

Economic Briefing – Presentation noted.

11 The Cabinet noted an economic briefing presentation by David Boyle, Intelligence Hub, Glasgow City Region (GCR), highlighting

- (1) the latest UK and Scotland data, including Gross Domestic Product (GDP) showing that the UK had experienced the fastest growth amongst G7 nations, inflation and of the Labour Market latest estimates published by the Office for National Statistics;
- (2) the Annual Population Survey recently published, providing Labour Market and Educational Attainment statistics for the calendar year 2025, and in particular GCR was no longer the Region with the highest percentage of economically inactive individuals due to long term health conditions and that an increase in residents with high-level qualifications had improved GCR's ranking to joint top compared with other UK Core City Regions;
- (3) that Academics from the University of Sheffield had published a paper regarding Urban Development: Centripetal Cities, investigating whether the benefits of urban development are diffused to peripheral towns in a Region; and
- (4) that rising energy and fuel costs had likely further strained living standards and research had highlighted a worsening outlook for living standards among low-income groups and that GCR was looking at a Living Standards Indicator to support effective policy and decision-making, with a view to developing it at a Regional level in the future.