

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD3189

Trees for London Programme 2023-25

Executive summary:

In response to the extreme temperatures experienced in Summer 2022, the Mayor announced the Trees for London programme (MD3032), a £3.6m tree-planting package. The programme focuses on trees for shade, on streets, and in playgrounds and green spaces – especially in areas with low canopy cover and high levels of deprivation. It began in September 2022, and is expected to run until March 2025, incorporating three tree-planting seasons.

The first year has funded the planting of over 40,000 trees, as well as supporting 24 community projects; one major woodland creation project; and two exemplar “grey to green” projects in areas of London with high footfall.

This decision requests approval of expenditure of £304,000 to expand the Trees for London programme in 2023-24, including planting 21,000 additional trees.

This funding is from the GLA Environment and Energy Unit’s 2023-24 Tree Planting budget line.

Decision:

The Mayor approves expenditure of up to £304,000 (from the Tree Planting budget approved under MD3032) to enhance the Trees for London tree-planting programme in 2023-24. This would comprise:

- £112,000 to The Conservation Volunteers for 20,000 extra free community trees; an evaluation of the social and environmental value of community trees; and a programme of tree planting and engagement as part of the Mayor’s Young Ambassadors programme
- £170,000 to be made available to London boroughs to match-fund street-tree planting funded by the Forestry Commission’s Urban Tree Challenge Fund, increasing the number of trees planted in London by circa 1,000
- £22,000 to match-fund London Urban Forest Plan recipients of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Trees Call to Action Fund.

Mayor of London

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

17/12/23

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE MAYOR

Decision required – supporting report.

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The extreme temperatures experienced in Summer 2022 demonstrated how vulnerable London is to the effects of climate change. The heatwaves and surface-water flooding reinforced the urgency of the need to increase tree canopy cover to help limit the impacts of the climate emergency and ecological crisis. Therefore, the Mayor funded the £3.6m Trees for London programme, aimed at planting trees for shade, on streets, and in playgrounds and green spaces.
- 1.2. The Trees for London programme built on the work the Mayor has already been doing to support tree planting and green infrastructure. Since 2016, the Mayor has funded the planting of more than 470,000 trees across London, including two major woodland creation projects, creating an additional 85 hectares of new accessible green space in the Green Belt. The Mayor has made more than £30m available for green infrastructure programmes supporting green space projects in all boroughs and the City of London.
- 1.3. The first year of the Trees for London programme (2022-23) funded the planting of 41,971 new trees across London – comprising 41,149 trees given away free to community groups and schools, and 822 street trees planted. The programme has also funded an additional four boroughs to enrol in a platform that helps local residents and businesses sponsor street trees. The second tree-planting season of the programme (2023-24) is expected to deliver more than 40,000 trees to Londoners.
- 1.4. Since the programme commenced, several opportunities to increase the scale of tree planting have emerged. To ensure that the Trees for London programme can maintain momentum and build on its success, this Mayoral Decision (MD) seeks approval to reallocate £304,000 to new and existing projects within the Trees for London programme budget (MD3032) in 2023-24. This funding is available for reallocation as a result of delays to expenditure in other elements of the programme.
- 1.5. The projects to which funding would be reallocated comprise a mixture of tree planting and supporting work. They are listed at paragraph 2.5 in Table 1 and summarised at paragraphs 1.6-1.15. They aim to increase tree canopy cover in London through several complementary approaches, supporting and encouraging boroughs, community groups, schools and Londoners to plant trees on streets and walking routes, and in green spaces and playgrounds. This will be achieved through collaboration with several organisations in the London Urban Forest Partnership, a network of organisations working together to protect, manage and enhance the capital's trees and woodlands.¹

London Community Tree Packs

- 1.6. Funded by the GLA, The Conservation Volunteers' (TCV) London Community Tree Packs project has been very successful. It has delivered more than 40,000 trees in its first year (2022-23), and is already oversubscribed for its second year (2023-24). The expectation is that by the end of the 2023-24 planting season, it will have delivered more than 80,000 trees to around 500 community groups, schools and housing associations. The GLA already funds this project through the Trees for London programme, and it is proposed to increase this funding by £60,000 in 2023-24 to deliver an additional 20,000 trees (for a total of 60,000 trees in 2023-24) to meet demand.
- 1.7. It is also proposed that the GLA allocates £5,000 to a new project to support the first year of a two-year, London-wide evaluation of the London Community Tree Packs project. This budget will enable TCV to tailor its London survey metrics to align more closely with those prioritised by the Mayor – in particular, assessing the equality, diversity and inclusion of the programme. It will also enable TCV to carry out in-depth engagement with four community groups in London to understand the environmental, social and cultural impact of the community tree packs.

