FOI request to the Greater London Authority submitted on 5 August 2016 #1447

How much has the GLA spent on reviewing planning permissions since July 2015?

How many planning permissions have been approved since July 2015?

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The Greater London Authority's response sent 16 September 2016

The Mayor's planning powers are strictly defined by the Mayor of London Order (2008), with the Mayor referred strategic planning applications that meet a set of criteria, primarily based on size. Further information on the Mayor's planning powers can be found at the Greater London Authority's website, at the following link: https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/planning-applications-and-decisions/what-powers-does-mayor-have-planning.

Applications are referred to the Mayor by local planning authorities, and unless the Mayor 'takes-over' an application, the Mayor is only a statutory consultee and not the decision making authority - the granting of planning permission is the responsibility of local planning authorities. The GLA does not therefore collate the information requested.

For the nineteen planning applications that were taken over by the Mayor for his own determination, the decisions, by date, can be found at the following link: https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/planning-applications-and-decisions/public-hearings. Eight of these 19 hearings are dated after July 2015.

As the Mayor is not routinely the decision making authority, we do not have a figure for how much the GLA has spent on reviewing planning permissions since July 2015. We could look into providing you with the Planning Decision Unit's overall budget, if this would be of interest. Please note that this would include a range of costs not related to your request, and we will be unable to breakdown the costs for those 19 applications the Mayor 'took-over'.