

MDA No.: 1756

Title: Petition relating to the transfer of the GLC's Coat of Arms

1. Executive Summary

1.1 At the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting on 11 July 2025 the Assembly resolved:

"That, in relation to urgent matters only, a general delegation of authority in respect of the Authority's powers and functions (apart from those that cannot under the Greater London Authority Act 1999 be delegated) be given to the Chair of the Assembly, in consultation with the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, party Group Leaders and relevant Committee Chair(s), from the close of this meeting until the next meeting of the Assembly, which will be the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 4 September 2025."

1.2 Accordingly, the Chair of the Assembly is now asked, following consultation with the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee and party Group Leaders, to sign – jointly with the Mayor – a petition addressed to His Majesty the King seeking the transfer of the former Greater London Council's (GLC) Coat Arms to the GLA.

2. Decision

2.1 **To sign a petition addressed to His Majesty the King seeking the transfer of the former Greater London Council's (GLC) Coat Arms to the GLA.**

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: Len Duvall, Chair of the London Assembly

Date: 7 August 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 The petition to His Majesty The King has been prepared with the College of Arms and is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.5 The exercise of delegated authority to sign the petition will be formally noted at the next appropriate meeting of the London Assembly.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision:

Signature (Committee Services):




Printed Name: Rebecca Arnold

Date: 4 August 2025

Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications arising from this decision. Expenditure of up to £13,000 in connection with the transfer of the Coat of Arms was authorised separately in March 2025.


Signature (Finance): 

Printed Name: Felix Agyemang

Date: 4 August 2025

Legal Implications:

The Chair of the London Assembly has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signature (Legal): 

Printed Name: Rory McKenna, Monitoring Officer

Date: 12.08.25

Email: rory.mckenna@london.gov.uk

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, Bassam Mahfouz AM
- Group Leaders: Susan Hall AM, Caroline Russell AM, Hina Bokhari AM.

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? YES

If yes, until what date: It is proposed to defer publication of this form and the associated appendix until the Royal Warrant has been issued.

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: 12 August 2025

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Ewen', written in a cursive style.

Printed Name: Helen Ewen

Date: 12 August 2025

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

The Humble Petition of Sir Sadiq Khan, Knight, One of Your Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Mayor of London, and of Leonard Lloyd Duvall, Esquire, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Chair of the London Assembly,

SHEWETH

THAT by Letters Patent under the hands and Seals of Garter, Clarenceux and Norroy and Ulster Kings of Arms bearing date the First day of September 1965 certain Arms were granted and assigned unto the Greater London Council and that by further Letters Patent under the same hands and Seals bearing date the Fifth day of October 1966 a Device or Badge was granted and assigned to the said Greater London Council

THAT pursuant to the Local Government Act 1985 the said Council ceased to exist on the First day of April 1986

THAT pursuant to the provisions of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 the Greater London Authority was established in May 2000 to be an Authority for Greater London and to consist of the Mayor of London and an Assembly for London to be known as the London Assembly, which Authority was empowered amongst other things to do anything which it considered would further any one or more of its principal purposes as set out in the said Act

AND THAT, the said Authority being desirous of bearing and using the Armorial Ensigns granted and assigned as aforesaid, Your Petitioners as Mayor of London and as Chair of the London Assembly most humbly pray Your Majesty's Royal Licence and Authority that the said Armorial Ensigns be transferred unto and exemplified in the name of the Greater London Authority, to be borne and used by the said Authority on Seals or otherwise according to the Laws of Arms

AND Your Majesty's Petitioners will ever pray, etc.