

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR DECISION – DD2174

Title: Delivery of HeadStart Plus Pilot Project

Executive Summary:

Team London have partnered with The Challenge since 2014 to fund HeadStart, a programme to help young people volunteer, build employability skills and gain their first interview for paid work. The programme has worked with over 5,000 young people who have provided over 100,000 volunteering hours to local communities and charities across London. Team London now wish to expand the HeadStart model, piloting a bespoke, geographically and demographically focused programme for disadvantaged young people from Peckham and neighbouring areas who require greater support to be in education or employment.

This decision form asks for approval to spend a total of £75,000 on the HeadStart programme. This is comprised of £50,000 sponsorship from Lendlease and £25,000 from the GLA. £25,000 of the expenditure is subject to future approval via an Assistant Director Decision Form.

Decision:

That the Executive Director of Communities and Intelligence approves:

1. The receipt of £50,000 sponsorship from Lendlease to support delivery of a pre-NEET HeadStart pilot.
2. A £50,000 grant to The Challenge to fund its HeadStart Plus Pilot programme.
3. Expenditure of a further £25,000 of GLA Budget for a complementary social action and engagement element of the pilot, subject to approval via an Assistant Director Decision Form.

AUTHORISING DIRECTOR

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: Jeff Jacobs

Position: Executive Director of Communities and Intelligence

Signature:



Date: 13.10.17

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The HeadStart Programme began as a small pilot in 2014 and has grown to support over 5,000 young people to give back over 100,000 hours of volunteering in their local community. Over 3,500 young people have attended employability workshops delivered by HeadStart employer partners. Out of those interviewed 75% were assessed as being job ready and nearly 500 young people have secured jobs.
- 1.2 MD2124 approved spend of up to £250k for HeadStart for 2017-18, £25,000 of which has been allocated to this HeadStart Plus pilot. A further 50k of income from Lendlease will supplement the GLA contribution, making a total of up to £75,000 spend for the HeadStart Plus Pilot.
- 1.3 HeadStart is a tried and tested model which equips young people with the skills and experience needed for working life. It achieves this through young people volunteering for 16 hours, attending communication and employability workshops, attending a job interview and for some providing the opportunity to gain paid work, work experience or internship.
- 1.4 Since 2014 HeadStart has demonstrated its impacts by young people having increased confidence to achieve their goals, increased teamwork, organisational, Leadership and communication skills. Alongside this the workshops delivered by employers has led to young people having a better understanding of the skills employers want and young people are better equipped to articulate their skills and experience. This outcome is evidenced by the employer partners who consistently report that HeadStart young people are on average 75% work ready compared to 25% of their usual recruitment pipeline.
- 1.5 We are now growing the HeadStart core programme to work with more targeted groups. In this case, to work with disadvantaged young people who are in school but at risk of becoming NEET (not in employment, education or training). Having consulted with the GLA Commercial Team, we wish to enter into a sponsorship agreement with Lendlease, who will sponsor the pilot programme by providing £50,000 to support programme delivery. In addition, the GLA has budgeted a spend of up to £25,000 to support the delivery of the pilot, allowing for more bespoke and intensive support for HeadStart Plus participants.
- 1.6 We will work with 'The Forgotten middle', young people who are not presenting any overt problems and therefore are not visible. This can leave them at risk of becoming NEET and not as equipped for post-16 education or a future career or careers.
- 1.7 This expanded HeadStart programme will work with a smaller number of young people in each cohort, all of whom require a higher level of support throughout the duration of the programme than the existing HeadStart participants. This more intensive support (and associated higher funding requirement) opens up the programme to a demographic who would otherwise not be able to benefit.
- 1.8 HeadStart Plus will engage and ignite passion in young people, providing an opportunity for them to recognise their talents and achievements. The programme will support young people to remain in education and work towards a career path that they want to pursue, helping them to become active citizens

- 1.9 Southwark is the chosen borough for this project with a particular focus on Peckham, as well as some of the surrounding areas. Peckham ward is identified as one of the most deprived areas in Southwark, therefore the disadvantaged young people who live or study within this area stand to benefit significantly from this programme.
- 1.10 Focusing on Peckham and its surrounding areas fits with Lendlease's corporate social responsibility and community engagement priorities whilst they are leading on the regeneration of the areas close to Peckham.
- 1.11 Although there is a primary focus on Peckham, we have broadened the reach to young people living beyond the Peckham area as some young people who would benefit from the programme may study but not reside in Peckham. This flexibility will ensure that the programme meets needs of those young people who benefit from taking part in the programme.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

2.1 Objectives

- (a) To work with Lendlease and The Challenge to pilot a higher-level support HeadStart programme targeting the 'forgotten middle' who are at risk of becoming NEET.
- (b) To partner with local organisations to ensure we connect and strengthen the local community, whilst raising awareness of Lendlease's role in improving young people's employability.
- (c) To prepare young people to make the most of their volunteering and HeadStart experience.
- (d) To build strong partnerships with community organisations to sustain volunteering and social action amongst young people
- (e) To inspire and prepare young people for a potential role with Lendlease or their chosen HeadStart employer.
- (f) To prepare young people to excel in a stressful interview situation.
- (g) To reflect on learnings, and prepare for next steps beyond HeadStart.

2.2 Expected Outcomes

- (a) 135 young people undergo a one to one assessment to identify needs
- (b) 122 receive 5+ hours to support personal skills needs
- (c) 122 young people attend an employability workshop with Lendlease
- (d) 100 young people complete 16 hours of volunteering
- (e) 60 young people attend an interview at Lendlease for an unpaid work experience placement
- (f) 15-20 young people will secure an unpaid work placement at Lendlease and the remainder will secure paid work with one of the other HeadStart employer partners
- (g) 80 Young people will have the opportunity to apply for paid work, work experience or an internship with another HeadStart employer partner
- (h) 100+ Young people report improved skills, character and employability
- (i) 90+ young people remain in education
- (j) 60% of those interviewed are considered job ready
- (k) 60% of those interviewed are successful
- (l) 85% feel they have a better understanding of what employers are looking for after taking part in the workshops and interviews
- (m) 80% of young people show a 10%+ increase in how they rate their skills needed for work: a) Working well with others in a team b) Leading and influencing c) Communicating clearly d) Organising their time.

