

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD1468

Title: Permission to Accept Funding from Public Health England (London)

Executive Summary:

The GLA plays an important role in the health and wellbeing of Londoners. Public Health England (London) is keen to support the GLA in its role to improve health and reduce health inequalities. They have offered £300,000 to fund public health specialist expertise in the GLA to continue our work on areas that assist in delivering PHE-London's strategic priorities (£250,000) and to fund development of strategic leadership for health in London, including support for the refocused London Health Board (£50,000).

This MD therefore seeks the Mayor's approval to accept the funding to cover expenses in 2014/15 relating to public health expertise and to contribute towards the funding of the London Health Board secretariat, which will be based in the Health Team from 2015/16.

Decision:

That the Mayor approves the GLA's:

1. acceptance and receipt of £300,000 from Public Health England (London) for the provision of public health specialist expertise to the GLA in 2014-15 and the development of strategic leadership for health in London for 2015/16; and
2. expenditure of £300,000 on the provision of public health specialist expertise to assist in PHE's strategic priorities of obesity, smoking, harmful drinking, giving children the best start in life, dementia, anti-microbial resistance and TB.

Mayor of London

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision, and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

23.3.2015

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE MAYOR

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

1.1 Public Health England - London

- 1.1.1 Public Health England (PHE) is the expert national public health agency for England. It has four core functions:
- protecting the public's health from infectious disease and other hazards to health
 - improving the public's health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities
 - improving population health through sustainable health and care services
 - building the capability and capacity of the public health system
- 1.1.2 PHE-London is the local and regional contact for London boroughs and the GLA. The strategic priorities for London are: obesity, smoking, harmful drinking, giving children the best start in life, dementia, anti-microbial resistance, and TB.
- 1.1.3 The GLA has a close relationship with PHE-London and continues to develop project plans for the priority areas that overlap between the GLA and PHE-London, such as obesity and giving children the best start in life.

1.2 The Role of Public Health Specialists in the GLA

- 1.2.1 Public Health Specialists are leaders who are expert at negotiating and influencing senior level people from across the public sector. Their role is to take a strategic and critical approach to the 'bigger picture' and wider determinants of health to identify evidence-based solutions to complex problems impacting the population's health.
- 1.2.2 At present, the GLA Health Team has Public Health Specialists embedded in Transport for London and in the Mayor's Planning Team. These Specialists continue to work to improve transport and the public realm to increase active travel and physical activity to reduce obesity. In addition, we routinely host training placements for Public Health Specialist Trainees who are seconded to work on various programmes such as the Food Flagship Programme, Drugs and Alcohol, and the Health Inequalities Strategy. Our Public Health Specialists act as champions for public health and add value by strengthening the Mayor's statutory duty to consider health and health inequalities in each of the seven statutory strategies produced by the GLA. The Public Health Specialists working in transport and planning are funded through fixed term GLA funding.

1.3 Strategic leadership for health in London

- 1.3.1 The Mayor has chaired the London Health Board and the former London Health Improvement Board. The London Health Commission, established by the Mayor in December 2013 published its recommendations in October 2014. These included recommendations on strategic leadership for health in London. In response to these recommendations the Mayor will chair a refocused London Health Board. In consultation with partners, the membership and terms of reference will be revised and appropriate governance and support structures developed. Partners have agreed to support and fund this development and ongoing support to the board once it is established. The Board met for the first time in its revised configuration on 12 March 2015.

1.4 Distribution of Funds

- 1.4.1 The GLA Health Team intends to use the funding of £300,000 to support:

- Public Health Specialists in the GLA to work on programmes relating to PHE's strategic priorities (£250,000)
- Work to develop strategic leadership for health in London, including the London Health Board, led by the GLA Health Team (£50,000)

1.4.2 The funding is given by PHE on the understanding that the GLA will not, as a consequence, reduce its own funding for the obesity programme. It is to be regarded as matched funding for the GLA's own funding of this programme.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

2.1 Our objective is to accept Public Health England's funding offer in order to:

- support the continuation of public health expertise to work towards strengthening the Mayor's statutory role to deliver a 'health in all policies approach'; and
- develop strategic leadership for health in London, including the London Health Board, led by the GLA Health Team.