¹ GLA, [London Urban Forest Partnership](#)

Urban Tree Challenge Fund

- 1.8. The Urban Tree Challenge fund (UTCf) supports street tree planting in urban areas. It is funded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and coordinated by the Forestry Commission. Under MD3032, the Mayor approved the GLA's coordination of applications for the fifth round of the UTCf (as for the first and third rounds), with up to £500,000 allocated to match-fund that bid. The minimum threshold for application has been reduced from £500,000 to £10,000, so GLA coordination is no longer necessary to enable boroughs to apply. However, 20 per cent match-funding is still required for boroughs to be eligible for the UTCf.
- 1.9. Fourteen boroughs² have requested that the GLA match-fund their UTCf applications to a total of £669,575, which is more than the budget approved under MD3032. Therefore, it is proposed to increase the match-funding available for the UTCf by £170,000, which will be sufficient to support all boroughs needing match-funding to access UTCf grants. This increase in funding will leverage an additional £680,000 on top of the £2m funding the existing budget would secure, for a total of more than £2.6m in government funding.

Young Ambassadors tree planting

- 1.10. The Young Ambassadors Programme is part of the Mayor's New Deal for Young People recovery mission, which aims to support young people in need, particularly those facing the greatest barriers to realising their potential. The programme encourages and supports young people aged 8-25 to engage in social action on local issues that they care about, in a way that will improve their life chances and build life-long skills. Since 2013, Young Ambassadors have improved their schools and communities through projects addressing key Mayoral priorities – such as serious youth violence, the environment, gender equality, health and community integration. Over the life of the programme, it has engaged 2,200 schools, with 460,000 students actively volunteering in their local community.
- 1.11. As part of the programme, there has been a significant interest in tree planting among young people and their teachers. As well as supporting young people's health and wellbeing,³ tree planting encourages community participation in later life, helping ensure that more people from a more diverse demographic can play a role as green stewards of London's future.
- 1.12. It is proposed that the GLA provides £47,000 in 2023-24 as a contribution to TCV's programme costs for a new project of tree planting and activity days that will support learning about trees, planting and maintenance. This will be a new element of the Trees for London programme, and will support 20 schools participating in the Young Ambassadors scheme. The investment will also help to identify ways to further embed environmental learning (including tree stewardship) into youth programmes, and provide opportunities for marginalised young Londoners to engage in positive social action in their local communities through tree planting. It could also potentially increase and diversify a field where a skills gap has been identified by introducing young Londoners to the opportunities for arboricultural careers.

London Urban Forest Plan delivery

- 1.13. The London Urban Forest Plan (LUFp) sets out the goals and priority actions needed to protect, manage and expand the capital's urban forest, whilst promoting its benefits to, and engaging, landowners, managers and the wider public. The GLA coordinates the delivery of the LUFp with the Forestry Commission. Actions in the Plan are delivered with the 25 members of the London Urban Forest Partnership.
- 1.14. The GLA coordinated a bid to Defra's Trees Call to Action Fund (TCAF) on behalf of the London Urban Forest Partnership to kick start the delivery of the LUFp. The GLA won that bid, and manages

² Barnet, Camden, Croydon, Ealing, Hammersmith, Harrow, Hillingdon, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Lewisham, Tower Hamlets, Southwark and Waltham Forest

³ Health & Place, [Nature doesn't judge you – how urban nature supports young people's mental health and wellbeing in a diverse UK city](#), March 2020

the funding from Defra alongside match-funding from GLA core funds (see MD2994). Defra's funding supports a coordinator and seven projects to deliver elements of the LUPF. These projects tackle the strategic and foundational barriers to increasing and maintaining London's urban forest.

