

MDA No.: 1293

Title: London TravelWatch - Board Recruitment (2)

1. Executive Summary

1.1 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 and has agreed to engage an external recruitment agency for this purpose (MDA No. 1287).

1.2 At the London Assembly meeting on 19 July 2018 the Assembly resolved:

That authority be delegated to the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee to approve, following consultation with the Deputy Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee and, where appropriate, the relevant Assembly Committee Chair (and any other member as deemed necessary), any urgent requests for expenditure for consultancy, including research services and polling, noting that, where there is no case for urgency, the usual procedures set out in the Assembly's Decision-Making Framework will apply.

1.3 It is proposed that, following consultation with the Deputy Chairman of the GLA Oversight Committee, party Group Leaders, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and the Chair of the Transport Committee, the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee agree an urgent request for expenditure of up to £24,000 on the external recruitment agency supporting the Assembly with the forthcoming London TravelWatch Board recruitment exercise.

2. Decision

2.1 **That the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee, in consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Leaders and the Chair of the Transport Committee authorises expenditure up to a maximum value of £24,000 in its engagement of an external recruitment agency to support the Assembly with the forthcoming London TravelWatch Board recruitment exercise.**

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:



Printed Name: **Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM, Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee**

Date: **17 May 2021**

3. Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Background and proposed next steps:

- 3.1 On the 14 April 2021, the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee authorised the Chief Officer to engage an external recruitment agency to support the Assembly with the forthcoming London TravelWatch Board recruitment exercise. This decision further authorised expenditure of up to a maximum value of £20,000 (MDA No.: 1287) on the recruitment exercise.
- 3.2 Since that decision, the cost of engaging an external recruitment agency has been found to exceed the maximum value previously authorised by the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee. Therefore a further decision is required to authorise expenditure of up to a proposed maximum value of £24,000. The authorisation of the Chief Officer to engage an external recruitment agency remains as agreed on the 14 April 2021.
- 3.3 The appointment of the LTW Chair and board members is a statutory responsibility of the London Assembly (s247 of the GLA Act 1999) and the prompt initiation of a recruitment exercise is required to fulfil the five current and forthcoming vacancies on the Board. 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.
- 3.4 No meetings are currently scheduled at which the urgent expenditure may be authorised, and dates will not be agreed until Committees are established at the London Assembly's Annual Meeting on 14 May 2021. The exercise of delegated authority approving the above expenditure on an external recruitment agency will be formally noted at the GLA Oversight Committee's next appropriate meeting.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision:

Signature (Committee Services): *F.Bywaters*

Printed Name: Fiona Bywaters, Committee Services Manager

Date: 14 May 2021

Telephone Number: 020 7983 4425

Financial Implications: REQUIRED

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

- 3.5 Funding to engage a professional search firm of up to £24,000 would be met from within existing 2021-22 Assembly budget (the Director/business support cost centre).

Signature (Finance): *H Dabasia*


Printed Name: Hina Dabasia

Date: 5 May 2021

Telephone Number: 07544 657251

Legal Implications:

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

Signature (Legal): 

Printed Name: Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer

Date: 5 May 2021

Telephone Number: 07971 101 375

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Susan Hall AM, Caroline Russell AM, Peter Whittle AM, Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM and Dr Alison Moore AM.

4. Public Access to Information

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 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.
- 4.3 **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, until what date:

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

Signature: *F.Bywaters*

Printed Name: Fiona Bywaters

Job Title: Committee Services Manager

Date: 5 May 2021

Telephone Number: 020 7983 4425

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature: *Joanna Davidson*

Printed Name: Joanna Davidson

Date: 5 May 2021

Telephone Number: