

MDA No.: 1689

Title: Expenditure Relating to the Transfer of the GLC's Coat of Arms

1. Executive Summary

1.1 At the GLA Oversight Committee meeting on 19 July 2018 the Committee resolved that:

"That authority be delegated to the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee to approve, following consultation with the Deputy Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee and, where appropriate, the relevant Assembly Committee Chair (and any other member as deemed necessary), any non-routine expenditure in relation to the Assembly's scrutiny functions, with the exception of expenditure for polling, which is subject to separate procedures, as outlined in the Assembly's Decision-Making Framework."

1.2 Accordingly, the Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee is now asked, following consultation with the Deputy Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, to approve expenditure to facilitate the transfer of the Greater London Council's (GLC) Coat Arms to the GLA and some related activity.

2. Decision

2.1 **That expenditure of up to £13,000 be authorised to facilitate the petition of transfer of the Greater London Council's Coat of Arms to the GLA and related activity, as detailed in this form.**

Assembly Member

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Printed Name:

Emma Best, Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee

Date:

4 March 2025

3. Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Background and proposed next steps:

- 3.1 Further to discussions between the Mayor and London Assembly and further to [Mayoral Decision 3319](#) the GLA proposes to submit a formal petition to His Majesty the King, via the College of Arms, for the transfer of the former Greater London Council's Coat of Arms to the GLA.
- 3.2 A Coat of Arms is a unique symbol representing an individual, family, dynasty, state, or organisation. Its use is regulated by the College of Arms. It is proposed that the transfer of the former GLC's Coat of Arms to the GLA would be conducive to the GLA's functions, exercisable by the Mayor and the London Assembly.
- 3.3 Key functions of the Mayor include taking Mayoral decisions to further the GLA's principal purposes of promoting economic and social development and the improvement of the environment in Greater London. Key functions of the London Assembly include scrutinising the Mayor's activities, holding him to account and investigating matters of importance to Greater London. Public awareness of, and trust and confidence in, the GLA is key to the effective discharge of these functions. Many of these functions also depend upon public participation. Securing the transfer of the former GLC's Coat of Arms is considered to be conducive to these matters and therefore the exercise of these functions because it will help further entrench the identity of the GLA within London, and amongst the public, and will help to build the fabric of new City Hall as a civic space for London with strong roots and connections to London's proud devolved history.
- 3.4 Authorisation for expenditure of up to £13,000 is sought, comprising:
- Approximately £5,035 for the one-off fee payable to the College of Arms to facilitate the petition of transfer;
 - Up to £3000 for the provision of heraldic artwork by the College of Arms, which may be used for letterheads etc; and
 - Up to £4900 for architects' fees, to advise on the commission and placement of a physical Coat of Arms within City Hall.
- 3.5 The exercise of delegated authority to approve the expenditure will be formally noted at the next appropriate meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision:

Signature (Committee Services): Nikoleta Kemp

Printed Name: Nikoleta Kemp

Date: 5 March 2025

Financial Implications:

The expenditure of up to £13,000 will be met from the London Assembly's component budget for 2024-25, specifically from the Director's Budget.

Signature (Finance):



Printed Name: Trisha Brigemohane

Date: 14 February 2025

Legal Implications:

The Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signature (Legal):



Printed Name: Rory McKenna, Monitoring Officer

Date: 4 March 2025

Email: rory.mckenna@london.gov.uk

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Caroline Russell AM, Deputy Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee.

4. Public Access to Information

- 4.1 Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the FoIA, or the EIR and will be made available on the GLA Website, usually within one working day of approval.
- 4.2 If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary.
- 4.3 **Note:** this form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Part 1 - Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If yes, until what date: N/A

Part 2 – Sensitive Information:

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA or EIR should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form? NO

Lead Officer / Author


Signature: 

Printed Name: Rebecca Arnold

Job Title: Assistant Director, Committee and Member Services

Date: 6 February 2025

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature: 

Printed Name: Helen Ewen

Date: 5 March 2025