

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DECISION – ADD2859

London & Partners 2026-27 advance payment – July 2026

Programme: Boosting London's Growth Sectors

Executive summary:

London & Partners Limited (L&P) is the growth agency for London. It has produced a draft business plan for 2026-27, which includes activities funded by the Mayor to cover the Boosting London's Growth Sectors (BLGS) programme.

This decision seeks to continue activities funded under the BLGS delivery plan (as set out at paragraph 1.15 of [Mayoral Decision \(MD\) 3430 Delivery Plan – Boosting London's Growth Sectors](#)).

In line with the delegations provided to the Senior Responsible Owner in MD3430, this Assistant Director Decision (ADD) seeks approval of a further advance payment of £2,730,000. This is ahead of the formal issue of grant-funded agreements that will follow this decision, in respect of L&P's 2026-27 activity (to be detailed in forthcoming decision forms relating to 2026-27 spend). It should be noted that L&P received advance payments of:

- £2,730,000 via ADD2836 in April 2026
- £2,730,000 via ADD2842 in May 2026
- £2,730,000 via ADD2848.

MD3514 approved spend of £500,000 to cover the cost of the 'double rent' of L&P's current and new offices, for a period, from the ringfenced L&P reserve held by the GLA. This ADD seeks approval of a payment of £500,000 to L&P, ahead of the move from their current premises at 169 Union Street (noting that the lease for their new office has now been signed).

Decision:

That the Assistant Director for Grants approves:

- an advance payment of £2,730,000 to London & Partners Limited (L&P) for July 2026
- the payment of £500,000 to cover the cost of the 'double rent' of L&P's current and new offices, for a period.

AUTHORISING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

I have reviewed the request and am satisfied it is correct and consistent with the Mayor's plans and priorities.

It has my approval.

Name: Alex Conway

Position: Assistant Director, Grants

Signature:



Date: 13 July 2026

PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE

Decision required – supporting report

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1. London & Partners Limited (L&P) is the growth agency for London. It has produced a draft business plan for 2026-27, which includes activities funded by the Mayor to cover the Boosting London's Growth Sectors (BLGS) programme.
- 1.2. This decision seeks to continue activities funded under the BLGS delivery plan, as set out at paragraph 1.15 of [Mayoral Decision \(MD\) 3430 Delivery Plan – Boosting London's Growth Sectors](#).
- 1.3. In line with the delegations provided to the Senior Responsible Owner¹ in that decision, this Assistant Director Decision (ADD) seeks approval of an advance payment of £2,730,000 for July 2026. This is ahead of the formal issue of grant-funded agreements that will follow this decision shortly, in respect of L&P's 2026-27 activity (to be detailed in forthcoming decision forms relating to 2026-27 spend).
- 1.4. MD3514 approved spending £500,000 to cover the cost of the 'double rent' of L&P's current and new offices, for a period, from the ringfenced L&P reserve held by the GLA. This ADD seeks approval of a payment of £500,000 to L&P, ahead of the move from their current premises at 169 Union Street (noting that the lease for their new office has now been signed).

2. Objectives and expected outcomes

- 2.1. The advance payment will support the delivery of L&P's business plan, including L&P's core activities:
 - **Strategy:** L&P will help to shape London's strategy in priority sectors by sharing data and insights and convening stakeholders.
 - **Promotion:** L&P will promote London's brand, places and growth sectors internationally, to win investment, tourists and events curating London's story; and coordinate the city's advocates. L&P will promote London to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) via its headquarters, and its network of international offices across Europe, the US, China and India. L&P will promote London via the official London visitor website, Visit London, which 17 million people used last year. L&P's London Convention Bureau will work to attract international business conferences to the capital.
 - **Investment:** L&P will work directly with international investors to convince them to choose London – helping them to set up or expand their businesses (FDI), or find capital investment opportunities in London through Opportunity London.
- 2.2. These activities will be set out, in more detail, in subsequent decisions.
- 2.3. The advance payment will also cover the cost of L&P's 'double rent' of their current and new offices, between April and December 2026. This will be provided from the ringfenced L&P reserve held by the GLA.

3. Equality comments

- 3.1. Section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010 provides that, in the exercise of their functions, public authorities (including the GLA) must have due regard to the need to:
 - eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010

¹ The SRO job title for BLGS delivery plan has changed from Assistant Director, Economic Development and Programmes to Assistant Director, Grants, due to an organisational restructure.

- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 3.2. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 3.3. Due regard must be had at the time a decision is being considered. The duty is non-delegable and must be exercised with an open mind.
- 3.4. No issues have been identified that impact groups with protected characteristics.

4. Other considerations

Key risks and issues

- 4.1. There are no significant risks or issues associated with awarding L&P £3,230,000 for the purposes laid out above. L&P has maintained a very strong track record of delivery, against its core functions, since it was created in 2011.
- 4.2. More broadly, L&P has strong risk-management structures. Core to this is Board scrutiny, including an Audit & Finance committee that considers a register of known risks.

Links to Mayoral strategies and priorities

- 4.3. L&P's business plan aligns with the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy, the BLGS programme and the London Growth Plan. These focus on the importance of a thriving London economy that is open to business; and the promotion of London as a world leader in innovation, technology and creativity.

Declarations of interest

- 4.4. No one involved in drafting and clearing this document has any conflicts of interests to declare.

5. Financial comments

- 5.1. Approval is requested for an advance payment of £2,730,000 in grant funding. The proposed spending is financed by GLA resources, as agreed in the budget for this financial year for L&P.
- 5.2. Approval is also requested for the advance payment of £500,000 as approved in MD3514.
- 5.3. All appropriate budget adjustments will be made.

6. Planned delivery approach and next steps

- 6.1. This work will be carried out according to the following timetable:

Activity	Timeline
Advance payment authorised	w/c 13 July 2026

Appendices and supporting papers:

None.

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 be published either within one working day after it has been approved or on the defer date.

Strategic Programmes

Does this decision seek approval for activity falling within the remit of a programme delivery plan? YES

If YES, which programme does this fall within: Boosting London's Growth Sectors

Part 1 – Deferral

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

Part 2 – Sensitive information

Only the facts or advice that would be exempt from disclosure under the 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:

Richard Tribe has drafted this report in accordance with GLA procedures and confirms the following:

✓

Mayoral Delivery Board

A summary of this decision was reviewed by the Mayoral Delivery Board on 13 July 2026.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES:

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

Date 16 July 2026

Signature

Peter Sebastian