Item 2

17th November 2026

Glasgow City Council

Economy, Housing, Transport and Regeneration City Policy Committee

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Purpose of Report:

This report provides Committee with a background to the work carried out by Economic Development and an update of activity across the Division over the last 6 months.

Recommendations:

Committee is asked to:

- note the report; and
- discuss the activity of the Economic Development service over the reporting period.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Introduction

1.1 This paper provides a background to the Economic Development function within the Council, giving information on the main areas it covers, as well as presenting key achievements since the previous report to Committee on 2 June 2026. It concludes with the performance monitoring data which is regularly reported through the Chief Executive's Senior Management Team.

2. Background

2.1 Glasgow City Council's Economic Development service is responsible for delivering the city's Economic Strategy, which defines the actions it is taking to deliver an inclusive, sustainable and more productive economy for our city.

2.2 The Division has a wide-ranging remit, with teams working in collaboration with city partners to deliver its goals. There are ten key parts, which are: Business Glasgow; Employment & Skills; Invest Glasgow; Green Economy, Innovation & International; Digital Economy; Grants & Monitoring; Glasgow Film Office; Strategic Projects; UK Local Growth Fund (UKLGF); and Marketing and Communications. Further detail on each area is provided within the Economic Development Annual Report.

2.3 In addition, the Glasgow Convention Bureau and Visit Glasgow moved into Economic Development in December 2025 to join Invest Glasgow and form the new Destination Management and Marketing Organisation (DMMO).

3. Key achievements over the last 6 months

3.1 *Business Glasgow*

3.1.1 The Business Growth team offers a wide range of support to increase the number of start-ups in the city, and to help existing SMEs to grow. Across Quarters 1 and 2 of Financial Year 26/27, the team met with 694 unique entrepreneurs and businesses, helping 227 new businesses to start trading. 115 of these new businesses are female-led, 48 are led by a member of a minority ethnic community, and 24 are led by person with a self-declared disability.

3.1.2 In Quarters 1 and 2, 49 SMEs with growth potential received specialist support through the Glasgow Business Growth Framework, valued at £255,750. These expert interventions supplement the guidance delivered by our in-house growth advisers, covering areas such as Business Structuring, Financial Management and Sales & Marketing. Additionally, our Digital Expert Support programme provided Digital interventions to existing Glasgow SMEs, equating to a further £58,000 of support.

3.1.3 The 2026/27 Social Innovation Challenge Fund was approved by City Administration Committee in June 2026. Four programmes shared an overall

award of £259,201, and are now being delivered with ecosystem partners who have lived experience of the systemic barriers to entrepreneurship faced by underrepresented groups. Dedicated programmes again include support for the Roma community and safe space support for trauma-experienced women. Per early monitoring, a total of 40 participants have enrolled in activity, forecasted to rise to 94 by the end of October and 109 by January 2027. To date, 40% of participants are from child poverty booster wards and 90% are female participants. Preparatory work has commenced towards delivering the 2027/28 iteration of the SICF, over a period of two years of consecutive funding.

3.1.4 The Green Business Support programme continues to help small businesses in Glasgow reduce their energy costs, learn about their carbon footprint and mitigate and adapt to climate change. This Financial Year, eight green grants equalling £60,842 have been awarded to Glasgow SMEs, and 46 referrals have made to our procured carbon baseline service.

3.2 *Destination Glasgow*

3.2.1 The former Glasgow Life VisitGlasgow and Glasgow Convention Bureau teams have now transferred into Glasgow City Council's' Economic Development Service and operate collectively as **Destination Glasgow**. Officially launched on 1 September, Destination Glasgow brings together the city's destination marketing, visitor economy, Convention Bureau, tourism development and destination management functions within a single structure. The new organisation's remit is to grow the value and impact of tourism, business events and investment opportunities for Glasgow. Destination Glasgow is responsible for enhancing the city's national and international profile and reputation and will be reporting on its contribution to the city's economy. A comprehensive paper setting out Destination Glasgow's strategic direction, priorities and delivery plans will be presented to Committee during the next reporting cycle.

