

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2334

Title: Delivery support for Healthy Schools London

Executive Summary:

Healthy Schools London (HSL) is an awards scheme funded by the Mayor of London that supports and recognises school achievements in pupil health and wellbeing (approved through MD1551, MD1151 and MD2115). This ADD seeks to approve spend of the £25,000 to procure specialist support for the HSL team to build local capacity in London Boroughs and schools by providing:

- example measurable outcomes for schools;
- template school health and wellbeing policies (eg. mental health and wellbeing policy, school food); and
- guidance and checklists for Quality Assurance of Award applications.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director approves:

Expenditure of up to £25,000 to procure external support in order to strengthen the programme and support schools to engage in the Mayor's programme by building local capacity in London Boroughs and schools by providing:

- Example measurable outcomes;
- Template policies (e.g. mental health and wellbeing policy, school food); and
- Guidance and checklists for Quality Assurance of Award applications.

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: Jazz Bhogal

Position: Assistant Director – Health, Education & Youth

Signature:



Date: 06/12/2019.

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Mayor wants to see all London's children enjoying environments that allow them to develop well and thrive, and to help more children achieve a healthy weight, particularly in deprived communities. Furthermore, the Mayor wants all Londoners to feel comfortable talking about their mental health, and to see an end to the stigma people face due to mental health problems. To support children to have the best start in life, he wants their mental health and wellbeing to be better supported across a wide range of settings. Furthermore, children in London are more likely to be overweight or obese than their peers in the rest of England.
- 1.2 Delivering the Healthy Early Years London and the Healthy Schools London programmes helps children develop, play and learn in healthy settings. The Mayor's Healthy Schools London programme, (funded under MD 1151 and MD 1551), supports London's schools to provide an environment and culture that helps their pupils grow up to be healthy, happy and learn. The programme recognises and celebrates schools that are making a difference for their pupils. The Healthy Schools London programme supports schools as they work towards awards, with a network of local Borough coordinators, and a range of resources, tools and advice provided through a website and regular workshops for Boroughs and schools. There are 3 levels of Awards: Bronze, Silver and Gold. The Bronze Award asks schools to provide information about how they are taking a whole school approach to supporting pupil wellbeing across 4 themes:
- Healthy Eating
 - Physical Activity
 - Emotional Health & Wellbeing
 - Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)
- 1.3 Healthy Schools London is a mechanism for the Mayor to achieve many of the objectives laid out in his Health Inequalities Strategy (HIS). HSL supports schools to address the following issues:
- Child obesity: schools promote healthy weight via healthy eating and physical activity in schools including 'water only schools' and The Daily Mile.
 - Mayor's Child Obesity Taskforce: supporting the work of the Taskforce including the roll out of water only schools and encouraging school engagement.
 - Air Quality: Promoting active travel to school and improving air quality around schools.
 - Youth Mental Health First Aid Training: many of the Healthy Schools London Borough Leads have undertaken training to become youth mental health first aid instructors in London boroughs to deliver training in schools.
- 1.4 Originally launched in April 2013, the programme has since gained the support of 27 London Boroughs which now have a local Healthy Schools Programme or equivalent local support for schools. 2146 (84%) London schools have registered to the HSL programme. Of these, 1239 schools have already achieved a Bronze Award, 679 have achieved a Silver Award and 284 a Gold Award.
- 1.5 The Mayor's HSL programme consists of a core, GLA-based delivery team co-ordinating and supporting the work of Borough level leads. To augment the core GLA capacity, the GLA HSL Team is seeking to procure additional delivery support in the form of support to borough leads and schools.

