

# **21st Mayor's Report to the Assembly**

## **Mayor's Question Time 18 May 2023**

This is my twenty first report to the Assembly, fulfilling my duty under Section 45 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999. It covers the period from 10 March – 4 May 2023

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

### **Executive Summary**

#### **550,000 free holiday meals provided to low-income Londoners over Easter holidays**

More than 550,000 free holiday meals were given to Londoners this Easter due to emergency funding from City Hall. Partnership with the Mayor's Fund for London and The Felix Project is helping to reach low-income families struggling with the cost of living.

I'm hugely proud that, thanks to funding from City Hall, more than 550,000 free meals were provided to families in London over the Easter holidays. It simply isn't right that so many Londoners are struggling to put food on the table due to the spiralling cost of living and food prices. My emergency funding package of more than £3.5m will provide around 10m free meals during school holidays and weekends over the next year.

I will continue to do all I can to support low-income Londoners as we build a fairer London for everyone, but it is vital that Government also steps forward urgently to use the power it has to stop children going hungry during the holiday.

#### **Baroness Louise Casey Review**

On 21 March, Baroness Louise Casey Review, an independent review into the standards of behaviour and internal culture of the Metropolitan Police Service was published. I asked for the review to be commissioned in the aftermath of the rape, kidnap and murder of Sarah Everard by serving Met PC Wayne Couzens in March 2021. Baroness Casey was appointed by the Met to lead an independent probe of its culture and standards of behaviour. Following the publication of the review I gave the following statement:

"Following a series of scandals, I asked for this independent review to be conducted by Baroness Louise Casey because I was deeply concerned about the cultural issues and systemic failings within the Met.

"The evidence is damning. Baroness Casey has found institutional racism, misogyny and homophobia, which I accept. She has described the Met as defensive, resistant to change and unwilling to engage with communities.

"As Mayor, I've already acted to put the Met on a path of far-reaching systematic and cultural reform, with the appointment of a new Commissioner and leadership team who acknowledge the scale of the problems and are committed to change. But clearly much more needs to be done, and fast.

"I have been determined as Mayor to shine a light on the true extent of the cultural problems in the Met as this is the only way to properly address the deep-rooted issues and regain the trust

of Londoners. This review simply must be a turning point and I expect all the recommendations to be implemented quickly and in full.

“I want to assure Londoners that I’ll be unflinching in my resolve to support and hold the new Commissioner to account as he works to overhaul the force. The Met has many committed, professional police officers and staff who want to be part of this change. I see police reform as a critical part of my mayoralty and I will not be satisfied until Londoners have the police service they deserve – one that is trusted, representative and delivers the highest possible service to every community in our city as we work to build a safer London for everyone.”

### **Marking the 30th Anniversary of the Murder of Stephen Lawrence**

On 22 April, I joined Stephen Lawrence’s family, community representatives and senior figures from London’s public services at a service to celebrate Stephen’s life and mark the 30th anniversary of his murder by racist thugs.

It is vital that we continue to remember and celebrate Stephen’s life, legacy and the extraordinary work taking place in his name to ensure greater equality and inclusion for everyone.

I continue to be inspired every day by Baroness Doreen Lawrence, the Lawrence family and many others who have campaigned for decades for justice and a fairer society following Stephen’s murder. It was through their courage, strength and determination that the landmark Macpherson Report was published – a watershed moment which helped shape the future of policing and tackle racism, discrimination and prejudice in our society.

Baroness Casey’s recent review into the culture of the Metropolitan Police (Met) has laid bare just how much work there is still to do. Three decades on, we’re not where we hoped to be. While progress may have been made, the Met remains institutionally racist. This is a reality we simply can’t ignore or equivocate on. Instead, we must confront this truth and recommit to eradicating racism from the Met and every other sector and sphere of our society.

We have a duty and responsibility to Stephen, his family and Londoners to drive the change that is needed and ensure that young people from all backgrounds are given the opportunities they deserve for a brighter future, as we work to build a safer, fairer London for everyone.

### **Superloop: over four million kilometres of express bus services circling outer London**

On 28 March, I announced plans for a network of limited-stop express bus routes that circle the entire capital. Along with my Deputy Mayor for Transport, I travelled with stakeholders from Northolt to Hendon to get a glimpse of London’s future bus network.

The Superloop will provide quicker journey times, with £6m of mayoral funding as an initial catalyst for improvements to outer London orbital bus services. It is proposed to be introduced in stages with some routes that would become part of the Superloop now in operation, providing quick links across outer London. The next new part of the outer London bus network will be the route linking Harrow with North Finchley, subject to consultation. TfL is working with the relevant boroughs on initial proposals for this next section and will shortly consult on the route.

Following that, views will be sought on future sections of the orbital network. These proposed future sections include a limited-stop express link between North Finchley and Walthamstow and between

Walthamstow and the Royal Docks via Ilford. Links are also proposed between Bexleyheath, Bromley and Croydon.

When I decided to expand the ULEZ London-wide, one of my key commitments to Londoners was to improve transport links in outer London. The Superloop will add over four million additional kilometres to our bus network in outer London, linking stations, town centres, hospitals and transport hubs. These new routes will make it much easier for Londoners to get around the capital and help build a better, greener London for everyone.

### **UEFA European Championship 2028 Bid**

I am very pleased to say that on 12 April, London formed part of a joint UK and Ireland bid submitted to host the UEFA European Championship 2028. I am thrilled that Wembley and Tottenham Hotspur Stadium have been selected as host venues, demonstrating that once again London is without a doubt the sporting capital of the world and there is no better city when it comes to hosting major sporting events. I am proud that we are the only city in the bid with two stadiums.

Thanks to Joanne McCartney, Statutory Deputy Mayor who represented London in the promotional photo shot at Tottenham Stadium alongside Ledley King - Club Ambassador, Mya Graham - Committee member for Spurs REACH and Ryley King - one of the club's inspirational young supporters.

### **St Patrick's Day Festival**

On 12 March, I was delighted to host an exciting programme of events for St Patrick's Day, including the iconic parade and vibrant celebrations in Trafalgar Square. This year's theme was 'London Loves the Irish' celebrating the contribution that Irish Londoners have made to our great city.

I was honoured to welcome Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, who celebrated this year in London.

Trafalgar Square played host to a world-class line up of Irish talent with family-friendly acts, storytelling, children's films and youth performances, as well as community choirs, schools, dance troupes and more. A great selection of food and drinks stalls included world-renowned chef and owner of the Myrtle restaurant in London, Anna Haugh.

This year's festival saw over 50,000 people attend. London has the largest Irish population in the UK and St Patrick's Day provides a wonderful opportunity to honour the spirit of our Irish community and celebrate the enduring strength of relationship between our two countries.

### **Vaisakhi**

On 22 April, I was delighted to once again welcome back Londoners and visitors to Trafalgar Square for our Vaisakhi celebrations, which is a time for celebration and reflection of the founding of the Sikh faith. At the event, it was a privilege to meet the Committee Advisory Group members, volunteers and community organisers and representatives who were instrumental in delivering this important event.

Gurdwaras from all around London contributed Langar to the day with London's Sikh homeless charity, SEVA, distributing the free food. Renowned head chef Manpreet Singh gave cooking

demonstrations of Sikh dishes traditionally offered, along with nutritional talks from Juggy Sidhu.

Visitors enjoyed a feast of Sikh and Punjabi tradition and culture, co-hosted by DJ and presenter Tommy Sandhu and comedian and playwright Sukh Ojla. The fantastic programme of entertainment included performances from Manika Kaur, the leading contemporary performer of Sikh Kirtan music, Amrit Kaur, named a BBC Asian Network Future Sounds 2020 Artist, and Dal Singh known as The 'TablaJedi'. Baba Fateh Singh Gatka Akhara performed a Sikh martial art named Gatka, an intense artform and a real spectacle to watch. The performers were accompanied by the Dhol Academy, one of the longest-running Dhol establishments in the UK, who provided the atmospheric soundtrack to the Gatka demonstrations.

There was also a Sikh art exhibition, turban tying by Chardikala Turban Academy, educational talks on 'What is Vaishakhi' by Basics of Sikhi, as well as a children's marquee with free fun activities for families organised by Sikh Colouring.

Diversity is London's greatest strength, and this festival was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the richness of Sikh and Punjabi culture in the centre of our capital as we continue to build a better London for everyone.

### **Open Iftar**

I was delighted to attend, speak and support Ramadan Tent Project's Open Iftar in Trafalgar Square on 20 April. This is the third time we have hosted this fantastic event, and despite the rain, over 2,300 people queued around the Square to join in the celebrations and break fast together on the eve of Eid ul Fitr.

I was joined on stage by the Lord Mayor of Westminster, Hamza Taouzzale and sponsors of the event. Imam Muhittin Aydin's Call to Prayer resonated around the Square as hundreds of people prayed as the sun went down.

It is vitally important that we recognise and celebrate London's diverse communities, and as a Muslim, this event is one close to my heart.

### **Eid in the Square**

On 29 April, I attended our Eid celebrations in the iconic surroundings of Trafalgar Square with thousands of Londoners from different backgrounds uniting to share in the joy of Eid-ul-Fitr. Under the themes of Family, Education and Innovation, it was wonderful to witness over 25,000 thousand Muslims and non-Muslims coming together to enjoy the amazing array of activities on offer across the course of the day.

Hosted by Mariah Idrissi and Ali Official, the main stage welcomed performances from MoYah, Grace and Poise Academy, FaceSoul and Khan Brothers Qawwali Group and ended with the spectacular display of colourful costumes and 50 adults and children lighting up the Square with the fabulous Colours of Eid parade brought to us by Alif New Beginnings.

The Square was awash with wonderful food stalls from across the globe, including Pabellon, The Spice Shack and Authentic Flavours of the Silk Road; and community groups including Desi Doll Company, British Pakistan Foundation and London Muslim Health Network. A host of activities filled the Square including Everyday Muslim's brilliant photographic exhibition and family heritage workshops, Rumi's Cave - Cave Open Mic artists, Halal Tourism Britain's Muslim

tales of Trafalgar Square and WAW Creative Arts Kids Zone. Fencing activities, sitting the Eid Moon, face painting and Mehndi.

The fantastic line-up of entertainment showcased the hugely positive cultural impact that Muslim communities have on our city and beyond. As with our other community celebrations, we again are sending the message out loud and clear that London's greatest strength is our diversity.

### **City Hall Coronation Celebration**

On 4 May, I was joined by the Chair of the London Assembly, Dr Onkar Sahota AM, to host a special event at City Hall to mark the historic occasion of the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla, with His Majesty's Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Col Jane Davis OBE QVRM TD DL, in attendance.

This event, which was livestreamed for the general public on [london.gov.uk](https://www.london.gov.uk), paid tribute to Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla, with speeches and reflections of hope from community leaders and young people from charities under the King's patronage.

The event brought together representatives from the GLA Group, including the Metropolitan Police, London Fire Brigade and Transport for London alongside London Assembly members, civic leaders, Trade Unions, local authority Mayors and former Assembly Members to commemorate and celebrate the Coronation.

Guests enjoyed contributions from the new King's supported charities, #iwill and Youth United Foundation, and the Soul Sanctuary Choir performed a selection of joyful, celebrational songs.

The Monarchy represents an enormous part of our nation's psyche. I'm truly proud to have a monarchy that forms such a rich part of our cultural tapestry, and was delighted to be able to mark and celebrate this historic occasion.

City Hall also raised the Coronation flag in honour of Their Majesties, which will fly until 12 May.

### **Drinking Fountains for London Schools**

On 22 March, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, announced my partnership with Thames Water to install 40 drinking fountains in London schools, who pledged to become water only. The first 20 schools have already received their fountain and the remaining 20 fountains will be installed by April 2023. The installation of these fountains will help improve pupils' health and wellbeing and reduce the harmful impacts of plastic waste on our environment, resulting in a greener, cleaner and better London. More information on water-only schools can be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/healthy-schools-london/awards/node/2847>.

### **The London Partnership Board**

After fourteen meetings over nearly three years, on 16 March the London Recovery Board, which I co-chaired with Cllr Georgia Gould, met for the final time. The Board has helped drive London's recovery from the pandemic, championing the principles of partnership throughout its work. I would like to thank all members past and present who have supported London's recovery through the Board's work.

