

REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR DECISION – DD2029

Title: Team London – Partnership formalisation with Greater London Volunteering (GLV)

Executive Summary:

The GLA has worked closely with Greater London Volunteering (GLV) over the past three years. The third sector in London is rapidly changing as set out in the recent report, the Way Ahead. The GLA wishes to provide up to £48,900 grant funding and circa £26,100 in-kind support to GLV in order to progress the report's recommendations.

The GLA's grant funding and in-kind support of GLV will be formalised by the GLA's and GLV's entry into a Grant Agreement, which will have a duration of one year; August 2016 to July 2017. The GLV's project will include a review of civil society, the creation of a data framework, organising stakeholder outreach and developing training and reward and recognition activity.

The GLA will review the results of the project towards the end of the year's grant funding and VIK period.

Decision:

That the Executive Director of Communities and Intelligence approves:

1. The provision of up to £48,900 grant funding to Greater London Volunteering ("GLV") during the period running from August 2016 to July 2017 for the support of the third sector; funded from the Micro grants & Support budget approved via MD1661
2. The provision of in-kind support of a value of up to £26,100 to GLV including co-location, 2 desks, telephony, Wi-Fi and use of meeting rooms at City Hall; and
3. The GLA taking a place on GLV's board of trustees or equivalent advisory role.

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 – Communities & Intelligence

Signature:



Date: 13/09/2016.

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Team London is the Mayor's volunteering programme for London, using volunteering as a way of increasing social action and positive outcomes for Londoners and the third sector in London. Team London encourages all Londoners to give their time to make our city a better place.

Team London is building the next generation of volunteers, connecting young people with their communities and giving them the skills, networks and experiences that they need to find work.

We are also bringing businesses and the third sector together to increase impact across the capital.

- 1.2 Greater London Volunteering (GLV) is the regional body for volunteering in London, and sees the potential to work more closely with the GLA to achieve our shared ambitions of a thriving London, where communities work together, and social integration is realised. We believe the key components of a successful relationship lie in the ability of the GLV to;

- Reach to Londoners – engaging all our communities in helping to tackle the problems our city faces, and in building on the strengths of all Londoners;
- Giving voice to communities – helping to shape policy through our insight into the activities of volunteers and organisations on the ground in communities across the capital; and
- Delivery of change – achieving results through harnessing our network to deliver projects that act as a catalyst for social action across communities.

- 1.3 The GLA and GLV have worked closely together over the past three years. In 2016 The Way Ahead, a review of civil society was launched. The GLV and GLA had worked together closely on this review, which looks at the changing needs of the third sector in London and how to shape infrastructure and delivery to meet these needs. Both GLA and GLV have roles in how to take this review forward. The role of the GLA to support civil society in London is an important one and there are options about how we go about this.

- 1.4 In this interim period before change is implemented the GLA wishes to support GLV as it explores the different options more closely. A key element of such support would be a grant funding agreement stipulating the monetary and in-kind support, which the GLA would provide to GLV and demarcating the key outputs and milestones of GLV's project.

- 1.5 Budgetary requirements of the proposal are set out below;

Activity	2016-7
Coordination of activity and driving forward the Way Ahead report work to map and shape the future infrastructure requirements for London and ensure that communities are brought into decision making processes and to inform the way in which the GLA will work with infrastructure organisations across London. A minimum of 6 consultation events with Volunteer centres and wider stakeholder groups. Monthly steering group cross sector engagement in order to keep partners informed.	£8,000
Work with the 32 strong Volunteer centre network to agree core data measures across the capital, develop a robust framework and then develop ways of collecting and sharing data with GLA to ensure better intelligence on barriers and opportunities	£5,000

