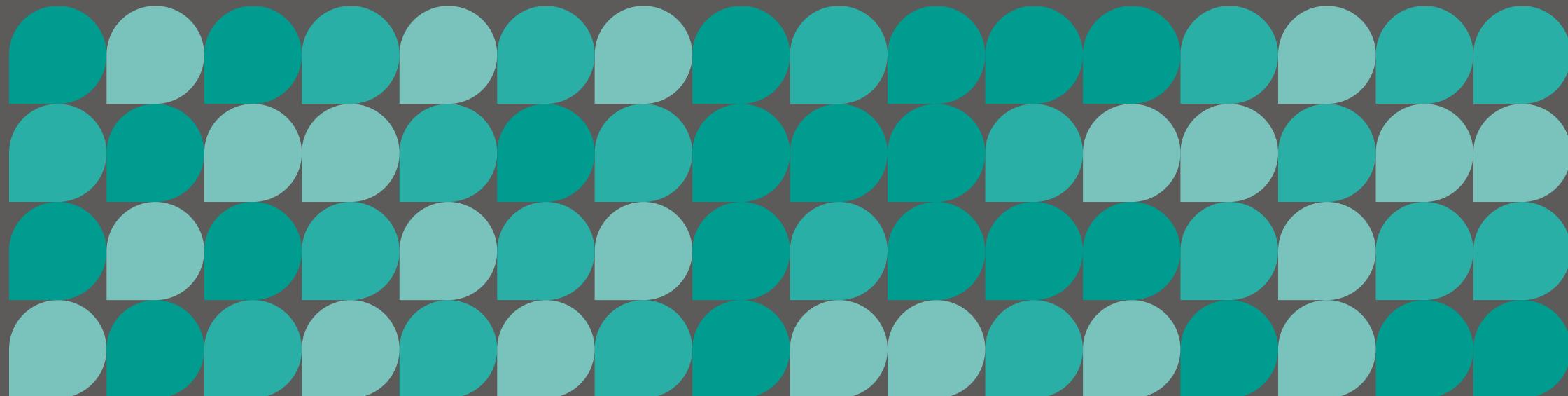


Integrated Water Management Plan

Planning and Housing Commission – 30 November 2022

David Hodcroft – Infrastructure Lead



Existing Commitments – Greater Manchester Strategy



The Climate challenge

In Greater Manchester we are determined to act decisively, rapidly and effectively in response to the climate emergency, and for us to be ahead of the curve; not left behind.

Climate change is the single biggest threat that the world faces with human activities the main cause.

The impacts of climate change are already here today in the increased frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events from heatwaves, droughts, flooding, winter storms, hurricanes and wildfires. Environmental challenges threaten the health and prosperity of our city-region. If we don't act now, these will only worsen and the consequences will be felt even further by future generations. Their homes will be at greater risk of flooding, heat stress will be a greater risk to their health, water shortages will be more common and their natural environment – green spaces, soils and species will be at greater threat. The world will be a less safe place to live – coastal area areas will flood, food supply will be less secure, more species will become extinct and people could be driven into migration and conflict.

Focused on those areas where we need to work together to achieve our shared vision and where collective action is required:

- (a) Better air quality and natural environment
 - (b) Pride in our places to drive investment into our growth locations and
 - (c) Resilient to a changing climate to enable resilient, safe, and vibrant communities.
-
- Emergencies and shocks impact on people and places, often the most deprived and those already experiencing inequalities and unequal outcomes are at the greatest risk.
 - Our growth and reform agendas mean that we need to deliver new infrastructure and growth that does not exacerbate these risks (but should deliver a net gain in resilience) and do so in a way that tackles inequalities.



Saddleworth Moor fire declared major incident as residents evacuated

Army on standby as huge blaze forces residents in Stalybridge to leave their homes

[Wildfires sweep across moors outside Manchester - in pictures](#)