2.2 The main outcomes are expected to be:

- continued employment of public health specialists in the GLA to work on programmes which also assist with PHE's strategic priorities; and
- greater strategic leadership for health in London with a refocused London Health Board, chaired by the Mayor and supported by the GLA Health Team

3. Equality Comments

A major driver behind the work of the GLA Health Team, the work of PHE and the purpose of the London Health Board is the reduction of health inequalities. The public health expertise funded through this resource will be assisting the transport and planning functions of the GLA to be cognisant of and responsive to the inequalities of the city and the evidence-base on how these inequalities can be addressed.

4. Other considerations

4.1 Key Risks and Issues

- Approval for receipt of this funding is required urgently in order to progress the work currently taking place in the Health Team and planning for 2015/16.

4.2 Links to Mayoral Strategies and Priorities

- This funding directly supports the continued work of the GLA Health Team and the development of strategic leadership for health in London, including the London Health Board. A further MD is also in preparation to establish the new working arrangements and funding for the London Health Board. The Mayor has already agreed these priorities.

4.3 Impact Assessments and Consultations

- This arrangement follows detailed, high-level discussion between the Head of the Health Team and the Regional Director of Public Health for London who also acts as the Mayor's statutory Health Adviser as laid out in s309A of the GLA Act. No further consultation was considered necessary.

5. Financial comments

5.1 Approval is being sought for the receipt of £300,000 from Public Health England (London) and the associated expenditure for the provision of public health specialist expertise in 2014-15 and the development of strategic leadership for London in 2015-16 (as detailed within the main body of this report).

- 5.2 The GLA will receive the PHE funding in the 2014-15 financial year and the balance of funding not spent will be treated as a receipt in advance for expenditure in 2015-16. The proposed income carry forward will be subject to the Authority's closure of accounts process for 2014-15. The receipt of income and the associated expenditure will be accounted for within the Health & Communities Unit.
- 5.3 Any changes to this proposal, including budgetary implications, will be subject to further approval via the Authority's decision-making process. All appropriate budget adjustments will be made.
- 5.4 The Health Team within the Communities & Intelligence Directorate will be responsible for managing this programme of work and ensuring that all activities and expenditure complies with the Authority's Financial Regulations, Contracts & Funding Code and Expenses & Benefits Framework.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1 The foregoing sections of this report indicate that the decisions requested of the Mayor fall within the GLA's statutory powers under section 30 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (GLA Act) to do things considered to promote economic development and wealth creation, social development or the promotion of the improvement of the environment in Greater London, in a manner which promotes the improvement of health of persons, and the reduction of health inequalities between persons, in Greater London. While section 31(3) (d) of the GLA Act imposes certain restrictions on the incurring of expenditure by the GLA in providing health services, section 31(5A) excepts from those restrictions the provision of services or facilities for promoting improvements in, or protecting, public health.
- 6.2 Officers must ensure that:
- 6.2.1 they are content that the GLA can meet any conditions to which the Public Health England (London) funding is subject, seeking legal and finance advice as necessary;
- 6.2.2 they do not act in reliance on such funding until Public Health England (London) are obligated to the provision of the same (by way of a funding agreement or other legally binding document);
- 6.2.3 any services required are procured by Transport for London Procurement who will determine the detail of the procurement strategy to be adopted in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code;
- 6.2.4 appropriate contract documentation is put in place and executed by the successful bidder(s) and the GLA before the commencement of such services; and
- 6.2.5 any grant funding to be awarded by the GLA is disbursed in a fair and transparent manner in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code and a grant funding agreement is put in place between and executed by the GLA and any recipient before any commitment to the funding is made.

7 Investment & Performance Board

This funding is for Public health resource as distinct from an investment programme and therefore has not been reviewed by IPB

8 Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract [for externally delivered projects]	n/a
Announcement [if applicable]	n/a
Delivery Start Date [for project proposals]	n/a
Final evaluation start and finish (self/external) [delete as applicable]:	03/04/2015
Delivery End Date [for project proposals]	n/a
Project Closure: [for project proposals]	03/04/2016

Appendices and supporting papers: None

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:

Dr Helen Walters has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following have been consulted on the final decision.

(✓)

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Amanda Coyle has reviewed the documentation and is satisfied for it to be referred to the Sponsoring Director for approval.

(✓)

Sponsoring Director:

Jeff Jacobs has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

(✓)

Mayoral Adviser:

Victoria Borwick has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

(✓)

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

(✓)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

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

Signature

M. D. Balle

Date

20.3.15

CHIEF OF STAFF:

I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Mayor

Signature

Edmund

Date

20.03.2015.

