

REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR DECISION – DD1333

Title: Team London Volunteers into Employment, Education or Training: 18-24 Year Olds

Executive Summary:

Despite progress being made in the fight against youth unemployment, the number of unemployed young people in London is still unacceptably high with youth unemployment rates more than 2.5 times higher than the national average.

The Team London Volunteers into Employment, Education or Training programme will aim to help young people on their pathway to work, enabling them to build their skills and experience through a mixture of volunteering, training and support. Team London is looking to partner with a/several leading organisation/s that can help young unemployed Londoners find sustainable education, employment and/or training.

The GLA is looking to grant up to a maximum of £100,000 to one or more organisations with the aim of assisting 18-24 year olds secure sustained employment, education or training.

Decision:

The Executive Director approves expenditure of up to a maximum of £100,000 from the Team London Programme Budget to fund one or more delivery partners to help 18-24 year olds secure sustained employment, education or training.

AUTHORISING DIRECTOR

I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.
It has my approval.

Name: Jeff Jacobs

Position: Executive Director –
Communications and Intelligence

Signature:

Date:

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

Team London

- 1.1 Team London is the Mayor's initiative to promote volunteering across the capital and encourage Londoners to do something great for their city. Team London's focus is on the following objectives:
- a. Making it easier to volunteer – raising the profile of volunteering, brokering between organisations looking for volunteering and individuals who are looking to give up their time to various causes and needs through Team London's website, as well as the dispersal of grants for the voluntary sector to find innovative ways to increase volunteering.
 - b. Legacy Programmes – building on the successes of the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games through the Visitor Welcome programme and supporting volunteers into major events such as UEFA Champion's League, the Chelsea Flower Show and Ride London.
 - c. Youth Programmes – to inspire young people to take social action about issues important to them in their communities. Team London also recognises volunteering as an important part of tackling youth unemployment as it enables young people to develop critical employability skills. These programmes aim to support young people, ages 18-24 on their path to employment.
- 1.2 For this programme Team London will identify suitable volunteering opportunities at well-known London events through established event management relationships. The successful provider will be able to select their young persons' 10 hours of volunteering activity from a 'menu of London events' as well approved opportunities from the Team London website, including the newly launched speed volunteering. The Mayor has committed that 10% of all of Team London's volunteering opportunities are filled by the unemployed and this project will contribute to ensuring this is met.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1 The prominent focus of this project is to re-engage Londoners aged 18-24 with employment; however the provider must ensure that the most appropriate employment, education, or training (EET) outcome is achieved for the participant.
- 2.2 The project will be measured and funded on the achievement of a set of inputs, outputs and outcomes as detailed in the successful bid application. Project stages are progressive (starter, volunteer, EET entry, sustained EET), ideally in that order, and the provider may therefore only claim an entry to employment, education or training once the participant has filled a Team London/Team London approved volunteering opportunity.
- 2.3 The table below outlines the expected outcomes for the project if applicants apply for the full £100,000. If applying for less than £100,000 then their outcomes will need to directly correlate to the numbers below.

Table 1 – Expected Project Outcomes

Outcome	Number of outcomes
Started volunteering	130
Participant completes 10 hours volunteering	110
Young people who volunteered at a Team London major event	80% of total volunteers
Into education, employment or training	60
Of EET outcomes, percentage to be employment outcomes (8 hours per week minimum)	80%
Sustained EET outcomes (26 weeks or more)	50

- 2.4 The successful grant funded organisation will be overseen by the GLA (Team London) who will ensure that associated milestones and KPI's are met through regular meetings and communication.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1 The successful delivery organisation will need to demonstrate that they have an equality framework in place, and that the volunteering opportunities brokered by the organisations will be open to all young people who wish to apply. This grant application is open to organisations that can deliver a service in London.

4. Other considerations

Key risks and issues

	Risk Description	Mitigation/Risk Response	Current prob (1-4)	Current impact (1-4)	RAG	GLA risk owner
1	Grant Funded organisation does not meet the agreed upon programme outcomes	The risk is low and will be mitigated through close project management such as monthly meetings to review progress.	1	1	A	AL/JG
2	Financial Mismanagement	The likelihood of over-spend or other financial misconduct is low, and will be mitigated by close contract management on the behalf of the GLA project manager.	1	1	A	AL/JG

Links to Mayoral Strategies and priorities

- 4.1 Team London is a cross-cutting initiative which links to a number of Mayoral Strategies and Priorities including:
- Investing in young Londoners
 - Improving Londoners' quality of life

- Mayor's Vision 2020 (working with businesses to create/support work opportunities for young people and volunteering)
- Reducing unemployment amongst young people and supporting them into sustainable employment and off out-of-work benefits
- Mayor's Regeneration commitment to improving the Tottenham community

5. Financial comments

- 5.1 The maximum cost of this project is £100,000 and it is intended that this is funded via a budget carry forward from the 2014-15 Team London Programme budget as approved by MD1341. It should be noted however, budget carry forwards are subject to the Authority's closure of accounts process and are not guaranteed. In the event that the budget carry forward request is not approved, the proposed expenditure of up to £100,000 will have first call on the 2015-16 Team London Programme budget that was approved as part of the 2015-16 GLA budget process.
- 5.2 Any changes to this proposal, including budgetary implications will be subject to further approval via the Authority's decision-making process. All appropriate budget adjustments will be made.
- 5.3 The Team London Unit within the Communities & Intelligence Directorate will be responsible for managing this project and ensuring all activities and associated expenditure complies with the Authority's Financial Regulations and Contracts & Funding Code.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1 Sections 1-4 of this report indicate that:
- 6.1.1 the proposals in respect of which the Director's approval is sought may be considered to fall within the GLA's powers to do such things as are facilitative of or conducive to the promotion of social development and economic improvement in Greater London;
- 6.1.2 in formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought officers have complied with the GLA's related statutory duties to:
- (a) Pay due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people;
 - (b) Consider how the proposals will promote the health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom; and
 - (c) Consult with the appropriate bodies.
- 6.2 Sections 1-5 above indicate that the contribution of up to £100 000 amounts to the provision of grant funding and not payment for works, supplies or services. Officers must ensure that:
- 6.2.1 the funding is distributed fairly, transparently, in accordance with the GLA's equalities and in a manner which affords value for money in accordance with the Contracts and Funding Code; and
- 6.2.2 an appropriate funding agreement is put in place between and executed by the GLA and the recipients before any commitment to fund is made.

7. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Competition held to find grant funded organisation [for externally delivered projects]	16/02/15
Announcement [to successful applicant]	23/03/15
Delivery Start Date [for project proposals]	30/04/15
Final evaluation start and finish (self)	30/10/16
Delivery End Date [for project proposals]	30/10/16

Appendices and supporting papers:

More information on this programme can be found here:

<http://volunteerteam.london.gov.uk/liberty/download/file/3054> or a hard copy of the guidance document is available on request.

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:

Drafting officer to
confirm the
following (✓)

Drafting officer:

Amanda Lee has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

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

✓

Financial and Legal advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal, and this decision reflects their comments.

✓

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RESOURCES:

I confirm that financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this report.

Signature

Date