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*Chapter One*

# INTRODUCTION

# A message from our chair

This report sets out just a few of the ways we have made a difference in London.

The last year has been momentous for both London and Centre for London. We hosted 20 events, published 14 reports and two manifestos. We developed a new programme of work to help London through the coronavirus crisis and support the city through recovery.

We launched our ambitious, multi-year strategic review of the city, London Futures. And we held our flagship annual event, The London Conference, online and over the course of a week for the first time, reaching more people than ever before. This report sets out just a few of the ways we have made a difference in London.

The last year has also brought about some big changes to the organisation. We said goodbye to our Founding Director Ben Rogers, Deputy Director Richard Brown, and several other talented colleagues, whose input, insight and ideas will continue to be valuable for years to come.



We also welcomed new members to both the team and the board, including our Chief Executive Nick Bowes. Nick’s knowledge of our wonderful but challenged city is immense, and I don’t think we could have found anyone else as well suited to take on the mantle of running Centre for London.

I am confident that Nick will ensure that the Centre continues to play a significant role in shaping London’s recovery and future. And most importantly, we hope to continue working with all our many and varied stakeholders and supporters as we strive towards creating a fair and prosperous global city.

**Liz Peace CBE,**  
**Chair of Trustees**

# Leading the capital's dedicated think tank



If ever London has needed a think tank, then it is now.

London's lure has always been strong for me. Even growing up in an industrial town in South Yorkshire, I was always fascinated by the capital. I finally moved to London just weeks after the city elected its first Mayor. Fast forward 21 years, and London has seen momentous change. The city's population has surged, its skyline has soared, and other global cities have grown green with envy as London has powered ahead of them in the world global city stakes.

But this hasn't been a golden period for everyone. Many Londoners struggle daily to make ends meet. The gap between rich and poor within the city has widened, as has the gap between London and the rest of the country.

For the last decade, Centre for London has built a reputation as the source of new thinking on the challenges faced by the capital.

The Centre is now highly regarded for its expertise and research, much of which is due to the stewardship of my predecessors Ben Rogers and Richard Brown, for which I am enormously grateful.

I've joined the Centre at a critical moment in our city's story. Over the last year coronavirus has seen thousands of Londoners lose their lives and a huge shock to our city's economy. People have reassessed what's important to them, including how we live and work. If ever London has needed a think tank, then it is now.

This annual report gives a snapshot of some of the ways we've helped the capital over the past year, and indeed the last decade, and sets out our upcoming research and events programme for the rest of the year. I want Centre for London to be at the heart of the conversation about where the city goes next, supporting national and local government leaders, businesses and charities to grapple with the huge challenges the city faces, from recovery to tackling the climate emergency, and ensuring that London has a role in levelling up. But to do that, we need your support. If you think the work we do is important, please get in touch to explore how we can work together.

**Nick Bowes,**  
**Chief Executive**



*Chapter Two*

# THE FIRST DECADE

# Highlights from our first 10 years

# 2011

Founded in 2011 to look at the challenges facing the capital and act as a voice for the city in national and international policy debates.



Co-hosted the first London Policy Conference in 2011 where both Ken Livingstone and Boris Johnson gave keynote speeches.



David Lammy, MP at The London Conference 2012.

2012

In 2012 the Centre undertook the first independent in-depth analysis of east London's digital economy, which led to the establishment of a dedicated digital skills portal for young people living around Shoreditch.

2013

Published research in 2013 showing that London could bear a higher minimum wage than the rest of the UK, and our recommendations to strengthen the enforcement of minimum wage policy were adopted by government.

2014

The Chancellor adopted our suggestion that an urban development corporation be established in Ebbsfleet in 2014.



Munira Mirza, Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture (2012-16) at The London Conference 2014.

2015

In 2015 we set up a Commission on Intermediate Housing to investigate the strengths and weaknesses of London's housing policies. The cross-party Commission was jointly chaired by the Deputy Leader of Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, and the Leader of Haringey Council.



Launched a new London journal, London Essays, in 2015 each with its own focus on a particular theme or challenge for London and other cities.

By 2015 the Centre had 10 staff members.

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The new Mayor Sadiq Khan introduced a Chief Digital Officer in 2016 in line with policies outlined in our co-produced technology manifesto.

Mayor Boris Johnson and the London Assembly endorsed our recommendation to devolve suburban rail services to Transport for London in 2016. The government also backed the proposal, although the position was subsequently reversed.

In 2017 we convened a Commission on the Future of London's Roads and Streets, chaired by Professor Sir Malcolm Grant, then Chair of NHS England.

In 2018 the Chancellor announced proposals to introduce a trial register of empty shops and a brokerage scheme to connect community groups to empty shops, recommendations in our *Meanwhile, in London* report.

