

LONDON ASSEMBLY
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Web: www.london.gov.uk**Date: 4 February 2015****London Assembly Economy Committee - 15 January 2015**

Thank you for attending the Committee's meeting on 15 January. During the meeting you committed to coming back to the Committee on a number of issues, which I have set out below.

1. Part-time jobs

The Mayor's manifesto included a commitment to campaign for 20,000 part-time jobs for parents (Boris Johnson, 2012, *Growing the London Economy*). We note the recent GLA Economics publication *Part-time employment in London*, which looks at how part-time jobs have fared over the recent past. Given the manifesto commitment applies to the period from 2012, please could you provide the Committee with:

a) An analysis of the part-time jobs market in London since 2012

Please include information on the types of new jobs created, for example by sub-sector and level of pay. Please could you set out an explanation of how this analysis led to the decision of "holding and waiting to see" whether the Mayor should run a part-time jobs campaign. Additionally, the GLA Economics publication highlights the continued lower part-time employment rate for women with dependent children. Therefore, could you set out why you are not currently running a campaign which could have addressed the lower part-time employment rate of women with dependent children? We have noted plans to offer support to assist parents to move into employment in the European Structural Investment Funds London strategy, but this is distinct from a campaign.

b) An analysis of the number and type of part-time jobs within the total number of jobs created by GLA programmes since 2012 (as part of the 200,000 target)

As part of previous correspondence and discussion with the Committee both you and the Mayor have set out the number of part-time jobs created through GLA programmes by applying a standard percentage to the total number of jobs created. However, please provide us with the absolute numbers of part-time jobs by type created within GLA programmes since 2012.

c) An analysis of the number and type of part-time jobs in the GLA Group since 2012

During the 2012 election campaign, the Mayor publicly stated that he hoped to create 7,500 jobs in the GLA group (for example www.mumsnet.com/bloggers/guest-blog-boris). Given the Mayor's plans for a 'hearts and minds' campaign aimed at employers to promote part-time jobs, the GLA should be able to clearly set out its own record in promoting part-time jobs. Please include number of part-time jobs created, the net change in part-time positions and the pay grade of these roles (or a similar grading of seniority).

d) The Timewise programme

We were pleased to note that the GLA has been involved in the Timewise programme, which aims to increase the amount of flexible working arrangements offered by employers. Please could you set out the GLA's experience of this scheme to date, both the benefits and any challenges. We would also be keen to hear of any plans to expand this to other functional bodies within the GLA group.

2. Casualisation and zero hour contracts

The Committee welcomes your commitment made at the meeting to examine the issue of casualisation and zero-hours contracts in the capital. Please could you set out how you plan to study the extent, and consequences, of zero-hours contracts and wider labour market casualisation in London?

3. Internships

During our meeting you said that you agreed with the idea that interns working for a certain period of time or more should be paid. We acknowledge that at the time of our meeting you were unsure of the exact threshold which should be set. We were therefore disappointed that the Mayor's response to the Committee's recommendation on this point did not provide us with a more definite response. So please could you provide us with a clear view on this specific issue?

We welcome the Mayor's commitment to commission research into the role of internships in London. Please could you provide us with further details of the scope of this research and timings for when this research will be commissioned and completed?

At the meeting you also committed to writing to the relevant government minister, having considered the Committee's recommendations. Please could you let the Committee know when this letter has been sent?

4. Women's access to finance

At the meeting you agreed to find out what work is being done following the publication of the Government's report *Banking on Women* into access to finance for women in business. Please could you provide us with the outcome of this follow-up work?

I would be grateful for a response by **4 March 2015**. Please copy in Simon Shaw, the Committee's Scrutiny Manager.

Best wishes
Jenny

Jenny Jones AM
Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb
Chair, Economy Committee

cc Mark Kleinman, Assistant Director - Economic and Business Policy , GLA