

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD1567

Title: To approve the funding for Big Dance 2016

Executive Summary:

Approval is required for an allocation of £178,000 for the delivery of Big Dance 2016 from the Culture 2016/17 budget to be released.

The Big Dance festival 2014 delivery and 2016 planning is covered by MD1316 which covers Cultural Strategy Projects for the period: 2014/15 - £178,000, 2015/16 - £68,000.

The indicative budget for Big Dance 2014 & delivery of Big Dance 2016 was presented within the 3-year Culture budget on 16 January 2014 to IPB and this included an allocation of £178,000 for 2016/17.

Big Dance 2016 festival planning is well underway on the basis of the 3-year indicative budget. There is an imminent requirement to procure services in November 2015 in order to successfully deliver the programme in summer 2016. Discussions with the BBC are underway and Channel 4 have commissioned a third series of the Big Dance Shorts film programme for online and broadcast.

Decision:

That the Mayor approves:

- expenditure of up to £178,000 for the delivery of Big Dance 2016 from the 2016-17 Culture budget.
- the seeking of external funding in the form of grant and / or sponsorship income and the associated expenditure up to the value of £150,000 in order to enhance the delivery of the Big Dance Programme in 2016-17.

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:

18.11.15

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

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Big Dance is a biennial programme celebrating dance and dancing. It was a major Olympic legacy project with support from the Legacy Trust UK from 2009-2012 and through its partnership with People Dancing – the national partner formerly known as the Foundation for Community Dance.
- 1.2 Big Dance in London underpins a UK-wide and international schools and community programme with the Big Dance Pledge (a partnership with the British Council) and artistic commission on Trafalgar Square as global events.
- 1.3 Key to the delivery of the capital-wide programme is the GLA's partnership with the consortium of the five Big Dance Hubs which provide the glue across the 33 London boroughs and contributes to the public engagement programme for 500,000 Londoners.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

Objectives:

- 2.1 Big Dance makes a strong contribution to the Mayor's culture, health, social policy, equalities, volunteering and sports agendas and is an exemplar programme which has been developed over a decade. Big Dance will be the final festival and delivered in partnership with People Dancing – will have reached almost 12million people.

Outcomes:

- i) To produce and deliver the final Big Dance festival in 2016
- ii) To support the five Big Dance Hubs and their outreach programmes across 33 boroughs: East London Dance, Greenwich Dance, English National Ballet, Sadler's Wells and Siobhan Davies Dance;
- iii) To produce the festival week 2-10 July 2016, the Big Dance Pledge – the schools and communities programme, the Big Dance Bus Tour, the Big Dance Shorts and the Big Dance 2016 commission for Trafalgar Square on 2 Jul 2016 by Akram Khan;
- iv) 100 volunteering opportunities;
- v) Engagement with 500,000 Londoners of all ages in a capital-wide cultural participation programme

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 Big Dance as a programme is fully inclusive and offers engagement for Londoners of all ages, cultures and abilities. The GLA works with a number of agencies to ensure all strands of the programme offer equal access. The Website and print material will adhere to the appropriate guidelines.

4. Other considerations

Key risk:

- 4.1 A delay in the release of this funding allocation has the potential to damage the GLA's reputation as all partnerships and artistic relationships have been secured. The planning is well under-way for the festival programme and artistic commissions and it is now critical the paperwork is completed to

avoid reputational damage to the GLA. Discussions with the BBC are underway and Channel 4 have commissioned a third series of Big Dance Shorts for online and broadcast. Contracts and funding agreements now need to be produced in order the project delivery can begin as there is less than one year to go. Funding applications are in train and so funds received require authority to be released. The Culture team will undertake procurement procedures in line with the GLA requirements.

Mindful of instances in previous years where difficulties have arisen in respect of licensing of events, in particular where it is intended children are to participate officers will liaise closely with all relevant authorities to ensure that all necessary licenses, consents and permissions are obtained for the proposed activities. This factor has been considered throughout the planning of the events and therefore performances will take place in the daytime and 14+ years as the minimum age for participation has been set.

Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities:

- 4.2 Big Dance is a significant broad programme which contributes to a range of mayoral agendas including: culture, children & young people, older people, volunteering, sport & physical activity, health, public realm, equalities and London as a friendly city. Big Dance has been specifically cited within the Mayor's Cultural Strategy (updated in 2014), the Transformational Cultural Projects for the World Cities Forum and Take a Closer Look – the Cultural Tourism Vision for London.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 As part of the 2015-16 budget process, a budget provision of £68,000 was allocated for expenditure upon the Big Dance Programme in 2015-16 and an indicative allocation of £178,000 for 2016-17, which is subject to the Authority's budget process for 2016-17, currently underway. An estimated project budget for the core GLA funding of £178,000 for 2016-17 as provided by the Culture Team is summarised below:

Expenditure	£000
Artistic Commission	70
Marketing/ Photography/ Film / PR	50
Programme Support	58
Total	178

- 5.2 In addition to the GLA contribution to the programme, officers are currently seeking funding from third parties to supplement the programme, currently estimated at £150,000. Consequently, officers will need to ensure financial commitments are not made, which the external income is due to fund until the funding source has been formally secured. The programme must be reduced to the level of funding that is secured.
- 5.3 Any changes to this proposal, including budgetary implications will be subject to further approval via the Authority's decision-making process. All appropriate budget adjustments will be made.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1 The foregoing sections of this report indicate that:
- 6.1.1 the decisions requested of the Mayor fall within the statutory powers, of the Authority to do such things as may be considered facilitative of or conducive to the implementation of the mayor's cultural strategy which is prepared and published pursuant to section 376 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999; and
- 6.1.2 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 Should the Mayor make the decisions sought officers must ensure that the services required are procured by Transport for London Procurement who will determine the detail of the procurement strategy to be adopted in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code and appropriate contract documentation is put in place and executed by the successful bidder(s) and the GLA before the commencement of those services.
- 6.3 Further to the seeking of external funding to meet costs of the project the GLA may seek sponsorship when exercising its section 30 general power under its power to charge third parties for discretionary services under section 93 of the Local Government Act 2003 provided that the charges levied do not exceed the costs of provision. If external funding is to be provided as sponsorship officers must ensure that sponsorship is sought in accordance with the sponsorship policy. In any event no reliance should be placed upon any external funding until agreements for such sponsorship or other funding are put in between and executed by the GLA and sponsor(s)/funders.
- 6.4 Given that the expenditure relates to a project extending beyond the current mayoral term officers must also observe the principle that an incumbent administration should not unreasonably fetter the discretion of any future administration. Officers should ensure that the project is managed in a manner, including (without limitation) the inclusion in contracts, sponsorship and funding agreements of break clauses, which enable the GLA to terminate the project (or elements thereof) at any point for convenience and milestones and payments should be structured so as to minimise the impact of the exercise of such termination rights.

7. Investment & Performance Board

- 7.1 In January 2014, the Board received a business case and investment proposal to support the Mayor's Cultural Strategy implementation from 2014/15 and 2015/16 which was endorsed. MD1316 Cultural Strategy Major Projects supports this decision. The budget for 2016/17 was also included in the IPB papers.
- 7.2 IPB approved the expenditure for Big Dance 2016 on 17 September 2015.

8. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 8.1 This project will be managed through the GLA Culture Team, within the Communities and Intelligence Directorate and working to the lead of the Deputy Mayor for Education and Culture. The Culture Team will be responsible for developing and negotiating all terms of agreement and monitoring performance progress against objectives in order to ensure that all conditions and targets are met for the duration of the delivery period.

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contracts - funding agreements produced	November 2015
Big Dance Pledge produced	November 2015
Programmes begin	January 2016
Big Dance Pledge	20 May 2016
Mayoral Launch	30 June 2016

Big Dance 2016 Festival Week	2-10 July 2016
Final evaluation start and finish (self/external):	September 2016
Delivery End Date	10 July 2016
Project Closure:	31 March 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:

Jacqueline Rose has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following have been consulted on the final decision.

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

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

✓

Sponsoring Director:

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

✓

Mayoral Adviser:

Munira Mirza has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

✓

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature

M. D. Allge

Date

12.11.15

CHIEF OF STAFF:

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

Signature

Edmund

Date

16.11.2015