

Construction Skills Capital Fund 2026 Prospectus

Guidance for applicants

Key information

Publication type: Funding guidance

Publication date: Monday 27 April 2026

Who can apply: Further Education (FE) Statutory Providers: FE Colleges, Designated Institutions, Sixth Form Colleges, 16–19 Academies (further eligibility requirements apply)

What this fund supports: Targeted capital investment to expand and strengthen construction skills provision in London.

Project duration: 2026 to 2029

Award range: £50,000 to £1 million. Applications for more than £1 million may be considered if all funding requirements are met.

Application deadline: Monday 8 June 2026, 12:00pm

[Start new application](#)

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1. Foreword

London's ability to meet its long-term infrastructure needs depends on a resilient, skilled and future-ready construction workforce. The London Growth Plan identifies construction and the built environment as critical to boosting productivity and delivering new homes, transport upgrades, clean energy systems and large-scale retrofit programmes.

Meeting these ambitions requires a skilled workforce and sustained investment in the capacity and capability of London's skills system. The Construction Skills Capital fund is part of this investment supporting Further Education (FE) providers, in partnership with employers and London's Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC), to develop training facilities to meet current and future skills demand.

This is an important part of the overall Construction Skills Package where we are investing around £88.6m to 2029/30 to expand training capacity, build job-readiness, and strengthen London's further education sector to deliver the skills employers need.

Employers continue to report shortages across skilled trades - including bricklaying, carpentry, electrical installation and plumbing - as well as in site management, digital construction and emerging green technologies. The Inclusive Talent Strategy, launched last year, responds to these pressures by embedding employer leadership across the skills system. The Mayor's Construction and Built Environment Talent Board will ensure that training aligns with labour-market demand and is accessible to Londoners from all backgrounds.

London's Construction and Built Environment sector faces a recruitment crunch with people retiring over the next ten years, lower apprenticeship starts and under-representation of young people, women and Black and minority ethnic Londoners. Addressing these gaps is essential to ensuring London has the diverse talent pipeline. A workforce that reflects London's population brings broader skills, perspectives and innovation, strengthening the sector's long-term resilience.

This prospectus sets out the capital investment framework that will support this shift. Projects must demonstrate strong employer co-design, clear alignment with Talent Board priorities, and measurable contributions to London's net-zero objectives. They must also show how investment will widen participation, remove barriers to entry and create inclusive pathways into construction careers.

Capital investment can make a real difference in ensuring London has the skills to deliver the new homes, infrastructure and clean energy we need. In doing so, it will play an important part in driving London's green and inclusive growth.

Ayo Akande, Assistant Director, Skills and Employment - Delivery

2. Introduction

Funding opportunity

Up to £20 million of capital funding is available to expand the capacity of FE construction skills training in London, where existing capacity is insufficient to meet learner and employer demand.

The Greater London Authority (GLA) is inviting eligible Further Education statutory provider colleges, offering training in Construction and the Built Environment, to apply for investment to enable fit-for-purpose, industry-standard facilities and equipment to increase training capacity and create the additional construction skills learning places needed to meet demand.

Up to £10 million will be available to eligible providers which meet the objectives of Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC) capital funding, where there is an emphasis on building capacity and improving quality of facilities and provision through engagement with London's CTEC: New City College.

A further £10 million is available of Project-based capital for projects which have been shaped with employers to meet their specific training needs and feature employer co-investment in support of shared objectives.

Eligible providers are invited to submit applications for both CTEC and Project-based strands, if proposals can deliver the core objectives of the funding as well as meet the requirements of each strand.

Investment should be delivered in the most efficient and sustainable manner, ensuring strong value for money for public funding while supporting wider ambitions such as the realisation of net zero.

The GLA will award funding based on both the strength of individual project proposals and how well projects align to strategic objectives. Funding decisions will also be based on the level of funding available, including across each strand, as well as other fund-level considerations.

3. Strategic context

The [London Growth Plan](#) is a blueprint for productivity in the capital, aiming to restore growth to an average of two per cent per year over the next decade, grow London's economy by £107bn by 2035, and create over 150,000 good jobs by 2028. The Plan sets out the importance of investment in London's infrastructure to delivering this growth – from new homes, clean energy and transport systems, through to retrofitting existing stock. It identifies construction and the built environment as a critical sector in achieving these ambitions and the importance of sustained investment in construction skills and training to develop a diverse, work-ready workforce.

[London's Inclusive Talent Strategy](#) (ITS) developed by the Mayor and London Councils, responds to challenges faced by London's growth sectors. It aims to meet the ambitions of the London Growth Plan by ensuring London has the pipeline of talent for growth. To achieve this, the ITS sets out three key actions:

- To establish an employer-led skills system with the Mayor's Sector Talent Boards (STBs), playing a central role in making sure training delivers the skills they need;
- To develop a more integrated skills and employment system so Londoners can access the training, careers advice and work opportunities to move into good jobs; and
- Addressing barriers to recruiting and retaining talent – from access to affordable housing, through to supporting employers to recruit from a wider talent pool.

4. Construction Skills Package

The Construction Skills Package (CSP), which includes funding for training, industry placements, teacher industry exchange and capital investment, aims to train 60,000 construction workers nationally over the current Parliament.

The objectives of the CSP are as follows:

- Address labour shortages and skills gaps in major GLA and borough-level construction schemes by increasing the number of skilled construction workers.
- Support construction employers, particularly SMEs and micro-businesses, to recruit and upskill their workforce, including in green skills, while increasing employer influence over training provision.
- Create clear and accessible pathways into construction careers, including apprenticeships, work-based training, and progression opportunities.
- Increase diversity within the construction sector through targeted interventions that prepare Londoners to be work-ready, including structured work placements and support for young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- Build the capacity of London's further education sector to deliver high-quality construction training that meets employer demand.

4.1 Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC) capital

The government's Technical Excellence Colleges in Construction (CTEC) programme provides revenue funding and capital funding in support of the following objectives:

- To boost construction skills provision in direct response to local and national employer needs (i.e., in alignment with priorities in Skills England construction skills needs assessments and supporting delivery of LSIP priorities).
- To deliver high-quality teaching practice and curricula in construction, including continuous professional development for staff with an emphasis on site integration and employer input.
- To leverage employer engagement and investment in construction skills provision.
- To collaborate with providers ('spokes') to boost construction provision and quality both locally and nationally.
- To promote clear pathways for learners to progress into work in the construction industry or into higher level construction courses.

New City College has been named as London's CTEC by the Department for Education (DfE) following a competitive process. The GLA has provisionally ringfenced CTEC capital funding for the college. This funding is outside the scope of CTEC funding available in this round. Ringfenced funding available to New City College will be based on it demonstrating a need for additional capacity and how this links to its key system-leadership role and value for London. Prioritising funding in this way ensures that London's CTEC can be strengthened, enabling it to expand its reach, enhance delivery capability across its network, and respond effectively to local and regional skills demands within the construction sector. New City College will also be eligible to apply for Project-based funding via the current funding round.

Eligible FE providers will be able to access remaining CTEC capital funding via this funding round. In doing so providers will be expected to work collaboratively with New City College, operating as part of its wider hub-and-spoke network. Through this partnership, providers will act as delivery 'spokes' supporting New City College to extend provision, share best practice, and ensure consistent, high-quality training across the region. This collaborative framework is intended to maximise impact, avoid duplication, and create a more integrated and efficient skills system.

Eligible providers are also encouraged to seek employer co-investment to support an increase in training capacity, address specific skills shortages facing employers locally and provide value for money.

4.2 Project-based capital: with employer co-investment

Employer co-investment is a key indicator of industry demand and engagement. Providers are invited to apply for capital funding for projects, which increase training capacity and address specific skills shortages facing employers locally.

Applicants should clearly evidence how employer partners have been involved in the development of projects and will continue to contribute throughout its delivery. This collaborative approach is intended to ensure that funded activity is aligned with current and future workforce needs, enhances the relevance of training provision, and delivers tangible benefits for both learners and employers.

Applicants for project-based funding are expected to demonstrate how they will or have secured meaningful employer commitments and co-investment to support the proposed project. This may include both direct financial contributions and 'in kind' support, such as the provision of specialist equipment, access to industry-standard facilities, staff time, technical expertise, or work placement opportunities.

5. Project criteria

Project scope

It is anticipated that projects across both strands will fall broadly into the following categories:

- Purchase and installation of industry-standard equipment and adaptations to premises to support training in relation to construction sector skills needs
- Upgrade or refurbishment of existing space, enabling increased training capacity and quality to meet construction sector skills needs
- Development of new learning spaces or extension of existing space enabling training provision and industry-standard learning environments meeting construction sector skills needs

Improved accessibility and efficiency are not sufficient criteria to merit funding alone. However, applicants should demonstrate how they will ensure equitable and safe access to new equipment and learning spaces.

All applicants will also be required to demonstrate how their project:

- Increases capacity and addresses construction sectoral skills challenges identified in collaboration with employers
- Enables integration of all learners, to ensure London's diverse communities are fully represented and everyone has access to skills which are locally relevant
- Supports progress towards net zero campuses, aiming to meet the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) 'Outstanding' for new build projects and 'Excellent' for refurbishment projects.

6. Project detail

Applicants will be required to provide the following in their application:

- The objectives of the project, rationale and case for investment.
- Evidence of employer engagement and collaboration.
- Evidence of demand for skills provision enabled by investment, including consideration of other local and regional provision and avoiding duplication.
- Outputs and outcomes.
- Concept designs (as applicable).
- Budget and match funding (as applicable).
- Outline specifications and cost information.
- Analysis of planning requirements (as applicable).
- Project risk assessment.
- Procurement strategy.
- Project programme.
- Value for money.

Project team and capacity to deliver: project manager, finance specialist and procurement specialist. For projects including buildings, applicants should provide details about the specialist team such as design engineer, architect, consultant/cost consultant, fire engineer where applicable.

At the point of application, proposals should have clearly defined costs and project plans. In the context of ongoing cost uncertainty and inflation, projects will be prioritised for funding where there is evidence that all possible steps are being taken to ensure their deliverability in this challenging operating environment. Costings should include separate contingency and cost inflation allowances.

Minimum requirements are set out in the table below, along with examples of preferred status.

Minimum requirement	Examples of preferred status
<p>Refurbishment, structural building works or other construction projects developed to a minimum of Stage 2 - Concept Design (RIBA Plan of Work 2020) with supporting drawings and cost plans (this requirement is not applicable for equipment-only projects)</p>	<p>Refurbishment, structural building works or other construction projects developed to Stage 3 or higher - Concept Design (RIBA Plan of Work 2020) with supporting drawings and cost plans (this requirement is not applicable for equipment-only projects)</p>
<p>Equipment-only projects are able to demonstrate a cost comparison of at least three equipment providers</p>	<p>A preferred equipment provider has been selected with an evidenced rationale, and allowances made for any price increases or supply chain issues</p>
<p>Applicants are able to confirm a clearly defined budget including a construction contingency of up to 10%. Inflation must be factored into the contingency at 3 to 4%. Advice has been sought from a cost consultant or quantity surveyor where appropriate.</p>	<p>Applicants can evidence that even substantial unexpected cost increases can be met within their budget without requiring additional funding from elsewhere.</p>
<p>Applicants have identified and be able to provide evidence of the source of their applicant capital contribution (match funding) as applicable, and there should be a clear timetable for securing the funding by the time of contracting with the GLA. (Employer co-investment is a requirement of for Project-based applications)</p>	<p>Applicant capital contribution has been secured and evidenced at the time of application</p>
<p>Applicants should be able to provide a valuation of any assets being disposed of to provide their applicant capital contribution with a clear timetable for completing the disposal and transferring the funds to the applicant by the time of contracting with the GLA (as applicable)</p>	<p>Asset disposal should be complete, and the funds evidenced as being held by the applicant at the time of application (as applicable)</p>

Minimum requirement	Examples of preferred status
The total scale and value of the project and any linked developments should be manageable, with minimal dependencies (as applicable)	<p>The project should stand alone and have a maximum total value of 2.5 times the requested GLA funding amount (as applicable)</p> <p>If there is a linked development, this should either be complete, or it must be evidenced that its progress will not impact on the GLA funded project's delivery.</p>
Proposals should set out a clear commitment to delivery timetable in line with the timescales outline below, demonstrating relative certainty	<p>The delivery timetable should evidence that the project can be completed to the timescales outline below, even if unanticipated issues occur.</p> <p>Key stop/go checkpoints should be identified to manage risk and avoid the project becoming unaffordable.</p>

7. Delivery timescales

Applicants should note the following delivery dates, at which point projects are expected to be complete.

Project type	Delivery date
Equipment only or small-scale projects	March 2027
Refurbishment or medium sized projects up to £1 million	March 2028
Build or complex projects over £1 million in value	September 2028

All projects are expected to be financially complete with all funding claimed no later March 2029.

Projects are expected to deliver as early possible to maximise impact and outputs during the delivery period.