In 2019 we set out principles for the management of public spaces, so they are accessible and welcoming to all. The Mayor of London followed our recommendation that all new public spaces should sign up to these principles encapsulated in the Public London Charter.

In 2020, the Centre had 20 members of staff.

2016



2017



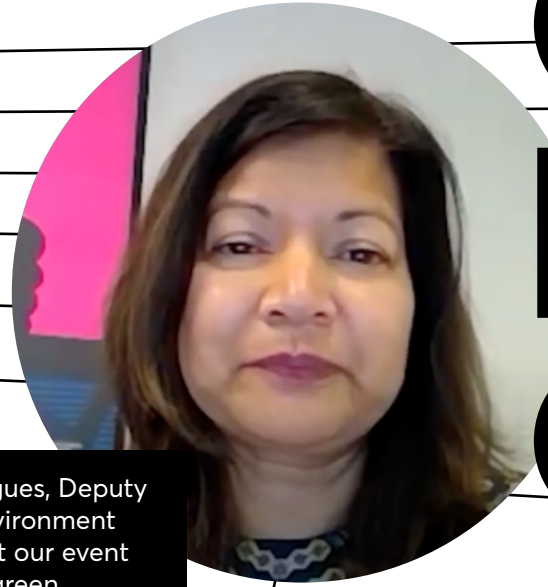
Theo Blackwell, Chief Digital Officer at our London ideas event.

2018

2019



Lord Heseltine at The London Conference 2019.



Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy at our event on London's green recovery.

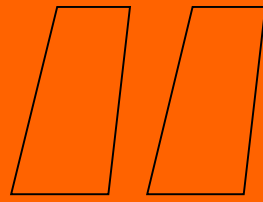
2020

In the run-up to the 2016 London mayoral election, we published two manifestos, hosted a series of events including a head-to-head debate between Sadiq Khan and Zac Goldsmith and influenced candidate manifestos on tech, housing, and transport policy.

The London Intelligence was launched in 2017 to provide up-to-date data on housing, transport, society and move identify emerging trends and implications for policymakers.

The Mayor announced two new policies in line with our *Street Smarts* report in late 2018; a scrappage scheme for the most polluting vans and the extension of the Congestion Charge to private hire vehicles.

Our recommendation to introduce Community Improvement Districts as well as enhance the community right to bid were included in Danny Kruger MP's 2020 report for the Prime Minister on 'Levelling up our communities'.



**In the early days, we saw the need to fill a vacuum as a critical friend to London's body politic. Under Ben's 10 years of leadership, Centre for London has successfully achieved that, advocating and influencing policy to help London maintain its place as the best city on earth.**



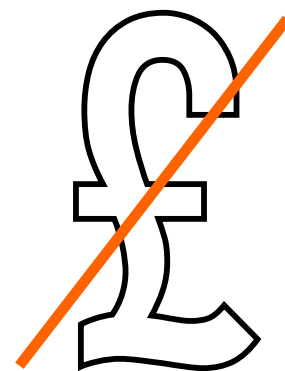
**Jess Tyrrell,**  
**Managing Director, Beyond**  
(Former Deputy Director of  
Communications at Centre for London)

# How has London changed?

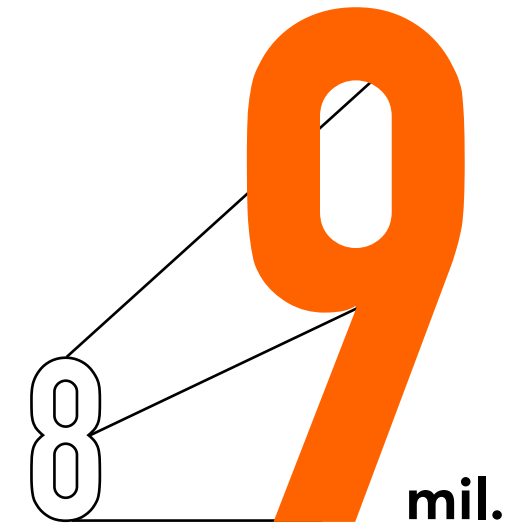
Nicolas Bosetti, Head of Data and Insight looks back to how people, places and politics within London have changed during the Centre's first decade.

The last decade feels very distant as the world continues to battle the coronavirus pandemic. There is still uncertainty about when, let alone what kind of city will emerge from the pandemic. But that uncertainty shouldn't prevent us from looking in the rear-view mirror: the London we see today has deep roots, and so do many of the challenges facing the city. What can we learn from how London changed in the 2010s?

Ten years ago, London's economy had bounced back much more strongly than many expected from the 2008-09 recession, and the city was leading Europe's recovery with strong job creation and GDP growth. And with economic success came population boom; the city grew from eight to nine million between 2010 and 2020 and surpassed



Over a quarter of Londoners live in poverty, despite most being in work.



