

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

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Our Ref: MGLA100220-2440

25 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 10 February 2020. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information about City Hall's donation of £300,000 to the Auschwitz-Birkenau memorial museum.

- 1. Which agencies did you consult that recommended this action, (donating to Auschwitz-Birkenau), as opposed to donating to the other camp museums that are struggling financially to fulfil their educational role?*
- 2. Given the Soviet forces liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau & British forces liberated Bergen Belsen, what motivated City Hall to position itself with Auschwitz-Birkenau as opposed to Bergen Belsen?*
- 3. 'Following the money', what amounts has City Hall donated to the foundations or memorial museums associated with the following recognised genocides since the Holocaust: Cambodia; Rwanda; Bosnia & Herzegovina; Darfur*

Please find below the information we hold within the scope of your request and our answers to your questions:

1. We consulted the following organisation/agencies who supported this action: The Board of Deputies of British Jews; The Holocaust Educational Trust; Community Security Trust; Community Alliance to Combat Hate Crime (CATCH); London Jewish Forum.
2. The GLA has not received any requests to support the Bergen-Belsen memorial or specific museums memorialising the atrocities in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Herzegovina or Darfur.
3. City Hall hosts an annual Holocaust Memorial Day event in partnership with Holocaust Memorial Trust. This event gives a platform for survivors to share their experiences. In 2019, the event included a Cambodian survivor. In 2020, it included a Bosnian survivor.

In May 2019, the Mayor hosted an event at City Hall to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> year since the tragic genocide in Rwanda. This was hosted in partnership with Ishami Foundation.

We are in discussions with an organisation called Remembering Srebenica about hosting a commemorative event in the future.

The GLA has not yet worked with the Sudanese community in London to mark the tragedies in Darfur.

Additional information:

The Mayoral Decision at <https://www.london.gov.uk/decisions/md2562-auschwitz-birkenau-foundation-grant-funding>

Press release at <https://www.london.gov.uk/press-releases/mayoral/london-to-help-preserve-auschwitz-birkenau>

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA100220-2440.

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>