



# MARIO CREATURA

WORKING TO BE YOUR NEXT MP  
FOR CROYDON CENTRAL



Sadiq Khan  
Mayor of London  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk,  
London SE1 2AA

12<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Mayor Khan,

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## **Independent investigation urgently needed into TfL's handling of Fatigue Audit IA 17 780.**

You will be aware that evidence has come to light in recent days that TfL watered down an internal report about faults in the fatigue management of the tram operator involved in the Croydon tram crash that in 2016 tragically killed seven people and injured 62.

Evidence suggests senior managers at Transport for London appear to have removed critical comments from an audit of fatigue controls at Tram Operations Limited (TOL) after the company complained that it was too negative.

Correspondence released to the public shows TfL agreed to revise the draft after executives at TOL objected that it was too critical and contradicted a verbal assurance they'd been given when the auditor finished his examination that his report would be generally positive.

I am sure you are as shocked as I am that TfL would seek to soften the report after discussions with the tram operator, particularly given the heightened public concern about driver fatigue at the time.

Michael Liebreich, who chaired the TfL panel responsible for overseeing safety issues at the time of the audit, urged you then to launch an independent inquiry into TfL's handling of the report.

In a letter he recently sent to you, he explains: "Unfortunately, before the GLA Transport Committee gets to the more general discussion about safety, it will also be asking for my understanding of the events around TfL's failure to send Fatigue Audit IA 17 780 to the various bodies investigating the Sandilands crash – namely the RAIB, BTP, SNC Lavalin, ORR and the coroners' office."

So not only was the report softened, but it was also not sent to the various investigating bodies.

Yesterday the London Assembly Transport Committee met to discuss TfL's handling of the Croydon Tram Crash. Mr Liebreich gave evidence and reiterated his concerns about the processes followed by the officials under your purview. Several members of the committee believed the session raised more questions than it answered. There are concerns that this has not been dealt with in the right way and that TfL have not followed the correct procedures. Committee members made calls for an independent inquiry. Your Deputy Mayor, however, opposed the need for an Independent Investigation.



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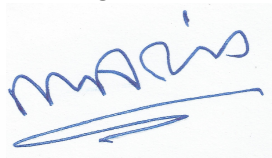
Today at Mayor's Question Time you publicly rejected an investigation and batted away any suggestion of the report being doctored – despite the well-publicised evidence.

Nearly three years after the crash, the families still have no closure on its causes and the driver of the crashed tram remains under threat of criminal prosecution. No reasonable person considers this to be an acceptable situation.

It is clearly time for an independent inquiry; one that I hope you will welcome and assist in every possible way – if for no other reason than to clear the air and the role your officials played in this distressing situation.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Kind Regards,



**Mario Creatura**  
**Parliamentary Candidate for Croydon Central**



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