Support Team London and GLA with outreach to increase and improve contact with target groups and communities, including access to over 14,000 organisations worked with across London. To include at least 2 stakeholder events and awareness raising opportunities across London.	£5,000
Improving quality of volunteering offer across London to match with Mayoral priorities and drive forward progress, including development of work on training and capacity building programmes for volunteering groups across London. To include delivery of at least 2 Trustee workshops and development of new training offer regarding capacity building, dependant on recommendations regarding support needs of the sector going forward. To include overseeing Mayor's Team London Awards for volunteering, working with 32 volunteer centres to promote entry to the awards, and to gain at least 250 applications from across London.	£12,000
Rental of two desks in City Hall at a rental rate of £7,875 per desk. This is a 65% reduction in desk costs due to the charitable status of the organisation. The full cost of a desk in City Hall is £22,500. The remaining £26,100 of VIK for the two desks is included in the VIK element of this DD. This rental cost will be paid to the GLA.	£15,750 plus VAT of £3,150, total of £18,900.

The closer working relationship between the GLA and GLV should also be able to increase investment in Civil Society, with the opportunity for bidding for regional contracts to deliver with local partners, bringing in at least £30k of external funding to the sector. This match funding is not a condition of the grant but will be a priority for the partnership.

This partnership includes direct funding from the GLA of £48,900 for the year August 2016 to July 2017. Approval is being sought to allocate the funding out of Micro grants & Support budget approved via MD1661.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

2.1 By co-locating GLV within the GLA we believe we will be better able to work across teams within the GLA to achieve greater impact for our communities, maximising the value of GLV's work whilst also helping to enhance the work of the GLA through our insight and reach. We believe there are three main areas of potential for GLV to work more closely with teams at the GLA, in:

- Adding value to existing programmes – using our reach and partnership approach to strengthen the offer of departments such as Team London, bringing the benefits of these excellent programmes to more Londoners and increasing their reach to more diverse audiences, using the opportunities as a way of improving social cohesion and social mobility;
- Sharing what we know to inform policy – bringing our data, and that of our network, to help inform the development of policy and action in response to community need; and
- Increasing investment and impact – by accessing charitable funds to match GLA sources, and focusing our energies, to increase the effectiveness of our interventions.

3. Equality comments

3.1 GLV represents volunteering organisations who are working to ensure equal access to volunteering opportunities in all areas in London and our support for GLV and working closely with them will have a positive impact on the ability of all Londoners, particularly disadvantaged ones, to access opportunities.

- 3.2 GLV has a strong track record and focuses on supporting more marginalised groups, and will be able to work with the GLA to improve access to London-wide opportunities.
- 3.3 Team London will work with the volunteer centres to ensure volunteering opportunities are offered to young people who are currently not in education, employment or training to help build their skills for the future.

4. Other considerations

a) Links to strategies and Mayoral and corporate priorities

The work with GLV will contribute towards the following Mayoral commitments:

- Building opportunities for London's communities, including skills, employment and inclusion.
- Giving young people in London more opportunities.
- Driving volunteering in the capital to continue to build on the success of London 2012 and European Volunteering Capital 2016.

The Team London programme directly supports the Mayor's priority to use volunteering as a way of increasing life chances, and ensuring better social cohesion within London. Working even more closely with GLV will strengthen our links with the volunteer centres who are the on the ground delivery team that are working all over London, but particularly in disadvantaged areas.

b) Impact assessments and consultation

Team London will continue to consult and engage widely with the volunteering community. Impact assessments will be carried out for the work that we do with GLV. Key considerations will be;

- Independent but involved – maintaining GLV's status as a separate charity, whilst ensuring we get the best from co-locating our teams;
- Competing and collaborating – establishing protocols for how we best work together where this is the right thing to do, and maintain the healthy competition in other areas that continues to drive innovation and change; and
- Practicalities – GLV's needs for space and support

