



**Susan Hall AM**  
Chairman of the Economy Committee

Sent via email

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Dear Rajesh

### **What works for microbusinesses**

Please find attached the Economy Committee's report, *What works for microbusinesses*, which was published today.

Our report provides a snapshot of the fears and hopes of nearly 200 microbusinesses from across London from a range of different sectors. Our work draws on an online survey, as well as oral and written evidence taken from expert witnesses, and through a roundtable and site visit to micro business owners in east London.

As you well know, microbusinesses are not only vital for London's Economy as they drive economic growth and create jobs, but they also contribute to London's uniqueness. Soho, Spitafield Market, Brick Lane, to name just a few, would not exist without microbusinesses.

We are pleased to see that your draft Economic Development Strategy contains proposals to support small businesses by promoting access to affordable workspace, finance and business support.

It is helpful for businesses to have a single access point to that support, as is clearly your intention in establishing the London Growth Hub. While the Hub remains your main source of support to microbusinesses in London, our survey results indicate that few have heard about it.

We also heard from microbusiness owners how concerned they are by ever rising rents, business rates, and the lack of access to affordable workspace. They simply fear for their future.

If London is to provide a supportive environment for them, their voices need to be heard and their concerns addressed.

It is in this spirit that we are very pleased to share our report with you. We hope you will find it interesting and we look forward to discussing some of those concerns with you during the Economy Committee meeting in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Hall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line through the middle of the name.

**Susan Hall**  
Chairman, Economy Committee