

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR DECISION – DD2167

Title: Examination in Public Secretary and administrator

Executive Summary:

This DD seeks approval to spend £95,000 of the 2017-18 and 2018-19 London Plan budget to employ an Examination in Public (EiP) Secretary and EiP administrator for a period of 12 months. The appointments will support the preparation for and management of the EiP on the London Plan.

Decision:

That the Executive Director of Development, Environment and Enterprise approves spend of £95,000, from the 2017-18 and 2018-19 London Plan budget, to employ an EiP Secretary and an EiP Administrator for the period of 12 months.

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: Fiona Fletcher-Smith

Position: Executive Director-Development, Enterprise & Environment

Signature:



Date: 5.10.2017

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The Greater London Authority Act 1999 (as amended) places responsibility for strategic planning in London on the Mayor, and requires him to produce a Spatial Development Strategy for London (also known as the London Plan) and requires that it is kept under review. Following his election in 2016, the Mayor agreed a full review of the London Plan would be undertaken leading to the adoption of a new London Plan in 2019.
- 1.2 The draft London Plan is scheduled for public consultation for the end of November 2017 until February 2018 with the Examination in Public (EiP) provisionally scheduled for Autumn 2018. Preparation for the EiP starts shortly after the commencement of the consultation on the draft London Plan.
- 1.3 For every Examination in Public to date, staff have been recruited on fixed term contracts of varying duration depending on the length of the Examination to help manage the EiP process.
- 1.4 The Planning Inspectorate provides restrictions on who is able to occupy these roles. Candidates must not have had any direct involvement in preparing the London Plan. However, candidates currently or previously employed as London Plan EiP staff are eligible for these posts. These exclusions are written into the job descriptions / person specifications.
- 1.5 Note this decision is seeking approval for expenditure; the GLA's powers concerning the appointment of staff are vested in the Head of Paid Service (with a few exceptions that do not apply here) and delegated in line with the Head of Paid Service – Staffing Protocol.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 The EiP secretary reports directly to the independent Panel Chair or Examiner and project manages the entire EiP process – analysing consultation responses and helping to define the matters for discussion in advance of the EiP, programming and running the EiP itself and assisting the Chair / Examiner in drafting the report which is submitted to the Mayor after the EiP.
- 2.2 The EiP Assistant reports to the EiP secretary and is responsible for the detailed day to day management of the EiP process. The Assistant's primary focus is with the participants, acting as their first point of contact and staffing the EiP office during the EiP sessions.
- 2.3 It is expected that both posts will be appointments for a period of 12 months.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 The appointment of the two posts will adhere to GLA recruitment processes.

4. Other considerations

a) key risks and issues

- 4.1 The EiP secretary has an important role in ensuring the smooth running of the EiP, particularly in relation to understanding the London context and how the London Plan and its implementation may

differ from elsewhere in the country. The EiP secretary role is also important in that it is the main interface between the London Plan Team and the Inspector.

4.2 It is helpful if the EiP Administrator works at the GLA so they have prior knowledge of internal GLA process to assist the EiP Secretary.

b) links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

4.3 These posts are essential to the EiP process which must be followed before the London Plan can be published.

5. Financial comments

5.1 Executive Directors approval is sought to appoint EiP Secretary and EiP Administrator for the period of 12 months from January 2018 to December 2018. The posts will form part of the London Plan team within the Planning unit and are to support in the preparation and management of the Examination in Public on the London Plan.

5.2 The total cost of the two posts will be approximately £95,000 (at mid point salary scale including on-costs) and will span to financial years as follows;

	2017-18 (January 2018 to March 2018)	2018-19 (April 2018 to December 2018)
EiP Secretary (Grade 9)	£15,250	£45,750
EiP Administrator (Grade 4)	£8,500	£25,500
Total	£23,750	£71,250

5.3 The two posts will be funded by the 2017-18 and 2018-19 London Plan Budget. These posts are currently on the Planning Teams Establishment, however only filled when required therefore funded as and when required from the London Plan budget.

6 Legal comments

As noted above, the Mayor has a duty to keep all of his strategies, including the London Plan, under review. The review process is governed by statute and regulations which prescribe how it is to be carried out, including arrangements for consultation, public participation, document managing and the holding of the EiP.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Recruitment commences	Oct 2017
Individuals in post	Jan 2018
Contracts end	Dec 2018

Appendices and supporting papers:

Job Descriptions:

- EiP Secretary
- EiP Administrator

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:

Rachael Rooney has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Juliemma McLoughlin 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.

✓

Corporate Investment Board:

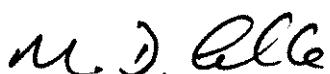
The Corporate Investment Board reviewed this proposal on 2 October 2017.

✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature



Date

2.10.17