

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD2852

Title: Mental Health Recovery Mission & Thrive LDN work programme 2021-22

Executive Summary:

This Mayoral Decision (MD) seeks approval for expenditure of funding for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Recovery mission.

The activity outlined in this MD will be delivered by Thrive LDN, a public mental health partnership supported and funded by the Mayor of London, London's integrated care systems, London boroughs, NHS England and Public Health England. As such, Thrive LDN has been identified as the London Recovery Board's delivery partner for the Mental Health Recovery mission.

Previous MDs relating to spend in previous years are: MD2265, MD2323, MD2439 and MD2510.

Decision:

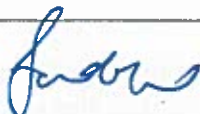
That the Mayor approves expenditure of up to £600,000 for Thrive LDN to deliver the work set out in section 2 of this Mayoral Decision relating to Londoners' mental health and wellbeing.

Mayor of London

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

15/7/21

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE MAYOR

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. [The London Recovery Board](#) (LRB), co-chaired by the Mayor of London, has launched the Recovery Programme, which includes a Mental Health and Wellbeing (MHWB) mission. This mission has a commitment that, by 2025, London will have a quarter of a million change agents, supporting Londoners where they live, work and play. The longer-term aim, agreed by the LRB, is for Thrive LDN to lead the work with mental health sector stakeholders to deliver the MHWB mission's broad objectives; to ensure Londoners have the skills, tools and resources to support one another; and to protect or promote mental health and psychosocial wellbeing.
- 1.2. These broad objectives all, in turn, support and complement the five Healthy Minds objectives of the Mayor's statutory Health Inequalities Strategy:
 - mental health becomes everybody's business: Londoners act to maintain their mental wellbeing, and support their families, communities and colleagues to do the same
 - Londoners' mental health and physical health are equally valued and supported
 - no Londoners experience stigma linked to mental ill health, with awareness and understanding of mental health increasing city-wide
 - London's workplaces support good mental health
 - action is taken across London to prevent suicide, and all Londoners know where to get help when they need it.
- 1.3. Thrive LDN is a public mental health partnership supported and funded by the Mayor of London, London's integrated care systems, London boroughs, NHS England and Public Health England. The partnership approach is governed by the Thrive LDN Advisory Group, which reports to the London Health Board, and provides oversight for the delivery of the MHWB mission.
- 1.4. This MD for £600,000 is the GLA's contribution to the delivery of the MHWB mission. This funds the GLA's partnership contribution to Thrive LDN's foundational work that also supports delivery of the Mission.
- 1.5. The table below gives a breakdown of the decisions being sought for 2021-22 expenditure for the delivery of the MHWB mission. This includes new activity directly focused on delivery of the MHWB mission, and long-standing programmes of work led by Thrive LDN that the GLA wishes to continue funding, as they directly contribute to the delivery of the mission's objectives.

Workstream	Approval to spend through this MD
MHWB mission	£450,000
Thrive LDN partnership foundation programmes	£150,000
Total for MHWB Recovery mission	£600,000

- 1.6. Expenditure will take the form of grant awards or payment for services procured, depending on the nature of the work concerned and in line with relevant GLA procedures, including the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

Mental Health Recovery mission

- 2.1. The Mayor wants to support public mental health recovery from the pandemic, where every Londoner has the opportunity to participate in, and feel empowered to make a difference through, their communities, workplaces and local democratic institutions. This will help to create a city in which everyone feels comfortable talking about their mental health, and to create a change in culture where Londoners are more resilient and have the capacity to cope with uncertainty and adversity.
- 2.2. The LRB has agreed the MHWB mission's objective as: by 2025 London will have a quarter of a million change agents, supporting Londoners where they live, work and play.
- 2.3. Delivery of this objective will take a co-ordinated public health approach, made up of programmes of work set out below. These will have the overall aim to:
 - reduce the impact of COVID-19 on Londoners' mental health and wellbeing, and do this in a way that does not entrench inequalities
 - decrease the vulnerability of people experiencing greater social and economic disadvantage.

Thrive LDN partnership foundation programmes

- 2.4. Thrive LDN's core objectives, funded and supported by health and care partners for London as described in paragraph 1.3, include a range of activities. These activities also serve as foundations to the delivery of the MHWB mission. We are therefore seeking spending approval for these alongside specific mission deliverables to maximise their impact.
- 2.5. The table below gives a breakdown of deliverables for this programme, and the decisions being sought for proposed 2020-21 expenditure.

