

Jennette ARNOLD

Chair of LA

Jennette Arnold is Chair of The London Assembly. Mrs Arnold re-elected on 1 May 2008 for North East (Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest) as a member of London Assembly.

She is also Deputy Chair of the Business Management and Administration Committee, Member of the Metropolitan Police Authority and she also has other roles as Board Member of the Liason Committee of Age Concern London, Deputy Chair of the Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust, Governor of the Coram Family Childcare Charity, Trustee of the Sadlers Wells Theatre

“We are open to make any collaboration with Turkey.”

Foundation, London Delegate to the Committee of the Regions for European Union, Member of the Arts Council England, Trustee of Islington Enterprise Agency, board member of London Central Education Business Alliance and Co-founder of the London Black Women Council.



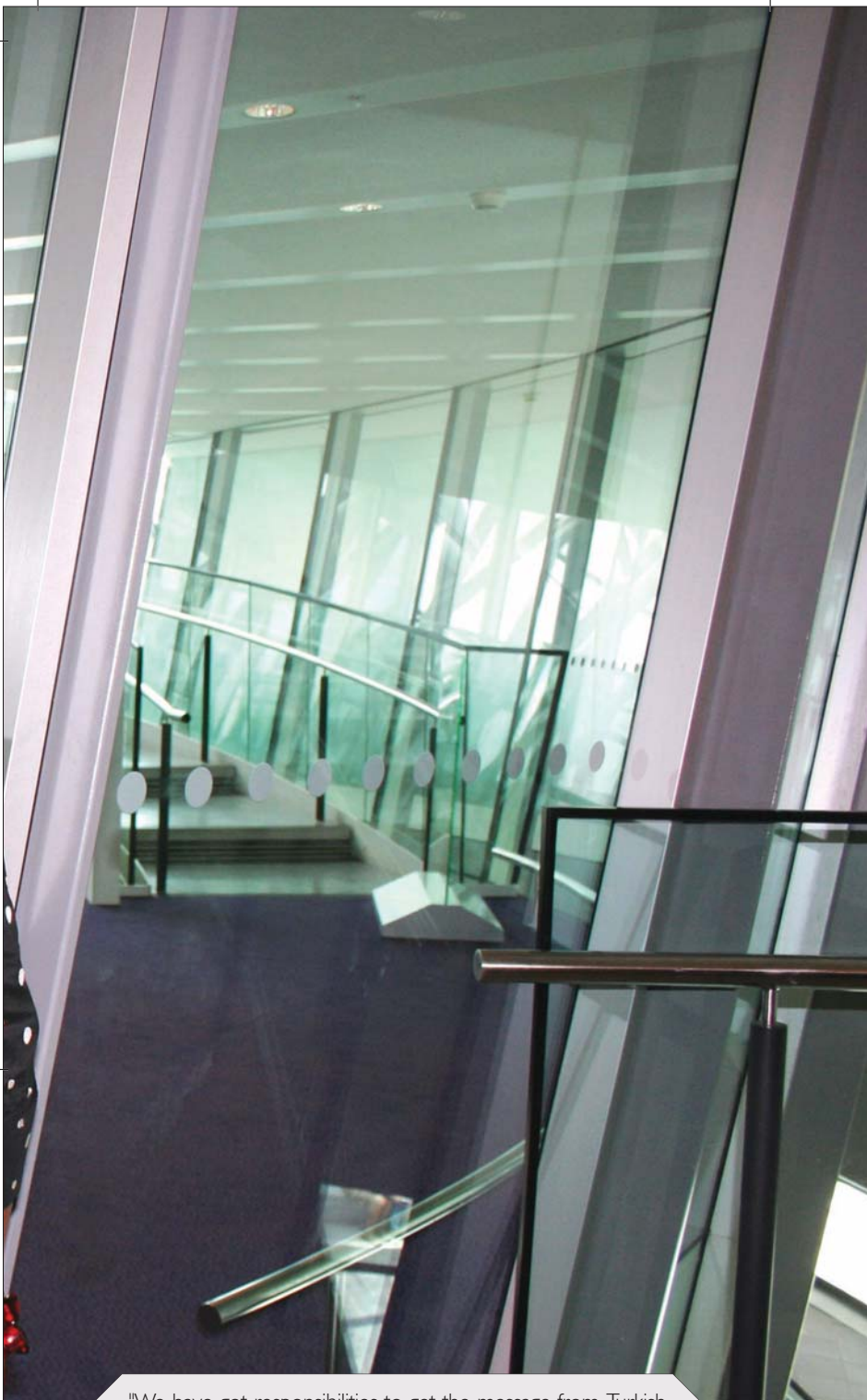
Following a successful career in nursing, Jennette Arnold worked as an Industrial Relations Officer and as Regional Director of Services and Special Adviser (Equalities) to the General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing. She then moved on to become a leading associate with the award winning training and organisational development consultancy, Beacon Associates.

Jennette was elected to Islington Borough Council in 1994 and held a number of key positions, including a term as Deputy Mayor. In May 2000 she was elected to the London Assembly as a Londonwide Assembly Member and was Labour's lead member for children and young people and lead spokesperson for older people. She

chaired the Cultural Strategy Group for London, sat on the Assembly's Economic and Social Development Committee and served as a member of the MPA.

In 2007 Jennette was listed by the New Nation Newspaper as one of Britain's 50 most influential Black Women.

Jennette Arnold said that she had a chance to know Turkish speaking people better while representing them in Hackney, Islington and Waltham Forest Boroughs. The issues she was able to deal with were basically about health, education and economic related. "It's a good relationship which has developed I think out of trust. Anyone who has a problem, can come visit me."



"We have got responsibilities to get the message from Turkish communities in London and the UK, and transmit to the rest of European Countries. Last year I have invited to Istanbul as a guest of London Business Guide to Divan Kuruceme, Turkish Business Networking and Dinner Confrencee 2007 for a key-note speaker. I was very happy to meet Turksih business community in Istanbul.

I am also a London Delegate to the Committee of the Regions, European Union, I was able to represent London at the 50th year anniversary of treaties of the EU, and heard excellent presentations by the Mayor of Istanbul, Kadir Topbas. It was very important because we have that particular audience which is dominated by Western European voices and primarily the French and the German voices. And again quite clear that they were in opposition to my government's and Mayor of London's position about Turkey's accession to the EU. I think what we all got to do is to rebut this perception and idea that Turkey joining the EU will be some sort of big mega problem, it's ridiculous if you think about it. Just speak the truth. If reappointed by the Mayor I'll hold that position in 2008, and continue to support the joining of Turkey into the EU."

Regarding the diversity in London, she said that London represents one third of world culture and that's so important when you think about the power it has. "Can you imagine what you can do in the future? I can imagine cities, cities from traditional heritage. There are so many cities in Turkey which combine different cultures."

Jennette Arnold mentioned the need for a project between London and Istanbul Mayoralties to make links between two cities for shared experiences and practices. She said that we are open to make any collaboration to present "Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture" project to Londoners. "It would be great to create opportunities working together for many projects with Turkey."

"A group from the Greater Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, led by the Secretary General Mesut Pektas and the Director of Urban Regeneration Lutfi Altun, accompanied by their advisers Professor Dr Guzin Konuk and Associate Professor Dr Arzu Kocabas with Directors for London Business Guide visted me in London on a technical exchange visit in June 2008." She added.

She stated that around the borough of Hackney in the East End of London, prices had been rising steadily for 18 months or so, pushed up by City money and property investors hoping to make a profit ahead of the 2012 Olympic Games. "And also news that a new tube station will open in 2010 has quickened the march towards Dalston. We have seen established communities being pushed out because of the property hunters. And they even get blind when the properties are bought by speculators. I thought about a campaign for that, but I know most of the Turkish Community, African Community and Kurdish Community don't own their properties and it causes problems and creates troubles for them. So we work for that and if you have an idea, please feel free to write me."

"I am here to represent the people in my constituency. I live and work in one of the most deprived communities in the country so I have to continue to work hard and fulfil my responsibilities."

Jennette has major work in progress and plans to continue fulfilling her roles. For young people aiming to be a politician she advises them to get engaged in something positive and make a valuable impact in the community.