Projects will have individual timeframes confirmed at the point of contracting. The GLA will consider exceptional cases, where providers submit delivery profiles beyond the above timeframes, should there be a clearly demonstrated rationale for doing so.

8. Funding eligibility

Applicants must be an **Further Education (FE) statutory provider**, as follows:

- FE Providers or Colleges
- Designated Institutions
- Sixth Form Colleges

- 16 to 19 Academies

Applicants for CTEC funding must be a participant in London's CTEC spoke network, as identified by **New City College**.

Applicants should have 100 enrolments or more in **Sector Subject Area 5** in academic year 2024/25 or 2025/26 all ages in skills programmes including 16-18, 19+, apprenticeships or skills bootcamps.

The GLA will also consider exceptional applications where current delivery volumes are lower but there is a clear link to construction skills demand supported by the CTEC or employer partners.

Joint applications are encouraged where complementary provision or adjacent eligible organisations can provide a solution that is greater than the sum of individual elements. In such cases, the project must meet all funding conditions, and a Lead Partner must act as the accountable body for the project.

Applications for phased works are eligible, but each phase must be deliverable as discrete, standalone package. Applicants should note that if funding is awarded for an initial phase, it may not be possible to provide assurance of funding for future phases.

The GLA reserves the right to fund only part of the project or advise that certain elements should be treated as separate applications.

The location of the project must be at an **FE statutory provider-owned site**, physically located within Greater London. Any projected outputs specified within the application must relate to learners who reside within Greater London.

9. Financial requirements

9.1 Available funding

Up to **£20 million capital funding** is available across CTEC and Project-based funding in this round.

Applicants are invited to submit separate project proposals for both strands if they meet the funding and eligibility criteria.

- **£50,000 to £1 million per project** is available for equipment/adaptations, upgrades/refurbishment or smaller scale build projects
- Applications for **over £1 million** will be considered by exception, if these can clearly demonstrate how they meet all fund objectives, offer good value for money, and can be delivered within programme timescales.

Project costings should include appropriate contingency to manage any cost increases. In the event of a funding shortfall, the GLA will not provide further funding and will consider terminating the project where this cannot be successfully addressed by the applicant.

Applicants may be awarded less funding than requested in their application. Where funding is requested for a project with multiple phases, funding may be awarded for only one phase of the project at the GLA's discretion.

Applicants must put forward evidence to demonstrate that all other available funding sources have been explored.

Funding cannot be used to supplement projects that have already received or have a confirmed commitment to receive GLA funding or other public funding.

9.2 Match funding

There is no minimum match requirement, however applicants may wish to apply as part of a wider project match funded from other sources, provided the scope of GLA project is clearly defined and distinct within the wider project and meets all GLA funding conditions.

Applications for Project-based funding should demonstrate how they will or have secured meaningful employer commitments and co-investment to support the proposed project. There is no minimum requirement, however the level of employer co-investment will be a key consideration of funding and award decisions.

If awarded all capital funding spent on the project, including match funding, must be fully evidenced in line with GLA grant funding conditions, which will be detailed in the GLA grant funding agreement. Availability of secured funding must be confirmed through evidence, such as financial statements, legally signed contracts or letters from the investor/sponsor.

Where project delivery is dependent on funding sourced from land disposal or land acquisition, the following should be provided:

- Evidence of a Red Book valuation of the land proposed for disposal or acquisition and, where a buyer is secured, agreed Head of Terms
- Consents required
- Timeline to completion.

Demonstration of revenue funding in alignment with the practical consideration of running costs is encouraged but will not count towards the funding ratio.

9.3 Capital/revenue funding

Applicants will be required to ensure that all funding can be capitalised in their year-end accounts and certified as such on all claim forms submitted to the GLA.

Examples of eligible and ineligible expenditure can be found below:

Eligible costs	Ineligible costs
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<p>Purchase and installation of industry-standard training rigs and equipment directly related to and required to deliver construction skills training, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of purchasing a heat pump training rig and cost of specialist installation. 	<p>Equipment and works that do not result in improved or new provision in the construction sector.</p>
<p>Adaptations to premises clearly linked to accommodating construction related training equipment and associated learning provision.</p>	<p>Internal staffing costs, unless evidenced that that this is a mandatory charge, such as for use of an internal project management team.</p>
<p>Adaptations to premises to enable equitable and safe access to the newly equipped space.</p>	<p>Business as usual costs, such as utility bills, cleaning costs (except where directly related to construction), consumables (single use batteries, paper, textbooks), planned equipment upgrades, replacements or maintenance.</p>
<p>Set up/construction costs that provide for a capital outcome (such as professional fees or labour costs directly associated with the capital asset).</p>	<p>Set up costs that provide for a revenue outcome.</p>
<p>IT and software, which is capitalisable, and directly related to and required for delivering construction skills training.</p>	<p>Non-capital costs including external professional fees. General IT devices and software.</p>

9.4 Loan funding

There is no loan funding option under this programme. All funding is provided as capital grant, subject to compliance with funding conditions.

10. Mergers

At all points of the application process, bidders must advise of any potential merger plans. This will include a letter of assurance from their prospective partners indicating how the project fits with the merged joined curriculum strategy and confirming that the continuing organisation will be committed and financially able to deliver the project within scope.

11. Past performance

The GLA reserves the right to not take forward for consideration any application from a past or existing GLA skills provider or an organisation who holds or has held a grant agreement where there have been serious performance issues. Serious issues which would be taken into consideration include termination of past contracts for breach and performance issues primarily resulting from the provider's management of the project rather than external factors.

12. Project claims, monitoring and evaluation

Approved projects will be formalised in a grant agreement with the GLA. If the grant agreement is not confirmed within an agreed timescale, the offer of funding may be withdrawn.

Project costs incurred are eligible as GLA grant or match funding only after the date on which the GLA approves an application for funding. This date will be clearly stated within the grant agreement.

Funding cannot be drawn down until after the grant agreement document has been executed by the applicant and the GLA, and after planning permission is achieved (as applicable).

The project owner will be required to keep the GLA informed regarding developments, including through submission of quarterly or more regular progress reports, in compliance with requests made by GLA officers.

13. Grant drawdown and evidence requirements

All funding will be drawn down quarterly in arrears against achievement of milestones and/or outputs with either evidence of cost incurred or certified expenditure.

Examples of acceptable evidence are listed below; recipients may be required to provide multiple pieces of evidence or additional evidence on a case-by-case basis.

- Invoices
- Receipts
- Bank statements

Applicants will also be required to provide high quality photographs of the completed space as part of the post-completion evaluation process, and to enable GLA Officers and any GLA-employed consultants to visit the project site as required.

All records must be retained for a minimum of six years and be available for audit.

14. Independent monitoring surveyor

Projects may be monitored by an Independent Monitoring Surveyor (IMS) service which will provide the GLA with initial, monthly, quarterly and/or final reports as required.

Applicants must comply with IMS monitoring requirements and submit information required by the IMS in a timely manner. This may include contractor progress reports; tender documentation; statutory and consent documentation; completion certificates; insurance policies and collateral warranties. Documentation required by the IMS is information that the project would be required to make available for audit purposes; in addition, site visits may be required.

15. Evaluation

A strong emphasis is placed on the outcomes and benefits delivered either directly or indirectly and the grant agreement will require applicants to undertake a self-evaluation of the project within six months after completion, with further self-evaluations to be completed as required up to five years after project completion. This will include assessment of whether and how well the original objectives, outputs and benefits have been achieved. Quarterly output reporting may also be required between self-evaluation submissions. In addition, external evaluation of the project may be commissioned by the GLA, with delivery partners required to provide data for the evaluators on request.

16. How to apply

The Prospectus and Application and GLA OPS guidance have been published on the GLA website.

Please note that this specific fund has a single stage application process. If you have any questions, please email skillscapital@london.gov.uk.

FAQ responses will be published and regularly updated on this fund's [questions and answers](#) page.

17. Application process and deadline

Applications will be fully managed through the GLA's online [Open Project System \(GLA OPS\)](#). Applicants must register on GLA OPS in order to submit an application (see Application and GLA OPS guidance)

The deadline for applications is **12:00pm on Monday 8 June 2026**.

Only applications submitted by the above date/time via GLA OPS will be considered.

If funding is awarded project(s) will also be managed and payments processed via GLA OPS.

Considerations

17.1 Rationale and case for investment

Applications should demonstrate a strong case for the proposed investment, providing a clear rationale for the project, including how the funding request addresses sectoral challenges within the Construction sector in London and aligns with all objectives of the funding.

Any changes to provision that the project will enable should be outlined, together with a detailed analysis of current provision and expectations for current and future employer demand.

