

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Our ref: MGLA071021-4784

Date: 10 November 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request for information which the GLA received on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Your request has been dealt with under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004.

You asked for;

*The London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan published in 2016 outlined 40 actions to be completed in the next five years. Under Freedom of Information, I would be grateful if you could tell me how many of the 40 actions have been fully completed. I am aware that information is published online regarding progress to date. However, that does not provide sufficient clarity for the public to discern the precise number of actions that have been successfully completed. In the interests of transparency, I would be very grateful if you could provide that figure. If the target of 40 actions has not yet been met, why is that?*

Our response to your request is as follows:

The GLA website provides a progress report on the London Sustainable Drainage Action Plan (LSDAP) up to February 2021 under the section "Progress made to date". The majority of the actions in the LSDAP have been delivered whilst some are ongoing activity, and some continue into 2022 before completion. 35 out of the 40 actions have been complete or are "ongoing" actions. There are 19 actions which are complete and 16 actions where significant work has been complete, as noted on the website. GLA officers continue to elevate Sustainable Drainage through all networks and channels where opportunities arise.

Responsibilities for flood risk management in London vary – for example, each London Borough acts as the lead local flooding authority for surface and ground water flooding. The Environment Agency takes a strategic overview of all sources of flooding in London and works in partnership with other organisations to reduce flood risk, particularly fluvial (main river) flooding and tidal flooding. Highways Authorities (TfL and all London boroughs) are responsible for providing and managing highway drainage. Water companies such as Thames Water are responsible for sewer flooding and play an important role in reducing surface water flood risk and improving water quality through sustainable drainage installation. The Mayor has an important convening role and brings all these organisations together to discuss the issues and how to work together to resolve these.

Through the London Environment Strategy, our Green New Deal recovery mission and the LSDAP, the Mayor is working to reduce the risk of surface water flooding to make the capital more climate resilient and protect vulnerable Londoners.

There are 5 actions from the LSDAP where less substantial action has been made, these are outlined below:

20	Identify opportunities and funding for sustainable drainage retrofit at the same time as planned maintenance, repair and improvement works within the private sector health providers' estate
27	Examine local authority development proposals, capital and revenue programmes for sustainable drainage opportunities
28	Identify opportunities and funding for sustainable drainage retrofit at the same time as planned maintenance, repair and improvement works within the central government departmental and quango estates
34	Identify opportunities and funding for sustainable drainage retrofit at the same time as planned maintenance, repair and improvement works within the Environment Agency's estate
35	Identify opportunities and funding for sustainable drainage retrofit at the same time as planned maintenance, repair and improvement works within agricultural estates

The LSDAP originally included commencement and delivery dates for each of the actions. These 5 actions were due to commence in 2019 or 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed these actions to 2022 as many relate to government buildings which were not accessible during the pandemic. These 5 actions are in the GLAs pipeline of works.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

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>