**ANNEX A**

**FOI DOF/2025-0107**

## Request

An investment of £293 million from the UK government and the NI Executive has been given to the Londonderry and Strabane growth deal, September 2024

1. How is this money being distributed and by who for the cities of Londonderry and Strabane?
2. Is the public able to avail of the spending structure and audits?
3. Is the public being consulted on various organisations being granted monies?
4. Who is benefitting from the £293 million?
5. How much of this funding is going towards admin?

## DoF response

I can confirm the department holds some of the information requested. Some of the information you have requested is exempt under section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 exempts information if this information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and the Department is not required to consider whether the public interest favours disclosure of this information.

Further information has been exempted from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would contravene one of the data protection principles in schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Having considered all the information contained within the Legitimate Interest Test – also known as a Lawful, Fairness and Transparency Test - (attached as a separate document – Annex C), the department has established that, on balance, there is no lawful basis for the disclosure of third-party personal data falling within the scope of the request of which the requester is not the data subject. Making an unrestricted disclosure of personal data for private interests could constitute a disproportionate and unwarranted level of interference with the individuals' rights and freedoms – particularly their right to privacy and family life under the Human Rights Act 1998

1. **How is this money being distributed and by who for the cities of Londonderry and Strabane?**
   This is publicly available online at: https://www.derrystrabane.com/about-council/city-deal and https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/2eeb6361-

040a-40e1-9596-96273ae3096f/DCSDC_CityDealFinancialDeal_Draft14.pdf

2. **Is the public able to avail of the spending structure and audits?**
   This information is publicly available online at: https://www.derrystrabane.com/about-council/city-deal and https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/2eeb6361-040a-40e1-9596-96273ae3096f/DCSDC_CityDealFinancialDeal_Draft14.pdf

3. **Is the public being consulted on various organisations being granted monies?**
   Information relating to this question is held by the Department –

   See Annex B

4. **Who is benefitting from the £293 million?**
   This is publicly available online at: https://www.derrystrabane.com/about-council/city-deal and https://www.derrystrabane.com/getmedia/2eeb6361-040a-40e1-9596-96273ae3096f/DCSDC_CityDealFinancialDeal_Draft14.pdf

5. **How much of this funding is going towards admin?**
   The Department does not hold this information.