Sustainability and equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) are key considerations. Where appropriate, applicants should also reference how the project supports the implementation of any OFSTED inspection recommendations.

17.2 Outputs and outcomes

Applicants will need to identify the volume of outputs their project will deliver in the following categories, where reporting will be mandatory:

- Learners supported as a result of the project, including breakdown of the number of:
 - Deaf and disabled learners
 - Black, Asian and minority ethnic learners
 - female learners
 - young Londoners not in employment, education or training (NEET)
 - young (16 to 24) learners
- New construction skills learning places created
- Level of employer investment secured (cash or in-kind)
- Number of employers participating
- Area of new or improved learning/training floorspace (m²) (not required for equipment only projects)
- Amount of space with improved energy efficiency (m²) (not required for equipment only or minor refurbishment projects)

Successful applicants will be required to report progress against these outputs and outcomes to the GLA on a quarterly basis or on request.

More advice on how to define, quantify project outputs is available in the Application and GLA OPS guidance document on the GLA website.

17.3 Health and safety, fire safety and building safety

Exemplary health and safety standards are expected in all learning establishments and applicants should be prepared to give details about their fire safety and evacuation procedures, as well as general health and safety practices, particularly with regard to the project they are seeking to fund.

Applicants will also be required to address any building safety concerns arising from their latest premises survey as submitted to DfE when setting out project risks.

17.4 Subsidy Control Act 2022

Applicants are expected to review government guidance and seek independent legal assessment of compliance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022.

17.5 Commissioning quality

Applicants should adhere to the principles of 'good growth' (development that is socially, environmentally and economically inclusive). The procurement of design services is an intrinsic part of the way the Mayor and his partners can shape the quality of London's built environment. Good design is not simply about the aesthetic; good design is also about function, its performance and innovation. Intelligent commissioning and high-quality design are central tenets of good growth, maximising long-term value for money and widening participation in public projects.

In the case of higher value schemes particularly, applicants should demonstrate how quality has been considered to find sustainable responses to the pressures of growth, create a socially inclusive environment and support a wide range of civic activities that celebrate and support local communities and cultures.

Applicants should also consider what design quality management processes they will undertake to ensure their project is fit for purpose and makes a positive contribution to the learning offer and place. Design quality management processes might include procuring a high-quality design team, commitment to undergoing a pre-planning design review or programming-in meaningful community or user engagement.

17.6 Environmental sustainability

Applications are encouraged for projects which integrate creative environmental sustainability interventions that align with the Mayor's environmental priorities.

The London Environment Strategy (LES) was published in 2018. Current environmental priorities for this Mayoral term are set out in the Mayoral mandates and delivery plans. The priorities include [driving down emissions](#), [boosting greening and climate resilience](#), and delivering cleaner, [more energy?efficient homes, buildings](#), and [systems](#) across London.

Projects should be ambitious and achieve the maximum benefits of sustainable design by meeting BREEAM 'Outstanding' for new build projects and 'Excellent' for refurbishment projects. All projects must align with the Mayor's priorities for addressing the climate change emergency as well as demonstrating a commitment towards carbon net zero for college campus sites.

17.7 Equalities, fairness and inclusion

The [Mayor's Strategy for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#) reinforce the commitment to a fairer, more equal, integrated city where all people feel welcome and are able to fulfil their potential. This includes:

- many more people of all ages progressing in learning to reach their full potential
- ensuring all Londoners and London's businesses can access the skills they need to succeed

- promoting social integration and contact between different groups and tackling the inequalities that exist which prevent people from being active citizens
- more young people having the knowledge, skills and life experiences to succeed
- reducing the number of jobless young people
- helping make London a city where people of every background feel connected with each other and can realise the benefits of London's diversity
- creating greater equality, diversity and inclusion (which includes gender parity in terms of career outcomes and greater social mobility within professions).

Proposals should reflect the diverse needs of all learners and help to reduce the disability, gender and race employment gaps, in addition to meeting the Public Sector Equality Duty.

17.8 Social value

Applicants should strive to achieve the maximum value possible and provide evidence of how they will apply such principles via the procurement they commission with this funding.

Consideration may involve an organisation helping its supply chain understand how to support the college's social value objectives or to consider social value for every procurement opportunity above a certain threshold. This may include ensuring one social value outcome in every procurement awarded or building social value outcomes into the contract management through integration of SMEs. Please refer to the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

18. Assessment process

18.1 Evaluation of applications

Applications will be evaluated by a team which may include external scorers/moderators, GLA Officers and New City College in relation to CTEC capital. Applicants may be required to provide further clarification during this process.

