

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

(by email)

Our reference: MGLA240124-5028

20 February 2024

Dear

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 24 January 2024. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act (Fol) 2000.

You requested:

- Details of meetings of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm's Partners Board, including their dates and subject matter from its foundation to today.
- Minutes from the meetings of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm's Partners Board from its foundation to today.
- Details of meetings of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm's Borough Working Group, including their dates and subject matter from its foundation to today.
- Minutes from the meetings of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm's Borough Working Group from its foundation to today.

Our response to your request is as follows:

Please find attached the information that the GLA holds within the scope of your request.

Please note that some names of members of staff are exempt from disclosure under s.40 (Personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act. This information could potentially identify specific employees and as such constitutes as personal data which is defined by Article 4(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) to mean any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. It is considered that disclosure of this information would contravene the first data protection principle under Article 5(1) of GDPR which states that Personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject.

Please note that we do not hold / produce minutes for the Borough Working Group.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA240124-5028.

GREATER**LONDON**AUTHORITY

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm – Partners Board Meeting Notes

03/11/2020 (16:00-17:30)

Location: MS Teams

GLA Attendees: [REDACTED] (co-chair), Community Engagement Manager
 [REDACTED] (co-chair), Senior Manager, Cultural Infrastructure and Public Realm
 Shonagh Manson, Assistant Director, Culture
 Tom Rahilly, Assistant Director, Communities and Social Policy
 [REDACTED], Senior Policy Officer, Diversity
 [REDACTED], Senior policy Officer, Visual Art and Public Realm
 [REDACTED], Senior Community Engagement Co-ordinator

External Attendees: [REDACTED], Action Space
 [REDACTED], Art Fund
 [REDACTED], Arts Council England
 [REDACTED], Arts Council England
 [REDACTED], Black Cultural Archives
 [REDACTED], English Heritage
 [REDACTED], Historic England
 [REDACTED], Iniva (attending in place of [REDACTED])
 [REDACTED] Museum of London
 [REDACTED] National Heritage Lottery Fund
 [REDACTED] Proud Places
 [REDACTED] Paradigm Network
 [REDACTED] Queer Britain
 [REDACTED] Shape arts

Agenda items	
Welcome by Tom Rahilly, Assistant Director of Communities and Social Policy (GLA)	On behalf of the two Deputy Mayors that are leading this work, Justine Simmons and Debbie Weekes-Bernard we thank you for your time and commitment, your support towards the Commission will be invaluable.
GLA Introductions	Commission for Diversity Team: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]
Commission Background [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Discussions related to a Commission were initiated in 2018 after the campaign and unveil of the statue of Millicent Fawcett. At the time fewer than 3% of statue in the UK were of non-royal, named women. This work was slowly developing in the background. As a result of the BLM campaign the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan,

	asked that it be prioritised. • The first announcement caused a huge response with over 700 letters, at least two thirds of which were positive. It was clear that there was strong public feeling. • Currently a Talk London community consultation underway about the Commission. Summary doc of the feedback attached. • The programme comprises three groups, these are: the Commission itself, a Partners Board and Borough Group. • To date Borough Leaders have met to discuss the Commission going forward. The team has also had calls with other World Cities about what they are doing in response to contested Heritage. • Recruitment of the Commission is underway. It which has been highly competitive and well received. • 290 applicants, with high level and range of expertise • Interviews will commence w/c 9 Nov.
Introductions from all external attendees	• Shape Arts Shape Arts is a disability-led arts organisation which works to improve access to culture for disabled people by providing opportunities for disabled artists, training cultural institutions to be more open to disabled people, and through running participatory arts and development programmes. • Iniva (representing) We are the Institute of International Visual Arts that develops an artistic programme that reflects the social and political impact of globalisation. We explore intersectional issues and social justice and have been running for 25 years. We are currently working on a project to change the face of commissioners and to better reflect BAME representation. • National Lottery Heritage Fund We receive policy direction from UK govt but also distribute government funding. We value projects that allow people to engage with their own heritage and have been funding heritage projects for 25 years, we want the widest range of people possible to engage with heritage. There are communities in London that the National Lottery Heritage Fund need to better engage with and that another reason why we are here today, to see how we can do better in the coming years. • Queer Britain We are a charity set up to establish the UK's first national LGBTQ+ bricks and mortar museum in the next 5 years. LGBTQ+ stories are underrepresented and not owned by the people that they claim to represent. We want a platform to help people fill those stories back in and create a useful platform. • Arts Council England We are a funding agency and a lottery distributor. Over the last 6 months we have been distributing cultural emergency funding to

organisations at risk and in need of further funds due to the pandemic. We are also looking towards a new 10-year strategy to be published at the start of 2021.

