

CEO DECISION – CD 183

Title: GLA Group Public Health Function Advice

Executive summary

A Greater London Authority (GLA) Group Public Health Function has been established to provide public health advice to OPDC and other GLA Group Bodies. Supporting health and well-being is a critical component in delivering OPDC's vision for the OPDC area.

The provision of public health advice to OPDC has been agreed by OPDC and the GLA Group Public Health Function. The advice will be provided through officer time. It has been secured through a shared service agreement. OPDC's Principal Planning Policy Officer and the GLA Group Director of Public Health will be the main point of contact for each organisation.

This decision agrees expenditure for 2022/23 and 2023/24. It will be funded through the Corporation's Shared Services budget.

Decision

That the Chief Executive Officer approves:

- i. expenditure of up to £53,450 for the provision of public health advice by the GLA Group Public Health Function to OPDC during 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Chief Executive Officer

I do not have any disclosable interest in the proposed Decision. It is consistent with OPDC's priorities and has my approval.

Signature:



Date: 26.08.2022

PART 1: NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

1. Background and context

- 1.1 Delivering a healthy new district of London that addresses health inequalities and supports the health and well-being of local people are critical to OPDC's success.
- 1.2 Health and well-being are also a key integral component of OPDC's Management Plan and OPDC's Local Plan. The Local Plan considers the wider determinants of health and planning for health infrastructure with local, sub-regional, regional, and national stakeholders.
- 1.3 To inform the planning and delivery of the regeneration of the OPDC area, expert public health advice is required.
- 1.4 In late 2020 a Public Health Collaboration Project was established under the oversight of the GLA Group Collaboration Board, to scope and make recommendations on the effective deployment of specialist public health expertise within the GLA Group.
- 1.5 On 10 December 2021 the GLA Group Collaboration Board endorsed proposals for a new GLA Group Public Health Function as a shared service hosted by the GLA on behalf of the GLA Group. This decision was subsequently ratified via OPDC Board on 9 March 2022 with a delegation approved for the CEO to finalise the agreement and approve the associated expenditure. The GLA Group Public Health Function was established on 1 April 2022 to provide best value to delivering expert advice to the GLA Group including OPDC. The provision of advice has been secured through a shared service agreement.

2. The proposal and how it will be delivered

The proposal

- 2.1 Receipt of expert advice from the GLA Group Public Health Function to inform OPDC projects.

How it will be delivered

- 2.2 Expert public health advice will be delivered by the GLA Group Public Health Function through officer time. Approach to delivery will be tailored to each project drawing on the range of officer expertise from within the function. OPDC and the GLA Group Director of Public Health will meet every six months to set priorities, identify projects and review service arrangements. OPDC's Principal Planning Policy Officer and the GLA Group Director of Public Health will be the main point of contact for each organisation.
- 2.3 OPDC will sit on the GLA Group Public Health Forum to inform the governance of the Function.
- 2.4 The cost to OPDC is based on the envisaged officer time provided by the GLA Group Public Health Function required to inform OPDC projects. This was informed by discussions with OPDC's Principal Planning Policy Officer, Chief Finance Officer and Chief Executive.

3. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 3.1 The objective is to ensure OPDC projects are informed by expert public health advice in their planning, delivery, and monitoring phasing.
- 3.2 The expected outcomes will comprise:
- contributing to delivering the Mayor of London's Health Inequalities Strategy, the London Health and Care Vision;
 - a high quality, healthy and sustainable new district of London that supports the health and well-being of local people;
 - comprehensive planning for health facilities in the OPDC area; and
 - strengthening of the GLA Group's capacity on public health and collaboration across the group to facilitate best value and practice.

4. Strategic fit

- 4.1 The provision of public health advice will help inform a number of existing and future OPDC workstreams including:
- delivering OPDC's Management Plan health related principles.
 - delivering policies SP3 (Improving Health and Reducing Health Inequalities) and TCC3 (Social Infrastructure) within OPDC's Local Plan regarding improving health, reducing health inequalities, and delivering social infrastructure.
 - informing the development of emerging planning guidance.
 - supporting OPDC's wider delivery strategy and programmes in delivering new healthy neighbourhoods being planned in the OPDC area.