At the same meeting, the Board became the London Partnership Board, which will build on the brilliant work of the Recovery Board, moving away from a focus on recovery and developing further partnership working, focussed on addressing cross-cutting and complex challenges facing the city. The Board will also be joined by representatives from the Sport, Culture and Housing sectors reflecting its new remit. The Board will focus on a smaller number of challenges in depth and will continue to oversee the work of the recovery missions.

The Board will look to continue to help shape the decisions that government and others make about our city, utilising the learning and experience of responding to the pandemic and by working in partnership.

### **Ensuring the Met learns the lessons from the Stephen Port murders**

On 27 April, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) published the findings of its inspection into the Met's response to the lessons from the Stephen Port murders. I commissioned this independent report due to my concerns around errors in the police investigation that meant that Stephen Port was not stopped when he should have been. We owe it to Anthony Walgate, Gabriel Kovari, Daniel Whitworth, Jack Taylor and their loved ones to do everything possible to ensure this can never happen again.

We must confront the institutional homophobia Baroness Casey's Review found in the Met and the operational failures in the force which the report has laid bare. Every Londoner – irrespective of sexuality, gender or race – has the right to have their allegations of crime taken seriously by police, and the Met must ensure the quality of their initial investigations is of a higher standard. Never again should the integrity of a case be compromised by the victim's circumstances or background. This is absolutely vital to rebuilding the confidence of London's LGBTQI+ community in our police.

Sir Mark and the new team at the top of the Met have assured me that they are committed to reform and getting the basics right. As Mayor, I will continue to support and hold the Met to account for delivering a police service that is trusted, representative and delivers the highest possible service to every community in our city as we work to build a safer London for everyone.

### **Improving standards at the Met**

On 6 April, Commissioner Sir Mark Rowley provided a six-month update on his work to reform the Met. Following this update, I gave the following statement:

"I welcome this update from Sir Mark and the action and change now taking place to significantly raise standards in the Met, change the culture and root out those officers who are unfit to serve and support the brave individuals who speak up about unacceptable behaviour.

"The Commissioner's letter sets out some disturbing findings. Londoners, like me, will be appalled to hear that 161 serving police officers in the Met have a criminal conviction and it is right that every single one of those cases will be reviewed by the Met's Professional Standards team.

"It is right that action is now being taken to review and remove vetting from officers who cannot be trusted to police London – the first step to removing them from the Met altogether. This work is particularly urgent for the hundreds of officers against whom allegations of sexual

offending or domestic abuse have been made. These investigations must be concluded without delay.

“As I have been saying for some time, Londoners deserve better from the Met and it is right that the bar is high for the conduct of those entrusted with keeping us safe. This is an important first step towards rebuilding public trust and confidence, which is so vital to policing by consent, but there is still a lot more to do.

“We must fix the integrity of the police and equip Sir Mark and the Met’s leadership with the practical powers they desperately need to clean up the force robustly and at pace. As I’ve repeatedly set out to the Government, legislative reform to remove anyone falling short of the high standards expected is long overdue.

“I am encouraged by the significant increase in the number of officers and staff within the Met who are bravely coming forward and calling out unacceptable behaviour. We will only succeed in creating a new Met with their help and I encourage more of the many thousands of hardworking officers – who are being let down by the culture within the Met and those committing wrongdoing – to be part of the change they want to see and Londoners deserve.

“I will continue to do everything I can to empower Sir Mark and hold him to account in fixing the systematic failings identified in Baroness Casey’s review. I agree with her conclusions that the Police are institutionally racist, institutionally homophobic and institutionally misogynistic. We must change the culture, root out officers who are unfit to serve and create the right environment for officers and staff of all backgrounds to thrive, so we can build a safer, more equal London for everyone.”

### **Over 90 per cent of cars driving in outer London now meet the ULEZ standards**

New data from TfL shows that nine in 10 cars seen driving in outer London on an average day meet the ULEZ standards. The figures show the effectiveness of the scheme, which will expand London-wide from 29 August this year, in encouraging people to switch from older, more polluting vehicles.

It is expected that when the standards cover the larger area, the proportion will be even higher. In November 2021, TfL estimated car compliance at 85 per cent, up from around 75 per cent estimated from earlier analysis of cars seen in June 2020.

While the vast majority of those driving in the capital after the end of August will not need to take any action, TfL is advising people to use its vehicle checker to see if they will be affected. This tool has been viewed more than six million times since November 2022, when the plans to expand the ULEZ London-wide were confirmed.

The aim of the ULEZ is to get the most polluting vehicles off our roads to protect both the health of Londoners and our environment. This new data shows people, businesses and charities understand the impact of air pollution on health and are preparing for the change. With this jump in compliance, it's now just one in ten cars seen driving in outer London that aren't ULEZ compliant.

## **Policing, Crime and Security**

### **Fresh investment to extend successful GPS tagging pilot**

On 30 April, I announced a new £900,000 investment to extend a GPS tagging pilot programme, which is working to keep Londoners safe by tagging knife crime and domestic abuse offenders who have been released from prison.

The innovative £4.5m scheme works by those who have served custodial sentences for knife crime offences, such as being in possession of a knife, robbery, aggravated burglary and GBH, as well as domestic abuse offenders being fitted with a GPS tracking device, which is issued under strict licence conditions.

Fresh evaluation of the GPS tagging pilot shows that this technology is helping to reduce the risks offenders pose to their victims and putting the emphasis of behaviour change on perpetrators not victims.

Since the pilot launched in February 2019, more than 500 tagged offenders across London who have breached their licence conditions have been recalled to prison – 365 were knife crime offenders, and 142 were domestic abuse offenders. This includes 145 cases where GPS data was used to evidence otherwise hidden behaviour and confirm that tagged offenders had breached their conditions, such as entering a monitored exclusion zone. In addition to the 507 individuals who have been recalled across both pilots, the tagging scheme is also working to ensure compliance with licencing conditions. More than half of the tagged offenders on the entire pilot (841) complied with their licence conditions during the period of GPS monitoring.

I am proud to be able to support this work, using state-of-the-art technology to protect victims and enhancing our partnership work with the probation service and police to better manage offenders to build a safer London for everyone.

### **Supporting communities to stand up to hatred and extremism**

Violent extremism remains one of the biggest threats facing many cities around the world, and in the last 12 months alone there have been 166 counter terrorism arrests across the UK and eight late-stage terror attacks have been foiled by police and security services. Counter Terrorism Policing and MI5 are also currently engaged in more than 800 investigations across the country, with a large proportion of these in London.

On 12 April, I announced a new £875,000 investment to support community projects tackling extremism, hate, intolerance and radicalisation across London.

The new grassroots funding marks the fourth year of my Shared Endeavour Fund and will help 25 projects across London run workshops and educational activities to empower 30,000 Londoners of all ages to challenge racist and hateful views in their communities.

This latest funding brings the total City Hall support for grassroots efforts to stand up to hate and radicalisation to a record £3m. The Shared Endeavour Fund has already supported more than 70 projects since 2020, with over 90,000 Londoners benefitting.



## **Boosting community involvement in police training**

On 30 March, I was pleased to join Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime Sophie Linden on a visit to the Metropolitan Police training school at Hendon, where the Commissioner welcomed us to join a community-led training session for new officers.

The Met has been running community-led training for its new police recruits since September 2021 as a direct result of my Action Plan for Transparency, Accountability and Trust in Policing. The sessions include community representatives sharing their lived-experiences on topics such as stop and search and domestic abuse. The training also gives Black community representatives the opportunity to underline the vital role communities have in the policing of their areas and how police officers must work with communities. In total, £3m of investment from City Hall is supporting this training.

Communities must be at the centre of our work to reform the Met, and that starts with the Met listening and acting on what diverse Londoners with the lowest levels of trust are telling them. That is why I am proud to fund community-led training where Black Londoners can work with our next generation of officers to help build a fairer, safer London for everyone.

## **Remembering the victims of the Westminster terror attack**

On 22 March, we remembered Leslie Rhodes, Andreea Cristea, Aysha Frade, Kurt Cochran and courageous police officer PC Keith Palmer who so tragically lost their lives in the Westminster terror attack in 2017. My thoughts, and the thoughts of all Londoners, were with their families and loved ones on this sad anniversary.

So many innocent people were impacted that day and I paid tribute to our emergency services and brave members of the public who ran towards danger to help those in need.

I am proud that our city stands strong and united against the scourge of terrorism in all its forms. Those who seek to divide us and destroy our way of life in London will never succeed and I will continue to work with communities, partners and the police to stand up to terrorism and continue building a safer city for everyone.

## **New investment to improve victim care**

At the London Victims' Summit 2023, hosted by our independent Victims' Commissioner, Claire Waxman OBE, announced further investment from City Hall to improve the service to victims of crime in our city.

The £3m funding will be used to set up a new, free phoneline for victims of crime to receive dedicated support and develop mechanisms to make it easier for victims to access key information about their case. The funds will also increase the number of Met staff responsible for victim care and signpost victims to specialist support services.

In my speech, I also re-iterated my calls on the Government to ensure victims' rights are put at the heart of long overdue criminal justice reform and that these changes are made enforceable through the delivery of a Victims Bill. It is only by having a justice system that truly lives up to its name that we can build a fairer, safer and more equal London for all.

## Transport

### **TfL sets out plans to make key junction at King's Cross safer for people walking and cycling**

TfL and my Walking and Cycling Commissioner have invited people to have their say on newly unveiled plans to reduce road danger for people walking and cycling at the junction of Pentonville Road, King's Cross Road and Northdown Street. Making roads and junctions safer for everyone is a key part of the Vision Zero goal of eliminating death and serious injury on the capital's transport network.

Pentonville Road is a major thoroughfare in a busy part of central London, with thousands of people moving through the area every day, including Londoners and visitors travelling to rail terminals at King's Cross and St. Pancras. Ensuring people can travel through the area using sustainable modes of transport is vital to reducing congestion and cleaning up toxic air. The consultation closed on 2 May.

### **TfL sets out plans for the next stage of lowering speed limits on its roads in London**

TfL is seeking responses to plans to introduce 65km of new 20mph speed limits within the Royal Borough of Greenwich, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Lewisham, Southwark, Wandsworth, Merton, Bromley and Lambeth. Lowering speeds is a key part of our Vision Zero goal to eliminate death and serious injury from London's transport network and enable more walking and cycling in the capital.

The new speed limits will help to make a large area of south London safer and more attractive for people in these communities to live, work and play, encouraging more people out of their cars and to walk, cycle and use public transport more often. Enabling more people to use healthier and more sustainable forms of travel will be vital to reducing congestion and air pollution.

The changes will see almost all the roads in the boroughs have a consistent 20mph speed limit on both the Transport for London Road Network (TLRN) and borough road network. Lowering speed limits is a key part of the Vision Zero goal to eliminate death and serious injury from London's transport network.

Vulnerable road users continue to be most at risk on London's roads, but since the introduction of 20mph speed limits, collisions involving vulnerable road users have decreased by 36 per cent (from 453 to 290), while collisions involving people walking have decreased by 63 per cent (from 124 to 46).

### **Annual budget for 2023/24 shows TfL set to deliver operating surplus**

TfL's latest budget shows that it will achieve an operating surplus in 2023/24, with revenues covering the costs of the existing transport network. This means TfL is expected to achieve financial sustainability and deliver transport improvements across the whole of London.

Across the next financial year, TfL's £9.1bn in revenue will cover its expected £7.9bn operating costs - which cover the operational running of TfL services in London - £745m in capital renewals and £417m in net interest costs that it will accrue. This will mean that TfL will achieve an overall operating surplus of £79m, which will then be reinvested directly into enhancements across the transport network as part of TfL's wider £2bn capital programme as outlined in its Business Plan, with any Government funding in 2023/24 allocated to fund capital investments across the network.

The budget also outlines how with continued Government support for capital improvements, a wide range of schemes benefitting the whole of London can be delivered in the coming years.

TfL has been working incredibly hard and shown real determination to bounce back financially after an incredibly tough few years due to the impact of the pandemic. Key improvements to the transport network, like the delivery of the transformational Elizabeth line, have helped ridership climb back up towards pre-pandemic levels, further boosting London's economy. Future improvements, including brand new DLR trains, bus services and updates to the Piccadilly line will make our transport network even better.

### **Three new low traffic Cycleways, connecting even more of London's communities**

On 24 March, TfL launched three new Cycleways across the capital, making it even easier for people to travel around London by bike.

