

An aerial photograph of the London skyline at dusk. The River Thames flows through the foreground, with several boats visible. The city is densely packed with buildings, and the iconic Shard skyscraper stands out prominently on the right side of the image. The sky is a mix of blue and orange hues from the setting or rising sun. A large red diagonal shape is overlaid on the bottom right corner of the image.

London

2025/26
BUSINESS PLAN

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Foreword

London's moment and how to seize it

In a world of seemingly ever-increasing political and economic uncertainty, London is the place to be.

For the investor, London has an unrivalled breadth and depth of marketplace – from world-class financial, legal and professional services to a diverse talent pool, underpinned by being home to more universities ranked among the global top 50 than any other city. Firms can rely on the time zone, the lingua franca and the rule of law. They can connect easily and directly with other world cities. And be part of the melting pot of world-class clusters of established and new industries alike: from real estate and retail, through to creative and financial services, and to gaming, AI and MedTech. Many cities are the capitals of big, national economies. London is the international capital of the world.

From an individual perspective, London is a fun place to live, work and visit. Its range of cultural and leisure experiences is unrivalled: the theatres, museums, galleries, sporting events, bars, restaurants, famous parks and hidden green spaces. London is both a global city and a series of local villages with their

own sense of community. Although, like all cities, it comes with some edge, grit and messiness.

Given London's strengths and the world's geopolitical and macroeconomic volatility, this could be London's 21st-century moment. But if we are to seize it with both hands, we need to remove the roadblocks holding us back. These include:

- **Tackling the costs of living in London** and, in particular, the availability and affordability of housing across all tenures, as well as other day-to-day pressures, such as the cost of travel and childcare;
- **Sweeping away rules and regulation** where the public interest doesn't justify the increased costs to investment, particularly when it comes to building housing and infrastructure;
- **Countering the perception that London isn't safe**, with the Metropolitan Police properly resourced to tackle petty and personal crime, and clearly communicating at home and abroad that they are on the case;

- **Making the city more resilient to extremes of weather**, such as hotter temperatures and increased flooding; and
- **Embracing new growth opportunities and technologies**, with a key priority being to ensure the labour market is equipped for the changes to come.

These themes will frame our agenda for 2026. Our work programme, with its focus on the eternal issues at the heart of London's success – across competitiveness, people, place, connectivity and sustainability – will prioritise action to help the city realise its full potential. And in doing so, deliver on our mission of making London the best place in the world to do business, working with and for the UK.



JOHN DICKIE
Chief Executive
BusinessLDN

London's contribution to the UK

As the UK's capital and only global city, London makes a major contribution – economically, culturally and socially – to the whole country.





Maximising this contribution matters to communities all over the UK. London's net fiscal surplus, the difference between taxes raised and public spending in the city, was £43.6 billion in the financial year ending 2023. This surplus rightly supports public spending in other parts of the country.

Meanwhile, London's supply chains are deeply intertwined with other parts of the country. Transport for London alone supports 29,000 jobs outside the capital through investment with suppliers of all sizes. 60% of Heathrow's supply chain spend as part of its planned expansion is set to go to companies outside London and the South-East.

A gateway for investment, London is Europe's leading region for foreign direct investment (FDI) – attracting 265 projects in 2024 according to EY's latest FDI attractiveness survey. This gateway effect helps to support wider overseas investment across the UK.

London is also the major hub for tourists into the UK. Many visitors to the capital extend their stays with visits to other parts of the country. This London+ tourism is estimated to contribute over £640 million in spending, according to London & Partners.

Our theory of change

Unlocking the full potential of the capital is vital to deliver the jobs, investment and growth needed both by Londoners and people across the country. For over 30 years, BusinessLDN has established a track record of driving positive change in partnership with our cross-sector membership through our campaigning activity. We use our policy expertise, thought leadership, media profile, events programme and a wide range of tactics to shape issues that matter most for business in London.



The who, how and why

Who we are

We are the capital's leading business campaign group. Over our three-decade history, we championed the creation of the role of the Mayor and for Transport for London, incubated Teach First and helped secure funding for the Elizabeth Line.

Over the last 12 months, our high-profile campaigning has ensured HS2 will reach Euston, a multi-year funding deal for Transport for London, increased funding into affordable housing, Government support for a City Hall Developer to unlock land for new homes and an integrated financial settlement for London.

