

Subject: Garden Bridge Design Procurement

Report to: GLA Oversight Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 17 December 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background information to the GLA Oversight Committee in putting questions to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson MP, in his capacity as Chairman of Transport for London (TfL), and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner of Transport for London, on the Garden Bridge design procurement process.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the report and the discussion with Boris Johnson MP, Chairman of Transport for London, and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner of Transport for London, be noted.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Garden Bridge is a proposed 366 metre pedestrian bridge between the areas of Temple Underground Station on the north bank of the Thames and the South Bank. The Bridge's final cost is estimated at £175 million. The construction and future maintenance of the Bridge is the responsibility of a charity, the Garden Bridge Trust. The Trust will receive £60 million in public funding (£30 million from TfL, of which £20 million will be in the form of a loan to the Trust, and £30 million from the Treasury), and is aiming to raise the rest through private donations
- 3.2 At its meeting on 17 September 2015, the GLA Oversight Committee discussed the procurement of the Garden Bridge's design contract with guests including Richard De Cani, Managing Director of Planning at TfL, Walter Menteth, of Walter Menteth Architects, and Will Hurst, Deputy Editor of Architects Journal. The GLA Oversight Committee also examined the Internal Review of the procurement process carried out by TfL, with the Director of Internal Review, Clive Walker, on 22 October 2015. A full transcript of each meeting can be found at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/gla-oversight-committee>

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The GLA Oversight Committee's previous work on the Garden Bridge procurement process has raised serious, strategic questions about how the project was established, and the role that TfL played in developing the Garden Bridge as both a design, and a practical reality. Members of the GLA Oversight Committee will explore these issues with Boris Johnson MP, in his capacity as Chairman of Transport for London, who was the main driver behind this project, and Mike Brown MVO, Commissioner of Transport for London.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Assembly 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: None

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