**GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**June 2017**

1. **GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP**

Through the GM Local Enterprise Partnership (GM LEP) and wider private sector engagement we have been able to develop a highly effective partnership with business leaders, ensuring that they are able to play a full part in determining local economic priorities and driving growth and job creation within the city region.

There is no equivalent comprehensive partnership model to be found anywhere in the country. Representatives of large employers work alongside representatives of SMEs to set the strategic course for Greater Manchester. GM's LEP board was formally established on April 1st 2011 (alongside the Greater Manchester Combined Authority). The two bodies operate over the same geographic footprint, were designed to have a shared strategic vision and complementary roles from the outset, set out in the original proposal to government.

1. **GM LEP MEMBERSHIP**

Private sector members of the GM LEP are appointed (as laid out in its [terms of reference](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/downloads/file/20/greater_manchester_local_enterprise_partnership_terms_of_reference%29)) via an open and transparent recruitment process, overseen by the Chair of the GM LEP and representatives of the GMCA. Private sector terms of office are for two years and then reviewed. The most recent review of private sector members was concluded early in the financial year 2017-18. Further details of this review can be found at:

[www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/183/greater\_manchester\_local\_enterprise\_partnership](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/183/greater_manchester_local_enterprise_partnership)

Public sector members (Mayor and vice chairs of the GMCA) are re-elected annually at the GMCA’s annual meeting in June each year.

**PRIVATE SECTOR MEMBERS 2017-19**

Mike Blackburn British Telecom (Chair)

David Birch McKinsey

Lou Cordwell Magnetic North

Juergen Maier Siemens PLC

Michael Oglesby Bruntwood

Prof Dame Nancy

Rothwell University of Manchester

Richard Topliss RBS & Manchester Growth Co. chair

Lorna Fitzsimons The Alliance Project

Fiona Gibson Octagon Theatre

Monica Brij CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP

Mo Isap Hobs Plc

**GMCA REPRESENTATIVES 2017-18**

Andy Burnham GM Mayor

Cllr Sir Richard Leese GMCA Vice Chair

Cllr Sean Anstee GMCA Vice Chair

**EX OFFICIO**

Iwan Griffiths PWC

Vanda Murray Non-Executive Director

1. **GM LEP ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The GM LEP sits at the heart of GM's governance arrangements, ensuring that business leaders are empowered to set the strategic course, determine local economic priorities and drive growth and job creation within the city region. It is a private-sector led, voluntary partnership whose core function is to provide strategic leadership (alongside the GMCA) to deliver the region’s growth ambitions. The original [Proposal to Government](http://archive.agma.gov.uk/cms_media/files/proposal_to_government.pdf) was agreed in September 2010. Together, the GM LEP and the GMCA provide a robust set of decision-making and governance structures for Greater Manchester.

The GM LEP has direct responsibility -within an accountable framework- for overseeing the delivery of key growth functions. The [terms of reference](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/downloads/file/20/greater_manchester_local_enterprise_partnership_terms_of_reference%29) will be reviewed, agreed and then formally adopted by the LEP Board. The GM LEP is a voluntary association of private and public sector leaders who come together to oversee the strategic direction of the city region. As a voluntary partnership, the GM LEP cannot contract, procure services or employ staff. The GM LEP uses the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) as its accountable body and its financial arrangements are bound by the Local Government Transparency Code.

1. **DIVERSITY**

GM LEP is committed to equality and diversity as set out in section 3.5 of its terms of reference. The GM LEP works on behalf of all the people of Greater Manchester and recognises that different people bring different ideas, knowledge and perspectives. As part of this commitment, GM LEP bi-annually refreshes its board membership to ensure it reflects the breadth of industrial sectors on its Board as well as represents the diversity of Greater Manchester’s people.

Further the GMCA is joint owner of the Greater Manchester Strategy and will be subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty from April 2017. This will bring an even sharper focus on equality and diversity issues in the delivery of GM’s aspirations.

