

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2328

Title: Techmap and MedCity Map Server cost renewal

Executive Summary:

The Executive Director for Development, Enterprise & Environment approved (under cover of DD1357) expenditure of £62,000 for an online science and technology cluster map for London and a life sciences map for the South East Region (in 2016/17 and 2017/18), which were published online as techmap.london and medcitymap.com.

The annual server costs for the two maps are priced at £11,000, with two years at this rate included in the original £62,000. DD1357 stated that a subsequent decision be made in order to pay subsequent server costs.

This Decision seeks approval from the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development to pay the server costs of £11,000.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Economic Development approves:

1. Expenditure of £11,000 to meet server costs for techmap.london and medcitymap.com for 2017/18 provision; and
2. The continuing application of the exemption (approved under cover of DD1357) from the requirement of the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code to procure such services competitively.

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT

I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities. It has my approval.

Name: Nabeel Khan

Position: Head of Economic Development

Signature:



Date: 21.2.19

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 Techmap.London and Medcitymap.com were launched in July 2015 and have since seen steady visitor growth.
- 1.2 Trampoline Systems were awarded a contract for the provision of the services in question, without competition, an exemption from the requirement of the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code to procure such services competitively under cover of DD1357. The basis of the exemption was that Trampoline Systems were the exclusive owner of the intellectual property rights the use of which was necessary for the techmap to function. This remains the case.
- 1.3 In order to host the maps, the GLA is required to fund the server costs of £11,000 per year.
- 1.4 The expenditure sought relates to Trampoline Systems hosting of the map in 2017/18 and a separate approval regarding the current 2018/19 hosting is being sought under cover of a separate decision form.
- 1.5 Officers are speaking to, the LEAP, London & Partners and private sector organisations about the potential to update and reinvigorate the map. A separate decision document will be submitted in the instance of any material change.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 The payment of server costs will enable the techmap.london and medcitymap.com to be hosted with up to date information on London's technology and life sciences sectors, including employee numbers and turnover.
- 2.2 The tool helps stakeholders to understand where London's business strengths lie, where clusters are emerging as well as to track the continued rapid growth of London's science and technology sectors.
- 2.3 The impact of the website will be tracked through visitor numbers.
- 2.4 Officers are seeking external investment (via LEAP, London & Partners and external stakeholders) for the map to enable ongoing hosting and improved functionality.

3 Equality comments

- 3.1 Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, the Mayor of London must have 'due regard' of the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who have a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 3.3 Officers confirm there are no adverse implications under the public sector equality duty in relation to activities mentioned above. Both the tech and life sciences sector suffer from underrepresentation of women, BAME and disabled people. The GLA will encourage wide dissemination across relevant networks in order to enable use across all communities.

4 Other considerations

- 4.1 The key risk to the project is that the resource is underutilised. Officers are currently considering options for next steps. Officers will ensure that any renewal of the server fee is delivered hand in hand with a plan of how we can increase the number of visitors to the site, as well as seeking external investment to allow for greater usability. This will be part of a separate decision.

5 Financial comments

- 5.1 The annual cost of £11,000 for this initiative will be funded from the DEE Minor Programme budget for 2018-19. Going forward beyond 2018-19, the GLA are to seek external investment via LEAP, London & Partners and/or other external partners to continue the development work and hosting of the Map. This will, however, be subject to further approval via the GLA's decision-making process.

6 Legal Comments

- 6.1 The foregoing sections of this report indicate that:

- 6.1.1 The decisions requested of the Assistant Director concern the exercise of the GLA's general powers, falling within the statutory powers of the GLA to do such things as may be considered to further, and or be facilitative of or conducive or incidental to the furthering of, the promotion of economic development and wealth creation in Greater London; and
- 6.1.2 In formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought officers have complied with the GLA's related statutory duties to:
- (a) Pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people;
 - (b) Consider how the proposals will promote the improvement of health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom; and
 - (c) Consult with appropriate bodies.

- 6.2 In taking the decisions requested, the Assistant Director must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty; namely the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment) and persons who do not share it (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010). To this end, the Assistant Director should have particular regard to section 3 (above) of this report.

- 6.3 Officers must ensure that the GLA's contract documentation with Trampoline Systems accurately reflects current service provision in 2018/19 and that approvals are obtained for the same and any future provision as soon as possible.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps:

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract:	Ongoing (tbc in forthcoming Decision)
Delivery Start Date	Ongoing
Delivery End Date:	TBC in forthcoming decision

Appendices and supporting papers:

DD1357

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

Until what date: n/a

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:

Nick Swanson has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Financial and Legal advice:

The finance and legal teams have commented on this proposal, and this decision reflects their comments.

✓

Corporate Investment Board:

The Corporate Investment Board reviewed this proposal on 18 February 2019.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:

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

Signature



Date

18.02.19

