

MDA No.	1	1	9	2
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Title: GLA Oversight Committee – Potential Disorder in London

Executive Summary

At its Annual Meeting on 15 May 2020, the Assembly resolved:

That, in relation to urgent matters only, a general delegation of authority in respect of the Assembly'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 GLA Oversight Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman of that Committee, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and any relevant committee Chair(s), from the close of the meeting until 31 August 2020.

Following consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chairs of the Police and Crime Committee, Health Committee and Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee, Len Duvall AM agreed a letter to the Mayor requesting that the emergency services work should be done to prevent any potential disturbances or disorder in London.

The letter was co-signed by the Chairs of the Police and Crime Committee, Health Committee and Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee.

Decision

That the Chair, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chairs of Police and Crime Committee, Health Committee and Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee, agrees a letter to the Mayor that outlined emergency services work which should be done to prevent any potential disturbances or disorder in London, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

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



Date 05/08/20

(Agreed by email – 03/07/20)

Printed Name

Len Duvall AM (Chair, GLA Oversight Committee)

Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Notes:

1. The Lead Officer should prepare this form for signature by relevant Members of the Assembly to record any instance where the Member proposes to take action under a specific delegated authority. The purpose of the form is to record the advice received from officers, and the decision made.
2. **The 'background' section (below) should be used to include an indication as to whether the information contained in / referred to in this Form should be considered as exempt under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). If so, the specimen Annexe (attached below) should be used. If this form does deal with exempt information, you must submit both parts of this form for approval together.**

Background and proposed next steps:

At its Annual Meeting on 15 May 2020, the Assembly resolved:

That, in relation to urgent matters only, a general delegation of authority in respect of the Assembly'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 GLA Oversight Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman of that Committee, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and any relevant committee Chair(s), from the close of the meeting until 31 August 2020.

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The letter was co-signed by the Chairs of the Police and Crime Committee, Health Committee and Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision

Signed by Committee Services		Date	31/07/20
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Print Name: Davena Toyinbo	Tel:	X 1285
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**Financial implications
NOT REQUIRED**

Signed by Finance	N/A	Date
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Print Name N/A Tel:

Legal implications
The Chair of the Oversight Committee has the power to make the decision set out in this report.

Signed by Legal  Date 04/08/20

Print Name Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer Tel: X 4399

Additional information should be provided supported by background papers. These could include for example the business case, a project report or the results of procurement evaluation.

Supporting detail/List of Consultees: Susan Hall AM (Deputy Chairman), Caroline Russell AM, Peter Whittle AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, Unmesh Desai AM (Chair of Police and Crime Committee), Dr Onkar Sahota AM (Chair of the Health Committee) and Andrew Dismore AM (Chair of the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee)

Public Access to Information
Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the FoIA, or the EIR 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

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

Signed Philippa Goffe Date: 05/08/20

Print Name **Philippa Goffe** Tel: x. 4880

Job Title **Senior Policy Advisor**

Countersigned by Director  Date: 05.08.2020

Print Name

PP Rebecca Arnold

Tel: x. 4399

LONDONASSEMBLY

Unmesh Desai AM

Chair of the Police and Crime Committee

Andrew Dismore AM

Chair of the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee

Dr Onkar Sahota AM

Chair of the Health Committee

Sadiq Khan

Mayor of London

**City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA**

(Via email)

4 July 2020

Dear Sadiq,

We are writing to ask that you consider taking two contingency steps in the light of the disturbances in London over recent weeks.

COVID-19 has caused upheaval and uncertainty on an unparalleled scale. Significant numbers of Londoners have been in a state of lockdown, housed in poor and claustrophobic housing for months. Many people across the capital have been furloughed, whilst others are facing real risk of redundancy, which is inevitably causing stress, anxiety and disquiet. The current summer weather and the restrictions due to the pandemic have in recent weeks seen people gathering in groups in parks or on streets outside.

The effects of such economic and social challenges, combined with the warm weather may well, in the coming weeks and as we enter summer, lead to rising tensions, as has been highlighted by a number of senior police officers. We would like to be reassured that you are working with civic and community leaders and the Met to prevent any public disorder in the first instance. Nevertheless, there should be contingency plans in place to deal with any potential public disorder if prevention strategies fail. Please will you take this opportunity to outline what steps you are taking to work with local residents and community groups to head off any potential disturbances.

The scale of the London riots of 2011 caught many off guard. Small operational issues around the distribution of officers and equipment led to wider disruption of the ability of our emergency services to counteract the effects of the riots.

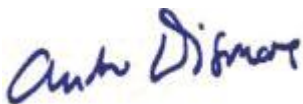
Therefore, we would like to ask that you urge the emergency services under your charge to undertake a rapid review to make sure that they have all the necessary equipment in order to deploy quickly, safely and effectively in the event of any summer widespread disorder. Should any equipment shortages or training needs be identified, we ask that you assist the emergency services in rectifying these issues as a matter of urgency.

The current mix of social and economic disruption caused by COVID-19 mean that we cannot, and should not, be complacent at this time. All measures to prevent any disturbances need to be undertaken immediately to ensure our blue light services can deploy to protect Londoners.

Yours sincerely,



Unmesh Desai AM
Chair of the Police and Crime Committee



Andrew Dismore AM
Chair of the Fire, Resilience and Emergency Planning Committee



Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Chair of the Health Committee