

**Navin Shah AM**  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

**Our ref:** MGLA071218-0132

**Date:** 22 JAN 2019

*Dear Navin,*

Thank you for the petition presented at the London Assembly (Plenary) Meeting on 6 December 2018 about step free access at Willesden Green station.

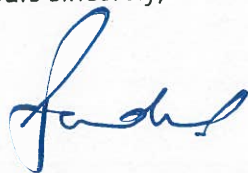
I share the commitment to ensuring our transport network is accessible for all Londoners. This is why I have invested in an accessibility programme which will significantly increase the number of stations that are accessible to older people and people with disabilities, as well as parents or carers with buggies, enabling all customers to travel easily and comfortably.

Transport for London (TfL) considered a number of prioritisation criteria when working out which stations to include in my accessibility programme. This took into account areas without accessible stations or interchanges that will allow people to access different route options. Other criteria taken into account were scheme deliverability and cost. Through my step-free access programme, TfL hopes to deliver an equitable spread of step-free stations across London and reduce the time disabled people have to spend travelling.

A feasibility study for step-free access at Willesden Green station was completed in 2005. It highlighted a number of issues which make improving access at this station complex and challenging. The station's Grade II listed status is a major factor, as any potential solution would affect the listed platform canopies and other heritage features. A step-free access scheme at Willesden Green would cost in the region of £10m, which is substantially higher than the average cost of £6.5m for implementing step-free access at the stations included in my programme. Potential solutions would also necessitate the closure of platforms 2 and 3 for at least a six-month period, due to the required location of any possible new lift shaft and associated works.

For these reasons, Willesden Green is not currently under consideration for step-free access works. While I appreciate this may be disappointing, please be assured that TfL will continue to engage with Brent Council and local stakeholders to seek a better solution for Willesden Green. This includes pursuing third party funding opportunities with developers as and when they arise.

Yours sincerely,



**Sadiq Khan**  
Mayor of London