

## **Pride in Place: Labour Delivering for Glasgow's Communities – Motion dealt with, after division.**

**14** Councillor Hussain, seconded by Bailie Murray, moved that

"Council notes the UK Labour Government's launch of the Pride in Place programme; a £5 billion regeneration initiative designed to empower communities and revitalise neighbourhoods across the United Kingdom. This programme represents a significant shift in approach to local development, placing decision-making power directly in the hands of communities through the establishment of Neighbourhood Boards.

Council welcomes the allocation of £292 million to Scotland, including £280 million in long-term investment for 14 neighbourhoods, with Glasgow set to receive up to £40 million over the next decade. In addition, Glasgow has been awarded £1.5 million from the Pride in Place Impact Fund to support immediate, community-led improvements to public spaces, play areas, and local infrastructure.

Council notes that this transformative investment is being delivered by a UK Labour Government, at a time when Scottish local authorities have faced sustained financial pressures.

Council believes that this funding presents a valuable opportunity to support inclusive economic growth and strengthen community resilience. It also provides a platform to demonstrate how Labour in government is delivering for Scotland, investing in its future, and putting power back in the hands of local people.

Council therefore resolves to:

1. Welcome the UK Government's investment in Glasgow and Scotland and acknowledge the role of the Labour Government in delivering this funding.
2. Establish a cross-party working group to oversee Glasgow's participation in the Pride in Place programme and ensure alignment with city-wide regeneration strategies.
3. Call on the Scottish Government to work constructively with Glasgow City Council and other local authorities to match the ambition shown by the UK Labour Government, reverse damaging cuts to local services, and support councils to deliver for their communities.

Council further resolves to receive annual updates on the progress of the Pride in Place programme through the Operational Performance and Scrutiny Committee."

Councillor Aitken, seconded by Councillor Andrew, moved as an amendment to delete all after the first sentence and replace with the following:-

"Council notes with concern that the allocation of £292 million to Scotland represents less than 6% of the total £5 billion; understands that were Scotland to receive a share proportionate to its population, it would be closer to £425 million; further notes that Glasgow's comparator cities in England such as Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Birmingham have received allocations at least twice the size

of Glasgow's; and believes that – as with the previous UK government's Levelling Up fund - Scotland's communities have once again been short-changed by Westminster.

Council welcomes, insofar as it goes, the allocation of up to £40 million over 10 years for two places in Glasgow and notes that Council officers will work with UK government officials to identify areas where this funding can have the most impact. Council has reservations, however, about the bureaucratic and restrictive criteria applied to the funding and notes that it will only benefit two geographic areas of up to 15,000 residents each, a tiny fraction of Glasgow's population. Council further notes that while an allocation of £2m a year over 10 years for each of the two areas and an additional £1.5m over three years has the potential to supplement existing place-based investment from sources including the Scottish Government, City Region City Deal, and the Council, in itself it falls far short of being able to deliver significant transformation and is a relatively small amount compared to other funding streams, including for example the Council's own Glasgow Communities Fund, which is currently investing £55m over only three years into communities across the city, or the Scottish Government's Affordable Housing Grant, which is worth £115m in 2025/26 alone.

Council also expresses concerns about significant cuts to the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), which replaced EU funding streams, with Glasgow's allocation being reduced by £4.12m, or just under 25%, in a single year and no clarity about whether the SPF will even continue to exist in future years. Council notes that SPF has been used to support a wide range of community, climate-focused and business support projects and this is a backwards step in UK government support for Glasgow's communities.

While welcoming any additional resource for Glasgow, Council believes that small scale, piecemeal and restrictive funding pots are a wholly inadequate response from the UK government to Glasgow's place challenges. Council regrets that the UK government has still not made sufficient progress on working with devolved administrations to deliver devolution deals for Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast city regions to match those given to comparator English city regions, despite those deals not generating equivalent Barnett consequentials. Council believes that the longer the UK government drags its heels on providing parity of treatment for the cities of the devolved nations, the greater the unfairness and disadvantage imposed on them.

Council notes that even without a devolution deal, the Glasgow City Region outperformed all but two of the English combined authorities for GVA growth in 2023/24, and finds it strange that a UK government that professes to have economic growth as its guiding mission would be so reticent to provide equitable support to a City Region that is successfully delivering one of the largest infrastructure programmes in the UK and has a clear vision to grow an economy that works for all, backed by evidence-based policies and programmes.

Council understands that the Glasgow City Region has provided an extremely strong devolution proposition to both the UK and Scottish governments, which is focused on moving from tech innovation to inclusive growth; creating thriving

communities and tackling poverty; and building new models of public sector delivery; and which would address the Glasgow City Region's challenges and capitalise on our strengths and opportunities to transform places and life chances. Council believes that both governments must accelerate their engagement with this proposition and that the UK government should use the opportunity of the Chancellor's forthcoming budget to announce an integrated settlement for the Glasgow City Region, matching those delivered to our closest English equivalents of West Midlands and Greater Manchester. Council requests that the Leader of the Council writes to the Prime Minister and Chancellor to set out this expectation and instructs officers to continue their ongoing work with officials in both UK and Scottish governments on this basis."

