

Subject: Action Taken Under Delegated Authority

Report to: Environment Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 13 September 2017

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

1.1 This report sets out recent action taken by the Chair under delegated authority.

2. Recommendation

2.1 **That the Committee note the action taken by the Chair under delegated authority, namely to agree, following consultation with the party Group Lead Members:**

- (a) **The output arising from the discussion on tube noise and the response provided by the Deputy Mayor for Transport, as attached as Appendices 1 and 2 of this report.**
- (b) **The Committee's report *Park life: Ensuring green spaces remain a hit with Londoners*, as attached to Appendix 3 of this report and that the Committee notes the report.**

3. Background

3.1 Under Standing Orders and the Assembly's Scheme of Delegation, certain decisions by Members can be taken under delegated authority. This report details those actions.

3.2 On 16 March 2017, the Environment Committee resolved:

The Committee delegated authority to the Chair, Leonie Cooper AM, in consultation with party Group Lead Members to agree any output arising from discussion on Tube noise.

3.3 On the 19 January 2017, the Environment Committee resolved:

The Committee delegated to the Chair, Leonie Cooper AM, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output arising from the green spaces investigation.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 Following consultation with the party Group Lead Members, the Chair agreed to write to the Deputy Mayor for Transport asking for a written update on the progress of TFL's programme to reduce tube noise. A copy of the letter is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 4.2 The Deputy Mayor for Transport, Val Shawcross CBE, provided a response to the Chair's letter on the 24 August 2017. This has been attached as **Appendix 2**.
- 4.3 Following consultation with the party Group Lead Members, the Chair agreed the Committees report *Park life: Ensuring green spaces remain a hit with Londoner*, published on 5 July 2017, as attached as **Appendix 3**.
- 4.4 The report contained seven recommendations for the Mayor of the Greater London Authority:

Recommendation 1

In the forthcoming Environment Strategy, the Mayor should:

- state his intention to run an accessibility audit of green space, comparing the results against the London Plan open space categorisation, noting areas of deficiency and signposting these areas for investment
- clarify his plans to increase London's green space in terms of quality, multifunctionality and accessibility
- set out a specific action plan to improve green space data collection to help target investment which improves access to, and quality of, green spaces

Recommendation 2

The GLA should examine the feasibility of setting up a single, citywide website to provide key information on all London's green spaces, including ways to get involved and a crowdfunding function.

Recommendation 3

The Mayor should highlight case studies and support best practice in achieving a finance model which draws from a variety of sources, specifically providing a research framework for documenting the value of green spaces and any value-added programmes conducted in these spaces.

Recommendation 4

The Mayor should help local authorities develop a better understanding of the benefits, challenges and implications of alternative delivery methods.

Recommendation 5

Team London should assist green space managers in recruitment, retention and satisfaction of green space volunteers, including assistance for fundraising, diversifying the membership base and connecting with target groups.

Recommendation 6

The GLA should conduct an audit of the All London Green Grid, investigating how many local authorities have included it in local policies and what practical impact the ALGG has had.

Recommendation 7

The Mayor should take steps to promote the concept of green infrastructure at a city level by:

- bringing together evidence on green infrastructure in a format suitable for use by planners, developers and other stakeholders
- incorporating green infrastructure within individual Mayoral strategies and further into the London Plan
- appointing a Green Infrastructure Commissioner or Champion.

5. Legal Implications

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

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial implications to the Greater London Authority arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1 – Letter to Deputy Mayor for Transport on Tube Noise

Appendix 2 – Response from Deputy Mayor for Transport on Tube Noise

Appendix 3 - Park life: Ensuring green spaces remain a hit with Londoners

<h3>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</h3>
List of Background Papers: Member's Delegated Authority Forms 808 (Tube noise output) and 785 (Green spaces investigation output)
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