

# Subject: The GLA's Business Plan and Project Prioritisation Process

**Report to: Budget and Performance Committee**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 3 July 2014**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background information to the Budget and Performance Committee for its meeting with invited guests to examine the project prioritisation process, a key activity in the annual budget setting process and the revised GLA business plan for 2014-15 to 2015-16.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the report, puts questions to the guests on the GLA's Business Plan and project prioritisation process, and notes the discussion.**

## 3. Background

### **The GLA's project prioritisation process**

- 3.1 Allocating funding to specific projects – the project prioritisation process (PPP) – is a key part of the GLA's budget setting process. The core GLA has a net revenue budget of £270 million in 2014-15 and most of this expenditure is on staff and other committed costs (for example, premises costs, supplies and services).<sup>1</sup> But each year, the Mayor has some flexibility to allocate funding to different projects.
- 3.2 During the 2014-15 budget setting process, the Mayor did not complete the PPP in time for the Committee's meetings in November 2013 and January 2014. This made it difficult for the Committee to perform its scrutiny role effectively, since key spending decisions had not been taken. This part of the meeting will look at how the PPP works and examine whether the process could be improved to allow for better scrutiny of the Mayor's future budgets.

### **The GLA Business Plan 2014-15 to 2015-16**

- 3.3 Following the Committee's recommendation in its 2012 Pre-Budget Report, the GLA's 2013-14 Business Plan included a suite of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for each of the GLA's directorates. The GLA published a revised Business Plan in May 2014 covering 2014-15 to 2015-16 once it completed its annual project prioritisation process. The Committee can discuss what changes the GLA has made to its Business Plan with representatives of the authority.

<sup>1</sup> [Mayor's Final Budget 2014-15](#), March 2014, page 9 (figure excludes the London Assembly).

## 4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The revised GLA business plan is available here:  
<http://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Final%20BP%202014-16%20-%20May%202014.pdf>
- 4.2 The Committee has invited the following guests to the meeting:
- Jeff Jacobs, Head of Paid Service and Executive Director (Communities and Intelligence), GLA;
  - Martin Clarke, Executive Director of Resources, GLA; and
  - Tom Middleton, Head of Governance & Resilience, GLA.

## 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 of this report.

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### List of appendices to this report:

None

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
List of Background Papers: None
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