

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Jennette Arnold OBE AM**

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## **London Assembly (Plenary) Meeting 6 July 2016 - Motions**

Thank you for your letter of 8 July about the motions agreed at the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 6 July. My reply to each motion is set out below. I am sorry for the delayed response.

### **Motion 1 – hate crime**

I welcome the London Assembly's motion from the plenary meeting on 6 July regarding hate crime.

I was proud to stand in solidarity with Londoners at the Soho Vigil for the victims of the appalling attack in Orlando and to celebrate the contribution of the LGBT+ community to our city at London Pride. We will continue to stand together, supporting tolerance and encouraging victims of hate crime to come forward and report to the police.

Challenging extremism, hate crime and intolerance will be key priorities in my Police and Crime Plan, which is currently being developed. As we work on the Plan, we remain vigilant and ready to respond to hate crime whenever and wherever it arises. My Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, Sophie Linden, receives daily updates on hate crime across the city and we are particularly concerned by the increase in racial hate crimes following the EU referendum. Alongside Sophie, I have been in contact with communities and stakeholders to express our support, hear their views and assure them that City Hall and the MPS are giving the fullest attention to these abhorrent crimes.

Equally, we must also celebrate and encourage the welcoming and inclusive spirit for which London is rightly known around the globe. London's rich diversity and its people's willingness to embrace different cultures and ways of life are what make our city the greatest – and the most visited – in the world. London is open, and I will continue to use my platform as Mayor to celebrate the diversity of our city and encourage greater social cohesion.

### **Motion 2 – social housing**

I welcome this motion, and the Assembly's support for providing much-needed social housing in London. I made it very clear throughout my election campaign, and have continued to do so since the election, that London needs more genuinely affordable housing, which must include social housing for those in the greatest need.

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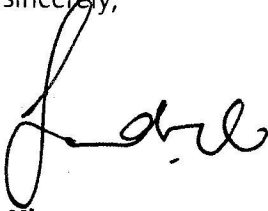
The motion is right to highlight that government planning policy and funding currently promote other tenures over social housing in London, and it is therefore quite right to call on the government to do more to help meet London's housing needs.

My discussions with the government over a housing funding settlement for London are ongoing, and once an agreement is reached I will be able to set out more detail on my plans for delivering more affordable homes for Londoners.

## **Motion 3 – Working Group on the effects of leaving the European Union**

I welcome the Assembly's commitment to setting up a working group to consider the effects of exiting the EU on London and Londoners and look forward to receiving the group's recommendations. I also thank the Assembly for its endorsement of my firm belief that London must have a seat at the EU negotiation table. London's government is united on this crucial point and I will continue to push the Government on it.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London