These new routes, the first of a series to be launched mainly using new low traffic local streets, are being delivered at pace alongside TfL and the boroughs' existing programme to build new walking and cycling infrastructure and will help to connect even more of London's communities by cycle. This innovative approach will see over 124,000 more Londoners within 400m of a high-quality cycle route, contributing to our target of 70 per cent of Londoners living within 400m of a high-quality cycle network by 2041.

The new routes are Cycleway 11 - a 3km route between Angel and Farringdon, Cycleway 48 - a 3km route between Herne Hill and Clapham via Brixton and Cycleway 49 - a 4km route between Chiswick, Acton Central and North Acton.

The vital action that many of London's boroughs have taken in reducing traffic on residential roads and lowering speed limits has enabled us to deliver these three new Cycleways at pace, unlocking access to cycling for many thousands of residents.

### **London's boroughs awarded more than £63m in funding to make streets healthier and safer for all**

On 27 March, TfL allocated more than £63m in funding for London's boroughs in 2023/24, with more to follow in 2024/25, as they continue their vital work making the capital's roads safer and more attractive for people using public transport, walking and cycling.

TfL has now allocated funding for the next financial year (2023/24), which will see nearly £39m allocated to outer London boroughs, including £4m to Barking and Dagenham, £1.8m to Hounslow, £2.5m to Hillingdon and nearly £2m to Sutton. £24m has also been allocated to inner London boroughs, including nearly £1.9m to Islington and nearly £2.3m to Newham.

This means that the boroughs now have certainty of funding and can look to progress their plans as efficiently as possible. The £63m allocated to boroughs is the latest allocation of the £138m made available to boroughs as part TfL's funding deal with Government last year. Boroughs have already invested £59m in vital schemes improving access to walking, cycling and public transport.

The funding will give boroughs the certainty to deliver improvements to public transport, support Vision Zero and make active travel safer and more appealing.

## **London Trams depot to become cleaner, greener and cheaper**

The London Trams depot on Therapia Lane in Croydon is set to become cleaner, greener and cheaper to run after it secured funding from Government to help decarbonise this part of the operational tramway.

The funding was awarded as part of the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which aims to provide grants for public sector bodies in England to fund heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency measures.

The grant of £592,000 will be delivered by Salix Finance and will help part-fund several improvements at the London Trams depot which, when complete, will be the first of a number of low carbon depots on the TfL network. The remaining funding is being covered by TfL's own decarbonisation investment which is part of the current Business Plan.

## **London's first Cargo Bike Action Plan launched**

On 31 March, TfL unveiled a new plan to work with the boroughs, businesses and the freight and servicing industry to transform how deliveries and servicing trips are made in the capital by promoting the growth of cargo bikes.

The safe, clean and efficient functioning of freight in London is vitally important to the economy and a healthier and more sustainable city for all Londoners. The use of cargo bikes for freight and servicing trips is becoming more widespread, with major businesses including Amazon and DHL using them for deliveries because they are quicker, cheaper and greener.

TfL estimates that cargo bikes could replace up to four per cent of van kilometres by 2030. Central London is expected to see the highest growth and could replace up to 17 per cent of van kilometres by 2030. It is estimated that the carbon savings resulting from cargo bike growth across Greater London will be up to 30,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year by 2030.

Cargo bikes are no longer a niche concept, and they can be real game changers when it comes to delivering freight and servicing trips. Not only do they provide environmental benefits by not contributing to air pollution, they also make journeys more efficient, and present a much lower risk of danger to people walking and cycling than vans and HGVs.

## **More than half of lighting in London's bus shelters now LED as part of TfL's journey to Net Zero**

TfL has now converted more than 50 per cent of lighting in bus shelters across London to Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting to reduce waste, energy consumption and associated carbon emissions. This is just another step TfL is taking towards decarbonising its operations by 2030.

Across London, there are around 12,100 bus shelters that have long relied on traditional lighting to keep them illuminated. However, advancements in technology have meant that TfL has been able to roll out greener, more environmentally friendly LED lighting.

Before and after testing by TfL showed that the new lighting uses around 57 per cent less energy but provides 10 per cent brighter lighting, making the shelters both more welcoming and improving safety for customers, especially at night.

TfL expects to have converted all lighting in bus shelters, including those used in advertising panels, to LED lighting by the end of March 2024. Once complete, this will mean that TfL will have reduced associated carbon emissions by more than 1,000 tonnes CO2 annually.

### **Key safety improvements to junctions along the A1 Holloway Road**

TfL has started work on a series of improvements to provide new and enhanced pedestrian crossings and changes to the road layout at several junctions along Holloway Road in the borough of Islington.

The works are aimed at addressing safety concerns for all road users. Making roads and junctions safer for everyone is vital to a sustainable transport network and forms a key part of the Vision Zero goal of eliminating death and serious injury on the capital's transport network. Works are expected to be completed in March 2024.

### **Londoners narrate free Elizabeth line station audio guides**

TfL has launched a set of free audio guides about the ten stations that make up the central section of the Elizabeth line. The informative three-minute guides cover each station's art, architecture and more, and are accessed by simply scanning a QR code featured on a poster within each station.

Each guide is narrated by someone who has a long-standing link with the local area. MOBO Award-winning rapper Guvna B, who was born and grew up in Custom House, voices its station guide; the Paddington station guide is voiced by author Karen Jankel, the daughter of Paddington Bear creator Michael Bond; well-known British actor Scott Maslen was born in Woolwich and narrates its station guide.

The Whitechapel guide, narrated by Customer Service Supervisor at the station Neil Dalton, is available in Bengali and English, and references the bilingual Bengali signage at its entrance that was installed in recognition of the local Bangladeshi community.

### **Nearly £18m allocated so far from scrappage scheme ahead of ULEZ expansion**

Since the end of January, the vehicle scrappage scheme has committed nearly £18m to low-income and disabled Londoners, and small businesses and charities to help them take some of the most polluting vehicles from London's roads.

While £13.5m has been allocated for drivers of vans and minibuses, the majority going to help small businesses, more than £4m has been committed to Londoners who own non-compliant cars and motorcycles. Overall, 4,833 applications have been approved through the scheme, with £17,727,500 committed to date.

Based on previous schemes, there is usually an increase in applications closer to implementation. With just over four months to go until the ULEZ expands, there are still tens of millions of pounds left in the scrappage fund, and TfL continues to advise drivers to check their vehicle's compliance and make the most of the scrappage scheme.

Drivers have been heeding TfL's advice to check their vehicle's compliance, with more than 8m visits to TfL's vehicle checker since it was confirmed that the ULEZ would expand. With most petrol vehicles under 16 years old and diesel vehicles under six years old already meeting the emission standards, many drivers have been discovering that their vehicles are compliant with the ULEZ.

## **More frequent trains and new journey options mark one year of Elizabeth line operation**

The full peak Elizabeth line timetable will be introduced on 21 May. A train will run roughly every two and a half minutes between Paddington and Whitechapel at peak time, with frequencies increased to up to 24 trains per hour in both directions with the new timetable

Peak time frequencies will increase from 22 to up to 24 trains per hour between Paddington and Whitechapel, with 16 trains per hour running off-peak. There will be 12 trains per hour running between Canary Wharf and Abbey Wood in the peak, and peak times will also now last for longer on the railway, increasing capacity even further.

Services will also run all day between Shenfield and Heathrow Airport (Terminal 5) for the first time, with two trains per hour providing direct connectivity between Essex, east London and west London. There is also the addition of more services at peak time between Liverpool Street National Rail station (platforms 15 -17) and Gidea Park, providing a faster route for those using the station entrance on Bishopsgate. Peak services from Reading, will be increased with some trains that were previously operated by Great Western Railway transferring to become Elizabeth line services with reduced stops.

The 24 May also marks one year of TfL operating the Elizabeth line, and more than 140 million customer journeys have taken place so far, with around 600,000 journeys now being made each weekday.

Delivering the Elizabeth line has been transformational for our city, with hundreds of thousands of Londoners and visitors now enjoying the fast and reliable trains each day. The introduction of the final timetable next month marks the last milestone of the Crossrail project and will enable the Elizabeth line to provide even more frequent, speedier journeys and better connect the capital.

## **New Priority Seating to be installed on TfL buses, improving journeys for customers who need a seat while using public transport**

TfL is making bus travel in the capital more attractive, inclusive and accessible to all with new, prominent priority seating on buses, as it marks the start of its Priority Seating Week (24-30 April) to make travelling easier for people with a range of conditions whose need may not be immediately obvious.

One in five bus customers has a visible or non-visible condition and may need a seat while travelling on public transport. Getting a seat can really make a difference to someone's day and can often be the difference between being able to travel or not.

TfL has been working to improve the comfort and quality of customers' journeys by installing new priority seating across the bus network, featuring an eye-catching moquette in distinctive colours with a clear message showing it is a priority seat. More than 300 TfL buses now have more prominent priority seating designs.

The design helps people who need a seat, including older and disabled customers and people with non-visible conditions to easily identify these seats, and serves as a helpful reminder to fellow passengers that there may be customers with a greater need for a seat. Half of TfL-owned buses where new priority seat moquette has been installed are on routes serving outer London including route H91, making it easier to get a seat for longer journeys.

## **A network in celebration: "Crowndels" and special bus and cycle wraps to commemorate the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla**

Londoners and visitors to the capital saw London's transport network mark the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla, as celebrations got underway ahead of the bank holiday weekend.

TfL's iconic roundel logo was crowned with a likeness of St Edward's Crown. The St Edward's Crown was used on Coronation Day to crown His Majesty King Charles III. The celebratory "Crowndels" were found at Tube stations around the event area, as well as some Elizabeth line and London Overground stations, and at key interchange stations in central London.

Five buses with commemorative wraps entered service in the capital in four different colours – red, dark blue, cyan and pink. The buses are on routes taking in some iconic central London locations linked to the Royal Family including Horse Guards Parade and Westminster Abbey, and Royal Parks like Hyde Park. Operators Metroline, Stagecoach, Go Ahead, RATP and Abellio have funded the special bus wraps.

Three bus shelters on Oxford Street have a crown bearing the likeness of St Edward's Crown installed on top of them. In addition, 20 Santander Cycles, including two e-bikes featured special commemorative wraps in three different colours. These were available to hire all weekend and were a fantastic way to see London during the Coronation weekend.

I'm incredibly excited that the eyes of the world are on London once again as Their Majesties are crowned, showing our capital city in all of its glory. These celebratory "Crowndels" and decorations will get Londoners and visitors into the spirit of this historic event as they come together to celebrate the Coronation.

## **Kentish Town Tube station to be closed for improvements, including essential replacement of both escalators**

Transport for London is advising customers who use Kentish Town Tube station that essential work to replace both of the station's 26-year-old escalators starts from 26 June, meaning the Underground station will need to close for up to one year from this date.

The vital replacement programme will see both escalators at Kentish Town Tube station - which are the most unreliable on the Underground network resulting in last-minute station closures causing disruption for customers - replaced with new, high-performing machines. The existing escalators were installed in 1997 and are bespoke to the station, making it difficult to source parts for maintenance and repairs. The new escalators will be the same model as those used on the Elizabeth line and throughout the London Underground network making sourcing parts much easier and this will lead to a reduction in unplanned station closures, improving reliability for customers. They are expected to last for around 40 years.

TfL will use the temporary closure of Kentish Town Underground station to carry out a raft of other station improvements. These include removing the redundant ticket office and realigning the ticket barriers to provide more space for customers and additional ticket gates. The station will also be painted and deep cleaned, with new floor and wall tiling and improved signage installed.

Kentish Town Thameslink station will remain open for customers to use while the escalator replacement works are taking place. Nearby Tufnell Park and Camden Town Tube stations are both accessible by using the extensive local bus network or from Kentish Town station on foot (11

minutes and 18 minutes respectively). There is no major work planned on these alternative routes during the closure of the Tube station.

## Environment

### Cory Group

On 13 March, the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with representatives of Cory to discuss food waste collections in Wandsworth, Lambeth, Hammersmith and Fulham and Kensington and Chelsea. The Deputy Mayor highlighted the importance of separate food waste collections in improving recycling rates in the capital and discussed boroughs' approaches in planning to deliver services in line with the Mayor's policy.

