carbon and circular economy is just and fair.

Meeting with environmental NGOs

On 14 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with representatives from the coalition of leading environmental organisations who published the More Natural Capital report. Those present included Neil Sinden from CPRE, Bridget Fox from the Woodland Trust, Kate Conto from the Ramblers and Jess Chappell from the RSPB. The meeting focused on the first 100 days of the Mayor's actions on climate, pollution and nature.

Fuel Poverty Partnership Meeting with National Energy Action

On 15 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues met with Adam Scorer, Chief Executive of National Energy Action, to discuss the next phase role of my Fuel Poverty Partnership, the next phase of its work, and how we can work together to tackle fuel poverty in London amidst rising energy prices and falling incomes for the poorest. Areas of discussion included the recovery programmes and wider poverty, ensuring a just transition to low carbon heat, the private rented sector, and health and social care sector engagement in this agenda to reach those at greatest risk.

Meeting with Edmonton incinerator campaigners

On 15 September, I met with campaigners concerned about the Edmonton incinerator. Emma Best AM requested the meeting at Mayor's Question Time on 27 May. Joined by local councillors, MPs and the Deputy Mayor for Energy and Environment, we discussed the current status of the incinerator and how I am ensuring its environmental impacts will be minimised with the powers I have available to me.

Meeting with Grantham Institute

On 15 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues met with Professor Richard Templer and Alyssa Gilbert from Imperial College's Grantham Institute, to discuss progress on the funding and governance arrangements for the Centre for Climate Change Innovation (CCCI). The CCCI was launched in March 2021 and will be based at the Royal Institute in central London.

Meeting with Dr Ashok Sinha, LSDC chair

On 16 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues met with Dr Ashok Sinha, Chair of the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC). This regular quarterly meeting was used to discuss the progress of the LSDC work programmes; the new ways of working for the LSDC in this mayoral term; and the process for the reappointment of the LSDC chair and commissioners.

ReLondon Informal Board

On 16 September, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, met with ReLondon to discuss the potential opportunity to obtain funding from government as a result of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme proposed by Defra. The EPR scheme would raise money from producers of consumables and incentivise them to make products and packaging easier to be re-used or recycled at the end of their life. ReLondon does not currently receive any government funding with its current budget being covered by historic funding that will be fully used in a few years' time.

Green New Deal expert advisory group

On 16 September, the Green New Deal expert advisory group met to discuss the role of green finance in London's recovery. Co-chaired by Deputy Mayor Rodrigues and Mayor of Hackney Phillip Glanville, representing London Councils, this group comprises stakeholders from across London to guide the Green New Deal mission's strategy. The meeting included updates from the GLA on its London financing facility and a presentation from Bankers Without Boundaries on their work with the Climate Investment Commission.

Energy Networks Association

On 20 September, Deputy Mayor Rodrigues met with David Smith, the CEO of the Energy Networks Association, Steve Fraser, Chief Exec of Cadent, John Morea, Chief Exec of SGN and Basil Scarsella, CEO and Director of UK Power Networks. The ENA provided an overview of their key initiatives and the meeting discussed how those present can support London's ambitions to become zero carbon by 2030 through co-ordinating activities across London's electricity network operators and contribute to the aims of the London Recovery Board including on green jobs.

London Tech Week Fireside chat

On 21 September, Deputy Mayor Rodrigues took part in a recorded fireside chat with Tech Nation as part of London Tech Week. The conversation covered the role that technologies play in London's policies and programmes to reach its climate, air quality and waste targets. It also touched on the importance of the tech sector in not only creating new businesses and solutions but encouraging innovation that has social value and creates systemic change so that all Londoners can benefit.

