GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

VEREDUS

Candidate Pack

Independent Members, Audit Committee

Veredus Ref #1358

Closes 23.59, 23 October 2026

disability confident

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The **Greater London Authority (GLA)** is London`s **strategic, city-wide governing body**, created in **2000** following a London-wide referendum. Its purpose is to provide leadership and long-term vision for the capital, representing the interests of Londoners and shaping London`s economic, social and environmental future. Unlike borough councils, the GLA does not deliver most local services directly; instead, it sets strategy, budgets and priorities for London as a whole.

How the GLA is structured

The GLA has **two core political components**:

- The **Mayor of London**, who acts as the executive leader, sets London-wide strategies and makes key decisions.
- The **London Assembly**, made up of **25 elected members**, which holds the Mayor to account by scrutinising strategies, decisions, policies and the budget.

Both the Mayor and Assembly are elected every four years, ensuring democratic oversight and transparency in how London is governed.

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What the GLA does

The GLA`s role is **strategic rather than operational**, focusing on areas where London-wide coordination delivers the greatest impact. These include:

- Transport and infrastructure
- Policing and crime oversight
- Fire and emergency planning
- Spatial planning and housing
- Economic development, skills and growth
- Environment, health, culture and resilience

The mayor sets statutory strategies, notably the **London Plan**, which guides development and land use across the capital. Delivery in major operational areas is carried out through the GLA Group`s functional bodies, including **Transport for London (TfL)**, the **Mayor`s Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)** and the **London Fire Commissioner**.

How the GLA fits into London governance

While the 32 London borough councils and the City of London Corporation provide leadership at a local level and deliver the majority of day-to-day services, including education, social care and waste collection, the GLA provides strategic leadership across the capital. It sets the overall direction for London and works across the system to deliver the Mayor's priorities.

The GLA has significant direct delivery responsibilities in a number of key policy areas, most notably housing and adult skills, where it is responsible not only for strategic leadership and policy development but also for the effective allocation, oversight and delivery of substantial government funding programmes that support housing supply, regeneration, skills provision and workforce development across London.

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Background to the GLA Audit Committee

The Mayor of London is establishing a new GLA Audit Committee in anticipation of statutory requirements introduced through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026, which will require the GLA to operate a statutory Audit Committee under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

The Committee will play a central role in strengthening governance, financial oversight, risk management, internal control, audit assurance and value for money across the GLA.

Committee Purpose

The Audit Committee will provide independent, high-level oversight of:

- Financial governance and stewardship
- Risk management and internal controls
- Corporate governance arrangements
- Internal and external audit
- Value for money, economy, efficiency and effectiveness
- Fraud, corruption and assurance frameworks
- Financial reporting and the Annual Governance Statement

The Committee is expected to operate independently, objectively and in a politically impartial manner while supporting effective governance across the GLA.

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Committee Composition

The Committee will comprise six members:

- One Mayoral representative
- Two London Assembly members

Three independent persons, including:

- Independent Chair
- Independent Deputy Chair
- Independent Member

Collective capability

The appointments should ensure that the Committee collectively possesses the knowledge and expertise necessary to oversee governance, risk management, financial reporting, audit and internal control arrangements in line with CIPFA guidance and best practice.

The Opportunity

The GLA seeks high-calibre independent members with the credibility, judgement and professional standing to provide robust challenge and assurance within one of the UK's most visible public bodies.

The Chair will lead the Committee and help shape a strong culture of accountability, transparency and continuous improvement.

About the Role

Independent Member, Audit Committee

Role Purpose

An independent member provides an external and apolitical presence on the GLA Audit Committee. The role of the Audit Committee is to objectively review and scrutinise the Authority's financial affairs, providing independent assurance to the Mayor of London regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of its governance, internal control and risk. The Committee will review and assess the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which resources have been used in discharging the Authority's functions.