5. Project governance and assurance

- 5.1 The GLA is responsible for putting in place and administering a GLA Group Public Health Forum (the Forum). The Forum provides strategic advice on the priority setting and work programme for the GLA Group Public Health Function, as well as associated budget and workforce requirements. The Forum will be advisory, which means that its recommendations or actions will be subject to OPDC's own internal governance and approval mechanisms. Where appropriate, these will be documented in relevant decision reporting and reported to OPDC's Senior Management Team (SMT) and Board.
- 5.2 The Forum will at least initially be co-chaired by the Statutory Health Adviser and the Mayor's most senior health policy appointment. There will be representation from across the GLA Group organisations. OPDC will sit on the Forum.
- 5.3 The Forum will meet quarterly. OPDC officers will update SMT quarterly in preparation for and reporting from the Forum. The GLA Group Public Health Function will report progress and issues to, and seek steers from, the appointed representatives on the Forum.

Risks and issues

- 5.4 A mismatch between resource levels in the Public Health Function and OPDC requirements for health input into projects could be a risk. This will be mitigated by regular meetings with the GLA Group Director of Public Health and OPDC's attendance on the Forum.

6. Equality comments

- 6.1 OPDC must have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation as well as to the need to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.¹ There are considered to be no adverse impacts to those with protected characteristics arising from this decision.
- 6.2 Many of the population groups under section 149 of the Equality Act experience health inequalities, as well as social and economic inequalities. Many of these groups have in addition been disproportionately negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The advice provided by the GLA Group Public Health Function is likely to have a positive impact on a number of groups with protected characteristics.

7. Other considerations

- 7.1 None.

8. Conflicts of interest

- 8.1 No one involved in the preparation or clearance of this Form, or its substantive proposal, has any conflict of interest.

9. Financial comments

- 9.1 The expenditure of up to £53,450 to fund the Public Health shared service agreement (£26,725 per annum) will be funded from the Corporate Operations Shared Services budgets for the 2022/23 and the 2023/24 financial years.
- 9.2 The costs for the first 2 years are fixed and are subject to an annual review thereafter.

10. Legal comments

The protected characteristics and groups are: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation and marriage/ civil partnership status. Fulfilling this duty involves having due regard to: the need to remove or minimise any disadvantage suffered by those who share a protected characteristic or one that is connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the different needs of such people; and encouraging them to participate in public life or in any other activity where their participation is disproportionately low. Compliance with the Equality Act may involve treating people with a protected characteristic more favourably than those without the characteristic. The duty must be exercised with an open mind and at the time a Decision is taken in the exercise of the OPDC's functions.

- 10.1 The foregoing sections of this report indicate that the decisions requested of the Chief Executive Officer concern the exercise of the OPDC's general powers, falling within the OPDC's statutory powers to do such things considered to further or that are facilitative of, or conducive or incidental to, the promotion of economic development and wealth creation, social development or improvement of the environment, in Greater London.
- 10.2 In implementing the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought, officers should comply with the OPDC's related statutory duties to:
- pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people
 - 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
 - consult with appropriate bodies.
- 10.3 In taking the decisions requested, as noted in section 6 above, the Chief Executive Officer must have due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, namely the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010; to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (race, disability, gender, age, sex, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment) and persons who do not share it; and to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. To this end, the Chief Executive Officer should have particular regard to section 6 (above) of this report.
- 10.4 Section 1 of this report indicates that part of the sought budget will amount to the provision of grant funding, and not payment for services. Officers must ensure that the funding is distributed fairly; transparently; in accordance with the OPDC's equality policy and subsidy control rules; and in a manner that affords value for money in accordance with the OPDC Contracts and Funding Code. Officers must ensure that an appropriate funding agreement is put in place and executed by the OPDC and the recipient before any commitment to funding is made.

11. Summary timeline

Activity	Date
Public Health Function established	April 2022
Provision of advice	September 2022 to March 2024

Appendices

N/A

PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Information in this Form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA). OPDC aims to publish the Form within three working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the Decision (for example, impacting a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date (when it will be published). Deferral periods are kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.

Part 1 – Deferral

Publication of this Part 1 is to be deferred: **No**

Part 2 – Confidential information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA should be included in or attached to any separate Part 2 Form, together with the rationale for withholding the information at this time.

There is a separate and confidential Part 2 Form: **No**

DECLARATIONS

Drafting officer: Peter Farnham has drafted this Form in accordance with OPDC procedures, including for handling conflicts of interests, and confirm that: ☒

Advice: The Finance and Legal teams have commented on the proposal. ☒

CONFIRMATIONS

Section 106 funding: N/A

SMT review: This Decision was circulated to the **Senior Management Team** for review on Friday 12 August 2022.

Chief Finance Officer

Financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this Form.

Signature: 

Date: 25 August 2022

Chief Operating Officer

I do not have any disclosable interest in the proposed Decision. It is consistent with OPDC's priorities and can be referred to the CEO for final approval.

Signature: 

Date: 17 August 2022