Live and Breathe London campaign launch and climate crossroads speech

On 23 September I visited Prior Weston Primary School to launch a city-wide campaign to inspire all Londoners to take action to help tackle the climate emergency. During the visit I unveiled an art installation supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies which depicts the crossroads we are currently facing. Following the visit, I delivered a keynote speech at the Barbican to highlight why the twin dangers of the climate emergency and toxic air pollution remain some of the biggest threats London and the world faces. I also called on Government to devolve further powers and long-term funds to London and other local authorities in order to achieve the UK's net zero targets in recognition that national targets cannot be met without delivery at local level by cities and local authorities.

National Energy Action Warm Homes Week

On 29 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, participated in an online conversation at the Warm Homes Week with National Energy Action Chief Executive Adam Scorer. The conversation covered the scale of fuel poverty in London and the challenges that low income Londoners will face this winter rising energy prices and the end to the Universal Credit uplift, what the Mayor is doing to tackle fuel poverty and what more the government needs to do, how this work fits into the recovery programme, and the role of mayors in reaching Net Zero.

Planning & Development Advisory Forum

On 29 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment & Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, opened a discussion at the Planning & Development Advisory Forum on the Mayor's aims for London's green recovery from the pandemic and the important role that the London Plan plays within this. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues highlighted the Mayor's net zero target, the expansion of the ULEZ in October and the focus on improving Londoners' access to green spaces.

High compliance with tougher LEZ standards

On 30 September, I published a review of the impact of tougher standards for the London-wide Low Emission Zone (LEZ) for heavy vehicles in the first six months following their introduction. The report shows that large and small businesses, sole traders, charities and private owners of large and heavy vehicles have taken action to protect the health of Londoners. Over 95 per cent of vehicles now meet the toughest Euro VI emission standards, up from around 70 per cent in May 2019. The entirety of Transport for London's 9,000-strong bus fleet meets or exceeds the standards. The report also includes analysis published by Environmental Defense Fund showing the impact the LEZ has had outside of London, with vehicles passing through the LEZ going on to drive through 95 per cent of major towns and cities in England and Wales, bringing the health benefits of cleaner air to an additional 18 million people.

F20 Climate Solutions Forum in Milan

On 30 September, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, Shirley Rodrigues, joined a panel at the Climate Solutions Forum being held in Milan looking at Implementing the Green and Just Transition: The Role of Cities, Communities and Regions. Deputy Mayor Rodrigues spoke about the work that we are undertaking in London to tackle the climate emergency and meet my target for London to be net zero carbon by 2030 and how this is linked with the work of the recovery board and an integral part of delivering a green and fair recovery in London. She also highlighted the importance of communities and cities working together to rebuild better so that cities are greener fairer and more inclusive places to live and work, for example ensuring that our transition to a low carbon and circular economy is just and fair.

Education and Youth

Young Londoners Participation Network meeting

On 6 September, my Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime gave a welcome speech at the latest meeting of my Young Londoners Participation Network, which was focussed on young people, the police and the criminal justice system. A range of key stakeholders were invited, including colleagues from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), the Violence Reduction Unit, the Metropolitan Police Service and the Independent Office for Police Complaints. I want young Londoners to grow up in a culture of respect and to feel safe. This was a chance for some of our young people and the fantastic practitioners that work with them to hear direct from key decision makers and to ask questions.

The next Young Londoners Participation Network meeting will focus on mentors and trusted allies.

Getting Ahead London

On 15 September, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, sent a video message of congratulations to the 70 middle and senior leaders from London schools who had participated in my Getting Ahead London programme during this most challenging of years. The development programme, which is run by Challenge Partners, was adapted for the pandemic period, ensuring it could continue to support London teachers to take the next step in their career or progress to headship.

In her message, Joanne described how, since its inception, Getting Ahead London has helped create over 300 of the capital's next generation of senior leaders and headteachers. She also highlighted the aims of the 'New Deal For Young People' recovery mission in supporting young Londoners who have been most disadvantaged by the pandemic and are now at risk of falling further behind.

London Local Authority Network for Care Leavers

On 21 September, my Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare, Joanne McCartney, opened the first webinar of the new school year for the London Local Authority Network for Care Leavers.

