

# Monitoring report: 7 February 2020

## Overview

- Transport for London has stated that upgrades to the Piccadilly line, including improvements to track signalling and the introduction of new trains to the service, are a top priority.
- MP for the Cities of London and Westminster, Nickie Aiken, has criticised members of Extinction Rebellion for leaving behind approximately 20 tons of rubbish following a protest in October.
- Businesses in London's Chinatown have seen a significant decrease in custom following the outbreak of the coronavirus in mainland China.
- The Mayor of London has called for central Government to ensure that environmental protection measures in his new London Plan are not watered down or removed.

## Monitoring

Overview	Detail	Action
<p>TfL has stated that upgrades to the Piccadilly line is a "number one priority".</p> <p>(5 February <a href="#">Article</a>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport for London has stated that upgrading signalling on the Piccadilly line is a top priority.</li> <li>• TfL research has suggested that planned improvements could improve capacity on the line by up to 60% providing an almost "entirely new service in London".</li> <li>• These improvements also include recent commissioning of 94 new trains to replace the 50-year old models currently servicing the line. The first new trains are expected in 2023.</li> </ul>	
<p>Nickie Aiken MP has criticised members of Extinction Rebellion for leaving 20 tons of litter in Trafalgar Square following a protest.</p> <p>(6 February <a href="#">Article</a>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MP for the Cities of London and Westminster, Nickie Aiken, has criticised members of environmental group Extinction Rebellion for leaving a significant amount of rubbish on the streets following protests in Trafalgar Square.</li> <li>• In an interview with LBC Radio, Aiken stated that the clean-up operation for the October protest "would have cost hundreds of thousands of pounds", taking Council services away from people and businesses.</li> <li>• These claims have been disputed by former policeman Richard Ecclestone who stated that the majority of rubbish left behind was as a result of police seizing protesters' property.</li> </ul>	
<p>Businesses in Chinatown have reported significant declines in sales following the outbreak of the coronavirus.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restaurants and shops in Chinatown have reported a significant reduction in sales and bookings of up to 50% following the outbreak of the coronavirus.</li> </ul>	

(3 February <a href="#">Article</a> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmation of the virus reaching the UK brought “immediate cancellations” according to some business owners.</li> <li>• This is in spite of the fact that there is “no evidence or health warning that eating Chinese food is a risk for catching the virus” according to the World Health Organisation.</li> <li>• It has been forecast that it may take upwards of a month for business to return to normal rates in the area.</li> </ul>	
<p>The Mayor of London has urged central Government to retain green safeguards in the London Plan.</p> <p>(6 February <a href="#">Press Release</a>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sadiq Khan has urged the Government not to remove “vital policies” in his new London Plan which will protect the environment, cut air pollution, and tackle the climate crisis.</li> <li>• The draft London Plan is currently under review by the Greater London Assembly, prior to being submitted to the Government’s Planning Inspectorate.</li> <li>• Khan has accused the Government of trying to “water down or even strip away crucial policies to protect London’s environment”, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reducing protection of Green Belt land</li> <li>- removing the rejection to any fracking in the City</li> <li>- allowing for the expansion of Heathrow airport</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

## Consultations

Deadline	Consultation	Location
24 February 2020	Street performance consultation – Westminster City Council	<a href="#">Link</a>
26 February 2020	Air quality action plan consultation – Westminster City Council	<a href="#">Link</a>
7 May 2020	Conservative Party West End survey	<a href="#">Link</a>

## Events forward planner

Date	Organisation	Event	Tickets
18 April 2020	New London Architecture	<p><b>West End &amp; Soho photography tour</b> Join architectural photographer Grant Smith on a bespoke photography tour of the West End and Soho.</p>	£14