

# Subject: The 2024-25 GLA Group Budget

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Budget and Performance Committee</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Executive Director of Assembly Secretariat</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>9 January 2024</b>
<b>Public Access:</b>	<b>This report will be considered in public</b>

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out background information in relation to Budget and Performance Committee questions to the Mayor on his draft 2024-25 Budget proposals. There will also be a discussion with external experts to gain an understanding of the opportunities in the Mayor's 2024-25 Budget.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the report as background to putting questions to invited guests and notes the subsequent discussion.**
- 2.2 **That the Committee delegates authority to the Chairman, in consultation with party Group Lead Members, to agree any output arising from the meeting.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 The Budget and Performance Committee's key responsibility is its annual scrutiny of the Mayor's budget proposals for the next financial year. This involves detailed examination of the Mayor's plans for spending his budget to help ensure taxpayers' money is spent appropriately and effectively.

## **The annual budget setting process**

- 3.2 Each summer, the Mayor publishes Budget Guidance to the functional bodies on the preparation of their budgets. This contains information about the likely level of funding available for the next financial year as well as the Mayor's priorities for each organisation. Each organisation within the Greater London Authority (GLA) family makes its own Budget Submission at the end of November and in December, the Mayor publishes his draft Group Budget.
- 3.3 The Committee produces a formal response to the Mayor's draft budget, which informs the full Assembly's debate and vote on the Mayor's proposals in February 2024. The Assembly has the power to amend the total budget requirement for each functional body if a two-thirds majority agree to do so. The Mayor then publishes his final Budget before the start of the financial year in April.
- 3.4 This is the seventh session in the Budget scrutiny process, after a meeting on 21 November 2023, where questions were put to GLA Executive Directors, the Chief Officer and the Mayor's Chief of Staff about the core GLA budget; and a meeting on 12 December 2023 with officers from the GLA, Transport for London (TfL), the London Legacy Development Corporation and the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation on housing plans for the 2024-25 GLA Group Budget.
- 3.5 On 13 December 2023 the Committee met with GLA officers to discuss the 2024-25 GLA Group budget. On 19 December 2023 the Committee met with the Deputy Mayor for Transport and officers from TfL. On 8 January 2024 there was a meeting with the Deputy Mayor of Police and Crime, the Deputy Mayor of Fire and Resilience and officers from the Metropolitan Police Service, Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and London Fire Brigade.
- 3.6 The Committee will meet with the Mayor again on 20 February 2024 in advance of meetings of the whole of the Assembly to consider the Mayor's Draft Consolidated 2024-25 Budget and the Mayor's Final Draft Consolidated Budget.

## **4. Issues for Consideration**

- 4.1 This session will consider the 2024-25 GLA Group Budget.
- 4.2 The following guests have been invited to attend:

### **Panel 1**

- Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London;
- David Bellamy, the Mayor's Chief of Staff; and
- Enver Enver, Interim Chief Finance Officer, GLA.

### **Panel 2**

- Antonia Jennings, Chief Executive, Centre for London;
- Professor Tony Travers, Visiting Professor, London School of Economics (LSE) Department of Government and Director of LSE London;
- Professor Jagjit S. Chadha, Director, National Institute for Economic and Social Research; and
- Stuart Hoggan, Associate Consultant, LG Futures.

## **5. Legal Implications**

5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

## **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no direct financial implications to the GLA arising from this report.

---

### **List of appendices to this report:**

None

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

List of Background Papers:

None

### **Contact Information**

Contact Officer:	Gino Brand, Senior Policy Advisor
E-mail:	gino.brand@london.gov.uk