1. **GM LEP SME REPRESENTATIVE**

As part of the bi-annual review of private sector members the GM LEP will ensure that at least one board member should act as a representative of the SME community, engaging with the views of small and medium sized businesses and stakeholders. The SME representative will act as the voice for SMEs on the LEP, championing those issues which affect small and medium sized businesses. The role will involve meeting regularly with bodies representing the wider SME community and providing strategic oversight through the LEP to ensure that any support delivered reflects the needs of SMEs locally.

1. **GM LEP SUB GROUPS**

In order to effectively carry out its role in overseeing policy development and delivery, members of the GM LEP contribute to a number of sub-groups and partner bodies.

1. **Greater Manchester Skills and Employment Partnership**

The GM Skills and Employment Partnership (SEP) supports the GM LEP to deliver economic growth and prosperity recognising the key contribution made by a highly skilled workforce. Working closely with Colleges and Training providers, the SEP will ensure that investment in skills is effectively linked to the economic opportunities across Greater Manchester, supporting key employers and growth sectors.

In particular the Partnership focuses on the contribution that skills and employment policy and delivery can and will make to competitiveness and the performance of the Greater Manchester economy. At its heart will sit an intelligence-driven approach to economic strategy designed to stimulate and maximise growth and to connect GM residents to the opportunities that growth provides.

The SEP’s membership comprises representatives from the GM LEP, GMCA and a range of partner agencies. Current GMLEP membership includes:

* Cllr Sean Anstee (As SEP Chair and GM Portfolio Holder for Skills, Employment and Worklessness)
* Mike Blackburn (GMLEP Chair)
* Juergen Maier
1. **Greater Manchester Investment Board**

Reporting to the GMCA and GM LEP, the GM Investment Board provides strategic leadership in the development, delivery and monitoring of the Greater Manchester Investment Strategy and oversight over GM investment funding streams.

The Board is responsible for considering investment performance in relation to each funding stream and for reviewing a regular performance report forward for approval by the GMCA and endorsement by the GMLEP. For clarity, it should be noted that each funding stream is subject to specific governance arrangements and this Board does not be inputting into specific investment decisions. The Investment Board will however provide strategic oversight of these management arrangements:

* Oversee the development and implementation of the Greater Manchester Investment Strategy;
* Oversee the development of criteria and conditions against which funding decisions can be made, subject to the specific conditions that apply to each fund;
* Strategic coordination of funds to ensure the successful delivery of the GM Investment Strategy, and the maximisation of benefits and leverage;
* Responsibility for monitoring the performance of funds from both a financial perspective and in relation to the outputs and outcomes delivered;
* Overseeing appraisal and due diligence analysis across all proposals for GMIF funding.

The GMIB comprises representatives from GM LEP, GMCA and is supported by the GMCA Treasurer and Lead Chief Executive for Investment. Current GM LEP membership includes:

* Mike Blackburn (GMLEP Chair)
* Sir Richard Leese (As GM Portfolio Holder for Economic Strategy)

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# The Greater Manchester ESIF Committee

In 2013 GM set up a Greater Manchester Local Management Committee (GMLMC) to oversee its obligations in relation to EU funds. The GMLMC was a method by which partners (including Government) could be engaged in all the key decisions which GM makes in relation to EU funds. It was set up to be independent of, but reporting to, both the Greater Manchester LEP and Combined Authority.

The GMLMC has now become the Greater Manchester local European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) Committee and is a formal part of the national governance of the ESIF programmes as a sub-committee of the National Growth Programme Board (GPB).

The commitment of partners to invest in the governance in relation to EU funds is demonstrated by the senior level representation that GM has achieved on the GM ESIF Committee. In particular, in driving forward sustainable development and equality, the representation from all sectors of society (including central and local government/public sector, private sector, voluntary sector, social enterprise, unions and the environment) will be very important.

The GM ESIF Committee has Terms of Reference agreed by the national GPB outlining its role to oversee the successful implementation of GM’s 2014-2020 EU funding allocation (The Greater Manchester allocation of funding is €415million which translates into approximately £177million of ERDF and £145million of ESF) to maximise the impact on the GM economy.

