

## Chief Officer's introduction: GLA Q2 2024-25 Finance Report

---

Members of the Budget & Performance Committee,

I attach our Q2 finance report, with my apologies for its late arrival. Unfortunately, access to GLA financial systems has been restricted over past weeks as a result of the Transport for London cyber-incident, impacting transactional and reporting processes. As a result, the year-to-date data presented in this report is based on period 5 (May 2024), as this is the most recent available. It is only available in directorate format, rather than in our usual thematic structure. However, we have worked to update full year forecasts on a directorate basis to reflect the latest known positions.

With regards to the detail of the report, there is a forecast revenue overspend of £4m at year end, which is driven by accelerated spend of £7m in 2024-25 on Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) which will be funded by a reserve draw down. This does not constitute an overspend on the UFSM programme as a whole, as it reflects a revised timing of payments to boroughs through the 2024-25 academic year. This is offset by underspends of £5m against environment programmes where we have had some delays to programmes starting.

On capital, we are currently projecting an underspend of £37m, of which £30m is in Housing & Land, mainly due to activity being delivered ahead of schedule in 2023-24, some reprofiling, and delays in the receipt of some grant claims. There is also slippage of £7m in environment programmes.

Since MD3274, which made some updates to GLA governance arrangements, was published in June, we have continued to implement these new arrangements at the GLA. We have made significant progress in developing a suite of 14 high-level strategic programmes and associated delivery plans which have informed and influenced the content of the draft GLA: Mayor budget 2025-26 which we have already discussed at your meeting on 19 November.

I look forward to sharing more detail on the programmes and how we plan to measure the performance of them with you in my Q3 report.

**Mary Harpley**  
Chief Officer