

Our reference: MGLA110122-1394

Date: 8 February 2022

Dear

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 11 January 2022. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

Under the FOI act please let me know the following
1 the number of staff you began with when you became mayor
2 the current number of staff now
3 the average speed of traffic in london when you took office
4 the current speed of traffic
5 the cost and number of people employed for your latest survey
6 the cost and number of people employed on all your survey requests It is a pity that most pensioners do not use computers and so few respond so please give statistics of percentage responding

Our response is as follows:

Question 1 and 2 – Staff numbers

I can confirm that the GLA does hold information within the scope of your request.

The GLA routinely publishes staff numbers in our workforce reports.

The current Mayor's first term began in May 2016. The workforce report covering that period is [April 2016-September 2016](#).

The most recently published workforce report covers [April 2020 to March 2021](#) – please see pages 4-9 of the Workforce report, on pages 12-17 of the PDF document for the latest numbers and an overview of staff numbers since 2008. Future workforce reports will also be published on this page:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/spending-money-wisely/salaries-expenses-benefits-and-workforce-information>

The regular workforce reports also include a profile of GLA staff by age and other measures.

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Question 3 and 4 – Average traffic speeds in London

The GLA does not hold the information you have requested. Transport for London (TfL) is the Mayor's transport authority and may hold information about traffic speeds so you may wish to send a further request to TfL at foi@tfl.gov.uk. Although the GLA and TfL are closely linked, they are separate Public Authorities for the purposes of The Freedom of Information Act 2000, as per [schedule 1](#) of the FOI Act.

Question 5 and 6 – Surveys

The Talk London platform aims to enable Londoners to get involved with the work of City Hall. While it is an important mechanism for engagement, it is not our only source of information about public opinion.

The GLA has a core team of researchers (5 permanent posts) and a public engagement team (3 permanent posts) who are responsible for delivering research, consultation and public engagement to better develop policy for London.

The GLA is unable to provide person hours for the Budget Consultation because we do not keep a log of time spent on contributions to each piece of work. We don't quantify costs in terms of staff time for each individual piece of research or consultation activity.

We note your view that pensioners do not use computers, however in July 2021, Age UK published a report '[Mind the Gap](#)' which estimates that majority of those over 65 use the internet every day (60%).

Please see below for a demographic breakdown of those who participated in the recent Budget Consultation on Talk London. Nearly a quarter of participants were 65+, which is higher than the proportion of Londoners aged 65+ in the capital (14.5%).

Age Band	% London Population (Annual population Survey Jan-Dec 2018)	% Talk London participants
16-24	13.1	2
25-34	23.5	15
35-44	20.3	14
45-54	16.4	21
55-64	12.1	19
65+	14.5	23

You have since added elements to your request (in relation to the recent budget consultation):

Please advise number of bodies and companies replying

And:

*All the transport road surveys for the last 2 years
The no of under 30s and over 60s
Who replied to your surveys*

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Our response is as follows:

Number of organisations that responded

The GLA received 10 responses from organisations.

All the transport road surveys in last two years - and age of respondents

Transport for London carries out its own surveys on roads and other transport matters – see <https://tfl.gov.uk/campaign/london-transport-surveys>

Although the GLA and TFL are closely linked, they are separate Public Authorities for the purposes of The Freedom of Information Act 2000, as per [schedule 1](#) of the FOI Act. The GLA does not hold the information you have requested. You may wish to send a request to TfL at foi@tfl.gov.uk.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA110122-1394.

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>