The GLA Audit Committee is expected to meet formally four times a year. Additional meetings may be required on an 'by exception' basis.

In line with current CIPFA guidance, audit committee members are expected to undertake induction and ongoing training, informed by regular assessment of their knowledge and skills, to ensure that the committee collectively has the expertise required to oversee governance, risk management, internal control, audit and financial reporting effectively.

Independent Members will ideally possess business or financial management experience of working at a senior level in a complex organisation. Alternatively, Independent Members may have sat on an Audit Committee or had other experience which gives a similar understanding.

About the Role

Independent Member, Audit Committee

Qualifications and Knowledge

- Knowledge/Understanding of public sector corporate governance arrangements.
- Knowledge of the role of Internal Audit.
- Knowledge of Financial Management.
- Understanding of risk management or assurance frameworks.

Essential Skills and Competencies

- Engaging mind, with the ability to understand complex issues in a political environment.
- Ability to understand the importance of accountability and probity in public life.
- Ability to see and focus on the `big picture` and materiality, to avoid being drawn into unnecessary `detail`.
- Ability to analyse and assess evidence and offer objective pragmatic advice.
- Ability to question effectively and provide constructive challenge, drawing out relevant facts.
- Ability to act with objectivity and integrity in an independent role.
- Ability to analyse and assess evidence and offer objective pragmatic advice, balancing theory with how recommendations will work in practice.
- Possess strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Possess a strong understanding of Corporate Governance.

Desirable

We would particularly welcome applications from people with specialist knowledge or experience in the following areas:

- Accountancy, with experience of financial reporting
- Internal auditing
- Risk Management
- Governance
- Knowledge/understanding of major infrastructure delivery, housing delivery or grant making.

About the Role

Independent Member, Audit Committee

Terms

- Initial appointment: four years.
- Eligible for reappointment for a further term of up to four years.
- Quarterly meetings, with additional meetings as required. Informal briefings and discussions may take place outside formal meetings, where necessary.
- Participation in induction and ongoing development/training is expected.
- Meetings of the Audit Committee tend to take place in London.

Rewards and Benefits

Independent Members of the Audit Committee will receive remuneration of £12,000 per annum payable four-weekly. In addition, Independent Members may claim reasonable travel expenses.

Diversity and Inclusion

The GLA is committed to inclusive recruitment. The search should proactively attract a diverse field of candidates reflecting London's communities and strengthen diversity of thought, background and experience within the Committee. Independent appointments will be made through an open and inclusive recruitment process.

About the Role

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Conflicts of Interest

If you believe you (or any family member) have any interests that might be relevant (or perceived as relevant) to your ability to undertake this role, please email our search and selection advisers on anna.tan@veredus.co.uk or laura.Spurgin@veredus.co.uk early in the process. Such interests may be financial or may be related to the relationships you have with specific individuals, organisations or employers. Candidates are asked to disclose potential conflicts of interest at the point of application.

Independent Members:

- Must not be an elected member, officer or employee of the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity, or have been so in the preceding five years prior to appointment.
- Must not have an existing contract with the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity – or have a beneficial interest in a body which has an existing contract with the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity - (i) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and (ii)which has not been fully discharged.
- Must not be a current or prospective auditor of the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity.
- Must not be a relative or close friend of the Mayor of London or a London Assembly Member, or an officer or employee of the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity. Must not within the last 5 years, have been— (i) an employee of a person who is a current or prospective auditor of the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity; (ii)a partner in a firm that is a current or prospective auditor of the GLA, a GLA functional body or a GLA entity; or (iii)a director of a body corporate that is (a current or prospective auditor of the GLA.
- Must not be a Councillor or Officer in any London local authority or have been so in the preceding five years prior to appointment.
- Should have no material conflicts of interest with the Greater London Authority and must complete a declaration of relevant interests upon appointment.
- Must have no unspent criminal convictions or be an undischarged bankrupt.

