

Dear Rajesh Agrawal

First of all we would like to congratulate you for your appointment as Deputy Mayor for Business and welcome your commitment to address the impacts of Brexit on London's economy. We also note that you have met with business leaders to reassure them that the GLA will seek to have a strong voice at the post-referendum negotiations table. However we believe your agenda should be focused on all sectors of the economy and on all sizes and types of business, seeking to depart from a past over-reliance on the financial and property sectors. Engagement and conversations with micro and small businesses, independent retailers and ethnic and migrant traders, representing London's diverse economies are equally essential to ensure all enterprises have a voice in shaping the future of London.

[Just Space](#) is a network of community groups, campaigns and concerned independent organisations, formed in 2006 to act as a voice for Londoners at grass-roots level during the formulation of London's major planning strategies. Just Space Economy and Planning (JSEP) was set up in 2013 with the aim to build capacity within the Just Space network to participate in and influence the development of planning policy in London on economic issues.

Over the last year we have worked on developing a vision and strategy for London which seeks to achieve social, economic and environmental justice through a [Community-led Plan for London](#). The Economy chapter of this document steers towards a fair, localised and green economy through a range of policy proposals. Our main causes of concern are the loss of low cost enterprise space for diverse economies to housing development, particularly the alarming rate of industrial land loss, the focus on specialisation and agglomeration in the Central Activities Zones at the expense of London's poly-centric economy and the increasing inequalities facing particularly those on low incomes. While some of the proposals we put forward could be achieved through planning policy and decisions, there is a need for an integrated approach across the GLA and we believe your role as the Deputy Mayor for Business should include supporting Londoners' vision for a fair and sustainable economy.

We invite you to read our Community-led Plan for London and we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and to discuss some of our key policy proposals and how these could be taken forward.

With best regards

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