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Title: London TravelWatch - Board Recruitment

Executive Summary

Due to a total of five current and forthcoming vacancies on the board of London TravelWatch (LTW, formally the London Transport Users Committee under the GLA Act 1999), the London Assembly is required, in the 2021 calendar year, to undertake a significant board recruitment exercise. The appointment of the LTW Chair and board members is a statutory responsibility of the London Assembly (s247 of the GLA Act 1999).

It is proposed that the Chief Officer be authorised to engage an external recruitment agency to support the Assembly with the above recruitment exercise, up to a maximum expenditure of £20,000.

It is further proposed that the Chief Officer be authorised to make all necessary arrangements and associated decisions up to the final stage of recruitment (where shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and appointment decisions made, in liaison with the lead Members of the Transport Committee).

Any final, formal decision regarding appointment to the London TravelWatch Board will be for the Transport Committee to determine in due course, following consultation with the Secretary of State.

It is expected that funding to engage a professional search firm can be met from within existing resources (the Director/business support cost centre), and the final costs are anticipated to be below the £20,000 proposed for authorisation.

Decision

That the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee authorises the Chief Officer, or the person they delegate authority to, to:

- (a) Engage an external recruitment agency to support the Assembly with the forthcoming London TravelWatch Board recruitment exercise, up to a maximum value of £20,000; and
- (b) Make necessary arrangements and associated decisions up to the final stage of recruitment, where shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and appointment decisions made, in liaison with the lead Members of the Transport Committee.

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 14/04/21

Printed Name: Len Duvall AM

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 meeting on 17 December 2020, the London 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 17 December 2020 to the May 2021 GLA elections."

It is proposed that the above delegation is exercised to authorise the Chief Officer, or the person they delegate to, to:

- (a) Engage an external recruitment agency to support the Assembly with the forthcoming London TravelWatch Board recruitment exercise, up to a maximum value of £25,000; and
- (b) Make necessary arrangements and associated decisions up to the final stage of recruitment, where shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and appointment decisions made, in liaison with the lead Members of the Transport Committee.

The engagement of external support for the recruitment exercise is recommended on the basis that:

- Recruitment is required for five London TravelWatch board positions in total, a significant exercise; and
- Previous experience has shown the engagement of a professional search firm has demonstrably led to a higher calibre of candidate and greater diversity among applicants.

The Deputy Chairman of the committee and party Group Lead Members, and Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM have been consulted, as well as the Chair of the Transport Committee, Dr Alison Moore AM. The final, formal decision as to any appointments to the London TravelWatch Board will be for the Transport Committee to determine in due course.

The above authorisation will be reported back to the next suitable meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision

Signed by Committee Services

Date 13/04/2021



Print Name: Davena Toyinbo

Tel: X1285

Financial implications REQUIRED

NOTE: Finance comments and signature are required only where there are financial implications arising or the potential for financial implications.

Funding to engage a professional search firm would be met from within existing 2021-22 Assembly budget (the Director/business support cost centre), and are anticipated by officers to reach less than £20k.

Signed by **H.Dasbia**
Finance:

Date: 14/04/2021

Print Name: Hina Dasbia

Tel: 07544657251

Legal implications

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

Signed by Legal



Date 13/04/2021

Print Name

Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer

Tel: X 4399

Supporting detail/List of Consultees:

Susan Hall AM (Deputy Chairman), Caroline Russell AM, Peter Whittle AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and Dr Alison Moore AM (Chair of the Transport 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, usually 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? Yes

Publication is deferred until following the May 2021 GLA elections due to publication restrictions of the pre-election period.

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



Date:
13/04/2021

Print Name

**Davena Toyinbo
Principal Committee Manager**

Tel: x1285

Job Title

Countersigned by
Executive Director

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Date:
16/04/2021

Print Name

Mary Harpley

Tel: x