### Camden Highline project

On 17 March, my Deputy Mayor Environment and Energy attended a tour of the proposed Camden Highline with CEO Simon Pitkeathley. The Camden Highline will turn a disused stretch of railway viaduct into a new elevated park and walking route, connecting Camden Town to King's Cross. In 2017, I supported the Camden Highline through Round 4 of my Crowdfund London programme.

### Green Alliance speech

On 20 March, I spoke at a Green Alliance event alongside Chris Skidmore MP. My speech covered the need for bold action on the climate crisis and the urgent need to tackle London's toxic air. I highlighted the importance of standing up to carefully orchestrated campaigns by small groups of anti-green campaigners, such as those targeting the expansion of the ULEZ, because if they succeed, it will send a message to other politicians and governments around the world that bold climate action is simply not worth it. Following the event, Chris Skidmore and I published an opinion piece in The Guardian about the need for cross-party cooperation on the climate crisis: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/mar/23/london-climate-disaster-sadiq-khan-chris-skidmore>.

### World Rewilding Day

On 20 March, on World Rewilding Day, the London Rewilding Taskforce published its final recommendations report on opportunities for rewilding London. This was the culmination of a year of meetings and investigation. I announced £1m in additional funding for rewilding, including a new competition and support for creating a pilot large-scale rewilding scheme from one of the 11 potential zones identified by the Taskforce. The report can be downloaded here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/london-rewilding-taskforce>.

### Rewild London Fund grant winners announced

On 20 March, I announced the winners of the second round of my Rewild London Fund, which connects and improves Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. This includes projects to reintroduce animals such as beavers and harvest mice, creating a pollinator corridor in Thamesmead and large-scale improvements to the Yeading Brook in Harrow and Hillingdon. 22 projects will be supported in total covering 16 different boroughs. More information can be



found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/green-space-funding/rewild-london-fund-2022>.

### **Business Advisory Board meeting**

On 28 March, the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy presented to the Business Advisory Board on my Environment and Energy programmes. The board was also attended by Deputy Mayor of London for Business. The Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy highlighted the need for businesses of all sizes to work together to achieve our target of Net Zero by 2030. She noted that London is already feeling the impacts of the climate emergency. She presented the wide range of GLA environment activities, including funded programmes, introduction of green bonds, green jobs and skills, the ultra-low emission zone (ULEZ) expansion, the Green New Deal and the Mayor's Business Climate Challenge. She mentioned the GLA Group's Responsible Procurement policy and asked businesses to use their influence on their suppliers to have a positive climate impact.

### **Schools Pollution Helpdesk event**

On 28 March, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy attended the London Schools Pollution Helpdesk Celebration Event where groups of young people joined our project partner, Global Action Plan, to deliver presentations on actions they undertook to help improve air quality around seven primary and secondary schools this year. The London Schools Pollution Helpdesk supports my commitment to improve air quality around schools and to empower Londoners to take action on air pollution. The Helpdesk provides free information, support, and advice to members of school communities who are seeking ways to improve air quality for staff and pupils. More details can be found at: [www.pollutionhelpdesk.co.uk](http://www.pollutionhelpdesk.co.uk).

### **LTS Transport Solutions**

On 28 March, the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with LTS Transport Solutions to discuss potential opportunities for recycling electric battery recycling.

### **Sustainable Homes and Buildings Coalition**

On 29 March, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with Lloyd Cochrane from NatWest to explore how the Sustainable Homes and Buildings Coalition and the GLA could work together. The Coalition, which was founded by Natwest and includes British Gas, Bosch, Citizens Advice, E3G and Shelter, has formed to improve UK buildings energy efficiency and address key blockers to meeting net zero in the UK buildings environment. The meeting covered challenges around retrofit and the need to devise effective mechanisms to enable green finance to unlock more activity.

### **Completion of projects from the second round of the Grow Back Greener Fund**

On 30 March, the majority of the projects funded via the second round of my Grow Back Greener Fund completed. Co-funded by Thames Water, the fund has supported 45 community projects to create and enhance green spaces and increase climate resilience. The completed projects have created or improved over ten hectares of green space across London (equivalent to approximately 400 tennis courts), planted over 3000 trees and actively involved almost 8000 Londoners, 6000 of which were children. Some projects have been delayed and will complete in the coming months. Details of the completed projects can be found here:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-and-strategies/environment-and-climate->

[change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/green-space-funding/grow-back-greener-fund-2021](https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/news-room/press-releases/young-londoners-push-more-sustainable-city-museum-london-report).

### **New Museum of London site visit**

On 30 March, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy attended the New Museum of London site where a group of young researchers presented their research on sustainability of London, which strongly supports ULEZ expansion. The new Museum of London site is an excellent example of retrofitting and sustainability measures. My investment of £70m into the Museum of London project enables the Museum to double its visitor numbers to 2 million a year, reach even more young people, generate £75m GVA a year, create 2,000 jobs become a major tourist attraction in the city. BBC Radio London interviewed my Deputy Mayor for Environment on which of the young people's recommendations are already happening in London and can happen in the future. More information can be found at:

<https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/news-room/press-releases/young-londoners-push-more-sustainable-city-museum-london-report>.

### **Meeting with Bloomberg**

On 4 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with Sadam Freed, Principal at Bloomberg Associates to discuss programmes that Bloomberg are supporting, including the Business Climate Challenge, the climate change adaptation and green finance programmes.

### **Sutton Council and ULEZ**

On 5 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy and Deputy Mayor for Transport met with Cllrs Ruth Dombey, Barry Lewis, David Bartolucci and Bobby Dean of Sutton. The Deputy Mayors and councillors discussed environmental and transport policies impacting Sutton, including the ULEZ and bus services, agreeing on the importance of ending toxic air for the people of Sutton.

### **Ofwat meeting**

On 6 April, along with my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, I met with the Chair of Ofwat, Iain Coucher. The meeting focussed on the performance of water companies servicing Londoners and how to ensure greater efforts are made to tackle leakage. The meeting also discussed some of the longer-term water resources needs facing the south-east and the importance of reducing plastic pollution through the drinking water fountain network in London.

### **Parliamentary reception for the Healthy Air Coalition**

On 8 April, the Deputy Mayor Environment and Energy attended a reception run by the Healthy Air Coalition and heard from campaigners, doctors and Minister Rebecca Pow MP as well as Geraint Davies MP. The Healthy Air Coalition is a group of over 20 leading health, environment and transport charities who have come together to call for political action to clean up the air.

### **Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure funding announcement**

On 11 April, I announced that London boroughs will be receiving £35.7m of capital funding from the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund, provided by the Office for Zero Emission Vehicles. An additional £3m is also being provided through the LEVI capability funding

to fund officers dedicated to supporting the delivery of charge points across the boroughs. This funding will help to deliver the 40,000 to 60,000 charge points that London will need by 2030, as set out in my Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy. Through my policies London now hosts a third of the UK's charging points. London boroughs will deliver the public charge points, with the support of the GLA, TfL and London Councils. The aim of the funding is to deliver charge points equitably, focussing on those without access to off-street parking. The funding will also be used to enable cross-border collaboration between boroughs when procuring and delivering charge points.

### **London Sustainable Development Commission**

On 12 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy met with Dr Ashok Sinha, Chair of the London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC). The LSDC has been providing independent advice on making London a sustainable world class city, since it was established by the then Mayor in 2002. They discussed the New London Partnership Board, on which Dr Sinha is now the environment representative, and the LSDC's work programme as well as their new report on London's Just Transition, which is about ensuring progress towards net zero 2030 creates a better and more sustainable city for all Londoners.

### **Toxic Air & Inequalities event**

On 17 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy and my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice attended and spoke at the 'Toxic air and inequalities: A screening and conversation' event held in City Hall. It was an opportunity for young Londoners, community groups, academics and campaigners to come together to highlight the impact of poor air quality in London's diverse communities and the importance of the ULEZ in reducing inequalities in air pollution. This event supports my commitment to improve air quality for all Londoners, particularly the most vulnerable.

### **Green Alliance Podcast Recording**

On 17 April, my Deputy Mayor for Energy and Environment was interviewed by Sophie O'Connell for the Green Alliance Monthly Podcast. This focused on ULEZ and wider environmental and social justice activity across the unit. Green Alliance Podcast episodes can be found here: <https://green-alliance.org.uk/podcasts/>.

### **Pollution Across the Life Course press release**

On 17 April, the GLA published a report on the impacts of air pollution across different stages of life which was carried out by researchers from Imperial College London's Environmental Research Group. It provides the most up-to-date summary of the significant body of scientific evidence showing that air pollution poses a serious risk to people's health, including prior to birth, even in relatively low air pollution environments, below those experienced in London. More information can be found at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/New%20review%20shows%20harmful%20health%20impacts%20of%20pollution%20before%20birth%20through%20to%20old%20age>

### **Healthy Air Coalition reception**

On 18 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy attended a reception to support the campaign coalition for healthy air. She talked about how ULEZ will help campaigners achieve their goal of making the air safe to breathe.

## **Green and Resilient Spaces Fund Round Two grant winners announced**

On 18 April, I announced the winners of the second round of my Green and Resilient Spaces Fund, which supports large-scale, innovative enhancements to green and blue spaces and the wider public realm that will strengthen London's climate resilience, increase biodiversity, improve access to green space, build green skills and promote health and wellbeing. Almost £3m of funding was awarded to four projects and nine development projects. In addition, £944,000 from my Trees for London programme was awarded to three projects focused on creating new areas of woodland and urban tree canopy cover to combat over-heating and flooding. The grants will improve almost 30 hectares of green space across London and plant over 100,000 new trees, taking the total to over half a million since I was elected. More information can be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/green-space-funding/green-and-resilient-spaces-fund-round-two>.

## **GND Expert Advisory Group meeting**

On 19 April, my Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy chaired the Green New Deal Expert Advisory Group meeting, which supports the delivery of the GND mission. The group heard an update on the London Partnership Board meeting, its governance, and future priorities. The group also discussed Government's 'Green Day' announcements and what it means for London. The group heard updates on progress on key joint areas of work between the GLA and London Councils and the boroughs: Green Finance and Retrofit.

## **Scrappage visit and press release**

On 21 April, TfL officers visited Inside Out Eventz, a family-owned catering company that benefitted from the Mayor's £110m scrappage scheme. On the same day Transport for London (TfL) published information on the take up of the scrappage scheme so far. To date, TfL has committed £16m of the £110m pot so far. Under the Mayor's scrappage scheme, Londoners on certain low-income and disability benefits, sole traders, micro-businesses and charities can apply for grants to replace, or in some cases retrofit, their non-compliant vehicles. More information is available on the TfL website: <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone/scrappage-schemes>.

## **LAEI future projects and consultation response**

On 24 April, I released the London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory future projections. The data set contains modelled projections of air pollution concentrations across London for 2025 and 2030 as well as detailed source apportioned pollution emissions data. The data shows that nowhere in London is forecast to meet the World Health Organization's guidelines for healthy air without further action being taken. The data set can be found here: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/london-atmospheric-emissions-inventory--laei--2019>

## **Diffusion tubes press release**

On 25 April, I published air quality monitoring data from diffusion tube monitoring. This is the first time the data from the individual boroughs has been compiled into a single data set. The data showed that no monitoring sites in London meet the annual average World Health Organization guidelines for NO<sub>2</sub> in 2021, and that some sites are still exceeding the higher annual average legal limit.

## **Fire and Resilience**

### **Fire and Resilience Board**

On 14 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, chaired a deep dive to discuss the work of London Fire Brigade's (LFB) Independent Operational Assurance Advisor.

### **London Fire Commissioner**

On 21 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, and I met with the London Fire Commissioner to discuss matters relating to the London Fire Brigade, including the response to LFB's culture review.

### **The National Emergencies Trust event**

On 24 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, spoke at an event organised by the National Emergencies Trust, which supports the survivors of emergencies.

### **Station Visit – Tooting**

On 24 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, visited Tooting Fire Station to speak to firefighters on training, equipment, and the station's refurbishment as a part of LFB's Privacy for All Programme.

### **Deputy Mayor's Fire and Resilience Board**

On 28 March, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, chaired a regular meeting of her Deputy Mayor's Fire and Resilience Board.

### **Meeting with the chair of LFB's Neurodiverse Support Group**

On 4 April, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, met with the chair of the London Fire Brigade's Neurodiverse Support Group to discuss LFB's culture review.

