

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD1308

Title: Audit reports presented to December 2013 Audit Panel

Executive Summary:

The London Assembly's Audit Panel meets four times a year and considers reports from the Greater London Authority's (GLA) internal and external auditors. After each meeting, those audit reports are noted by the Mayor in his executive oversight role at the GLA. The 17 December 2013 meeting of the Panel received seven internal audit reports (six full reports and one follow-up report) and no external audit reports.

Decision:

That the Mayor notes the contents of the seven internal audit reports presented to the 17 December meeting of the London Assembly's Audit Panel.

That the Mayor notes that Audit Panel Members had some further queries regarding one of those reports (Treasury Management follow-up) and that there will be further consideration of that topic at the next meeting of the Audit Panel in March 2014.

Mayor of London

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

28.1.2014

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE MAYOR

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The London Assembly's Audit Panel meets four times a year and considers reports from the GLA's internal and external auditors. After each meeting, those audit reports are noted by the Mayor in his executive oversight role at the GLA.
- 1.2 The 17 December 2013 meeting of the Panel received seven internal audit reports (six full reports and one follow-up report) and no external audit reports. The internal audit reports can be viewed at item 4 of the agenda:
<http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=128&MId=4919&Ver=4>

2. Issues for consideration

Internal audit

- 2.1 The levels of assurance awarded to the seven internal audit reports are recorded in the table below. Four reports received substantial assurance and three reports adequate assurance.
- 2.2 Audit Panel Members will look at issues arising from the Treasury Management follow-up report, specifically those relating to the shared service in place, at the Panel's next meeting in March 2014.

Audit	Responsibility	Level of Assurance
The Mayor's Economic Development Strategy and Implementation Framework	Assistant Director – Economic and Business Policy	Adequate
Review of Desktop Management	Head of Technology	Substantial
Review of Internet-Based Network Security	Head of Technology	Substantial
Review of Decision Making Framework – Mayoral and Directorate	Head of Governance & Resilience	Substantial
Performance Management Framework	Head of Governance & Resilience	Adequate
General Ledger Control Framework	Head of Financial Services	Substantial
Treasury Management – Follow Up	Assistant Director - Group Finance	Adequate

3. Financial Comments

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this decision.

4. Legal Comments

- 4.1 Section 127 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 ("the GLA Act") requires 'relevant authorities' to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and to ensure that their chief finance officer has responsibility for the administration of those affairs. The GLA is a relevant authority under section 127 and consequently is required to comply with these requirements.
- 4.2 Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 requires 'relevant bodies' to ensure that the financial management of the body is adequate and effective and that the body has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of that body's functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk. Regulation 2 defines 'relevant bodies' as those bodies which are required to be audited in accordance with section 2 of the Audit Commission Act 1998. The GLA is a body required to be audited under the Audit Commission Act 1998.
- 4.3 The attached audit reports have been prepared for the GLA as part of the chief financial officer's responsibilities for ensuring that the:
- GLA has made arrangements for the proper administration of the GLA's financial affairs in line with section 127 of the GLA Act; and
 - Financial management of the GLA is adequate and effective and that there is a sound system of internal control in line with Regulation 4 of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.

5. Investment & Performance Board

- 5.1 The contents of this form fall outside the terms of reference of the Investment & Performance Board.

6. Background/supporting papers

- 6.1 Items 4 of the 17 December 2013 Audit Panel meeting:
<http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=128&MId=4919&Ver=4>

Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) 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 approval or on the defer date.

Part 1 Deferral:

Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO

If YES, for what reason:

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

Part 2 Confidentiality: Only the facts or advice considered to be exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act should be in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

Is there a part 2 form – NO

ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Tick to indicate approval (✓)

Drafting officer:

Tom Middleton has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following have been consulted on the final decision.

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Tom Middleton has reviewed the documentation and is satisfied for it to be referred to the Sponsoring Director for approval.

✓

Sponsoring Director:

Martin Clarke has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

✓

Mayoral Adviser:

Sir Edward Lister has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.

✓

Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

OFFICER APPROVAL**Executive Director, Resources**

I have been consulted about the proposal and confirm that financial and legal advice have been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

Signature

m. j. hllce

Date

20.1.14

Chief of Staff

I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Mayor

Signature

Edward hllce

Date

21/01/14