

Caroline Russell AM
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee

Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Chair of the Health Committee

Mr Will Quince MP
Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Care

(Sent by email)

20 June 2023

Dear Mr Quince,

To explore the ever-changing threats from terrorism, the London Assembly Police and Crime Committee launched an investigation in 2022 into counter-terrorism and radicalisation in London. The investigation sought to assess London's preparedness for a terrorist attack, and efforts to prevent and tackle radicalisation.

The Committee's findings are set out in detail in the report [Counter-terrorism and radicalisation](#). The Committee was pleased that, one year on from the publication of Lord Harris' second review into London's preparedness for a major terrorist incident, progress has been made by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the Metropolitan Police Service to implement the review's recommendations. It also found that progress has been made to further improve how blue-light services work together to prepare for and respond to a terror attack. However, it also highlighted that the London Ambulance Service and London Fire Brigade are facing significant pressures that could impede an effective response to a major incident.

In response to the report, the London Ambulance Service (LAS) told the Committee that it is grateful for the additional funding that has been provided to it which goes some way towards helping manage the costs associated with increased pressures. However, in the course of the investigation, LAS underlined that additional funding was required to properly and proportionately reflect the heightened costs inherent in providing an emergency ambulance service to a capital city, which inevitably has additional threats of terrorism to other parts of the country.

In light of what we heard, and in partnership with the London Assembly Health Committee, the Committee would welcome further information on how you are working with the LAS and the plans you have to ensure that the LAS has the funding it needs to meet the specific demands that operating in London places on the service.

We would welcome a response to this letter by 18 July 2023. Please copy your reply to Janette Roker, the Committee's Senior Policy Adviser (janette.roker@london.gov.uk), and do not hesitate to contact Janette to discuss in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Caroline Russell in black ink.

Caroline Russell AM

Chair of the Police and Crime Committee

Handwritten signature of Dr Onkar Sahota in black ink.

Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Chair of the Health Committee