Our mission is to make London the best place in the world to do business, working with and for the UK

We focus on the waterfront of issues affecting London's competitiveness while remaining agile to respond to emerging issues. Our core areas of policy focus are:

- **Competitiveness**
- **People**
- **Place**
- **Connectivity**
- **Sustainability**

How we drive change

We bring about change by galvanising the public and private sector around a shared vision for the capital's future and by creating business-led solutions to the challenges the city faces to help you grow your business. We do this working with:

- Our 170 cross-sector members
- Our team of c. 30 London-based staff

We make change happen through:

- Communications and campaigns
- Our advocacy and engagement, including with all levels of London government and with key decision-makers
- Our relationships across all sectors of London's economy
- Policy insights and thought leadership
- Member insights and intelligence
- 80+ networking events

Why we do it

Our vision is for a London that grows vigorously and equitably, where business can succeed and Londoners can thrive. We aim to achieve this by building:

- A city that inspires and innovates
- A city that helps people develop the skills they need to thrive
- A city that is better connected, digitally and physically
- A city that leads on sustainability
- A city that works for business, Londoners and the whole UK

Our agenda

Seizing London's moment

BusinessLDN's central role is ensuring that the city's systems enable firms to grow, innovate and succeed.

We cover the core issues that affect London's competitiveness to ensure the city remains the best place to do business – today and tomorrow.

As we enter our new business plan year, the economy is stuck in a rut with low growth and above-target inflation. The Autumn Budget is likely to see the Chancellor raise taxes to meet her fiscal rules, while local elections in May could see the city's political map redrawn.

The only sustainable way to fund the Government's plans to increase investment in public services is to accelerate growth through partnership with the private sector. That will require – as the Prime Minister has pledged – focus on 'delivery, delivery, delivery'. Our work programme is designed to support this ambition and to seize London's moment by making the case for practical reforms that will increase growth now at no or little cash cost, alongside measures that require significant public investment, and which will, in turn, unlock a multiplier of private investment.

Competitiveness

Tackling barriers to investment and growth to strengthen London's offer

By 2030: We will have helped create the conditions for increased levels of productivity, investment and growth including through greater devolution for London.

People

Enabling businesses to attract and retain a diverse workforce

By 2030: We will have helped more Londoners to enter the labour market and acquire the skills needed to succeed in a rapidly evolving jobs market, while ensuring the immigration system is responsive to the needs of the capital's businesses.

Place

Creating spaces that enable people to thrive and businesses to succeed

By 2030: We will have helped deliver a step change in housebuilding with more homes built across diverse tenures as well as a planning system that is properly resourced and supports development.

Connectivity

Keeping London moving and investing in its infrastructure

By 2030: We will have helped TfL secure a multi-year funding deal, identified ways of leveraging private sector funding in support of new transport projects and helped to boost London's international connectivity.

Sustainability

Helping to create a cleaner, greener capital and make London more resilient to climate change

By 2030: We will have helped London firms meet net zero targets and strengthened resilience at a city-wide level.



Competitiveness

Tackling barriers to investment and growth to strengthen London's offer



Key achievements in 2024/25

- We helped shape the Mayor's London Growth Plan.
- We launched a new Culture Council to make the economic case for the sector.
- We made the case for an integrated financial settlement for London, which the Government has now confirmed from 2026/27.

A globally competitive London is essential given the city's role as a gateway for investment, talented people and tourism. The capital's status as a world-leading city underpins its role as an engine of growth for the whole UK, delivering a £44bn net tax surplus for the country a year.

London has many existing strengths that should be attractive to investors and businesses at a time of significant geopolitical uncertainty. Building on the city's strong foundations and removing blockers to growth is essential to help seize the moment.

Acting quickly is vital, given the economy is stuck in first gear and productivity is sluggish. London remains the country's most productive region, but it has gone from leading national productivity growth to lagging it, and it is performing less well than many of its global competitors.

To help the city realise its full potential, ensuring higher levels of investment flow into the economic enablers of infrastructure, housing and skills will be key. Alongside this we will continue to make the case for greater devolution as a means of giving London the funding, powers and accountability it needs to deliver major infrastructure projects.

Highlights for 2025/26

Strengthening London's pitch to the world

Over the next 12 months, we will work with members to champion practical solutions – both quick fixes and longer-term reforms – that can help London grasp the opportunity presented by growing geopolitical instability. This includes working with the Metropolitan Police to ensure the capital is – and is seen as – a safe city, including by establishing a new business taskforce, identifying measures to address the cost-of-living – spanning housing, transport and childcare – that makes it so challenging to retain talent, and tackling regulatory barriers to investment.

Ensuring the London Growth Plan delivers

Having already played a pivotal role in shaping the Mayor's London Growth Plan, we are now working with City Hall to ensure it delivers for business and the identified growth sectors. As part of this work, we will make sure it dovetails with the Mayor's Inclusive Talent Strategy so that firms in the capital can access the people and skills they need to grow.

Championing a vibrant cultural sector

Our Culture Council will bang the drum for the sector's contribution to the capital national economy and London, including by making the case for both public funding as well as corporate sponsorship in a world of activist campaigning.