Deliverable	Decision being sought for 2020-21 spend
<i>Thrive LDN deliverables for the MHWB mission</i>	<i>Total: £450,000</i>
<u>Mental Health change agents:</u> Leadership and governance of the mental health recovery mission is now with the Thrive LDN Advisory Group. The headline output is for London to have a quarter of a million wellbeing ambassadors, supporting Londoners where they live, work and play. This work will include campaign activity and wellbeing resources and training.	Approval to spend £150,000
<u>Right to Thrive:</u> Fund year three of the Right to Thrive scheme. The grant scheme funds mental health projects with and for intersectional and marginalised communities. The grant scheme will help to achieve the recovery mission by working with groups at greater risk of poor mental health in ways that improve equity and reduce mental health inequalities. Grantees will be chosen based on a competitive application process.	Approval to spend £100,000
<u>Bereavement:</u> Many Londoners have experienced grief as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing this is therefore an integral part of achieving the overall mission objectives. This programme intends to help Londoners feel supported when	Approval to spend £100,000

<p>faced with bereavement themselves, or when helping someone who is grieving; and to embed bereavement support into a wider support offer for Londoners. This is one way to support wellbeing and help build resilience.</p> <p>As part of the wider MHWB mission, the GLA commissioned Cruse to map bereavement support and services in London. Using this research, three projects are being funded: a bereavement campaign; bereavement level-one training; and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector engagement.</p>	
<p><u>Resilience:</u></p> <p>To support the MHWB mission, there will be funding to work with Thrive LDN Champions and mental health sector partners to develop a community and systems resilience offer for London now and as the first step to the 'recovery phase'. This would include peer support, resilience tools, projects with Mind (the mental health charity) around peer support and peer support for grassroots organisations through the Right to Thrive programme.</p>	Approval to spend £80,000
<p><u>Children and young people's mental health:</u></p> <p>As part of the wider pandemic response, and with the agreement of the health and care partnership for London, Thrive LDN commissioned a Higher Education (HE) Mental Health Needs Assessment and a Further Education (FE) Mental Health Needs Assessment. This funding is to work with our HE and FE partners to develop activities and engagement in response to the needs assessments. This activities and engagement work includes this sector within the overall mission objective, specifically supporting the suicide prevention strand of the mission, which commits to working with HE and FE.</p>	Approval to spend £20,000
<i>Thrive LDN partnership foundation programmes</i>	<i>Total: £150,000</i>
<p>World Mental Health Day: deliver a young Londoner-led festival on World Mental Health Day (10 October 2021). The GLA has a three-year confirmed contribution of £20,000 per year from the Baring Foundation to part-fund the festival (previously approved via MD2811). This will help achieve the mission objectives by continuing to raise awareness on mental health, reduce stigma and encourage peer support.</p> <p>This will be a combination of 20-30 small grants made to third parties and a budget transfer to the Peer Outreach team for their contribution to delivery of this programme.</p>	Approval to spend £30,000
<p><u>Campaigns:</u></p> <p>Funding for Thrive LDN campaigning activity for 2020-21, including Mental Health Awareness Week, Creativity and Wellbeing Week, Men's Health Week, an emotional resilience campaign and the #ZeroSuicideLDN campaign, all of which will feed in to support the MHWB mission.</p>	Approval to spend £50,000

<p>Evaluation:</p> <p>Undertake an evaluation to establish the collective impact of Thrive LDN, including the mental health recovery mission and bereavement workstreams.</p> <p>Thrive LDN has an established academic partnership with King's College London's Centre for Society and Mental Health who sit on the Advisory Group. As part of this partnership, the Centre provides academic support and rigour to Thrive LDN's internal evaluation.</p>	Approval to spend £50,000
<p>Printing and programme costs:</p> <p>Flexible budget to cover miscellaneous programme costs throughout the year, such as staff expenses and venue hire. These costs will be processed by the GLA.</p> <p>This will include printing costs for Transport for London's (TfL's) mental health poster campaign, which Thrive LDN will deliver, and one-off accessibility costs, such as translation and BSL interpreters.</p>	Approval to spend £20,000

2.6. Total approval being sought for the MHWB mission: £600,000

Programme	Decision being sought for 2020-21 spend
MHWB Recovery mission	Approval to spend £450,000
Thrive LDN partnership foundation programmes	Approval to spend £150,000
TOTAL for MHWB mission	Approval to spend £600,000