- 1.6 This ADD provides authority to spend £25,000 of funding that was carried over from the previous financial year (2018/19) to support schools and Boroughs to engage further with delivering Healthy Schools London in their schools.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 Support the delivery of the Mayor's Healthy Schools London programme by building local capacity in London Boroughs and schools by providing:
- example measurable outcomes
 - template policies (eg. mental health and wellbeing policy, school food...)
 - guidance and checklists for Quality Assurance of Award applications.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 A Health Inequalities Impact Assessment (HIIA) was conducted in March of 2013, prior to HSL's launch, to consider the impact of the programme on disadvantaged groups, who already suffer poorer health. The HIIA informed delivery of the HSL programme in order to minimise the risk of any potential negative impacts on groups with protected characteristics.
- 3.2 More recently, a health inequalities mapping and participation analysis was conducted by the GLA Health Team to determine if the programme was having a positive effect on health inequalities. The analysis determined that London schools which have achieved the HSL Bronze award have a higher proportion of deprived pupils compared to schools which are not involved with the programme.
- 3.3 On average, schools that have achieved the Healthy Schools London Bronze award have 26% more pupils who are eligible for free school meals, looked after or are children of service personnel.

4. Other considerations

Key Risks and Issues

Risk description and potential impact	Assessment	Mitigation / Risk Response
Restricted capacity to provide support to Boroughs and schools Capacity in the GLA Health team has been limited due to vacancies and recruitment delays. In order to continue to provide support for London Boroughs to work directly with schools, the GLA Team must ensure that they have the tools and skills required for this.	Impact: High Likelihood: High	The expenditure authorised by this ADD represents a mitigation response to this risk Providing support for Borough Leads to enable them to support schools more effectively will increase the commitment of Borough Leads supporting the Mayor's Healthy Schools London programme. Furthermore, the schools will have the tools they need to achieve HSL Awards. By improving the efficiency of programme delivery, these elements of support will ensure

		the continued success of Healthy Schools.
Reduction in quality and rigour of the programme negatively affecting ongoing HSL delivery and impact of activities Without specialist support for programme delivery at school and Borough level, the current team will not be able to devote sufficient time to measuring impact.	Impact: High Likelihood: Medium	By providing: 1.1 Example measurable outcomes 1.2 Template policies (eg: mental health and wellbeing policy, school food) 1.3 Guidance and checklists for Quality Assurance of Award applications Borough and schools will have the skills and knowledge about effective evidence informed activities and how to implement and monitor them.

Links to Mayoral Strategies and Priorities

- 4.1 The HSL Programme supports the delivery of the Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy as well as the response to the London Health Commission and the work of the London Health Board, which maintains mental health and adolescent resilience as one of its priorities. The HSL programme also supports the delivery of a variety of Mayoral priorities including the Mayor's Food strategy, Sports Strategy, Education and Youth Team programmes including London Schools' for Success programme, TfL STARS programme, GLA Planning Team (Superzones) and Team London.

Impact Assessments and Consultations

- 4.2 As mentioned in section 3 the HSL programme has undergone a Health Inequalities Impact Assessment and a health inequalities mapping and participation analysis to ensure the programme does not negatively impact already disadvantaged groups. Additionally, the HSL programme was developed with extensive stakeholder consultation, involving boroughs' public health and education teams; teachers, headteachers, GLA colleagues and national government. This consultation work shaped the delivery model and helped to establish the necessary delivery networks. Stakeholder consultation continues to be an integral part of the programme's delivery.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 Approval is being sought for expenditure of up to £25,000 to procure specialist support. This expenditure will be funded by the 2019-20 Healthy Schools London Budget, held within the Health Unit.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 6.1 Delivery support for the HSL programme will be delivered via external, expert support procured in line with GLA HR procedures. The anticipated timeline is as follows:

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	December 2019

Announcement	December 2019
Delivery Start Date	December 2019
Main milestone: 1.1 - Provide Example measurable outcomes	January 2020
Main milestone: 1.2 - Provide Template policies (eg: mental health and wellbeing policy, school food)	February 2020
Main milestone: 1.3 - Guidance and checklists for Quality Assurance of Award applications	March 2020
Final evaluation start and finish - self	March 2019
Delivery End Date	March 2019
Project Closure:	March 2019

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.

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:

Alison Stafford has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

Corporate Investment Board

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 2 December 2019.


Drafting officer to
confirm the
following (✓)

✓

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:

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

Signature



Date

29.12.19