18.2 Cost and financial due diligence

The proposed investment should deliver value for money. Cost due diligence consultants will be appointed to provide an independent assessment of some projects. The cost consultant will provide cost consultancy services for due diligence at the appraisal/evaluation stage of the competitive application process. This service will apply for larger projects but may also apply for smaller more complex projects. Some areas the consultant will look at include, but are not limited to:

- construction cost requirements against project outcomes

- projected construction costs against industry benchmarks
- comparable options presented in the project application, if appropriate
- project budget, cost plans, estimates and cash flow projections
- inclusion of a review of the build programme with emphasis on its consistency with the Cash Flow Statement
- risk management and sensitivity analysis (including inflation)
- the adequacy and value of any contingencies included in the project, the method of calculation of contingencies and whether this is on a risk assessment basis (if no contingency is included, this must be stated in the report, along with the implications regarding the project's delivery with zero contingency)
- any other related activities to complete the due diligence and appraisal of project.

Financial due diligence checks will also be undertaken on all organisations prior to entering into any funding agreement, the outcome of which will be considered alongside other aspects of the appraisal process. If the GLA considers risks to be too high, or to have potential to threaten the viability of the programme, the decision might be taken not to award a grant. Organisations will be asked to provide evidence such as the following:

- Evidence of consents and approvals, including approval of the application by the organisation's governing body or equivalent
- Evidence of non-GLA funding contributions for the project, including all receipts from land transactions, including disposals or valuations
- Audited accounts for the previous three financial years, signed by an independent and qualified accountant
- Organisation's budget for the current year
- Statement of the organisation's cash flow forecast for the current year
- 5-year financial forecast with commentary, including estate strategy and business plan (note that student number forecasts will be tested, and assumptions challenged through the assessment process)
- Financial regulations (including procurement rules)
- Evidence of Public and Employer's Liability Insurance
- Legal opinion on Subsidy Control
- Detailed project budget including expenditure profile and build cost breakdown.

18.3 Criteria scoring framework

All applications will be scored according to the criteria below:

Criteria	Description	Score	Weighting
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Project aims and rationale	We will assess the project’s rationale and potential to enable delivery of high-quality provision and outcomes for the Construction sector, its impact on underrepresented groups and alignment with all funding priorities as set out in this prospectus.	0 to 5	30%
Deliverability	The project should meet the minimum requirements and, where applicable, should demonstrate progress towards or achievement of the preferred status.	0 to 5	40%
Value for money	Does the project make optimal use of resources to achieve a high-quality project? Applicants must show a clear need for funding, that costs are reasonable and that the values of benefits outweigh the costs	0 to 5	30%

18.4 Grant awards

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application assessment in writing, with feedback provided to all unsuccessful applicants and to successful applicants on request.

Successful applicants will be required to update their GLA OPS application to reflect any GLA requests or changes subsequent to application. This information will then be inserted into a grant agreement template which applicants will be required to sign to enter contract with the GLA. It is a standard, non-negotiable template document which will be shared with successful applicants following award.

Applicants should be ready to sign the contract and begin delivery promptly once awards are confirmed.

Successful applicants must not place any reliance upon funding until a signed grant funding agreement is in place; any such reliance, or the start of delivery before a grant funding agreement is in place, is entirely at their own risk.

18.5 Key dates

Process	Date
Application window opens on GLA OPS and programme documentation published on the GLA website	Monday 27 April 2026
Deadline for online application	Monday 8 June 2026, 12:00 pm
Assessment, clarifications and moderation of applications	June 2026
Applicants informed of outcome	July 2026

Process	Date
Small/equipment projects: Project complete, submission of final funding claims and commencement of evaluation and output reporting	March 2027
Medium scale/value projects: project complete, submission of final funding claims and commencement of evaluation and output reporting	March 2028
Larger scale/value projects: project complete, submission of final funding claims and commencement of evaluation and output reporting	September 2028

18.6 Governance

Decisions regarding allocation of CSP capital funding will be made in line with the Mayoral Decision-Making framework and the delegation approved by the Mayor.

The formal allocations will be subject to approval in line with the GLA's Decision Making process.

19. Freedom of information

The GLA as a public authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOIA"). In applying for this (or any) grant award Bidders should be aware that information they provide may be disclosable, either under the GLA's Publication Scheme or if a request is made to the GLA.