Developing innovative infrastructure funding and finance models

We will continue to engage with the Government and regulators to encourage them to embrace funding and finance models – such as land value capture – that will accelerate private sector investment. And we will work with City Hall to ensure the new London Infrastructure Framework prioritises key strategic projects.

Ways to get involved

Economic insights briefing with the Bank of England

Join our quarterly in-person events with the Bank of England's London team, where you can build relationships with senior business leaders from a cross-section of the economy and gather high-quality economic and business insights and intelligence on how different sectors are faring.

Tax and regulation

Share your tax and regulatory ideas to boost growth for inclusion in our submissions to the Chancellor ahead of all the major fiscal events and specific consultations such as business rates, all of which will inform our ongoing political engagement and campaigning activity.

London Growth Plan

Share your priorities and views on progress with the London Growth Plan to help inform our inputs to the Growth Mission Board and hold the Mayor's feet to the fire on delivery.

Infrastructure Group

Identify and advocate for innovative funding and finance solutions with our Infrastructure Group.

Gather insight and intelligence from speakers such as the National Infrastructure Commission and the Infrastructure and Projects Authority, and participate in member roundtables with the UK Infrastructure Bank, where you can inform and advise the Bank team on key challenges associated with investing in London's infrastructure across a range of sectors.

Data Working Group

Join this quarterly group that puts data at the heart of policymaking in London. It provides the opportunity to share best practice, drive data innovation and provide support and constructive challenge to the Greater London Authority (GLA). We strengthen public-private data sharing and use the group to create new pilots where data can be used to identify city-wide challenges.

Culture Council

This network brings together iconic institutions and employers from across the capital to champion the cultural sector's contribution to London and the UK in terms of jobs, growth, tourism and soft power.

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People

Enabling business to attract
and retain a diverse workforce



Key achievements in 2024/25

- We helped better align training provision with employer demand through our leadership of the London Local Skills Improvement Plan.
- We held our first London Employment and Skills Summit bringing together 200 senior leaders from business, education, and London government.
- We ran an Inclusive Leaders Programme with our strategic partners Jouni to equip senior professionals with the tools to build a more inclusive workforce.

At a time when some of our rivals are pulling away the welcome mat, we will continue to champion the benefits of an open and outward looking capital as a source of competitive advantage. Alongside this our work will focus on getting more Londoners into good jobs in the face of a rapidly-changing labour market including advances in AI.

The focus of our activity is putting employers at the heart of the skills system through our leadership of the Government-backed London Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), working closely with all levels of government and education providers, and ensuring it dovetails with the Mayor's Inclusive Talent Strategy to deliver tangible results; championing London's world class university sector; and ensuring London remains open to highly-skilled workers, researchers and students from across the globe.

At a national level we are working with Government to strengthen the UK's skills system – from the creation of Skills England, plans to transform the Apprenticeship Levy into a more flexible Growth and Skills Levy and to shape its post-16 skills strategy.

We provide regular opportunities for firms and education providers to share best practice and collaborate on issues relating to skills, training and immigration, as well as to engage with the GLA, Home Office, Department for Education, as well as with stakeholders such as Change the Race Ratio and the Living Wage Foundation.

Highlights for 2025/26

An employer-led skills system

Through our leadership of the capital's LSIP, we bring together business, education providers and London government to deliver on its wide-ranging recommendations, including accelerating the roll-out of digital and green skills, and creating a city-wide careers service. This year, we'll be refreshing the LSIP to ensure we are focused on meeting employers' current skills priorities. Alongside this activity, we are working closely with City Hall to ensure the Mayor's Inclusive Talent Strategy is aligned and builds on our work to deliver an employer-led skills system.

Ensuring London and Londoners win at AI

In partnership with Deloitte, we are carrying out a deep dive on the impact of AI on London's labour market and how we can ensure Londoners are equipped for the jobs of today and tomorrow. This will include how we can most effectively develop new skills for those in work or entering the workforce and retrain those whose jobs are displaced.

Champion talented individuals from home and abroad

We will continue our campaign against the Government's plans to introduce a new levy on income from international students, which would hit universities at a time when many are already facing acute financial challenges and damage our global competitiveness. At the same time, we will urge ministers to set out a detailed, long-term roadmap for the Growth and Skills Levy to boost uptake and encourage investment that unlocks the full potential of Londoners during the transition to the new system.

Ways to get involved

London Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) Stakeholder Advisory Group

Join our quarterly LSIP Advisory Group, which brings together members from our cross-sector business community, further education colleges, skills and employment delivery organisations, and universities, to help shape the future direction and practical implementation of skills policy in the capital. Regular attendees include representatives from the GLA, boroughs and sub-regional partnerships, and business leaders.

