

Request for Greater London Returning Officer (GLRO) Decision – DD-GLR016-20

Title: Electrical Services at the Elections Count Centres

Executive Summary:

The Mayor of London and London Assembly Elections will take place on Thursday 5th May 2016.

There is a need to establish a budget for energy costs and to cover the cost of any works commissioned beyond Intellect's demised count area within the three count centres to cover any possible recharge.

Decision:

Under delegation from the GLRO, the Deputy GLRO to approve:

- expenditure of up to £30,000 to cover any recharge costs arising from Intellect, where they have included final connections and energy costs in the subcontracted electrical works within each count centre.

Deputy Greater London Returning Officer

The above request has my approval.

Signature



Date

29/4/16

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The elections for the Mayor of London and the London Assembly will take place in May 2016. The contract for the e-counting that was in place for the 2012 elections has been extended for these elections.
- 1.2. The Election count will take place at three venues in London; Alexandra Palace, Excel and Olympia. Each venue is designated as an Election's Count Centre where there is a need to cover the recharge cost elements of the final connections to the house systems.
- 1.3. To provide an adequate budget for energy consumption for each count centre venue this is based on an assessment of the installed load provided by DRS within their particular specifications, DRS are the technical partner within the election count organisation known as Intellect. Intellect was procured in 2012 to deliver two elections.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 In consultation with DRS we have received a number of replies from the subcontractors where we have established requirements; the scope of works varies between venues
- 2.2 The count centres will charge for the electricity consumption within their hire rates for the electrical services as quoted, our aim is to have a sum of money available to meet these recharges in the budget we have set a figure of £5,000 for each of the three count centres.
- 2.3 The count centre sub-contractors have all provided inclusive costs to provide the necessary connections to supply the count including final connections which lay outside of the demised count areas; in anticipating a recharge for these final connections we have set a budget of £3,000 for each of the count centres
- 2.4 A sum of £30,000 (including a contingency of £6,000) to be set aside to cover any recharge costs arising from DRS, where they have included final connections and energy costs in the their subcontracted electrical works within each count centre.

3. Other considerations

Please ensure this section covers:

a) Key risks and issues,

By not providing a budget to cover DRS recharges for electrical supplies the GLA could be legally challenged.

b) Impact assessments and consultations.

If insufficient funds are available to cover any charges arising out of the count centres for electrical installations the costs would need to be met from a general account.

4. Equality comments

4.1 There is no impact on equality from these arrangements

5. Financial comments

5.1. The expenditure of up to £30,000 (£24,000 explained in 2.2 & 2.3, plus a £6,000 contingency) will be contained within the 2016/17 Elections Budget.

5.2. This budget is to cover; energy and final connection costs at all three count centres (as mentioned in 2.2 and 2.3) and any recharge costs submitted by DRS, for electrical services accrued during the Mayoral Election.

6. Legal comments

6.1 By section 29 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 the Greater London Returning Officer ("GLRO") is the person appointed as the proper officer for the purposes of section 35(2C) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 ("RotPA") (returning officer at elections of Mayor and London members). The Mayor and Assembly have appointed the Head of Paid Service as the GLRO as part of his terms and conditions of employment.

6.2 The GLRO is the returning officer for the Mayoral and London Member elections, and constituency returning officers are the returning officers for the election of Constituency Members of the Assembly. The Authority must, under section 36(4B) of RotPA, pay for all expenditure properly incurred by a returning officer in relation to the holding of an Authority election, in so far as it does not, in cases where there is a scale fixed by the Authority, exceed that scale.

6.3 The Authority's Scheme of Delegation enables the GLRO to incur expenditure for the purposes of the preparation or conduct of any anticipated election as he considers necessary or expedient for that purpose. He is also able to authorise entry into contracts, licences or other instruments, in connection with an anticipated election in accordance with the Authority's Contracts and Funding Code and Financial Regulations.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Delivery Start Date [if applicable]	08:00 Wednesday 4 th May 2016
Setup of power requirements complete:	14:00 Wednesday 4 th May 2016
Venue Clear by:	12 noon Saturday 7 th May 2016

Appendices and supporting papers :Public access to information

Although the GLRO is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act), the information in this form will be published 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 will be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods will be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Note: This form (Part 1) will either be published 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

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice whose publication may be prejudicial or commercially sensitive should be 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 to confirm the following (✓)
Drafting officer: Rennie Kraus has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that the Finance – Donovan Bradley and Legal – Tom Elphick teams have commented on this proposal as required, and this decision reflects their comments.	✓
The Deputy GLRO has reviewed the request and is satisfied that it is correct and can be referred to the GLRO for approval	✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature

M. D. Allen

Date

29.4.16