

**MAYOR OF LONDON**



**GLA ESF 2014 - 2020 CO-FINANCING PROGRAMME**

# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY**



**European Union**  
European  
Social Fund

# GLA 2014-20 ESF Programme Sustainable Development Policy and Implementation Plan

## Introduction

The Greater London Authority [GLA] is the strategic authority for London and sets a framework for the future development of London. It is made up of a directly elected Mayor and a separately elected Assembly.

- The GLA CFO 2014-20 ESF programme sustainable development policy and implementation plan was developed in accordance with the requirements of the 2014-20 ESF Operational Programme and the overarching themes of the GLAs sustainable development strategies and policies detailed below: London's Wasted Resources - The Mayors Municipal Waste Strategy 2011 ([https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/municipal\\_waste\\_final.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/municipal_waste_final.pdf))
- Delivering London's Energy Future: The Mayors Climate Change Mitigation Strategy 2011 ([https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/gla\\_migrate\\_files\\_destination/Energy-future-oct11-exec-summ.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/gla_migrate_files_destination/Energy-future-oct11-exec-summ.pdf))
- Clearing The Air: The Mayors Air Quality Strategy 2010 ([https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/maqs\\_executive\\_summary\\_final.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/maqs_executive_summary_final.pdf))
- The Mayors Transport Strategy 2010 ([https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mts\\_executive\\_summary.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mts_executive_summary.pdf))

Sustainable development is a regulatory cross cutting theme for all projects within the GLA CFO 2014-20 European Social Fund (ESF) programme. Although, the following policy has been specifically constructed for this programme it will unequivocally align to the GLA underlying criteria and objectives for London.

The purpose of the GLA CFO 2014-20 ESF programme sustainable development policy is to provide a statement and demonstrate our public commitment to promoting sustainable development. We will comply with the relevant environmental legislation and undertake to ensure all of our European Social Fund providers and activities abide by these and have their own active policy and implementation plan.

The GLA CFO 2014-20 European Social Fund (ESF) programme promotes skills and employment to ensure Londoners have the skills to gain sustainable jobs; to enhance the competitiveness of London's small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to support SMEs to innovate and grow; to strengthen science & technological development and foster innovation in London enterprises to drive innovation and growth, and to invest in London's infrastructure to ensure the capital has the underpinning technological, business and low carbon infrastructure to generate growth.

These main priorities and commitments build on the principles that underpinned the UK's 2005 Sustainable Development strategy, by recognising the needs of:

- the economy;
- society; and
- the natural environment,

The ESF England Operational Programme explains that the objectives of the European Social Fund programme will be in line with the principle of sustainable development, including the aim of preserving and improving the quality of the environment as well as the need to prepare for expected changes to the environment and climate.

Sustainable development in the GLA 2014-20 ESF Programme has an environmental focus – to help provide some balance to the European Social Fund's strong social and economic focus (its main mission). All projects within the GLA CFO 2014-20 ESF programme, whether they have an environmental focus or not, must take the environment into account when delivering their services and provide evidence of continuous improvements. The GLA will outline how this will be reviewed in the implementation plan.

### **Sustainable development policy**

i) The GLA is firmly committed to promoting sustainable development whilst delivering activities funded by the European Social Fund, and will require a similar assurance from all lead delivery providers and their sub-providers through monitoring of implementation plan ensuring activities funded via the GLA CFO 2014-20 ESF programme obligate to support sustainable development.

ii) The GLA CFO will require confirmation that each organisation involved in delivery of the GLA 2014-20 ESF programme (the provider and any sub-providers) will: (a) dispose of its waste using a registered waste collector and (b) observe and comply with the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations and reduce utility consumption via the monitoring of the implementation plan.

The implementation plan for the entire GLA 2014-20 ESF programme demonstrates the actions to support our policy. All activity by providers is subject to monitoring, audit and evaluation by the GLA Delivery Unit, Regeneration and will contribute to the overarching achievements of the GLA ESF 2014 -20 Programme implementation plan.

The sustainable development policies and implementation plans of lead providers and their sub-providers will undergo a basic initial assessment at application stage to ensure that a basic policy and plan exist or that the key elements of the policy and plan have been drafted. Passing the basic initial assessment will not be considered as a full endorsement of the policy / plan which are subject to constant improvement and monitoring throughout the duration of the GLA 2014-20 ESF programme.

The sustainable development policy and implementation plans of the GLA, our providers and their sub-providers are working documents and developmental in nature and will be required to be reviewed on a periodic basis once the programme commences.

iii). The Lead Delivery Partners for the GLA CFO ESF 2014-20 Programme will provide a Sustainable Development Policy and implementation plan as part of the GLA request for Proposals documentation and all GLA grant agreements. Subsequently the Lead Delivery Partners will confirm that all sub providers have suitable policies and implementation plans that meet basic ESF requirements

**The GLA ESF programme delivery team are committed to reviewing and renewing this policy periodically.**