The city grew from eight to nine million between 2010 and 2020 and surpassed its population peak for the first time since 1939.

its population peak for the first time since 1939.

But London's economic recovery from the financial crash did not benefit everyone. → Unemployment remained consistently above the UK's average. The rising costs of housing, transport and childcare have eaten away at disposable incomes with over a quarter of Londoners in poverty, despite most being in work. The knock-on effects of this on health and wellbeing are enormous and will be long lasting. → The last decade also saw increasing extremes in the fortunes of Londoners – with home ownership becoming an even greater determinant of financial stability and prosperity.

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Women and people from ethnic minority backgrounds continue to make up the majority of those at the bottom of the income ladder, held back by structural sexism and racism. → Only half of Londoners agree with the idea that ‘if you work hard in London you will get ahead’ – women, people from Black ethnic backgrounds and people working in routine occupations were more likely to disagree.

→ Public services have also faced a tough decade. By 2015 London boroughs had already absorbed funding cuts of 45 per cent – making managing the pressures of growth and supporting left behind Londoners even more challenging. → London’s civic and voluntary organisations stepped in where they could, thanks to philanthropic and social investment activity – although as a city of both great wealth and poverty, there is potential to do more over the coming years.

→ London’s urban form has also changed noticeably over the past decade. We have accommodated growth in a rather concentrated way: new housing was chiefly focused in town centres, industrial land and existing estates. The Olympic site has shifted London’s centre eastwards – perhaps more quickly than was originally

20 12



**The Olympics boosted pride in our city and country.**

envisaged – and the City and Canary Wharf have continued to build up their skylines. But for the most part, we have left the green belt and suburban streets untouched.

We know that critical time has also been lost to minimise London’s impact on climate change and the environment. → Proximity and an abundance of public transport options have given London an advantage when it comes to reducing its carbon emissions, but progress has been nowhere near as quick as we need it to, with emissions from transport barely falling over the last decade. But there has been some progress: London has become more bike friendly, and measures to reduce air pollution have been working, even if many Londoners still breathe dangerous air every day.

London’s last decade has also been shaped by events – while the Olympics boosted pride in our city and country, and we have been left heartbroken and shocked by rising knife crime, the Grenfell fire and several terror attacks on the city.

We have also recently celebrated two decades of the mayoralty, but tensions with national government are running high, with its weariness to devolve powers that could further empower London to tackle its own challenges. Brexit divided both country and city, and the last decade saw four general elections, in which London’s politics diverged from the England as whole. → And the government has since appeared to become less concerned with appealing to London voters, instead harnessing an anti-London sentiment that sees the city sucking in talent and investment. It is easy to forget that the current Prime Minister was running the capital for eight years.

→ Throughout all of this change, the city has retained a sense of cohesion – over 80 per cent of Londoners said they belonged to London and that people from different backgrounds get on well together. London’s next 10 years couldn’t feel more uncertain but we will be working with others to solve its challenges and make its story a success.

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# Reflections from our founder

When we set up Centre for London 10 years ago, we did so in what some might have seen as a crowded field. There was, and continues, to be no shortage of impressive organisations focused on networking, researching, and advocating on London issues.

But as the last decade has shown, there was a need for an independent organisation to convene discussion about and undertake research on the full range of London policy issues and act as a critical friend to London government. This is the space Centre for London has come to fill.

The role of a London think tank was bound to be a bit different from a national one. First, its audience was physically close, making face to face gatherings – at least in the world before coronavirus – central to our work. Hence the Centre’s very active events programme and the prominence of our annual London Conference.

Second, it has a distinctively urban agenda: not just the ‘hard’ policy issues that are the bread and butter of national think tanks – economy, productivity, living standards, health and social care, housing affordability, infrastructure, climate change – but more characteristically urban concerns like pollution, public space, high streets, town centres, parks, night life, design, culture, and creativity.

We also wanted a think tank that looked and felt like London. If you think about what has happened over the last 10 years – the slowing down and in some respects reversal of devolution, Brexit, coronavirus, acceleration of climate change – it does make the prospect of the next 10 a little alarming. Centre for London will be more needed than ever.

But overall, the experience of working on London has, for me, been a hopeful one.

One of the things that makes Centre for London special is its ability to draw experts, leaders and campaigners from different parts of the city together. And I have been struck again and again at how open everyone we have worked with has been to collaboration, despite the different interests at stake. Over the last decade I attended countless project advisory group meetings, sometimes on quite charged subjects – school reform, road-user charging, parking, planning reform – that have brought together businesses, boroughs, charities and community leaders and the conversation has always been open, respectful and public-spirited. A city that can come together in this way is destined for success.



