

# MAYOR OF LONDON

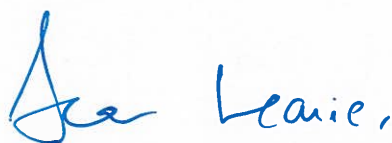
**Leonie Cooper AM**

Chair

London Assembly Environment Committee

**Our ref:** MGLA210917-8056

**Date:** 21 DEC 2017



Thank you for sending me the Environment Committee's Circular Economy<sup>1</sup> report. I welcome the key findings and your support for my commitment to cut London's waste and further the circular economy. I am keen to work with the London Assembly Environment Committee to implement the actions identified in the report to ensure that London continues being a world leader in circular economy approaches.

The London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) and the Greater London Authority work closely on programmes to accelerate the circular economy in the capital, with the goal of ensuring that London has the policies and practices in place to create a thriving, resilient city for the future. Embracing the circular economy could contribute £7 billion to London's economy every year, create thousands of jobs and reduce waste by up to 60 per cent across the capital. I have set out below our planned approach, working in partnership with LWARB, in relation to the actions set out under *How the Mayor can help* on page 5 of the report.

- 1. Promoting the progression of the circular economy in London by the Mayor's appointments to LWARB and by setting out his plans with an emphasis on re-use and recycling.***
- 2. Setting a whole-city vision, objectives and milestones for transition to the circular economy, sharing and collaborating with other cities.***

Taking a circular economy approach means London making the most efficient use of resources that designs waste out, keeps materials in use for as long as possible and minimises environmental impact. To help achieve this I am embedding circular economy policies and principles across my strategic plans. This includes:

- Draft London Environment Strategy - the GLA and LWARB being a key engagement partner in the Courtauld Commitment 2025. Working with the government, large organisations and manufacturers to adopt circular economy approaches that design waste out of products and the supply chain, and design for 100% recyclability. I have set a 65 per cent municipal waste recycling target by 2030.

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<sup>1</sup> A circular economy is one in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of their life. It is a more efficient and environmentally sound alternative to the traditional linear economy in which we make, use and dispose of resources.

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- Draft London Plan – requiring developers to produce a circular economy statement to demonstrate how circular economy approaches have been applied in the design, build and maintenance of major planning developments.

Through LWARB I have:

- published a route map to the circular economy with 100 practical actions for London to make the change and accelerate growth in materials reuse, remanufacturing and recycling.
- established an innovation and collaboration hub with businesses and cities including Paris and Amsterdam to share and benefit from each other's knowledge and experience. LWARB are also developing a set of circular economy metrics for London to set milestones and report progress that will be shared with other cities to use and benchmark against London.

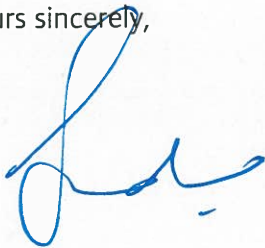
### ***3. Increasing awareness and benefits of the circular economy among London's businesses.***

I am encouraging established businesses to transition to more circular models and help create demand from consumers. Through LWARB's Advance London programme and the GLA's new London SME Fund I am providing business support and investment funds for circular economy SMEs to the Value of £17m. This will help circular economy SMEs to grow, and traditional businesses to transition. Through the Mayor's Entrepreneur programme, I am also supporting the development of new circular economy start-up businesses.

### ***4. Using the purchasing power of the GLA Group to encourage the growth of London's circular economy.***

Through the GLA Group Responsible Procurement Policy there is a commitment to trial and adopt circular economy approaches in procurement activities undertaken by all the Functional Bodies. Work is already underway in partnership with WRAP to identify suitable high spend product categories including construction, IT, Furniture, Textiles and Facilities Management. The aim is to turn pilots into mainstream activity, helping to create a ripple effect throughout all of London's suppliers that can fundamentally change the way that products and services are designed, provided and consumed.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London