- **Arts Council England**

My portfolio includes a Cross Rail commission with [REDACTED] and Artangel with [REDACTED]. We have also supported research around public art and Art on the Underground.

- **English Heritage**

English Heritage is a charity that manages around 400 historic sites in England and run the blue plaque scheme. We put up 12 new plaques a year and have over the last 5 years been making sure they are more diverse and inclusive. Nearly 1000 blue plaques already exist, and we are looking to make sure that the English Heritage website has a profile on each to contextualise them. English Heritage is also responsible for caring of around 40 statues in London such as the Cenotaph.

- **Black Cultural Archives**

We focus on histories of African descent and wider diaspora and filling in the omissions of British history. Our building was formed around 40 years ago and is culturally significant and a monument. There is also a library, an event space and we work to elevate our communities' voices. Our address is 1 Windrush Square so indeed the whole square is a monument with deep rooted history.

- **Historic England**

Historic England has a statutory planning role and advise UK government on what should be listed and write policy notes for the public realm as well as working with Heritage Action Zones. Historic England is about to launch its new diversity and inclusion strategy and has a contested heritage statement on our website which includes a check list for local authorities, our position is not to remove them but for powerful reinterpretation. English Heritage is currently looking to commission a couple of pieces of work to address this now. In 2018 English Heritage held an exhibition 'Immortalised' which looked at increasing diversity in the public realm and included a public design competition, could we reconsider some of these entries through this work?

- **Art Fund**

Art Fund support museums and galleries across the UK including commission working. We have an equality and diversity strategy which looks at staff, audiences and grants. We would like to bring our engagement work with younger people into the commission.

- **Proud Places**

We encourage and empower young people, schools and excluded pupils during our restoration projects. They are involved from the very beginning and are there when we cut the ribbon at the end.

	Outcomes have been very encouraging and younger people are empowered and inspired by bringing their voices to heritage sites. Action Space Action Space launched in the 1960s and we support artists with learning disabilities and create innovative projects for people with learning disabilities to engage with the visual arts. We would very much like to bring our artists voices to the work of the Commission, our artists are incredibly diverse and have their own ideas and I would like to work with them on understanding public realm, do they see themselves in it? do they understand it? PARADIGM Network The PARADIGM Network is a professional network for architects who are passionate about increasing Black and Asian representation within the Built Environment. We exist to support, encourage, and help talented architects from Black and Asian backgrounds in education, and, as they progress in their careers. Our network has been showcasing BAME role modelling, championing BAME practices and challenge where exclusion exists. Museum of London Museum of London is moving from Barbican to West Smithfield in 2024, we have an opportunity to redevelop an area that we are moving into and to work with Londoners to design this. We want to consult with 100,000 Londoners as part of this move.
Partners Board Terms of Reference	No comments raised on the Terms of Reference.
Commission/Partners Board Workplan	- Mapping and establishing what we have and who is out there e.g. who is out there, what is gaining profile. - Where are the links to the borough working group? - How best can we feed into the work of the Commission? - What opportunities does the Commission present to the partners board? - Best practice and equitable approaches. - Existing research - New Research – who are the characters who are represented currently - Audiences and interpretations more widely. - What are the stories we need to tell in London and how do we do this? - Local commissioning programmes. - Transparency of how new memorials are erected. - Contested heritage and how we approach this. - London has a tradition of celebratory commemoration- what about non celebratory? - Engaging young people

Actions for Partners Board	• Final review of Partners Board Terms of Reference, please flag any concerns not later than 27/11/2020 • Provide contact details of comms person (if you have one) for your organisation, to provide partner information for the London.gov.uk website by 27/11/2020 • Complete attached table about specific areas of interest of your organisation relating to the Commission not later 30/11/2020
Action for GLA	• Share Talk London consultation 12/11/2020 • Share details of Commission Roadshow events (as available) • Update partners on the Commission recruitment by 12/12/2020 • Set up 2nd meeting January 2021 by 12/12/2020