3.3 *Green Economy, Innovation & International*

3.3.1 Economic Development works closely with partners and businesses to support the transition to and growth of a green economy. It looks to ensure that an inclusive and sustainable economy contributes to the city's Climate Plan and the delivery of its net zero carbon emissions target by 2030 alongside the key aims of the city's Economic Strategy.

3.3.2 In this light, the Green Economy team's principal objective is to mainstream this approach across the service and wider Council. Key activities in the past six months include:

- Supporting the service and partners in work with the city's businesses to generate and sell green goods and services, to become greener in their operations, and to grow good jobs in the green economy – building on positive developments such as the Green Business Grants, employability programmes, and the work of Sustainable Ventures to develop a climate tech hub in The Lighthouse.

- Bringing a strong social justice element across all such work in order to protect Glaswegian workers, businesses and communities and to enhance opportunities for them in the transition to a cleaner and greener economy and society. Annual reporting on the recommendations of the cross-party Just Transition Working Group takes place to the Net Zero Committee and also on the Just Transition Skills Action Plan – in recognition for this latter element of its particular significance for the jobs and skills agenda.

- Working with peer cities and other local authorities to draw on learning from their approaches to promoting green economic growth. At national level this engages with the Scottish Climate Intelligence Service, for instance, and its links across all Scottish councils. International connections include a current EU Horizon programme called GreenDEMO in which Glasgow is a funded partner and which provides learning on how city administrations can promote a green transition with citizens and businesses, as well as continuing active membership of collaborations such as the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance and the Global Resilient Cities Network.

- Submitting a successful bid to Bloomberg Philanthropies for a third year of the Youth Climate Action Fund, having delivered two previous rounds of micro-grants to a range of schools and young people's organisations. A total of 19 projects are being funded for 2026/7 from this budget.

- Engaging closely with the Circular Glasgow initiative led by the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce to promote circular business practices and to foster growth in local SMEs engaged in the sector.

3.3.3 The Climate Finance Manager continues to advance the development of the Model for Climate Investment. The approach is grounded in learning from existing models, openly addressing challenges and lessons learned and applying those insights to design a model that is right for Glasgow. The model focuses on project delivery of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) but recognises the opportunity of establishing a Climate Investment Vehicle, embedding a robust, scalable financing framework to support and finance delivery. Central to this is understanding the roles and responsibilities required to drive progress, including the role of key partners such as the National Wealth Fund and the insurance sector in strengthening resilience, reducing risk, and improving investability.

3.3.4 A specialist internal and external team is currently compiling the Outline Business Case (OBC) structuring the evidence and justifying the commitment of investing in such a model, ensuring that all objectives are being met, that additional social value is secured for the city and ultimately, the correct model is chosen for the benefit of the city.

3.3.5 With community participation forming a considered part of our approach, we have just completed our third Community Municipal Investment raise for £1.4 million with Abundance, having raised £1 million for solar projects and £849,000 for Healthy Care and School Streets, giving local people a direct opportunity to invest in Glasgow's transition.

3.3.6 Glasgow is committed to becoming one of the most innovative places in the UK by 2030. The Economic Development service works with a range of key partners from the academic and business communities and with Glasgow City Region to support the growth and development of the innovation ecosystem in the city and wider region. This draws particularly on the significant place-based assets represented by the city's two Innovation Districts. Key milestones for this work since the last update to committee include:

- The Innovation Accelerator programme came to its funded completion on 31 March after £43 million support from the UK Government for Glasgow over 2023-26. A formal review of the programme across the three city-regions (Glasgow, West Midlands, Greater Manchester) has been commissioned by Innovate UK. The latest data show that a very positive long-term forecast level of 4:1 of co-investment in the programme for the public funding should be realised – against a Treasury expectation of 1:1 in the initial funded phase - and that 470 jobs have been created through the Glasgow programme.

- The Council held an event for the local projects engaged in this work on 28 May and is working with them to support their legacy and to explore further funding opportunities from a range of sources - with some projects benefiting from further regional programmes such as the Investment Zone as well as funding from the UK Research Councils and potential opportunities arising from increased national defence spending.

