

Request for Deputy Mayor for Fire decision – DMFD292

Legal costs in relation to the Grenfell Tower fire

Executive summary:

The London Fire Commissioner seeks prior approval to commit revenue expenditure up to the amount set out in the accompanying part 2 paper, for legal costs relating to the Grenfell Tower fire.

The London Fire Commissioner Governance Direction 2018 sets out a requirement for the London Fire Commissioner to seek the prior approval of the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service (Deputy Mayor) before committing to expenditure (capital or revenue) of £150,000 or above. Prior approval by the Deputy Mayor was given by email on 18 May and this decision form ratifies that approval.

Decision:

That the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service ratifies the prior approval given on 18 May of expenditure by the LFC of up to the amount set out in the part 2 paper, for legal costs relating to Grenfell Tower fire.

Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service:

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

8 July 2026

Part 1 – Non-confidential facts and advice

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. This decision concerns legal costs relating to the fire that broke out at Grenfell Tower on 14 June 2017.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. That the London Fire Commissioner has approval to commit revenue expenditure, up to the amount set out in the accompanying part 2 paper, for legal costs in relation to the Grenfell Tower fire.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Equality Act) the GLA (including the Deputy Mayor for Fire), as a public authority, must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) when exercising its functions. This is a duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and any conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act; and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This involves having due regard to the need to remove or minimise any disadvantage suffered by those who share a relevant protected characteristic that is connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the different needs of such people; and encouraging them to participate in public life or in any other activity where their participation is disproportionately low.
- 3.2. The relevant protected characteristics under section 149 of the Equality Act are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marital or civil partnership status, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Compliance with the duty may involve ensuring people with a protected characteristic are provided with all the opportunities that those without the characteristic would have.
- 3.3. This decision concerns legal costs relating to the Grenfell Tower fire and in the circumstances, there are no specific equality implications arising.

4. Other considerations

- 4.1. There are no conflicts of interest to declare from those involved in the drafting or clearance of this decision.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. There are no financial implications for the Greater London Authority. Funding will be met from within the LFC budget 2026-27.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1. Under section 327A of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (GLA Act), the LFC is established as a corporation sole with the Mayor appointing the occupant of that office.
- 6.2. Pursuant to section 327D of the GLA Act, the Mayor may issue to the LFC specific or general directions as to the manner in which the holder of that office is to exercise their functions.

- 6.3. By direction dated 1 April 2018, the Mayor set out those matters for which the LFC would require the prior approval of either the Mayor or the Deputy Mayor. In particular, paragraph (b) of Part 2 of the said direction requires the LFC to seek the prior approval of the Deputy Mayor before “[a] commitment to expenditure (capital or revenue) of £150,000 or above is identified in accordance with normal accounting practices”. The proposed expenditure exceeds this financial threshold; accordingly, the prior approval from the Deputy Mayor is sought.

Appendices and supporting papers:

None.

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) 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 approval or on the defer date.

Part 1 – Deferral

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

Part 2 – Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be in the separate part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form? YES

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting officer to confirm the following (✓)

Drafting officer

Soeli Dayus has drafted this report with input from the LFC and in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service

Chandu Dissanayeke has reviewed the documentation and is satisfied for it to be referred to the Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and the Fire Service for approval.

✓

Advice

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

Mayoral Delivery Board:

A summary of this decision was noted by the Mayoral Delivery Board on 13 July 2026.

Chief Finance Officer

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

Signature

Fay Hammond

Date

8 July 2026