

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2627

Title: London's Just Transition

Executive Summary:

The London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC) provides independent advice to the Mayor on sustainability. The LSDC is currently producing strategic advice to the Mayor on how London can achieve an equitable transition to a net-zero economy: a 'just transition'. The LSDC wishes to turn those high-level recommendations into practical policy-making proposals by engaging technical experts to developing guidance to inform how 'just transition' principles could be embedded in London policy-making. The LSDC also wishes to conduct research on which communities will be most impacted by the green transition in order to target that guidance most effectively. This decision form requests approval to spend up to £49,000 to that end.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Energy and Environment approves:

- Expenditure of up to £49,000 on consultancy services to support the London Sustainable Development Commission's work on London's equitable transition to net-zero carbon ('just transition'), comprising research on community impacts and technical guidance for policy-makers.

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT

I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Catherine Barber

Position: Assistant Director,
Environment and Energy Unit

Signature:



Date:

08/02/2023

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The London Sustainable Development Commission (LSDC) was established in 2002 to give independent advice to the Mayor on sustainability. The LSDC is undertaking work to understand what must be done in order for London to achieve an equitable transition to a net-zero economy: a 'just transition'. To date this work has:
 - hosted a conference on 'London's Just Transition', which drew together perspectives from a range of sectors and backgrounds in the capital and published a report on the conference's findings;
 - embarked on producing a report to give high-level advice to the Mayor and other key stakeholders on how to achieve a just transition in London.
- 1.2. The next step of this work will be to develop guidance for policy-makers to embed 'just transition' principles in policy-making, including the new suite of Mayoral strategies, supported by research to enable benefits and costs to be shared fairly by London's communities.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. This work seeks to support London's equitable transition to a net-zero carbon economy – a 'just transition'. This will ensure that the benefits and costs of London's green transition are distributed fairly.
- 2.2. It will produce practical guidance to help GLA and borough decision-makers to incorporate 'just transition' principles into policy-making, including the new suite of Mayoral strategies. This will be supported by researching the comparative impacts on London's communities of the activities outlined in the Mayor's Accelerated Green Pathway to Net Zero 2030, enabling evidence-based and targeted policies that support London's most marginalised communities.
- 2.3. The guidance will be disseminated for adoption by borough and GLA officers, who will also contribute to its development to ensure buy-in and relevance from the outset. Successful outcomes of the work will be communicated externally via the LSDC's engagement plan, budget for which is agreed under ADD2564.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. The work will not have any negative impacts on any groups with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.
- 3.2. The work is likely to have a beneficial impact on equalities by providing insight into how climate policies can be designed in a way that supports marginalised groups, particularly BAME communities and low-income Londoners.

4. Other considerations

Key risks and issues

	Risk description (cause, 'risk event', potential impacts)	Mitigation/Risk response (state if the response is done or pending)	Probability (1-4)	Impact (1-4)	RAG
1	Delays to the programme impact the ability to influence the development of Mayoral strategies.	The relationship with the contractors will be carefully managed with regular reporting on progress.	2	2	Green
2	Inconclusive report findings make it difficult to act on the information – e.g. because insufficiently tailored to particular stakeholders or not specific enough.	The relationship with the contractor will be managed closely, including with internal and external stakeholder input, to ensure the findings are detailed, relevant and fit-for-purpose.	2	3	Amber

Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

- 4.1. In seeking to support equitable climate policies, this work supports the goals of the Mayor's London Environment Strategy and Equalities and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy, as well as the Green New Deal Mission which seeks to build a green and fair recovery. It also connects with the Mayor's priority to engage communities in decision-making. The GLA teams leading on those Mayoral priorities have been engaged in developing this project to ensure alignment.

Consultations and impact assessments

- 4.2. This work will contain an impact assessment of how communities will be affected by the transition to London's zero-carbon economy, including equalities impacts (see section 3). This will not constitute a formal Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) but will be informed by the GLA's approach to EqIAs. There are no identified health or safeguarding issues.

Data protection

- 4.3. Contact data (name, role, email address) for a small number of key stakeholders' will be held for the purposes of maintaining communications with them. It will be managed in accordance with GDPR and will not be published. All other data gathered and used will be statistical data and reports already available in the public domain.

Conflict of interest

- 4.4. There are no conflicts of interest to note from any of those involved in the drafting or clearance of this form.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Assistant Director's approval is sought for expenditure of up to £49,000 on consultancy services to support the London Sustainable Development Commission's work on London's equitable transition to net-zero carbon.

- 5.2. This expenditure is to be funded from the Environment Team (Strategy and Green Recovery Team) recurring programme budget: £20,000 from 2022-2023 budget and £29,000 from 2023-2024 which is part of the Sustainable Development budget line.
- 5.3. Expenditure for 2023-24 is contingent on the conclusion and approval of the Authority's budget setting process for 2023-24.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	13 Feb – 10 March 2023
Delivery Start Date	13 March 2023
Conduct research on green transition impacts and submit findings	13 March – 16 June 2023
Stakeholder workshops to develop proposals to implement LSDC high-level recommendations in light of evidence, including with officers from GLA, London Councils and boroughs.	20 March – 12 May 2023
Develop guidance for decision-makers with stakeholder input	10 April – 2 June 2023
Circulate for final stakeholder review / input	5 June – 7 July
Submission of guidance materials and completion of contract.	21 July
Internal implementation by GLA and boroughs	August onwards

Appendices and supporting papers:

None.

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) and will be made available on the GLA website within one working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary. **Note:** This form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Part 1 - Deferral

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form – NO

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting officer to
confirm the
following (✓)

Drafting officer:

Jon Emmett has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Corporate Investment Board

A summary of this decision was reviewed by the Corporate Investment Board on 6 February 2023

✓

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL SERVICES:

I confirm that financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this report.

Signature:



Date:

07/02/2023