Independent Members will be required to sign an undertaking to comply with the Authority`s relevant Code of Conduct.
Note: A "GLA Entity" is a company of the GLA or a company of a GLA Functional Body.

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The Nolan Principles

The **Nolan Principles** are seven principles of public life that set out the standards expected of people working in public office in the UK. They were established in 1995 by the **Committee on Standards in Public Life**, chaired by Lord Nolan.

The seven principles are:

1. **Selflessness -** Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest, rather than for personal gain.
2. **Integrity** – They should avoid placing themselves under obligations to people or organisations that could improperly influence their decisions.
3. **Objectivity** – Decisions should be made impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best available evidence.
4. **Accountability** – Public office holders should be accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and should submit themselves to appropriate scrutiny.
5. **Openness** – They should be as open as possible about decisions and actions, restricting information only where there are clear and lawful reasons to do so.
6. **Honesty** – They should be truthful and declare any private interests relating to their public duties.
7. **Leadership** – They should demonstrate and promote these principles through their own behaviour and actively challenge poor conduct when necessary.

Application Process

Independent Member, Audit Committee - How to Apply

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Veredus is acting as an executive search and selection advisor to the GLA on this appointment and they will manage the campaign.

To apply for this post, you will need to submit the following documents, via the Veredus website – Opportunities | Veredus, quoting the following reference number & job title: **#1358 – Independent Member, Audit Committee**.

Please note that Veredus is also leading the search for two Independent Members of the Audit Committee. If you would like to be considered for both the Chair and Independent Member roles, please submit a separate application for each role.

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV, cover letter and conflicts of interest form and complete the online diversity questionnaire and candidate supporting information form*.

The closing date for receipt of application is by **23:59** on **23rd October 2026**.

If you would like to discuss the role confidentially before applying, or require more information about the recruitment process, please contact:
Veredus: anna.tan@veredus.co.uk or laura.Spurgin@veredus.co.uk

Please include a daytime, evening and mobile telephone contact number, and your preferred email address for correspondence in your application, which will be used with discretion.

Application Process

Independent Member, Audit Committee - How to Apply (cont..)

Your submission should include:

- *A **CV** setting out your career history and experience - up to two sides of A4.
- *A **Supporting Statement** (1,000 words max) with evidence of your achievements in the areas detailed in essential attributes and specific requirements.
- *A completed **Conflicts of Interest Form** *(a Word version of this form is available on the Veredus website under Supporting Documentation for this role).*
- A completed online **Diversity Questionnaire** All monitoring data will be treated in the strictest confidence, will not be provided to the selection panel and will not affect your application in any way. If you do not wish to provide a declaration on any of the particular characteristics, you will have the option to select 'prefer not to say` (*via this link):*

  CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM

- If applicable - A completed **Disability Confident Scheme Form** *(a Word version of this form is available on the Veredus website under Supporting Documentation for this role).*

**Failure to submit all documents will mean the panel only has limited information on which to assess your application. The diversity questionnaire online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.*

Due Diligence
Please note that references and open-source due diligence checks (including into social media accounts) may be undertaken for shortlisted candidates. If shortlisted, you will be asked to complete a candidate information form.

Timeline

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How long does the process take?

Please find an indicative timeline below. We will try and offer as much flexibility as possible, however it may not always be possible to offer alternative dates for interviews. Please note these dates may be subject to change.

	Indicative timelines
Closing Date	23.59, 23 October 2026
Longlist	Week commencing 2 November 2026
Preliminary Interviews	Week commencing 9 November and 16 November 2026
Shortlist	Week commencing 23 November 2026
Panel Interviews	Week Commencing 7 December 2026

Any Questions?

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Thank you for your interest in joining **Greater London Authority**.

If you'd like to discuss the role in more detail before submitting your application, please contact:

Anna Tan
Anna.Tan@veredus.co.uk
or
Laura Spurgin
Laura.Spurgin@veredus.co.uk