# London launches campaign to curb loud music on public transport amid political calls for stricter fines



London’s public transport users are set to see posters urging them to use headphones rather than play music or videos out loud, as part of a new campaign launched by Mayor Sadiq Khan’s office. The initiative, starting on the Elizabeth line and soon extending to buses, the Docklands Light Railway, and the London Overground and Underground network, aims to reduce the nuisance caused by loud audio, which can disturb fellow passengers. The campaign is included within Transport for London’s (TfL) wider Travel Kind programme, which also encourages travellers to be considerate by looking up from phones and offering seats to those in need.

Seb Dance, London’s deputy mayor for transport, highlighted the frustration felt by many users, saying most passengers already use headphones, but a small minority who do not can significantly disrupt travel experiences. The campaign therefore emphasises courtesy and the shared nature of public transport journeys.

This move follows mounting political pressure to address the issue of loud music and conversations on public transport. Both the Conservative and Liberal Democrat parties have called for tougher enforcement and penalties. Conservative mayoral candidate Susan Hall proposes amending TfL’s conditions of carriage to ban loud music, speakerphone conversations, and disruptive filming, with fines reaching up to £1,000 or removal from the network for offenders. Hall criticises the current environment on the Tube under Khan's leadership and stresses the need for safe, quiet journeys for Londoners.

Similarly, the Liberal Democrats support a ban on playing music and videos out loud on public transport across England, pushing for the Bus Services Bill to be amended to impose fines up to £1,000 for offenders, whom they dub "headphone dodgers." Their campaign is backed by polling showing that 38% of passengers have experienced loud music on public transport, while 54% have felt uncomfortable asking others to reduce the volume. Paul Kohler, Lib Dem transport spokesperson and Wimbledon MP, praised TfL for responding to public concern but urged the government to implement stricter enforcement measures and publicity campaigns to end the issue.

The issue has also attracted attention at a national level, with Prime Minister Keir Starmer labelling loud audio on public transport as antisocial behaviour. Public sentiment appears largely in favour of penalties, with surveys indicating that nearly two-thirds of Londoners support fines up to £1,000 for those playing music or videos out loud.

Transport for London’s Travel Kind campaign has previously addressed concerns such as sexual harassment and encouraged passenger behaviour that facilitates smoother and safer journeys, including moving away from train doors to allow boarding. The latest addition to the campaign reflects a broader effort to enhance passenger comfort and safety while responding to growing public and political calls for deterrents against inconsiderate noise on the capital’s transport network.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/london-mayor-rolls-out-campaign-on-people-blasting-music-on-public-transport-T3J6XBUNEVIBNDLDOYXFOFAWM4/), [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/apr/23/lib-dems-back-ban-on-playing-music-and-videos-on-public-transport-in-england)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/london-mayor-rolls-out-campaign-on-people-blasting-music-on-public-transport-T3J6XBUNEVIBNDLDOYXFOFAWM4/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/susan-hall-london-tory-mayoral-candidate-loud-music-tube-b1152505.html), [[3]](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/04/19/noisy-tube-passengers-ban-tory-london-mayoral-candidate/), [[6]](https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/susan-hall-no-loud-music-on-tube-buses-mayoral-contest/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/apr/23/lib-dems-back-ban-on-playing-music-and-videos-on-public-transport-in-england), [[7]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/liberal-democrats-lib-dems-home-secretary-house-of-lords-home-office-b1223903.html)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/transport/headphone-dodgers-music-loud-trains-buses-antisocial-prime-minister-starmer-b1225201.html)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/london-mayor-rolls-out-campaign-on-people-blasting-music-on-public-transport-T3J6XBUNEVIBNDLDOYXFOFAWM4/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/london-mayor-rolls-out-campaign-on-people-blasting-music-on-public-transport-T3J6XBUNEVIBNDLDOYXFOFAWM4/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/susan-hall-london-tory-mayoral-candidate-loud-music-tube-b1152505.html> - Conservative London mayoral candidate Susan Hall has proposed a crackdown on passengers playing loud music or taking calls on speakerphone on public transport. She aims to update Transport for London's (TfL) conditions of carriage to ban such behaviours, with offenders potentially facing fines up to £1,000 or removal from the network. Hall emphasises the need for a safe and quiet journey for Londoners, criticising the current state of the Underground under Mayor Sadiq Khan. The proposal also includes banning disruptive filming for social media purposes.
3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/04/19/noisy-tube-passengers-ban-tory-london-mayoral-candidate/> - Susan Hall, the Conservative candidate for London mayor, has announced plans to ban passengers from playing loud music or taking calls on speakerphone on the Tube and buses. She intends to amend Transport for London's (TfL) conditions of carriage to include this ban, with violators facing fines up to £1,000 or removal from the network. Hall argues that passengers deserve a safe and quiet journey, criticising the current state of the Underground under Mayor Sadiq Khan. The proposal also aims to address disruptive filming for social media.
4. <https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/apr/23/lib-dems-back-ban-on-playing-music-and-videos-on-public-transport-in-england> - The Liberal Democrats have proposed a ban on passengers playing music and videos out loud on public transport in England, with fines up to £1,000 for offenders. They plan to amend the Bus Services Bill to make this an offence, applying to England only. The proposal follows polling showing that 38% of people have experienced loud music on public transport, with 54% feeling uncomfortable asking someone to turn it down. The Lib Dems aim to address antisocial behaviour and promote a more respectful commuting environment.
5. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/transport/headphone-dodgers-music-loud-trains-buses-antisocial-prime-minister-starmer-b1225201.html> - Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer has described passengers who play music or videos out loud on public transport as engaging in antisocial behaviour. His comments follow a survey indicating that nearly two-thirds of Londoners support £1,000 fines for such noise offenders. The Liberal Democrats have called for a ban on 'headphone dodgers' and a campaign to encourage the use of headphones. Starmer acknowledged the issue of antisocial behaviour and the need for effective enforcement to ensure public safety and civility.
6. <https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/susan-hall-no-loud-music-on-tube-buses-mayoral-contest/> - Susan Hall, Conservative candidate for London mayor, has vowed to enforce a ban on passengers playing loud music or taking calls on speakerphone on the Tube and buses. She aims to build on the alcohol ban introduced in 2008 by former Mayor Boris Johnson. Hall plans to enable enforcement officers to challenge passengers playing loud music or videos without headphones, with non-compliance potentially leading to removal from the network. The proposal also targets disruptive filming for social media purposes.
7. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/liberal-democrats-lib-dems-home-secretary-house-of-lords-home-office-b1223903.html> - The Liberal Democrats have called for a ban on passengers playing music out loud on public transport, proposing fines up to £1,000 for offenders. They plan to amend the Bus Services Bill to make this an offence in England. The proposal follows polling showing that 38% of people have experienced loud music on public transport, with 54% feeling uncomfortable asking someone to turn it down. The Lib Dems aim to address antisocial behaviour and promote a more respectful commuting environment.