# London mayor under fire as grooming scandal revelations expose leadership failure



Belinda de Lucy, spokesperson for education and families at Reform UK, has delivered a scorching denunciation of London Mayor Sir Sadiq Khan, branding him "a curse" on the city and calling for his immediate resignation over his failure to address the deeply troubling allegations of grooming gang cover-ups. Speaking on the Daily Expresso podcast, de Lucy painted Khan’s leadership as emblematic of a city drowning in scandal and neglect, likening it to confronting “a plague and no vaccination.” Her words echo the growing discontent among ordinary Londoners, who see the mayor’s inability or unwillingness to confront these pressing issues as a sign of total incompetence.

Investigative reports from the Daily Express and MyLondon have cast serious doubt on Khan’s repeated denials that grooming gangs operate in London in any way comparable to the scandals seen in Rotherham or Rochdale. The evidence reveals disturbing cases of children being groomed, drugged, and threatened—yet, Khan's administration has consistently downplayed the severity. Review of four reports by His Majesty's Inspectorate between 2016 and 2025 reveals startling findings: six documented victims of grooming, information the mayor was reportedly aware of at the time, yet chose to dismiss or ignore. Boroughs like Tower Hamlets, notorious for past scandals, have emerged as hotspots of concern.

The Metropolitan Police’s recent reversal—admitting a “very significant number” of grooming investigations in London—shines a harsh light on Khan’s prior dismissals. This admission underscores a monumental failure of leadership, and yet Khan has remained silent publicly. His office touts initiatives like the £15.6 million Violence and Exploitation Support Service, claiming it demonstrates a “continued commitment” to protecting London’s children, but critics see these promises as mere window dressing in the face of mounting evidence.

Former Manchester Police detective Maggie Oliver, who exposed the Rochdale scandal, did not hold back, telling the Express that London's grooming cases “stink,” echoing the cover-up tactics she saw in Manchester—a pattern of concealment driven by complacency. Shadow politicians and Reform UK leaders have attacked Khan, accusing him of collusion in a cover-up and demanding genuine accountability. Their frustration is compounded by revelations of systemic data mismanagement within the police, with veteran detective Bernadette Murray suggesting longstanding institutional efforts to hide the scale of grooming in London “since at least 2010,” leaving vulnerable victims unprotected.

The controversy has spilled into political exchanges at City Hall, where Khan’s evasive responses to questions about grooming gang investigations reveal a troubling pattern of denial. When pressed by Conservative leader Susan Hall, Khan allegedly dodged direct answers, further undermining public trust and fueling demands for top-down accountability.

As outrage swells across political aisles and among Londoners, the truth continues to emerge: Khan's leadership has proven woefully inadequate in addressing a crisis that endangers the very fabric of our communities. The police's startling admission of widespread investigations underscores a failure of oversight at every level. For the sake of the city’s children and future, urgent action is needed—something this mayor has consistently refused to deliver. London's residents deserve transparency, decisive leadership, and accountability—none of which appear on the horizon under Sir Sadiq Khan.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/politics/2123756/sadiq-khan-has-go-grooming> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gbnews.com/news/former-scotland-yard-detective-warns-met-police> - A veteran Scotland Yard detective, Bernadette Murray, has accused the Metropolitan Police of deceiving Mayor Sadiq Khan about the extent of grooming gangs operating in London. She alleges that the force lacks basic knowledge about such criminal networks due to systematic data mismanagement and claims that the Met routinely provides false information to the Mayor's office. Murray's concerns date back to 2010 when she discovered that child safeguarding reports were being rejected and concealed within the Home Office Crime Reporting Information System, accessible only to select senior officers. She compiled a comprehensive 50-page dossier documenting the concealment of crime reports, which she submitted for review by then-Assistant Commissioner Mark Rowley.
3. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/grooming-gangs-sadiq-khan-susan-hall-fiery-tirade-dismissal-scandal> - Susan Hall, Leader of the London Conservatives in the London Assembly, has criticised Mayor Sadiq Khan's handling of grooming gangs in London, describing it as 'absolutely diabolical'. Speaking to GB News, Hall expressed frustration over the Mayor's refusal to acknowledge the existence of grooming gangs in the capital, despite investigations revealing young girls being raped in hotels by groups of men. She accused Khan of ignoring concerns about grooming gangs operating in London following a spat with City Hall Conservative Susan Hall earlier this year.
4. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/grooming-gangs-london-sadiq-khan-london> - An investigation by The Daily Express and MyLondon has revealed evidence of grooming gangs operating in London, with young girls being raped in hotels by groups of men. Despite this, Mayor Sadiq Khan has consistently denied the presence of such gangs in the capital. The investigation found details of at least six potential victims documented in reports from 2016 to 2025, raising questions about the Mayor's response to these allegations. The Metropolitan Police has recently reversed its stance, admitting to a 'very significant' number of grooming gang investigations.
5. <https://www.gbnews.com/news/grooming-gangs-scandal-cover-up-sadiq-khan-blasted-maggie-oliver> - Former Detective Constable for Greater Manchester Police, Maggie Oliver, has criticised Mayor Sadiq Khan over the grooming gangs scandal, stating that the findings in the investigation 'stink'. She highlighted the similarities between the current situation in London and the Rochdale scandal, where abuse was concealed. Oliver's comments come after an investigation revealed young girls being raped in London hotels by groups of men, with the Mayor accused of turning a blind eye to the issue.
6. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/sadiq-khan-london-grooming-gangs-city-hall-susan-hall> - Mayor Sadiq Khan was involved in a heated City Hall exchange after refusing to answer if he was aware of any grooming gangs operating in London. When pressed by former London Tory leader Susan Hall, Khan asked for clarification on the term 'grooming gangs', despite the context referring to abuse gangs in areas such as Rotherham and Bradford. This exchange has raised concerns about the Mayor's awareness and response to the issue of grooming gangs in the capital.
7. <https://www.gbnews.com/politics/politics-news-latest-sadiq-khan-grooming-gangs-keir-starmer-nigel-farage> - An investigation has found evidence of grooming gangs operating in London, with young girls being raped in hotels by groups of men. Despite this, Mayor Sadiq Khan has consistently denied the presence of such gangs in the capital. The investigation has raised questions about the Mayor's response to these allegations, with critics accusing him of turning a blind eye to the issue. The Metropolitan Police has recently reversed its stance, admitting to a 'very significant' number of grooming gang investigations.