- (n) 85% of young people show a 10+% improvement in level of confidence after taking part in workshops in the following areas:
 - (o) the skills employers are looking for
 - (p) understand what their main skills are
 - (q) knowing what makes a good application
 - (r) knowing what makes a good CV.

2.3 The progress of outcomes will be monitored through The Challenge reporting weekly on outcomes and bi-weekly catch up meetings, this will give the opportunity to flag issues early and resolve them quickly. We will also have monthly partnership meetings with The Challenge, Lendlease and the community partner to review progress and achievements of the project. The targets have been set and agreed by The Challenge, Team London and Lendlease.

2.4 This pilot is low risk as each party has been involved in shaping the project and setting targets that are realistic. The Challenge has achieved all targets and in some cases exceeded targets with the delivery of HeadStart since 2014. Team London have a track record of successfully managing and delivering projects and the senior project officer will be closely monitoring the progress of the project and identifying risks and resolving these as they arise. Lendlease are committed to supporting local communities and already have several successful employability initiatives that support young people in their local communities.

3. Equality comments

3.1 This project aims to work with disadvantaged young people. The programme is accessible to all young people regardless of gender, disability, sexual orientation, religious beliefs etc. Promotion, content and delivery of the project will ensure that it does not stereotype and provides open access to individuals who are interested in joining the project, in particular one which is of interest to them.

3.2 The project will provide flexibility to those who have specific needs such as a disability or special educational needs, by ensuring that the content and delivery is adapted to meet different needs and where required, support equipment will be made available. Physical access to learning will be considered and arrangements will be made where required.

4. Other considerations

4.1 Key Risks:

	Risk Description	Mitigation / Risk Response	Probability	Impact	RAG
1	Delivery Partner does not meet the agreed outcomes	The risk is low and will be mitigated through close project management and monitoring through monthly meetings and review processes	1	1	G
2	The sponsor is not satisfied with the delivery and progress	Team London has a strong track record of working with businesses and building strong relationships. We will work closely with the sponsor and meet regularly as a	1	1	G

		project team to ensure any issues are resolved early on and quickly.			
3	The new pilot model of delivery for HeadStart does not work	There are 3 cohorts of delivery through the year. Team London and The Challenge will be evaluating the project throughout and building the learning into the delivery at various stages so that any risk areas are resolved quickly.	2	2	A
4.	The community partner does not deliver a satisfactory project	Team London will follow the guidance for procuring the charity partner. The Challenge will be the lead delivery partner and ensure good progress is being made. The charity partner will also attend monitoring meetings to update on progress on outcomes. A grant agreement will be issued which will set out clear objectives and outcomes.	1	2	G

4.2 Mayoral Strategies

This programme will work towards fulfilling the priorities set by the Mayor of London:

- The programme will increase social action. Headstart Plus will work with a wide demographic of Londoners, encouraging active participation in community and civic life. It will support young Londoners in volunteering and will help them to take action to improve our city
- It will also increase social cohesion and community engagement. Headstart Plus will teach young people to foster valuable life skills by becoming active citizens in their local area, and bringing communities together in a way that is now more important than ever
- It will aid people with the employment, education and training that they need, as well as meeting the business needs of our ever-growing city. Headstart Plus will work to improve the skills system here, ensuring provision more closely matches the needs of businesses in our growth sectors, so that all Londoners can contribute fully and benefit from the opportunities that our world-class economy generates.

5. Financial comments

5.1 Approval is being sought for the receipt and expenditure of £50k from Lendlease for a bespoke pilot Headstart programme. In addition, there would be a further £25k expenditure, subject to an Assistant Director Decision, on a potential complementary social action and engagement element. Therefore, total expenditure could be up to £75k, with a net spend for the GLA of £25k, which will be funded from the Team London 2017/18 budget.

6. Legal comments

6.1 The foregoing sections of this report indicate that the decisions requested of the director fall within the statutory powers of the Authority to promote and/or to do anything which is facilitative of or conducive or incidental to the promotion of economic development and wealth creation within Greater London and in formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought officers have complied with the Authority's related statutory duties to:

- (a) pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people;
- (b) 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; and
- (c) consult with appropriate bodies.

6.2 In taking the decisions requested of him, the director 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 persons who do not share it 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 director should have particular regard to section 3 (above) of this report.

6.3 Officers must ensure that any external services required for the project be procured in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code (the "Code") and with the assistance of Transport for London's procurement team. Furthermore, officers must ensure that appropriate contractual documentation be executed by both the GLA and the relevant contractor prior to the commencement of the required services.

6.4 The grant funding to be awarded as part of the HeadStart project must be distributed in accordance with the requirements of section 12 of the Code.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	October 2017
Announcement	October 2017
Delivery Start Date	October 2017
Final report start and finish (self)	October 2018
Delivery End Date	August 2018
Project Closure	October 2018

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) 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 approval or on the defer date.

Part 1 Deferral:

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

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be 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:

Satbinder Kooner has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Laura Brown has reviewed the documentation and is satisfied for it to be referred to the Sponsoring Director for approval.

✓

Financial and Legal advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal, and this decision reflects their comments.

✓

Corporate Investment Board:

The Corporate Investment Board reviewed this proposal on 9 October 2017.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature



Date

12.10.17