**Ben Rogers,**  
**Founding Director**



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[About](#)

*Chapter Three*

**2020**

**We commented on London issues**

We published 64 blog posts that were viewed over 38,000 times.



**We grew our audience**



Our Twitter audience grew to over 17,000.

Over **63,000** people visited our website last year.

Over 4,000 people subscribe to our newsletter.



**We convened experts and informed the public**

Over 2,740 people attended or watched our events live.



# Our work in 2020 in numbers

**We helped shape policymaking**

Our experts spoke at over 30 events in 2020.



**We submitted written evidence to four policy consultations and inquiries**

**Our research captured the headlines**

Coverage of our work in the media reached over 23 million people.



**Our work was covered 305 times in the press.**

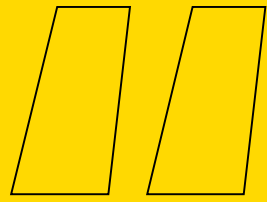


**More than 315 senior officials attended one of our private roundtables.**

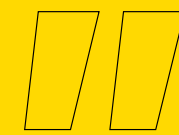
[@bruce\\_katz](#)



The rise of cities demands the rise of city think-and-do tanks dedicated to delivering objective analysis/concrete solutions and engaging a broad array of stakeholders; @centreforlondon has quickly emerged as a global standard.



**I see Centre for London as this city's brain trust, constantly putting out high quality, thoughtful and timely work – something that will be more important than ever as we look to solve the challenges ahead."**



**Sadiq Khan,**  
**Mayor of London**  
speaking at The London  
Conference 2020

# Crisis and recovery

We have been committed to helping London through the coronavirus crisis and as it meets the challenges of recovery. We developed a responsive programme of work to provide short and medium-term analysis of the pandemic, as well as policy recommendations for the city.

## Perspectives on the crisis

Our rapid response public event series provided insights on practical and policy responses as the crisis was unfurling. We held conversations on issues including lockdown, transport, housing, gender and climate action.

Speakers included the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, Abena Oppong-Asare MP, Tom Copley, Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development, and Cllr Clare Coghill, Leader of the London Borough of Waltham Forest. More than 2,500 people tuned into the series.

## Ideas to aid London's recovery

We published a recovery plan for the West End and a London recovery manifesto with ideas to respond to new challenges arising from the crisis, as well as existing challenges that had been intensified by it.

Our recommendation to encourage people back to the theatres with culture vouchers was covered by media outlets including The Guardian, Time Out London, City A.M and What's On Stage. The idea's popularity led to the creation of a petition calling on the Chancellor to introduce a 'Seat Out to Help Out' scheme for live performances, which was signed by more than 50,000 people.



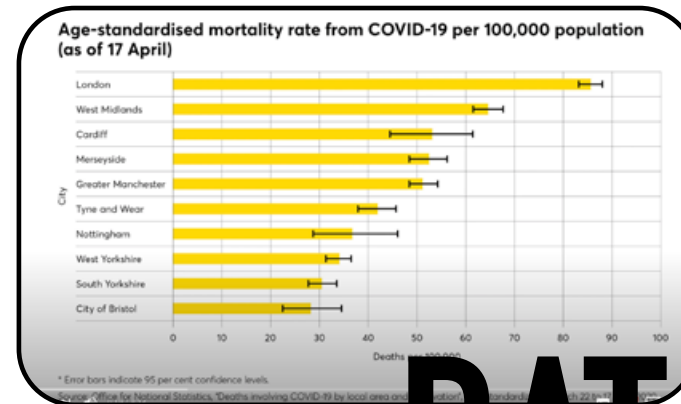
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→ **Fresh analysis on the impact of lockdown**

We rebooted The London Intelligence, in partnership with King’s College London and Savanta ComRes to track how the city and Londoners have been faring during the pandemic. Our analysis was covered by the Guardian, BBC London, the Evening Standard, the Times, and the Telegraph.

Together with the London Environment Director’s Network, we also commissioned polling to explore Londoners’ changing attitudes to travel during the crisis – and the potential impacts on the city’s transport network. Representatives from 23 London boroughs watched the associated webinars.

# WATCH



# DATA INSIGHTS

→ [Click to watch](#)



## If you could change anything about London, what would it be?

The number of people living in cramped, insecure or poor quality homes. Bad housing makes so many parts of Londoners’ lives worse: it causes lots of different health problems, makes it difficult for children to do well at school, and makes it hard for people to fully participate in the life of the city.



**Claire Harding,**  
**Research Director**

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# Research highlights

## City Skills

Our review of London’s further education system looked at what the government could do to support this vital sector at a time of rapid change. Over 180 people watched the launch event with speakers including Mary Vine-Morris, Director, London Region, Association of Colleges. The Evening Standard published a letter we coordinated and co-signed alongside signatories including Cllr Georgia Gould, Chair of London Councils and Jules Pipe CBE, Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, Greater London Authority.

