

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2814

Title: Funding for the Independent Co-Chair of the London Estates Board

Programme: Making Best Use of Land - London Estates Delivery Unit

Executive Summary:

The London Estates Board (LEB) was established as part of the London Health and Care Devolution MoU in 2017.

The LEB Operating Framework sets out the arrangements for the appointment of the LEB Co-Chairs, most specifically that one of the Co-Chairs must be independent, which is taken to mean that they should not be a director, employee or otherwise affiliated to any of the member organisations listed in Section 6 of the above Framework.

This ADD requests approval for expenditure of £30,000 for payment of the LEB Co-Chair for financial year 2025-26.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Land and Development approves expenditure of £30,000 from the London Estates Delivery Unit budget in 2025-26 for the Independent Co-Chair of the London Estates Board, to be paid to South East London NHS Integrated Care Board as the procurer of the Independent Co-Chair's services.

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: Simon Powell

Position: Assistant Director of Land and Development

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Powell', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Date: 9 February 2026

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The London Health and Care Devolution Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in November 2017. The MoU confirms a commitment from local partners to work together to accelerate health and care transformation for the benefit of Londoners. Critically, the MoU confirms the willingness of partners to take ‘a shared strategic approach to estates planning’ and also included NHS capital investment decision-making powers. The London Estates Board, supported by the London Estates Delivery Unit (LEDU) was formally established in 2017 on the back of partners’ recognition of the need for transparent and collaborative working on London’s NHS estate.
- 1.2 Political oversight of the success of the London Estates Board is provided by the London Health Board, chaired by the Mayor of London.
- 1.3 The LEB Co-Chairs as described in section 6 of the London Estates Board Operating Framework are subject to the following appointment process:
 - Eligibility – One of the Co-Chairs must be independent, which is taken to mean that they should not be a director, employee or otherwise affiliated to any of the member organisations listed in Section 6. The other Chair will be an NHS representative for financial accountability purposes.
 - Appointment process – The Chair is to be appointed by the membership organisations, acting by consensus. Prior to appointment, member organisations will be asked to confirm that they are not aware of any reasons as to why the Chair is not eligible to take up post.
 - Term of office – The Chair shall remain in post until they resign or are removed from office.
 - Grounds for removal from office – The Chair may be removed from office by the member organisations, acting by consensus.
- 1.4 Since its inception, and in line with the requirements above the London Estates Board has been Co-chaired by Geoff Alltimes CBE.
- 1.5 Approval for this expenditure in previous years has been via a Mayoral Decision but as the budget for the LEDU in 2025-26 has been reduced the only programme expenditure requiring a new decision is for payment of the Independent Co-Chairs services.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 Key deliverables of the Independent Co-Chair of the LEB, as identified by partners, include but are not limited to:
 - Ensuring that the LEB is able to deliver its obligations in line with the London Estate Board Operating Framework and associated Devolution MOU.
 - To provide Independent Co-Chair services and leadership to the London Estates Board and London Estates Delivery Unit.
 - Provide partnering and strategic and governance support to Integrated Care Board health economies in unlocking issues relating to Primary Care and Community Health estates.

- Provide advocacy and partnership support to the wider London health care system, integrating with system and political leaders, local government, Greater London Authority and NHS stakeholders.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 One of the LEB's key aims is to increase the supply of housing in London. This will help to address problems such as overcrowding and homelessness, which evidence indicates disproportionately affect specific groups, including Black and Minority Ethnic groups and women. The delivery of high-quality housing will also promote improved health and wellbeing, given evidence of an association between poor housing conditions and poor health.
- 3.2 The work of the LEDU to improve the quality and flexibility of health care facilities will help address unnecessary variation and poor access to health care services for people in areas of deprivation and in highest need.

4. Other considerations

- 4.1. Following a formal consultation period the decision has been taken to disestablish the LEDU at the end of March 2026. London partners will need to decide on the future Independent Co-Chair arrangements for the LEB beyond this point.
- 4.2. There are no conflicts of interest to note for any of those involved in the drafting or clearance of the decision.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 Assistant Director's approval is sought for payment of £30,000 to South East London NHS Integrated Care Board for LEDU Independent Co-Chair's services. This will be funded from LEDU 2025-26 budget.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Completion of Independent Co-Chair Services	31.03.26

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 either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Strategic Programmes

Does this decision seek approval for activity falling within the remit of a programme delivery plan? Yes, Making Best Use of Land

Part 1 - Deferral

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under 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:

Sue Hardy has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Mayoral Delivery Board

A summary of this decision was reviewed by the Mayoral Delivery Board on 9 February 2026.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES:

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

Date: 9 February 2026

Signature:

