

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2466

Title: Transfer of Hydrogen London assets from GLA to Intelligent Energy on behalf of Hydrogen London

Executive Summary:

Hydrogen London was established in 2002. It is an unincorporated consortium of organisations established and hosted by the Greater London Authority to drive forward the uptake of hydrogen in London.

The GLA provided a Secretariat on a voluntary basis for Hydrogen London which included managing the Hydrogen London budget generated by membership subscriptions. The GLA's role in Hydrogen London was supported by the Hydrogen Europe Fund, which ended in 2020. The Chair, Vice-Chair and wider Executive Committee have agreed that in order to continue to effectively support Hydrogen London in progressing London's hydrogen sector the GLA will no longer act as Secretariat and the Executive Committee will be responsible for the management and leadership of Hydrogen London. Hydrogen London will adopt an updated terms of reference to reflect these changes.

To support this change in management, Assistant Director approval is sought to transfer any remaining funds, membership and digital assets that the GLA holds on behalf of Hydrogen London to Intelligent Energy who will act as the new Chair and source a new Secretariat for Hydrogen London.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Environment approves:

1. the transfer of the remaining Hydrogen London budget generated by membership subscriptions of £41,800.44, to Intelligent Energy; and
2. to transfer the membership and digital assets held by the GLA on behalf of Hydrogen London to Intelligent Energy, including membership contact list, website, twitter account

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT

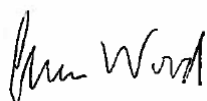
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Aram Wood

Position: Assistant Director
Environment

Signature:



Date:

12 October 2020

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. Hydrogen London was set up in 2002. It was an unincorporated consortium (henceforth 'Partnership') established and hosted by the Greater London Authority (GLA) to drive forward the uptake of hydrogen in London. Hydrogen London has helped catalyse several large, ground-breaking hydrogen fuel cell projects in London, it successfully lobbied Government and business and raised the sector's public profile.
- 1.2. London's Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy was the Chair of Hydrogen London, and an appointed member of Hydrogen London was the Vice-Chair (this was a member of hydrogen fuel cell engineering company, Intelligent Energy). Hydrogen London consisted of Executive members that formed the Executive Committee, and Ordinary members. The GLA provided a Secretariat on a voluntary basis for Hydrogen London, based at City Hall. The Secretariat coordinated Hydrogen London's day to day activities, managed Hydrogen London's membership, finances and digital services, and supported Hydrogen London in seeking and managing external funding to support its activities.
- 1.3. The GLA's role in the Partnership was supported by the Hydrogen Europe Fund, which ended in 2020. The Chair, Vice-Chair and wider Executive Committee have agreed that in order to continue to effectively support Hydrogen London in progressing London's hydrogen sector the GLA will no longer act as Secretariat and the Deputy Mayor will no longer be Chair. The GLA will remain a member of Hydrogen London. On behalf of Hydrogen London, Intelligent Energy will become the new Chair and appoint a new Secretariat, and the Executive Committee will be responsible for the management and leadership of Hydrogen London (with the GLA still being a member of the Executive Committee). Hydrogen London will adopt an updated terms of reference document detailing the changes in the operation going forward.
- 1.4. To support the new Secretariat's role, the approval is sought from the Assistant Director to transfer the membership, finance and digital assets that the GLA holds on behalf of Hydrogen London. To facilitate the transfer of financial assets to the new Secretariat, this decision seeks approval to hand over the remaining funds in the Hydrogen London budget generated by membership subscriptions, of £41,800.44, from the GLA to Intelligent Energy, who will act as the new Chair and source a new Secretariat for Hydrogen London.
- 1.5. The continuation of Hydrogen London aims to carry on bringing together the key stakeholders interested in achieving the aim of making London a world leader in fuel cells and hydrogen. It will continue to be a consortium of public sector including the government, industry, academia, and other stakeholders to take hydrogen fuel technology forward in London, to improve energy security, to reduce air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and noise, and to support London's green recovery and green economy.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. The objective of this decision is to support the continuation of Hydrogen London and its aim to drive forward the uptake of hydrogen in London with the GLA's participation in the Partnership. By supporting the continuation of Hydrogen London in line with the updated terms of reference, Hydrogen London will have its own Secretariat dedicated to support its activities and seek opportunities for implementing hydrogen in London. The GLA will end its role as the Secretariat for Hydrogen London but remain a member of the Partnership. The new role for the GLA in the Partnership will enable the GLA to work with members of Hydrogen London to identify potential