I convene this new network, along with partner agencies, to help increase consistency and collaboration in support for young people leaving care in London. In the meeting, we invited sector experts and local authority representatives to discuss the principle of a core London offer for care leavers. Speakers included Mark Riddell MBE, the Department for Education's National Implementation Adviser for Care Leavers, as well as colleagues from The Children's Society, Ofsted and young people from my own Peer Outreach Team.

Strong Early Years London

A part of my Strong Early Years London programme, which I announced back in May, I was pleased to see the launch, this September, of a new, dedicated online business hub and sector-focused consultancy service to support London's under pressure nurseries and childminders.

London's early years sector plays a vital role in giving our children the best possible start to life but has been hit hard by the pandemic and needs support. I am committed to doing what I can to help and I'm delighted to be able to offer this much needed specialist advice and guidance. These measures were announced by Early Years Alliance, our delivery partner for Strong Early Years London, as the latest phase of support offered by the programme.

Communities and Social Policy

WIN Programme recruitment drive for young Black men

My Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard opened a 3-day recruitment drive for young Black men on Monday 27 September. The recruitment drive was run as part of my Workforce Integration Network (WIN) programme and involved 12 businesses on the Design Lab programme – Skanska, Jacobs Engineering Group, Balfour Beatty, Affinity Water, Ground Control, ISG, Mott MacDonald, Kier, Northumbrian Water Group, Morrison Water Services, Thames Water and McGinley Support Services.

Health

Ask about Asthma Campaign

From the 20 – 26 September I joined the NHS in supporting the #AskAboutAsthma campaign. This is a campaign to help improve the lives of children and young people in the capital living with Asthma. The campaign raises awareness of the condition and highlights the steps young people, their families and carers can take to help improve their quality of life. This year, as the campaign week, coincides with Car Free day we've also been raising awareness of the impact air pollution can have on those with asthma and how dirty air can put our young people at greater risk of the condition. I know from personal experience the damage that London's toxic air is doing to our health, having developed asthma as an adult.

World Alzheimer's Day

I was pleased to be able to show our support for World Alzheimer's Day on the 21 September by turning the fountains in Trafalgar Square blue. I was proud to show the world that London is a Dementia Friendly City. Over 300,000 Londoners have already come forward to be Dementia Friends and are making a difference in their local communities. Earlier this year we launched the world's first Dementia Friendly venues network, with 40 of London's cultural venues committing to working to transform into dementia-friendly spaces. I will continue to work with the Alzheimer's Society and Londoners living with dementia to support these initiatives further and to help break the stigma still surrounding the disease.

World Suicide Prevention Day

On 10 September we marked World Suicide Prevention Day, my sixth in office as Mayor. I shared my continued commitment to doing everything in my power to reduce the number of suicides in our city. All Londoners, at all stages of their life, deserve the chance to feel well, think clearly and live with a sense of purpose and enjoyment.

Since launching the #ZeroSuicideLDN campaign two years ago, I am incredibly proud that this September, more than 250,000 Londoners have since joined me in taking Zero Suicide Alliance's free training. This is a fantastic achievement, going a great way towards reducing stigma and raising awareness. This World Suicide Prevention Day, I announced my support for the campaign to go even further, with Thrive LDN's new target of 500,000 Londoners taking the free training and having the skills and confidence needed to better identify suicidal thoughts and behaviour.

I also wrote to London's Suicide Prevention Group to commend them for their incredible, tireless work in striving to meet our shared aspiration of ending stigma and making the capital a 'zero suicide' city. I will continue to support their work and look forward to seeing London's leadership in this area continue to grow.

Pandemic Response

I have continued to meet regularly with senior leaders from the NHS and Public Health England to discuss the ongoing response to COVID-19 pandemic, recovery, and other health issues. I am briefed in detail on the current situation and its impacts on London and Londoners, including considering what more needs to be done to reduce future risks, and how we can align our resources. These meetings have recently included a focus on the current vaccine booster campaign, vaccines for 12-15-year olds, the managed quarantine hotel service and arrangements for the recent arrivals from Afghanistan.