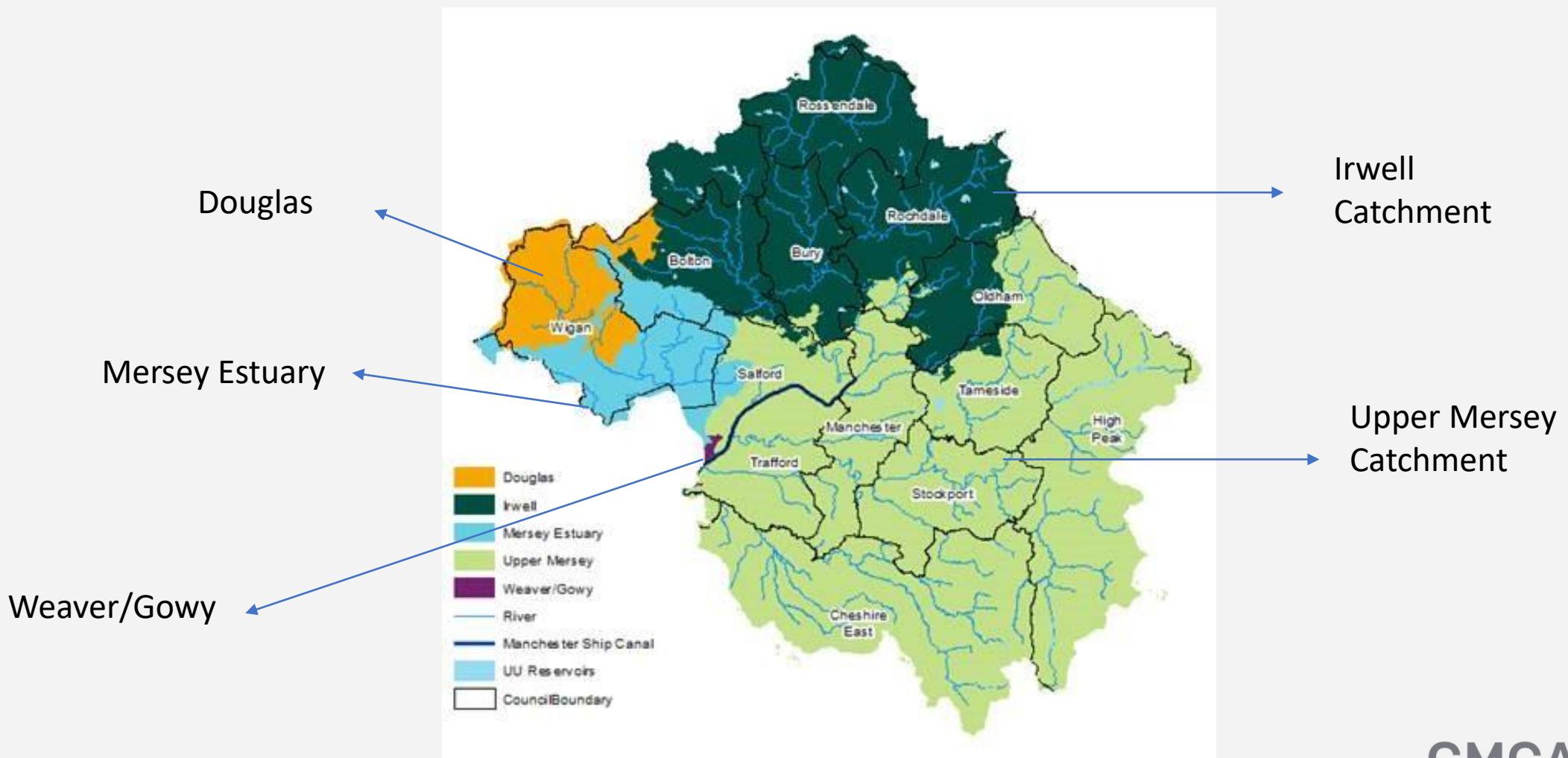
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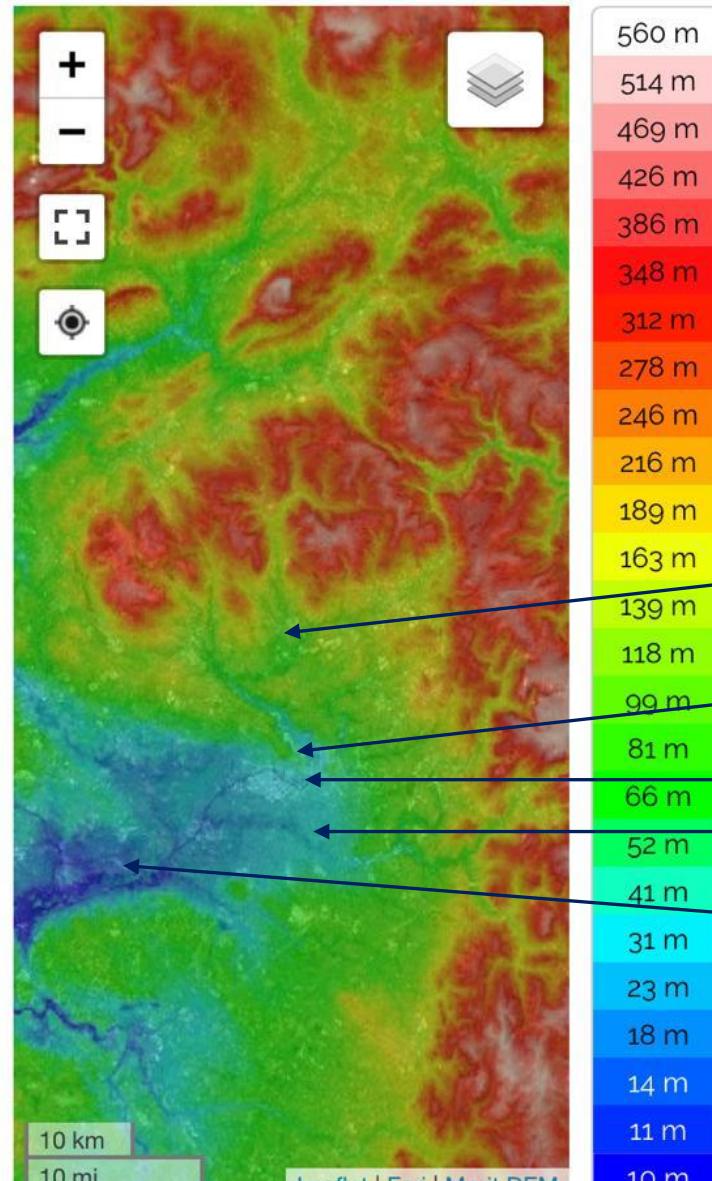