### **Visit to London Fire Brigade's Control Centre**

On 25 April, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, hosted a delegation from the Bergen Fire Department, and academics from University College London and the University of Bergen to visit LFB's Control Centre.

### **Meeting with London Fire Brigade's Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Control and Mobilising**

On 25 April, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, met with LFB's Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Control and Mobilising to receive a briefing on new technology that enables the Control room to use live data on calls.

### **Meeting with the Director of the Cabinet Office's Resilience Directorate**

On 27 April, my Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience, Baroness Twycross, met with Mary Jones, Director, Cabinet Office Resilience Directorate, to discuss the Cabinet Office's approach

to implementation of the UK Government Resilience Framework, followed by a tour of the UK's National Situation Centre.

## **Growth, Skills and Regeneration**

### **Update on LSIP**

I, alongside my officers in the Skills and Employment team and GLA Economics, have been supporting the development of London's Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP). The LSIP aims to develop recommendations on how technical provision in the capital can better meet the needs of London's labour market. BusinessLDN and three other collaborating business groups are leading the LSIP. In March, the business groups concluded their engagement events with stakeholders in each of my Mayoral priority sectors. The key issues raised, alongside the summary of the evidence base developed by GLA Economics, were brought together into a series of draft recommendations. These documents were out for consultation until the end of April. I will provide a statement noting if due consideration was given to the views of the GLA in the development of the plan. The final plan will be submitted to the Department for Education at the end of May and published in the summer.

### **Camden STEAM Event**

On 3rd March, I attended a careers event hosted by the London Borough of Camden at the Google headquarters in Kings Cross. Cllr Georgia Gould, Leader LB Camden, I was invited to deliver the keynote speech which highlights the importance of school/employer connections and a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) approach for a thriving tech/science/creative economy; how we can create fair opportunities for young people, outlining the importance of work experience; and making a call to action for employers London-wide.

### **Adult Education Budget (AEB) Data Publication**

I published the mid-academic year AEB data on 21 April. This release includes statistics on AEB-funded Further Education and Skills in London (inc. Adult Skills, Community Learning and Free Courses for Jobs) covering the first half of the academic year 2022/23.

From August 2022 to January 2023, there were 156,550 GLA-funded learners in London. Total learner participation increased by 8 per cent compared to 144,870 in the same period in 2021/22. The data suggests that the AEB strongly supports priority groups in London. Amongst learners participating in the AEB programme: 70 per cent were female; 60 per cent were from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background; The majority were aged 24-49 (62 per cent); 14 per cent consider themselves to have a learning difficulty and/or disability and/or health problem; In Adult Skills learning, 48 per cent of learner participation were eligible for the disadvantage uplift funding; 6 per cent of the total number of learners received learner support to enrol in 19,570 courses.

Learners take more than one learning aim during the academic year. There were 281,560 aims enrolments in London during the publication period. Total aims enrolments also increased by 6 per cent compared to 264,690 in the same period in 2021/22.

Further data breakdowns and additional information by provider, Sub-Regional Partnership and Local Authority District are available in the data tables, which are available here: <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/gla-adult-education-budget>.

### **AEB allocations**

AEB Grant providers were notified of their final 2023-24 allocations at the end of March and the Draft 2023-24 AEB Grant funding rules were published on 21 April 2023. Final 2023-24 AEB Grant allocations will be published in September 2023.

### **National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) Launch**

After years of development, the National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) Minimum Viable Product was officially launched in Spring. This digital platform holds data on underground pipes and cables and seeks to increase the efficiency and safety of excavation works. My infrastructure team has worked with the Government's Geospatial Commission since 2019 to deliver the London region component of NUAR. In that time, I have secured £2.8m of funding from Government to expand participation across London and this has enabled collaboration with over 50 underground infrastructure asset owners in London, including all 33 local authorities and major utility providers. The NUAR digital map will revolutionise construction and development and deliver numerous benefits to Londoners, such as fewer road closures from utility works. To mark this important milestone, I invited our partners to City Hall to celebrate this fantastic show of collaboration. You can learn more about NUAR and the launch event via my Chief Digital Officer's blog post at <https://chiefdigitalofficer4london.medium.com/whats-buried-beneath-our-feet-95c6e04a5f70>.

### **The Loft Hounslow, Project Launch (High Streets Challenge Fund)**

On 27 April, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe attended the launch of The Loft in Hounslow which was funded by £200,000 from my High Streets for All Challenge Fund. 2,787m<sup>2</sup> of vacant, prime retail space (formerly occupied by Debenhams) has been transformed into a meanwhile community asset, providing youth activities, refugee advice, a community café and an indoor market.

The project seeks to encourage footfall in Hounslow town centre, providing a diverse offer to Hounslow's residents, encouraging local entrepreneurs and micro businesses to test their business in a low-risk retail setting. The Loft's Marketplace will nurture businesses, create local networks and encourage collaboration. The Loft is a consortium of local organisations who manage the project and deliver outreach programmes through a network of organisations such as Artemis College, All That is Good Hounslow and Mind Charity.

### **Creating high-quality community spaces for residents in The Cally, Islington (Good Growth Fund)**

On 23 March, my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Jules Pipe visited the Jean Stokes Community Centre in Islington following a major refurbishment. The upgrade has created a fully accessible community space that is open to residents throughout the week. The redundant basement space has been brought back into use and acts as a base for local charities bringing them closer to the residents they support.

£350,000 of funding from my Good Growth Fund has contributed to improving the centre as part of Islington Council's 'We Are Cally' programme (with the council investing £1.25m). The

programme was co-produced by residents and it encouraged a rethink on the use and design of local assets to better support the needs and ambitions of the local community. Funding also supported the creation of a youth employment hub at West Library and improvements at Bingfield Park.

## **Housing**

### **Women's Rough Sleeping Census**

On 9 March, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, Tom Copley, launched 'Making Women Count', a landmark report into London's first rough sleeping census for women. The census was supported by my Life Off the Streets Programme Core Group and women's sub-group. It involved practitioners conducting a survey with women whilst on street outreach shifts across London, as well as in services across a range of sectors. The event was attended by over 250 people from both inside and outside of London. My rough sleeping team are meeting with Government officials to urge them to take action and provide the leadership, guidance and resources to implement the report's recommendations, to help meet the urgent and distinct needs of women who are sleeping rough.

### **Launch of the Housing Development Academy**

On 24 March, London Councils launched the GLA-funded Housing Development Academy, which is being delivered by Future of London. The Academy will support my ambitious council housebuilding agenda by offering short courses to council housing officers on the skills needed to build more homes. These courses will help to build in-house technical development skills, on topics such as initial site analysis techniques through to the financial appraisals and commercial assessments required for large-scale housing schemes. Courses are open to council and GLA staff working on housing development.

I am extremely proud of the council housebuilding renaissance that I have spearheaded since I became Mayor. Last year, more new council homes were built in London than any time since the 1970s, and I recently met my own target to help councils start work on over 20,000 new affordable homes since 2018.

### **Government announces changes to Public Work Loan Board lending facility**

On 15 March, the Government announced that a reduced Housing Revenue Account Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) rate. Whilst I believe that the Government should go further, this announcement goes in the right direction and will support the delivery of desperately needed new affordable homes. This follows lobbying by City Hall on this issue. In December 2022, my Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development convened a London Housing Taskforce meeting to discuss potential interventions that would enable the continued supply of new affordable housing in London in the future. A key request raised by local authorities was for the GLA to call on Government to reduce their borrowing costs. I personally engaged Government and proposed a reduction to the interest rate offered by the PWLB lending facility in order to support investment in new affordable homes.



## **Pan-London Youth Hub**

On 17 March, I visited the Pan-London Youth Hub, a Mayoral service for young Londoners aged 18-24 who are currently rough sleeping, or at risk of sleeping rough, anywhere in London, and spoke to several young people about their experiences of homelessness and how this service is helping them meet their aspirations for housing, work and independent living.

## **New rough sleeping services**

On 1 April, my rough sleeping team launched two newly remodelled rough sleeping services. The Rapid Response Outreach Team (RROT) and Migrant Accommodation Pathway and Support service (MAPS) form part of my Life off the Streets programme, which aims to provide a route off the street for everyone sleeping rough in London.

The RROT provides an emergency response to people who are sleeping rough across 25 London boroughs. The service quickly responds to Street Link alerts of people sleeping rough and aims to identify an immediate route off the street for people who are seen bedded down for the first time. This newly procured service also includes dedicated workers to support people sleeping rough on the TfL night transport network of tubes and buses.

The MAPS service provides specialist support to non-UK nationals who are sleeping rough in London. It works with partners across all London boroughs to provide advice and casework for migrants with unclear or limited entitlements and ten bed spaces for some of the most vulnerable. The service takes a rights-based approach by providing immigration and welfare advice to identify sustainable accommodation pathways either in the UK or through international reconnection.

## **Launch of Refugee Housing Programme**

On 3 April, I was extremely proud to launch a new London Refugee Housing Programme. London has a long and proud history of providing sanctuary to those fleeing conflict and persecution and this programme provides £126m to fund the delivery of up to 630 affordable homes across London for Afghan and Ukrainian refugees. The programme is initially open to local authorities for bidding and will open to housing associations later in the spring. The programme is being administered by the GLA Housing & Land Directorate, and forms part of a wider national Local Authority Housing Fund that is being administered by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. I am confident this funding will make a huge contribution to the lives of those resettling in the capital.

## **New analysis of rents paid to landlords letting sub-standard private rented homes**

On 19 April, I called for action to be taken to end the scandal of private landlords receiving billions of pounds of public money from housing benefits for sub-standard private rented sector homes.

New City Hall analysis shows that, in London, these landlords receive £3.5bn in rent, £500m of which comes from housing benefit, every year, from around 180,000 privately rented, non-decent, homes.

I have repeatedly called on Ministers to do more to stand up for the rights of renters, starting with urgently implementing the long-promised renters reform legislation. I am also urging Government to give me the power to freeze rents during the cost-of-living crisis to stop bad landlords profiteering from poor homes.

## **The Outside Project**

Also on 19 April, my Deputy Mayor for Housing & Residential Development visited the Outside Project in their new permanent premises in the London Borough of Islington. Since 2018, I have funded the Outside Project to provide an identity responsive service to the LGBTIQ+ community who are experiencing homelessness.

My rough sleeping team helped broker a deal with Sanctuary Housing Association to provide a new site for the Outside Project's new accommodation service, which opened in February. On his visit, the Deputy Mayor met with the Outside Project staff and three residents of the fully occupied house who shared their experience of the service and demonstrated the need for specialist accommodation and support services for homeless LGBTIQ+ Londoners.

## **Council housing target hit**

On 3 May, I announced that I have smashed my council homebuilding target, with figures showing more than 23,000 new City Hall-funded council homes have been started since 2018. I have overseen a renaissance in council house building, with more council homes started in London last year (2022/23) than any year since the 1970s. This means London has started more than double the number of council houses started in the rest of England in the previous year, and more than ten times the delivery of the previous Mayor in his final year in office when work started on just 774 council homes across London.

Having hit my previous target to build 10,000 council homes in March 2022, I subsequently doubled this council housebuilding target, pledging to start 20,000 council homes by 2024. Thanks to a dramatic acceleration in action and ambition by both City Hall and boroughs, this target has now been hit a year early.

# **International Relations**

## **Mayor of Amsterdam**

On 20 March, my Deputy Mayor Jules Pipe hosted over 70 delegates from Amsterdam in City Hall, including the Mayor of Amsterdam, Femke Halsema. The delegation was in London as part of a wider visit organised by Amsterdam & Partners, and they attended a panel session with Jules Pipe and senior representatives from the GLA and TfL. The session focussed on how we ensure that London is a city for everyone, London's extensive work on community engagement, our world-leading transport system and the London Plan.

## **Mayor of Montreal**

On 24 April, I met with the Mayor of Montreal, Valérie Plante to discuss closer ties and co-operation between our cities on tackling the climate emergency, air quality, housing, tourism, trade and culture.

## **Cities Summit of the Americas**

On 28 April, I was able to take part in the Cities Summit of the Americas - an initiative launched by US President Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken - by sending a video message of support and showcase what I have done as both Mayor and an employer in terms of gender

equity. I highlighted my world-leading policies which I have initiated at City Hall, affirming that the menopause and severe period pain are grounds for workplace adjustments or leave, as well as the reduction in City Hall's gender pay gap and increased representation of women at the highest levels of our organisation.

