

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2249

Title: TravelTime platform API - renewal

Executive Summary:

The GLA produces a number of interactive web maps for use by the public and professionals. The ability to show travel times from a chosen location and to filter search results by travel time and mode adds value to high profile maps including the London Schools Atlas.

The TravelTime platform from iGeolise is based on a regularly updated database of timetables including national rail services, as well as TfL run services. As well as public transport, it provides estimates of walking, cycling and driving times.

The licence will allow the GLA to access the TravelTime platform via its API, sending a series of queries and receiving answers in return.

Decision:

That the Assistant Director of Intelligence Unit approves:

Expenditure of £24,000 for 24 months access to the Travel Time API 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2019

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT:

I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Jeremy Skinner

Position: Interim Assistant Director,
Intelligence and Analysis Unit

Signature: 

Date: 19.7.18

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. The GLA produces a number of interactive web maps for use by the public and professionals. The ability to show travel times from a chosen location and to filter search results by travel time and mode adds value to high profile maps including the London Schools Atlas and Workspaces map.
- 1.2. The 2050 Infrastructure Mapping Application contains information about over 12,000 development projects across London and over the next 20 years. At present, users can filter the projects by area (such as Ward, or Opportunity Area). However, the next stage of development requires the ability to show the benefits of new infrastructure and model the impacts of construction. Both of these are best understood by time contours as well as distance contours.
- 1.3. The TravelTime platform from iGeolise is based on a regularly updated database of timetables including national rail services, as well as TfL run services. As well as public transport, it provides estimates of walking, cycling and driving times. The API has been in use by the GLA since 2014 covered by DAR 'Travel Time Search API' (4/11/2014) and ADD 2005.
- 1.4. There are three particular requirements for the solution:
 - a) the ability to generate a 'travel catchment' or contours based on a chosen location, travel mode and maximum time
 - b) work via an API behind the scenes, meaning that users don't have to navigate away from the GLA map to visit another page (or that large numbers of options have to be predefined and stored)
 - c) charging plan that allows for a large number of different queries to be submitted and contours to be created (this is needed to support public facing GLA web maps where a user could click anywhere in London to generate a catchment)
- 1.5. Three competitive quotations were sought by the GLA in preparation for this ADD. TfL provide journey planning APIs (as do several other organisations). However these are on a point to point basis giving you a suggested route, rather than automatically generating travel time areas. Other services were able to offer contours for some travel modes, but not all four required. Finally another service didn't access the full range of timetables for different public transport modes. The outcome of quotation process was that iGeolise provided the closest product to the requirements.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 The licence will allow the GLA to access the TravelTime platform via its API, sending a series of queries and receiving answers in return.

The API will be accessed initially by the following GLA maps:

- Schools Atlas
- Cultural Infrastructure map
- 2050 Infrastructure Mapping Application

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 The GLA has considered the potential impacts on those with protected characteristics, as identified by the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), that might arise from this proposal. There are no particular impacts arising. The GLA seeks to maintain high-levels of accessibility to its web information, including maps, and this will be kept under review to ensure compliance with best practice standards.

4. Other considerations

a) key risks and issues

Possible risk – Non delivery

Mitigation – Delivery is via web-based key, available immediately

Possible risk – transport data is out of date

Mitigation – data is updated weekly

Possible risk – Not compatible with GLA systems

Mitigation – Uses well established web standards and is already in use on GLA web applications

b) links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

Schools Atlas - The Atlas is part of the Mayor's programme of initiatives aimed at driving up standards in education and ensuring there are enough places for all children in the city.

2050 Infrastructure Map – Ensuring that there is sufficient infrastructure to support London's projected population growth

5. Financial comments

The estimated cost of up to £24,000 will be funded from the 2018-19 Ordnance Survey budget within the Intelligence Unit.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	PO raised once ADD has been approved
Delivery Start Date	1 day after purchase
Project Closure	31 st March 2019

Appendices and supporting papers:

N/A

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and will be made available on the GLA website within one working day of approval.

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.

Note: This form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after approval or on the defer date.

Part 1 Deferral:

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

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form - ~~YES~~ /NO

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting officer:

Paul Hodgson has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that the Finance and -if relevant- Legal teams have commented on this proposal as required, and this decision reflects their comments.

Corporate Investment Board:

The Corporate Investment Board reviewed this proposal on (insert date)

HEAD OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:

I confirm that financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this report.

Signature:



Date:

17.07.18