**Funded by:** The Schroder Foundation.

## Third Age City

We developed policy and practical solutions that would help to provide the homes that older Londoners need. More than 2,000 people have read our insights since publication which was welcomed by organisations including Age UK London, the Associated Retirement Community Operators and Guild Living.

**Funded by:** Major Sponsors British Land and Riverstone, and Supporting Sponsors: Enfield Council, London Borough of Barnet, London Borough of Sutton, Populo Living, The Royal Borough of Greenwich, and the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames.

**WATCH WEBINARS**

→ [Click to watch](#)

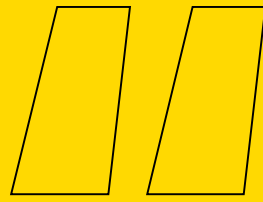


## Lighting London

Our research looked at the role of lighting in cities and set out ways to improve the quality of London’s lighting. Night Czar Amy Lamé spoke at the launch event, while Sadiq Khan committed to collaborating with local authorities on their plans for lighting in his mayoral manifesto.

**Funded by:** Funders Illuminated River Foundation, Greater London Authority and The Rothschild Foundation, and Supporting Sponsors: City of London Corporation and Cross River Partnership.

“ I’m encouraged to see Centre for London placing such importance on recommendations from the Mayor’s Night Time Commission to improve lighting at night, and the Mayor’s new London Plan underlines his commitment to ensuring Londoners and visitors can safely enjoy the best city in the world after dark.” **Amy Lamé, Night Czar**



**I have often felt that Centre for London are one or two years, even five years ahead on policy, creating the groundwork, marshalling thought leadership, the evidence base and space for what many of us hope would become the 'new orthodoxy' on issues from sustainability to housing."**



**Phillip Glanville,  
Mayor of Hackney**

# Working with policymakers

## Local government

In 2020, 11 local authorities supported us by co-funding our research and events, as well as the Greater London Authority, Transport for London, and London Councils. We worked with individual London boroughs on issues close to their communities, sending representatives to the Newham Democracy and Civic Participation Commission, the Brent Poverty Commission, Hammersmith and Fulham’s Industrial Strategy Board and Hounslow’s Green Recovery Board.

**Impact:** The London Technical Advisers Group which brings together the Heads of Transport at London boroughs set up a subgroup to look at implementing our Reclaim the kerb report recommendations.

## The Mayor and City Hall

We continued to build relationships with City Hall once the mayoral elections were postponed. The Mayor of London spoke at our high-profile event on London’s green recovery and delivered the opening keynote speech at The London Conference 2020.

Andy Byford, Commissioner, Transport for London and four Deputy Mayors also spoke at our events.

**Impact:** The Greater London Authority consulted on the Draft Public London Charter, which implemented many findings and recommendations from our Public London report.

SUPPORTED BY  
**MAYOR OF LONDON**



London Borough of Hounslow



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To mark the 20th anniversary of London’s Mayor and Assembly we co-wrote a book with LSE Professor Tony Travers which examined how London’s first three mayors approached the role, how the position has transformed and what might come next for the capital, its people and its governance.

Ahead of the 2021 London mayoral election we published two manifestos, partnered on two hustings events and hosted a blog series on ‘Power in London’ which has been viewed over 8,000 times.



[@pippacrerar](#)



**I spent years covering London govt - politics, policies, personalities - so can't wait to get stuck into this Mayor at 20 book.** With so many questions about whether devo can unite our fractured country, I'm hoping it can provide some answers.

**Pippa Crerar,**  
**Political Editor, Daily Mirror**

## National government

In 2020, we continued to build relationships within Whitehall and Westminster. Minister of London Paul Scully spoke to our Partner Forum members and joined a panel discussion at The London Conference 2020. We also hosted other MPs at our events including Nickie Aiken MP, Rupa Huq MP and Abena Oppong-Asare MP on issues including London’s future, suburban densification and a gender equality. We influenced government thinking on the West End’s recovery and submitted an in-depth response to the Planning White Paper.

**Impact:** Danny Kruger MP’s report for the Prime Minister on ‘Levelling up our communities’ included several of our recommendations, such as introducing Community Improvement Districts as well as enhancing the community right to bid.

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# The London Conference

The London Conference 2020 was our first ever virtual, multi-day event.

EveningStandard.

