

MAYOR OF LONDON

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Our ref: MGLA081217-7015

Date: 23 JAN 2018



Thank you for sharing with me the London Assembly Health Committee's findings from your recent investigation into eye health and preventing sight loss in London.

I welcome this report, and appreciate you highlighting this important issue. I note the estimate published in your report that 680,000 people in London live with a sight-threatening eye health condition, and that this figure is expected to increase. Although as Mayor of London I do not have jurisdiction over clinical services, I will share your recommendations with colleagues at PHE and NHS England.

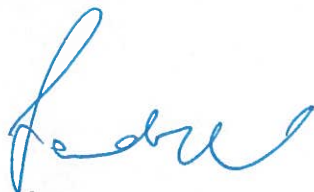
There are a number of Mayoral programmes which already provide opportunities to promote the eye health of Londoners. For example, Healthy Schools London, and the forthcoming Healthy Early Years programme provide referral mechanisms for a range of targeted services and support. These programmes are positioned at the start of a care pathway, that moves from prevention to treatment.

Similarly, you note our forthcoming work on making London a dementia-friendly city. One of the key components of this is *'getting access to health services, care services and support when and where people affected by dementia need it'*. We would be happy to connect anyone you spoke to in your evidence gathering with the Alzheimer's Society to support the development of this programme.

I have shared your report with those running our relevant health and wellbeing programmes, who will consider whether there are further opportunities to optimise our approach to eye health within the context of their holistic health promotion remit.

Further, as you know, we have recently consulted on a health inequalities strategy for London. When we have completed the analysis of responses we would be happy to share with you any recommendations relating to eye health. I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London