

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

**REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2296**

**Title: Design to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London – tools and guidance**

**Executive Summary:**

In December 2017, the GLA commissioned research to show how London's changing climate, changing demographics and new urban developments will impact on the urban heat island and the external environment primarily, up to 2050. This research is referred to as 'Heat Risk in London- translational research/modelling/ report & guidance'. It has provided the GLA with an evidence base and translational material, including mapping and analysis.

The purpose of Phase 2 of the project, called, 'Design to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London – tools and guidance', is to enhance the usability of the research, mapping and analysis developed as part phase 1. These components will inform the development of a web tool and guidance that will enable planners and designers mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London at the planning and assessment stage of new developments.

**Decision:**

That the Assistant Director of Environment approves:

The expenditure of £15,000 to deliver the activities associated with the project called, 'Design to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London – tools and guidance'.

**AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/HEAD OF UNIT**

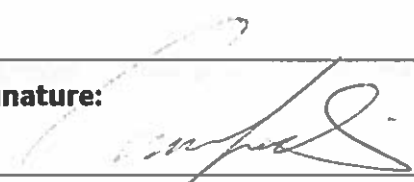
I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

**Name:** Patrick Feehily

**Position:** Assistant Director - Environment

**Signature:**



**Date:** 20/11/2018

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

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

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

- 1.1 The purpose of Phase 2 project, called, 'Design to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London – tools and guidance', is to enhance the usability of the research, mapping and analysis developed as part of the 'Heat Risk in London – translational research/modelling/report and guidance' Phase 1 project. The usability function, in the form of a web tool and guidance, will enable planners and designers to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London at the planning and assessment stage of new developments.
- 1.2 The focus will be on translating the outputs from Phase 1 into a usable tool and guidance for designers, planners and policy officers to use in a practical way. The Phase 2 output will be simple and easy to use, freely available on the GLA website and will demonstrate its added value over and above existing tools and guidance.
- 1.3 This work seeks to fulfil Policy 8.4.3 from the London Environment Strategy which aims to minimise the risk of new development overheating. This proposes, 'The London Plan includes policies to minimise the risk of new developments overheating and reduce their impact on the Urban Heat Island (UHI)'. The Environment Strategy further sets out that, 'The Mayor will also consider the impacts of further densification of London on the UHI and develop guidance on how new developments can be designed to minimise the amount of heat absorbed by the development, which is then released at night, warming the surrounding area.'
- 1.4 This work is distinct from the current guidance provided which focusses on how to mitigate internal heat risk. This project focuses on how to mitigate a development's wider contribution to the UHI and overheating impacts specifically related to how to mitigate risk to and from the UHI.

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

##### *Objectives*

- 2.1 Understanding how London's changing demographics, urbanisation, densification and climate change contribute to the UHI and how measures can be put in place in new developments to mitigate that contribution to the UHI and development heat risk.
- 2.2 Understanding UHI risk from existing/baseline site characteristics pre-development.
- 2.3 Understanding UHI risk created by different types of development typologies.

##### *Expected outcome*

- 2.4 Provide tailored mitigation measures specific to site risk and typology risk to reduce new development's contribution to the UHI that are easy for designers, planners and policy officers to understand.

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

- 3.1 This project stems from the current London Environment Strategy which is informed by a full Integrated Impact assessment which includes consideration of equalities. This project will specifically

look to maximise the positive impact on Londoners by reducing the health impacts and health inequalities of overheating risk by providing tailored mitigation measures specific to site risk and typology risk. In this way it is intended that a new development's contribution to the urban heat island is reduced.

#### 4. Other considerations

##### a) Key risks and issues

- 4.1 Delays in undertaking any of the above activities (due to not having budgets and/or contracts in place) could lead to delays in project delivery that could have a negative reputational risk on the mayor.
- 4.2 Mitigation: The timeline and expected cost for all activities have been reviewed. In addition, a risk register will be drawn up for the project to identify and monitor risks.
- 4.3 Staff resources have been identified within the GLA's Adaptation team to manage and take forward the project.

##### b) Links to mayoral strategies and priorities

- 4.4 The London Environment Strategy– the design of the policies set out in the strategy will benefit all Londoners, but due to the unequal impacts of heat risk on the most vulnerable Londoners, there is likely to be a positive effect in tacking social and health inequality of this project's activity.

#### 5. Financial comments

- 5.1 Assistant Director's approval is sought for expenditure of £15,000 to deliver the activities associated with the project called, 'Designing to mitigate the contribution of new developments to the urban heat island in London – tools and guidance'. This will be funded from Environment team's 2018-19 Cross Cutting budget.

#### 6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Procurement of contract	November 2018
Announcement	3 December 2018
Delivery Start Date	10 December 2018
Main milestones	25 January 2019
Main milestones	15 February 2019
Final evaluation start and finish (external)	15/28 February 2019
Delivery End Date	15 March 2019
Project Closure	22 March 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:**

Annette Figueiredo has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

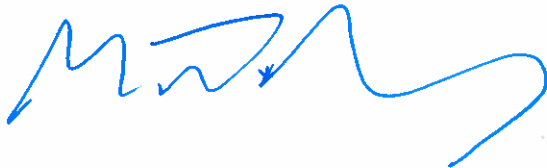
**Corporate Investment Board**

This decision was agreed by the Corporate Investment Board on 19 November 2018.

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE:**

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

**Signature**



**Date**

20-11-18