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, the GLA must have 'due regard' of the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation
 - advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 3.2. The Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy sets out how the Mayor will help address the inequalities, barriers and discrimination experienced by groups protected by the Equality Act 2010. This strategy includes objectives relating to mental health which are reflected in our mental health work programme. The GLA Health team provides regular updates on their work for the equality, diversity and inclusion action plan, which feed into the Mayor's Annual Equality Report (MAER). Publication of the MAER is a legal requirement. It outlines the arrangements put in place by the GLA over the last financial year, in order to demonstrate that due regard has been paid to the principle that there is equality of opportunity for all people in the exercise of the Mayor's general powers.
- 3.3. An Integrated Impact Assessment, which included an Equalities Impact Assessment within its scope, was conducted as part of the development of the Health Inequalities Strategy. This identified major positive and negative impacts of the programme for groups protected under the Equality Act 2010; and proposed ways to strengthen benefits and mitigate negative impacts, and to identify issues concerning the four cross-cutting themes under the GLA Act 1999. The Impact Assessment noted that the establishment of Thrive LDN, although in early stages when the document was written, was likely to lead to positive outcomes with regards to mental health – in particular for some groups with

protected characteristics (for example, people with disabilities arising from mental health conditions). The Health Inequalities Strategy was adopted in October 2018 (www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/health-inequalitiesstrategy), and the integrated impact assessment was published at the same time (www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_mayor_of_londons_health_inequalities_strategy_ia_report_-_final_23.08.17_0.pdf).

- 3.4. Thrive LDN has published insights reports in [2019-20](#) and [2020-21](#) detailing outcomes to date. Thrive LDN's research model includes a community insights function which involves regular community engagement and participatory action research projects to ensure their work is informed by lived experience. A recent example of this being [Pandemic Stories](#), which was published August 2021.
- 3.5. The mental health programme delivered through Thrive LDN has taken a proportionate universal approach (a key principle in addressing health inequalities) to all activity, by addressing the whole population while providing bespoke support for individuals, communities and groups who need it. Thrive LDN is committed to widening participation and reach across London to give everyone the equal opportunity to good mental health and wellbeing. Thrive LDN recognises that certain cohorts are over-represented in mental ill-health statistics, and this is continually taken into consideration during programme development. In particular, the Right to Thrive workstream focuses on those at higher risk of unfair treatment based on their identity, beliefs or social class. The aim is to improve opportunities across London for marginalised and intersectional communities in London (intersectionality is the interconnected nature of social categorisations, for example, the protected characteristics in the Equality Act). By recognising intersectionality we are, for example, recognising that experiences of discrimination may differ for the Black LGBTQ+ community and the Asian LGBTQ+ community.

4. Other considerations

Key risks and issues

- 4.1. Risks are assessed and managed on a programme basis. Cross-cutting and major risks are reported quarterly through the GLA's corporate performance management process. At the time of writing, the major risks are as follows:

Risk	Mitigation
Ongoing restrictions relating to COVID-19 especially social distancing measures creating challenges in holding public events, for example, World Mental Health Day.	Virtual events are being explored. Thrive LDN is supporting Virtual Pride, and Virtual Creativity and Wellbeing Week, to learn more about the potential for this and logistics. The World Mental Health Day Festival is led by the GLA's Peer Outreach team, with Thrive LDN supporting. Options for virtual events will be explored due to uncertainty around possible restrictions in the future.
Partners (for example, VCSE organisations) experience financial challenges, meaning they are unable to fulfil the programme.	Thrive LDN has already undertaken engagement with existing VCSE partners to understand current challenges and restrictions. Mitigation measures are in place with existing partners to ensure the continued delivery of activities. Enhanced due diligence will be undertaken for any contracts with new partners to understand challenges and restrictions in the context of COVID-19.

Staff are unavailable due to ill health.	The Thrive LDN team has implemented a dual responsibility process (that is, a single member of the team isn't solely responsible for an activity). Therefore, cover is in place if staff become unavailable due to ill health. In addition, there is some flexibility within our Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships' funding contribution to recruit short-term agency workers to provide cover if necessary.
Lack of programme oversight due to the unavailability of senior stakeholders due to COVID-19 related issues.	New governance arrangements have been agreed with the Thrive LDN Leadership team and the Thrive LDN Advisory Group during the current COVID-19 period to ensure robust governance arrangements are in place. In addition, Thrive LDN is now reporting directly to the Public Health England Office for London, and the Strategic Coordination Group, to ensure alignment with wider COVID-19 efforts.
Change in programme deliverables due to emergent mental health issues around COVID-19 that need addressing.	Thrive LDN have implemented a 4x4 of considerations to manage capacity and timings of activities. There are two dimensions: planning (operations, activities, communications and strategy) and time (this week; the next two to four weeks; the next one to three months; and the next three to six months). This enables the programme to be agile and responsive to any emergent mental health issues. Any significant change in programme deliverables would be raised with the Assistant Director for Health, Education and Youth, and formal approval would be sought.

