WP3: Interview Questions

**1: How successful do you think the UK Government and local government have collectively been in meeting objectives around reducing socio-economic disparities in recent years?**

* *Were these objectives correct, and were they at the right level of ambition for the UK?*
* *Could the existing quantum of funding have been made to go further in supporting these objectives?*

**2: What have the primary challenges been in meeting these objectives through existing funding streams and allocations to places?**

* *What could have been done differently to mitigate those challenges?*
* *How has an unexpected high inflation environment challenged delivery?*

**3: From your experience/observations, which of the funding allocations have been the most successful in supporting delivery and meeting these objectives?**

* *Why do you think that has been the case?*
* *What lessons would you take forward from these funding mechanisms?*

**4: How has devolution and newer devolved authorities (or the lack of within your area) helped or hindered the delivery of relevant funding allocations?**

* *Have devolved authorities had more success in delivering funding allocations than non-devolved authorities?*
* *Have you seen difference between devolved authorities in achieving successful delivery? What was the distinguishing factor in these examples?*

**5: What balance should place-based funding mechanisms strike between meeting need and achieving fairness and between incentivising and rewarding growth.**

* *How should that balance change (if at all) from current funding models?*
* *How have changes to the local government finance system (including moves towards retained business rates) influenced activity aimed at reducing inequalities.*

**6: What would your top priority for reforming funding allocations to reduce socio-economic disparities be?**

* *What would your other priorities for reform include?*
* *What element of current funding streams would you prioritise retaining?*