

**TOM COPLEY AM | LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR**

*Working hard for Londoners*

Mr Mike Brown MVO  
Commissioner  
Transport for London  
50 Victoria Street  
Westminster  
London  
SW1H 0TL

City Hall  
Queen's Walk  
London SE1 2AA  
Switchboard: 020 7983 4000  
Mincom: 020 7983 4458  
Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)

07 August 2018

Dear Mike,

**RE: Garden Bridge**

It has come to my attention that the Garden Bridge Trust has yet to draw down the £9 million of public money provided by the DfT, but has recently made a request to do so which TfL is reviewing.

I'm sure you will have seen the opinion of Jason Coppel QC, an expert in public and procurement law, stating:


"It is likely that the Trustees of the Trust have breached their duty to act with reasonable skill and care, in particular in relation to the conclusion of the construction contract with Bouygues."

In light of this opinion from an eminent QC, which I attach, I'm writing to ask you to halt any payment of further public money to the Trust until you have sought legal advice as to whether TfL can withhold further payments on the grounds that the trustees may have breached their legal duties. If this is the case it should be the trustees that are liable, not the taxpayer.

I am copying this letter to the Mayor and the Charity Commission.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



**Tom Copley**  
London-wide Assembly Member