Team London, Sports and Volunteering

Major Events Programme support for Afghan refugees

Over the August bank holiday weekend my Team London Major Events volunteers supported the arrival of Afghan refugees to London, collecting donated goods from charity partners and delivering them to the refugee's accommodation. Volunteers drove vans to move donated goods from Lewisham to Heathrow, and Battersea to Camden.

London Refugee Response (LRR)

On 6 September I launched the London Refugee Response (LRR), a city-wide effort supported by London Community Foundation, London Councils and London's funding community via London Funders. The fund was set up in response to requests regarding public donations.

The following day, I sent a welcome message to Afghan refugees on large partner screens across the capital. The message 'Refugees welcome' was translated into Dari and Pashto and promoted through large partner screens at no cost, including 3 large digital roadside screens, 42 digital screens and 7 large gateway screens on the TfL network and a full takeover of Piccadilly lights for 10 minutes, repeated each week throughout the month. This moment received widespread media coverage including the Evening Standard, Time Out, City AM and Choose Love with an additional reach of 2.5 million through social media and over 238,000 social media engagements.

I am delighted that as of the 21 September the LRR has raised over £36,000. In the coming weeks the response will continue to work with partners and experts on the ground to assess the needs as resettlement plans are further developed, with funds being directed to those on the ground who provide support to refugees as they rebuild their lives in London.

Visit to Lewisham Donation Hub

On Tuesday 7 September I visited Lewisham Donation Hub in Greenwich, a voluntary project that was set up in direct response to the pandemic and collects and distributes donations of all kinds with those facing hardship in the community. More recently they have been a key organisation in supplying direct support to refugee quarantine hotels.

I was impressed by how this volunteer led operation had significantly scaled up over the previous 2 weeks to accept donations from all over London to support the newly arrived Afghan refugees. The Hub was brimming with urgently needed items from generous Londoners from baby products and toys to clothes, electronic equipment and small electrical items. I met with the volunteer team, many of whom were refugees themselves now settled here, and talking to them highlighted the many challenges they have faced. They are volunteering long hours over this emergency period but are pleased to be able to support other refugees now looking to settle in the UK.

I also met with staff from RE;ACT and Little Village, who alongside Lewisham Donation Hub have been part of the huge and immediate emergency response to support the incoming Afghan refugees.

Culture and Events

London Fashion Week

London Fashion Week ran from 17 to 21 September this year. The city-wide 4-day event was underpinned by the theme of 'responsibility' in line with the British Fashion Council's Institute of Positive Fashion mission to encourage best practice in the sector. I partnered with the British Fashion Council to launch Limited Edition London, a new series of bespoke and exclusive events, activities and clothing that can only be accessed in person to encourage footfall and support retail, taking place in London over autumn. Despite the impact of the

pandemic on the sector, London Fashion Week will deliver up to £60 million in new sales this year for fashion businesses.

Creative Enterprise Zones Skills Announcement

On 8 September I announced a £1.3 million investment to support creative jobs and training through my Creative Enterprise Zones in Croydon, Lambeth and Lewisham. The funding will help more than 270 Londoners into education, training or employment by June 2023, and support a further 90 creative sector employees to improve their career prospects. It will focus on creating work placements, training and mentoring opportunities for young Black, Asian and minority ethnic Londoners, women and disabled people, who are under-represented in the creative industry and have been disproportionately affected by the impact of the pandemic.

London Music Fund 10th Anniversary Fundraising Event

On 13 September the London Music Fund held its first in-person fundraising event since the start of the pandemic at the May Fair Hotel. I'm incredibly proud to be Patron of the Fund, which over the past decade has awarded over £3 million to support talented young London musicians from low income families in learning a musical instrument. 12 year old trombone player David from Bromley performed during the event, while 13 year old Parastesh from Westminster told the audience what her scholarship meant to her. The event raised upwards of £150,000, all of which will go to support the next generation of musical talent.

