

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our reference: MGLA191121-8274

15 December 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 19 November 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Within your request you refer to information held by the 'the council'. To clarify, the Greater London Authority is not a council and therefore does not hold the same responsibilities as a local authority. The Mayor holds the duty of creating strategic plans and policies for the capital, making London a better place. The role of the GLA is to deliver on an overall vision, set out by the Mayor for those who visit, live and work in London.

Please see below the information we have identified as being within the scope of your request.

- **Does the council have any policies or ones in development to support community-led housing? If so, what are they and where do they appear?**

Proposal A of Policy 5.3 of the Mayor's [London Housing Strategy](#)¹ sets out how the Mayor will work with partners to support community-led housing:

"Working with councils and others, the Mayor will support Londoners to be involved in planning and delivering new homes. This will include:

- i. setting a target to identify a pipeline of community-led housing schemes by 2021, with capacity to deliver at least 1,000 homes;
- ii. supporting the expansion of community-led housing schemes through a new Community-Led Housing Hub for London; and
- iii. investing in community-led housing schemes and lobbying Government for a share of the national Community Housing Fund."

Policy H2 of the Mayor's [London Plan](#)² outlines the Mayor's support in the development of small sites for community-led housing;

"A. Boroughs should pro-actively support well-designed new homes on small sites (below 0.25 hectares in size) through both planning decisions and plan-making in order to:

¹ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2018_lhs_london_housing_strategy.pdf

² https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf

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1. significantly increase the contribution of small sites to meeting London's housing needs
2. diversify the sources, locations, type and mix of housing supply
3. support small and medium-sized housebuilders
4. support those wishing to bring forward custom, self-build and community led housing
5. achieve the minimum targets for small sites set out in Table 4.2 as a component of the [REDACTED] targets set out in Table 4.1."

[REDACTED]
Community Housing Fund: the Mayor has secured London's share of the Community Housing Fund - £38 million of capital and revenue funding.

- **Since January 2010, how many grants and/or loans has the council given to community led housing groups or organisations?**

Since it was established, in 2018, the London Community-Led Housing Hub has allocated early stage [REDACTED] grants and adviser support to 57 community-led organisations, with funding coming from the Mayor.

Since 2010, the GLA has allocated funding to eleven community-led organisations across fourteen schemes (for 247 homes). The allocations comprise advanced revenue grant to ten schemes (for 181 homes), capital grant to five schemes (for 129 homes) and loans to two schemes (for 41 homes).

- **Since January 2010, how many land disposals or leases has the council made to community led housing groups or organisations?**

The Mayor, in partnership with the Community-Led Housing Hub London, is working with boroughs on availability of suitable sites to bring forwards opportunities in a way that works for CLH groups. As well as making available support, expertise and funding the Mayor is facilitating the provision of land through the Small Sites x Small Builders programme:

- In the first round of the programme, two TfL-owned sites were restricted by the Mayor to bids for community-led housing. London Community Land Trust successfully bid to deliver around 70 genuinely affordable community-led homes on these sites.
 - Crystal Palace Community Land Trust have successfully bid for a site owned by LB Croydon.
 - LB Waltham Forest received bids for two sites advertised for community led housing groups.
 - LB Tower Hamlets received bids for two sites and preferred bidders have now been chosen.
- **Do you have dedicated staff to support community-led housing? If so, what are their job titles?**

Within the Mayor's Homes for Londoners team, there is a Senior Project Officer post funded from the Community Housing Fund - as well other officers whose roles include bringing forward community-led housing. The London Community-Led Housing Hub, which is funded by the Mayor, has three posts: a Project Director and two Senior Project Advisers.

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Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

S[REDACTED] Officer Community Led Housing

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your requests, 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>

[REDACTED]