

Subject: Transparency of the GLA Group

Report to: GLA Oversight Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 18 July 2013

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This paper proposes that the GLA Oversight Committee formally agrees the recent rapporteur's report *Transparency of the GLA Group* undertaken by John Biggs.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the GLA Oversight Committee agrees the report *Transparency of the GLA Group*.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee puts questions to guests, including the Mayor's Chief of Staff, in relation to the report's recommendations, and notes the responses given.**

3. Background

- 3.1 On 20 September 2012 the GLA Oversight Committee agreed the terms of reference for a rapporteurship by John Biggs AM into the transparency of the GLA Group. They were:
- To identify areas where the GLA Group could be more transparent, focussing on decision-making and contracts; and
 - To recommend improvements to practices so accountability and value for money are enhanced.
- 3.2 A key element of the review was a detailed questionnaire sent to each organisation within the GLA Group aiming to assess and compare transparency arrangements.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The final report from the rapporteur's investigation was published on 26 June 2013. The full report can be found at **Appendix 1** and on the London Assembly website at: <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly/publications/governance/transparency-of-the-gla-group>
- 4.2 At this meeting the Committee will put questions to guests, including the Mayor's Chief of Staff, in relation to the report's recommendations.
- 4.3 The Committee has also written to the Mayor to invite a response to the report. The response will be reported to the Committee and any potential follow-up actions considered in due course.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications to the GLA arising from this report

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1: *Transparency of the GLA Group*

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None
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