

GREATER **LONDON** AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD286

Title: Commissioned Research: PISA for London

Executive Summary:

Statistical analysis will be undertaken by the Institute of Education to compare the national PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) ranking against analysis for London, separate to that for the rest of the country. PISA rankings are used to assess the aptitude of children at age fifteen across international education systems.

Decision:

The Assistant Director of Health and Communities approves expenditure of up to the value of £26,250 for the award of a contract to the Institute of Education for the delivery of a London specific PISA ranking and analysis.

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT:

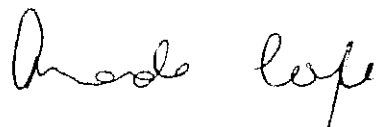
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Amanda Coyle

Position: Assistant Director Health and Communities

Signature:



Date:

4.9.2015

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The ambition for London to compete on a global stage has been central to the vision of the Mayor since the Mayor's Education Inquiry in 2012, and is stated in all our major strategic documents.

- *"The ambition is to make London state schools amongst the best in the world and ensure that young Londoners can compete successfully for jobs and university places against the talent our city attracts from around the globe."*

Mayor's 2020 Vision for London

- *"London children must be prepared for life in a global city, and we are not there yet. In 2012, an estimated 15,000 children left London primary schools still struggling with English, maths or both. That means they lacked the skills they need to do well or excel in secondary schools."*

Final report of the Mayor's Education Inquiry

- 1.2 In 2014 *London learners, London lives; tackling the school places crisis and supporting children to achieve the best they can*, produced by the London Assembly Education Panel recommended undertaking PISA analysis and the Mayor indicated the intention to commission a city-level comparator based on research which links PISA test results in London to the National Pupil Database.

- 1.3 A procurement exercise was undertaken by TfL Procurement and following evaluation by the panel, the proposal submitted by the Institute of Education was deemed most appropriate and hence the proposed award of contract for the total value of £26,250 is being sought. This project is funded from the Mayor's Annual Conference 2015-16 budget, specifically via savings made this year by reducing the printing costs for the annual report which will be utilised for this project.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 The overarching aim is to provide an estimate of London's overall position within PISA rankings. The Institute of Education will undertake research and analysis using the PISA and national pupil database to extrapolate to a London wide position. They will produce a written report, methodology statement and present the findings to stakeholders.

3. Other considerations

- a) key risks and issues

- 3.1 Initial investigation of the data-set will be required as a preliminary activity to establish that the PISA data set is representative of London. This however is low-risk, as PISA school selection is undertaken to ensure school selected are a representative sample.

4. Financial comments

- 4.1 The contract costs of £26,250 will be funded from the Education & Youth Budget for 2015-16, specifically from savings accruing from Mayor's Annual Education Conference element of the budget. 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.

- 4.2 The Education & Youth Team within the Communities & Intelligence Directorate will be responsible for managing this contract and ensuring that all expenditure complies with the Authority's Financial Regulations, Contracts & Funding Code and Expenses & Benefits Framework.

5. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Set out how the project will be delivered and complete the outline timetable

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	June 2015
Initial data investigation	August 2015
Analysis completed	November 2015
Report published	December 2015

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: (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:

Susan Crisp has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that

✓

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal as required, and this decision reflects their comments.

✓

HEAD OF GOVERNANCE AND RESILIENCE:

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

Signature:



Date:

01.09.15