

MDA No.: 1430

Title: The Expulsion of Asians from Uganda

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 At the London Assembly (Mayor's Question Time) meeting on 21 July 2022, the Assembly resolved that:

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 party Group Leaders, 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 8 September 2022.

- 1.2 Following consultation with party Group Leaders and the Chair of the London Assembly, the Chair of the GLA Oversight Committee agreed the Assembly's letter to the Mayor of London on the anniversary of the expulsion of Asians from Uganda, as attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. Decision

- 2.1 That the letter to the Mayor of London regarding the anniversary of the expulsion of Asians from Uganda be agreed.

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: Léonie Cooper AM

Date: 9 August 2022

3. Decision by an Assembly Member under Delegated Authority

Background and proposed next steps:

- 3.1 The topic of the expulsion of Asians from Uganda under President Idi Amin and its significance for the British Asian population of London was due to be raised at a meeting of the London Assembly (Plenary) in July 2022 as a motion. However, as the meeting was rescheduled, this decision is to be taken under an urgency delegation due to the time-sensitive nature of the proposed letter, which marks the 50th anniversary of the expulsion of Asians from Uganda.
- 3.2 The proposed letter is set out at Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The exercise of delegated authority approving the letter to the Mayor of London will be formally noted at the next appropriate meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee.

Confirmation that appropriate delegated authority exists for this decision:

Signature (Committee Services): F.Bywaters

Printed Name: Fiona Bywaters

Date: 2 August 2022

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 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: 2 August 2022

Telephone Number: 020 7983 6550

Supporting Detail / List of Consultees:

- Dr Onkar Sahota AM
- Len Duvall AM
- Susan Hall AM
- Caroline Russell AM
- Caroline Pidgeon MBE 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: A. Sutton


Printed Name: Anna Sutton

Job Title: Committee Officer

Date: 2 August 2022

Telephone Number: 07825 028 318

Countersigned by Executive Director:

Signature: 

Printed Name: Helen Ewen

Date: 9 August 2022

Telephone Number: 07729 108986



Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Chair of the London Assembly

Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

(Sent by email)

9 August 2022

Dear Mr Mayor,

Anniversary of the expulsion of Asians from Uganda

I am writing to you on behalf of the London Assembly regarding an important anniversary for many Londoners this summer, which the Assembly Member for Brent and Harrow where 10,000 Ugandan Asians resettled, brought to the London Assembly's attention.

August 2022 marks 50 years since the expulsion of Asians from Uganda under the rule of President Idi Amin. We remember this anniversary with sadness and condemnation the forced diasporisation of approximately 60,000 Asians who were falsely blamed for political and economic turmoil in Uganda at the time. Those displaced, including those who found themselves stateless, those placed in holding camps whilst awaiting exile, and those who faced hardship and hostility upon resettlement. With almost half of those expelled from Uganda holding British passports and subsequently settling in the UK, we wanted to recognise the enormous contribution of Ugandan Asian refugees to British life – including in areas such as Brent, where approximately 10,000 Ugandan Asians settled.

This Assembly welcomes plans by multiple organisations in the month of August to commemorate this important period in British, Indian and Ugandan history and we would appreciate it if you could let us know how you and the GLA will publicly recognise the contribution of Ugandan Asians to London this August.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Onkar Sahota', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr Onkar Sahota AM
Chair of the London Assembly