

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Our reference: MGLA040122-0819

Date: 31 January 2022

Dear

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 4 January 2022. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

- *When the decision to proceed with the NYE 2021 fireworks / drone / light displays fireworks displays was taken*
- *Who made the above decision*
- *The cost of the displays*

Our response is as follows:

Please find below the information we hold within the scope of your request.

It typically takes a year to plan our annual London New Year's Eve fireworks show any news years eve show. Initial decisions and recommendations were formed Initial discussions took place in January, and in accordance with the GLA governance process the formal decision was taken on the 2 March 2021 by the Mayor.

The NYE broadcast showcased London as an inclusive and world-leading city, promoting the best of London to a worldwide audience and welcoming people from across the globe.

The total cost of the New Year's Eve show was £1,502,960. This included the cost of the fireworks, drones, lighting, and all the health and safety measures (infrastructure, security, permissions etc) necessary to ensure a safe, as well as spectacular, show.

The economic benefits as a result of this event are considerable, notably through the national and worldwide coverage of the display which brings significant media value to the promotion of London as a tourist destination. In 2021 the event was watched on BBC by an audience of 10 million, and many more across the globe. The total financial benefits to London far out-weigh the public expenditure incurred.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA040122-0819.

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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>