- A further £50 million of UK Government funding has been allocated to Glasgow City Region for the Local Innovation Partnerships Fund (LIPF), with a key focus on the life sciences and digital and enabling technologies having been selected by local partners. A full programme submission was made to UKRI at the end of June, consisting of ten local projects across three themes: commercialisation of R&D; lab space; and skills. Formal acceptance of programme funding was confirmed in September followed by controlled start letters from UKRI.

- An additional £500,000 has been allocated for 2026/7 from the Council's share of the UK Local Growth Fund for support to the innovation agenda, with £180K of this being awarded for core support to the city's two Innovation Districts.

- Continued development will be undertaken on the six key themes of the Regional Innovation Action Plan with local and national partners.

- There will be continued support for the GEL Innovation Group and a further focus on promoting specific sectors in the city's innovation eco-system over the rest of the financial year. Innovation is one of the key workstreams which are informing the development by Glasgow City Region of the formal submission of asks to national government for regional empowerment and greater devolution.

3.3.7 Economic Development has continued to lead on a range of international links and global urban partnerships for the Council, focusing on enhancing the value of city diplomacy to drive prosperity across Glasgow's communities. The Council launched its International Strategy 2025-30 in November 2024, which is a comprehensive framework designed to enhance the city's global engagement and prosperity. The strategy builds upon existing international partnerships and sets clear priorities for connecting Glasgow with the rest of the world through its extensive educational, cultural, civic and economic links.

Key activities in support of this for the past six months have included:

- Allocation of an International Fund budget from the Council's share of the UK Local Growth Fund with a focus on supporting Glaswegian SMEs to attend overseas trade missions and events and support their internationalisation in terms of export growth and attracting inward investment. This has a key focus on the city's principal innovation sectors and harnessing existing market links from lead partners such as the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Innovation Districts and Scottish North American Business Council. Recent trade missions for local SMEs include ones to engage with key US markets and investors in Houston, Texas and Cleveland, Ohio; two trade fairs in Shanghai; an annual mission to Singapore; and attendance at the Smart Cities Expo in Barcelona.

- Support for both the GEL International group and a co-ordinating role with Council and family services around sharing details of international links and considering potential new connections and funding opportunities.

- Hosting delegations from key market areas to support further international links and potential investment opportunities, especially in relation to innovation sectors. These include ones over the past six months from the United States, Japan, China, Mexico and India, allied to close collaboration with the work of both national governments through Scottish Development International and the Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office and the Department for Business, Innovation, Science & Trade at UK level.

- Engagement with a range of global city networks on peer learning, cultural and educational links, and potential market opportunities – from working with UK urban peers in the Core Cities international network through to the Resilient Cities Network and Eurocities.

3.4 *Employment and Skills*

3.4.1 The Glasgow Futures programme has continued to provide employability support that targets those furthest from the labour market or experiencing in-work poverty.

3.4.2 The programme, which is governed by the Local Employability Partnership (LEP) and managed by Economic Development consists of over 30 projects, delivered by over 40 public and third sector organisations. The programme is detailed in the Glasgow Futures Project Directory.

3.4.3 Priorities for the LEP include tackling youth unemployment and economic inactivity, addressing the disability employment gap, and supporting ethnic minority communities to access, sustain and progress in high-quality employment. Review activity is underway to assess the impact of current provision and inform how future investment can be targeted most effectively towards these priority groups.

3.4.4 Further work is focused on tackling child poverty through employability, shaping services that support parents to access, sustain and progress in employment. This includes aligning funding and activity with the priorities of the child poverty programme and supporting the development and delivery of Demonstrations of Change.

3.4.5 Following approval by CAC in May 2026, a Glasgow Futures Employer Engagement grant of £5m was awarded to a partnership of providers led by Enable Scotland. This project, Collaborative Pathways to Employment, commenced in October 2026 and will be delivered over an 18-month period.

3.4.6 The project is supporting a stronger partnership approach to employer engagement, creating a clear route into employment and apprenticeships for work-ready participants through access to paid placements, recruitment opportunities and training for work. It is intended to improve coordination across the employability system, strengthen employer participation and contribute to more inclusive and sustainable employment outcomes for Glasgow residents.

