

## Greater London Authority

## Single Source Request

<b>SUBJECT</b>	2016-17 Future of London Housing Zones Network		<b>Date:</b> 04/10/2016
<b>Originating Department:</b> Housing & Land			<b>Cost Centre / WBS code No:</b> GH.0940.002
<b>Submitted By (Budget Holder):</b>		<b>Prepared By:</b>	
<i>Signature</i>		<i>Signature</i>	
<i>Print</i>	Jamie Ratcliff	<i>Print</i>	Heath Pritchard
<b>The Budget Holder accepts that in submitting this single source request it may be subject to challenge as "anti competitive" by an external third party under the EC Treaty of Rome.</b>			

<b>Consultees/Procurement Comments</b>		
<i>Add details as appropriate e.g. Legal Specialist, Sponsor, other staff etc.</i>		
<i>Consultees may indicate agreement or dissent or make other comments if appropriate.</i>		
<b>Procurement signature (only if approved )</b>		
<i>Signature</i>		<b>Date</b>
<i>Print</i>		<i>Shopping Cart No.</i>
<i>Single Source Request Value</i>		<i>PO No.</i>

**1 Purpose of Goods / Services**

- 1.1 This decision request single source approval to enter into contact with Future of London 2011 Limited (FoL), a not-for-profit policy network, to run the Housing Zones Network from October 2016 to September 2017.

**2 Background**

- 2.1 Future of London 2011 Limited (FoL), an independent not-for-profit policy network, runs three bespoke development programmes aimed at creating learning and development opportunities and a forum for networking and sharing of best practice for practitioners in the regeneration, housing and infrastructure sectors in London. These programmes are primarily funded through FoL membership fees.
- 2.2 In summer 2015, FoL was approached by the GLA and invited to develop a bespoke network for public sector officers working on Housing Zones to run alongside the life of the programme. This programme was launched in autumn 2015 as the Housing Zones Network.
- 2.3 The Housing Zones Network is modelled in part after the Future of London Leaders and Leaders Plus programmes, the key differences being (1) the network includes

instructors from the legal, planning, finance and design sectors, (2) organisations taking part can involve several member of their staff, and (3) the network includes an added online resource which acts as a forum for members to seek answers to pressing questions.

**2.4 The Housing Zone Network provides the following benefits to the GLA:**

- a. The Network focuses solely on the GLA's Housing Zones Programme, helping to give those working on zones the knowledge and skills they need to deliver.
- b. GLA officers and those they work with have a forum to share best practise and lessons learned across zones.
- c. GLA officers and those they work with have an online resource to look up answers to pressing questions.
- d. GLA officers and those they work with have a number of training and development opportunities that expand their knowledge and promote innovation.
- e. As key stakeholder and contributor, senior GLA staff are able to feed into the network and steer on how it is run.

**3 Alternatives**

- 3.1 FoL is a not-for-profit organisation that relies primarily on membership and participation fees to fund their programmes. These sources of funding are not sufficient to fund the Housing Zone Network unless the fees are significantly increased which would dissuade take up and run counterproductive to the network's aim of involving various stakeholders across the Housing Zones programme.
- 3.2 Savings could be found by reducing the scope of the Network, for example by abandoning the online resource, number of masterclasses or courses. This, however, would also reduce the appeal of the network to stakeholders and could result in reduced take up or organisations dropping out of the network.
- 3.3 Over 62 organisations are currently participating in the Housing Zones Network including a number of boroughs, housing associations and TfL. There are no other networking organisations in London with the same membership or programmes on offer.
- 3.4 Consideration was given to re-procuring the service; however, a prospective supplier would have to create a new network from scratch to involve the same organisations that are already in place. This would cause considerable delays and limit the GLA's ability to support officers involved in the crucial planning and contracting stages of the zones. It is also unlikely key stakeholders would want to pay membership fees to a separate organisation just for Housing Zones.
- 3.5 The GLA Contracts and Funding Code allows for a supplier to be selected without competition if they are in a position to provide a unique service that is required by the Authority and cannot otherwise be supplied by other organisations in the required timescales. Single source exemption is therefore sought by this decision.

**4 Reason Request has been raised after commitment (if applicable)**

N/A

## **5 Impact on Funds**

- 5.1 Adopting the recommendation in this decision would delivery best value for money. The FoL Housing Zones Network is already in place with over 62 participating organisations. The costs and time to deliver would increase significantly if another organisation were selected to carry out this work as there currently are no such organisation in London with the same membership or programmes to offer.

## **6 Recommendation(s)**

- 6.1 A single source exemption in accordance with sections 5 of the GLA Contracts and Funding Code is approved to continue the contract with FoL for the value of £15,000 to run the Housing Zones Network.

## **7 Disclaimer (for Budget Holder)**

I, the client, am fully aware of the requirements of the Transport for London Business Ethics policy.

I, and any other persons involved in the selection of this supplier, declare that we have no existing financial or other interests in the recommended supplier for this transaction and we are not aware that any close relative or friend has any such interests.

I, and any other persons involved in the selection of this supplier, declare that we have not received in the last 12 months any offer of gifts or hospitality from the recommended supplier for this transaction other than those we have already disclosed.

I understand that nothing I have signed seeks to circumvent the provisions of the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998.

