

# MAYOR OF LONDON

**Roger Evans AM**

City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

**Our ref:** MGLA211114-2668

**Date:** 21 NOV 2014

Dear Roger

## **Motions arising from 19 November MQT**

Thank you for your letter of 19 November.

As you know, the Greater London Authority's internal audit team has already looked into the tendering process for the Royal Albert Dock. Their report, which we have published in full on our website at ([www.london.gov.uk/royaldocksauditreport](http://www.london.gov.uk/royaldocksauditreport)), concluded that there is 'substantial assurance' regarding the process.

It underlines that the procurement of the Royal Albert Dock was effective, compliant with internal procedures and the law, and fair for all bidders. In short, their report offers every possible assurance that due process was followed in the award of the contract.

Your letter asks me to appoint an independent investigation into the tendering process. I should remind you that the GLA's internal audit team operates independently and impartially. This audit was not therefore 'undertaken by the Mayor' as your letter suggests.

Within the GLA, the Chief Finance Officer is responsible for ensuring an adequate and effective internal audit function is operating; he does this by ensuring that the function is effectively and independently managed and arrives at its conclusions on the basis of a thorough assessment of the evidence at hand and without any improper influence from the GLA.

You refer to the comments made by Sir Alistair Graham on this matter. I am astonished that he has made those comments without access to a full set of background papers. The Head of Paid Service has written to Sir Alistair with a copy of the audit report to correct any misunderstandings he might have.

You have asked for a commitment from me that I will appear before the Audit Panel and the Economy and Planning Committees to contribute to their scrutiny sessions on this topic. I will of course ensure that as many of my Advisers attend as you require along with the lead GLA officials. I do not think it would be appropriate or necessary for me to attend in the first instance. I would of course be happy to answer any remaining questions you have at the end of the scrutiny reviews.

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The motion also calls on me to reject 'proposals' to 'cut' funding for GLA education and youth schemes. I do not know on what basis the Assembly has come to the belief that the plans it refers to exist. They do not.

It is important to note that a large proportion of the GLA's education and youth schemes have been funded from the £20m I secured from the Department for Education. Future funding of this kind will depend on the outcome of discussions with Ministers following next year's General Election.

Yours ever,



**Boris Johnson**  
Mayor of London