In Greater Manchester, there are 63,478 properties at risk from river flooding and 162,979 properties at risk from surface water. Surface water is the greater (most frequent), most complex risk and will overlap in some areas with river flooding risk. This is likely to increase because of future climate change projections which will see potential precipitation rise by 59% in 2050 and population growth within urban areas. *Global weather patterns 'May' lead to severe flooding in February (La Nina)



Greater Manchester is connected by water





Most of Greater Manchester sits in a bowl surrounded by the Pennines, this contributes to the water management challenges with rivers responding rapidly to rainfall alongside the drainage systems which also link to the main rivers.

Additionally, the conurbation has a high percentage of combined sewers and culverted watercourses which contributes to flood risk and pollution

GMCA Agreements

The GMCA has the power under section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 to take any steps which it considers likely to improve the “*economic, social or environmental well-being*” of the Greater Manchester area.

10 September 2021 - Response to Flood Risk Management Issues. Agreed 5 short one year actions:

1. Actively lobby for resources into Greater Manchester and communicating our challenges to national Government with a view to influencing national policy direction.
2. Work with utilities to identify opportunities for partnership contributions
3. Work with UU / EA to assess the catchment areas that impact Greater Manchester and identify projects that will benefit multiple downstream Local Authorities.
4. Review projects that have funding awarded and confirm the position on partnership contributions and opportunities for third party contributions to those projects.
5. Identify a pipeline of strategic projects that could be brought forward to bid for future funding opportunities

24 September 2021 - Agreed to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Environment Agency and United Utilities with shared outcomes and measures of success revolving around five common areas: these are:

- Place Based Planning
- Sustainable consumption
- Sustainable production/low carbon
- Enhancing Natural Capital
- Resilience to climate change

