

Review of the GLA's role in supporting philanthropy in London

Introduction

Rocket Science have been commissioned to deliver an independent review of the GLA's role in supporting and encouraging philanthropy in the capital which will include a strategic review of current GLA programmes and key stakeholder engagement. Upon completion Rocket Science will provide a handful of practical and achievable actions which the GLA and the Mayor will consider in relation to enabling effective giving in London.

Method

Rocket Science will initially undertake research to provide a sense of the potential of civic philanthropy and will look to collect case studies and examples of good practice both within the capital and beyond.

We will be convening focus groups during April that will be structured around the current, and potential, philanthropic groups that exist. We will be exploring the scope of, potential for, and connections between groups such as:

- Large corporates and small businesses including employer supported volunteering
- High Net Worth Individuals
- Independent funders
- Place-based initiatives
- Brokers and platforms
- Think-Tanks, research bodies and philanthropic institutes.

These sessions will be chaired by Rocket Science and be independent in drive and scope. Input from the focus groups will contribute to the emerging or final recommendations.

Key lines of enquiry

Rocket Science, following the method outlined above, will be exploring the following lines of enquiry, as well as others that develop during our consultations:

- How can the GLA, and/or Mayor, complement and work with other partners who are either philanthropists themselves, or already act as agencies to promote philanthropy in London?
- What is the current role of the GLA and the Mayor in supporting and encouraging philanthropy including existing infrastructure and partnerships that enable giving?
- What role, if any should the Mayor and GLA play in enabling and or directing giving?
- What influence, if any, can or should the GLA and/or the Mayor of London have over the types of campaigns/programmes or projects that philanthropists are willing to fund?
- What are the connections between GLA departments, existing programmes and partnerships in terms of leveraging additional funding and giving from philanthropic sources, and how might they be improved?
- Should the GLA benchmark, recognise and measure success in this area? How should it?
- What are some of the best models or initiatives to promote corporate and individual philanthropy in London and what lessons can be learnt from them?
- What lessons can be learnt from International and UK places and cities which might have developed their vision and "ask" of civic philanthropy?

John Griffiths

Rocket Science UK Ltd

07887 643980 / John.Griffiths@rocketsciencelab.co.uk