

MDA No.: 1311

Title: Pride in London

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 At the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting on 15 July 2021 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, party Group Lead Members, relevant Committee Chair(s) and the Chair of the Assembly, from the close of this meeting until the next meeting of the Assembly, which will be the Plenary meeting on 2 September 2021.

- 1.2 Following consultation with the Deputy Chairman, party Group Lead Members and the Chair of the Assembly, the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee has agreed to ratify a letter to the Mayor regarding Pride in London, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Decision

- 2.1 **That the letter to the Mayor from the Chair of the Assembly, regarding Pride in London, be ratified.**

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

Date: 26 July 2021

3. Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Background and proposed next steps:

- 3.1 In advance of Pride in London's 2021 event (planned for the weekend of 11 September), the Chair of the Assembly met with representatives. Following that meeting and in a letter to the Mayor, the Chair requested a meeting with the Mayor and Pride in London. The letter also requested confirmation of whether the Mayor – or his representatives – had communicated views on Pride in London's transformation plan and whether the Mayor is willing to continue to support plans for 2021, 2022 and beyond.
- 3.2 Party Group Leaders were consulted regarding the letter before its sending on 16 July 2021. It is now proposed that the letter be ratified by means of the urgency delegation, noting that the planned Pride event takes place shortly after the next meeting of the London Assembly and any requested meeting must take place sufficiently in advance.
- 3.3 The exercise of delegated authority ratifying the letter 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

Date: 23 July 2021

Telephone Number: 07825 028 318

Financial Implications: NOT REQUIRED

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

Signature (Finance): Not Required


Printed Name:

Date:

Telephone Number:

Legal Implications:

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

Signature (Legal): 

Printed Name: Emma Strain, Monitoring Officer

Date: 23 July 2021

Telephone Number: 020 7983 6550

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Susan Hall AM, Deputy Chairman
- Len Duvall AM
- Caroline Russell AM
- Andrew Boff AM, Chair of the Assembly

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

Signature: C. McKinlay

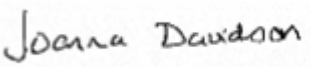
Printed Name: Colin McKinlay

Job Title: Public Affairs Manager

Date: 23 July 2021

Telephone Number: 07879 333203

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature: 

Printed Name: Joanna Davidson

Date: 26 July 2021

Telephone Number: 07813 796 17



Andrew Boff AM
Chair of the London Assembly

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London
(Sent by email)

16 July 2021

RE: PRIDE IN LONDON

Dear Mr Mayor

As you will know, Pride in London is holding its 2021 pride event on the weekend of 11 September. This is an important weekend for both the London and the UK LGBT+ community and their allies. It is critical that we all work together to make a success of this celebration for all Londoners.

I recently met with representatives from Pride in London to discuss a range of issues including the recent allegations of bullying and racism, and operational plans for the upcoming event on 11 September as well as 2022. As we are only 2 months away from this year's event, I would be grateful if you and your representatives would meet with me and Pride in London to discuss these issues.

I have no doubt that, like me, you were shocked and disappointed to hear about the serious nature of the allegations, especially given the tireless work Pride in London has facilitated - and hopefully will continue to do - to celebrate our city's diverse and vibrant culture.

I understand that a new executive leadership team is working to deliver transformative change within the organisation and has committed to listen to all staff and volunteers. While there is obvious work to be done, and trust to rebuild, representatives I spoke to made clear that Pride in London will be an environment where everyone can put forward their thoughts and views for discussion without fear.

This is a positive step forward. I am pleased I was able to speak directly with Pride in London to understand their commitments and be reassured that changes to internal processes and culture are being implemented.

However, I am concerned that communications between your office, GLA officials and Pride in London could be better and am keen to engage in constructive dialogue especially as we are only 2 months away from the event.

I understand that your representatives met with Pride in London on 29 April 2021 to discuss operational plans for 2021; future pride events; and, the continuation of Pride in London in 2022 and beyond. While this is welcome, can you confirm whether you – or your representatives – have communicated your views on Pride in London's transformation plan and whether you are willing to continue to support their plans for 2021, 2022 and beyond.

Given the significance of London's pride events for our LGBT+ community and their allies both here in the capital and across the UK, I believe it is of critical importance that the Greater London Authority (both the Mayor's office and the London Assembly) have a closer relationship with Pride in London.

In that spirit, I would be grateful if you would meet with me, Pride in London and other GLA representatives as appropriate, to discuss the issues raised in this letter.

I look forward to your response.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Boff', written in a cursive style.

Andrew Boff AM
Chair, London Assembly