

## **Commission for the Diversity of the Public Realm**

### **Mission:**

By 2023 there will be more objects in the public realm that tell a wider, diverse and more representative story of London.

As a consequence, Londoners will have a better understanding of London's diverse histories. Diverse communities will better understand how they can impact the public realm and visitors will have a better sense of what London represents. London Boroughs will be more engaged with diversifying the public realm, which will encourage best practice after the life of the Commission

### **Commissions Core Values:**

These are the fundamental values and founding principles for how we Commissioners will take forward the work of the Commission. They define how we will work with all key stakeholders the GLA team and Londoners.

#### **1. Diversity, Inclusivity, Equity and Equality**

We are committed to:

- building a programme which is sensitive to the beliefs, views and opinions of Londoners
- embedding policies that support long-lasting systemic change and align with our mission to diversify the public realm
- being 'gate openers' not 'gatekeepers'
- ensuring our work is accessible to all Londoners
- supporting projects that have integrity and fulfil the mission of the Commission.

#### **2. Working Methods**

We will:

- hold the perspectives of Londoners and partnership with communities at the heart of all our work
- be signifiers of change
- work with transparency, openness, sensitivity and a duty of care
- be clear and purposeful, and support Londoners in executing projects that leave a legacy.

#### **3. Our Legacy**

- We will have developed a programme of work that is future proof
- We will have equipped local community leaders, cultural organisations and local authorities with the tools to impact long-term change (through information sessions, community focused conversations and educational workshops and upskilling opportunities)
- We will leave an imprint which encourages the diverse histories and peoples of the capital to be celebrated and commemorated more equally

### **Guiding Principles to the Commission's delivery Pillars**

#### **Emblematic Projects**

Our emblematic projects will 'future map' London, contributing to a renewed picture of the city. They may include:

- New statues / memorials
- Changed memorials
- Community projects
- Pan-London project / stories
- Names - old and new
- Public artworks

We will support and advocate for projects which:

- substantively change the narrative in surprising, enjoyable, thoughtful and empowering ways and which instil pride
- promote learning & engagement, mentoring and knowledge-sharing
- engender wider cohesion through consultation and continuous engagement
- demonstrate sustainability (of materials and processes)
- represent a diversity of rigorous approaches, valuing both tradition & innovation
- educate and inform, while having emotional resonance
- relate specifically to their location
- enable grassroots representation.

#### **EVIDENCE & DATA**

We will build evidence and data that is predicated on:

- Transparency about why data is being collected, how it is used and who it is for
- Data collection built on principles of reflection of past and present historic debate
- in service of the mission built on principles of trust and reflecting the reality of historic, current and potential futures debate
- Accountability to Londoners through active public engagement.

- Sensitivity - to belief, views and opinions of all Londoners (e.g., the importance public realm can hold for individuals/communities and the trauma surrounding some of these histories)

## **ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME**

We will support projects that:

- reflect the experiences of underserved communities
- support systemic change
- have a presence in spaces that are meaningful to underserved communities
- inform the future.

## **POLICY, PRACTICE & LEGACY**

We plan to work alongside cultural organisations, cultural leaders and independent stakeholders to develop long-lasting policies which:

- build a future London with a projected 20-year view of the public realm
- support hyper-local organisations, cultural leaders and independent stakeholders through policy maintenance and on the ground stewardship
- align with up-to-date research and data collection as evidence indicators
- move the debate forward in a positive way, beyond political positioning
- integrate capacity building approaches with a positive impact for Londoners

November 2021