3.4.7 Work is continuing to address industry skills gaps and ensure that investment in innovation supports inclusive growth. Through a new programme called Talent.Lab, Economic Development is working with spin-outs and growth-sector SMEs in the Glasgow Riverside Innovation District to create pathways into high-quality employment for local unemployed young people. The programme will develop Modern Apprenticeship opportunities in life sciences and engineering, supported by pre-apprenticeship training from Clyde College, employability and in-work support through Glasgow Futures, and additional business growth support where required. This approach will widen access to sectors that have traditionally recruited at graduate and postgraduate level, whilst helping growing businesses develop the skilled workforce they need.

3.5 *Grants and Monitoring*

3.5.1 The Team is responsible for monitoring participant data submitted by organisations involved in the delivery of the Glasgow Futures programme. The Collaborative Pathways to Employability (CPTE) partnership, formed to address the city's employer engagement challenge, reached a major milestone on 12 October with the launch of its new Hanlon site and record-sharing functionality. Working in collaboration with the key stakeholders, the Team led on the implementation of the shared approach to participant record management across the partnership of 21 organisations.

3.5.2 The solution marks a significant step forward in facilitating collaborative working, enabling partners to provide more coordinated support for participants accessing employability services. The team is now developing the approach to extend the record-sharing functionality across all the Glasgow Futures funded projects.

3.5.3 The Glasgow Communities Fund 2026-2029 (GCF3) commenced on 1 April 2026. From October 2026, the programme will be supported by a new grant management system, SmartyGrants. Following onboarding sessions with grant holders in mid-October, all monitoring submissions, change requests and reporting will be managed through the new platform.

3.5.4 SmartyGrants will provide an intuitive and efficient grants management system for both grant holders and the Council, the first key milestone being the submission of six-month 'Mid-Point Monitoring' returns in November 2026. The introduction of SmartyGrants has streamlined administration and monitoring processes and enabled more efficient reporting and programme management.

3.5.5 Alongside the implementation of SmartyGrants, the GCF3 Performance Monitoring Framework is being reviewed in collaboration with Council Family officers and wider stakeholders, including grant holders, to ensure it remains effective, proportionate and aligned with programme objectives.

3.5.6 Glasgow's Holiday Programme 2026/27 commenced in summer 2026, with 56 organisations delivering food and activity programmes across the city. Summer monitoring data submitted through the new SmartyGrants platform reports 20,064 children and young people benefiting from 123,627 funded spaces. Planning for the 2027/28 programme is currently underway.

3.6 *Invest Glasgow*

3.6.1 Performance during Q2 2026/27 has remained very positive, with 28 company investments secured, comprising 13 new market entrants and 15 expansion projects. Collectively, these investments have generated 1,476 projected new jobs and £423.04 million in known capital investment.

3.6.2 2026/27 performance to date now sits at 56 company investments, with 2,372 projected new jobs and £587.28 million in known capital investment. Some examples include:

- **MB Air Systems (US) –** a subsidiary of Ingersoll Rand, the company specialises in compressed air and industrial solutions and have established a new facility in Hamilton. The new base in Scotland will support the continued expansion of Ingersoll Rand. The planned capital expenditure for this project is £11.46 million, and it is anticipated that 36 new jobs will be created.

- **Sivers Semiconductors (Sweden) -** Sivers IMA Holding is investing £22.76m in Blantyre in the Semiconductors sector in a manufacturing project. The company is a manufacturer of energy-efficient photonics and

wireless solutions, and this investment will expand its Indium Phosphide (InP) manufacturing facility. The expansion will increase capacity to more than 100 million CW DFB lasers annually. It is expected to become operational in Q4 2027. The anticipated jobs growth for this project has still to be confirmed.

- **Arthur Daniels Midland (ADM) (US)** - the US-based agri-processing firm (animal food), plans to establish a new storage and berthing facility in Greenock. Located at the Port of Greenock, it is expected to be operational in late 2026 and will serve the domestic market. FDI Markets reports planned capital expenditure of £29.67 million and the creation of 222 jobs.

- **Scania (Germany)** – Scania, a subsidiary of Germany-based Volkswagen, has announced plans to build a new dealership in Renfrew. Located in Inchinnan Business Park, the 19,900 sq m facility will support Scania's operations and future expansion and is expected to open in 2027. FDI Markets has recorded planned capital expenditure of £10.93 million and the creation of 16 new jobs.

3.6.3 Invest Glasgow continues to work closely with colleagues in Scottish Development International (SDI) and the Department of Business, Science, Innovation & Trade (DBIST) to bring a range of pipeline inward investment opportunities to a successful conclusion. A number of these enquiries involve the team hosting delegation and investor visits and presenting to a range of overseas companies. These outcomes will be reported in future performance updates.

3.6.4 Glasgow's has performed well in recent positive rankings. The **UK Investor Confidence Index 2026** (Irwin Mitchell) - Glasgow ranks 10th in the UK Investor Confidence Index 2026, despite moving down three places from the previous year, Glasgow continues to be identified as one of the UK's leading investment cities alongside London, Edinburgh, Greater Manchester, Birmingham, Oxford, Cambridge and Leeds. The city ranks 8th on the Growth Potential pillar, supported by its position within the Glasgow City Region Investment Zone. The report highlights Glasgow's competitive strengths in that it offers a rare combination of scale, industrial capability and future-focused innovation. The report explicitly references the Glasgow City Region Investment Zone as a key contributor to Glasgow's investment attractiveness.

3.6.5 **Global Cities Index 2026** (Oxford Economics) - Glasgow has been ranked 108th place out of all 1,000 cities evaluated and remains within the Top 10 in the UK – ranked at 6th. Glasgow achieved an impressive ranking of 19th globally for environmental quality and sustainability, as well as a ranking of 138th for Human Capital and 140th for Governance.

3.6.6 **AI Cities 2026 Index** (SAS) - Glasgow has been named as the third most AI-ready city outside of London, ranking third behind Bristol (second) and Manchester (first). Glasgow scored highly in the index thanks to the city's high number of graduates moving into computing and engineering-focused roles and the second-highest number of jobs relating to AI within a five-mile radius

of the city, boasting 52 opportunities. The index revealed that 76.97% of students from Glasgow universities stayed in the city to continue working in 'highly skilled' AI roles. Similarly, the city is also on par with index leader Manchester, offering 12 AI-related courses at the University of Glasgow.

3.6.7 The team continues to support a number of Real Estate/Investment Events. These include:

- **Expo Real (Munich, 5–7 October 2026)** – a Team Glasgow delegation attended Expo Real, one of Europe's leading international real estate and investment trade fairs. As part of the UK Cities & Partners (UKCAP) presence, Glasgow was represented on the UKCAP stand, promoting a portfolio of three flagship investment opportunities: Buchanan Bus Station; Scottish Event Campus (SEC); and AI Innovation Park, while engaging directly with investors, developers and key market stakeholders. Members of the Glasgow delegation also took part in a series of high-profile Investor Engagement Roundtable Discussions.

- **MIPIM (Cannes, 16-19 March 2027)** - IG will participate at MIPIM as part of the new initiative "Invest Scotland" announced jointly by the Scottish Government and Real Estate: Scotland. This new partnership will promote Scotland's real estate investment opportunities on the international stage and will help to build a stronger, more unified platform for showcasing Scotland internationally. Backed by Scottish Government funding and initial private sector match funding, it will bring together government and industry behind a coordinated proposition to showcase investment opportunities, facilitate direct engagement with key investors, and support long-term relationship-building that extends well beyond events such as MIPIM and UKREiiF.

- **UKREiiF (The UK's Real Estate, Investment & Infrastructure Forum) (Leeds – 18-20 May 2026) -** Planning for UKREiiF 2027 is now well underway and will continue to be developed collaboratively with local authority partners across the city region.

3.7 *Strategic Projects*

3.7.1 The Strategic Projects team provides a broad range of support to the division, developing plans, projects and policies that advance progress against the Glasgow Economic Strategy. Activity includes monitoring progress of the Strategy in the context of the city's Grand Challenges.

3.7.2 Activity worth noting includes the development of the Change Makers Programme, which addresses long term unemployment in the context of Public Service Reform. Change Makers brings together unemployed local people, employability key workers, and Council officers to develop service design skills, tackle economic challenges facing our communities, and embed lived experience in service delivery.

3.7.3 The team also leads delivery of the third phase of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth Climate Action Fund, supporting 15–24-year-olds to lead climate projects

and develop skills and confidence. Economic Development match funding strengthens the focus on skills and progression. In 2026–27, 19 youth-led projects will run from November 2026 to March 2027.

3.8 *Digital Economy*

3.8.1 Publication of the 'Why Glasgow?' data-led storytelling series of deep-dives continues to shine a light on investable clusters of opportunity across the regional innovation ecosystem. These video-led interactive reports, developed in conjunction with partner organisations and circulated to a broad business, investor and talent audience, have to date covered place-based strengths in: Smart Things; Space Tech; MedTech; and Critical Technologies (the latter spanning Quantum, Photonics, Semiconductors and Sensing & Connectivity Tech). The next edition on Spatial/Immersive Tech is due to be published by year-end. The value and impact of the reports to date have been boosted by a co-development approach with cluster partners at the Smart Things Accelerator Centre (STAC), West of Scotland Space Cluster, the Living Laboratory, Technology Scotland and Spatial Collective.

3.8.2 The Tech Ecosystem Event and Meetup subsidies initiative, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and delivered between 2023-2026 - came to an end in March. A new combined Tech Event and Meetup Subsidy was re-launched in September 2026 – funded by the Local Growth Fund and offering awards between £1,000 to £5,000, with a shorter-term valid activity period running up to the end of the financial year. The programme continues to support a mixture of existing and new proposals of place-based intervention between students, early-stage founders, scaling businesses, investors, creative practitioners, academics and public-sector partners – offering improved access to networks, knowledge exchange & non-financial business support.

3.8.3 The Glasgow No-Code pilot programme launched in the second half of 2025-26 has helped grow the number of digital SMEs in the city and address the digital skills gap, assisted by AI. Notably, the Ideas2 App pilot has generated a meaningful pipeline of startup demand with 18 accepted founders currently on their Minimum Viable Product (MVP) pathways to generate new business ventures. Focus on the next stage will concentrate on what support the founders need to grow their early-stage businesses and the broader opportunity to grow and scale the programme, looking at sustainable financing and stronger connections into local angel investment networks.

3.8.4 A combined Digital, Regional and elected member team will again support Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona this November, together with a curated SME delegation. As the world's biggest and most influential event for cities and urban innovation, it attracts over 1,000 exhibitors and 27,000+ multi-sector attendees. The delegation, whose participation is being supported by the Team Glasgow International Fund (TGIF), comprises a mixture of startups from areas as diverse as space and the built environment alongside developers and consultants with vested interests in the innovation infrastructure of the city. The team is taking the opportunity to meet with partners – both existing and new – including NVIDIA, Microsoft, ESRI and EIT Urban Mobility, as well as meet up

with UK colleagues and peer locations working on the smart city agenda. The City Region (through the Glasgow Telecoms Unit) has also been named as a finalist at the Smart City Expo Awards taking place during the event itself.

3.8.5 The Digital Economy and Digital Service teams are co-sponsoring a consultant report to propose a structure for a sustainable Smart City operating and delivery model for the City Region. The initiative is focused on shifting from a reactive, funding-driven approach to a more strategic, business-led innovation model aligned with the Council Strategic Plan. It seeks to unlock Glasgow's technology and innovation potential through stronger engagement with businesses, universities and investors, while improving coordination of innovation funding and external investment opportunities. The approach also aims to strengthen business readiness, provide clearer support around procurement, governance and digital adoption, and ensure successful public innovation pilots are scaled into sustainable, long-term service delivery. To do so, the report leverages an evidence base of stakeholder consultation, an assessment of a best-in-class analysis of leading cities and a review of existing organisational structures, assets alongside previous and current Smart City programmes. The report is expected to deliver by year-end for presentation to key stakeholders.

