

Committee:	Date:
Public Relations and Economic Development Sub Committee	19 February 2020
Policy and Resources Committee	20 February 2020
Subject: Tokyo 2020 Games	Public
Report of: Director of Communications	For Decision
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Summary

This report sets our plans to engage and celebrate the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo this summer. It proposes a number of events be supported in London in the run up to the competition, as well as the Lord Mayor hosting a business networking event at UK House in Tokyo and participating in the official UK delegation at the start of the Games.

Recommendation

That, Members agree that £40,000 be allocated from the 2020/21 Policy Initiatives Fund to cover costs of the City Corporation's engagement around the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Main Report

1. In line with the City Corporation's new sport engagement ambition and following on from the successful UK Sport International Relations Seminar that took place at Guildhall last month, discussions have taken place with the British Olympic Association (BOA) and the British Paralympic Association (BPA) on plans for the City of London Corporation to support and engage in the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games this year.
2. Some of this engagement would be London based, utilising our facilities and convening power to bring together sport representatives and business to discuss potential fundraising opportunities which are imperative to ensuring future British sporting success. The BPA are particularly keen on this as they are looking to enhance fundraising significantly in the lead up to the Paralympics this summer and beyond. Events to support this fundraising programme, as well as celebrating Team GB athletes, could take place at Guildhall and Mansion House in the lead up to and after the competition. Already there are plans to hold an archery display in Guildhall Yard in May for Team GB competitors.
3. Hampstead Heath will also be the focal point in the run up to the Games as it will host the qualifier competitions for the 10,000 metre race, effectively deciding on which Team GB athletes will go to Tokyo to compete. This will form part of the celebrations around the 'Night of the 10kpbs on Parliament Hill Athletics Track – an annual festival of running that attracts a large audience and receives positive media coverage. By providing some resources to this year's event, and possibly hosting stakeholders and partner representatives during the evening, the City Corporation would receive enhanced recognition for its support and more widely its role in facilitating sport across our open spaces.
4. In addition to events in London, the Lord Mayor has been invited by the BOA to attend the start of the Olympic Games as part of the official UK delegation in Tokyo. Attending during this time would mean that he would participate in high profile events held at the British Embassy in Tokyo as well as engaging with key policy and business leaders alongside senior representation from the UK. As part of this arrangement, the Lord Mayor would also be asked to host a business networking event prior to the start of the Olympic Games at UK House in Tokyo.
5. The focus of an event at UK House in Tokyo would be to promote London and the UK's trade, sport and cultural offer. Working with the BOA, who would oversee logistics, the City Corporation could ensure key business and policy contacts are invited to this event. Japan represents a key market for London and the UK and building links through sport can help lay the groundwork for future trade discussions and collaborations. Further down the line it is also anticipated that this engagement will position the City Corporation well in support of UK preparations for the Paris 2024 games, which will be an important opportunity to strengthen Anglo-French relations.
6. Working with partners including UK Sport, the BOA, BPA and the British Embassy in Japan, the Sport Engagement Manager will provide logistical support and backup to the Lord Mayor during this trip. He will also be accredited alongside the

Lord Mayor and help facilitate engagement and build relationships with our sporting and business partners. Working with Mansion House and Innovation Growth, a comprehensive programme of activities will be devised and a report of the outcome and benefits of the engagement around the Tokyo 2020 Games will be provided as part of the regular sport engagement updates given to the Public Relations & Economic Development Sub Committee.

7. The BPA are also keen for the City Corporation to be represented in Tokyo during the start of the Paralympics, although the timing of this competition over the summer recess makes this logistically much more challenging. However, the London Symphony Orchestra will be performing at the UK House in Tokyo during this time and discussions are ongoing with the organisers and UK Embassy in Japan on ways the City Corporation can support this cultural programme.
8. In view of the strategic importance of this engagement and the unique context, it is suggested that Members agree to £40,000 being allocated from the 2020/21 Policy Initiatives Fund to meet costs of engagement for the Tokyo 2020 Games. This amount would cover support for events in London and additional resources for celebrating the Night of 10kpbs this year at Hampstead Heath. It will also cover costs associated with engagement in Tokyo, including hosting a high-level business networking event at UK House prior to the start of the Olympics and travel costs for the Sport Engagement Manager. The Lord Mayor's travel costs, including accommodation and flights, will be met from the MVAC budget.

Implications

9. These events and initiatives take forward the aims and priorities of the City of London's Corporate Plan for 2018-23 by promoting trade, culture and social cohesion domestically and internationally within a flourishing society and thriving economy. It is proposed that the required funding of £40,000 is to be drawn from your Committee's 2020/21 Policy Initiative Fund categorised as 'Promoting the City' and charged to City's Cash. The current uncommitted balance in the 2020/21 PIF is £779,365 prior to any allowances being made for any other proposals on today's agenda.

Conclusion

10. The Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games represent a unique opportunity for the City Corporation to engage with domestic and international partners and stakeholders, as well as promote UK trade, sport and culture to a global audience. A number of events are planned for the lead up to the Games and during the competition. Members views are sought on funding these plans from the Policy Initiatives Fund.

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