## **EU Capital Cities**

From 4-5 May, Statutory Deputy Mayor Joanne McCartney attended the EU Capital Cities meeting in Stockholm on my behalf. Attended by Mayors and Deputy Mayors from all of the EU capitals, as well as EU Commissioner Margrethe Vestager, the meeting focussed on the digital and green transition, where London was able to showcase to a global audience its world-leading policies on ULEZ and our work with London's business community on climate initiatives. In advance of the official meeting starting, Joanne visited a local school to learn more about Sweden's policy of universal free school meals for all children in compulsory education, in order to understand the benefits and learnings of such a policy.

## **The Economy, Business and Enterprise**

### **London Living Wage**

On 30 March, I co-chaired the Making London a Living Wage City Steering Group meeting at ITV Studios. We heard directly from workers on the difference a living wage makes and celebrated early campaign successes, with 1000 new Living Wage employers employing 250,000 people in the past 18 months. There has now been a fivefold increase in the number of Living Wage employers since I became Mayor in 2016. As a group we planned how we will encourage more London employers to commit to paying a real Living Wage in the next phase of the campaign.

### **Brexit**

On 27 April, I opened the new London office of Patriarche, a French architecture firm, and spoke about the ways that post-Brexit visa rules are damaging London's tourism industry and the wider economy.

### **Business engagement**

On 8 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with Kevin McCarthy, Senior Executive Vice President and General Counsel of the American bank the Bank of New York (BNY) Mellon to discuss BNY Mellon's role in London and London's priorities in the financial services sector.

From 12 - 16 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, led a trade mission, including 10 London tech companies, to New Delhi and Bengaluru to promote stronger trade and investment links between London and India.

On 22 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, addressed the Academic Health Science Centre Network Executive meeting on how the GLA can work together with universities, hospitals and other science and innovation organisations to grow the life sciences sector in London.

On 23 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, welcomed 250 guests to London and Partners' annual Tourism means Business conference.

On 27 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, attended the Federation of Small Businesses London Awards ceremony and presented the diversity & inclusion award.

On 28 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, chaired the Mayor's Business Advisory Board hosted at Framestore's offices. The Board heard updates on the Mayor's Environment and Energy programmes from Deputy Mayor Shirley Rodrigues and on Opportunity London, our joint international investment initiative with boroughs.

On 28 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with Helen Brocklebank, Chief Executive Officer at Walpole, to discuss the issues affecting London's luxury sector including the impact of scrapping tax-free shopping on London's retail, hospitality and tourism sectors and the importance of its reinstatement.

On 29 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, visited the Granville workspace in South Kilburn, NW6 alongside members of my Workspace Advisory Group to meet the Centre Director Shazia Mustafa and businesses located there.

On 29 March, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, met with representatives of BYJU'S, Indian educational technology company, to discuss business priorities and opportunities to expand BYJU'S services and support in London.

On 4 April, I met with Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London and Chair of BusinessLDN, to discuss our respective priorities for London's business community and mutual collaboration opportunities.

On 24 April, my Deputy Mayor for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, attended the Institute of Directors Japan-UK Symposium and spoke about the longstanding connection between London and Japan and the opportunities for Japanese investors and businesses to invest in London.

### **UK Shared Prosperity Fund**

The 99 applications submitted for the £30m Supporting Local Business open call, which closed in February have been assessed and moderated by my officials; and were considered by the UKSPF Local Partnership Sub-Group at its first meeting on 18 April. The call was significantly over-subscribed with applications seeking over £120m. Applicants were advised of the outcome on 28 April, and 29 projects have been invited to proceed to contract.

Agreements to pay £53m UKSPF direct to boroughs have also been signed and are in the process of being paid.

## Community and Social Policy

### Work Rights Centre commission to provide employment rights training

I have commissioned the Work Rights Centre to provide employment rights training and supervision to migrant and community organisations across London. This will increase the advice capacity and expertise available to Londoners experiencing abuse and exploitation at work. In my manifesto I committed to challenging unscrupulous employment practices and improving coordination across London's advice landscape. This is just one way that I am fulfilling this commitment. Find out more and get involved here:

<https://www.workrightscentre.org/news/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-employment-rights-advice-and-support-for-underserved-london-communities-programme>

### 2-year anniversary of the British National (Overseas) (BN(O) Visa scheme

A reception at City Hall to mark the second anniversary of the British National (Overseas) (BN(O) Visa scheme took place successfully on 18 April. More than 100 attendees, including community leaders, government officials, and representatives from Hongkong-led groups and wider civil society, came together to celebrate Hong Kong culture and identity as well as the great work they have done for the integration of BN(O) Hongkongers. My Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, also attended the event and gave an opening speech to show solidarity for the Hong Kong BN(O) community who have chosen London to be their home. Debbie's tweet about the event can be found at:

[https://twitter.com/debs\\_wb/status/1649004864091897861?s=20](https://twitter.com/debs_wb/status/1649004864091897861?s=20)

### London Engagement Collaborative speaker series- final session

On 5 April, we delivered the final session of the London Engagement Collaborative speaker series focussed on Inclusion and Community Engagement. We were joined by a wonderful panel of speakers, including Dr Kush Kanodia, Disability Rights & Race Equality Champion, Sahra-Isha Muhammad-Jones, Cultural Researcher & Founder of ASRA Club, Okorite Amachree, Senior Policy Officer in Equality & Fairness team at GLA and Dilwara Khatun, Community Organiser at London Borough of Redbridge. The session was held online with more than 35 attendees who had the opportunity to hear first-hand about the creative approaches taken to develop inclusive engagement practice and the power of centring relationships to make engagement practice more inclusive.

## Children and Young Londoners

### Universal Free School Meals

City Hall officers are working with boroughs, partners and schools to develop the implementation guidance for the roll-out of universal free school meals in September. The programme's task and finish groups have been routinely meeting, with the first Partnership Advisory Group held on 21 April. Officers have been engaging with existing networks across boroughs, as well as head teachers and partners. On 28 April, boroughs received the grant conditions and principles alongside further information. Good practice webinars have been arranged to support boroughs and schools with the most pertinent challenges they are anticipating. The first of these took place on 4 May and was focused on school meals

procurement. The GLA is working with partners to undertake a collaborative monitoring and evaluation approach, alongside the commissioning of an Integrated Impact Assessment.

### **Connected Communities event for Gypsy Roma Traveller young people**

On 21 March, Joanne McCartney, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, opened an event aimed at improving education and employment outcomes for Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) young people in London at City Hall. The event, in partnership with the Traveller Movement, brought together businesses, Local Authorities, Youth services, GRT organisations and young people, to help shape appropriate and meaningful pathways into employment, education and training. My Peer Outreach Workers (POW) team supported the day and facilitated workshops. I have been supporting young people identified as being from the GRT communities with positive activities through my Young Londoners Fund and they are one of the priority groups for mentoring activity delivered through my New Deal for Young People (NDYP).

## **Culture**

### **London Borough of Culture Croydon Launch**

On 14 March, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended and spoke at the programme launch of This Is Croydon, my London Borough of Culture 2023 which runs from April 2023 to March 2024. Hundreds of people gathered at Boxpark to celebrate and enjoy performances by award-winning BirdGang dancers, DJs from Club Soda, a film by Talawa, music from London Mozart Players, Subrang Arts and The BRIT School. Grassroots talent, unsung cultural heroes, young people and disability-led creative productions will take centre stage across Croydon's change-making year. The first event of the year, Oratorio of Hope, took place on 1 April.

### **Creative Land Trust Fundraising launch of Wallis Road Studios, Hackney Wick**

On 22 March, my Deputy Mayor of Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, celebrated the opening of the new Wallis Road Studios, Hackney alongside investors, developers, artists, studio providers and funders. Wallis Road Studios will provide 33,000 square foot of ground and basement floor space, creating up to 180 long-term, affordable studios. Cell Studios and Mainyard Studios have been selected to operate the spaces. This acquisition is the first in what will become a portfolio of properties owned by Creative Land Trust, which I co-founded with Arts Council England, Outset Contemporary Art Fund and Bloomberg Philanthropies, with a mission to secure long-term, affordable workspace for artists and makers to support London's creative industries.

### **Creative Enterprise Zones - Waltham Forest CEZ legacy programme Launch**

On 23 March, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended a Waltham Forest legacy tour including a visit to see the progress being made at Soho Theatre - which was a big outcome of Waltham Forest's year as London Borough of Culture. The Deputy Mayor also took the opportunity to learn about the borough's ambitions and plans to build on the Night Time Enterprise Zone pilot in 2019.

A tour of the Blackhorse Lane Creative Enterprise Zone, including creative workspaces and education providers highlighted the zone's action plan which create 1,000 sqm of affordable

workspace and build strong links between local training and creative businesses to create high quality opportunities for local people to take up creative careers. The day culminated in the unveiling of the zone's new brand-identity, Blackhorse Collective.

### **Commission for the Diversity in the Public Realm - Memorial to victims of the Transatlantic slave trade**

On 24 March 2023, my Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Policy, Debbie Weekes-Bernard, and my Deputy Mayor of Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, announced my plans to commit to £500k to develop a new memorial in the capital, honouring the victims of the transatlantic slave trade. We marked the announcement with a morning of discussions at the Museum of London Docklands. This is a key project from the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm and has been shaped by the numerous discussions and engagement activities the Commission has undertaken since its inception. This work fulfils my manifesto commitment to support a memorial to the transatlantic slave trade alongside educational programmes related to the victims and their descendants in the city.

### **Ealing Cultural Manifesto Launch, and CEZ CLT local visit**

On 31 March, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, attended and gave a speech at the launch of Ealing's Cultural Manifesto entitled "367,100 Creatives", a reference to the population of the borough. Cllr Jasbir Anand, portfolio holder for Culture and Communities; Cllr. Peter Mason, Leader of Ealing Council; and Tonya Nelson, Director London Arts Council England spoke. In addition, there were performances from local creative organisations celebrating the cultural infrastructure in Ealing.

### **Fourth Plinth Schools Awards Competition Ceremony**

On 3 May, my Deputy Mayor of Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, announced this year's winners of my Fourth Plinth Schools Awards. The competition received entries from more than 2,000 students from 30 London boroughs. Since the awards began in 2008, there have been more than 30,000 entries to the competition. The awards give students across the capital an opportunity to reflect on and create their own work in response to my Fourth Plinth Commission. An exhibition of the winning work will be on display at New City Hall until early June and will also be displayed on the Bloomberg Connects mobile app, which has been downloaded by 1 million people.

### **Culture and Community Spaces at Risk team host delegation of New York City senior leaders**

Between 27-29 April, my Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries, Justine Simons OBE, and my Culture and Community Spaces at Risk team hosted a delegation of New York City senior leaders, including Senior Advisors to the Mayor's Office and the Chiefs of Staff for the New York City Economic Development Corporation, Department of City Planning, Department of Small Business Services and Department of Cultural Affairs. The exchange included visits to venues safeguarded by the Culture and Community Spaces at Risk team and workshops with local boroughs and venue operators to learn about strategies to protect community and cultural assets in London and New York City. The delegates and the London team were also hosted at the US Embassy. This exchange was part of the World Cities Culture Forum's Leadership Exchange Programme funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies.

## Civil Society and Sport

### **New Partnership between City Hall and the National Basketball Association to support community coaches in London**

On 14 March, I launched a new partnership with the National Basketball Association (NBA) to develop the next generation of basketball coaches in London. I announced this exciting £1.1m programme at a launch event with the NBA Europe and Middle East Managing Director Ralph Rivera, and the Naismith Basketball Hall of Famer and 11-time NBA All-Star Allen Iverson. The event welcomed more than 300 potential future coaches and basketball stakeholders from the capital, along with young people from local schools.

The London Coaches Programme, which is open to aspiring London-based coaches aged 16-30, aims to engage 500 coaches over 3 years who will in turn reach thousands of young players across the city in years to come. The initiative will provide participating coaches with the tools, techniques and strategies to help the coaches enhance their basketball player development philosophy. Over the course of their training, participants will access Community Coach Education and Qualifications, license and insurance, as well as first aid training, mental health and welfare education, access to NBA and Basketball England resources and more. This programme will be delivered by Basketball England.

