

# GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

## REQUEST FOR MAYORAL DECISION – MD3426

### Delivery Plan – Helping Local Economies to Thrive

#### Executive summary:

The delivery plan for the strategic programme, Helping Local Economies to Thrive, is presented here for approval by the Mayor, in line with the refreshed delivery and governance processes laid out in Mayoral Decision (MD) 3274.

The core London-level outcome to which this programme will contribute is that high streets and town centres are thriving across London. The delivery plan describes how the Greater London Authority will work across the small and medium enterprise (SME) sector and in close collaboration with London's local authorities and central government to understand and overcome the barriers to growth in high streets, town centres and other local hubs of economic activity. It includes activity to provide support and space for SMEs, communities and culture; deliver capital exemplar projects; increase capacity and capability in the boroughs; and support London's nightlife.

#### Decision:

That the Mayor:

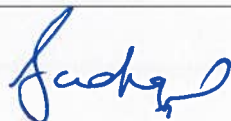
- approves the establishment of the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme, with the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration as the Senior Responsible Owner
- approves the delivery plan for the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme (Appendix 2), including the resources allocated to it which are: £39,371,000 revenue and £32,694,000 capital as set out in the delivery plan, including the budget transfers listed in paragraphs 1.19-1.24
- delegates authority to the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration to approve the receipt of any additional funding from central government or other sources to expand or extend existing approved projects contained in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan where the parameters of the project remain the same or similar, and after consulting with legal advisers and the GLA's Chief Finance Officer and subsequently having secured agreement from the Mayoral Delivery Board
- where not already covered by a delegation in an existing Mayoral Decision, delegates authority to Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration to approve expenditure funded by decision 2 and 3 above for the delivery of the following projects listed in paragraphs 1.14 and 1.15.

#### Mayor of London

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in the proposed decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for elected Members of the Authority.

The above request has my approval.

Signature:



Date:

18/12/25

## PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE MAYOR

### Decision required – supporting report

#### 1. Introduction and background

##### *Background*

- 1.1. The Greater London Authority (GLA) has been establishing refreshed delivery and governance arrangements over the last few months.
- 1.2. In undertaking these changes, we have:
  - defined a set of London-level, long-term outcomes which reflect Londoners' aspirations for the city and towards which the GLA and the GLA Group was working, in partnership with others
  - agreed a small set of strategic, high-level, programmes which the Mayor will commission the GLA Group to deliver in order that the GLA and the GLA Group make the appropriate contributions towards the London-level outcomes.
- 1.3. [MD3274 'Updates to GLA Governance Documents'](#), published on 13 June 2024, marked the first formal step in implementing new portfolio and governance arrangements and set out approved revisions to the arrangements through which the Mayor exercises and, where appropriate, delegates his powers. It also laid out some changes to the way the GLA's senior leadership works to ensure that the GLA is successful in exercising its strategic role and in securing delivery.
- 1.4. The GLA is now bringing forward for approval delivery plans for the 14 strategic, high-level, programmes which are led by the GLA and involve functional bodies as appropriate. These are numbered 1-14 and set out below, along with delivery plans 15-21, where the relevant GLA Group organisation is taking a leadership role:
  1. Building more homes
  2. Making best use of land
  3. Improving London's housing stock
  4. Reducing inequalities
  5. Accommodation and wider support for those who need it most
  6. Reducing non-residential emissions
  7. Delivering a greener, more climate-resilient London
  8. Cleaning London's air
  9. Supporting Londoners to benefit from growth
  10. Supporting and inspiring young London
  11. Boosting London's growth sectors
  12. Helping local economies to thrive
  13. Upgrading London's infrastructure
  14. Supporting community, cultural and sporting events in London
  15. Reducing violence and exploitation

16. Building safer, more confident communities
17. Supporting and overseeing reform of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)
18. Improving the Criminal Justice System and supporting victims
19. Healthy streets
20. Decarbonising transport
21. Providing more effective, accessible and affordable public transport.