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm – Partners Board Meeting Notes

18/05/2021 (15:30-17:00), Location: MS Teams

GLA Attendees:

- [REDACTED] (co-chair), Senior Manager, Cultural Infrastructure and Public Realm
- [REDACTED] (co-chair) Community Engagement Manager, Diversity and Social Policy
- [REDACTED] Senior Policy Officer, Diversity
- [REDACTED] Senior policy Officer, Visual Art and Public Realm
- [REDACTED] Commission for Diversity Programme Manager
- [REDACTED] Culture Grants Micro Grants Coordinator

External Attendees (Invited):

- [REDACTED] Action Space
- [REDACTED] Art Fund
- [REDACTED] Arts Council England
- [REDACTED] Arts Council England
- [REDACTED] Black Cultural Archives
- [REDACTED] , English Heritage
- [REDACTED] Historic England
- [REDACTED] Iniva
- [REDACTED] Museum of London
- [REDACTED] National Heritage Lottery Fund
- [REDACTED] Proud Places
- [REDACTED] Paradigm Network
- [REDACTED] Queer Britain
- [REDACTED] Shape arts

1) Introductions and Welcome

Partners were welcomed to the meeting and new attendee introductions.

2) Updates on the following

- New Mayoral term
- Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm – meetings (in March and May 2021)
- Commission Workstreams;
 - Community Engagement
 - Emblematic Projects
 - Grants programme
- Revisit/ reminder of [REDACTED] direct role within the Commission and how they can directly get involved.

3) Areas for Discussion

- Fix the Glitch workshops session
- Changes to the National Planning Policy Framework
- Other reports

4) Membership of the Partners Board

Recognition from the GLA that membership can shift as required. Invitation to the Foundation for Jewish Heritage to join the group.

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm, Codesign Grant Programme

Designing a grant programme and introduce relevant examples, including Culture seeds/Communities at risk.

- Developing a process that is easy to access, straightforward and clear.
- Explored the various intersections and nuances within art making, art commissioning and art display.
- Highlight projects which help increase the visibility of local heritage.
- Discussed how to support active citizens and their intersectionality.
- Needs to address gaps in representation for local communities, but also across diaspora across the city.
- Not just heritage in the long past
- Support for applicants should be a focus.
- Mixture of offer, from NHLF direct engagement, museum resources, concept of someone on a human level.

Art UK Mapping

Over the last three years, as part of a National Lottery and matched-funding programme, Art UK has been digitising sculptures inside museums and other public institutions as well as public sculptures and monuments outdoors in our streets and squares. The completion of the outdoor national digitisation programme is now scheduled to be at the end of September. It is expected that 15,000 public sculptures and monuments will be listed on Art UK website.

NB. Art UK to present at the next Partners Board Meeting

AOB:

Fourth Plinth Exhibition Launch at the National Gallery 24th May – 4th July
Next Commissioners Meeting – July 2021

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm – Partners Board Meeting

4 August (11:00-12:00)

NOTES

Location: MS Teams

GLA Attendees:

- [REDACTED] (co-chair), Senior Manager, Cultural Infrastructure and Public Realm
- [REDACTED] Senior Policy Officer, Diversity
- [REDACTED] Senior policy Officer, Visual Art and Public Realm
- [REDACTED] Commission for Diversity Programme Manager
- [REDACTED] Micro Grants Coordinator
- [REDACTED] Community Engagement Officer

External Attendees (Invited):

- [REDACTED] Action Space
- [REDACTED] Art Fund
- [REDACTED], Arts Council England
- [REDACTED], Arts Council England
- [REDACTED] Black Cultural Archives
- [REDACTED], English Heritage
- [REDACTED], Foundation for Jewish Heritage
- [REDACTED], Historic England
- [REDACTED], Iniva
- [REDACTED], Museum of London
- [REDACTED], National Heritage Lottery Fund
- [REDACTED], Proud Places
- [REDACTED], Paradigm Network
- [REDACTED], Queer Britain
- [REDACTED], Shape Arts

NOTES

1. Introductions

- [REDACTED] – from the Foundation for Jewish Heritage has joined the Partners Board.
- [REDACTED] will attend on behalf of [REDACTED] at the Art Fund.

