

## **GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

**DATE:** Thursday, 7th October, 2021

**TIME:** 10.30 am – 12.30 pm

**VENUE:** Friends Meeting House, Main Hall, 6 Mount St,  
Manchester M2 5NS

### **AGENDA**

- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 1 - 4  

To receive declarations of interest in any item for discussion at the meeting. A blank form for declaring interests has been circulated with the agenda; please ensure that this is returned to the Governance & Scrutiny Officer at the start of the meeting.
- 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2021** 5 - 10  

To consider the approval of the minute of the meetings held on 23 September 2021.
- 5. GMS REFRESH** 11 - 14  

Report of Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, GMCA.  
Presented by Amy Foots, Head of Implementation, Strategy Team, GMCA.

<b>BOLTON</b>	<b>MANCHESTER</b>	<b>ROCHDALE</b>	<b>STOCKPORT</b>	<b>TRAFFORD</b>
<b>BURY</b>	<b>OLDHAM</b>	<b>SALFORD</b>	<b>TAMESIDE</b>	<b>WIGAN</b>

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**6. BUS FRANCHISING & BSIP UPDATE - TO FOLLOW**

**7. PLACES FOR EVERYONE CONSULTATION UPDATE**

15 - 22

Presented by Anne Morgan, Head of Planning Strategy, GMCA.

For copies of papers and further information on this meeting please refer to the website [www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](http://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk). Alternatively, contact the following

Governance & Scrutiny Officer: Ninoshka Martins

✉ [ninoshka.martins@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:ninoshka.martins@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

This agenda was issued on 29.09.21 on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

## Declaration of Councillors' Interests in Items Appearing on the Agenda

Name and Date of Committee.....

Agenda Item Number	Type of Interest - PERSONAL AND NON PREJUDICIAL Reason for declaration of interest	NON PREJUDICIAL Reason for declaration of interest Type of Interest – PREJUDICIAL Reason for declaration of interest	Type of Interest – DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST Reason for declaration of interest

Please see overleaf for a quick guide to declaring interests at GMCA meetings.

## Quick Guide to Declaring Interests at GMCA Meetings

Please Note: should you have a personal interest that is prejudicial in an item on the agenda, you should leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion and the voting thereon.

This is a summary of the rules around declaring interests at meetings. It does not replace the Member's Code of Conduct, the full description can be found in the GMCA's constitution Part 7A.

Your personal interests must be registered on the GMCA's Annual Register within 28 days of your appointment onto a GMCA committee and any changes to these interests must notified within 28 days. Personal interests that should be on the register include:

1. Bodies to which you have been appointed by the GMCA
2. Your membership of bodies exercising functions of a public nature, including charities, societies, political parties or trade unions.

**You are also legally bound to disclose the following information called Disclosable Personal Interests which includes:**

1. You, and your partner's business interests (eg employment, trade, profession, contracts, or any company with which you are associated).
2. You and your partner's wider financial interests (eg trust funds, investments, and assets including land and property).
3. Any sponsorship you receive.

**Failure to disclose this information is a criminal offence**

**Step One: Establish whether you have an interest in the business of the agenda**

1. If the answer to that question is 'No' then that is the end of the matter.
2. If the answer is 'Yes' or 'Very Likely' then you must go on to consider if that personal interest can be construed as being a prejudicial interest.

**Step Two: Determining if your interest is prejudicial**

A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest:

1. where the wellbeing, or financial position of you, your partner, members of your family, or people with whom you have a close association (people who are more than just an acquaintance) are likely to be affected by the business of the meeting more than it would affect most people in the area.
2. the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

**For a non-prejudicial interest, you must:**

1. Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you have an interest.
2. Inform the meeting that you have a personal interest and the nature of the interest.
3. Fill in the declarations of interest form.

**To note:**

1. You may remain in the room and speak and vote on the matter

If your interest relates to a body to which the GMCA has appointed you to, you only have to inform the meeting of that interest if you speak on the matter.

**For prejudicial interests, you must:**

1. Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you have a prejudicial interest (before or during the meeting).
2. Inform the meeting that you have a prejudicial interest and the nature of the interest.
3. Fill in the declarations of interest form.
4. Leave the meeting while that item of business is discussed.
5. Make sure the interest is recorded on your annual register of interests form if it relates to you or your partner's business or financial affairs. If it is not on the Register update it within 28 days of the interest becoming apparent.

**You must not:**

Participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting participate further in any discussion of the business, participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

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# Agenda Item 4

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GM HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

### PRESENT:

Bolton	Councillor John Walsh (Chair)
Bolton	Councillor Stuart Hartigan
Bury	Councillor Martin Hayes
Manchester	Councillor Mandie Shilton
Oldham	Councillor Barbara Brownridge
Oldham	Councillor Sam Al-Hamdani
Tameside	Councillor Mike Glover
Trafford	Councillor Akilah Akinola
Trafford	Councillor Kevin Procter
Wigan	Councillor Fred Walker

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA	Andrew McIntosh
GMCA	Joanne Heron
GMCA	Ninoshka Martins
TfGM	Elsie Wraighte
TfGM	Megan Black
TfGM	Nicola Kane

### HP&E 21/01 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Collin MacAlister (Stockport), Janet Mobbs (Stockport), Liam Billington (Tameside), and Stuart Dickman (Salford).

### HP&E 21/02 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2021/22

The Statutory Scrutiny Officer invited nominations for the role of Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

The Committee agreed the appointment of Councillor John Walsh (Bolton) as Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

### RESOLVED/-

That Councillor John Walsh (Bolton) be appointed as Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**HP&E 21/03            APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

The Chair invited nominations for the role of Vice-Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

The Committee agreed the appointment of Councillor Colin Macalister (Stockport) as Vice-Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**RESOLVED/-**

That Councillor Colin Macalister (Stockport) be appointed as Vice-Chair for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**HP&E 21/04            MEMBERSHIP OF THE HOUSING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2021/22**

The Committee was asked to note its Membership for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

The Chair requested the Committee to note the resignation of Councillor Kathleen Nickson from Rochdale Council and therefore as a member of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the Committee note its Membership for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

**HP&E 21/05            MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DELCARATION FORM**

Members were reminded of their obligations under the GMCA Members' Code of Conduct and were requested to complete an annual declaration of interest form, which had been emailed to them by the Governance & Scrutiny Officer.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the GMCA's Member Code of Conduct (Appendix A of the report) be noted.

**HP&E 21/06            TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members were provided with the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee's Terms of Reference.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the Committee's Terms of Reference be noted.

**HP&E 21/07            CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**



There were no Chair's announcements or urgent business.

**HP&E 21/08                    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest at the meeting.

**HP&E 21/09                    TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD  
ON 19 MARCH 2021**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee, held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021, be approved as a correct record.

**HP&E 21/10                    STREETS FOR ALL**

Consideration was given to presentation that provided an overview of the Streets for All strategy, which is a sub-strategy to the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040.

The report explained that the Covid-19 pandemic had brought the quality of GM streets into sharp focus as GM residents were spending more time in their local areas and high streets, and therefore recognised the value of having safe places to walk and cycle and to spend time in. Therefore, the strategy was focused on reducing the dominance of traffic on GM streets thus making it safer for active travel.

The following comments were made:

Concerns were raised regarding the issue of accessibility for all users especially for those with mobility issues. The committee was assured that inclusion was at the heart of the strategy and that work was underway to develop design guidance when designing streets. TfGM had engaged with several disability groups to gain their input into new schemes.

Freight vehicles provided an essential service however it was recognised that these large vehicles posed a significant danger to cyclists and pedestrians when traveling through residential areas. It was reported that plans were underway to identify streets and routes that would be prioritised for carrying freight vehicles and to manage vehicle movement to avoid routes via active neighbourhoods.

It was suggested that these initiatives be aligned with changes in the highway code. Concerns were raised around the safety of individuals, particularly women. It was suggested that the plan should seek to find ways to reduce road deaths and through its design instil confidence in residents to opt for active travel.

This strategy would have a significant impact on residents as it would affect their day-to-day activity and would have good traction particularly from young adults if aligned with green issues. Therefore, it was suggested that a target on the number of trees to

be planted should be included in the strategy. Members were advised that planting of trees has been referenced in the strategy and the suggestion of including a set target on the number of trees to be planted was welcomed.

It was noted that the success of the strategy was dependant on successful engagement with local communities. Members were assured that communities were being engaged on this piece with the view to identify wider potential barriers and to shape plans whilst keeping the needs of communities in mind.

A member queried as to whether a framework was in place for local authorities when developing plans. It was stated that the strategy had been developed collaboratively with the 10 local authorities. However, it was noted that there were parts of the toolkit that needed to be developed to give districts a clear steer on guidance. The framework would seek to draw on examples that had worked elsewhere and encouraged districts to learn from best practice.

It was suggested that it would be useful to liaise with local planning departments and with Satellite Navigation providers to divert large vehicles from active neighbourhoods. Concerns were also raised around the lack of space around narrow terraced housing streets and the challenges it would pose for residents when transitioning to Electric Vehicles and particularly for Taxi owners. The suggestions were welcomed, and members were advised of plans to trial various schemes to encourage residents to take up active travel.

Concerning Electric Vehicles, a member raised concerns around affordability and noted the need to make bus and tram stops accessible.

It was noted that for the scheme to be successful it was crucial that the scheme met the needs of the local area and for residents to be engaged.

## **RESOLVED/-**

That the report on the Streets for All Strategy be noted.

## **HP&E 21/11                      ELECTRIC    VEHICLE    CHARGING    INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY**

Consideration was given to a report that outlined the Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy, which was a sub-strategy to the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040.

The following comments were made:

Concerns were raised as certain streets in GM are not suitable for electric vehicles due to the lack of space. Members were advised of plans to introduce vehicle sharing clubs and designated parking areas to allow people to charge their vehicles.

The challenges of having a variety of different chargers were noted and it was stated that it would be useful to have a universal charger for all vehicles. The lack of charging points when traveling to rural areas was also noted as a deterring factor. In response,

it was stated that there were plans to introduce fast and rapid chargers and destination charging.

Concerns were raised around maintenance of machines and vandalism issues. It was reported that machines were managed through the network and so far, there had been no issues with vandalism.

A member queried as to how GM would deliver its target requirements of installing 2,700 fast, and 300 rapid public chargers in GM by 2025. The scale of the challenge was recognised, and members were advised that a bid to install taxi charging points through the Clean Air plan had been successful. In addition to that, the scheme was also receiving investment from the commercial sector. It was agreed that a report on the number of charging points across GM be brought to a future meeting.

It was suggested that the Committee consider issuing a letter to Government, on behalf of GM, requesting a review of charging heads. It was reported that there were plans to standardise chargers and it was agreed that a report outlining the number of charging heads will be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

A member raised concerns around the lack of space in densely populated areas and sought to understand where community hubs would be located. It was reported that work was being done to identify suitable local authority land near to residential properties. It was noted that electric charging was an emerging technology, and it was important to maintain a flexible approach when delivering the strategy.

A member queried the measures in place to prevent abuse of electric vehicle charging facilities. It was reported that when electric vehicle charging was first introduced, electric vehicle users could access the network for free. However, with the expansion of the network and the increase in usage of this network, tariffs would be introduced.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the report on the Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy be noted and endorsed.
2. That it be noted that the programme of planned publicly funded additional Electric Vehicle Infrastructure will be included on a sub-site of TfGM.com.
3. That a report on the availability of charging heads be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

#### **HP&E 21/12**

#### **WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21**

Consideration was given to the work programme for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

It was requested that updates on the Marmot Review particularly around the health inequalities that fall within the remit of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee be added to the workplan.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

That the work programme be noted and be updated following the meeting.

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## **GM Housing Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Subject: Greater Manchester Strategy Refresh

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September

Report of: Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

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### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To provide an update on the work to date and progresses made in the refreshing of the Greater Manchester Strategy Refresh, and to seek views on the development of the draft document.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Committee Members are requested to:

1. Note, review and provide comment on the development of the draft Greater Manchester Strategy

### **CONTACT OFFICERS:**

John Wrathmell. Director of Strategy, Research & Economy, GMCA  
[john.wrathmell@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:john.wrathmell@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

Amy Foots, Head of Implementation, Strategy Team, GMCA  
[amy.foots@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:amy.foots@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

## **1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

1.1 The last Greater Manchester Strategy, agreed in 2017, ran for three years. It was due to be refreshed in 2020, but the Covid pandemic and delays to local elections meant that it was delayed for a year. Over the last year the 'One Year Living with Covid Plan' has provided a bridge to this year's refresh, assessing the impacts of Covid and co-ordinating responses.

## **2. DEVELOPING THE DRAFT STRATEGY**

2.1 The refresh of the Greater Manchester Strategy has been developed following several months of engagement from across sectors, partners and communities. The draft document builds from the issues and actions in the Living with Covid Resilience Plan, and this forms the systemwide responses to the findings and recommendations of the Independent Inequalities Commission and the Marmot Build Back Fairer report.

2.2 The new strategy places the interconnected challenges of climate change and tackling inequalities at its heart, providing the lenses through which Greater Manchester activity should be framed, supporting, and challenging where policy or delivery is contrary to supporting to their attainment.

2.3 The drafting of the refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy aims to drive a greener, fairer and more prosperous city-region, delivered through our unique and distinctive neighbourhoods, towns and cities, coming together in a vibrant successful Greater Manchester.

2.4 The new strategy will provide specific place interventions to be delivered and systemwide priorities, all of which will require multiagency responses to deliver and to ensure the attainment of our collective ambitions.

2.5 The Strategy will provide a ten-year vision and direction of travel for Greater Manchester, leading our recovery and renewal as the city-region comes out of the pandemic and learns to live with the ongoing implications. The Strategy will be accompanied by a Delivery Plan, capturing those specific programmes of activity which will be delivered in partnership over the next three-years in support of the shared outcomes and commitments in the Strategy.

2.6 Alongside the shared outcomes and commitments, the Strategy actions, and descriptions of 'our ways of working', will also be included. These will be specific in describing the way in which we all do our business, core principles which will shape and underpin our design, delivery, and interventions across Greater Manchester.

2.7 The Strategy will include a series of progress measures which 'wrap around' the outcomes, commitments and ways of working detailed in the Strategy. These progress measures will be a blend of measures which are monitored as 'direction of travel' indicators, specifically targeted metrics, assurance measures (to test we are delivering in line with our committed ways of working), and the use of floor targets by neighbourhood and communities where data allows.

### **3. NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 Work is continuing to further develop the draft strategy, performance measures and extensive engagement on the headline approach and agreement on the outcomes and commitments within the Strategy.
- 3.2 A final draft of the refreshed strategy will be presented to the GMCA for views and adoption at their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October.
- 3.3 The accompanying Delivery Plan will be developed during November and brought to a future meeting of the overview & scrutiny committee.

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The recommendations are set out at the front of this report.

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## **GM Housing Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Subject: Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021: A Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan)

Report of: Anne Morgan, Head of Planning Strategy, GMCA

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### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To update the Housing Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee members on the progress of Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021: a Joint Development Plan Document for 9 Greater Manchester Local Authorities (PfE 2021).

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Committee members are asked to:

1. Note the progress made on the progress of Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021.

### **CONTACT OFFICERS:**

Anne Morgan, Head of Planning Strategy, GMCA  
[anne.morgan@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:anne.morgan@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

Clare Taylor-Russell, Principal, Planning Strategy, GMCA  
[clare.taylor-russell@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:clare.taylor-russell@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

## Equalities Implications:

The Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 is a statutory plan which seeks to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, delivering economic, social and environmental benefits together in a mutually reinforcing way. It is informed by an Integrated Appraisal which includes an Equalities assessment.

## Climate Change Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

The Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 will provide the strategic planning policy framework to support the nine districts to meet the Greater Manchester ambition to be carbon neutral by 2038. An Integrated Appraisal (comprising a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Equalities Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment) has been undertaken for the plan and has been published alongside it.

## Legal Considerations:

The legislative and constitutional requirements for the preparation of a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (“2004 Act”) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (“2012 Regulations”) have been complied with.

The joint DPD will be submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination (s20 of the 2004 Act) along with the documents prescribed by Regulation 22 of the 2012 Regulations. Prior to submission to the Secretary of State, the joint DPD must be published, and representations invited, pursuant to Regulation 19 and Regulation 20 of the 2012 Regulations.

If the joint DPD is not prepared in accordance with the 2004 Act and the 2012 Regulations, any subsequent attempt to adopt the plan would be susceptible to challenge.

## Financial Consequences – Revenue:

The preparation and examination of the Places for Everyone Publication Plan 2021 generates a revenue cost for 9 local authorities. A substantial evidence base has been assembled to support the plan which has involved commissioning of specialist and

independent experts. There will be further revenue costs associated with the examination process, which will be considered by the PfE Joint Committee as appropriate.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

- [Places For Everyone - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

## **1. INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The “Future of GM” paper in 2019 set out Greater Manchester’s bold plans for the future in the face of uncertainty. The Economic Vision developed by the Local Enterprise Partnership and endorsed by the Combined Authority confirmed that despite Covid 19 and the ongoing uncertainty about the UK’s future trading relationships, the bold and ambitious vision for the city-region remains unchanged. Within this context, the need for a bold spatial plan to provide certainty and guide development, investment and infrastructure has never been stronger.
- 1.2 Up until December 2020 a joint development plan document of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities was being prepared, Greater Manchester’s Plan for Jobs, Homes & the Environment (known as the “GMSF 2020) had reached the Regulation 19 (Publication) stage of the process, however, the decision at Stockport Council’s meeting on 3 December to withdraw from the plan signalled the end of the GMSF as a joint plan of the 10.
- 1.3 The nine remaining Greater Manchester (GM) districts (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan) decided to continue with the preparation of a joint plan to be known as ‘Places for Everyone’ on the basis that this could take advantage of the provisions set out in legislation which allowed the plan to proceed to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 Publication stage rather than have to go back to an earlier (Regulation 18) informal stage of consultation.

- 1.4 The nine authorities established a Joint Committee and delegated their plan making powers to this Committee to prepare the Places for Everyone Plan up to Regulation 19 (publication stage. As detailed in the AGMA Executive Report, February 2021, because the Places for Everyone Plan is a joint plan of nine of the Greater Manchester, with all the relevant decisions resting with the individual districts, not AGMA or the GMCA, the function of Scrutiny in the production of the Joint Plan remains with the nine districts.
- 1.5 On the 20 July 2021 the Joint Committee recommended that the plan be approved by the 9 districts Executive/Cabinet's for consultation and all 9 districts completed this approval process by the end of July. As a result, the consultation period for the Places for Everyone Publication plan (PfE2021) was launched on 9 August 2021 to run for 8 weeks, finishing on 3 October 2021.

## **2 PLACES FOR EVERYONE PUBLICATION PLAN 2021**

- 2.1 The PfE2021 provides an important opportunity to create the conditions for inclusive economic growth, provide opportunities for provision of much needed homes, protect, and enhance the natural environment. The Plan is not being prepared in isolation. It is supported by the Transport 2040 Delivery Plan, which will outline the interventions required to achieve the transport vision for the city region and is one of a suite of strategic documents setting out how Greater Manchester can achieve the ambition set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy. It sits alongside the Local Industrial Strategy, Housing Strategy, 5 Year Environment Plan, Digital and Cultural Strategies.
- 2.2 The Plan is available on the GMCA website [Places for Everyone](#)
- 2.3 The spatial strategy seeks to deliver sustainable, inclusive growth with the following spatial elements;
- Significant growth in jobs and housing at the core
  - Boosting the competitiveness of the northern districts
  - Sustaining the competitiveness of the southern districts

- 2.4 Economic prosperity is central to the overall strategy. It is essential to raising incomes, improving health and quality of life, and providing the finances to deliver better infrastructure, services, and facilities.
- 2.5 Growing inequalities have a major impact on quality of life for Greater Manchester residents such as the ability to afford decent housing, good quality food and services. This Plan supports high levels of economic growth across Greater Manchester and seeks to put in place the measures that will enable such growth to continue in the even longer-term. However, delivering these high levels of growth means that Greater Manchester will need to continue to invest in the sites and critical infrastructure that will make it an even more attractive place for businesses to invest, bringing high-value, well paid jobs, to the city region; invest in skills and business development to support the foundational economy, and promote the continued progress towards a low-carbon economy.
- 2.6 The plan sets a target for the nine districts of at least 1,900,000 sq.m. of new office floorspace and at least 3,330,000 sq.m. of industrial and warehousing floorspace over the plan period.
- 2.7 Greater Manchester is facing a housing crisis and the impact of Covid 19, with potential increases in unemployment will exacerbate this. Although the Greater Manchester authorities have built more houses in recent years, wages have not been keeping pace with property price increases and affordability issues have intensified. The construction of new housing is also an important part of the economy, providing large numbers of jobs and often securing the redevelopment of derelict and underused sites.
- 2.8 To address the supply side Government has introduced a standard methodology for calculating local housing needs to provide local authorities with a clear and consistent understanding of the number of new homes needed in an area. Applying the current methodology means that around 10,300 (10,305) homes are required in per annum, equating to just under 165,000 (164,880) new homes over the plan period. The plan supports Greater Manchester's commitment to deliver more affordable housing - 50,000 units over the plan period, including 30,000 for social or affordable rent.
- 2.9 Importantly though, the Plan is not solely concerned with accommodating development. It also includes a range of policies designed to protect and enhance our

many and varied green spaces and features which are used in many different ways and afforded many different values by the people who live, work or visit the city-region.

2.10 The plan supports wider strategies around clean air, walking and cycling and underpins Greater Manchester's ambition to be a carbon neutral city-region by 2038. A key element of this is to require all new development to be net zero carbon by 2028 and to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

2.11 There is a strong focus in the plan on directing new development towards sites within the existing urban area, which are often in sustainable locations, close to facilities and served by existing infrastructure. Maximising the use of land in the urban area reduces the need to release greenfield and Green Belt land for development.

2.12 The land supply identified for development in the plan is largely within the urban area:

- Offices - 99%
- Industry and Warehousing- 47%
- Housing - 90%

2.13 There are significant viability issues in parts of the conurbation and there is a need to continue to press Government for support to remediate contaminated land, to provide funding for infrastructure and to support alternative models of housing delivery. The recently announced Brownfield Housing Fund is targeted at Combined Authorities and begins to help to address viability issues, but it is not enough to enable the full potential of our brownfield land supply to be realised.

2.14 The Plan proposes a limited release of a Green Belt for both housing and employment. The net loss of Green Belt proposed is 1,754 hectares. This represents a significant reduction (60%) from the 4,371 hectares which were proposed for release by the nine PfE districts in the 2016 GMSF.

### **3. THE CONSULTATION**

3.1 The 'Publication stage' is a formal consultation on the draft joint DPD pursuant to Reg. 19 of the Local Planning Regulations. It is a statutory stage that provides an opportunity for organisations and individuals to submit their final views on the content of the plan.

- 3.2 Following consultation on the Publication Plan, the draft joint DPD and the representations made in the Publication stage are sent to the Secretary of State – this is called the ‘Submission stage’, pursuant to Reg. 22 of the Local Planning Regulations.
- 3.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) (PCPA) states that the purpose of the examination is to consider whether the plan meets the tests of soundness. Soundness is explained in paragraph 35 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Inspector(s) has to be satisfied that the Plan is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. The Inspector(s) must also be satisfied that the Plan complies with legal requirements, including matters such as the duty to co-operate and the districts’ Statements of Community Involvement.

## **4. THE EVIDENCE BASE**

- 4.1 A comprehensive evidence base was assembled to support the policies and proposals in the GMSF 2020. This evidence base remains the fundamental basis for the PfE 2021 and has remained available on the GMCA’s website since October 2020. This evidence base has been reviewed and updated in the light of the change to the PfE2021 and, where appropriate addendum reports have been produced. The evidence documents which have informed the plan are available on the website ([PfE evidence base](#)).

## **5. COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

- 5.1 The consultation has been hosted by the GMCA and has been carried out in line with the requirements of the district Statements of Community Involvement. Comments were invited by 3 October 2021 via the GMCA consultation portal ([GM Consult](#)), via email ([placesforeveryone@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk](mailto:placesforeveryone@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)) or by letter, GMCA, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M16EU. Comment to arrive no later than.

## **6. NEXT STEPS**

- 6.1 Following consultation on the Publication Plan, the draft joint DPD and the representations made during the Publication stage will be sent to the Secretary of State – this is called the ‘Submission stage’. A post-consultation report will be prepared and submitted, with the Plan, to the Secretary of State for Examination in early 2022. If major new issues pertaining to compliance or soundness arise at the Publication Consultation stage there would need to be further approvals taken by each of the nine districts and, if necessary, consultation prior to any submission of the plan. Given the dates of the Regulation 19 stage 9<sup>th</sup> August to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021, it is too early to assess if further approvals will be necessary prior to Submission.
- 6.2 Following Submission, the Secretary of State will appoint Inspector(s) to hold an Examination in Public. At the Examination, the Planning Inspector(s) will consider the joint DPD and representations made in respect of the Regulation 19 draft and determine whether the DPD is capable of being adopted, either with or without amendments.
- 6.3 Assuming that the document is capable of adoption, whether with or without amendments, the ultimate decision to adopt must be taken by each of the Full Councils of the 9 participating local authorities.
- 6.4 The current timetable for preparation of the PfE 2021 plan is:
- Publication Plan (Regulation 19) – period for representations August – October 2021
  - Submission (Regulation 22) – January 2022
  - Examination- 2022/23
  - Adoption - 2023

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 Recommendations are found at the front of the report.