- 1.5. The Mayor has been issuing mandates for these proposed programmes to prospective Senior Responsible Owners (SROs). Mayoral mandates define what the Mayor wants to see from each of the programmes, including their scope, objectives, and cross-cutting priorities. Programmes and their associated delivery plans have been developed by the proposed programme SROs, working with the relevant Deputy Mayors, Mayoral Directors and others in response to the Mayor's mandates. They have been developed to strike the right balance between setting out plans and retaining flexibility to respond to events and learning, as delivery progresses, recognising that agility is important in the context of a changing landscape.
- 1.6. Delivery plans lay out the London-level outcomes to which each programme contributes. In considering the GLA's specific role in contributing to the London-level outcomes, programme SROs have focused on the role of the GLA as London's strategic regional authority. This has meant looking carefully at where activities most effectively sit within the London system and how the GLA can work with partners to unlock and drive progress. In some cases that will be through direct delivery or through funding. In others it will be through more indirect mechanisms such as system reconfiguration, coalition formation, technical support or capacity building.
- 1.7. Resource allocations to each programme are based on the allocations contained in the [GLA: Mayor Budget 2025-26](#). Changes required to delivery plans over time will be agreed by the Mayoral Delivery Board (MDB) or the Mayor in line with our revised governance arrangements.
- 1.8. Delivery plans lay out how each programme makes a positive difference to the relevant London-level outcomes. Key programme outputs are also detailed and will be reported quarterly to MDB, which is responsible for monitoring the performance and delivery of each programme's delivery plans.

#### *Overview of the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan*

- 1.9. The Mayoral mandate for the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme is appended to this Decision form at Appendix 1. The proposed delivery plan is appended at Appendix 2 and is presented by the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, as the proposed SRO, for the Mayor's approval. The Mayor is invited to approve the plan, and the resources allocated to it. This would enable the GLA, working with partners, to contribute to the core London-level outcome that high streets and town centres are thriving across London through the delivery of the projects detailed in the plan.
- 1.10. The London Growth Plan makes clear how the shape of the London economy is changing, and asserts the role of high streets, town centres and other local hubs of economic activity in increasing London's total growth potential and bringing opportunities closer to home for Londoners. Yet, many of London's high streets are at risk of declining economically and becoming less attractive and safe environments as they continue to face significant challenges post-pandemic. Key barriers to achieving the London-level outcome include low productivity and limited support for London's SMEs; rising land and property costs and high street vacancies; increasingly stretched capacity at borough level; and risks to the vibrancy and viability of key nightlife areas and infrastructure.
- 1.11. The Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan aims to ensure that London's SME sector is in the best position possible to grow sustainably, and to give Londoners the best opportunities to work, learn, go out and be part of the local community throughout the day and evening. It has four strands:

- work to provide support and space for small business, communities and culture, including continued delivery of the Grow London Local platform and Creative Enterprise Zones programme alongside piloting a city-scale service to help bring vacant high street units back into use
- work to support boroughs and other partners in the capital delivery of exemplar projects in key locations across London to help high streets adapt to accommodate a mix of uses and benefit from an improved public realm
- work to continue and integrate existing GLA led capacity and leadership networks to achieve a broad and efficient service for boroughs and other partners; and continued work to share data and insights with boroughs and partners so they are better equipped to identify needs, develop evidence-led strategies and interventions and monitor results
- work to support London's 24-hour economy and nightlife, including support for the London Nightlife Taskforce and an associated fund; and work with the government to introduce changes to licensing in London that support the growth of hospitality, culture and nightlife businesses.

1.12. The Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan sets out the budget for each project within the programme.

1.13. Projects detailed in the delivery plan fall into one of three categories:

- projects which are already set out in detail in an existing Mayoral Decision (MD) or Director Decision (DD)
- projects for which this Mayoral Decision seeks Mayoral delegation to the SRO to take expenditure decisions
- projects which will require separate Mayoral Decisions.

1.14. The projects with Mayoral Decisions and/or other relevant approvals already in place are:

- continued delivery of the Grow London Local business advice platform – approved under MD3155, MD3364 and MD3376
- continued delivery of the UKSPF funded business growth programme – approved under MD3364
- continuation of the Creative Enterprise Zone programme – approved under MD2807, MD3364 and MD3417
- continuation of the Space for Culture programme – approved under MD3306 and MD3417
- Creative Land Trust – approved under MD2362
- exploration of a Civic Estate Agency – approved under MD3364
- continued delivery of the Good Growth Fund – approved under MD2163
- continued delivery of the Civic Partnership Programme – approved under MD3094
- delivery of the High Streets and Places Fund (UKSPF Community & Place capital funding and High Streets Place Labs) – approved under MD3364
- continued delivery of the Capacity and Leadership Networks - High Street Network approved under MD3140, 24 Hour London Capacity Building approved and Space for Culture Local Capacity and Leadership both approved under MD3417
- continued delivery of the High Streets Data Service – approved under MD2805 and MD3176