GM LEP is currently represented on the GM ESIF Committee by LEP board member Monica Brij.

1. **MANCHESTER GROWTH COMPANY AND GROWTH HUB GOVERNANCE**

Manchester Growth Company is overseen by the [Board of Manchester Growth Company](http://www.manchestergrowth.co.uk/about-us/governance/) which comprises public sector members drawn from the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) and private sector representatives including the following current GM LEP representatives:

* Richard Topliss (Chair of MGC)
* Mike Blackburn (GMLEP Chair)
* Sir Richard Leese
* Cllr Sean Anstee

More detailed examination of the activities and performance of the Business Growth Hub is provided by the Business Support and Business Finance Advisory Board which advises the Manchester Growth Company Board and the GM LEP Board on all matters relating to business support strategy, policy and delivery in Greater Manchester. As a matter of course the Advisory Board provides oversight of the Growth Hub's financial performance, delivery performance and key risks and mitigation.

1. **AIRPORT CITY ENTERPRISE ZONE GOVERNANCE**

The Airport City Enterprise Zone’s work is overseen by two boards: the Collaboration Board and the Strategic Board Chaired with GM LEP represented on the Strategic Board

The Collaboration Board supports the Strategic Board’s decision making. The role of monitoring and reporting to government sits with Manchester City Council, who are also the EZ’s accountable body.

1. **CORRIDOR MANCHESTER ENTERPRISE ZONE GOVERNANCE (LIFE SCIENCES)**

The Corridor Manchester Board provides strategic oversight of the Corridor Manchester Enterprise Zone, ensuring that it delivers the agreed outputs and benefits.

There are two members of the GM LEP on the board, Sir Richard Lease and Prof Dame Nancy Rothwell. The role of monitoring and reporting to government sits with Manchester City Council, who are also the EZ’s accountable body.

1. **CROSS LEP WORKING**

Greater Manchester has a well developed policy dialogue through its work with other Core Cities (Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, Birmingham, Newcastle, Nottingham, Bristol, Cardiff, and Glasgow). GM has also successful working relationships with neighbouring LEP areas, for example with Cheshire East (Life Sciences Investment Fund) and on transport through [Transport for the North](http://www.transportforthenorth.com/) and [Rail North](http://www.railnorth.org/).

1. **THE GM LEP AND DECISION MAKING**

The [GM LEP's Terms of Reference](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/downloads/file/20/greater_manchester_local_enterprise_partnership_terms_of_reference) were agreed in June 2013 and are refreshed annually. Section 7 identifies the quorum (7 members with at least one GMCA representative); section 8 outlines the declarations of interest policy and will in future include a register of members’ interests for private sector members (public sector members are covered under the GMCA's register of interests).

1. **THE GM LEP’S SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

Section 9 of the terms of reference deals with decision making, which includes the provision to make decisions via email and to delegate decision making when expedient. Currently there is one standing delegation in operation (agreed January 2014) to the chair and one other GM LEP member (in consultation with the lead chief executive for investment) to progress GM Investment Fund business in months when the GM LEP doesn’t meet. The following month the full GM LEP board are updated about any delegated decisions made under this provision.

1. **MAKING INFORMATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE**

The [GM LEP](http://www.gmlep.com/) and the [GMCA](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/site/index.php) both have websites on which all their papers, other than those which are commercially sensitive, are available.

1. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION REGULATION**

The GMCA is legally required respond to any [freedom of information and environment information](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/info/20064/about_gmca/55/data_protection_and_foi) requests. In the interests of transparency the GM LEP has also elected to do so.

1. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

Private and public sector GM LEP members are required to formally declare any personal or prejudicial interest in an agenda item at the beginning of each GM LEP meeting as set out in the LEP's terms of reference.

A full [Register of Interests](http://gmlep.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/GMLEP-Board-Register-of-Interest-March-17.pdf) for GM LEP members is available online. The Register will be refreshed and published annually

1. **COMPLAINTS POLICY**

GM LEP is covered by the provisions of GMCA's [corporate complaints policy](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/homepage/135/complaints_procedure).