- 1.15. A reallocation of £22,000 is proposed to fulfil the GLA's match-funding commitment for the TCAF 2024-25 and to progress LUPF goals. This new match-funding requirement is the result of a reprofile of the original match-fund amount included in MD2994.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

Objectives

- 2.1. The proposed activities will contribute to meeting the objectives of the Green New Deal mission. It will do so by:

- improving London's natural environment and air quality; and tackling the climate and ecological emergencies
- promoting and incentivising activities that sustain and grow London's green economy
- prioritising interventions that reduce health inequalities and social injustices
- engaging Londoners and businesses in the journey to become a zero-pollution and greener city.

- 2.2. The activities will help deliver against the ambitions of the London Environment Strategy to:

- develop programmes and deliver projects, including a major tree-planting programme, to ensure that London's urban forest is maintained and expanded
- reduce the impacts of climate change, and help store carbon
- improve air and water quality, and reduce flood risk
- promote healthier lives, reduce car dependency, and encourage more walking and cycling
- improve biodiversity and ecological resilience
- make more than half of London's area green by 2050
- increase London's canopy cover by 10 per cent by 2050 (from 21 per cent to 23.1 per cent)
- back greater community involvement in the improvement and management of London's green spaces and natural environment
- retain existing trees, and plant new ones, to protect canopy cover that will provide shade.

- 2.3. They will support the goals of the LUPF to:

- increase the number of trees on London's streets, and in its parks and green spaces, particularly in areas of low canopy cover
- create more woodland, especially species-rich woodland, in London, particularly in the green belt
- ensure that high-quality, up-to-date information on the extent, condition and benefits of London's urban forest is accessible to land managers, decision-makers and the public.

Outcomes

- 2.4. The funding will help to increase London's tree canopy cover and contribute to achieving the goals in the LUFP. It will engage Londoners in the journey to become a zero-pollution and greener city through planting opportunities for young people. Projects will be focused on areas where existing tree cover is low and climate risk is high; and in some of London's most deprived communities. The outputs and outcomes of each programme are set out in Table 1, below, along with the total expenditure. Overall, it is anticipated that this programme will fund the planting of approximately 1,000 large 'standard' trees and 20,000 'whips' (or small trees). As set out in Table 1, this depends on opportunities for planting.

Table 1 – Tree-planting programme

Programme	Outputs and outcomes	Expenditure in 2023-24	Tree numbers (approx.)
London Community Tree Packs (TCV)	An additional 20,000 trees delivered in 2023-24	£65,000	20,000 (in addition to 80,000 across 2022-23 and 2023-24 in MD3202)
	Support for groups to plant and care for their trees		
	First phase of an evaluation of the impact of the community tree packs		
Street trees – UTCF match	Address shortfall in budget allocated in MD3032 for match-funding to secure UTCF funding to support the planting of an additional 1,000 street trees in 2023-24	£170,000	1,000 (in addition to 2,800 in MD3202)
	Increase in tree canopy cover across London, particularly in areas of low canopy cover		
Young Ambassadors Tree Planting (TCV)	Opportunities for marginalised young Londoners to engage in positive social action in their local communities through tree planting	£47,000	200-500
	Tree-planting activity days in 20-30 Young Ambassador Schools		
	Introducing young Londoners to the opportunities for arboricultural careers		
	Case studies highlighting the impact of the tree planting on Young Ambassadors, and their schools and communities		
LUFP	GLA match-funding for TCAF projects	£22,000	n/a
Total		£304,000	

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, the Mayor of London must have 'due regard' for the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between people who have a protected characteristic⁴ and those who do not. This involves having due regard for the need to remove or

⁴ The "protected" characteristics and groups are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, sex, religion or belief, sexual orientation, and marriage/civil partnership status. Compliance with the Equality Act may involve treating people with a protected characteristic more favourably than those without one. The duty must be exercised with an open mind and at the time a decision is taken. Conscientious regard must be had that is appropriate in all circumstances.

minimise any disadvantage suffered by those who share a relevant protected characteristic; taking steps to meet the different needs of such people; and encouraging them to participate in public life or in any other activity where their participation is disproportionately low.