Skills and reskilling events

Join our regular programme of events focused on building a better skills system to meet the needs of London's economy, bringing together members, academic institutions and local and national government. These provide an excellent opportunity to build relationships with education stakeholders, including sub-regional partners.

Building an inclusive workforce

Members can tap into our programme of events, including our joint sessions with Journi, the equity, diversity and inclusion specialists, and Change the Race Ratio, focused on increasing racial and ethnic diversity at senior leadership and board level.

Ensuring London and Londoners win at AI

Join our cross-sector steering group to help shape the business-related policies that should be in place to drive the successful adoption of AI or participate in sector roundtables to help tease out the industry-specific nuances and take part in knowledge-sharing. And get in touch to contribute case studies, blogs or podcasts.

Immigration Working Group

Gather the latest intelligence on immigration policy and operations through membership of our Immigration Working Group. We convene members to discuss issues around global access to talented people and engage with key stakeholders such as the Home Office, Migration Advisory Committee and Shadow Ministers on a quarterly basis.

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Place

Creating spaces that enable people to thrive and businesses to succeed



The built environment is the backbone of the city, and planning for its future is vital to maintaining London's competitive edge.

To ensure the capital remains an affordable place to live, work and study, we must build more homes. The Government has recently introduced welcome planning reforms and, through the spending review, greater public investment. But more action is needed now to deliver London's annual 88,000 new homes target, and to start making homes more affordable for all.

London's housing crisis is not just a social problem; it also impacts the city's competitiveness by making it more difficult for businesses to recruit and retain staff. There is no silver bullet for solving this issue. That is why we are calling for action that can help unblock the system quickly, such as cutting red tape and improving the Building Safety Regulator's gateway process. The review of the London Plan, the Mayor's spatial strategy, is also a key opportunity to ensure the right type of development is supported in the right places – encompassing commercial space, high-quality offices and industrial capacity.

Key achievements in 2024/25

- We pushed for the Government to help kickstart housebuilding in the capital including through a more ambitious Affordable Homes Programme, a long-term rent settlement and reforms to the Building Safety Regulator.
- We helped secure Government support for the City Hall Developer to unlock land for new homes.
- We successfully made the case for London to be home to new towns to meet huge housing demand.
- We shaped planning reforms at a national and London level to accelerate development.
- We outlined practical steps to support the repurposing of redundant commercial office space.

Highlights for 2025/26

Shaping national and London planning policy

We are engaging closely with the Government's ambitious planning reform programme – a cornerstone of its growth mission – to ensure it speeds up development and supports housebuilding. We are also shaping the review of the London Plan, the Mayor's spatial strategy, having secured change to previous iterations. Our programme of working groups and roundtables will help members gain exclusive insights and share expertise to ensure the next London Plan is a slimmer and more strategic document that underpin the city's success. Key areas of focus will include delivering a step-change in housebuilding, enhancing London's commercial core while repurposing redundant commercial assets, the role of Opportunity Areas and how the 'grey belt' can be utilised more productively. Separately, we will publish a Planning Performance Agreement template to be used across London to accelerate decision-making.

Ramping up housing supply

We will continue to make the case about the urgent need to kick start housebuilding in the capital. With supply at an historic low, we will maintain our dialogue with national and London Government and regulators about the urgent need to reduce the barriers to starting development. Following the announcement of the new City Hall Developer Investment fund – which we have long called for and is now backed by the Government – we will engage with the GLA to ensure it moves from the drawing board to delivery.

Tackling London's temporary accommodation challenge

The number of Londoners living in temporary accommodation has reached the highest level ever recorded at 183,000, or one in 50 residents. As a result, boroughs across the capital collectively spend £4m daily on temporary accommodation – money that could be used more effectively to build new homes. We will explore how unlocking institutional investment can help tackle the capital's homelessness challenge, as well as measures that can support more private capital into affordable housing.



Ways to get involved

Planning and Development Advisory Forum

Join our quarterly forum, which brings senior planning and development experts from our membership together with the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Regeneration and the GLA's senior planning team. You can get early insight on emerging policy, build relationships with City Hall stakeholders and identify opportunities and address challenges in the built environment sector.

Planning Officers Society

Join our events in May and November with the Planning Officers Society London, where you can share insights and intelligence on core planning and design issues across London.

GLA Housing and Planning Roundtables

Join our bi-annual roundtable discussion with the senior GLA Housing, Land and Planning team where you can gain insight into the capital's housing and planning challenges and engage with key figures shaping the built environment sector.

West End Streets Steering Group (WESt)

Join this group promoting the funding and delivery of high-quality public realm improvements in one of the UK's most important commercial, retail and tourist locations. Share your expertise and build relationships with wide-ranging stakeholders operating at the forefront of the capital's built environment, including members of the landed estates, developers and landowners, Business Improvement Districts, and key public stakeholders such as Westminster City Council, the GLA, and TfL.

