

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD2911

Title: Approval of the updated GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement

Executive summary:

The Mayor is asked to approve the updated GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement. The GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement was approved by the London Assembly on 10 February 2022. It has been approved in principle by the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC); the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC); Transport for London (TfL); the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC); and the London Fire Commissioner (LFC), who will each be asked to provide formal approval of this Agreement following its approval by the Mayor.

This Agreement is made between the Greater London Authority (GLA) and its functional bodies, the LLDC, the OPDC, TfL, MOPAC and the LFC.

Decision:

That the Mayor agrees the revised GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement for implementation across the GLA Group.

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:

16/3/22

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

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The GLA has a range of rules and guidelines in place which can be viewed [here](#).¹ The key governance documents are:
 - the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (the GLA Act), which established the GLA, and subsequent legislation which impacts on its remit and responsibilities
 - the GLA's Standing Orders and the 'Mayoral Decision-Making in the Greater London Authority' document, which set out the decision-making processes and scheme of delegation
 - the GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement, which is the subject of this decision form.
- 1.2. The GLA reports on its compliance with its governance arrangements through the preparation of an Annual Governance Statement for submission to the external auditor. This Statement is reviewed by the Assembly each year prior to its sign-off by the Mayor, and its inclusion alongside the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.
- 1.3. The GLA Group Corporate Governance Framework Agreement (the Agreement) is made between the GLA and its functional bodies – the LLDC, the OPDC, TfL, MOPAC and the LFC – collectively known as the GLA Group.
- 1.4. It is a voluntary and firm commitment by the GLA's elected members, the Mayor's appointees, members of functional body boards, and officers, to be open, transparent and accountable for their actions and behaviour. It is also a commitment to hold to specific Mayoral and London Assembly expectations, set out below, and for the Group to interact in a way that enhances accountability and service delivery to Londoners.
- 1.5. The Agreement is reviewed each Mayoral term. It was last reviewed in 2016 and approved under MD2046.
- 1.6. This revised version of the Agreement has been reviewed and approved in principle by the LLDC, the OPDC, TfL, MOPAC and the LFC who will each be asked to provide formal approval of this Agreement following its approval by the Mayor. The Agreement was approved by the London Assembly at their Plenary meeting on 10 February 2022.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. Implementation of the Agreement helps to demonstrate the commitment by the GLA's elected members, the Mayor's appointees, members of functional body boards, and officers, to be open, transparent and accountable for their actions and behaviour. As stated above, it is also a commitment to hold to specific Mayoral and London Assembly expectations, as set out in the Agreement, and for the GLA Group to interact in a way that enhances accountability and service delivery to Londoners.

3. Equality comments

¹ www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/good-governance/our-procedures-0

- 3.1. Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 provides that, in the exercise of their functions, public authorities must have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 3.2. Considering the obligations under section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010, it is likely that there will be a positive impact upon protected groups in implementing the Agreement, as it ensures that the GLA Group is committed to interact in a way that enhances accountability and service provision to Londoners.

4. Other considerations

- 4.1. The risks associated with possible gaps in the corporate governance requirements set down by this Agreement have been mitigated via discussion and review by relevant officers, and then boards, of all organisations within the GLA Group. The Agreement contains provision for future reviews, to be led by the GLA's Monitoring Officer each Mayoral term.
- 4.2. There are no direct implications for GLA strategies arising from the content of this report.
- 4.3. There are no conflicts of interest to declare from any officer involved in the drafting or clearance of this Decision form.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. There are no direct financial implications arising from the content of this report. However, any improvements to the corporate governance regimes of the GLA Group may reduce the likelihood of inappropriate or fraudulent behaviour.
- 5.2. Any costs that may arise from implementing the Agreement will be subject to further approval via the GLA's decision-making process.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1. The GLA and its functional bodies should establish governance arrangements that ensure resources are directed in accordance with agreed policy and according to priorities and statutory responsibilities.
- 6.2. The content of the Agreement falls within the Assembly's terms of reference, as well as the responsibility of the Mayor.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Approval by the London Assembly	11 February 2022
Approval by the Mayor	March 2022
Functional bodies confirm arrangements are in place	End of March 2022 onwards, subject to their governance processes

Appendices and supporting papers:

Appendix 1 - GLA Group Corporate Governance Agreement

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 the 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:

Emma Strain, GLA Monitoring Officer has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Sponsoring Director:

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

✓

Mayoral Adviser:

David Bellamy has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

✓

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

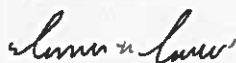
Corporate Investment Board

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 14 March 2022

✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES: Enver Enver on behalf of David Gallie

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

Signature

Date

14/3/22

CHIEF OF STAFF:

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

Signature

Date

13/3/22