I am delighted to be working with the NBA and Basketball England to fund this life-changing opportunity to create London's next generation of basketball coaches. These coaches will not only help unearth the next generation of London basketball stars, but will act as mentors and role models in their communities as they utilise the power of sport to change lives for the better.

### **Major Events Volunteers**

My Team London volunteers have been busy supporting a number of different cultural events across the city in March and April, including St Patrick's Day, St George's Day, Vaisakhi, and Eid in the Square. Volunteers provided support with wayfinding, activities and parades. My volunteers provided a warm welcome to Londoners and visitors to the city celebrating these important occasions. On 23 April, 20 of my Team London volunteers were also out supporting the London Marathon. On 3 May, my volunteers supported the King's Garden Party, welcoming guests from around the world to celebrate the King's Coronation.

My Volunteering and Major Events sub-team produced a short film to highlight volunteer voices. In the film, volunteers from my Equity Diversity and Inclusion Volunteer Advisory Group, shared their experience and reflections of being members of the group. The film will be shared publicly from May alongside a good practice toolkit, sharing practical recommendations from my Civil Society and Volunteering team. The toolkit will be shared with other volunteer involving organisations as part of sharing learning and good practice.

### **Young People Affected by Violence Steering Group**

On 28 March, the Violence Reduction Unit and I launched the Young People Affected by Violence Steering Group at City Hall. This is to replace the previous Serious Youth Violence Steering Group.



The launch was attended by over 15 grassroots community organisations utilising sport for social change. These organisations and their respective young person aged between 15 – 25 years make up the group membership, have an equal seat at the table and play a key role in coordinating the work of the group.

The steering group will meet every quarter for the next 12 months with the aim of developing pilots, projects and research topics to help tackle the issues young people face due to violence. The steering group will be supported by the Mayor’s internal stakeholders group represented by different departments from the Communities and Skills directorate.

I am excited to see how the Young People Affected by Violence Steering Group will help shape future policies and programmes to support young Londoners to feel safe in the city.

### **Future Ready Fund**

In March, my Future Ready Fund awarded funding totalling £300,000 to 14 community organisations over the next 12 months.

The Future Ready Fund, in collaboration with the Violence Reduction Unit, will support young Londoners at risk of exclusion or those affected by youth violence. A targeted programme will offer sport and mentoring to facilitate their successful transition from primary to secondary education and use a person-centred intervention approach to support young Londoners in reaching their potential.

The Future Ready fund will also provide bespoke support to each community organisation to develop their capacity through a Mentoring Framework and commissioned Mentoring Practice training. This will ensure that underserved young Londoners at risk are supported to improve their activity levels and have access to emotional and social support to aid their development.

### **Leadership Academy**

As part of my commitment to improve the life chances of underserved young Londoners, in March my Community Sport team launched the Mayor of London Sport Leadership Academy. Funded through the London Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), The Leadership Academy will provide up to 100 young Londoners aged 14-25 with the opportunity to benefit from quality youth activities.

The Sport Leadership Academy will improve young Londoners access to employment and work experience opportunities, equipping them with core skills and the confidence to progress in learning and earning.

# Health

## **NHS & OHID meeting**

On 6 April, I met senior leaders from the NHS, the Office of Health Inequalities and Disparities (OHID), and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). We discussed NHS operational pressures, including the impact of ongoing industrial action. We also discussed the Mental Health Concordat and the Government's New Hospitals Programme, where I raised my concerns about the significant delays to Government funding of agreed London schemes, and the negative impact on dilapidation of existing buildings. I was briefed on public health issues including COVID-19, the polio vaccine, m-pox, sexual health and air quality.

## **London Health Board (LHB)**

On 26 April, I chaired the London Health Board meeting where I discussed a number of health and care issues with elected leaders from London's Local Authorities and key London health leaders. Topics that we explored included how partners are tackling health inequalities and structural racism and how they managed winter pressures and operational issues. Other areas that we explored included the impact of the cost of living on Londoners' health, a deep dive into Dementia, and the Mental Health Concordat - a partnership agreement to support Londoners experiencing a mental health crisis so that they have access to timely support suited to their needs.

## **Healthy Cities Summit**

Earlier this month, I joined former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg in hosting the Partnership for Healthy Cities Summit in London. The Summit saw members of the World Health Organisation, international mayors and health officials from more than 50 cities come together to share ideas about how we prevent noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) - such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases - and serious injuries.

NCDs present some of the biggest public health issues, accounting for 80% of deaths worldwide. They put immense strain on public health systems, however they are largely preventable. So, this was a chance for cities to take the lessons of collaboration and coordination we learned from COVID-19 and consider how we develop solutions and show leadership in protecting our cities. Mayor Bloomberg and I elaborate further on this in our joint op-ed for the Evening Standard: [https://www.standard.co.uk/comment/public-health-tackle-next-frontier-sadiq-khan-b1067436.html?utm\\_campaign=Health%20%26%20Wellbeing%20Newsletter%20March%202023&utm\\_source=emailCampaign&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.standard.co.uk/comment/public-health-tackle-next-frontier-sadiq-khan-b1067436.html?utm_campaign=Health%20%26%20Wellbeing%20Newsletter%20March%202023&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email)

During my keynote speech, I highlighted how London is leading the way in improving the health of citizens' lives from early childhood through their adult years, through policies that address health inequalities. Examples I shared included the ULEZ expansion, my TfL junk food advertising resections, and establishing School Superzones. I also participated in a fireside chat with Rosamund Adoo-Kissi-Debra, where I further delved into the importance of all the work we're doing to clean up London's toxic air.

## **Water Only Schools Visit**

On World Water Day, 22 March, my Deputy Mayor for Children and Families, Joanne McCartney, as well as representatives from Thames Water and Tower Hamlets, visited Marner Primary School to formally launch the 'Drinking fountains for London schools programme' pilot.

The programme, which is a partnership with Thames Water and City Hall, has seen 20 water fountains already donated to London schools, with an additional 20 drinking fountains being gifted by April 2023. It aims to increase access free high-quality drinking water and encourages schools to take the pledge to become a 'water only school.'

In London, schools that take the 'water only' pledge ensure that water, alongside plain milk, are available for pupils to drink. By doing so, they're making a commitment to support their pupils' health well into the future, instilling healthy habits that will stay with them throughout their lives. The programme is also helping to improve the wider environment by helping to reduce plastic waste.

I first called on schools to become water only in March 2020. Since then, more than 450 schools across the capital have taken the pledge – this includes primary and secondary schools.

## **TfL Wellbeing Station**

On 19 April, I partnered with London Borough of Newham, Whole Foods and Transport for London (TfL) to pilot a 'well-being station' on the TfL network,

The aim of this pilot is to help Londoners get their wellbeing back on track, and we know that good physical and mental health go hand in hand. With April being Stress Awareness Month, it was the perfect time to galvanise our partners to share resources, tools and tips to help improve Londoners' wellbeing.

At the stand we gave out free fruit from Whole Foods and shared information about the NHS/Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) Food Swap App, encouraging Londoners to consider healthy food options. We also provided signposting to Thrive LDN resources and engaged Londoners with tools from Mind Apples to support people with their mental health. So far, the pilot has engaged around 350 local residents at transport hubs in Custom House and West Ham. It will continue from 10 through 26 May, which will also touch on Mental Health Awareness Week.

## **Health Inequalities Strategy (HIS) 2022 Progress report**

Also at the London Health Board (LHB), on 26 April, I announced the publication of my Health Inequalities Strategy (HIS) 2022 Progress Report setting out what's been achieved across the GLA and GLA Group in partnership with stakeholders and the voluntary and community sector. The report can be found at: [https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/health-and-wellbeing/health-inequalities/health-inequalities-strategy?utm\\_campaign=Health%20%26%20Wellbeing%20Newsletter%20April%202023&utm\\_source=emailCampaign&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/health-and-wellbeing/health-inequalities/health-inequalities-strategy?utm_campaign=Health%20%26%20Wellbeing%20Newsletter%20April%202023&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email)

Progress has included:

- setting up over 50 School Superzones to support child health,
- helping almost 150,000 Londoners to take a more active role in supporting Londoner's wellbeing;

- improving London' air quality,
- generating over 41,000 pay rises through the London Living Wage;
- developing an anti-racist knowledge hub to support health and care organisations
- taking measures to increase active travel with almost 40% of Londoners now doing at least 20 minutes of active travel every day.

The HIS is a London framework for action on health equity. While the report focuses on the action that I have taken, there is a tremendous amount of work happening across local communities, boroughs and sub-regions that is supported by the HIS and the report includes examples. The HIS is steered by the London Health Equity Group which is co-chaired by Professor Kevin Fenton, my statutory Health Adviser and Andrew Blake-Herbert, Chief Executives of London Councils Health Lead.

### **Six Tests**

As part of my commitment to champion, challenge and collaborate with the NHS on behalf of Londoners, I have developed six tests for major proposed NHS service changes in London. On 20 March I wrote to the NHS about proposed changes to orthopaedic care in north west London. Overall, my letter was broadly supportive of the proposals, which represent an opportunity to improve patient outcomes and reduce waiting times. However, I called for further action in several areas as the plans are taken forward, to ensure that the best possible improvements for Londoners are realised. This included more detailed workforce planning informed by staff engagement, and close ongoing engagement with local authorities to ensure robust planning around social care. You can see my letter to the NHS at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/NWL%20ICS%20Six%20Tests%20letter%20from%20the%20Mayor%20of%20London%20-%202020.03.23.pdf>.

## **Old Oak & Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC)**

### **Planning Policy**

Across March and April, OPDC held an extensive programme of community engagement and co-design workshops to shape the Old Oak West Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which will see a new urban district of up to 9,000 new and affordable homes and 22,000 new jobs centred around HS2's Old Oak Common Interchange Station.

The SPD will support a coordinated approach to major regeneration in the area and provides additional supplementary planning guidance for publicly accessible open spaces, the Old Oak major town centre, employment uses, meanwhile and activation uses, as well as local character and infrastructure. Building on the policies in OPDC's Local Plan, it will be shaped by further evidence work and public engagement.

### **Planning applications**

On 15th March, planning permission was issued for Mitre Wharf on Scrubs Lane in Hammersmith & Fulham for 148 homes and 833 square meters of commercial and work space.

On 27 April, OPDC's Planning Committee resolved to grant schedule 17 consent to HS2 for one replacement bridge and one new bridge across Old Oak Common Lane to facilitate the

realignment of the Great Western Mainline tracks and safeguard the potential to extend the Chiltern Line in future.

### **Land assembly and funding**

OPDC is working closely with Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC), Department for Transport (DfT) and Homes England to prepare an Outline Business Case to coordinate land holdings for development at Old Oak West.

On 13th March, OPDC secured £960k of grant funding from DLUHC's English City Region Capital Regeneration Fund. On 18 April, the funding was used to acquire the Old Oak Café site; OPDC's first land and property purchase. The café is situated within the heart of Old Oak, on Old Oak Common Lane and forms part of a future redevelopment area within Old Oak West.

### **Harlesden Canalside**

On 24 April, improvement works started on Harlesden Canalside. These include a widened towpath, an amphitheatre to host community outdoor events, new planting and seating, a new and improved Boaters' Hub, improved canoe facilities for the Sharks Canoe Club and dedicated spaces for local community organisations to moor their boats. OPDC is delivering these improvements in partnership with Brent Council and the Canal & River Trust.

The project is part of a community investment programme funded by the Mayor's Good Growth Fund to bring forward a range of improvements to public spaces on the canal.

### **Small Grants to community projects**

On 27 April, OPDC welcomed key stakeholders, local councillors and residents into Park Royal for a Small Grants showcase. OPDC's Small Grants programme 22/23 awarded £145,731 to 21 local organisations that have the potential of reaching 45,000 beneficiaries. The event celebrated all the community-led projects across OPDC's area and the positive impacts on communities.

## **London Legacy Development Corporation**

### **Here East**

It was announced on 15 March that Liverpool Media Academy (LMA) London, which arrived on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in 2020, was set to expand its campus at Here East to 70,000 sq ft. LMA said the expansion would help build on its academic offerings in the creative media, music and performing arts sector, and attract a further 1,500 students.

### **Plenary**

London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) Chair Lord Hendy of Richmond Hill and LLDC Chief Executive Lyn Garner appeared in front of the London Assembly at a Plenary hearing at City Hall on 16 March. During the session, Members discussed a range of topics relating to the work of LLDC including London Stadium, Stratford Station and the climate budget.