Meeting with the Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport

On 14 September, I met with the then Secretary of State for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Oliver Dowden MP and Private Secretary Max Scantlebury. We discussed the importance of continued Government investment in London and a wide range of issues about recovery, including the return to employment, the value of funding tourism promotion, the resilience of hotels post pandemic, and the importance of supporting specific sectors such as sports, theatre and film.

Liberty Open Call Winners Announced

On 15 September I announced the eight winning innovative artistic projects from D/deaf, and disabled and neurodivergent artists who will receive funding from my Liberty Open Call fund and be part of Lewisham's programme as London Borough of Culture 2022. The £70,000 fund will support and celebrate D/deaf, disabled and neurodiverse artists, who have been disproportionately affected by the impact of COVID-19.

The winners will receive between £3,000 and £10,000 to support their artistic research, develop works for the public to enjoy and run workshops with the local community. The projects include a sign language hip hop drama, a working café with diverse sculpted customers and illuminated trees which raise awareness of pollution and will be presented from January 2022 in Lewisham.

Design Festival Launch

On 20 September my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries Justine Simons OBE, attended the London Design Medal Awards, part of the London Design Festival which I fund each year. Despite the pandemic, this year's festival is due to deliver up to £13 million in new sales for 600 design businesses. Every year the Design Medals shine a spotlight on the world class design talent living and working in the capital, positioning London as one of

the top global design cities. Justine Simons presented this year's Design Innovation Medal to Professor Eyal Weizman, founder of the Centre for Research Architecture at Goldsmiths, University of London, and ground breaking research agency Forensic Architecture.

International

Poland of the Future Campus

On 28 August I joined a virtual panel discussion at the Poland of the Future Campus, an innovative summer school for the next generation of young leaders in Poland. I spoke alongside Mayor Trzaskowski of Warsaw, Mayor Šimašius of Vilnius and Mayor Dulkiewicz of Gdańsk, and exchanged our views on the role of local government and how cities are dealing with the challenges of the future, e.g., generational change, climate challenges, and shaping of the pandemic recovery work.

U20 Summit

On 3 September I attended the virtual U20 Summit hosted by Mayor Giuseppe Sala of Milan and Mayor Virginia Raggi of Rome. The annual gathering of Mayors, which influences the G20 on climate change and other key areas, discussed how we can ensure a fair and green recovery for our cities. In this COP26 year - I spoke of the need to keep up the momentum on climate action in our cities, leading by example, but also keep up the pressure on the G20 to provide us with greater support so that we can truly deliver the green, just and local recoveries our citizens need and deserve.

Meeting with Mairead McGuinness and João Vale de Almeida

On 24 September I met with Mairead McGuinness, EU Commissioner for financial services, financial stability and Capital Markets Union alongside my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal. João Vale de Almeida, EU Ambassador to the United Kingdom, also joined the meeting. We discussed the current relationship between the UK and the EU and I was able to reiterate that London will always be a close friend to the EU, regardless of Brexit, and that EU Londoners will not only be welcome in the capital but more must be done to secure their rights here in the UK. I also highlighted London's world leading financial services, as well as the work going on around sustainable finance and fintech in particular.

London Legacy Development Corporation

ABBA Voyage

On 2 September 'ABBA Voyage' was announced, which will be a new purpose-built temporary venue at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The 3,000 seat venue will feature digital avatars of ABBA with a ground-breaking light and sound show. The announcement took place to global media acclaim at the Arcelor Mittal Orbit. Tickets are now on sale with the first shows planned

for May 2022. This is part of London leading the recovery of arts and culture with feedback so far that ticket sales are Ticketmaster's best this year with 25% going to overseas buyers.

Team GB

On 4 September Team GB's Paralympians were welcomed home at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park following their successes at the 2020 Tokyo Games.

Stratford Station

On 10 September the consultation for the future of Stratford Station was launched, asking station users, local residents and visitors what they think of the station now and how it could be improved in the future. These views will inform the urban design framework for the station and surrounding area and help make the case for investment. This is a joint project with LLDC working in partnership with Newham Council, Network Rail and Transport for London.

