

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

## REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD388

**Title: London Food Programme 2009-2012**

### Executive Summary:

The London Food Board (a non-statutory advisory body) was established by the GLA in 2004 to lead on food matters in the capital. In 2006, the Mayor's Strategy "Healthy and Sustainable Food for London" was published. The strategy is designed to improve London's food and reduce the environmental impact of the food industry. The London Food Programme is currently co-ordinated by the London Development Agency ("LDA").

Following the 2008 Mayoral and Assembly elections, the Mayor appointed Rosie Boycott as Chair of the Board for London Food until 30 April 2012. Given the appointment it has been deemed practical that in order to maximise stakeholder engagement and the profile of the programme across London, the management, administration and delivery of, and funding for the programme should be transferred from the LDA to the GLA.

In order to clarify the arrangements for the ongoing delivery of the programme approval is sought for the decisions set out below.

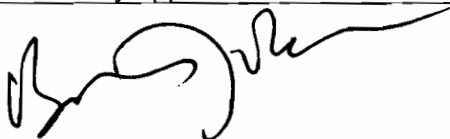
### Decision:

Direct the LDA, pursuant to sections 120 and section 121 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 ("the Act"), and in the terms set out at the appendix to this report-, to transfer of available LDA revenue funds to the GLA, over a three year period (2009/10-£830,547.00; 2010/11-£2,000,000; 2011/12-£2,000,000) to resource the GLA's management, administration and delivery of the London Food Programme.

### Mayor of London

The above request has my approval.

**Signature**



**Date**

07/08/09.

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

### **Decision required – supporting report**

#### **1. Introduction and background**

The former Mayor set up London Food in November 2003 to advise him on food issues in the capital. London Food is currently co-ordinated by the London Development Agency and brings together leading figures from the food industry, agriculture, community groups and government.

On 1 September 2008, the Mayor appointed Rosie Boycott as Chair of the Board for London Food until 30 April 2012. Given this appointment, it has been deemed practical that in order to maximise stakeholder engagement and the profile of the programme across London, the management, administration and delivery of, and funding for the programme should be transferred from the LDA to the GLA. The GLA has consulted with the LDA and in order to clarify the arrangements for the transfer of the London Food Budget from the LDA to the GLA it has become necessary to direct the LDA to the transfer of funding for the delivery of the Food Programme, £4,830,547 over financial years 2009/10; 2010/11; and 2011/12.

An agreement has been reached between the LDA and GLA but no formal undertaking has taken place and the direction seeks to clarify the arrangements for the transfer of the London Food budget from the LDA to the GLA.

“Healthy and Sustainable Food for London” is the Mayor’s Strategy designed to improve London’s food and reduce the environmental impact of the food industry. The strategy provides an overview of London’s food infrastructure involving growers, producers, transporters, wholesalers, retailers and consumers. It aims to:

- reduce the negative environmental impacts of food;
- improve Londoners’ health through food;
- support a vibrant food economy;
- celebrate and promote London’s food; and
- develop London’s food security.

As noted above, London Food is currently with and has been co-ordinated by the London Development Agency to date. In order to maximise stakeholder engagement and the profile of the programme across London, the management and administration of and funding for the programme should be transferred from the LDA to the GLA.

In meeting the above aims the delivery by the GLA of the London Food Programme is facilitative of and conducive to the promotion of economic development and wealth creation and the improvement of the environment in Greater London while also addressing issues concerning the health of Londoners.

The GLA has consulted with the LDA and in order to clarify the arrangements for the transfer of the London Food Budget from the LDA to the GLA it is necessary to direct the LDA to the transfer of available funding for the delivery of the Food programme £4,830,547.

The transfer will be made in the following three tranches:

- (a) £830,547.00 on or before 31 July 2009;
- (b) £2,000,000.00 on or before 1 April 2010; and

(c) £2,000,000.00 on or before 1 April 2011.

Officers are currently developing the detailed arrangements and focus for delivery of the programme. To ensure the ongoing, efficient management and administration of the programme it is crucial that the GLA is sufficiently and appropriately staffed to ensure proper, effective and efficient delivery.