### **East Bank**

The first phase of UCL's new campus on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park took a step closer to completing on 17 March following the handover of the University's flagship Marshgate Building from LLDC construction partners Mace.

There was another milestone when the UAL sign on London College of Fashion's building was installed in late March.

The 2021-2022 East Bank Impact Report was published on 24 April and can be viewed here: [east-bank-impact-report-2022-final-low-res.ashx](http://east-bank-impact-report-2022-final-low-res.ashx) ([queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk](http://queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk)).

### **East Careers Week**

On 18 March, Elevate, the new identity of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park's youth programme, held its Future Me, Future Youth annual conference at Plexal at Here East. Attended by 150 local young people, the event, part of East Careers Week, aimed to connect young people with employers and help create and shape pathways to new opportunities. It followed the Hackney Road Show with Hackney Council, where over 200 local students met with several universities, colleges and employers from Hackney and Here East. Find out more here.

As part of East Careers Week, almost 600 14-18-year-olds got to see two demonstrations by two of the world's leading visual effects teams, Industrial Light and Magic (ILM) and Solotech – two of the companies who help bring ABBA Voyage to life.

### **Awards**

On 5 April, LLDC has received two nominations for awards at the 2023 Planning Awards which will be held in June. LLDC's Neighbourhood Priority Fund, which has awarded nearly £4m in funding to more than 77 organisations on and around Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, has been shortlisted for an award for Community-Led Placemaking. LLDC's work on the safety of women and girls has resulted in a second shortlisting – for an award for Partnership Working.

### **Major events**

Over the Easter weekend (8 and 9 April), the London Aquatics Centre hosted the Arena Games Triathlon with 4,000 spectators attending – a record attendance for the event. The following week, on 15 April, the Copper Box Arena hosted the highly anticipated heavyweight boxing clash between Joe Joyce and Zhilei Zhang. About 6,500 were in attendance for the fight which Zhang won. There has also been success for London Lions, the basketball team who play their home games at the Copper Box Arena. Not only did they secure the British Basketball League Championship with a record six games to spare in April, they became the first British team to progress to the knockout stages of the EuroCup before they were beaten in the last-16 by Spanish side Joventut Badalona.

### **GLA Grants**

On 18 April, I was delighted to announce that £3.8m would be used to boost London's climate resilience through the second round of the Green and Resilient Spaces Fund. Two projects on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park are benefiting with a total of £273,000 is going towards tree planting on Westfield Avenue while £40,000 will go to the Rewilding Linear Park Project on Northwall Road.

### **London Stadium**

It was announced on 25 April that Monster Jam would be returning to London Stadium for a second consecutive year on 15 July.

West Ham played seven games at London Stadium between 10 March – 4 May. They also reached the semi-finals of the Europa Conference League.

## Planning

### Planning Decisions (Stage 2 referrals)

The Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, under powers delegated to him by the Mayor, sent a letter in response to the following statutory Stage 2 referrals. The Deputy Mayor informed the relevant Local Planning Authority that he was content for them to determine the case itself.

GLA Reference Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Current Recommendation and Decision: Recommended Decision	Application Type
2022/0225	North London Business Park	Barnet	20/03/2023	Allow LPA to refuse	Stage 2
2022/0726	Calverley Close	Bromley	27/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0517	Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Frontage Building	Camden	03/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2020/6134	Poultry Market and General Market and the Annexe Buildings	City of London	10/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0456	89 Waddon Way	Croydon	20/04/2023	Allow LPA to refuse	Stage 2
2022/0513	Friary Park Estate	Ealing	27/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2021/1016	The Castle Public House	Ealing	11/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2020/6617	Chase Farm Hospital	Enfield	17/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0786	Brookhill Estate	Greenwich	27/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0311	The Elms	Hillingdon	03/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2021/0664	Cavalry Barracks	Hounslow	20/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2021/1035	Cranebank Training Centre	Hounslow	17/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2

2020/6879	Sun Wharf	Lewisham	03/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0210	Land comprised within the Development of Pudding Mill Lane	London Legacy Development Corporation	13/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0787	74 Long Lane	Southwark	20/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0547	Aylesbury Site 1B/1C - First Development Site	Southwark	27/03/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2020/6807	114 - 116 Queensway	Westminster	11/04/2023	Allow LPA to approve	Stage 2
2022/0193	Aberfeldy Estate.	Tower Hamlets	02/05/2023	Call in application	Stage 2

### Planning Decisions (Stage 1 referrals)

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

GLA Reference Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Current Recommendation and Decision: Recommended Decision	Application Type
2022/0834	Jablite	Bexley	20/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0181	St Raphael's (Phase 1)	Brent	20/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0019	Watkin Road	Brent	20/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0160	Olympic Office Centre	Brent	17/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0161	Croydon Park Hotel	Croydon	17/04/2023	Does not comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0131	57 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex, UB6 9BA,	Ealing	20/03/2023	Does not comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0158	EDGE Shoreditch	Hackney	20/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1



2023/0068	30-36 Clarendon Road	Haringey	27/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0100	Berol Quarter	Haringey	27/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0110	Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital	Harrow	27/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0167	Brain Injury Unit	Havering	17/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0169	Apollo Business Centre, 158 Trundley's Road SE8.	Lewisham	17/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0140	Former Bell Green Gas Works	Lewisham	03/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0107	Mitcham Gasworks Site	Merton	20/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0109	High Path Estate	Merton	20/03/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0094	London City Airport	Newham	20/03/2023	Does not comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0168	East and West Park Royal Road	Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation	17/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0159	White Peaks, Royal Botanical Gardens	Richmond upon Thames	20/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0205	Keep me updated 1	Southwark	23/03/2023	Does not comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0099	255-279 Cambridge Heath Road, London, E2 OEL	Tower Hamlets	03/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0186	57-59 Lombard Road SW11 3RX	Wandsworth	20/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0146	2-4 Dean Street	Westminster	11/04/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1

2023/0222	Heritage House	Enfield	02/05/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0170	79-161 Ilderton Road	Southwark	02/05/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0215	Highview Farm	Hillingdon	02/05/2023	Does not comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0185	3 School Road	Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation	02/05/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0216	1 Westmoreland Road	Bromley	02/05/2023	Does not fully comply with the London Plan	Stage 1
2023/0157	Barking Power Station	Barking and Dagenham	16/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0217	Euro House	Brent	17/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0254	330 Gray's Inn Road	Camden	20/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0228	Exchange House	City of London	17/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0237	10 Gresham Street	City of London	20/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0154	199 Bishopsgate	City of London	19/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0155	61-65 Holborn Viaduct	City of London	19/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0151	Safari Cinema	Harrow	19/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0005	Syon House	Hounslow	19/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0223	257-265 Kensington High Street	Kensington and Chelsea	17/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0175	Clapham Common	Lambeth	28/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0177	Brockwell Park	Lambeth	28/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0193	Eddie Katz	Merton	14/04/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0208	Keep me updated 4	Southwark	23/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues
2023/0081	Ebury Bridge Estate	Westminster	30/03/2023	No Strategic Issues	No Strategic Issues

### Stage 3

On 17 March, the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration & Skills, Jules Pipe, considered the application for Paddington Green Police Station at a Public Representation Hearing. Following the Hearing, the Deputy Mayor resolved to grant planning permission subject to the conclusion of a s106 legal agreement. All relevant information about the Hearing or application is available here: <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/planning/planning-applications-and-decisions/public-hearings/paddington-green-police-station-public-hearing>.

### Local Plans

On 17 March, my officers responded on my behalf to a Main Modifications consultation on Wandsworth Local Plan. I provided comments on the housing target and safe guarded wharves. On 17 April, my officers responded on my behalf to a Draft Supplementary Planning Document on Harrow Tall Buildings. I provided comments on tall building definition that is different than the London Plan.

On 25 April, my officers responded on my behalf to Lewisham's Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation. I provided comments on housing, affordable housing, and transport policies and raised general conformity objections in relation to the proposed approach to industrial land.

### Consultation on draft London Plan Guidance on Affordable Housing and Development Viability

On 3 May, a 12-week public consultation on the draft Affordable Housing and Development Viability London Plan Guidance (LPG) commenced. This will update current guidance in the Homes for Londoners Affordable Housing and Viability Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2017). The draft guidance aims to support the delivery of higher levels of affordable housing, particularly social rent and intermediate housing for key workers, building on the success of the Threshold Approach in my London Plan. Updated viability guidance will also help to secure more affordable housing and public benefits through the planning system. The consultation closes 24 July 2023.

### Stopping Up Orders

GLA Reference Number	Development Name	Local Planning Authority	Decision date	Current Recommendation and Decision: Recommended Decision	Application Type
2022/0372	Morland Gardens stopping up order	Brent	20/03/2023	Do not hold Inquiry	Stopping up order

## Key Engagements

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

- I spoke at the GLA Victims Summit on 10 March
- I joined the St Patrick's Day Celebrations and spoke at Trafalgar Square on 12 March
- I spoke at the Women of the World event on 12 March
- I met with the Mayor of Seoul on 13 March
- I attended the official Launch of the NBA in London on 14 March
- I spoke at the annual GLA Media Reception on 14 March
- I spoke at the Bloomberg Healthy Cities Summit on 15 March
- I chaired the London Recovery Board on 16 March
- I met with the Met Commissioner on 16 March
- I visited the Islington Youth Homelessness Hub on 17 March
- I met with Baroness Casey on 20 March
- I met with the Home Secretary on 20 March
- I gave remarks at the Green Alliance Net Zero Review on 20 March
- I met with the London Fire Commissioner on 21 March
- I switched on the first London Ramadan Lights on 21 March
- I attended Mayor's Question Time on 23 March
- I attended a meeting of the M10 on 23 March
- I held my regular meeting with the Police Commissioner on 23 March
- I held my regular planning meeting on 27 March
- I announced the creation of the new Superloop bus network on 28 March
- I visited Hendon Police Training College on 28 March
- I chaired a meeting of the GLA Business Advisory Board on 28 March
- I chaired the Transport for London Board on 29 March
- I met with GLA Unison on 29 March
- I met with TUC General Secretary, Paul Nowak, on 29 March
- I attended the London Living Wage Steering Group on 30 March
- I chaired the Violence Reduction Unit Partnership Reference Group on 30 March
- I attended the New London Councillors Reception at the Guildhall on 30 March
- I held my regular planning meeting on 3 April
- I visited community hub Bubble & Squeak to see the work being done to support low-income Londoners on 4 April
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 4 April
- I met the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, on 4 April
- I met with the Chair of Ofwat, Iain Coucher, on 6 April
- I held my regular meeting with OHID and the NHS on 6 April
- I held my regular meeting with the Police Commissioner on 6 April
- I attended the Association of Muslim Police's Iftar on 6 April
- I attended a City Hall reception for the creative industries on 7 April
- I met with the Editor in Chief of British Vogue, Edward Enniful, on 11 April
- I held my regular planning meeting on 11 April
- I chaired the London Crime Reduction Board on 12 April
- I attended HMICFRS: Policing Performance Oversight Group on 13 April
- I joined officers to see the work being done as part of Operation Nightingale on 14 April

- I held my regular planning meeting on 17 April
- I attended a service for Yom Hashoah on 17 April
- I held my regular meeting with Transport for London on 18 April
- I attended the Ismaili Centre Iftar on 18 April
- I attended the London Book Fair on 19 April
- I held my regular meeting with the Police Commissioner on 20 April
- I attended the Ramadan Tent Project Open Iftar in Trafalgar Square on 20 April
- I attended Stephen Lawrence 30th Anniversary Memorial Service on 22 April
- I attended Vaisakhi on the Square on 22 March
- I attended St George's Day celebrations in Trafalgar Square on 23 March
- I met with the Mayor of Montréal, Valérie Plante, on 24 April
- I spoke at a meeting of the Rewilding Taskforce on 24 April
- I met with the First Minister of Scotland, Humza Yusef, on 24 April
- I attended the unveiling of the TFL Memorial for workers on 26 April
- I chaired the London Health Board on 26 April
- I officially opened on the London Offices of Patriache on 27 April
- I attended Eid on the Square on 29 April
- I visited new council homes in Brent on 3 May to announce City Hall has exceeded it's target to build 20,000 council homes
- I spoke at the GLA Service for the Coronation of King Charles III on 4 May
- I held my regular meeting with the Police Commissioner on 5 May