

PART 2 – CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

MD2238

Title: Events for London Programme 2018/19

Information may have to be disclosed in the event of a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In the event of a request for confidential facts and advice, please consult the Information Governance team for advice.

This information is not for publication until the stated date, because:

The Part 2 MD is to be deferred as the disclosure of the estimated event costs would prejudice the GLA's ability to solicit genuinely competitive bids for related event organisation services. The GLA event officers also undertake consultation with the communities/projects who receive funding, and disclosure of the funding ring-fenced prior to any full funding application process may seem to influence any subsequent funding decision.

Date at which Part 2 will cease to be confidential or when confidentiality should be reviewed: **1 April 2020**

Legal recommendation on the grounds of keeping the information confidential:

In the event of any request for access to the information contained in this document under section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act"), it is considered that access may be denied on the basis that the disclosure of such information would prejudice the commercial interests of the GLA, as its release could have an adverse impact on the GLA's ability to secure best value through those procurements, which it will undertake as part of the 2018/19 events programme. To this end, the exemption from release of the information set out in part 2 of this report is covered by section 43 of the Act.

Section 1 of the Act creates the general right of access, which provides that any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled:

- to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request; and
- if that be the case, to have that information communicated to him/her.

Part II of the Act contains a number of exemptions from disclosure for certain classes of information. In particular, section 43 of the Act provides that information is exempt information, if its disclosure under the Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). In the instant case, the information in part 2 of this MD comprises a breakdown of the GLA's events budget by individual event. If this information were to be published, it would alert the market to GLA's overall budget per event. Accordingly, its release might prejudice the GLA's ability to secure best value via its procurement of services and/or supplies for each event.

It should be noted that the section 43 exemption is a qualified exemption and, accordingly, its valid use is subject to a public interest assessment.

Public Interest Assessment

On balance it is considered that the public interest is best served, if the information not be disclosed at this point. As noted above, disclosure by the GLA could have a detrimental effect on:

- the GLA's procurements of services and supplies; and
- the GLA's bargaining position vis-à-vis successful bidders.

As a result, the effective delivery of the programme might be prejudiced, which might precipitate an increase in the burden on public resources.

For these reasons, it is considered that the information in this part 2 is exempt from publication in reliance upon the exclusions contained in section 43(2) (commercial interests) of the Freedom of Information Act and because the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in releasing it.

Legal Adviser - I make the above recommendations that this information should be considered confidential at this time

Name: John Benson

Date: 14 February 2018

Once this form is fully authorised, it should be circulated with Part 1.

Confidential decision and/or advice:

1. Events Programme 2018-19

1.1 As detailed in the Part 1 of this report, the gross cost of the 2018-19 Events for London Programme is up to £1,592,000, made up from a GLA contribution of £1,217,000 and third-party income of £375,000. The budget breakdown for GLA delivered and supported events, as well as access and evaluating and reporting is detailed below.

1.2 A further £60,000 expenditure will be made on market research at 10 of the events within the programme.

2. GLA Delivered Events

2.1 A list of the GLA Delivered Events is set out in Table 1 below with estimated budget allocations.

Table 1

Event	GLA budget	Estimated 3 rd Party Income	Total Cost
Statutory Events (PQT & SOLD)	£110,000	N/A	£110,000
St Patrick's Day	£120,000	£90,000	£210,000
Vaisakhi	£75,000	£40,000	£115,000

Feast of St George	£98,000	£20,000	£118,000
7/7 Anniversary	£10,000	N/A	£10,000
Eid	£75,000	£40,000	£115,000
Liberty	£200,000	£80,000	£280,000
African Event	£75,000	£40,000	£115,000
Diwali	£75,000	£40,000	£115,000
Remembrance Day	£2,000	N/A	£2,000
Events Campaign – cross-cutting	£50,000	£25,000	£75,000
Small Events	£72,000	N/A	£72,000
TOTAL	£962,000	£375,000	£1,337,000

Statutory Event: Peoples' Question Time

2.2 The cost to deliver two People's Question Time events is estimated at **£55,000**.

Statutory Event: State of London Debate

2.3 The cost to deliver the State of London Debate is estimated at **£55,000**.

3. GLA supported Events

3.1 The detail of the estimated Grant funding allocation to be provided is set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2

Event to be Funded	Recipient of Grant Funding	GLA funding	Total Cost of Event (approx.)
Chinese New Year	London Chinatown Chinese Association	£50,000	£385,000
Totally Thames	Thames Festival Trust	£50,000	£950,000
London Mela	Ealing Council	£75,000	£400,000
Jewish Events	London Jewish Forum; Jewish Leadership Council; and Jewish Music Institute	£50,000	£50,000
TOTAL		£225,000	£1,785,000

4. Non-Event Activity

Access

4.1 The budget allocated to support additional access requirements for the events programme is **£30,000**.

Evaluation and reporting

4.2 The budget for external market research is **£60,000** which sits within, and be overseen by, the Communities and Intelligence directorate. This will provide customer insights to the events programme. Detailed analysis will be completed in-house by the Intelligence Team.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 An estimated breakdown by event/project for the 2018-19 Events for London Programme showing total expenditure and funding is set out below.

Table 3

Events/Projects	GLA Contribution	Third Party Income	GLA Gross Expenditure
	£000s	£000s	£000s
<u>Statutory Events</u>			
State of London Debate	55		55
People's Questions Time	55		55
<u>GLA Events</u>			
St Patrick's Day	120	90	210
Vaisakhi	75	40	115
Feast of St George	98	20	118
7/7 Anniversary	10		10
Eid	75	40	115
Liberty	200	80	280
African Event	75	40	115
Diwali	75	40	115
Remembrance Day	2		2
Culture Campaigns	50	25	75
Small Events	72		72
<u>GLA Supported Events</u>			
Chinese New Year	50		50
Totally Thames	50		50
London Mela	75		75
Jewish Events/ Chanukha	50		50
Events	1,187	375	1,562
Access	30		30
TOTAL	1,217	375	1,592

- 5.2 The market research budget of £60,000 is identified within the Intelligence Team's 2018/19 budget.