- delivery of the Summer Streets fund – approved under MD3364
  - delivery of a Strategic Licensing Programme – approved under MD3422.
- 1.15. Projects for which this Mayoral Decision seeks Mayoral delegation to the SRO to take expenditure decisions are:
- delivery of the London Ownership Hub project (£75,000 in 2025-26; £75,000 in 2026-27; £75,000 in 2027-28)
  - delivery of Creative Enterprise Zone capital projects (£400,000 in 2025-26; £400,000 in 2026-27; £400,000 in 2027-28)
  - delivery of the Nightlife Taskforce's report and recommendations (£328,000 in 2025-26; £239,000 in 2026-27; £239,000 in 2027-28)
  - delivery of the Social Economy project (£12,000 in 2025-26; £12,000 in 2026-27; £12,000 in 2027-28).
- 1.16. The Assistant Director, Planning and Regeneration, will ensure compliance with the obligations set out in The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 which describe when written records of decisions and their content need to be published. Director Decisions and Assistant Director Decisions will be required where appropriate to meet these transparency requirements, including in instances where GLA funds are paid to external organisations.
- 1.17. Two projects will require a separate Mayoral Decision because they are introducing new larger-scale or high-profile funding programmes. These are:
- funding for and delivery of any next phase of the High Streets and Places Fund from 2026-27 onwards
  - funding for and delivery of the proposed Nightlife Fund.

*Transfers to/from other programmes*

- 1.18. Development of the delivery plan has prompted refinements to the published GLA 2025-26 budget. As a consequence, Mayoral approval is sought for budget transfers between Helping Local Economies to Thrive and other programmes, in accordance with governance processes. These transfers are listed in paragraphs 1.19-1.24, and totals for each year are outlined within the financial comments at section 5 below.
- 1.19. Support for the Oxford Street Transformation programme, which includes the establishment of the Mayoral Development Corporation and public consultation, was included in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Boosting London's Growth Sectors programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.
- 1.20. Funding for staffing costs for the London Borough of Culture project was included within the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Supporting community, cultural and sporting events in London programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.
- 1.21. Funding for the Placemaking – Capital exemplar element of the programme was included within the Making Best Use of Land programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.



- 1.22. Funding to support UK Shared Prosperity Fund business support programmes was included within the Boosting London's Growth Sectors programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.
- 1.23. Funding for the London Ownership Hub and the Social Economy project was included within the Helping Londoners to benefit from Growth programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.
- 1.24. Funding for the Strategic Licensing programme was included within the Core programme when the GLA 2025-26 budget was approved in March 2025. It is proposed that it is more appropriate for this programme to be included within the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme. This MD seeks Mayoral approval to transfer this funding accordingly.

*Securing additional funding for projects in the delivery plan*

- 1.25. Key to meeting the objectives and expected outcomes of the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan is securing funding to support the delivery of both new and existing projects. This funding may come from central government, but may also come from other sources including agencies, utilities providers, philanthropic funders and the private sector.
- 1.26. Where funding is secured in the future, to support the delivery of projects with legacy approvals in place, this decision form seeks approval to agree the receipt of such funding by the GLA without the need for a further Mayoral Decision. This would be for any funding secured to deliver projects that are already approved, and which contribute to the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan.
- 1.27. Where additional funding from government (or other sources) is secured in the future to expand, or extend, existing approved projects contained in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan, and the parameters remain the same, or similar, as originally agreed with government (or the relevant body), this decision form seeks a delegation to the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, to agree the receipt of such funding after consulting with legal advisors and the GLA's Chief Finance Officer and subsequently having secured agreement from the Mayoral Delivery Board. For the purposes of considering whether the parameters are similar as originally agreed with government (or the relevant body), the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, will have regard to whether the outcomes to be delivered have changed significantly or there is a significant change in attendant risks of the original scheme. If the outcomes to be delivered have changed significantly, there is a significant change in attendant risks, or the decision is viewed as novel, contentious or repercussive, a Mayoral Decision will be required.
- 1.28. Any decisions to accept additional funding will need to comply with the obligations set out in The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 as highlighted in paragraph 1.16 above. Any decisions to accept additional funding that do not require a formal decision form must be documented via a Record in Writing, as defined in MD3274 'Updates to GLA Governance Documents', signed in June 2024, and will be reported, publicly, quarterly.

