

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

## REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2276

**Title: Effects of indoor air quality on children and young people's health**

### Executive Summary:

Issues relating to Indoor Air Quality (IAQ), in particular how poor IAQ affects human health, are not well understood. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) is undertaking a project to produce an evidence-based report on the impact of indoor air pollution on children and young people's health in the UK. This will involve a comprehensive review of the existing evidence and will improve knowledge of the health impacts of IAQ, helping fulfil the Mayoral commitment in the London Environment Strategy to reduce exposure to indoor air pollutants. Approval is therefore sought for a £30,000 grant to support this study.

A systematic literature review will be undertaken, as part of the study, with the aim of identifying, appraising and synthesising the existing evidence relating to the health effects of indoor air pollution on infants, children and young people. The findings from stage one of the study will inform the second stage of the project. This will build on the systematic literature review by carrying out consultation processes with families and professionals and obtaining evidence to develop a comprehensive report.

The study aims to raise awareness of the issues affecting the health of children exposed to indoor air pollution in homes and schools, and to suggest possible solutions and areas where more research is needed. These will then be used to help inform and develop Mayoral policy.

### Decision:

The Assistant Director approves:

Grant funding of £30,000 to the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health to support its work producing an evidence-based report on the impact of indoor air pollution on children and young people's health in the UK.

### AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT

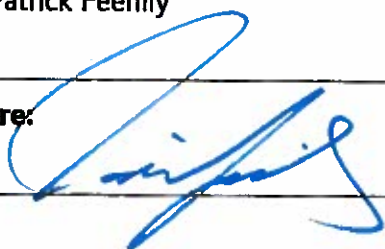
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

**Name:** Patrick Feehily

**Position:** Assistant Director – Environment

**Signature:**



**Date:**

10/10/2018

## **PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE**

### **Decision required – supporting report**

#### **1. Introduction and background**

- 1.1 An evidence-based report will be produced as a direct follow on from the report of the long-term health effects of outdoor air pollution published by Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCP/RCPCH) in 2016.
- 1.2 The study will undertake a systematic literature review with the aim of identifying, appraising and synthesising the existing evidence relating to the health effects of indoor air pollution on infants, children and young people. The findings from stage one will inform the second stage of the project, which will build on the systematic review by carrying out consultation processes with families and professionals and obtaining evidence to develop a comprehensive report.
- 1.3 The study aims to raise awareness of the issues affecting the health of children exposed to indoor air pollution in homes and schools, and to suggest possible solutions and identify areas where more research is needed.
- 1.4 The total cost to the GLA will be £30,000.

#### **2. Objectives and expected outcomes**

- 2.1 The objective of this project is to produce an evidence-based report, which will:
  - Identify and raise awareness of the issues affecting the health of children exposed to indoor air pollution generated outdoors and indoors; and
  - Develop evidence-based solutions focussed on:
    - Improving the health of children;
    - Attenuating the consequences of exposure in childhood on health effects across the life course;
    - Influencing the renovation of current housing stock, and the planning and building of new homes in order to mitigate risk;
    - The use of existing and novel systems and technology to further mitigate exposure; and
    - Highlighting potential effects of climate change on this problem.
- 2.2 The project will also deliver materials on reducing exposure to indoor air pollutants specifically for children, young people and families, these outputs will support the IAQ policy in London Environment Strategy.

#### **3. Equality comments**

- 3.1 The public sector equality duty requires the identification and evaluation of the likely potential impacts, both Under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the "Equality Act") as public authorities, the Mayor and the GLA must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. Protected characteristics

under the Equality Act comprise age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and marriage or civil partnership status.

- 3.2 The GLA has published an analysis on exposure to air pollution which shows that not only are there huge health impacts of pollution but the way these fall on the most vulnerable (children and elderly) means that improving air quality is fundamentally about tackling social injustice.
- 3.3 Consequently, the activities described in this ADD will benefit all Londoners, but due to the unequal impacts of pollution on the most vulnerable Londoners there is likely to be a positive effect in tackling social and health inequality.

#### **4 Financial comments**

- 4.1 Assistant Director's approval is sought to approve grant funding of £30,000 to the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health to produce an evidence-based report on the impact of indoor air pollution on children and young people's health in the UK. This will be funded from Environment team's 2018-19 Air Quality budget.

#### **5 Planned delivery approach and next steps**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Grant awarded to RCPCH	September 2018
Main milestones: Scoping the report	Sep-Oct 2018
Main milestones: Evidence collation	Nov 19 – Jan 19
Main milestones: Report writing	Feb-Aug 2019
Final evaluation start and finish	Sep – Nov 2019
Delivery End Date	Nov 2019
Project Closure	Dec 2019

#### **Appendices and supporting papers:**

None.

**Public access to information**

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) 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 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, for what reason:

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

**Part 2 - Sensitive information**

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

**Is there a part 2 form - NO**

**ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:**

Drafting officer to confirm the following (✓)

**Drafting officer:**

Agnieszka Griffin has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

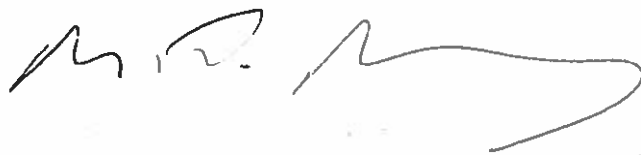
**Corporate Investment Board**

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on the 8 October 2018.

**HEAD OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:**

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

**Signature**



**Date**

08.10.18