

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2252

Title: Technical Support to Create Spatial Planning Circular Economy Statement Guidance and Refined Criteria.

Executive Summary:

The construction industry in the UK consumes more than 400m tonnes of materials every year, making it the nation's largest consumer of natural resources.

By integrating circular economy principles into development of the built environment through planning policy we can aim to ensure developments are more resource efficient. This can include better utilising existing buildings and materials to keep them in use for longer and designing for deconstruction and reuse to reduce waste and the associated adverse economic and environmental impacts on London's built environment.

As a result, the draft London Plan introduces a new Policy SI7 requiring major development applications to produce a Circular Economy Statement demonstrating how circular economy outcomes will be achieved to deliver resource efficiency and waste reduction benefits. The GLA wishes to provide grant funding to the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) as a contribution to costs associated with guidance it is drafting to help developers meet this new policy requirement.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director approve expenditure of up to £30,000 (£10,000 each from Regeneration, Planning and Environment) by way of grant funding to LWARB to support its development of guidance on producing Circular Economy Statements.

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT:

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: Patrick Feehily

Position: Assistant Director of Environment

Signature:



Date:

7/8/2018

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 This ADD seeks approval to spend up to £30,000; (£10,000 each from Regeneration, Planning and Environment) for work that LWARB to commission to provide technical support to create spatial planning circular economy statement guidance and refined criteria. The GLA wishes to provide grant funding to the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) as a contribution to costs associated with guidance it is drafting to help developers meet a new London Plan Circular Economy policy requirement.

GLA and the Good Growth by Design Programme

- 1.2 London is entering a period of rapid growth with the population projected to increase to 10.5 million by 2041. The Mayor's draft new London Plan sets out the Mayor's vision for meeting this challenge through Good Growth. Good Growth seeks development that benefits all Londoners and prioritises quality in the built environment. It will ensure London is a city that is socially and economically inclusive and environmentally sustainable. The Mayor's Good Growth by Design Programme seeks to harness London's world-leading design talent to make the city work for all its citizens.
- 1.3 The Good Growth by Design programme includes design research and inquiries as a core work strand. Within this, ecological urbanism (urbanism that is more socially inclusive and sensitive to the environment – it should be a more holistic approach to the design and management of cities) is a major investigation priority recognising the role that the development industry must play in meeting environmental priorities.

LWARB's Circular Economy Programme

- 1.4 LWARB is developing a suite of programmes aimed at catalysing and co-ordinating circular economy activity across London, using a blend of policy, demonstration projects and investment to drive private sector collaboration.
- 1.5 In June 2017, LWARB published its 'Circular Economy Route Map for London' report. This Route Map sets out action plans for five areas for initial focus. These areas are built environment, electricals, textiles, food and plastics. The focus areas have been identified by looking at their environmental impact, the retained value of the products involved and their re-use/recycling potential. They are also items which can be seen in high volumes in London's residual waste.
- 1.6 One of the focus areas identified in LWARB's circular economy route map for London is the built environment. The latest estimates for net benefits of implementing circular economy opportunities in London's built environment are the most significant of our five focus areas. These opportunities could lead to GDP growth of between £3bn and £5bn annually by 2036. The construction industry in the UK consumes more than 400m tonnes of materials every year, making it the nation's largest consumer of natural resources.
- 1.7 By integrating circular economy principles into development of the built environment through planning policy we can aim to ensure developments utilise existing buildings and materials, are designed for deconstruction and reuse, and reduce the environmental impact of London's built environment.

Circular Economy Statement

- 1.8 The draft London Plan introduces a new Policy SI7 requiring major development applications to produce a Circular Economy Statement demonstrating how circular economy outcomes will be achieved to deliver resource efficiency and waste reduction benefits. We wish to grant fund LWARB as a contribution of costs associated with drafting guidance to help developers meet this new policy requirement.
- 1.9 LWARB works with the GLA to help embed circular economy principles and provides expert advice to a range of stakeholders. Building on the draft London Plan - LWARB, the GLA and a Sounding Board of the Mayor's Design Advocate (MDA) members are now seeking a consortia of consultants and/or institutions to develop guidance and refine the criteria proposed to support developers to complete a circular economy statement requirement and to set out best practice in this respect.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

Objectives

- 2.1 The technical consultants selected for this project will produce a document which could be used as guidance to create a circular economy statement. The report will include the following;
- The process used to assess and refine the criteria for the Circular Economy Statement
 - The final Circular Economy Statement criteria –possibly in template format
 - How the contractor identified what guidance and best practice examples are needed to allow developers to complete circular economy statements
 - The guidance and best practice document in an easy to use format
 - An estimate of the cost to produce a Circular Economy Statement
 - Information on how the circular economy statement can ensure appropriate outcomes are measured, recommendations for evidence that the statement should include, and what process should be used to monitor outcomes, including how, and what to report, to whom and at which stages in the process.
 - Recommendations on how to inform and create support for the guidance within the built environment sector.

Expected Outcomes

- 2.2 The technical consultants will produce a report and guidance for LWARB that is used to produce the Circular Economy Statement. The expected outcomes from the technical consultants include;
- Refined circular economy statement criteria with supporting circular economy statement guidance
 - Recommendations for developers in achieving a quality response to a circular economy statement
 - Engagement and inter-disciplinary activity (including workshop facilitation) with stakeholders including architects, engineers, designers, developers, investors, construction, demolition and public sectors to ensure the statement and guidance is fit for purpose

- Communication and dissemination exercise to promote and publicise the circular economy principles to the built environment industry in London

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 The draft London Plan has had a full integrated impact assessment undertaken. The S17 draft London Plan policy on the circular economy and Good Growth by Design agenda of this policy statement and guidance aims to improve the design and environment quality of the built environment for all Londoners.
- 3.2 The sounding board group, which is cross cutting across the GLA, are advising on the procurement specification to ensure equalities and diversity are considered.

4. Other considerations

Risk description	Mitigation actions
Technical Consultants unable to meet deadline for report and guidance submission in time for the London Examination in Public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular project meetings and client catch-ups. - Using expertise of MDA's to provide support. - Client and consultant agree project programme. - Evaluation criteria weighting includes section on programme delivery.
Ineffective dissemination of report and guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical consultants providing ideas for dissemination activities as part of tender return. - GLA and LWARB cover as much of the stakeholders collaboratively.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 Assistant Director's approval is sought for expenditure of up to £30,000 as a contribution to LWARB's Circular Economy statement project. LWARB will also be providing £10,000.
- 5.2 This will be funded equally from Planning, Environment and Regeneration's 2018-19 budgets.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Provide Grant Funding Agreement to LWARB	Early/Mid August 2018
Final Report Deadline	28/09/2018
Dissemination Activity	Sept-October

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:**

Joseph Henry has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that the Finance and –if relevant– Legal teams have commented on this proposal as required, and this decision reflects their comments.

Corporate Investment Board:

The Corporate Investment Board reviewed this proposal on 6 August 2018.

HEAD OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:

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

Signature:

Samerville

Date:

7/8/2018

TIM SAMERVILLE IN THE ABSENCE OF

TOM MIDDLETON