## **2. Objectives and expected outcomes**

- 2.1. The delivery plan for the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme describes how the GLA will work across the SME, culture and creative industries and nightlife sectors and in close collaboration with London boroughs to understand and overcome the barriers to delivering growth across London's high streets, town centres and other local hubs of economic activity. It includes activity included in the London Growth Plan and towards meeting the Mayor's commitments to champion SMEs with support and advice; expand the Creative Enterprise Zones programme; launch a support fund for the

future of London's high streets; create a new London Nightlife Fund, and convene a London Nightlife Taskforce.

- 2.2. The objectives and expected outcomes of the programme are set out in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan which is appended as Appendix 2.
- 2.3. The core London-level outcome to which this programme will contribute is: high streets and town centres are thriving across London. This reflects the London Growth Plan assertion of the role of high streets, town centres and other local hubs of economic activity in increasing London's total growth potential and bringing opportunities closer to home for Londoners.
- 2.4. The Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme will also make a substantive contribution to the following wider London-level outcomes: stable, long-term growth benefits all London's communities; Londoners have access to good work; Londoners feel able to take part in the city's cultural life; London is a world leading global city; Londoners live in neighbourhoods that are well planned and designed; and London is a net zero carbon city.

### **3. Equality comments**

- 3.1. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, as a public authority, the Mayor and GLA must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) when exercising GLA functions. The PSED is a duty to have due regard to the need to:
  - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act
  - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic, as defined in the Equality Act, and those who do not
  - foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 3.2. The 'protected characteristics' are: age, disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership (but only in respect of the need to eliminate discrimination), race (ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality), religion or belief (including lack of belief), sex, and sexual orientation.
- 3.3. Consideration of the PSED is not a one-off task. The duty must be complied with before taking a decision, at the time of taking a decision, and after the decision has been taken, to ensure that equalities impacts are kept under ongoing review.
- 3.4. The Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan helps achieve a number of the Mayor's statutory equality objectives, and progress on delivery of these objectives is reported on each year in the Mayor's Annual Equality Report.
- 3.5. Business support delivered through the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme will likely help many people with protected characteristics, as many of these groups are disproportionately represented among London's SME community. This is because some business owners – women, people with disabilities and those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds – face additional barriers to economic opportunity, including access to finance, business support and networks.
- 3.6. Space for Culture programmes aim to ensure that cultural or community space is created, protected and sustained in a way that reflects the identities, and meets the diverse needs, of all Londoners, and fosters cohesion. Support is prioritised to organisations led by and serving communities historically excluded from using and securing space. This includes those from black and minority ethnic backgrounds; children and young people; people with disabilities; members of the LBGTQ+

community; those on a low income; older people; and women-led groups. 40 per cent of businesses supported through the Creative Enterprise Zones programme will be diverse-led.

- 3.7. Capital exemplar projects should be developed in collaboration with the local community, including under-represented groups such as those with protected characteristics. This will help advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. All projects will need to demonstrate in the specification of scope and methodology how they are considering the needs of their local communities, specifically under-represented groups, such as those with protected characteristics. These projects will also need to demonstrate how they will ensure that, as relevant, these needs are included in the design and implementation of local strategies and projects; and how the relevant groups will benefit from them.
- 3.8. The placemaking and culture capacity and leadership networks in this programme will integrate existing GLA led networks to develop a shared understanding of emerging challenges, new professional practice and insights so network members are better equipped to identify needs, develop evidence-led strategies and interventions that advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. The High Street Network is open to anyone interested in improving London's high street, actively encouraging participation of organisations that advocate for underrepresented groups.
- 3.9. The work to support London's nightlife sector will be guided by the independent London Nightlife Taskforce which is committed to promoting diversity and inclusivity, running the Taskforce in an inclusive way, and ensuring a wide range of voices and perspectives are heard and valued. It recognises that nighttime communities are deeply embedded in forging inclusive environments, and how much nightlife culture owes to minoritised and marginalised communities. The work of the taskforce will be supported by expert advisors on LGBTQIA+ spaces and communities.
- 3.10. Where projects in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plans require further Mayoral Decisions or other formal approvals, equalities considerations will be finalised through these decisions, including a full Equality Impact Assessment where appropriate.