- 3.2. The programmes outlined in this MD form part of the policies and proposals in the London Environment Strategy, which has been informed by a full integrated impact assessment, including consideration of equalities.⁵ The Equalities Assessment Report for the London Environment Strategy noted that exposure to poor environmental conditions is much higher among Black, Asian and minority ethnic Londoners.
- 3.3. Black, Asian and minority ethnic Londoners, and lower-income Londoners, are more likely to live in areas of deficiency of access to green space, or in areas where green-space quality is poor. GLA research has found that women, adult Londoners aged 25 and under, lower-income Londoners and social renters visit parks less often.⁶ National research has found that Black, Asian and minority ethnic people are least likely to visit green spaces. Similarly, 21 per cent of households in London lack access to a private or shared garden. Across England, Black, Asian and minority ethnic people are less likely to have access to a garden than White people.⁷
- 3.4. Areas with higher levels of multiple deprivation are more likely to have less than the recommended minimum 20 per cent canopy cover.⁸ Analysis of the [Tree Canopy Cover Prioritisation Tool](#) indicates that London wards in the most deprived decile of the Index of Multiple Deprivation are almost twice as likely to have less than 20 per cent canopy cover when compared with those in the least deprived decile. In addition, wards with the highest levels of multiple deprivation have an average of 16 per cent canopy cover compared to 22 per cent in the least deprived decile.
- 3.5. Climate change will disproportionately affect those least able to respond and recover from it. Poorer Londoners will find it more difficult to recover from flooding and will suffer more from the impacts of the urban heat island effect. Extreme heat events will have a greater impact on older people; very young children; socially isolated people; and people with existing health conditions.
- 3.6. The proposed work outlined in this MD responds to, and aims to tackle, these disparities. The tree planting supported by the UTCF will be focused in areas of low tree canopy cover, high climate risk and poor performance against the Indices of Multiple Deprivation. Tree canopy is significant in terms of resilience to the effects of climate change (higher temperatures), while reduced or limited canopy cover is significantly detrimental to people's ability to cope with and adapt to environmental challenges. The Community Tree Packs project will actively reach out to community groups, residents' groups and faith groups, and encourage them to get involved in tree planting – in particular, enabling Londoners without access to a garden to participate. The collaboration with the Young Ambassadors programme will engage marginalised young Londoners who might not otherwise engage with nature to have a positive social and environmental impact on their local communities through tree planting.

4. Other considerations

Risks

- 4.1. The key risks associated with the planting programme, and relevant mitigation measures, are set out in the table below:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	RAG	Mitigation
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⁵ Temple/GLA, [Integrated Impact Assessment: Equality Impact Assessment Report](#), August 2017

⁶ GLA polling undertaken September 2017 to inform London Environment Strategy

⁷ ONS, [One in eight British households has no garden](#), 14 May 2020

⁸ Recommended by Urban Forestry and Woodland Advisory Committee Network, advisers to the Forestry Commission (see: Urban Forestry and Woodland Advisory Committee Network, [England's Urban Forests: Using tree canopy cover data to secure the benefits of the urban forest](#))

