

MAYOR OF LONDON

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm, City Hall

13 July 2021 | 14:00 – 16:00

Record of the meeting

Co-chairs:

Justine Simons OBE, Deputy Mayor for Culture and Creative Industries,
Dr. Debbie Weekes-Bernard, Deputy Mayor for Social Integration, Social Mobility
and Community Engagement
Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London (15:30 onwards)

Commissioners:

Aindrea Emelife
Binki Taylor
David Bryan (digital)
Dr Zoé Whitley (digital)
Eleanor Pinfield
Gillian Jackson
Pedro Gil
Revd Professor Keith Magee
Robert Bevan
Riz Ahmed (digital)
Jack Guinness
Jasvir Singh (digital)
Lynette Nabbosa
Sandy Nairne

1) Welcome and Updates

- The commissioners were welcomed to the first in-person meeting.
- The commissioners were updated on the Fourth Plinth winning selection.

2) Engagement and Grants Discussions

- The commissioners were briefed on how Londoners could support with building an archive of representative stories.
- An overview of our approach to create spaces for discussion, exchange and opportunities to share stories that encourage Londoners to influence the public realm.
- Commissioners were briefed on a grants programme that could support communities to deliver projects that engage with shaping and/or interpreting the public realm.

Discussion points included:

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- Emphasis on the Commission being centred on its values and principles
- The importance of interweaving various engagement opportunities an outreach programme alongside the Borough working group and Partners Board
- Identified the importance of legacy

Communication and Conversation:

- The sharing of stories of London's diverse history as a central focus
- Establishing a baseline model in which Londoners feel safe to discuss their public realm
- Discussed the diverse perspectives and experiences and how the Commission can consider these within its framework

3) Mayor's welcome and short remarks

- The Mayor of London thanked Commissioners for their commitment to this project and to London.
- Confirmed that this project remains a top priority for London, acknowledge it can be difficult territory, but it is important that London's public realm represents London.
- Confirmed the Commission's role is to shape what London will look like for generations to come and ensure Londoners recognise themselves in the streets, the squares, the statues and the public spaces across the capital.

4) AOB

- Thank you and closing statement by Deputy Mayor Dr. Debbie Weekes-Bernard