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BBC RADIO LONDON

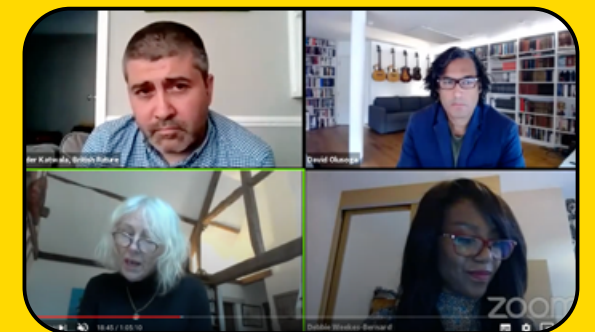
The conference brought together London’s politicians, public sector, business and community leaders to reflect on a tumultuous year and consider how to create a more resilient and inclusive city going forwards.

This was our best-attended Centre for London conference to date with over 5,000 viewers and 45 speakers across 13 sessions including Andy Byford, Commissioner, Transport for London, Audrey Tang, Taiwan’s Digital Minister and Edward Glaeser, Professor of Economics, Harvard University.

#LonConf20 reached over 650,000 people on Twitter.

The event was covered 40 times in the press.

# WATCH ALL THE



# SESSIONS

→ [Click to watch](#)

# Getting to know our new trustees



## Why did you decide to make London your home?

“ I came to London as a teenager and enjoyed discovering the theatres, museums and street culture. I believed London was the centre of the universe and reported back to my friends back in Barcelona ‘if you look around your fellow passengers in a tube a carriage, you see the world’. I made it my mission to study at Goldsmiths College and I never looked back. I am now a proud Londoner and one of the many EU nationals who has chosen London as home.

**Laia Gasch**



## What do you love about London and what would you change about the city?

“ I love the multiculturalism of London. It feels like a microcosm of the entire world and that gives each Londoner the opportunity to immerse themselves in different ideas and cultural practices that we would not be able to access otherwise. London is also where approximately 50 per cent of the country’s Black population lives, so it is great to have Black communities across the city that have rich African and Caribbean communities that diaspora and other Londoners can enjoy. If I was to change anything about the city, it would be to economic disparity between boroughs. Its systemic and that greatly affects the opportunities and futures of the young people that live and work in those areas.

**Bayo Adelaja**



*Chapter Four*

**THE NEXT  
DECADE**

# Building a new vision for London to 2050 and beyond

2020 marked the launch of our multi-year strategic review of the city, London Futures.

Working with leaders from across London, including the Mayor of London, London boroughs, national government, businesses, universities, charities and community groups we set out to examine the state of London today, explore different scenarios for London's future and involve Londoners in creating a new shared vision for the city.

In September 2020, we published the first report from the review, London at a crossroads, with speakers including Nickie Aiken MP and former Leader of Lambeth Council Jack Hopkins. It was our most read report of the year.



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Since September 2020, we have engaged a huge variety of London organisations and Londoners with the future they want to see for the city. We launched Your Future London in February 2021 - an interactive platform where Londoners can learn about how London is doing today, explore our future scenarios for the city, and share their views on London's future. We held five expert roundtables with senior local government representatives, businesses, academics and charities. And working with partners we've conducted further research, spoke at events and supported others to run internal workshops.

Our aim is to publish a practical, evidence-informed vision for London using all of these insights later this year. This vision will guide the decisions and policies of the city's key decision makers for years to come.

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|| 2020 was a year like no other, both for London and the rest of the world. I am delighted that Wei Yang & Partners supported the important work of Centre for London in shaping a new vision of a better London for the future."

**Dr Wei Yang, Chair,  
Wei Yang & Partners**

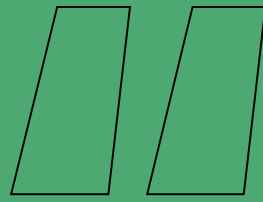


**If you could look into the future, what kind of London do you think you would see in 20 years' time?**

London in the future will be a patchwork of much variation. At its best there will no place better for ideas, networking, romance, culture, family life, environmental stewardship and fun. At its worst there will be violence, prejudice, environmental degradation, poverty and avoidable ill-health. We collectively get to choose how much of the first we can foster, and share the benefits of, and how much of the latter we can reduce, and perhaps, with leadership and much effort, eliminate.



**Rob Whitehead,  
Director of  
Strategic Projects**



**We're pleased to be working with Centre for London on London Futures. As we emerge from the pandemic, the insights and solutions they are developing are valuable not just for London's approach to tackling inequity, but also for urban centres across the UK and globally."**



**Anna Garrod,**  
Policy and Influence Director,  
Impact on Urban Health

# New research coming out this year

## Micromobility

In spring 2020, we set up the London Micromobility Alliance to respond to a rapidly developing policy area; the introduction of micromobility technologies such as e-bikes and e-scooters on our streets. Now 36 members strong, the Alliance meets monthly to swap news, ideas and coordinate on research and influencing policy.