Councillor Molyneux, seconded by Bailie Carroll, moved as an amendment to delete all after first paragraph and insert the following:-

"Council believes that in Glasgow the Neighbourhood Boards should draw on existing Community Planning structures and not be duplicative.

Council further considers that the most important things the UK Government could do to support communities and public services in Glasgow right now are:

- (1) to meet its fair share of the city's homelessness pressures arising as a result of people being granted leave to remain outwith Scotland, and real term increases of capital funding to ensure Scotland's affordable housing supply programme can provide longer-term solutions to our housing emergency;
- (2) to mitigate the ongoing pressures facing public services, particularly in health and social care, caused by its changes to Employer National Insurance contributions; and
- (3) to end the two child benefit cap which keeps thousands of children in Glasgow in poverty.

Council resolves to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in these terms ahead of the forthcoming budget."

During the debate Councillor Aitken and Councillor Molyneux, with the approval of their seconders, agreed to combine their amendments resulting in the following adjusted amendment:-

"Council notes with concern that the allocation of £292 million to Scotland represents less than 6% of the total £5 billion; understands that were Scotland to receive a share proportionate to its population, it would be closer to £425 million; further notes that Glasgow's comparator cities in England such as Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds and Birmingham have received allocations at least twice the size of Glasgow's; and believes that – as with the previous UK government's Levelling Up fund - Scotland's communities have once again been short-changed by Westminster.

Council welcomes, insofar as it goes, the allocation of up to £40 million over 10 years for two places in Glasgow and notes that Council officers will work with UK government officials to identify areas where this funding can have the most

impact. Council notes that it seeks to place decision-making directly in the hands of communities via Neighbourhood Boards and believes that, in Glasgow, these should draw on existing Community Planning structures and not be duplicative.

Council has reservations, however, about the bureaucratic and restrictive criteria applied to the funding and notes that it will only benefit two geographic areas of up to 15,000 residents each, which whilst worthy of investment, represent only a tiny fraction of Glasgow's population. Council further notes that while an allocation of £2m a year over 10 years for each of the two areas and an additional £1.5m over three years has the potential to supplement existing place-based investment from sources including the Scottish Government, City Region City Deal, and the Council, in itself it falls far short of being able to deliver significant transformation and is a relatively small amount compared to other funding streams, including for example the Council's own Glasgow Communities Fund, which is currently investing £55m over only three years into communities across the city, or the Scottish Government's Affordable Housing Grant, which is worth £115m in 2025/26 alone.

Council also expresses concerns about significant cuts to the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF), which replaced EU funding streams, with Glasgow's allocation being reduced by £4.12m, or just under 25%, in a single year and no clarity about whether the SPF will even continue to exist in future years. Council notes that SPF has been used to support a wide range of community, climate-focused and business support projects and believes that the loss of funding is a backwards step in UK government support for Glasgow's communities.

While welcoming any additional resource for Glasgow, Council believes that small-scale, piecemeal and restrictive funding pots are a wholly inadequate response from the UK government to Glasgow's place challenges and opportunities. Council regrets that the UK government has still not made sufficient progress on working with devolved administrations to deliver devolution deals for Glasgow, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast city regions to match those given to comparator English city regions, despite those deals not generating equivalent Barnett consequentials. Council believes that the longer the UK government drags its heels on providing parity of treatment for the cities of the devolved nations, the greater the unfairness and disadvantage imposed on them.

Council notes that even without a devolution deal, the Glasgow City Region outperformed all but two of the English combined authorities for GVA growth in 2023/24, and finds it strange that a UK government that professes to have economic growth as its guiding mission would be so reticent to provide equitable support to a City Region that is successfully delivering one of the largest infrastructure programmes in the UK and has a clear vision to grow an economy that works for all, backed by evidence-based policies and programmes.

Council understands that the Glasgow City Region has provided an extremely strong devolution proposition to both the UK and Scottish governments, which is focused on creating thriving communities and tackling poverty; moving from tech innovation to inclusive growth; and building new models of public sector delivery; and which would address the Glasgow City Region's challenges and capitalise on

our strengths and opportunities to transform places and life chances. Council believes that both governments must accelerate their engagement with this proposition and that the UK government should use the opportunity of the Chancellor's forthcoming budget to announce an integrated settlement for the Glasgow City Region, matching those delivered to our closest English equivalents of West Midlands and Greater Manchester.

Council further considers that the other most important things the UK Government could do to support communities and public services in Glasgow right now are:

- (1) to meet its fair share of the city's homelessness pressures arising as a result of people being granted leave to remain outwith Scotland;
- (2) to mitigate the ongoing pressures facing public services, particularly in health and social care, caused by its changes to Employer National Insurance contributions; and
- (3) to end the two child benefit cap which keeps thousands of children in Glasgow in poverty.

Council resolves to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in these terms ahead of the forthcoming budget.”

On a vote being taken electronically and by calling the roll, 46 voted for the amendment as adjusted and 28 for the motion.

The amendment as adjusted was accordingly declared to be carried.