

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR DIRECTOR DECISION – DD1162

Title: Public Health England resource for transport and spatial planning

Executive Summary:

Public Health England's (PHE) London office has agreed to fund the GLA Health Team £120,000 for additional public health expertise to assist with work in TfL and spatial planning.

These resources will fund a project officer for 2 years to enhance the work of the two Public Health specialists who are working in TfL and with the spatial planning teams.

This funding is being offered by PHE (London) to supplement the GLA resources and is dependent on those resources continuing until end March 2016.

Decision:

The Director is asked to approve the GLA's:

1. acceptance of funding of £120,000 from, and entry into arrangements for the provision of the same with PHE (London) in 2013/14; and
2. expenditure of £120,000 on the costs of a project officer to enhance the public health work in transport and spatial planning.

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: Head of Paid Service

Signature:



Date: 28.1.2014

PART I - NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

Public Health England (PHE) has a role in supporting and enhancing public health work in Local Government. The London office is coterminous with the GLA and works closely with it. PHE(London) see it as beneficial to London to augment the work already under way through the GLA Health Team in transport and urban planning. In both areas, a public health specialist is working closely with TfL and the spatial planning teams. Additional support of a project officer will add to the work already underway, enhancing the work of the public health specialists enabling them to deliver more than their current programme of activity. The post will sit within the Health Team on a fixed term contract from April 2014 till March 2016. Evaluation of the postholder impact will be through the GLA appraisal process.

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

The funding from PHE(London) will fund a 2-year fixed-term post with sufficient public health skills to provide support to the two senior public health specialists currently working closely with TfL and the spatial planning team. This will augment the senior public health specialists. The public health specialists' work already includes:

- Assisting with the implementation of Mayoral transport strategies including Cycling and Road Safety ensuring that the potential to improve health is fully realised and the work is evidence based.
- Assisting with the development of the London Plan and subsequent Special Planning Guidances ensuring that the potential to improve health is fully realised and the work is evidence based.
- Encouraging developers to undertake suitable health impact assessments of large developments, as recommended in the London Plan.
- Developing TfLs position on health improvement, as requested by Peter Hendy and to assist Michelle Dix in her role on the London Health Board.
- To work with the boroughs, in both transport and planning, to assist them to realise their role in the implementation of these Mayoral strategies.

The public health specialist roles have been very successful and are valued by both TfL and the spatial planning team. The current planned workload is limited by the current capacity of the public health specialists. This new funding will provide additional support that will enable the public health specialists to undertake additional work.

3. Other considerations

a) RISKS:

- the PHE funding needs to be spent within the 2013/14 financial year: this will be managed by using the PHE funds within 13/14 and rolling forward residual funding from the London Health Improvement Board (permission already granted by NHS England) into 13/14 which will then be used to fund this post.

b) Mayoral Strategies

- Cycling
- Road Safety
- The London Plan
- The Health Inequalities Strategy (in that both transport and spatial planning can impact on health inequalities)

4. Financial comments

- 4.1 The Public Health England (London Office) have agreed to fund the GLA £120,000 in order to enhance the work relating to public health work in transport and spatial planning. The income will fund a project officer for a period of two years to supplement the work of two Public Health Specialists who are currently at Transport for London and the associated spatial planning teams.
- 4.2 The GLA are to receive the total funding of £120,000 in the 2013-14 financial-year and given that the staffing resource is to be for two years (April 2014 to March 2016), the income will be carried forward to fund future years costs. In order to facilitate the carry forward of the income, officers within the Health & Communities Unit will ensure that the requisite year-end paper work is completed and submitted to the Finance Team. The receipt of income and the associated expenditure will be accounted for within the Health & Communities Unit.
- 4.3 The creation of the two year fixed term post may give rise to potential redundancy and pension liabilities that will be payable by the GLA at the end of the contract. These costs cannot yet be substantiated but will have to be contained within the existing Health and Communities budget provision.
- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 The Health Team within the Communities & Intelligence Directorate will be responsible for managing all activities relating to this proposal and ensuring that the receipt of income and associated expenditure complies with the Authority's Financial Regulations, Contracts & Funding Code, Expenses & Benefits Framework and HR's protocol for post creations and staffing appointments. The Health Team are also advised to liaise with legal officers to ensure that the appropriate paper work is put in place to formalise and govern the proposed £120,000 contribution to the GLA.

5. Legal comments

- 5.1 Sections 1 – 4 of this report indicate that the decisions requested of the Director fall within the GLA's statutory powers to do such things considered to promote of economic development and wealth creation, social development or the promotion of the improvement of the environment in Greater London in manner which promotes the improvement of health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom.
- 5.2 Officers must ensure that they
 - 5.2.1 are content that the GLA can meet any conditions to which the Public Health England (London Office) funding is subject seeking legal and finance advice as necessary;
 - 5.2.2 do not act in reliance of such funding until Public Health England (London Office) are obligated to the provision of the same (by way of a funding agreement or other legally binding document); and
 - 5.2.3 comply fully with all GLA HR/Head of Paid Service protocols in respect of staffing proposals, in particular the need to gain all necessary approvals for the creation of any new posts.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

Activity	Timeline
Recruitment to the post	February 2014
Post holder commences	April 2014

Appendices and supporting papers: None

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:

Helen Walters has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms that:

✓

Assistant Director/Head of Service:

Amanda Coyle 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

M. J. Bell

Date

28.1.14