Our Partnership – GMCA, United Utilities and the Environment Agency

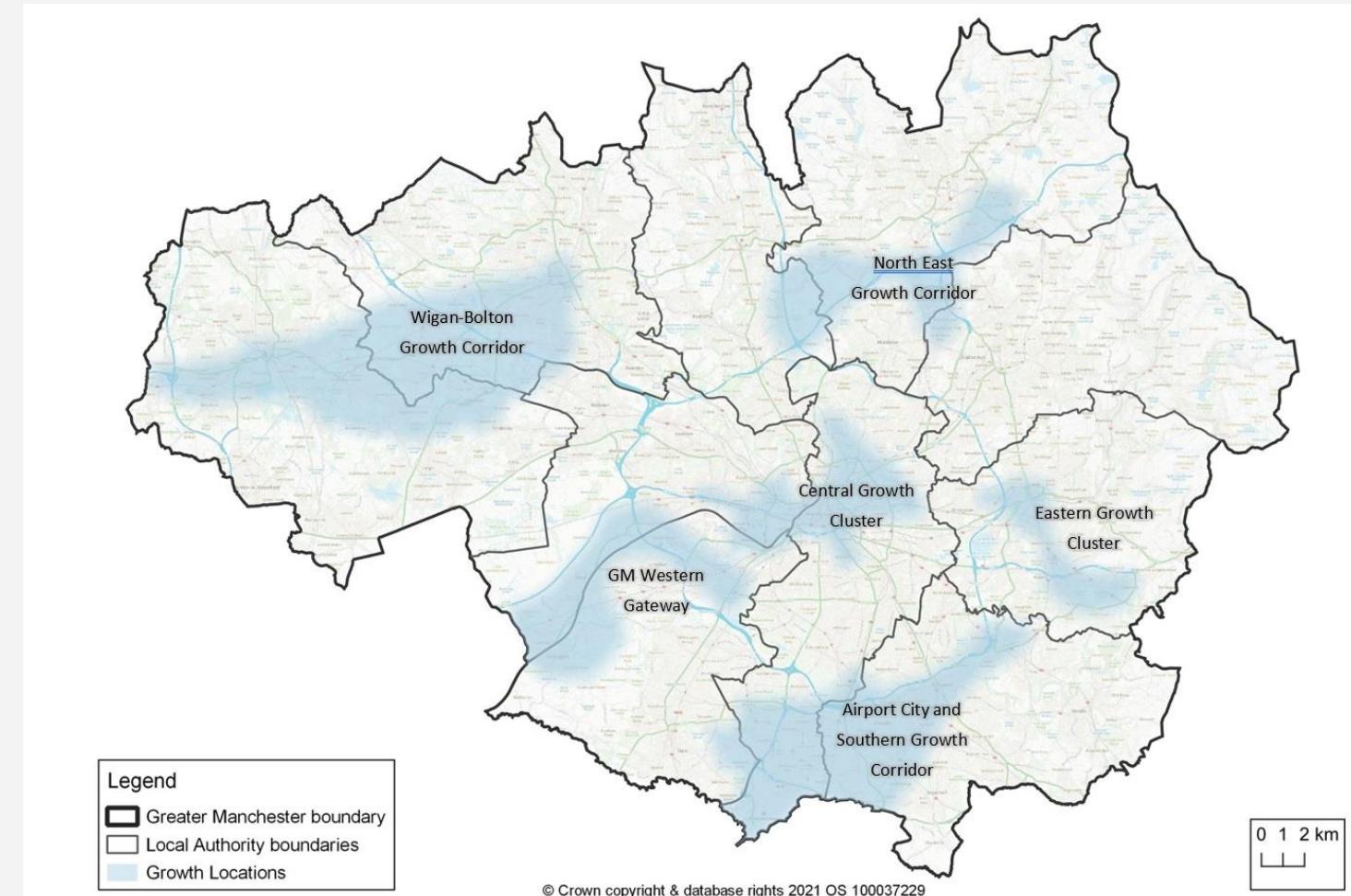
- The GMCA, UU and EA have developed a productive partnership, particularly over the past 4 years, to drive forward the environmental, development and infrastructure agendas in Greater Manchester.
- Recognition that:
 - geographical boundaries which don't fit and no **place for water management to be brought together at a political or strategic/regional level**.
 - Overlapping **responsibilities and a lack of sufficient clarity** regarding who is making decisions about what.
 - Siloed **policy and objectives is driving siloed decision making via siloed planning and funding** mechanisms, with insufficient time spent situating issues in a broader context and enabling more effective measures and efficient funding to be identified.
 - Well **intentioned policy objectives but funding uncertainty** – stop-start competitive bidding processes leave us without the certainty to make long-term plans and the challenge of multiple funding pots with different rules being applied by different departments that don't align.
 - A plethora of activity and projects working across different elements of water management and with different ways of working resulted in **duplication of effort and inefficiencies**.
 - **It is complex** with many agencies and individuals having statutory and other responsibilities.

Policy commitments to deliver - Places for Everyone

- An integrated **catchment based approach** will be taken to protect the quantity and quality of water bodies and managing flood risk.
- Returning rivers to a more natural state, where practicable, in line with the **North West River Basin Management Plan**.
- Working with natural processes and adopting a **natural flood management** approach to slow the speed of water drainage and intercept water pollutants.
- Locating and designing **development** so as to minimise the impacts of current and future flood risk, including **retrofitting or relocating existing developments, infrastructure** and places to increase resilience to flooding.
- Expecting **developments to manage surface water runoff** through sustainable drainage systems and as close to source as possible (unless demonstrably inappropriate) so as to not exceed greenfield run-off rates or alternative rates specified in district local plans, such as those identified for areas with critical drainage issues.
- Securing the **remediation of contaminated land** and the careful design of developments to minimise the potential for urban diffuse pollution to affect the water environment.
- Conserving **water and maximising water efficiency** in new development.

GM Growth Locations (Place Based Plans)

- Six locations with development opportunity at a scale that can drive transformational change
- Provide the platform for levelling up, creating value through new development with benefits for wider communities
- Will make an important contribution to meeting the objectives of key plans including GM Five Year Environment Plan by supporting growth in key areas including **Low Carbon and Environment**

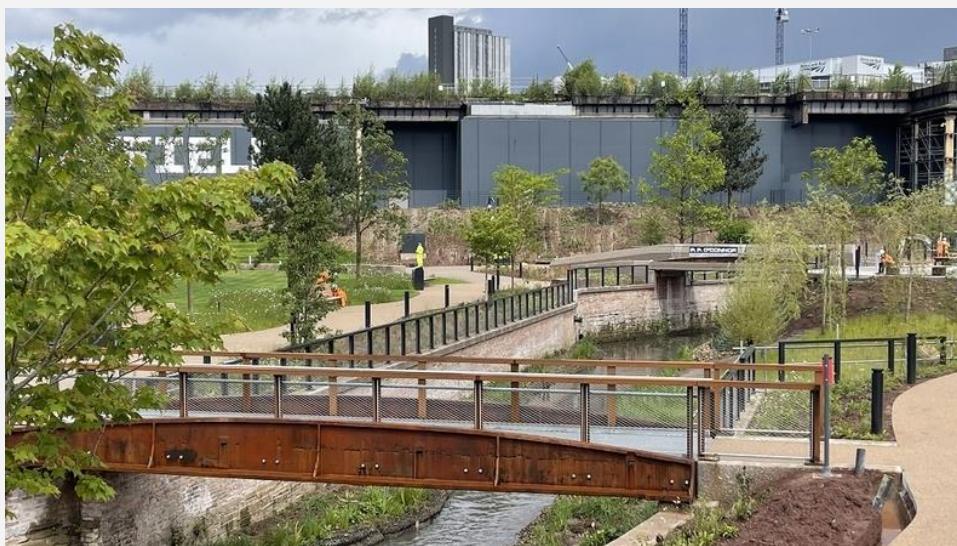


Jobs, homes and positive outcomes for the environment

Stockport Interchange Green Roof



The Medlock at Mayfield



River Irk Park Proposals – Victoria North

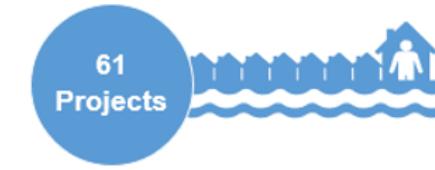
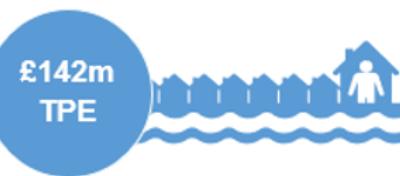
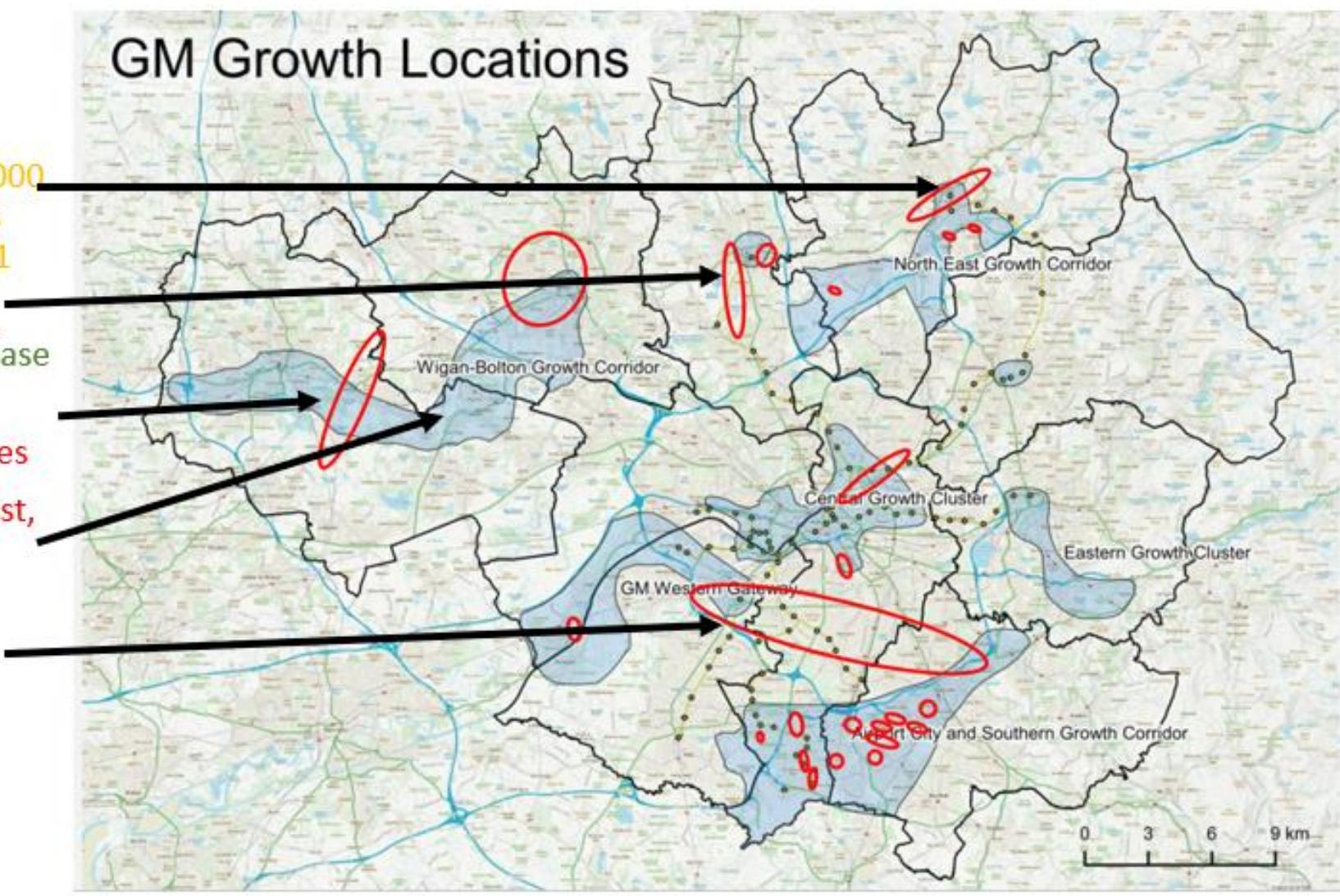


The Roch at Rochdale



GM Growth Locations

- Rochdale and Littleborough £56m, 1000 homes, 200 businesses
Construction April 2021
- Radcliffe and Redvalves £38m, 1,600 homes Phase 3 completion 2022
- Hindley £7m, 200 homes
- Atherton FRA- Leigh East, strategy development £15m, 1,600 homes
- R. Mersey South Manchester, Strategy development, £20m, 1,700 homes



Lessons and Issues identified over the past 12 months:

- A whole **catchment and systems approach** is required working across **Greater Manchester and with neighbouring catchments**.
- This is a **cross cutting and multidisciplinary** (and cross portfolio) issue for the GMCA and the individual Local Authorities and there is a role for the GMCA (like transport) to convene stakeholders, provide strategic direction and to support the individual Local Authorities.
- The GMCA has committed to a vision (through the Greater Manchester Strategy) and issues have been identified in previous reports – this is about **doing it better/differently** than we are given the **complexity of the system**.
- There is **significant investment** involved (~£142M from the EA (Environment Agency) programme (2021/27 requiring £40M match funding and over £1bn from UU (United Utilities) from 2025-30) and opportunity to utilise resources across the partnership.
- **Delivering tangible improvements to the environment through regeneration and place making**, as illustrated by the opening of the Roch in Rochdale town centre (£5M) and the Medlock at Mayfield (share of £23M from Get Building Fund). The 2nd flood storage basin in Salford (£10m) has enabled new developments, created new multifunctional green infrastructure, and reduced risk to residents.
- There is a need to focus on how we **deliver more efficiently to address issues and leverage funding** while driving economic opportunity as a result of the expenditure.
- There is a demand for **highly skilled jobs in planning, engineering, project management** etc. while addressing this ongoing challenge and needs the appropriate skilled workforce to deliver against these ambitions.

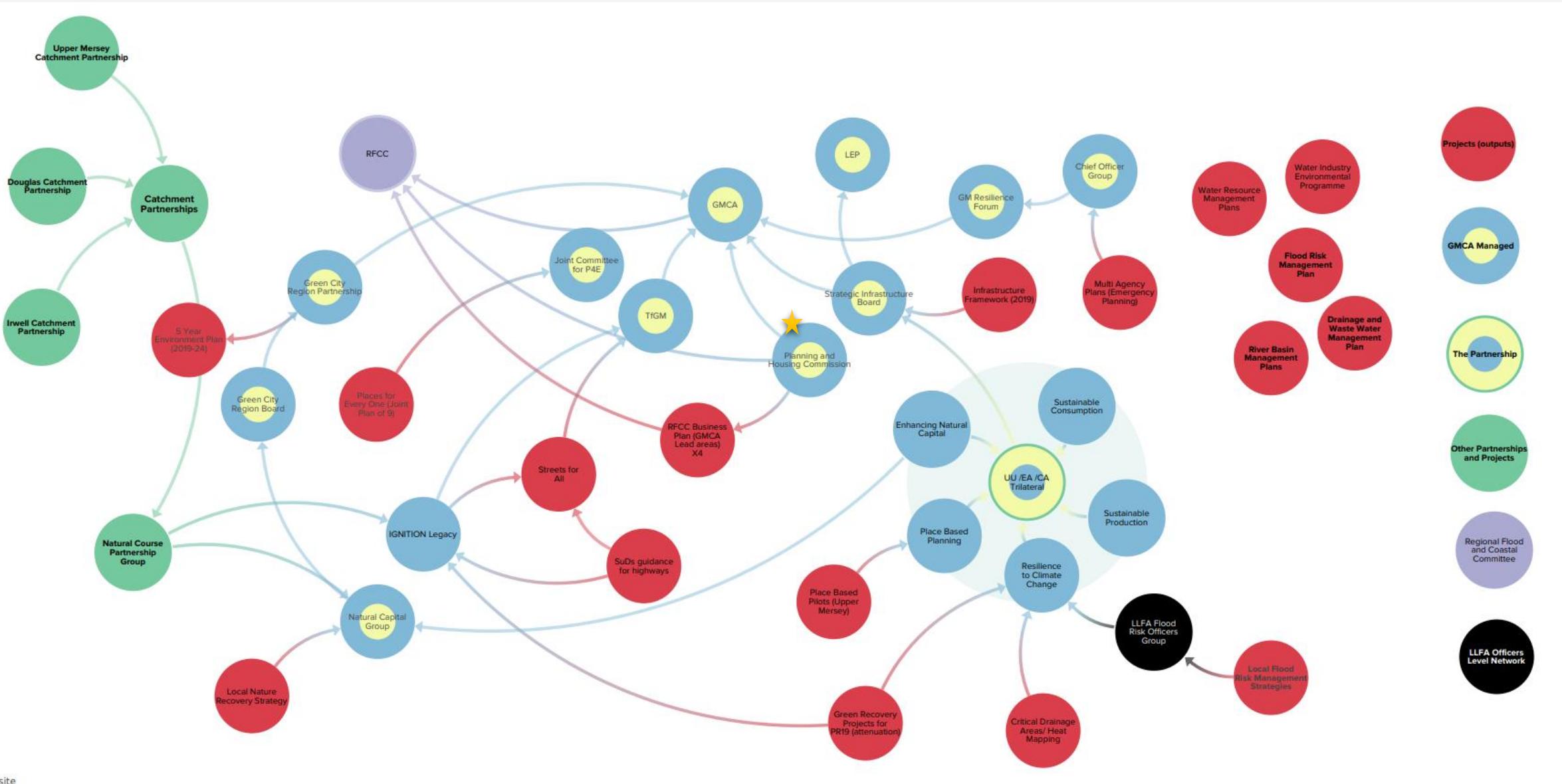
Mayoral Round Table 30 September 2022

- Attendees: Local Authorities leaders, members and chief executives, Environment Agency, United Utilities, Natural England, Chair of the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, GMCA officers, Civil contingency representation and Mersey Rivers Trust.
- Discussed how:
 - a **strategic approach** needs to be adopted where risk and water management issues impact across districts within Greater Manchester or from outside of the Greater Manchester boundary.
 - Greater Manchester is **connected by water** and as a principle rainwater should be managed as a resource to be valued for the benefit of people and the environment and retained within the environment as close as possible to where it lands.
 - Implementation will not happen on its own and **requires co-ordination and partnership** working across a complex network of infrastructure assets, physical systems and regulatory roles and responsibilities.
- Agreed that the GMCA should produce an **Integrated Water Management Plan** to draw together a collective vision, objectives, and actions, and identify accountability and resources for delivery.
- The plan should inform United Utilities **next Price Review (PR24) and look beyond its delivery 2025-30** be based on agreed and shared **outcomes. Metrics** should be defined with short, medium, and long term timescales.
- It was also agreed that the stakeholders at the round table should reconvene by **early spring 2023** to evaluate and review progress.

Plan outputs for March 2023

- A **vision** for integrated water management in Greater Manchester
- An **evidenced baseline of issues**
- An **adaptive planning framework** to support successful IWM in Greater Manchester - *The framework should identify the WHAT and, where possible, provide the HOW or at least provide a steer to what the HOW should look like.*
- A **future plan of opportunity / need and potential schemes**, including Identification of a small number of quick win schemes to plan and **delivery** in 2023/2024.
- **Stakeholder and engagement plan**
- A **costed roadmap action plan** that outlines key stages, milestones, maturity requirements and metrics to challenge and measure performance.
- The **interventions required to delivery the vision** and make progress against the baseline of existing issues, risk and opportunities.

Stakeholder Mapping and Prioritisation

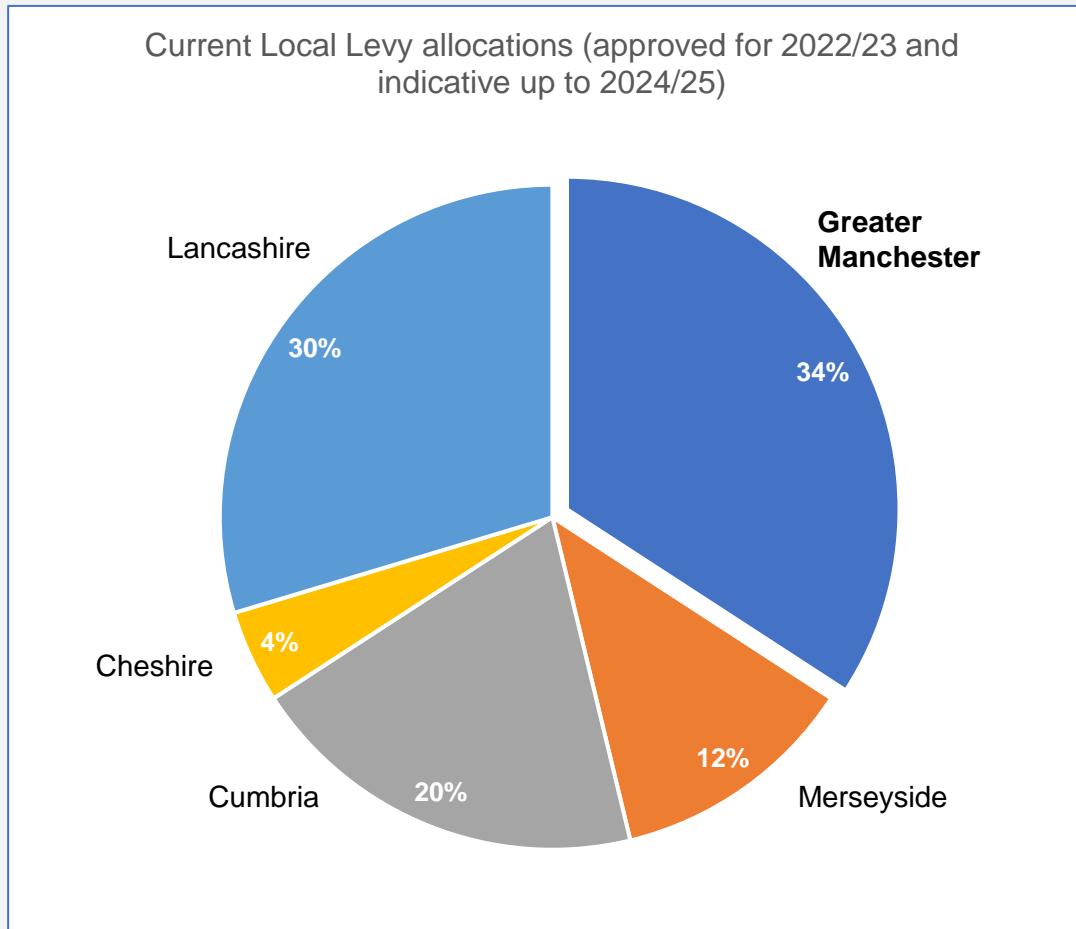


RFCC Local Levy funding

Project	Approved/future indicative Local Levy allocations up to 2024/25 (£k)
Radcliffe and Redvales Flood Risk Management Improvements Scheme (EA)	500
River Roch, Rochdale and Littleborough FRM Scheme (EA)	2,700
Irwell Vale to Chatterton EA)	2,200
River Irwell, Kearsley (EA)	546
Golburn Clough, Greenfield, Oldham (LA)	188
Stockport Rd, Romiley (LA)	120
Partridge Way, Chadderton, Oldham (LA)	85
Dobcross New Road, Oldham (LA)	75
Longford Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme (LA)	70
Greater Manchester Quick Win Projects	100/yr

- RFCC's raise Local Levy from LA's which provides a resource to help fund local flood risk priorities and provide match funding to FCERM schemes.
- The NW RFCC has provided large contributions to major schemes from Local Levy funding, without which they may not have happened including Radcliffe and Redvales and Rochdale and Littleborough.
- **An increase above the baseline of 3% was agreed at the NW RFCC in October.**
- The 3% rate increase creates £4.412m Local Levy to add to the North West fund.

RFCC Local Levy allocations



- NW Local Levy pot is not ringfenced to GM.
- Balanced against the need of all 5 NW partnerships and the Local Levy balance.
- GM is the most successful partnership in respect to securing Local Levy funding as shown.
- The Local Levy GM project allocations up to 2024/25 is £6.8m (34%). This does not include funding through the RFCC Business Plan.
- GM will contribute ~£1.55m to the Local Levy fund for 2022/23 based on the agreed 3.0% above the baseline. This will be similar year on year across the remaining years of the FCERM programme.
- Without having Local Levy to match fund capital projects it would be very difficult to find this funding from other sources.