

# May 2016 London Mayoral Elections – Candidate Profiles

## SADIQ KHAN MP

**AGE:** 44

MP for Tooting since 2005

Shadow Minister for London, 2013-15; Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, 2010; Minister of State at Department for Transport, 2009 - 10.

Former human rights solicitor.

**IMPLIED ODDS:** 4/6\*



### WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

The extent of Khan's victory against Dame Tessa Jowell in the selection process surprised many, but showed how far Labour has shifted to the left since the General Election. Khan's background story as the son of a Pakistani bus driver is likely to boost his appeal, particularly among ethnic minority voters. Khan's policies to improve London's skills and apprenticeships provision would also help to address the perception of Labour as "anti-business". He appears determined to make affordable housing the cornerstone of his May 2016 campaign, perhaps eyeing an opportunity to exploit a perceived weakness in his rival's policies.

### AS MAYOR, KHAN WOULD:

- Oppose Heathrow expansion.
- Introduce a 50% affordable housing target for new developments.
- Consult on expanding the proposed Ultra Low Emissions Zone, freeze tube and bus fares and invest in transport infrastructure such as Crossrail 2.
- Secure devolved powers to London for skills and Further Education funding.
- Protect London's black cabs.
- Make London the world's first National Park City and plant 2 million trees.
- Create zero tolerance approach to hate crimes.

## ZAC GOLDSMITH MP

**AGE:** 40

MP for Richmond since 2010

Member of the Environmental Audit Committee 2010-Pres; Former editor of *The Ecologist*.

**IMPLIED ODDS:** 5/4\*



### WHITEHOUSE ANALYSIS

Goldsmith's chameleon-like qualities - a wealthy ex-Etonian but also a passionate environmentalist and free thinker - make him an intriguing prospect for the ballot paper. A hardworking MP who is an advocate of direct democracy, Goldsmith took the unusual step of balloting his constituents on whether he should run for the Mayoralty. If elected, Goldsmith's rebellious attitude would place him on a collision course with the current Tory leadership, particularly over "red line" issues such as housing and Heathrow expansion. However recent history indicates that Londoners take well to "dissenting" Mayors, with previous incumbents Boris Johnson and Ken Livingstone unafraid to publically challenge their political parties.

### AS MAYOR, GOLDSMITH WOULD:

- Oppose Heathrow expansion.
- Look to create an "even playing field" between black cabs, Uber and other taxi operators.
- Support investing more in public transport and cycling, rather than building new road crossings over the Thames, and campaign to improve conditions for cyclists.
- Look for greater residents' consent for new housing developments, and advocate redevelopment of existing estates.
- Act to prevent strikes affecting London's transport network.

\*All odds taken from [Paddy Power](#), next London mayor (winning candidate), 01/10/2015.

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