

London Manifestos 2016 – Health, Social Care and Equalities Sector

Round Up

On health, social care and equalities there is a clear split in focus between the two main contenders for Mayor. For Labour's Sadiq Khan these areas provide a cornerstone to his campaign, whereas for Conservative Zac Goldsmith, though he does set out some policy objectives, his commitments to planning and environmental initiatives take centre stage.

All candidates, except UKIP's Peter Whittle, are consistent in their call for the better provision of mental health services in the capital, but Labour and the Greens go in to further detail with commitments to public health, as well as bringing further health powers to City Hall in Sadiq's case.

Whittle's sole manifesto commitment on health and equality is to a combined emergency service – further details below.

On equalities, Zac's commitment is to social cohesion, including protecting and promoting mixed income communities. Whereas at a recent speech marking International Women's Day, Sadiq said he would be returning next year as "London's Feminist Mayor", which is substantiated in his manifesto, alongside proposals for LGBT+ communities and to tackle hate crime.

The Liberal Democrats would go further, monitoring the fairness impact of all policies and producing an annual report on progress toward reducing inequality. The Greens commit to the appointment of a disability equality policy advisor who would feed in to policy development across the board.

With housing, policing and transport forming the major base of power that resides at a local level in London, equality outcomes won't just be decided by specific policies in this grouping. However, the breakdown below provides a view of the issues that are at the forefront of each candidate's mind.



The Conservatives will fight to ensure London has the **mental health beds** it needs. (p80)

The party will work with NHS London and the Department of Health to get this number down to zero by ensuring the adequate provision of 24/7 mental health beds across London. (p80)

The Conservative Party will carry out a London-wide 'Know your Rights' campaign, in multiple languages. Funding for specialist support services for communities where women and girls are more likely to **face FGM or forced marriage** will be brought in. (p81)

The party would provide grants of up to £500 for street parties which bring **diverse communities** more closely together. (p85)



The Mayor's Office will be used to **champion the NHS**, additional funding for social care, prevention and early intervention. (p72)

Extra powers will be sought to **coordinate health services** across the city. (p72)

The NHS and London Ambulance Service will be supported to help improve staff recruitment and retention. (p72)

The provision of bus services to London's hospitals will be reviewed. (p72)

A focus will be placed on **reducing health inequality**, addressing the spread of infectious diseases and promoting healthier lifestyles. (p73)

A comprehensive **public health strategy** will be developed. (p73)

There will be a renewed focus on **HIV prevention** and screening. (p74)

The Mayor will campaign against the **stigma of mental illness** and improve the availability of information and support, including by via support of Mental Health Awareness Week. (p74)

Efforts to reduce the number of **suicides** and expand best practice in crisis care will be made. (p74)

Labour will ensure Pride continues to be a community-led showcase of all of **London's LGBT communities**. (p79)

Labour want to break down the **barriers to success for women** and intend to ensure from childhood that girls are provided with opportunities to learn the skills they need to succeed. (p55)

Labour wish to make gender equality a focus of '**Skills for Londoners**', creating targeted opportunities for girls to excel in STEM skills in particular. (p57)

Labour wish to establish a strategy for **monitoring child poverty** and targeted interventions. (p55)

Labour will prioritise closing **the gender pay gap** and breaking the glass ceiling as key aims of the Mayor's office. (p56)

The party want to '**smash the glass ceiling**' and challenge the under-representation of women in senior roles. (p58)

Labour intend to make tackling all types of **hate crime** a priority for the police. (p56)

On transphobia, Labour want to work with the **LGBT+ community, schools, police and others** to highlight the issue. (p56)

Labour want to implement a **digital inclusion strategy**, led by the new Chief Digital Officer to ensure Londoners have the skills they need to access public services and job opportunities. (p56)

On financial inclusion, Labour will partner with the financial sector and other social enterprises to ensure that every adult can access financial services and ensure that all young Londoners leave education with numeracy skills and an understanding of finance. (p56)

The party will intend to consult on all future transport and planning matters, especially with people **with disabilities**. (p57)

Labour want to review the protections provided by the London Plan, and retain targets for new build homes to meet the Lifetime Homes Standard with at least 10 per cent of new-build homes that are **wheelchair accessible**. (p57)

The party wish to improve **accessibility at rail and tube stations** and make sure transport workers understand the needs of disabled passengers. Labour also want to ensure Dial-a-Ride and Taxicard continue to provide support for those less able to get around. (p57)

Labour want to tackle **disability hate crime** and support the development of, and protect schemes which expand opportunities for people with disabilities to work and gain skills. (p57)

On the Living Wage, Labour intend to make **London a Living Wage city** by offering business-rate relief for small firms who pay the London Living Wage, use GLA and TfL procurement to lead by example, and work the with new Living Wage Commission to ensure the formula reflects the real costs of housing in London. (p58)