Treasury Connect

On 14 September Chancellor Rishi Sunak spoke at the launch of Treasury Connect, an event aimed at bringing together fast-growing tech businesses with investors and politicians. The event was held at the Plexal tech campus at Here East.

East Bank

UAL: London College of Fashion's (LCF) new building at Stratford Waterfront topped out on 23 September, marking a significant milestone for the project. Inspired by the 19th century mill buildings common to many industrial cities, the new building has been designed by architects Allies and Morrison to become a 21st century workshop. It aims to achieve the BREEAM Excellent rating for sustainability. It will be home to 6,500 staff and students bringing LCF's current six buildings together to create one campus. This is the second of the East Bank buildings to be topped out with UCL East topping out earlier in the summer.

Women's Safety Consultation

On 27 September, LLDC launched a consultation on how to make the Park and surrounding areas safer for women. The consultation seeks the views of residents and visitors on their current experiences and what improvements can be made. Whilst the Park is a safe place with careful design and dedicated security teams it is important to always seek further improvements to make the area as safe as possible.

London Stadium

The football season is now in full swing with West Ham hosting Crystal Palace (28 August) and Manchester Utd (19 September) in the Premier League, and on 30 September West Ham play their first home game in the Europa League against Rapid Vienna.

Westfield East Bank Creative Futures Fund

The Westfield East Bank Creative Futures Fund marked the success of their first year and the opening of the second year of the fund at an event on 30 September. The Westfield East Bank Creative Futures Fund is a £10 million programme powered by Westfield Stratford City that will provide 19,000 new jobs, learning, training and educational opportunities through art, culture,

innovation and creative place making. The programme is delivered by Foundation for Future London.

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation

OPDC moves to West London

On 13 September OPDC relocated offices from Union Street to Brent Civic Centre in Wembley. The team is looking forward to working closer to the Old Oak and Park Royal Opportunity Area and the local community, holding more in-person engagement, as well as collaborating and working more closely with partners and stakeholders across West London.

On behalf of OPDC, I'd like to express my gratitude to Brent Council and its Leader, Cllr Muhammed Butt, for accommodating the OPDC team in Brent Civic Centre.

Local Plan

On 15 September the proposed modifications to OPDC's Local Plan were submitted to the Planning Inspector following unanimous approval by members of OPDC's Planning Committee on 9 September, and OPDC's Board on 14 September, as well as an extensive seven-week public consultation.

The Inspector will shortly announce the next steps in the Local Plan programme, which may include a final hearing. The submission of these modifications marks a major milestone in finalising OPDC's planning policy framework to deliver tens of thousands of new and affordable homes and jobs over the next twenty years. It is anticipated that the Local Plan will be adopted early in 2022.

Community Engagement Strategy

On 14 September OPDC's new community engagement strategy was approved by OPDC's Board members. The strategy sets out OPDC's commitment to inclusive community engagement and how the corporation will inform, involve, collaborate with and empower local communities in its plans and activities. You can read the community engagement strategy here:

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/community_engagement_strategy_2021.pdf

Park Royal Design District, London Design Festival 2021

On 24 September, Park Royal launched as London's biggest new design district as part of the London Design Festival. Sponsored by OPDC, City & Docklands and Imperial College London, the design district hosted an impressive programme of 40 open studios, four exhibitions, nine workshops, walking tours, pop-up shops and film screenings, open to the public, to shine a light on the area's history and tell the stories of the people behind West London's industrial powerhouse.

Between 24 and 26 September, community art and culture projects supported by OPDC's three-year Great Place Scheme were showcased. Throughout this programme, OPDC commissioned 150 artists and local organisations, and funded 49 grassroots community projects with Small Grants of up to £5,000.