It also holds quarterly open meetings to network, discuss policy developments and hear from interesting speakers in the field. Before London's e-scooter trials were announced, Alliance members met with the Deputy Mayor for Transport and Walking and Cycling Commissioner to advocate for a joined-up approach across the city.

We've also been researching t out what 'gold standard' micromobility management and provision would look like in London. Published in autumn 2021.

→ [Contact Josh Cottell](#), Research Manager (josh.cottell@centreforlondon.org) to contribute to this project.

## Freight

We're looking at how to create smarter, fairer and more sustainable freight and logistics ecosystems across the capital. Published in autumn 2021.

→ [Contact Nikita Quarshie](#), Researcher (nikita.quarshie@centreforlondon.org) to contribute to this project.

## Industrial Land

We're convening an independent, expert-led commission to provide fresh thinking on the future of London's industrial land. Published in winter 2021.

→ [Contact Nikita Quarshie](#), Researcher to contribute to this project.



Image credit: Kim Frewin

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# Projects in development

We are currently seeking funding partners for the following research projects and events.  
→ [Contact Max Goldman](mailto:max.goldman@centreforlondon.org), Head of Development (max.goldman@centreforlondon.org) to find out about supporting our work.

## Remixing the centre

While the long-term impacts of the pandemic are still unclear, it looks likely that central London’s recovery will involve an increase in its residential population. We want to examine how more people can live in central London, while enhancing rather than jeopardising the city centre’s character.

## Homelessness and temporary accommodation

10 times more London households are in temporary accommodation than in the rest of England. We want to look at how we can offer London’s homeless people a better deal.

## Learning from low traffic neighbourhoods

Recent measures to calm traffic and support walking and cycling have proved controversial. We want to bring boroughs, campaigners, experts and other stakeholders together to explore the issues raised and develop new ways forward.

## The London Conference 2021

The London Conference is our annual flagship event. It’s the one time in the year when London leaders come together to discuss the most pressing challenges for our city. We’re looking for partners to help make the conference possible.

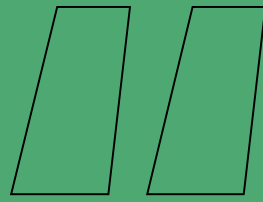
## Levelling up and London

Levelling up is the government’s agenda for supporting left behind parts of the UK. However, it risks ignoring the enormous challenges faced within London and downplaying the role a successful London plays in raising living standards across the UK. We’re looking for partners for a new strategic project, to make the case for levelling up within London, and highlight why London’s success is important to levelling up the rest of the country.



Image credit: Jo Corfield

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**Centre for London is now the gold standard for research-based advocacy in global cities. We need Centre for London more than ever to help us understand and think through this moment, what it means for urban policy and our cities - and what we can do about it."**



**Tim Williams,**  
Cities Leader for Arup  
Australasia and Chair of  
Open Cities

# Funding

Centre for London is a charity, and we rely on the support of organisations and individuals to make our work possible.

Supporters can fund our research, events or contribute towards our core funding.

We are proud that from small beginnings, we have grown into an organisation with a rich mix of funders from across London’s public, private and third sectors, representing a diverse cross-section of the capital.

In 2020 our supporters included London boroughs, businesses, and trusts and foundations. In spite of uncertainty, we have proved resilient, diversifying our income and exploring new strategic work programmes. We are incredibly grateful to all the organisations and individuals who have supported our work both over the last year – and our first decade. The value our supporters place in us allows us to continue producing timely and thought-provoking research and events and advocate for a fair and prosperous global city.

We are committed to being fully transparent about where our funding comes from and publish a full list of our funders every year. In the period to 31 December 2020, Centre for London received income of £1,014,806 (2019: £1,170,043). Approximately 59 per cent of all funding secured during 2020 was research funding, 19 per cent event funding, and 22 per cent unrestricted core funding.

**We need your support. If you think the work we do is important, please contact → Max Goldman, Head of Development (max.goldman@centreforlondon.org) to find out more.**

## Partner Forum

Our Partner Forum grew to a network of 15 organisations who are dedicated to London and want to support our mission of creating a fair and prosperous capital. Members are kept up-to-date with the latest insights on London, have the opportunity to hear from renowned experts at networking events and research presentations, and receive an invite to our flagship event, The London Conference.

In 2020, we hosted 10 Partner Forum events with speakers including Paul Scully MP, Professor Tony Travers, Robert Gordon Clark, Danny Kruger MP, David Lunts, Professor Jonathan Portes, Lord Deben, David Eastwood and Professor Christine Whitehead.

→ [Contact Max Goldman](mailto:max.goldman@centreforlondon.org), Head of Development (max.goldman@centreforlondon.org) to find out more about joining our Partner Forum.