Central London Business Improvement District Forum

Network, engage and develop policy thinking at our quarterly London Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) forum, where we convene the capital's BIDs with key stakeholders such as the GLA, London Councils, Metropolitan Police and TfL. An opportunity to share and access best practice on issues such as tackling crime, building a vibrant and safe night-time economy and keeping London moving.

Industry and Logistics Sounding Board

Join the Industry and Logistics Sounding Board where you can connect with senior stakeholders across the private and public sector, including from the GLA and London Boroughs, and play a key role in shaping the London Plan policy in relation to industrial land uses as well as promoting London as a pioneer in the industrial and logistics sector.

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Connectivity

Keeping London moving and investing in its infrastructure

Transport is an enabler of sustainable growth and unlocks opportunity, connecting people to jobs and firms to international markets.

Ensuring London is well connected across the city, across the UK and internationally is a core focus of our activity.

After multiple sticking-plaster deals, Transport for London was granted a four-year funding settlement at the Spending Review. While this was welcome, the capital's growing population underlines the need for investment in several big-ticket transport projects, such as the DLR and Bakerloo extensions, West London Orbital and eventually Crossrail 2. We are identifying mechanisms to leverage private sector funding for these projects, as well as making the case for further devolution.

Reforming fares to make London's transport network more affordable is also vital to support international competitiveness.



Alongside this, we are tackling a range of other issues, including the Government bringing the railways into public ownership, the future of road user charging, the availability of electric vehicle charging points and the impact of congestion. We are also highlighting the often-overlooked role of the river as a mode of sustainable transport for people and goods. And we are continuing to make the case for sustainable expansion of aviation and new international rail routes to support exports and growth.

Key achievements in 2024/25

- We helped secure a four-year capital funding deal for Transport for London through high-profile campaigning.
- We successfully made the case for the Government to commit to HS2 reaching Euston.
- We banged the drum for international connectivity, via both air and rail, as a key component of the capital's and the UK's growth.
- We championed innovative funding models that could help to pay for major transport projects the city needs.

Highlights for 2025/26

Boosting global connectivity

In partnership with Arcadis, this autumn, we will publish a major report championing international connectivity projects – spanning air, rail and shipping ports – setting out key milestones to get them delivered as quickly and efficiently as practicable to support trade, investment and growth.

Shaking up transport fares

The cost of travel is a key challenge for employees in London. For employers, it makes it more difficult to recruit and retain talented staff. We will set out how fares could be reformed to ensure they are as affordable as rival cities across the globe.

Campaigning for the big transport projects the capital needs

Having recently published research on land value generation as a mechanism that could be used to part-fund major capital projects that London needs, we will continue to bang the drum for the DLR extension to Thamesmead, the Bakerloo line extension and West London Orbital. This will include briefing notes setting out their benefits to London MPs, the Government and the media.

Ways to get involved

Shape our transport policy

We run a mix of working groups, forums, and events where you can share your insight, voice your concerns and shape policy on key transport and infrastructure issues.

Gigabit Connectivity Network for London

This group is focused on transforming London into a world-leading smart city with the roll-out of full fibre and 5G technologies across the capital. Share best practice whilst expanding your network with London's leading fibre and mobile operators and key representatives from the GLA, London Councils, London's sub-regional partnerships and boroughs.

HS2 Euston Working Group

Shape the future of Euston by joining our working group that convenes members with public sector stakeholders to discuss and advocate for a positive outcome for the station and the surrounding development.

Future of London's Roads Working Group

This new group will focus on policies that aim to optimise road usage, tackle congestion and improve productivity. Our efforts will address critical challenges to create a more efficient and sustainable road transport network. Key priorities include accelerating electrification, improving bus performance, and exploring the future of road user charging.

Business River Forum

Unleashing the river's full potential to enhance the capital's connectivity will require a united effort from both the public and private sectors. Our Fostering Long-term Opportunities for Waterways (FLOW) forum brings together key stakeholders, including the GLA, Port of London Authority, and TfL, to foster collaboration and drive greater utilisation of the river.



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Sustainability

Helping to create a cleaner, greener capital and make London more resilient to climate change





Cities are where the rubber hits the road when it comes to achieving global emissions reduction targets. London has an ambitious 2030 net zero target, yet it produces 40% of all UK emissions.

With the capital's green economy expected to double in size to £100 billion by 2030, this is an area where London can show global leadership by being at the vanguard of developing new technologies to drive growth and create jobs – from retrofitting homes and heritage properties to the development of Sustainable Aviation Fuels. At the same time, the capital's experience of extreme weather in the form of record-breaking heatwaves and flooding means climate resilience is rising up the agenda and is a growing threat to the capital's competitiveness.