4. Performance Monitoring

4.1 The Chief Executive's Senior Management Team (SMT) meets quarterly to review wider service priorities and performance. The table below shows the outcomes, targets and performance reported over the 2026/7 financial year so far:

Outcome/ Theme / Strategy	Milestone / Target 2026/27	Actual at Q2 2026/27	Performance Note	RAG (Red/ Amber/ Green)
Number of businesses receiving advice and support from GCC Business Team	1200	694		G
Number of Glasgow residents who started their own business as a result of our support	500	227		G
Number of businesses receiving specialist consultancy	83	49		G

Outcome/ Theme / Strategy	Milestone / Target 2026/27	Actual at Q2 2026/27	Performance Note	RAG (Red/ Amber/ Green)
support aimed at growing their business				
Number of businesses receiving support aimed at enhancing business digital performance	50	28		**G**
Number of businesses supported through the Green Business Grant	15	8		**G**
Number of businesses supported through the Tech Event & Meetup Grant	10	2	A number of events are in the pipeline and likely to be funded across Q3 and Q4	**G**
Number of jobs created by Glasgow Inward Investment Projects	2,000	2577	2,577 new jobs announced to date. A number of these are future projects with job estimates that will be confirmed in due course.	**G**
Number of new Investments	20	38		**G**
Number of company expansion projects	10	28		**G**
Number of anticipated beneficiaries and funded spaces provided	20,242 191,999 spaces	20,064 123,267	Spring 2026 is part of the 2025/26 programme. Monitoring data reports 10,471 beneficiaries and 38,573 funded spaces during Spring 2026.	**G**
Number of employability engagements	3,996	1,602	Performance to date is as expected. Due to our monitoring process we have a natural delay in reporting. On target to meet full engagement by end of year.	**G**

Outcome/ Theme / Strategy	Milestone / Target 2026/27	Actual at Q2 2026/27	Performance Note	RAG (Red/ Amber/ Green)
Total number of engagements who progressed into employment, Further/Higher education, modern apprenticeships, school, volunteering, self-employment.	1,853	953	Progressions/outcomes reported are on target. We expect to meet full target by end of year, and may exceed this.	**G**

5. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: None. Projects and activities are funded through a combination of GCC budgets complemented by Scottish and UK Government funding.

Legal: Legal Services provide guidance and support to a range of activity, including Subsidy Control and Grant Agreements.

Personnel: None. Activities are delivered by Economic Development staff or partners/city stakeholders

Procurement: Procurement advice and guidance is provided when necessary to ensure compliance when purchasing services.

Council Strategic Plan: The following Strategic Plan outcomes are supported:

Grand Challenge 1 – Reduce Poverty and inequality in our communities - Mission 3: Improve the health and wellbeing of our local communities and Mission 4: Support Glasgow to be a city that is active and culturally vibrant.

Grand Challenge 2 – Increase opportunity and prosperity for all our citizens - Mission 2: Support the growth of an innovative, resilient and net zero carbon economy.

	Grand Challenge 3 – Fight the climate emergency in a just transition to a net zero Glasgow – Mission 2: Become a net zero carbon city by 2030 Grand Challenge 4 – Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities - Mission 1: Create safe, clean and thriving neighbourhoods.
Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:	
Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29	Yes. Specifically Tackling Poverty, Reducing Health Inequalities and Empowering Communities
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	The Council's activity as detailed in this paper has the potential to reduce poverty, create well-paid jobs and support inclusive growth.
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.	The provision outlined in this paper is designed to support the most socio-economically disadvantaged individuals in the city. Projects will improve the physical environment, address social issues and increase economic activity.
Climate impacts:	
Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	The work noted in this report both contributes to the key aims of the Climate Plan in relation to a greener economy and innovation for net zero, particularly through learning from global peer city networks.
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	This work looks to align trade and investment with the city's net zero ambitions and therefore support a range of positive climate impacts.
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	Yes, this approach is a contributor to the realisation of the city's net zero target through supporting businesses in this sector to grow.
Privacy and Data Protection impacts:	This report has no impacts upon privacy or data protection.

6. Recommendations

6.1 Committee is asked to:

- note the report; and
- discuss the activity of the Economic Development service over the reporting period.