The FOIA requires the GLA normally to release information requested by any "person" ("person" legally includes companies and other bodies). At the same time the FOIA recognises that a public authority, in order to carry out its functions, may decline certain requests where an appropriate exemption applies. In particular, two exemptions under sections 41 and 43 of FOIA, described below, may apply.

Information provided in confidence

Section 41 provides that information is exempt if it was obtained by the GLA from any other person and the disclosure of the information to the public by the GLA would constitute a breach of confidence actionable ("actionable" meaning that it could be the subject of a legal claim) by that or any other person. In order for the GLA to rely on this exemption the information must be given in confidence, that is, the information must not be in the public domain, must not have been treated as non-confidential in the past, and must have been provided in circumstances importing an obligation of confidence.

Bidders should be aware that, firstly, the GLA will not normally agree to treat information as confidential in the absence of specific legal advice that it is proper to do so, and, secondly, that marking a document as "Confidential" will not give it that status. The scope for Application of the section 41 exemption in relation to an Application for funding is limited.

Commercially sensitive information

It is more likely that this exemption may apply to a grant Application. Section 43 provides that information may be exempt if it constitutes a trade secret or if the disclosure is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any

person (which includes the Bidder). Accordingly, for example, genuinely sensitive pricing information may attract this exemption. This exemption is subject to the public interest test - that is, in considering disclosure, the GLA must weigh up the public interest in withholding disclosure with the public interest in disclosing the information in question.

Requests for special treatment of information

Should a Bidder regard particular information as given in confidence, constituting a trade secret, or likely if disclosed to prejudice their commercial interests, they should indicate this clearly, with an explanation. Note that it will not be sufficient to assert that the whole Application is confidential or commercially sensitive. Indicating what information may be confidential or commercially sensitive may assist the GLA in determining whether any exemptions apply. It should be noted that it is the GLA, which will determine whether a disclosure should be made and that this will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the GLA.

Effect of time

Bidders should be aware that, over time, some information may lose its confidential nature or commercial sensitivity. If you consider this to be the case, please indicate when, in your view, such information may be released. This should be a reasonable time period in relation to the nature of the data.

Personal data

One other FOIA provision, which may be relevant in certain circumstances, is section 40, which broadly speaking provides an exemption in relation to personal data (as defined in the Data Protection Act). This will not however usually exempt, for example, information provided about individuals involved in the Application.

20. Appendix

Construction Sector

Forecasts from the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) indicate that London will require over 26,500 additional construction workers by 2028 to meet projected demand from major housing and infrastructure projects.

Skilled trades represent the largest occupational group within the sector, including roles such as carpenters, bricklayers, electricians, and plumbers. At the same time, employer demand is high for professional and technical roles, including quantity surveyors, construction trade supervisors, and mechanical engineers, alongside a broader range of engineering and specialist positions.

London Homes Coalition highlights a projected shortfall of approximately 2,600 skilled workers in roles linked to both new-build housing and the retrofitting of existing stock. This reinforces the scale and urgency of the workforce challenge across the sector.

Construction apprenticeships account for a relatively small share of total achievements in London compared to other regions. While there has been growth in higher-level apprenticeships (Level 4 and above), which now account for a significant proportion of achievements, most skilled construction roles require training at Levels 2

and 3.

The transition to a net zero economy is driving increased demand for green skills across the sector. This includes both specialist technical skills – such as the installation of low-carbon technologies like heat pumps – and a broader understanding of retrofit, energy efficiency, and sustainable construction practices.

There is a growing need to upskill the existing workforce. Many already qualified workers will require access to flexible training to gain new knowledge and competencies. However, current provision for green skills training and upskilling remains limited, highlighting a critical gap in the system.

Despite strong labour market demand, the sector does not reflect the diversity of London's population. Significant groups remain underrepresented, including young people, women, and Black and minority ethnic Londoners. Only 17 per cent of construction workers are aged under 30, while women make up just 14 per cent of the workforce and are particularly underrepresented in site-based roles.

21. Other formats and languages

For a large print, Braille, disc, sign language video or audio-tape version of this document, please contact us at the address below:

Greater London Authority, City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, London, E16 1ZE.

Telephone **020 7983 4000**

www.london.gov.uk

You will need to supply your name, your postal address and state the format and title of the publication you require.

If you would like a summary of this document in your language, please phone the number or contact us at the address above.

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