

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2408

Title: Analysis of hospital reconfiguration proposals against the Mayor's six tests

Executive Summary:

In 2017 the Mayor announced six tests he expected to be met before he gave his support to any major health and care transformation and reconfiguration proposals.

This decision form seeks approval to procure expert external consultancy services to prepare systematic, objective and independent assessments of major hospital reconfiguration proposals launched for public consultation in 2019/20, against the Mayor's six tests. These assessments will help the Mayor to determine the extent to which these proposals meet his tests and enable him to champion and challenge the NHS accordingly on behalf of Londoners.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Health, Education and Youth approves:

Expenditure of up to £20,000 for the procurement of expert consultancy services to assess major hospital reconfiguration proposals against the Mayor's six tests.

AUTHORISING DIRECTOR

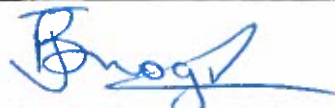
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Jazz Bhogal

Position: Assistant Director, Health, Education and Youth

Signature:



Date: 16/12/2019

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The Mayor has committed to champion and challenge the NHS on behalf of Londoners, and this is identified as a mayoral priority for health in MD2439.
- 1.2. In 2017, in response to a report commissioned by the Mayor into London's five Sustainability and Transformation Plans (approved under ADD2067), the Mayor announced six 'tests' he expected to be met before he gave his support to any major health and care transformation or hospital reconfiguration proposals in London. These tests cover:
 - health inequalities and the prevention of ill health;
 - hospital bed capacity;
 - financial investment and savings;
 - impact on social care;
 - clinical support; and
 - patient and public engagement.¹
- 1.3. Approval has already been given under ADD2428 (December 2019) to commission a single report into London's Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)/Integrated Care System (ICS) system-wide plans.
- 1.4. This ADD is seeking approval to procure expert external consultancy services up to the value of £20,000 to prepare assessments of major hospital reconfiguration proposals launched for public consultation in 2019/20, against the Mayor's six tests.
- 1.4 The NHS timetable for the publication of upcoming hospital reconfiguration proposals is not fixed and it is therefore difficult precisely to predict the volume of work that will be needed during this period. The maximum value of the procurement is based on the likely number of proposals and their level of complexity. Following a competitive procurement process, a single supplier framework agreement will be established with the winning bidder. The GLA will have the flexibility to call off from the framework as and when required and be able to achieve best value for money without the need to repeat the competitive tendering process.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. The overall objective is to provide the Mayor with systematic, objective and independent assessments of individual major hospital reconfiguration proposals against his six tests; these will help him to determine the extent to which the tests have been met, and to champion and challenge the NHS accordingly on behalf of Londoners.²
- 2.2. For each set of hospital proposals, consultants may be asked to provide an assessment against all six tests or a subset of them.
- 2.3. For each test the consultants will highlight positive evidence towards the test being met, as well as areas where there is a lack of evidence. They will also critically assess key assumptions on which the hospital reconfiguration proposals are based and highlight any areas in need of further development and/or challenge.

¹ For full details of the Mayor's six tests see: www.london.gov.uk/mayors-six-tests

- 2.4. These assessments will form part of an overall briefing for the Mayor to inform his response to individual hospital reconfiguration proposals. They will be published on the GLA website alongside the Mayor's responses.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. Reducing health inequalities underpins most of the health team's work, including the Mayor's six tests. Health inequalities are differences in health that are unnecessary and avoidable, as well as unjust and unfair. They often exist between groups of people with protected characteristics³, and those who experience poverty and socioeconomic deprivation⁴.
- 3.2. This project includes a specific focus on reducing health inequalities, with the first test specifically aiming to ensure that proposals consider the potential impact on inequalities, don't widen the inequality gap, and where possible reduce inequalities⁵. The assessments will enable the Mayor to champion and challenge the NHS accordingly.

Alignment with the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Strategy

- 3.3. In addition to aligning with the Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy, it is well aligned to his Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Strategy, particularly in relation to the objectives to make London a safe and healthy city. Objective 33 in the EDI Strategy is "to lead, and help coordinate, work to understand and address health inequalities and support at-risk communities to increase their health skills, knowledge and confidence". The Mayor's six tests are an important tool for the Mayor to use to lead and coordinate action to reduce health inequalities.

4. Other considerations

Risks and issues

- 4.1 The NHS timetable for the publication of upcoming hospital reconfiguration proposals is not fixed and it is therefore difficult precisely to predict the volume of work that will be needed during this period. Health team officers will maintain close contact with the NHS in London to ensure early notice of plans to publish proposals. Following a competitive procurement process, a single supplier framework agreement will be established with the winning bidder. The GLA will have the flexibility to call off from the framework as and when required and be able to achieve best value for money without the need to repeat the competitive tendering process.

Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

- 4.2 This work has links to the Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy (HIS), which sets out plans to tackle unfair differences in health to make London a healthier, fairer city. Health inequalities are inextricably linked to other types of inequality. This is because they are most often a direct result of inequalities in other areas of life, i.e. socioeconomic differences. The Strategy outlines key actions to address the socio-economic causes of poor health (social determinants).
- 4.3 Applying the six tests to major service reconfigurations will promote the implementation of the health inequalities strategy and will contribute towards the ambition to address London's stark health inequalities and to reduce the number of years Londoners live in poor health.

³ Under the Equality Act 2010, protected characteristics are age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and marriage or civil partnership status (all except the last being 'relevant' protected characteristics).

⁴ The Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy sets out how the Mayor will go beyond the legal duties of the Equality Act 2010 and contribute towards addressing wider issues such as poverty and socio-economic deprivation.

⁵ These are the words from the first test. <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/champion-and-challenge/mayors-six-tests>

- 4.4 There are no conflicts of interest to note for any of the officers involved in the drafting or clearance of this decision form.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Approval is being sought for expenditure of up to £20,000 for the procurement of expert consultancy services to assess major hospital reconfiguration proposals against the Mayor's six tests.
- 5.2. As the NHS timetable for the reconfiguration proposal is not fixed, this is causing uncertainty within this external assessment project timeline. Therefore, expenditure could slip into next financial year (2020-21). This will be managed by the Health Team, if delays occur.
- 5.3. This expenditure will be funded by the Communities & Intelligence Minor Programme budget for 2019-20.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	13 January 2020
Delivery Start Date	From mid-January
Delivery End Date	By September 2020?*

**This will be determined by the NHS timetable for each hospital reconfiguration, including the formal public consultation period and subsequent publication of the consultation report and revised business case.*

Appendices and supporting papers:

None.

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 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:

Charlotte Hall has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures.

✓

Corporate Investment Board

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 16 December 2019.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:

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

Signature



Date

16.12.19