Planning

Local Plans

London Borough of Enfield draft Enfield Local Plan 2019-2039 Regulation 18 (2) consultation
On 13 September the GLA responded on my behalf to this consultation providing guidance to ensure the borough's emerging Local Plan is consistent with the London Plan 2021.

London Borough of Merton Local Plan Publication Stage 3 Regulation 19 consultation
On 6 September the GLA responded on my behalf to this consultation providing guidance to ensure the borough's Local Plan is consistent with the London Plan 2021.

London Plan

London Plan Guidance

My London Plan Guidance programme continues to progress, with the adoption of the Public London Charter and the Be Seen Energy Monitoring guidance. The formal stage of public engagement has also begun on Urban Greening Factor guidance and the Public Transport, Walking and Cycling guidance.

Producing these pieces of guidance will help to implement the vision for Good Growth I set out in the London Plan through new developments and boroughs' Local Plans. They will help make London's new open spaces welcoming and accessible to everyone, as well as promoting environmentally sustainable development.

Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

2 Sovereign Park, LB Ealing

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

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage II referrals)

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

Ebury Bridge Estate, City of Westminster

The Deputy Mayor has written to the City of Westminster stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Homebase SYON LANE ISLEWORTH TW7 5QE, LB Hounslow

City Tower and City Place House 40 - 55 Basinghall Street London EC2V, City of London
The Deputy Mayor has written to the City of London stating that he is content to allow the Council to determine the application itself.

Tesco Superstore, LB Hounslow

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

100 Fetter Lane (Option B), City of London

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

100 Fetter Lane, City of London

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

17-37 William Road, LB Camden

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

Network Building, LB Camden

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

Urban Living 70 Hanger Lane, LB Ealing

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

265 The Ridgeway, 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.

14-22 Ossory Road, LB Southwark

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

Alma Estate, LB Enfield

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

Daisy Business Park, LB Southwark

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

267 BARKING ROAD, EAST HAM, LB Newham

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

Vulcan Wharf, Cooks Road, LB Newham

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

70 Gracechurch Street, City of London

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

Wood Street Library, 750 Forest Road, LB Waltham Forest

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

Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

Delegated Planning Decisions (Stage I referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, under powers I delegated to him, has asked officers to send letters giving comments about the following stage one referrals:

- Royal Mint Court, LB Tower Hamlets
- GSR Self Storage Site, Barking and Dagenham
- The London Television Centre, LB Lambeth
- 44-80 New Heston Road, LB Hounslow
- 3 Gallions Close, LB Barking and Dagenham
- Harris Academy, LB Havering
- Watling Gardens Estate, LB Brent
- Land Formerly known As British Gas Works, LB Barnet
- 615, Manchester Road, London, E14 3NU, LB Tower Hamlets
- 1 Stirling Road/1-9 Colville Road and 67-81 Stirling Road, Acton, LB Ealing
- Eddie Kaz, 42 Station Road, LB Merton
- Selkirk House, 166 High Holborn and 1 Museum Street, LB Camden
- Former GSK Offices, LB Hillingdon
- Citylink House, LB Croydon
- ADM Erith Ltd Church Manorway Erith Kent DA8 1DL, LB Bexley
- Cockfosters, LB Enfield
- Wickway Community Centre, LB Southwark
- 20 Hanover Square, City of Westminster
- Development Land John Street, LB Newham
- 7 Thames road, LB Barking and Dagenham
- 93 Bollo Lane, LB Ealing
- 29-33 The Hale, LB Haringay
- The Castle PH Victoria Road, LB Ealing
- Good Hotel, Western Gateway, LB Newham
- The Princess Royal University Hospital, Farnborough Common, Orpington, LB Bromley
- 334-348 Oxford Street

Stopping Up Order

- Land at Glebelands Road, LB Hounslow
- Herbert Road and Bernard Road, LB Haringey