Our cross-cutting work here will focus on supporting businesses to share best practice on their net zero journeys, securing investment in the infrastructure needed to deliver clean energy sources, improving planning policy at a London-level to maximise the benefits of the current carbon offsetting mechanism and making London more resilient to climate change.

Members taking part in our sustainability activity can expect to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders, such as London Councils, the GLA, representatives from the Climate Change Committee and the team at GB Energy.

Highlights for 2025

Investing in the infrastructure to support the clean energy transition

We will set out proposals to ensure London has the infrastructure needed to support the transition to clean energy sources, including identifying sources of private sector investment.

Bringing together businesses to share their net zero journey

We will play a key role in bringing our members together to share best practice on strategies for achieving net zero and for ensuring the city is resilient to the effects of climate change. This will include our quarterly Sustainability Forum meetings to connect members with key stakeholders at the GLA and national policy makers.

Key achievements in 2024/25

- We launched a new Sustainability Forum with the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy.

Ways to get involved

Sustainability Forum

Join our Sustainability Forum that brings together businesses and key policy-makers – including the Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy – to ensure the capital's transition to net zero is successful. The forum is aimed at sustainability experts with a common interest in accelerating climate action as a long-term driver of economic growth. We'll explore a range of topics, including next steps for the Mayor's Business Climate Challenge, decarbonisation of commercial buildings and strengthening London's resilience by ramping up adaptation measures. In these behind-closed-door sessions, members will get early insight into emerging GLA policy and the opportunity to discuss challenges and opportunities within London's sustainability sector.

Cross-cutting workstreams

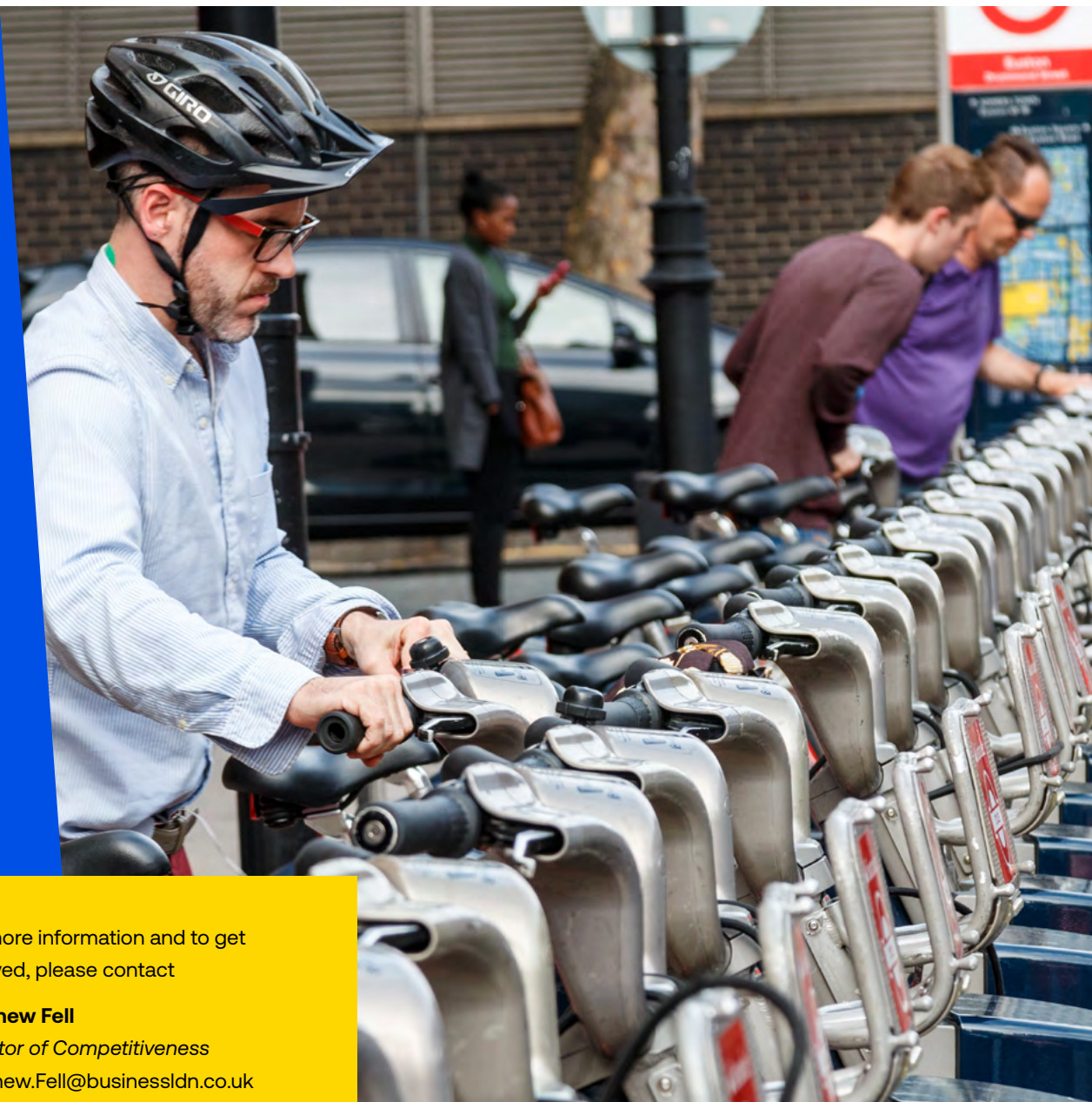
Sustainability cuts across our work in other key areas – including skills, transport and housing. From the development of Sustainable Aviation Fuels to retrofitting of homes across the capital, we have specific sustainability workstreams that members can get involved in.