Image credit: Lucas Peng

“ We have worked closely with Centre for London since it was founded ten years ago to make the case for policies that are suited to the unique challenges and opportunities facing the capital. This is in line with our vision of a vibrant and thriving City, supporting a diverse and sustainable London within a globally-successful UK. In particular, we have valued the annual London Conference as a forum for debate and discussion with key London stakeholders.”

### City of London Corporation

“ We have been working with Centre for London for over two years now, and their team have been highly responsive and supportive of our society’s aims and emerging needs. The Centre is very skilled in research, political understanding, governance, and technology areas; but, beyond that, we have found them to be remarkably creative, adaptable, and committed!”

**Eman Martin-Vignerte, Head of Political Affairs and Government Relations, Bosch**

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## Funders

### £1,000 - £10,000

- Be First (London Borough of Barking & Dagenham)
- Beth and David Blood
- Commonplace
- Community Union
- Delancey
- Gerald Eve
- Landsec
- London Borough of Barnet
- London Borough of Brent
- London Borough of Ealing
- London Borough of Hounslow
- London Borough of Lewisham
- London Borough of Southwark
- London Borough of Sutton
- London Borough of Wandsworth
- London Communications Agency
- London Councils

- National Association of Local Councils
- Populo Living
- Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park
- Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
- Sir Trevor Chinn
- The Mori Memorial Foundation
- University of London
- Wei Yang & Partners

### £10,001 - £20,000

- Environmental Defense Fund Europe
- Google
- Kohn Pedersen Fox
- London Borough of Lambeth
- London Property Alliance (CPA and WPA)
- Mastercard
- Port of London Authority
- Power to Change
- Riverstone
- Trust for London
- Van and Eva DuBose

### £20,001 - £30,000

- Bosch
- Capital City College Group
- Cross River Partnership
- Lendlease Europe
- SEGRO
- The London Directors' Environment Network (LEDNet)

### £30,001 - £40,000

- City of London Corporation
- Enfield Council
- Primera BID
- Transport for London

### £40,001 - £50,000

- City Bridge Trust
- Greater London Authority

### £50,000+

- FT'Work Trust
- Impact on Urban Health
- Prologis
- Uber

*Chapter Five*

# ABOUT US

# About Centre for London

Centre for London is led by Chief Executive Nick Bowes and Chair Liz Peace, who are supported by a core team and a Board of Trustees.

## Our team

- Nick Bowes, Chief Executive
- Nicolas Bosetti, Head of Data and Insights
- Jeeshan Choudhury, Communications Officer
- Kieran Connelly, Research Assistant
- Joanna Corfield, Head of Communications
- Josh Cottell, Research Manager
- Caroline Coxhead, Events Manager
- Max Goldman, Head of Development
- Vrinda Guha, Events Officer
- Claire Harding, Research Director
- Rachel Heilbron, Operations Director
- Amy Leppänen, Communications Manager
- Ines Oliveira, Events Assistant
- Nikita Quarshie, Researcher
- Denean Rowe, Senior Development Officer
- Diana Szteinberg, Senior Events Officer
- Jon Tabbush, Researcher
- Johnathan Tuck, Senior Operations Officer
- Elizabeth Wells, Senior Development and Events Officer
- Rob Whitehead, Director of Strategic Projects

## New trustees

In 2020-21 we welcomed four new trustees to the board.

- Bayo Adelaja, CEO, Do It Now Now
- Samuel Ewuosho, Commercial & Strategy Team, Vattenfall
- Laia Gasch, Senior Advisor, Culture and Creative Industries, Mayor of London
- Dominic Wilson, VC, Investor

## Our board of trustees

- Liz Peace CBE (Chair of Trustees), Chairman of the Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation
- Paul King (Deputy Chair of Trustees), Managing Director, Sustainability & Social Impact - Europe, Lendlease
- David Slater (Chair of the Finance Committee), Director, Trade, KPMG, UK
- Fiona Fletcher-Smith, Chief Executive, L&Q
- Peter Lewis, CEO, Institute of Fundraising
- Ben Page, Chief Executive, IPSOS Mori
- Sonal Shah, Partner, Greenwood Place
- Andrew Travers, Chief Executive, London Borough of Lambeth
- Shashi Verma, Director of Strategy and Chief Technology Officer, Transport for London



# Contact

## Development

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→ [max.goldman@centreforlondon.org](mailto:max.goldman@centreforlondon.org)

## Events

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## Centre for London

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**020 3757 5555**

**@centreforlondon**

## Communications

Joanna Corfield  
Head of Communications  
→ [joanna.corfield@centreforlondon.org](mailto:joanna.corfield@centreforlondon.org)

## Research

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## Working with us

Nick Bowes  
Chief Executive  
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