- 4.2. In addition to the Mayor's commitment to deliver the MHWB mission, this work directly supports delivery of the Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy, a statutory duty under the GLA Act 1999.

Impact assessment and consultations

- 4.3. Impact assessments have been conducted on the key elements of the programme, as detailed above.
- 4.4. Participation is the driving force of Thrive LDN, and the partnership regularly publishes insights from outreach and engagement work with Londoners. For example, in 2020, Thrive LDN published Thrive Together, which summarised findings from listening to over 10,000 Londoners disproportionately at risk of developing poor mental health.
- 4.5. There are no known conflicts of interest to note for any of those involved in the drafting or clearance of this decision.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Approval is being sought for expenditure of £600,000 on the Mental Health & Wellbeing Recovery mission and the Thrive LDN work programme for 2021-22.
- 5.2. The expenditure is detailed in the below table.

Programme	Approval for expenditure in 2021/22
Thrive LDN Mental Health Programme	£350,000
Mental Health Recovery mission	£150,000
Bereavement	£100,000
Total	£600,000

5.3. This expenditure will be funded from the Health Team's Programme budget for 2021-22.

5.4. These programmes all sit within the 'Mental Health & Wellbeing' mission.

6. Legal comments

6.1. Sections 1 to 2 of this report indicate that the decisions requested of the Mayor concern the exercise of the GLA's general powers, falling within the GLA's statutory powers to do such things considered to further or which are facilitative of, conducive or incidental to the promotion of economic development and wealth creation, social development or the promotion of the improvement of the environment in Greater London; and in formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought officers have complied with the GLA's related statutory duties to:

- pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people
- consider how the proposals will promote the improvement of health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom
- consult with appropriate bodies.

6.2. Under section 31(3) of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (the GLA Act), the GLA's general powers (referred to above) cannot be used to incur expenditure in providing any health services that may be provided by any other public body. However, this prohibition does not apply to the provision of services or facilities for promoting improvements in, or protecting, public health (section 31(5A) of the GLA Act). To the extent that the decisions requested in this Mayoral Decision may involve the provision of health services, they involve the provision of services or facilities for promoting improvements in, or protecting public health that the GLA is permitted to provide using its general powers.

6.3. In taking the decisions requested, the Mayor must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty; namely the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, and to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment) and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). To this end, the Mayor should have particular regard to section 3 (above) of this report.

6.4. Any services required must be procured by TfL Commercial, who will determine the detail of the procurement strategy to be adopted in line with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code ('the Code'). Officers must ensure that appropriate contract documentation is put in place and executed by the successful bidder(s) and the GLA before the commencement of the services.

6.5. Officers must ensure any grant funding being provided is distributed fairly, transparently, in accordance with the GLA's equalities, and in a manner that affords value for money and is in

accordance with the Code. Officers must ensure that an appropriate funding agreement is put in place between and executed by the GLA and the recipient before any commitment to fund is made.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 7.1. A detailed business plan for the work of the Health team will be developed, setting out the full range of programmes, policy and advocacy work the team plans to undertake in 2021-22, alongside a timeline for each specific deliverable.

Month	Milestone(s)
May	Mental Health Awareness Week Creativity and Wellbeing Week Launch of the London Bereavement programme
August	Launch of the Mental Health Recovery mission programme Launch of Right to Thrive year three programme
September	World Suicide Prevention Day
October	World Mental Health Day festival
February	Publication of Thrive LDN's latest Insights Report

Supporting papers:

- The London Health Inequalities Strategy 2018-28: www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/health-inequalities-strategy
- The London Health Inequalities Strategy Implementation Plan 2018-2020: www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/his_implementation_plan.pdf
- Health Inequalities Strategy Annual report 2018-19: www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/his_annual_report_1819_final.pdf
- The Health Inequalities Strategy Consultation Integrated Impact Assessment: www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_mayor_of_londons_health_inequalities_strategy_ia_report_-_final_23.08.17_0.pdf
- Thrive Together: <https://thrivedn.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Thrive-Together-report.pdf>
- Thrive LDN Insights report 2020-21: <https://thrivedn.co.uk/resources/insights2021/>.

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) and will be made available 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 can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary. **Note:** This form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Part 1 – Deferral

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA should be included 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:

Dan Lescure has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Sponsoring Director:

Halima Khan has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

✓

Mayoral Adviser:

Tom Coffey has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

✓

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

Corporate Investment Board

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 6 September 2021.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature

D. Gane

Date

7 September 2021

CHIEF OF STAFF:

I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Mayor

Signature

D. Bellamy

Date

7 September 2021