

PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

MD2939

Title: Community Events Programme 2022-23 to 2024-25

Information may have to be disclosed in the event of a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In the event of a request for confidential facts and advice, please consult the Information Governance team for advice.

This information is not suitable for publication until the stated date because:

The Part 2 MD is to be deferred as the disclosure of the estimated event costs would prejudice the GLA's ability to solicit genuinely competitive bids for related event organisation services. The GLA event officers also undertake consultation with the communities/projects who receive funding, and disclosure of the funding ringfenced prior to any full funding application process may seem to influence any subsequent funding decision.

Date at which Part 2 will cease to be sensitive or when this information should be reviewed with a view to publication: **1 April 2025**

Legal adviser advice on the grounds for not publishing information at this time:

In the event of a request for access to the information contained in this document under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), it is considered that access can be denied on the basis that the disclosure of such information would prejudice the GLA's commercial interests. Disclosure of the detailed breakdown of estimated expenditure, when taken together with the information contained in part 1 of this MD, would prejudice the GLA's ability to: generate genuine competition for supplies and services required for delivery of the programme; and enter into agreements with third parties for the provision to the GLA of funding, and the grant to third parties of GLA funding, in an efficient manner that optimises the protection of the GLA's interests and value for money. This is therefore covered by the exemption under section 43 of the Act.

Section 1 of the Act creates the general right of access, which provides that any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled:

- to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request; and
- if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him/her.

Part II of the Act contains a number of exemptions from disclosure for certain classes of information. In particular, section 43 of the Act provides that information is exempt information if disclosure under the Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). The section 43 exemption is a qualified exemption and its use is, therefore, subject to a public interest assessment. The information in question is considered commercially sensitive as its release could affect the GLA's ability to:

- stimulate genuine competition for supplies and services required for delivery;
- protect its interests and optimise delivery; and
- secure value for public money.

On that basis it is reasonable for officers to consider that such disclosure would not be therefore, in the public interest.

Legal Adviser – I make the above recommendations that this information is not suitable for publication at this time.

Name: Stephen Fernandes-Owen, TfL Legal

Date: 20 January 2022

Once this form is fully authorised, it should be circulated with Part 1.

Decision and/or advice:

1. Events programme 2022-23 to 2024-25

1.1 As detailed in Part 1 of this report, the gross cost of the three-year Events for London programme, 2022-23 to 2024-25, is up to £3,720,000, made up from a GLA contribution of £2,730,000 (£910,000 per annum) and third-party income of £990,000 (£330,000 per annum) sourced from sponsorship and stall income.

1.2 The annual budget breakdown for GLA delivered and supported events is detailed below.

2. Annual budget

Events for London budget	Annual budget 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25		
	GLA budget	Target third-party income	TOTAL event cost
Statutory Events			
State of London Debate and 2x People's Question Time	£115,000		£115,000
Community events & commemorations			
St George's Day	£80,000	£40,000	£120,000
Vaisakhi	£80,000	£40,000	£120,000
Eid	£80,000	£40,000	£120,000
Diwali	£80,000	£40,000	£120,000
St Patrick's Day	£80,000	£120,000	£200,000
Black Cultural Event	£80,000	£40,000	£120,000
Black History Events	£70,000		£70,000
Remembrance Day Service	£10,000	£5,000	£15,000
7/7 anniversary commemoration	£5,000		£5,000
Grenfell anniversary commemoration	£10,000		£10,000
Citizenship Ceremony	£10,000		£10,000
Armed Forces Day	£3,000		£3,000
Carol Service	£20,000		£20,000
Abolition of Transatlantic Slave Trade	£15,000		£15,000
Holocaust Memorial Day	£10,000	£5,000	£15,000
Latin American events funding	£15,000		£15,000
Chinese New Year	£25,000		£25,000
Chanukah	£25,000		£25,000
Small events – responsive budget and ad hoc celebrations	£65,000		£65,000

Hard-to-reach communities	£17,000		£17,000
Access for events	£15,000		£15,000
TOTAL	£910,000	£330,000	£1,240,000

3. Financial comments

- 3.1 A detailed breakdown of costs per community event is provided above and the net GLA contribution of £2,730,000 for the programme from 2022-23 to 2024-25 (£910,000 per annum) is containable within existing planned GLA budget provision earmarked from 2022-23 to 2024-25, subject to the final 2022-23 budget-setting process.
- 3.2 As mentioned in Part 1 the Events team is expecting income totalling £990,000 over three years (£330,000 per annum, as per above table) to enhance and supplement some of the events proposed. If the income target is not met, the project's expenditure will be reduced to the funding available. Any income secured over and above the income target will be used to enhance specific events (subject to the funding agreement and funders approval); and, where appropriate, the GLA will look to reduce the GLA contribution where enhancements to events are not required.