c) Key risks and issues

- (i) No benefits delivered: Co-location with GLV does not result in the desired benefits of shared intelligence and increased insight into on the ground needs. Mitigation: Ensure communication and contract sets out clear aims and objectives and ways of working so that benefit can be tracked. In worst case scenario, partnership agreement not renewed
- (ii) Lack of understanding of the relationship: Volunteer centres do not understand the relationship between GLA and GLV and do not work with GLV going forward, which reduces on the ground intelligence that we have and the ability to trial innovative approaches and influence the implementation of the civil society review. Mitigation: Good existing relationships with Volunteer centres from both GLV and GLA perspective, messaging and communication to ensure that ways of joint working are understood, no other infrastructure support is available to Volunteer centres and they need GLV to act as their advocate so will look on this development favourably.
- (iii) Issues with conflict of interest: There is a conflict of interest with GLV as an organisation and with its members and GLA priorities. Mitigation: Contract sets out clear parameters for working together, which are adhered to and revisited if issues arise.
- (iv) Inability to frame role of GLV and GLA in civil society review, which means that not possible to access additional external funding; Mitigation; Ensure GLA involvement in review process, work with the Deputy Mayo, whose responsibilities cover the third sector, once appointed, to ensure that GLA strategic leadership role is defined and offer is clear.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 Approval is being sought to provide up to £75,000 grant funding (£48,900 revenue funding and £26,100 value in kind), to fund activities to implement the recommended changes in the third sector. A partnership between GLA and GLV is being agreed for a one year period from August 2016 to July 2017.
- 5.2 The monetary funding of up to £48,900 includes £15,750 contribution towards rental cost at 65% discount due to its charity status, and £3,150 for Vat. In-kind' support with an estimated value of £26,100 is also being provided by the GLA to GLV. This is the remaining balance after deduction of Rent + Vat from the standard desk charge at £22.5k per desk. Match funding has not been agreed.
- 5.3 The budgetary requirements of the proposed partnership have been set out in the body of the report under section 1.5 and these are summarised below:

Activity	£000
Coordination of activity and driving forward The Way Ahead report	8
Work with the Volunteer centre network	5
Support Team London and GLA with outreach	5
Improving quality of volunteering offer across London	12
	<hr/> 30
Contribution towards rental cost payable to GLA/FM	16
Vat 20%	3
	<hr/> 19
Total Net cost to the GLA	49
In-kind' support (balance after deducting Rent + Vat from £45k standard desk charge x 2)	26
Total Grant funding + VIK	<hr/> 75

- 5.4 GLV is not VAT registered and cannot reclaim the VAT applied to the rental cost.
- 5.5 The rental cost of £15,750 is payable to the GLA / FM. A rental agreement will be put in place.
- 5.6 The funding will be made available from Team London Micro grants & Support budget held within C&I, approved via MD1661. WBS code to allocate costs is GG.0270.002.005.
- 5.7 Any changes to this proposal, including budgetary implications will be subject to the Authority's decision-making process.

6. Legal comments

Power to Undertake the Requested Decision

- 6.1 Under section 30 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (the 'Act') the GLA, after appropriate consultation, is entitled to do anything that will further the promotion, within Greater London, of economic development and wealth creation, social development and the improvement of the environment.
- 6.2 Furthermore, section 34 of the Act allows the GLA, to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of any functions of the GLA. In this case, the provision of grant funding to Greater London Volunteering ("GLV") in relation to volunteering in Greater London may be viewed as being calculated to facilitate and conducive and incidental to social development in the Greater London.

Funding

- 6.3 The proposed grant of up to £75,000 including £48,900 in monetary support and £26,100 in in-kind support may be viewed as a conditional gift rather than a contract for services and supplies. Paragraph 6.4 of the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code requires that the funding be distributed fairly, transparently and in accordance with the GLA's obligations regarding equality of opportunities. To this end, the officers have set out in paragraph 3 above how they have met the said requirements. Furthermore, the officers must ensure that an appropriate funding agreement be put in place between the GLA and GLV before any commitment to the funding be made.

7. Planned approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Development and signing of legal agreement	Upon receipt of DD
Announcement	End August 2016
Start Date	September 2016
Main milestones, quarterly assessment	October 2016
Main milestones, quarterly assessment	January 2017
Main milestones, quarterly assessment	April 2017
Review and project assessment	June 2017
Proposals for next steps	July 2017

Appendices and supporting papers: None

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:

Alice Wilcock has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Natalie Cramp 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.

✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature

M. D. [Signature]

Date

12.9.16

