

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA170521-3345

9 June 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 16 May 2021. Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested:

You have no doubt seen the image curling on social media of the recent light projection onto Nelson's Column. I would be interested to know if there is a charge for this service, who administers, are there any particular rules for what can and can't be projected?

Our response:

The recent lighting projections on Nelson's Column have been delivered by the Greater London Authority, or its culture and community partners, to mark significant community and cultural celebrations or moments, in the absence of a public event that would usually take place, but have not been permitted due to COVID-19. Occasions marked have included Diwali, Chinese New Year, St Patrick's Day, Vaisakhi, St George's Day and Eid. Additionally, lighting projections were used to mark the 'Light it Blue' campaign supporting key workers during the pandemic.

As a public space managed by the Greater London Authority on behalf of the Mayor of London, events and activations that take place on Trafalgar Square, outside of public rallies and demonstrations, must be meaningful to London and Londoners and adhere to the Mayor's policies and priorities.

Each application to use either Trafalgar Square or project onto Nelson's Column is considered on a case by case basis by the Greater London Authority's Facilities Management team, the process is set out on our website, see <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/venue-hire>. Commercial applications are subject to a fee (£1,000 per hour for the first 24 hours, covering installation and derig, and £15,000 for subsequent days). In terms of restrictions, the lighting of Nelson's Column, which is a national monument, would only be considered if it was part of a wider event activity on Trafalgar Square, or to mark a significant national event or occasion. Brand logos are not permitted to be projected on Nelson's Column.

Thank you again for your correspondence. If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference MGLA170521-3345

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>