The party also wish to pay all employees of the GLA and its agencies the London Living Wage and require that all contractors and suppliers do the same. (p59)

In office, Labour would establish a new team dedicated to **economic fairness**. This team would lead on the London Living Wage, apprenticeships, blacklisting, employment rights and more. (p 58)

The party wish to promote the uplift of London weighting. (p58)



Health and Social Care

The Lib Dems will press the GLA to have additional powers to **promote health in London**, monitor performance in NHS hospitals and involve Londoners in the decision-making process (p85)

The party will also press the Government for the Mayor to have responsibility for the **ambulance service** (p85)

London will be the first **dementia friendly** capital city by 2020. (p71)

The party intend for the London Enterprise Panel to focus on **maternal unemployment** and to prioritise projects that provide childcare or improve maternal employment when allocating London funding from the European Union. (p66)

Under City Hall, the Liberal Democrats wish to monitor the fairness impact of all policies and produce an annual report on progress towards **reducing inequality**. (p69)

The party will encourage **publication of pay ratios for firms** employing more than 250 workers, covering overall pay rates and differences by gender and ethnicity. (p59)

The party want to recognise **the health needs of London's LGBT+ population** and promote specialist support services tailored to their needs, including mental health services. (p75)

The Liberal Democrats intend to **reverse cuts to hate crime** policing posts as well as develop a London-wide strategy for reporting, investigating and prosecuting hate crime. (p75)

The party intends to support the campaigns being led by **local LGBT communities**, such as those to save Camden's Black Cap and the Royal Vauxhall Tavern, and support the preservation of Soho. (p75)

The party wish to recognise that London's **homeless young people** who identify as being LGBT have higher rates of suicide and will ensure their needs are met through a homebuilding programme and will support various organisations who are working to end street homelessness. (p75)

The party want to guarantee to continue **funding Pride** at the current level of £100,000 for the whole of the next Mayoral term. (p75)

Pay audits will be conducted and published to highlight **gender imbalances**, including in the GLA. (p71)

A London Fairness Index will be published annually to monitor the findings of the **London Fairness Commission**. (p76)

The Mayor's Fund will be reviewed and refocused to help the most **disadvantaged**. (p76)



Health and Social Care

The party would make sure housing policies form part of an integrated London strategy for improved **mental health** (p5)

In the London Plan, require boroughs to create **exclusion zones around schools** where fast food shops aren't allowed and to resist a saturation of fast food shops in any part of their borough. (p14)

They would end the sponsorship of **sporting events** by junk food companies, and ensure all events given support by the GLA group offer healthy food options. (p15)

The party would back the introduction of a **sugary drink tax**. (p15)

The Greens would support key services such as **sexual health clinics and domestic violence** refuges as vital Londonwide services. (p15)

The party oppose cuts to local government's **public health budget**. (p15)

They would work to make sure **sex and relationship education** is included in Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) classes in all London's schools, and support efforts by Greens nationally to make it a statutory requirement. (p15)

The Greens would ensure that the principles of **lifetime neighbourhoods** and a **dementia-friendly** city are included in new planning rules for streets and homes. They would support a dementia friendly city through training and information for front-line staff in all GLA group agencies and promote this training to borough councils and private companies that deal with the public. (p27)

They would appoint a **disability equality policy adviser** and a new forum for **London Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations** to feed into policy development, particularly housing, crime and transport. (p28).

The Greens would develop an advice and advocacy strategy for London and ensure the London Health Inequalities Strategy and London Health Improvement Board **addresses health inequalities** experienced by deaf and disabled people. (p29)

Equalities

The party would reduce the pay gap between the highest and lowest paid staff in the GLA group to no more than a multiple of ten. They would establish a **Fair Pay Mark** recognising companies who publish their own pay gap, commit to reducing it to less than 10:1 and pay at least the London Living Wage to all employees. (p26)

They would ensure that the GLA monitors **employment practices** and to what extent workers' rights are being enforced or eroded by any central Government changes in the law and services (p.26)

The party would appoint a representative in City Hall with the task of monitoring and co-ordinating the effects of all the Mayor's **policies on older people**. (p.27)

They would improve access to **digital services for older people** including access to broadband at home and via mobile devices. (p27)

The Greens would create a **LGBT+ community space** to serve as a much needed hub for people, particularly young people and an older generation marginalised by commercial venues. Would help communities and local authorities to designate LGBT venues as assets. (p27)

Would build London's **first AIDS memorial**. (p27)

The party would include **gypsy and traveller health** in the Mayor's health inequality strategy. (p28)

They would appoint a **disability equality policy adviser** and a new forum for London Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations to feed into policy development, particularly housing, crime and transport. (p28).



Health and Social Care

UKIP will adopt the French Sapeurs-Pompiers system and have one **combined emergency service**, cross-training firemen as ambulance drivers as paramedics and it will set a target for the Mayor's new London Fire Commissioner to achieve this. (p21)