

**Freedom of Information request Ref: MGLA310817-5864**

Thank you for your email dated 30 August, which was received by the Greater London Authority on 31 August.

Our response to your request is as follows:

1. How much public money has been spent on the Garden Bridge project?
2. Please break down, as far as possible, what the money was spent on?
3. Have any public funds been donated to the Garden Bridge Trust?
4. Is the Mayoral Office aware of any other government/local authority/public body funding the Garden Bridge project?
5. Has any money denoted/ring fenced for the Garden Bridge project been unspent?
6. If so, will this money be returned for another public spending purpose?

The Garden Bridge Trust is an independent charity that was set up under the previous Mayor to fundraise for and deliver the Garden Bridge.

The previous Mayor agreed to provide £30million funding to the project via Transport for London (TfL). In addition, the Department for Transport made £30million of funding available, which was also administered through TfL. Information about the fundraising for the project, including the £60million of public funding, is available on Transport for London's website:

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/garden-bridge-funding-august-2016.pdf>.

The funding provided to the Garden Bridge Trust was as set out in a funding agreement between TfL and the Garden Bridge Trust. Details are available on TfL's website at:

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/tfl-gbt-funding-agreements-and-variations.pdf>.

The Garden Bridge Trust previously published a breakdown of the public funding expenditure in June 2016, at: <https://www.gardenbridge.london/news/article/public-funding-expenditure-breakdown>. Transport for London (TfL) has also published information about its expenditure on the Garden Bridge project:

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/tfl-gb-expenditure-31-august-2016.pdf>.

There is also information about the public money provided on TfL's website:

<http://content.tfl.gov.uk/gb-public-spend-sept16.pdf>.

Approximately £37million of the £60million public funding has been spent by the Garden Bridge Trust. The money that has already been provided to the Garden Bridge Trust by TfL cannot be recovered because it has already been spent. Of the remaining approximately £23million, up to a further £9 million of the DfT's contribution to the project is available to the Garden Bridge Trust as an underwriting of potential cancellation liabilities.

The Garden Bridge Trust has told the Mayor that it will account for every line of expenditure as it winds up its operations in accordance with the Companies Act. The Mayor is deeply frustrated that London taxpayers have now lost tens of millions of pounds on a project that has amounted to nothing. He will ensure that all the lessons from this failure are learnt for future projects and swiftly acted upon, including all those identified Dame Margaret Hodge's review.

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

Yours sincerely

Claire Hamilton  
Transport Manager

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the complaints procedure, available at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/greater-london-authority-gla/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>.