2. Updates

- Commission for Diversity Meeting 13 July took place in person. The Mayor joined the meeting. Renewed impetus for the work of the commission after the Mayoral Election.
- The Mayor's Team and relevant Commissioners are in conversation with the Director and Trustees of the Memorial to the Transatlantic Slave Trade to support its progress.

Action: Partners to flag if they have any interest in the Transatlantic Slave Trade Memorial project or can support in any way.

3. Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm: Community Grants Programme

The Community Commissioning programme has been developed to bring to life exciting community-led projects to diversify London's public realm, providing funding and support in all London boroughs.

The grants programme has been developed in consultation with: Commissioners - Partners Board - Borough Working Group - GLA Officers

It has also incorporated feedback from a range of stakeholders through the Phase 1 community engagement programme, which indicated that groups wanted:

- Commitment to support grassroots ideas that represent the diverse experiences of Londoners
- Meaningful resources to fund the development of community-led activity in shaping the public realm.
- Communities to be at the heart of decision-making on their public realm

All identified the challenge of communities accessing funds as well as a need to increase understanding of the processes needed for commissioning.

Available Funding (Confidential)

Two types of funding are available for community groups:

Test and Develop

Up to £5,000 for projects to develop a concept, run small-scale projects or test a new idea.

Grow and Make Happen

£5,000-£25,000 for projects that have been developed or tested on a small-scale and now need some funds to make them happen.

4. Community Engagement Update

Bridging Histories

- We have partnered with 'Bridging Histories' a digital resource for all ages to engage with their own history and heritage. It was launched as part of the 'We Are Bristol History Commission' that was set up by the Mayor of Bristol after the fall of the Edward Colston statue, to help Bristol 'understand where we came from, so we can better decide where we want to go'. We have collaborated with 'Bridging Histories' to bring this resource to Londoners as part of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm. 'Bridging Histories', as a digital resource gives Londoner's directions and support to delve into their own pasts, and the histories of their local area.

- We encourage partners to engage and communicate with Bringing Histories as a resource – to their networks where possible. A comms sheet is attached to suggest ways engaging networks with using the resource. There is also an opportunity for groups/practitioners to send proposals for £2000 engagement grants around Bridging Histories (invitation to tender attached). This invitation to tender is open to partners and contacts within partners networks who match the criteria.

Action: A comms sheet for Bridging Histories is shared with these notes.

Commission for Diversity Roadshow Analysis

- Engagement to date was re-capped, highlighting the roadshows that engaged over 400 Londoners on their views on what representation in London's public realm means.
- Following on from listening to voices through forums, the approach to engagement going forward also aims to create spaces for Discussion and Exchange, the Sharing of Stories and focused projects that Widen Participation in engaging with shaping the public realm.

Action: Draft roadshow analysis notes internal document (confidential) is shared with these notes.

4. Art UK Mapping Presentation

- Over the last three years, as part of a National Lottery and matched-funding programme, Art UK has been digitising sculptures inside museums and other public institutions as well as public sculptures and monuments outdoors in our streets and squares. The completion of the outdoor national digitisation programme is now scheduled to be at the end of September. It is expected there will be approx. 15,000 public sculptures and monuments listed on Art UK by then, all with photographs. **This initiative will result in the first ever comprehensive photographic record of all the UK's public sculptures.**
- Each object record is accompanied by key information such as the creator, title, materials, and location as well as the nature of the object; for example what type of object (there are c.25 categories such as fountain, obelisk, cross etc); subject type (allegorical, figurative, non-figurative etc) and the gender of the subject if it is person. This will result in useful aggregate statistics on completion of the project. Each object typically has 6 different photograph angles. The objects are searchable on the maps on Art UK and can be searched by location on the Art UK site.

Discussion/Questions

- What and who is tagging object on the website.
 - Tagging was crowd sourced project. Art UK would like to repeat this exercise at some point.
- Is there a link with TFL art maps? Such as the Black History Month Map?
 - Yes, this could be possible. Art UK to investigate it.
- Is it possible to link with other data sets?
 - If those sets fit (broadly) with the Art UK remit.

- Art UK would welcome the Partners support to drive audience to the site when 'launched.

Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm – Partners Board Meeting
25th November (10:00 -11:30)

NOTES

Location: MS Teams

GLA Attendees:

- [REDACTED] (co-chair), Senior Manager, Cultural Infrastructure and Public Realm
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], Senior Policy Officer, Diversity
- [REDACTED], Senior policy Officer, Visual Art and Public Realm
- [REDACTED] Commission for Diversity Programme Manager
- [REDACTED] Micro Grants Coordinator
- [REDACTED] Community Engagement Officer
- [REDACTED] Associate Project Manager Apprentice – Culture and Creative Industries Unit

External Attendees (Invited):

- [REDACTED] Action Space
- [REDACTED] Art Fund
- [REDACTED] Arts Council England
- [REDACTED] Arts Council England
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] Foundation for Jewish Heritage
- [REDACTED] Historic England
- [REDACTED] Iniva
- [REDACTED] Museum of London
- [REDACTED] National Heritage Lottery Fund
- [REDACTED] Proud Places
- [REDACTED] Paradigm Network
- [REDACTED] Queer Britain
- [REDACTED] Shape Arts

NOTES

1. Introductions

Partners Board Contributions:

Open Discussion and Sharing

- What are you currently working on?

What is coming up (in next 12 months)?

- Outline/update with CDPR

2. Bridging Histories

CDPR - What's Next:

Bridging Histories - Spreading the word? - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] – helpful to have more detailed summary and access to report / outcomes

- Share people on borough working group so that other connections can be made to support projects
- [REDACTED] - huge appetite for local engagement in history and public realm
- Foundation for Jewish Heritage - would like to connect re project in south London on Jewish heritage
- Real life meeting! / attend some meetings

Historic England

- Interested to know more about grassroots heritage groups and network
- Also speaking about a London heritage strategy with GLA more widely, would like to draw network in
- Case studies: (confidential) commissioned case studies of reinterpretation of heritage which has become contested. Positive examples of telling a more inclusive story. This to inform conversations with owners of sculptures who need support.
- To share link to monument lab work

[REDACTED] / Art Fund – creating guidelines for work being commissioned by museums. Including best practice around artist fees, community consultations but primary focus is access to funding etc. But would like to direct to other toolkits which exist AHRC/UAL national collections programme, 3 year looking across collections in the UK and assess to what extent representative and what the historic barriers are to collecting

London Untold – Walks and Talks

Questions to ask [REDACTED]:

- What are we missing?
- How else could you get involved?

Historic England – contribute walking tours in

National Heritage list connection

English heritage – good links to blue plaques programme – plus Amy Lane connection

[REDACTED] – how to make the walking tours more accessible, navigating london

- spring to summer more commission / activity happens and it's an integrated historian moment.

- Number of walking tours that we could contribute to that to be done on various teams picking on teams in particular places in London as a black history walk around buildings and feed all of those through
- and it be in connection with the list we could make maybe that when we can certainly celebrate some and share some building that encourage people to pass at the photographs and feelings to be rich in the list when they're on site in those places or if they got memories or a connection come back in action
- Blue plaques programme can be connected to city hall
- walking tour is more accessible people with learning disabilities are out and about all the time they're walking around London all the time

Policy Research – [REDACTED]

3. Contested Narratives and Local Authority Support – Research:

Guidance for public bodies by [REDACTED]

Discussion

[REDACTED] Noting Street names research would be hugely resourceful

[REDACTED] keen to pick up London research

To 'reinterpret powerfully'

Rely and draw on local history societies- Emily to share the work they have done to draw this information together

How can work [REDACTED] will pull together help inform some of the live projects

4. Upcoming Roundtable with [REDACTED]

- Brief update

5. Art UK with [REDACTED]

- Analysis of the data – what is needed?
- How to understand the past and future
- The ART UK is National so there's an opportunity to get data
- [REDACTED] made point about need for evidence and need to emphasise historical rigour

- We have data set, what happens yet. Monuments Lab example - how do we interpret this information, who is it for?
- Need to use the information to tell a more interesting story

Get partners together to think about how to

6. Closing

Thank You and Closing Statements

Look out for:

- UDL May be in touch
- Contested heritage roundtable
- Policy Research follow-ups
- Outline of Upcoming Meetings