The GLA's Head of Paid Service has the statutory power to create staff posts, either on a temporary or permanent basis. Given this, the Mayor is asked to recommend that the Head of Paid Service establishes, as he sees fits, any staff posts required to properly implement and deliver the programme.

In taking this decision, the Head of Paid Service may want to take into account all available options as to staffing, to ensure that the relevant team is comprised of staff with all the necessary skills, experience and attributes. This could involve consideration of whether it may be appropriate to second to the GLA staff from the LDA.

## **2. Issues for consideration**

### **a) Links to strategies and Corporate Plan**

This direction and approvals sought are aligned to the enhanced delivery of the Mayor's Food strategy- "Healthy and Sustainable Food for London" which sets out how the Mayor will improve London's food and reduce the environmental impact on the food industry.

They also link in to other Mayoral strategies:

The London Plan sets out the integrated social, economic and environmental framework for the future development of London. The Transport Strategy influences the means by which people can access their food. The Municipal Waste Management Strategy addresses ways to tackle household food-related waste and the Economic Development Strategy relates to issues of skills and employment affecting the food sector. They also assist in meeting the objectives of the Mayor's forthcoming Health Inequalities Strategy. Support the Mayor's environmental priorities and forthcoming strategies such as the Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Change Energy and Mitigation strategies.

The GLA will ensure these are links are maintained by undertaking a strategy refresh and establishing an action plan setting out outcomes and target dates which will include those objectives in the London Plan and the above strategies that align to the Food Strategy. These objectives and outcomes will be monitored on a quarterly basis by the Food Project Team at the GLA and a report provided to the London Food Board at each of its meetings. The Project Team will also attend the GLA's Strategy Co-ordination meetings to report on these links, outcomes and ensure cross- working.

### **b) Impact assessments and Consultation**

The GLA and LDA have jointly consulted on the details of the transfer of the Food Project since the beginning of 2009. Senior officers agreed the principle of the transfer. Subsequently a range of options has been considered by both organisations concerning the practicalities of achieving the transfer. Plans to approve the transfer through the LDA internal approval process were investigated but proved unsuitable. The principle to transfer has also been discussed by the London Food Board.

The GLA will take steps to ensure that the programme is administered and managed in a manner which promotes equality of access to all Londoners of opportunities to participate in the delivery and benefit from the programme.

### c) Risk

The GLA will manage the overall operational aspects of the programmes, using its standard corporate approach to project management.

It has taken far longer than anticipated to reach agreement on the transfer of the management and administration of and funding for the programme. As a result, the main risk is that the fulfilment of key strategic objectives set out in the Mayor's Food Strategy may be delayed and this may have a negative impact on stakeholder engagement, the profile and impact of the programme across London. In order to mitigate against this risk, the GLA will keep stakeholders informed of developments, particularly where the GLA anticipates there will be slippage on the transfer timetable. This will be done on a regular basis including through the London Food Board meetings. In addition, the GLA will undertake a risk assessment.

### 3. Decisions

That the Mayor (to clarify the arrangements for the transfer of the LDA's Food budget) directs the LDA, pursuant to sections 120 and section 121 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 ("the Act"), and in the terms set out at the appendix to this report-, to transfer of available LDA revenue funds to the GLA, over a three year period 2009/10 -£830,547.00; 2010/11-£2,000,000.00; 20011/12-£2,000,000.00 to resource the GLA's management, administration and delivery of the London Food Programme.

### 4. Financial Comments

Following discussions between GLA and LDA officers, the transfer of the management and administration of and funding for the programme from the LDA to the GLA has been agreed. It is envisaged that the GLA will require additional staffing resources. This will be funded from within the overall programme funding to be transferred,

The funding will be transferred over three years as follows:

Year		
2009/10		£830,547.00
2010/11		£2,000,000.00
2011/12		£2,000,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>£4,830,547.00</b>

The Executive Director of Development and Environment will determine how the funding is allocated, paying due regard to the recommendations of the London Food Board.

The cost centre D03V (Food Programme) will account for all the income from the LDA

All expenditure within each financial year will be subject to further approval through the GLA decision making process.

The creation of any new posts will be subject to the GLA's recruitment process (HOPs, STAFs, etc)

All necessary budget adjustments will be made.

The Development and Environment team will monitor the spend.

