

Thank you for your support and commitment during the Covid-19 pandemic

We would like to send a huge thank you to all our key workers, council staff and volunteers for everything you have done to help us get through these challenging times.

We are grateful for the work you are doing collectively and individually on behalf of our communities and recognise the amazing care you have given to the millions of people across our city who have been affected by Covid-19.

The last year has been a very difficult, unsettling and scary time for many of us, as we have not only had to deal with the impact of the coronavirus outbreak, but also the lockdown measures the government has implemented to prevent it.

So many of us have been faced with difficult choices, as well as fear, sickness, and uncertainty. Communities, faith groups, neighbours and individuals have come forward to provide support in compassionate and meaningful ways which has allowed us to get food to vulnerable people who are isolating through our community hubs, provide welfare checks and raise vital funds.

We are incredibly proud of the way Londoners have responded, maintaining critical services despite the huge challenges faced and creating new ones in a matter of days when the UK entered its first lockdown.

This highlights the exceptional daily work of our city's voluntary and community sector and shines a light on the inspiring work in neighbourhoods to help the most vulnerable, delivered by and for residents.

It is without a doubt that our city's community response could not have happened as swiftly or as successfully as it has without the voluntary and community sector. Thousands of people responded to their council's callout to volunteer for the Covid-19 effort. VCSE organisations have been integral to London's response to the coronavirus pandemic and it is important that you know that we value the work that you are doing.

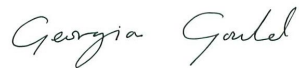
This demonstrates what we have achieved working together. We have built strong relationships and partnerships with the community, businesses, public sector partners and our residents. London was hit first and hardest by the coronavirus pandemic but over the last twelve months our city has been resilient, innovative and flexible.

We will continue to tap into that strength and unity now as we face the next phase of this crisis as the government signals measures to begin easing the lockdown.

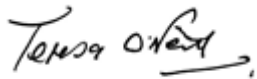
We've united to support each other through these unprecedented times.

We're truly inspired by your personal commitment in response to the emergency, so thank you for your outstanding contribution.

With warmest wishes,



Cllr Georgia Gould
Chair of London Councils and Leader of Camden Council



Cllr Teresa O'Neill OBE
Vice Chair of London Councils and Leader of Bexley Council



Cllr Ruth Dombey OBE
Vice Chair of London Councils and Leader of Sutton Council



Catherine McGuinness
Vice Chair of London Councils and Chair of Policy and Resources Committee at the City of London Corporation