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Our events programme



We deliver more than 80 events a year across a range of formats, convening leaders from across London's business and political communities to shape policy, build influential partnerships and drive change.

From targeted briefings and roundtables to major conferences and curated series, each event is designed to spark ideas and foster meaningful connections.

We connect our members to the people and institutions that run the city. We provide platforms to showcase your expertise and raise your profile. We give you the insights and intelligence about what's really going on in the capital. And we convene business leaders to solve London's biggest challenges.

We provide members with exclusive hosting and sponsorship opportunities, including high-profile speaking platforms to demonstrate their leadership in relevant areas. You'll also have a range of opportunities – such as blogs, podcasts, and social media – to introduce your brand to key London stakeholders.



Key Calendar Events

Building London Planning Awards (BLPA) | 14 October 2025

For more than two decades, the BLPA have been a symbol of excellence and the gold standard for those shaping the capital's built environment. In partnership with the Mayor of London, the BLPA are uniquely positioned to showcase the groundbreaking collaborations happening across the public and private sectors and offer the perfect platform to connect with the industries, sectors, and sub-sectors that make up the ecosystem of London's built environment. The BLPA convenes the entire built environment ecosystem and is free for BusinessLDN members. Each year, we welcome industry decision makers and policymakers, including guests from the Greater London Authority, the Royal Town Planning Institute, the BAME Planners Network, and major industry players in the capital.

Parliamentary Reception | 1 December 2025

Working closely with London Councils and the APPG for London, this reception offers an opportunity network with the key figures shaping the capital. Our annual Parliamentary Reception welcomes over 150 attendees and celebrates London by uniting senior business leaders with key political figures, including Borough Leaders, GLA representatives, MPs, and Ministers.

MIPIIM | 9–12 March 2026

Our busy programme at MIPIIM, the world's leading real estate event in Cannes, convenes members with prominent political figures, including the GLA, London boroughs and City of London, to tackle the biggest challenges facing the built environment.

UKREiif | 18–19 May 2026

At the largest and most well-attended event for the UK's development community, we bring together London government stakeholders, such as the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Regeneration; the GLA; London boroughs, with senior business experts from our planning and development membership community to explore issues such as the London Plan, housing and commercial property supply, and innovative funding and finance models for critical infrastructure projects.

Future London | June 2026

Our annual flagship conference brings together 250 senior leaders from the worlds of business and politics to identify bold solutions to help the capital evolve and adapt so that it remains the best city in the world to do business, working with and for the whole UK. Free to attend for BusinessLDN members, Future London attracts more than 250 of the most prominent decision-makers in London's business and political communities.

The LGA Conference | 7–8 July 2026

Working closely with London Councils and supporters, including regional business groups, BusinessLDN provides a valuable opportunity for our members to engage directly with key decision-makers at the Local Government Association (LGA) Conference each July at our 100-guest drinks reception, which takes place on the first night of the Conference.

Party Conferences | Labour & Conservatives September/October 2026

Each year, our high-profile Party Conference Programmes spotlight our members through thoughtfully curated activity. Our London Receptions take place on the Sunday evening before each conference and welcome 100 attendees from across the Greater London Authority, London Councils, the London boroughs, and our membership. We also deliver a limited number of bespoke roundtable discussions, fringes, lunches and dinners, connecting our members with London's most influential stakeholders and businesses.

The Westminster Series | Throughout 2025/26

The Westminster Series offers our members a direct link with the people and institutions that run the city, including Ministers, senior representatives from Opposition parties and influential MPs, such as the Labour Growth Group. Delivered as either a networking drinks reception or a carefully curated VIP dinner.