#### 4. Other considerations

##### *Risks and issues*

- 4.1. The following programme-level risks to the delivery of the Helping Local Economies to Thrive programme have been identified:

Risks	Mitigations
Uncertainty of future years' funding impacts the GLA's ability to achieve buy-in from partners to innovate and deliver the programme at strategic, city-scale.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lobbying government for stable, long term funding schemes that provides confidence and certainty to partners</li> <li>- Working with boroughs and partners to identify shared priorities, increase their capacity and capabilities and enable boroughs to develop local growth strategies that help secure future investment to make them happen</li> <li>- Utilise the forthcoming London Plan to shape the operating environment for local economies so that government and others have confidence in investing in these</li> </ul>



Lack of delivery partners' capability and capacity slows down or stops implementation of activities and/or reduces outputs and outcomes.	Putting in place robust due diligence, reporting and monitoring arrangements to track progress, and identify any issues early on to agree appropriate mitigation Using the Mayor's convening powers and networks included in this delivery plan to strengthen the capacity and capability of boroughs and others Providing practical guidance and procurement tools to help partners deliver projects effectively and to high standards
Small businesses and Londoners are not sufficiently engaged in the activities and/or do not recognise the role of the Mayor in enabling them.	Using grant agreement conditions to set out clear expectations to delivery partners to engage meaningfully with local stakeholders, and to acknowledge the Mayor's support Developing a clear communications strategy for this delivery plan in the context of the London Growth Plan and the forthcoming London Plan

- 4.2. The Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, as the SRO for the programme will be responsible for implementing and overseeing a risk framework for that programme. Project risks and mitigations will be managed as they are currently at a project level and reported periodically to the programme board. The programme board will also review the above programme-level risks and mitigations quarterly, reporting to MDB on progress against programme objectives as part of the GLA's quarterly reporting process.

*Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities*

- 4.3. The delivery plan sets out details of interventions that will support the Mayor's commitments and policies. It will also support delivery of the London Growth Plan, including the key aims to supporting London's SME, cultural and creative industries and nightlife sectors and to create local places where people want to spend time and money, day and night, as well as the Mayor's Culture Strategy.
- 4.4. The Mayor's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy sets out strategic objective to work with boroughs, communities, and businesses to help regenerate the most deprived parts of London in a way that supports good growth and opens up opportunities for the most disadvantaged groups. The Mayor's High Streets for All report sets out the case for continued public sector involvement and investment in high streets and town centres.
- 4.5. The Mayor is required to publish a Spatial Development Strategy for London (The London Plan). The current and forthcoming London Plan will shape the operating environment for local economies and will be instrumental to the success of this delivery plan.

*Consultations and impact assessments*

- 4.6. For projects which already have a formal Decision form in place, the consultation or underlying evidence of need undertaken for these projects is set out in the relevant Decision forms.
- 4.7. For other projects, the type and timing of engagement and consultation will vary. This may include engagement with relevant stakeholders such as delivery partners, community stakeholders and advisory groups as well as consultation, where appropriate.
- 4.8. There are no conflicts of interest arising from those involved in the drafting and clearance of this Decision form. Should individual conflicts of interest arise during the delivery of initiatives contained in the Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan, they will be addressed in line with the GLA policy on registering and declaring interests.

## 5. Financial comments

5.1. The programme budget is set out in the delivery plan and summarised in the table below:

Helping Local Economies to Thrive	Revenue			Capital		
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Providing support and creating space for small business, communities and culture	21,397	1,639	1,489	1,373	400	400
Delivering exemplar capital projects to enhance placemaking	3,091	-	-	23,121	7,400	-
Building capacity and capability at local level	726	451	451	-	-	-
Supporting London's nighttime economy to thrive	1,894	1,294	1,019	-	-	-
Staffing costs	2,006	1,956	1,958	-	-	-
<b>Total budget for Helping Local Economies to Thrive</b>	<b>29,114</b>	<b>5,340</b>	<b>4,917</b>	<b>24,494</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>400</b>

5.2. The budget allocated to this delivery plan is presented in the GLA: Mayor budget 2025-26 approved on 31 March 2025 under [MD3330](#) as below:

Helping Local Economies to Thrive	Revenue			Capital		
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	7,577	3,456	3,308	400	400	400

5.3. It is proposed that budget is transferred between this programme and other programmes in accordance with our governance processes and will be updated to reflect the allocation of previously approved external income to this programme, subject to Mayoral approval of this MD, as follows:

Budget transfers to/from other delivery plans:	Revenue			Capital		
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Budget transferring to:</b>						
Boosting London's Growth Sectors	(4,700)	-	-	-	-	-
Supporting community, cultural and sporting events in London	(150)	(150)	(150)	-	-	-
<b>Budget transferring from:</b>						
Making Best Use of Land	486	483	483	4,000	7,400	0

Boosting London's Growth Sectors	15,494	992	995	20,094	-	-
Core - Corporate	1,723	371	93	-	-	-
Supporting Londoners to benefit from growth	87	87	87	-	-	-
<b>Total transferring</b>	<b>12,940</b>	<b>1,783</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>24,094</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other Funding</b>						
UKSPF 2025-26 allocation	8,586	-	-	-	-	-
DLUHC Growth Hub funding	101	101	101	-	-	-
Reduction in LEP Capacity funding	(90)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total New Funding</b>	<b>8,597</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net change</b>	<b>21,537</b>	<b>1,884</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>24,094</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>0</b>

5.4. The budget set out at paragraph 5.1 reflects the net effect of these budget transfers and additional income.

5.5. The budget commitments for future years are subject to the annual budget setting process.

5.6. Any further transfers and movements within the budget for this programme, or between this and other programmes, will be managed in accordance with the GLA's governance processes.

## 6. Legal comments

6.1. Under section 30(1) of the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (the GLA Act), the Mayor acting on behalf of the GLA has the power to do anything that he considers will further any one or more of the GLA's principal purposes, which are:

- promoting economic development and wealth creation in Greater London
- promoting social development in Greater London
- promoting the improvement of the environment in Greater London.

6.2. In deciding whether or how to exercise the general power in section 30(1), section 30(4) of the GLA Act requires the GLA to have regard to the effect which the proposed exercise of the power would have on:

- the health of persons in Greater London
- health inequalities between persons living in Greater London
- the achievement of sustainable development in the UK
- climate change, and the consequences of climate change.

6.3. Where the GLA exercises the power under section 30(1), pursuant to section 30(5) it must do so in the way which it considers best calculated to:

- promote improvements in the health of persons in Greater London
- promote the reduction of health inequalities between persons living in Greater London
- contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom

- contribute towards the mitigation of, or adaptation to, climate change, in the United Kingdom.
- 6.4. The GLA must also make arrangements with a view to securing that in the exercise of the power in section 30(1) there is due regard to the principle that there should be equality of opportunity for all people in accordance with section 33 of the GLA Act and consult with such bodies or persons as the GLA may consider appropriate in this particular case in accordance with section 32 of the GLA Act.
- 6.5. Under section 34 of the GLA Act, the GLA, acting by the Mayor, the Assembly, or both jointly, may do anything that is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the exercise of any functions of the GLA exercisable by the Mayor; or, as the case may be, by the Assembly, or by both acting jointly. The foregoing sections of this report indicate that the decisions requested by the Mayor concern the exercise of the GLA's general powers under section 30 and section 34 of the GLA Act.
- 6.6. Under section 38 of the GLA Act, any function exercisable by the Mayor on behalf of the GLA may also be exercised by a member of the GLA's staff – albeit subject to any conditions that the Mayor sees fit to impose. To this end, the Mayor may make the requested delegations to the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, subject to the conditions and requirements set out in this Mayoral Decision.
- 6.7. Section 31 of the GLA Act places limits on the general power and prohibits the GLA from incurring expenditure on anything which may be done by Transport for London, the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime or the London Fire Commissioner.
- 6.8. In taking the decisions requested of him, the Mayor must comply with the PSED contained in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. To this end, the Mayor should have particular regard to section three (above) of this report.
- 6.9. If the Mayor makes the decisions sought, officers must also ensure that:
- no reliance is placed on, nor commitments made in reliance of:
    - third party funding until legally binding commitments are secured for it and officers are satisfied that their proposed use of the same aligns with any conditions of award
    - future budgets remaining subject to the outcome of the budget setting process for future financial years, until those budget setting exercises are completed
    - "returned funding" without confirmation that it can be used as proposed and, where applicable, liaising with third party funders and varying current GLA funding agreements to reflect the reallocation of funding
  - where applicable, the Subsidy Control Act 2022 is complied with
  - where expenditure concerns:
    - purchase of services: they are procured in accordance with the GLA's Contracts and Funding Code (the "Code") and where applicable the Procurement Act 2023 (the "Act"); there is appropriate engagement with Transport for London's procurement and supply chain team, which will determine the detail of the procurement strategy to be adopted in accordance with the Code and the Act; and appropriate contractual documentation is put in place and executed by the chosen service provider and GLA before the commencement of those services
    - the award of grant funding such awards are made fairly, transparently, in accordance with the GLA's equalities requirements and with the requirements of GLA's Contracts and Funding Code and funding agreements are put in place between and executed by the GLA and recipients before any commitment to fund is made.
- 6.10. The extent to which decisions are sought which involve the making of commitments which extend beyond the current Mayoral term, officers must ensure that the terms of all agreements entered into