## **5. Legal Comments**

5.1 The forgoing sections of this report indicate that:

5.1.1 the decisions requested of the Mayor fall within his statutory powers, acting on behalf of the Authority, to do anything which is facilitative of or conducive or incidental to the promotion of economic development and wealth creation and the improvement of the environment in Greater London; and

5.1.2 in formulating the proposals in respect of which a decision is sought officers have complied with the Authority'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 improvement of health of persons, health inequalities between persons and to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom; and
- (c) consult with appropriate bodies.

5.2 Under sections 27 and 40 of the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998 the Mayor may direct the LDA to exercise its functions in any manner specified in a direction and vary such directions.

5.3 Officers have indicated that the GLA has consulted the LDA regarding the revised direction in accordance with section 40 of the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998.

5.4 Section 121 of the Act allows the LDA to transfer available revenue sums if the Mayor consents, toward meeting such revenue expenditure of the Authority for the purposes of or in connection with the discharge of any of the Authority's functions.

5.5 Officers have indicated that the GLA needs additional staffing resources to effectively administer and manage the delivery of the food programme. The establishment of any staff posts is a decision for the Chief Executive acting in his capacity as Head of Paid Service in accordance with section 67(2) of the Act.

## **6. Background/supporting papers**

Annex 1: Mayoral Direction 112 and Mayoral Direction 235

**Public access to information**

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the Greater London Authority website within 1 working day of approval. Any facts and advice that should not be made automatically available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form. Deferment is only applicable where release before that date would compromise the implementation of the decision being approved.

Is the publication of this approval to be deferred? NO

If yes, for what reason:

Until what date:

Is there a part 2 form - NO

**OFFICER APPROVAL:**

	<i>Tick to indicate approval</i>
<b>Sponsoring Director:</b> Fiona Fletcher-Smith has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.	✓
<b>Mayoral Advisor:</b> Isabel Dedring has been consulted about the proposal and agrees the recommendations.	✓
<b>Head of Law:</b> Stephen Fernandes-Owen has commented on this proposal on behalf of the Head of Law	✓

**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



Date

4.8.09

**Chief of Staff**

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

Signature



Date

5.8.09

**MAYORAL DIRECTION**

**TO**

**THE LONDON DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

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**IN RELATION TO THE TRANSFER OF REVENUE FUNDS TO  
RESOURCE THE GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY'S MANAGEMENT,  
ADMINISTRATION AND DELIVERY OF THE "LONDON FOOD  
PROGRAMME"**

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**MAYORAL DIRECTION  
MD388**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. The London Food Board ("London Food") was established in November 2003 to advise the former Mayor on food issues in the capital. London Food is currently co-ordinated by the London Development Agency ("LDA") and brings together leading figures from the food industry, agriculture, community groups and government.
- B. The London Food Strategy and Programme covers five key strategic objectives considered facilitative of the promotion of economic development and wealth creation and the improvement of the environment in Greater London whilst addressing health and health inequality issues. The key objectives are to: improve Londoners' health through food, reduce the negative environmental impacts of food, support a vibrant food economy, celebrate and promote London's food and develop London's food security.
- C. On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008, the Mayor appointed Rosie Boycott as Chair of London Food until 30 April 2012. Given this appointment, it has been deemed practical that in order to maximise stakeholder engagement and the profile of the programme across London, the management and administration of and funding for the programme should be transferred from the LDA to the Greater London Authority ("GLA").
- D. This direction seeks to clarify the arrangements for the transfer of the London Food budget from the LDA to the GLA.
- E. I have consulted the LDA prior to making this direction in accordance with my duties under section 40 of the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998, paying due regard to comments from the LDA and where appropriate have incorporated such comments within this direction.

**DIRECTION**

1. In accordance with section 27 of the Regional Development Agencies Act 1998, I hereby direct the LDA to fully cooperate with and assist the GLA in its implementation and delivery of the Plan and:
- 1.1 pay revenue grants amounting to a total of £483,0547.00 to the GLA under section 121 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 in the
- (a) £830,547.00 on or before 31 August 2009;
  - (b) £2,000,000.00 on or before 1 April 2010; and
  - (c) £2,000,000.00 on or before 1 April 2011.

Signed.....  
Boris Johnson – Mayor of London

Dated. 07/08/09....