Poor availability of tree stock prevents completion of planting	High	Low	Amber	Keep in good contact with partners regarding their ordering (e.g. re-scope to adjust delivery dates, type of tree stock, or support in finding available stock).
Boroughs do not plant the number of trees agreed, given adverse weather or capacity issues	Low	Medium	Green	The number of trees for UTCF and TCV are based on these partners' confirmed capacity for this year. Regarding weather, the window for tree planting can be extended into March without impacting grant claims.
Delivery programme overspend	Low	Medium	Green	Funding offers will be subject to execution of funding agreements capping GLA funding; payments will be made on achievement of milestones (and evidence of associated expenditure).
Delivery programme underspend	Medium	Low	Green	This request for funding is from underspend on the amounts specified in MD3032. Projects have been selected on their ability to spend the money within the timescale.
Planting delivered is of a poor quality, poorly maintained or affected by drought conditions	Medium	Medium	Amber	Funding agreements will include clear milestones for payment after project completion. Community groups will receive guidance and/or training on tree-planting techniques and maintenance. Boroughs are responsible for street-tree maintenance. Payments for this are included in Forestry Commission UTCF funding. UTCF project monitoring will include detailed locations of planting and the Forestry Commission will receive photographic evidence and carry out site visits to some projects to check on delivery. The GLA will make representations to Thames Water to allow watering trees during temporary usage bans.
Low demand for community tree packs	Low	Low	Green	Demand has been very high, with requests outstripping the original number of trees funded in MD3032. A borough-wide tree-planting network has requested a very large number of trees, so any shortfall could potentially be assigned to them.
Low demand for Young Ambassadors trees	Low	Low	Green	The Young Ambassadors Programme is an established programme. The Youth Social Action Team has strong relationships with the schools and students involved, and this project is in direct response to the high

				demand for tree-planting from the Young Ambassadors and their schools.
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Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

- 4.2. The proposed work outlined in this MD will help deliver GLA priorities to bring nature closer to Londoners; and to catalyse the investment needed to fund mass tree planting. It will also contribute towards the following:
- London Environment Strategy Policy 5.1.1: protect, enhance and increase green areas in the city, to provide green infrastructure services and benefits that London needs now and in the future.
 - London Environment Strategy Proposal 5.1.1.f: back greater community involvement in the improvement and management of London's green spaces and natural environment.
 - London Environment Strategy Objective 5.1: increase tree canopy cover by 10 per cent, and to ensure that over half of London is green by 2050.
 - London Environment Strategy Objective 5.2: conserving and enhancing wildlife and natural habitats.
 - London Environment Strategy Policy 5.3.1: address underinvestment, and improve the management of London's green infrastructure, by developing new business models and improving the awareness of the benefits of London's green infrastructure.
 - Inclusive London Strategic Objective 12: work with partners to help ensure our approach to improving green spaces is inclusive.
 - London Health Inequalities Strategy Objective 3.3: a greener city where all Londoners have access to good quality green spaces.
 - London Transport Strategy Policy 2: seek to make London a city where people choose to walk and cycle more often by improving street environments, making it easier for everyone to get around on foot and by cycle, and promoting the benefits of active travel.
 - London Transport Strategy Policy 8: enhance London's natural and built environment by: a) ensuring that transport schemes protect existing green infrastructure where possible, or – if there is a loss – providing new green infrastructure in order to deliver a net gain in biodiversity; and b) seeking additional opportunities to build new green infrastructure into the existing transport estate.
 - London Transport Strategy Policy 10: use the Healthy Streets Approach to deliver coordinated improvements to public transport and streets to provide an attractive whole journey experience that will facilitate mode shift away from the car.
 - New Deal for Young People aims: to build a fairer, more equal and more prosperous London, where no-one is left behind.
 - New Deal for Young People outcomes: improved wellbeing; improved socio-emotional learning; improved relationships; and improved employment opportunities.
 - London Rewilding Taskforce: activities or interventions that aim to increase or enhance nature in the city that are designed and managed in the spirit of the principles of rewilding. These typically involve high levels of human intervention and may require technical design to ensure they work e.g., sustainable drainage systems and green roofs. They may have biodiversity enhancement objectives, and contribute to a nature recovery network, but do not strive to become fully fledged natural ecosystems. Examples of this include: green roofs; community and private wildlife

gardening; wildflower verges; pollinator highways; avenues of trees; wilder park management (scrub and natural regeneration); and pocket parks.

Consultations and impact assessments

- 4.3. Consultation for the 2018 London Environment Strategy indicated that planting more trees was consistently well supported by Londoners. Respondents also felt that more needed to be done to protect London's trees, and many had the perception that tree cover in the capital is being reduced.
- 4.4. The Integrated Impact Assessment for the strategy concluded that no negative effects were identified for the Equality Impact Assessment in relation to strategic green infrastructure policies; and that improving the quality of greenspaces would have positive impacts on addressing inequalities in access to greenspace and nature.