Key Engagements

- I joined a virtual panel chaired by the Mayor of Warsaw on youth accommodation, democracy and values on 28 August
- I had my regular conference call with Transport for London on 31 August
- I met participants at Young Londoner's Question Time on 31 August
- I had a call with Cllr Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council to discuss, the continued pandemic and a green recovery on 31 August
- I met with the Mayor of Phoenix to discuss the pandemic, a green recovery and the work of C40 on 31 August
- I attended the London Assembly Transport Plenary to answer questions on 2 September
- I launched TfL's 'Welcome Back London' campaign at Monument Station on 2 September
- I held my regular conference call with NHS London and Public Health England on 2 September to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID 19 on London
- I met with Frances O'Grady, General Secretary of the TUC on 2 September
- I met with the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, to discuss the continued pandemic and achieving a green recovery on 2 September
- I met with Andy Byford, the Transport Commissioner, on 3 September
- I spoke at the U20 Mayoral Summit on 3 September about the importance of Divesting from Fossil Fuels
- I visited the Lewisham Donation Hub on 7 September to see the work of volunteers and charities helping Afghan refugees arriving in the capital
- I met with Emily Sheffield from the Evening Standard to discuss the impact of COVID 19 and the 'Let's do London' campaign
- I addressed the GLA Collaboration Board on 7 September
- I chaired the Homes for Londoners Board meeting on 8 September
- I attended the C40 Steering Committee Meeting on 8 September
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 9 September
- I joined the Duke of Cambridge on a visit to Dockhead Fire station to mark 999 Emergency Services Day on 9 September
- I attended a briefing with the London Fire Brigade on 9 September to discuss strategic priorities.
- I attended the BGC Charity Day on 10 September
- I had my regular conference call with Transport for London on 14 September
- I officially opened the Bloomberg "The Future of Global Financial Centres" on 14 September, discussing the path ahead for a financially successful, sustainable and creative London
- I met with the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Oliver Dowden MP, on 14 September to discuss delivering a green recovery, theatre re-opening and the 'Let's do London' campaign
- I chaired the London LEAP Board on 15 September
- I met with Emma Best AM and campaigners to discuss the Edmonton Incinerator on 15 September
- I held my regular meeting with Cllr Georgia Gould, Chair of London Councils, on 15 September
- I hosted media representatives from across London at the annual City Hall Media Reception on 16 September

- I launched the autumn campaign of 'Lets do London' on 16 September, attending the opening of 'Bring London Together', a new artwork by London-based artist Yinka Ilori
- I held a conference call with London PHE Staff on 16 September to hear their stories and thank them for their continuing hard work through the pandemic
- I addressed the Leaseholders Together Rally at Parliament Square on 16 September
- I held my regular conference call with NHS London and Public Health England on 16 September to discuss the ongoing impact of COVID 19 on London
- I hosted a Zero Emission Bus Summit at City Hall on 17 September
- I appeared on the Andrew Marr show on 19 September
- I officially launched the extension of the Northern Line to two new, step-free stations at Nine Elms and Battersea Power Station on 20 September
- I met with Rachel Reeves MP on 20 September
- I officially opened TONIC Bankhouse, the first LGBTQ+ affirmative retirement community of its kind in the UK on 20 September
- I chaired the London Covid Business Forum on 21 September
- I met with Sian Berry AM on 21 September to discuss housing
- I chaired the London Recovery Board meeting on 21 September
- I attended the Met Excellence Awards on 21 September
- I spoke at London Tech Week's Future of Work Summit on 22 September
- I visited Prior Weston Primary School to launch my new campaign 'Live and Breathe London' on 23 September
- I gave a keynote speech at the Barbican on the urgency of tackling the climate crisis on 23 September
- I met with the Centre for London on 23 September
- I met with Mairead McGuinness, EU Commissioner on 24 September
- I attended the world premiere for 'No Time to Die' at the Royal Albert Hall on 29 September
- I chaired the Adult Education Budget (AEB) Mayoral Board Meeting on 30 September
- I attended the M10 Mayor's meeting with the Rt Hon Michael Gove on 30 September
- I held my regular conference call with NHS London and Public Health England on 30 September

Ends