

LONDON ASSEMBLY

Rt Hon Boris Johnson
10 Downing Street
City of Westminster
London
SW1A 2AA

London Assembly
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
SE1 2AA

24 July 2019

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing on behalf of the London Assembly to congratulate you on your appointment as Prime Minister.

As you know, the London Assembly plays a crucial role in ensuring City Hall works for London. We are proud of the voice that we give to Londoners on the issues that matter most to them and will continue to be a strong check on the power of the Mayor, as well as a vocal advocate of our city at a time of enormous political change in the UK.

Given our long-standing history of working together in the interests of London, I wanted to draw your attention to two specific cross-party London Assembly issues: our campaign for a Domestic Abusers Register in the Domestic Abuse Bill and our continued opposition to the expansion of Heathrow airport.

Whilst Mayor, you implemented London's first Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy. This strategy set out to make London a national and global leader in seeking to end domestic and sexual-based violence against women and girls. Sadly, nine years after its introduction, violence and domestic abuse remain a real threat to Londoners. In 2017, there were nearly 150,000 incidents of domestic abuse in London, with over 5,000 incidents in the borough of Hillingdon, including the area you represent in Parliament. With four in ten survivors of domestic abuse repeat victims, it is essential that we take tougher action to protect survivors and their children.

This is why the London Assembly is campaigning for the introduction of a Domestic Abusers Register. A Domestic Abusers Register would trigger a vital step change in the way we protect victims and their families, particularly children, by giving police officers immediate access to the information they need to manage risk more effectively. We urge you to restate your pledge to make London the safest city on earth by ensuring the Parliamentary passage of the Domestic Abuse Bill, incorporating this provision, is a priority.

As you are also aware, the London Assembly has long been opposed to further expansion of Heathrow Airport. The Government's own figures show that the extra traffic caused by expansion will worsen air pollution widely across London, shortening Londoners' lives. At the same time, 200,000 more people will be affected by noise from an expanded Heathrow.

We urge you now to use your position as Prime Minister to act on the pledge you made as Mayor of London in 2015 to stop the construction of the third runway at Heathrow airport. We would

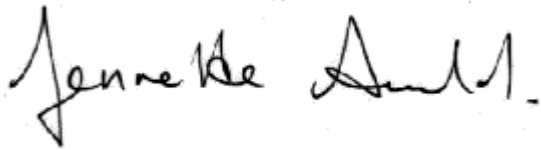
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be pleased to support you in this campaign and would welcome confirmation from you that you intend to stand by this pledge.

This is a crucial time for London. With violent crime, on-going delays to Crossrail, and the impact of the housing affordability crisis, as well as the huge dynamism and opportunities that exist in London's communities, there is much for all involved in London government to be working on. Given your strong affinity with this city from your time as Mayor, we hope that you will continue to act in the interests of Londoners.

We look forward to working with you in your new role and building on the robust relationship we shared during your time as Mayor of London.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennette Arnold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'A'.

Jennette Arnold OBE AM
Chair, London Assembly