Other Event Series

Mayoralty at 25 Roundtables | Throughout

We will continue our rolling series of discussions with London's Deputy Mayors to mark the 25th anniversary of London's Mayoralty. The series will highlight the key achievements so far – and look ahead to how the Mayoralty should evolve in future to have an even bigger impact on Londoners and businesses in the capital. Upcoming events include sessions with Tom Copley, Deputy Mayor for Housing and Residential Development; Howard Dawber OBE, Deputy Mayor for Business; Jules Pipe CBE, Deputy Mayor of London for Planning, Regeneration and Skills; and Justine Simons OBE, Deputy Mayor for Culture and the Creative Industries. Further sessions are planned throughout the year.

Borough Leader Briefings | Quarterly

Meet the leaders of London's boroughs, where you can discuss and learn how the borough plans to attract jobs and drive growth, and how business can work with local government to deliver for the area. Each event spotlights a different leader of a London borough, such as Cllr Elizabeth Campbell, Kensington and Chelsea; Mayor Caroline Woodley, Hackney; Cllr Kieron Williams, Southwark; and Cllr Shantanu Rajawat, Hounslow. Our upcoming events feature Cllr Dominic Twomey, Leader of Barking and Dagenham Council on 22 October and Cllr Andreas Kirsch, Leader of Kingston Council on 10 December.

Leading London Dinners | Quarterly

We provide an opportunity for CEOs/Chairs from within our membership to join an exclusive and intimate series of roundtable discussions with influential stakeholders and opinion formers who shape London's business environment, with previous speakers including Mayor of London, Sir Sadiq Khan; former Bank of England Deputy Governor, Ben Broadbent; the then Business Secretary, Kemi Badenoch; the then Shadow Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds; and London Stock Exchange CEO, Julia Hoggett. Upcoming speakers include Alan Taylor, Member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee on 15 October and Jayne Opperman, CEO, Consumer Lending, Lloyds Banking Group on 4 December.

Corporate Affairs Supper Club | Quarterly

Join us for an engaging evening of dinner and discussion, where we bring together Corporate Affairs/ Communications Directors from our membership with leading political observers and commentators to explore the challenges and opportunities of doing business in the capital. Previous guests have included Political Editor of the Financial Times, George Parker; the then Director of External Relations for the Labour Party, Vidhya Alakeson; and former Director of Legislative Affairs at Number 10, Nikki da Costa.





Thought leadership

Partnering with BusinessLDN on thought leadership means your research drives real change, not just debate.

We're a respected business voice, known for shaping public policy and tackling complex issues with authority. Your organisation benefits from our reputation and our ability to turn insight into action.

We can work with you to develop in-depth reports, sharp policy briefings, surveys or visually engaging content.

To find out more, contact

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Policy Delivery Director, Research & Impact

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Benefits of partnering with us on thought leadership

Credibility

Partnering with BusinessLDN means joining forces with a respected, business voice that's recognised for shaping public policy on complex issues. Your organisation benefits from our reputation, and our ability to tackle sensitive topics with authority as we bring our whole economy voice behind us. And unlike a think tank, your research won't sit on a shelf gathering dust – we'll use it to bring about meaningful change.

Profile and reach

Let us take the heavy lifting out of a research project as our policy and comms experts work with you to shape a high-quality output, supported by a tailored communications and public affairs strategy to maximise your visibility across the media and with key political stakeholders. Our in-house team will design the co-branded output, which will be launched alongside a dedicated event.

Business development

Gain direct access to influential networks and policymakers through targeted engagement, roundtables, and introductions. Research can act as a springboard for new business opportunities, helping you showcase your expertise and build relationships with public and private sector clients.

Professional development opportunity

Empower colleagues across disciplines to contribute to the project and support their professional development. We offer a platform to highlight your team's expertise and enhance their visibility – whether through speaking opportunities at our events to present their research or by participating in political meetings.

Our mission

At BusinessLDN, our mission is to make London the best city in the world in which to do business, working with and for the whole UK.

We make it easier to grow your business in the capital, campaigning to tackle today's challenges and to secure the future promise of London.

We harness the power of our members, from sectors that span the economy, to shape the future of the capital so Londoners thrive and businesses prosper. We support business to succeed—locally, nationally, globally. We link up with other cities around the UK, to ensure the capital supports a thriving country.

We campaigned for the creation of the office of London Mayor and Transport for London, for the Elizabeth Line, for congestion charging, and we incubated Teach First.

We create opportunities for our members, from sharing insights to providing platforms, from making introductions to finding talented people.

We extend our impact through our 80+ events a year, many of them sponsorable, including our MIPIM and UKREiF programmes, Annual Conference and party conference series. If you would like to contact us about them, please get in touch with Katie.Shopland@businessldn.co.uk