Conflicts of interest

- 4.5. There are no conflicts of interest to declare from any of those involved in the drafting or clearance of this MD.

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

- 4.6. Projects within the programme will have grant agreements with the GLA, which will include requirements to monitor and report on project progress. Final reporting will include evidence of expenditure and achievements of milestones and outputs. Programme evaluation will be coordinated by the GLA project manager.
- 4.7. The GLA's Environment and Energy Unit has committed to producing updates to the London Tree Canopy Cover Map every five years, allowing us to track the cumulative effect of planting programmes such as this.

Subsidy control

- 4.8. The proposed awards for grant funding to TCV, the LUPF and the UTCF do not constitute subsidies for the purpose of the Subsidy Control Act 2022 because none of the proposed recipients are engaging in economic activity – i.e. they are not operating on a market in which there is competition.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Approval is requested for expenditure of up to £304,000 to enhance the Trees for London programme in 2023-24, comprising:
 - £112,000 to TCV for 20,000 extra free community trees; an evaluation of the social and environmental value of community trees; and a programme of tree planting and engagement as part of the Young Ambassadors programme
 - £170,000 to London boroughs to match-fund street tree planting funded by the Forestry Commission's UTCF
 - £22,000 to match-fund LUPF recipients of Defra's TCAF.
- 5.2. This expenditure will be funded from the Tree Planting budget within the Environment and Energy Unit's approved budget envelope for 2023-24. Funds are available due to delays in spending on some of the other Trees for London-funded projects, which will now deliver in 2024-25 (subject to budget confirmation).
- 5.3. All expenditure will be incurred by 31 March 2024.
- 5.4. All relevant budget adjustments will be made.

6. Legal comments

6.1. The foregoing sections of this report indicate that:

- the decisions requested of the Mayor concern the exercise of the GLA's general powers, falling within the GLA's statutory powers to do such things considered to further or that are facilitative of, or conducive or incidental to, the promotion of the improvement of the environment in Greater London
- in formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought, officers have complied with the GLA's related statutory duties to:
 - pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people
 - consider how the proposals will promote the improvement of health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom
 - consult with appropriate bodies.

6.2. In taking the decisions requested, the Mayor must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty – namely the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010; and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (race, disability, sex, age, sexual orientation, religion) and persons who do not (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). To this end, the Mayor should have particular regard to section 3 (above) of this report.

6.3. If the Mayor makes the decisions sought, officers must ensure that:

- no reliance should be placed or commitments made based on funding: from third parties (such as for example LUFC or UTCF funding); future GLA budgets, or current underspend until legally binding agreements and all approvals for the receipt and use of the same are in place
- to the extent that expenditure concerns the award of grant funding, it is distributed fairly, transparently, in manner that affords value for money and in accordance with the requirements of the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code; and grant-funding agreements are put in place (or varied as applicable) between, and executed by, the GLA and recipients before any commitment to fund is made.

6.4. Officers have confirmed, at paragraph 4.8 above, that the proposed award of grant funding does not constitute a subsidy for the purposes of the Subsidy Control Act 2022 because it does not confer an economic advantage on one or more enterprise.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

7.1. The project will be delivered according to the timetable outlined below.

Tree programme	Indicative timeline*
Announce match-funding for UTCF5	Dec 2023
Community Tree Packs 2023-24: packs delivered, and trees planted	Nov 2023-Mar 2024
Young Ambassadors Tree Planting	Nov 2023-Mar 2024
UTCF: plant trees	Nov 2023-Mar 2024
Community Tree Packs evaluation (first phase)	Dec 2023-Mar 2024
TCAF action to support LUPF completed project reports received	March 2024

* May be subject to change.

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 be published either 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 the 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:

Tanvi Desai has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Sponsoring Director:

Phil Graham has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

✓

Mayoral Adviser:

Shirley Rodrigues has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

✓

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

Corporate Investment Board

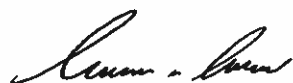
This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 18 December 2023.

✓

INTERIM CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER:

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

Signature:



Date:

18/12/2023

CHIEF OF STAFF:

I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Mayor.

Signature:



Date:

18/12/2023