GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA110221-5762

9 March 2021

Dear

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 10 February 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked for information relating to the members of the new Landmark Commission.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1. How much will the task force cost public funds?

Commission Members hold voluntary and unremunerated positions. Funding of up to £247,000 has been allocated to support diversity in the public realm to date, of which £110,000 will support a community commissioning fund.

2. Any information held on each member of the panel as to why they were chosen and their qualifications for the role

Members of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm were recruited through an open and transparent process via the GLA vacancies portal on London.gov.uk. Applicants were assessed against a range of criteria.

We are unable to release information submitted by panel members as part of the recruitment process, this is exempt from disclosure under s.40 (Personal information) of the Freedom of Information Act.

3. The benefits to the public that this task force will bring

London is one of the most diverse cities in the world, with more than 300 languages spoken every day, yet statues, plaques and street names do not reflect and celebrate this diverse history. The Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm will benefit the public by leading a London-wide conversation on how to practically achieve greater diversity of representation across the public realm and heritage sites. This will have a focus on increasing presence and visibility of underrepresented groups including Black, Asian and minority ethnic, women, LGTBQ+ and disabled groups and to include consideration of representation of socio-economic diversity.

4. Were the positions in the task force advertised externally or were they selected without open competition, if they were not advertised and selected via open competition, why not?

Members of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm were recruited through advertising externally through an open and transparent process via the GLA vacancies portal on London.gov.uk.

5. Who within the office chose the members of the panel including name, job title, grade?

The panel included the Co-Chairs of the Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm, Deputy Mayors Justine Simons OBE and Debbie Weekes-Bernard. It also included senior GLA officers from the Communities and Social Policy and Culture and Creative Industries teams, and an independent panel member.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information