projects to support Mayor commitments, such as the decarbonisation of the GLA Group's buildings and vehicles that the Mayor is directly responsible.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. The Mayor, GLA and TfL are subject to the "public sector equality duty" contained in s 149 of the Equality Act 2010. This duty requires each body to have due regard to three outcomes when exercising their functions: (1) the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; (2) to advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic¹ and those who do not; and (3) to foster good relations between.
- 3.2. There is currently significant exposure of the London population to air pollution. Although this exposure is predicted to have declined significantly by 2020, current modelling results show that in 2020 there will still be more than 300,000 people living in locations with average NO2 levels above the EU legal limit value. In contrast, average concentrations of particles (PM10 and PM2.5) were, by 2010, already within EU Limit Values for the annual average concentrations.
- 3.3. Populations living in the most deprived areas are on average currently more exposed to poor air quality than those in less deprived areas. An independent report by Aether published by the GLA showed that those people living in the most deprived areas were on average exposed to 24% more nitrogen dioxide air pollution than those living in the least deprived areas.
- 3.4. The continuation of Hydrogen London is considered likely to be beneficial for groups with protected characteristics as it contributes towards identifying and implementing solutions for improving air quality in London. The Aether report showed that while everyone will benefit from improved air quality, those living in the most deprived areas would benefit the most on average.

4. Other considerations

a) Risks and issues

- 4.1. The risks of removing the Secretariat role from the GLA have been considered. These include no longer directly managing the membership, finance and digital assets for Hydrogen London. This lack of oversight could result in misuse of data and finances, and conflicts of interest arising between the GLA and other members of the Partnership with regards to the management of Hydrogen London. To mitigate these risks the GLA and members of Hydrogen London will agree an updated terms of reference that sets out the future management of Hydrogen London where conflicts of interest must be declared and managed on a case by case basis. Following approval of the decision set out in this document, the GLA and members of Hydrogen London will agree a contract that sets out the assets to be transferred to the new Secretariat and how the assets will be used.
- 4.2. To avoid data protection issues, the GLA sought permission from the members of Hydrogen London to transfer any member data from the GLA to the new Secretariat to support a streamlined continuation of Secretariat tasks.

b) Links to Mayoral Strategies and priorities

London Environment Strategy

- 4.3. The Mayor's London Environment Strategy was published in May 2018 and prioritises reaching legal air pollutant levels as soon as possible by the most effective route through a number of proposals. These proposals include: aiming to reduce emissions by phasing out fossil fuels and switching to zero

¹ The protected characteristics covered by section 149 are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; sex; religion or belief; and sexual orientation, and in certain circumstances civil partnership or marriage. Compliance with the PSED may involve, in particular, removing or minimising any disadvantage suffered by those who share a relevant protected characteristic, taking steps to meet the needs of such people and encouraging them to participate in public life or in any other activity where their participation is disproportionately low, including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

emission technologies in the TfL bus fleet, taxi and private hire fleet, and private and commercial vehicles; and working with government and other partners to seek reductions in emissions from activities from aviation, London's waterways, rail, construction and demolition, and buildings

Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

- 4.4. The Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy sets out how he will work to create a fairer, more equal, integrated city where all people feel welcome and able to fulfil their potential.

Strategic Objective 9 states:

"To work with boroughs, communities, transport providers and businesses to help regenerate the most deprived parts of London in a way that supports good growth and opens up opportunities for the most disadvantaged groups."

Strategic Objective 11 states:

"To work with all relevant partners to ensure actions to improve levels of air quality and mitigate the effects of air pollution are informed by an understanding of the groups most likely to experience poor air quality."

c) Impact assessment and consultations

- 4.5. The Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy, the current Vice-Chair, and the members of Hydrogen London have been consulted before agreeing on the new terms of reference for Hydrogen London

d) Conflicts of interest

- 4.6. There are no known conflicts to declare regarding those involved in the drafting or clearance of this form.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Since 2002 the GLA has taken on the secretariat role of Hydrogen London – a partnership between public and private entities. Financially this entailed the collection of membership fees, managing income from EU HYLAW, undertaking relevant expenditure in relation to the programme of work and creating and maintaining the digital website.
- 5.2. As this secretariat role will be relinquished to Intelligent Energy this paper seeks permission to transfer all associated financial responsibilities too. As of 2020-21 this includes £41,800 of membership fees; which is contained within the Environment budget; and the upkeep of the Hydrogen London Website.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 6.1. Key milestones for the transfer of the budget are set out below

Activity	Timeline
Terms of Reference approval	October 2020
Appointment of new Secretariat	October 2020
Transfer Hydrogen London budget to new Secretariat	October 2020

Appendices and supporting papers:

None.

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? YES

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: Until the transfer of management of Hydrogen London from the Mayor to Intelligent Energy is announced, which is expected in October 2020.

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:

Roulin Khondoker has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Corporate Investment Board

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 12 October 2020.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL SERVICES:

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

Signature



Date

12 October 2020