

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2704

GLA Contribution to cost of Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network 2024 conference

Executive summary:

The Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network Annual Conference convenes senior multi-agency partners from across Europe, North America and Australasia with national and international authorities and figures from academia.

London will host the 2024 conference from 13 to 15 March. The GLA and the London Resilience Group (in London Fire Brigade) have agreed to split the cost of the conference, which is expected to be £40,000.

Decision:

That the Head of City Operations approves expenditure of £20,000 from the GLA City Resilience team budget to the London Resilience Group to support conference costs.

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: Jon-Paul Graham

Position: Head of City Operations

Signature:



Date:

05/02/2024

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

1.1. The Counter Terrorism Preparedness Network (CTPN) Annual Conference convenes a diverse group of senior multi-agency partners from across Europe, North America and Australasia with national and international authorities, and figures from academia. London will host the event this year, from 13 to 15 March. This will include a day for International Board members; the main conference; and a table-top exercise. About 110 participants are expected. The draft programme for the conference is summarised as follows:

- Day 1: A face-to-face International Board meeting at New Scotland Yard with guest presentations, followed by thematic tours of the Shard and the Tower of London. Board members will be invited in the evening to the House of Lords for a networking dinner hosted by Baroness Fiona Twycross, Deputy Mayor for Fire and Resilience.
- Day 2: The full-day conference, themed “Protecting and Preparing our City”, with keynote speeches, panel discussions and case study presentations from senior experts from the UK and internationally. This will take place in the Great Hall at King’s College London. A formal dinner at the Royal United Services Institute will follow.
- Day 3: An interactive scenario-based exercise, focused on countering and responding to hostile drones. This will take place at the Livery Hall, Guildhall, in the City of London.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

2.1. The CTPN network exists to inform city-level policies and practices that build resilience and help keep our cities safe from terrorism. This year’s conference focuses on protecting and preparing our cities against emerging threats.

2.2. The outcomes expected from the conference are:

- London will be highlighted as a city that prioritises safety and security for its residents and visitors
- attendees will consider threats and priorities in counterterrorism, security and preparedness
- attendees will be able to share and learn from each other’s knowledge, experiences and practices
- attendees will generate recommendations and actions to enhance city-level preparedness
- attendees will develop networks and contacts to progress the counterterrorism agenda in London and beyond.

3. Equality comments

3.1. Robust effort has been made to ensure that the conference programme, presentations, and invitation list reflect London’s diversity. In addition, the conference sessions and exercise will include discussion about the human impacts of terrorism, and how to address the unequal nature of risk and resilience.

4. Other considerations

- 4.1. Keeping Londoners safe is a top Mayoral priority. As a busy global city, London faces a unique set of challenges and is a focal point for many risks including terrorism. CTPN enables London to strengthen its understanding of terrorism-related risks and learn from other cities' approaches to counter terrorism. This makes London safer and more resilient, ensuring the capital can protect and prepare against terrorism.
- 4.2. No specific risks and issues for delivery of the conference have been identified. However, given the international profile and seniority of the audience, there are reputational and security considerations that are being addressed as part of event planning.
- 4.3. There are no conflicts to declare from any officer involved in the drafting or clearance of this form.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. This ADD requests approval for GLA contribution to the CTPN annual conference, hosted in London in March 2024. The total cost of the conference is expected to be approximately £40,000, and costs split equally between the GLA and the London Resilience Group (in London Fire Brigade). The total expected costs to GLA is £20,000.
- 5.2. There is sufficient resource within the Fire and Resilience budget in this financial year to cover this cost.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 6.1. The project will be delivered according to the following timetable:

Activity	Timeline
Conference delivery	13-15 March

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:

Kristen Guida 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 5 February 2024.

✓

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FINANCIAL SERVICES:

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

Signature:

Anna Casteln

Date:

05/02/2024