concerning such commitments do not have the effect of fettering the discretion of any successor administration, considering in particular the London elections taking place in May 2028. Accordingly, officers must ensure that all agreements which involve making such commitments include a GLA right to terminate at any point for convenience (at no cost to the GLA) and are managed in such a manner, and any services, supplies, works deliverables, milestones and/or output requirements are structured so as to mitigate risks of the GLA incurring abortive expenditure (which might be reasonably be taken to fetter, practically, the exercise of such discretion).

- 6.11. If the Mayor makes the decisions sought, the Assistant Director of Planning and Regeneration, must comply with the obligations set out in The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 when taking decisions in accordance with the delegations set out in this decision form or any other delegations in existing Mayoral Decisions as set out in Appendices 3 and 4. In particular regulation 7 which provides that where a decision has been delegated to an officer either (a) under a specific express authorisation or (b) under a general authorisation and the effect of the decision is to award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the GLA's financial position, the officer to whom the delegation has been made must produce a written record of the decision (regulation 7(1) and (2)). Regulation 7(3) provides that the written record must be produced as soon as reasonably practicable after the decision has been taken and must contain the date the decision was taken, a record of the decision taken with reasons, details of options considered and rejected, if any, and where a decision is delegated under a specific express authorisation, any conflicts of interest. Regulation 8 provides that the written record, together with any background papers, must as soon as reasonably practicable after the record is made, be made availability for inspection by members of the public including on the GLA's website.

## **7. Planned delivery approach and next steps**

- 7.1. Timelines are as set out in the delivery plan appended as Appendix 2.

### **Appendices and supporting papers:**

Appendix 1 – Helping Local Economies to Thrive Mayoral mandate

Appendix 2 – Helping Local Economies to Thrive delivery plan



### Public access to information

Information in this form (Part 1) is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA) and will be made available on the GLA website within one working day of approval.

If immediate publication risks compromising the implementation of the decision (for example, to complete a procurement process), it can be deferred until a specific date. Deferral periods should be kept to the shortest length strictly necessary. **Note:** This form (Part 1) will either be published within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

### Part 1 - Deferral

**Is the publication of Part 1 of this approval to be deferred? NO**

Until what date: (a date is required if deferring)

### Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under FoIA should be included in the separate Part 2 form, together with the legal rationale for non-publication.

**Is there a part 2 form – NO**

### ORIGINATING OFFICER DECLARATION:

Drafting officer to  
confirm the  
following (✓)

#### Drafting officer:

Tim Rettler has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

#### Sponsoring Director:

Philip Graham has reviewed the request and is satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

✓

#### Mayoral Adviser:

Jules Pipe, Howard Dawber, and Justine Simons has been consulted about the proposal and agree the recommendations.

✓

#### Advice:

The Finance and Legal teams have commented on this proposal.

✓

#### Mayoral Delivery Board

This decision was agreed by the Mayoral Delivery Board on 3 November 2025.

### CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER:

I confirm that financial and legal implications have been appropriately considered in the preparation of this report.

**Signature**

*Fay Hammond*

**Date**

1 December 2025

### CHIEF OF STAFF:

I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Mayor

**Signature**

*D. Bellamy*

**Date**