

MAYOR OF LONDON

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
King's Cross Central Limited Partnership
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Date: 13 AUG 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern about reports of the private use of facial recognition software across the King's Cross development. As you will no doubt be aware, there are real concerns about the legal framework for the use of such technology in the UK.

London's incredible public spaces are a real asset to our city. They should be places that all Londoners, regardless of their age, ability, gender, gender identity, religion, race, sexual orientation or social class, can enjoy and use confidently and independently, avoiding separation or segregation.

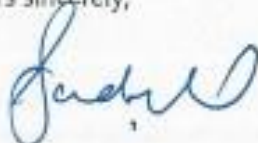
Whether privately or publicly owned or managed, these spaces should be open, free to use and offer the highest level of public access.

I am developing a Public London Charter, in line with my draft London Plan, to help ensure that our new public spaces fulfil these ambitions. This includes ensuring that the management and maintenance arrangements for the public realm maximise public access and minimise rules governing the space to only those essential for its safe management. My office can provide further details of the Charter if helpful – please contact my Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills, [REDACTED] by email at [REDACTED]

You will be aware that there are serious and widespread concerns about the legal framework for the use of this technology, and I have called on the Government to legislate in order to provide certainty about exactly how it can be legally used in the UK.

In this context, I am writing to request more information about exactly how this technology is being used at King's Cross, and reassurance that you have been liaising with Government ministers and the Information Commissioner's Office to ensure its use is fully compliant with the law as it stands.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London