

## **GM BUSINESS BOARD**

**SUBJECT:** GM Business Board (LEP) Annual Delivery Plan and Report

**DATE:** 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**FROM:** Simon Nokes, Executive Director, Policy and Strategy

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### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report provides an update on the 2023/24 Annual Delivery Plan which sets out the key activities that will help GM Business Board (LEP) realise its strategic ambitions with a focus on the GM Economic Vision over the period to March 2023.

This report also provides an update on the 2022/23 Annual Delivery Report which highlights the Board's progress in realising its vision over the past year.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The LEP is asked to ratify the Annual Delivery Plan and Report which have been approved in principle by the Chair.

#### **Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment**

The GM Economic Vision provides a blueprint for remodelling the city-region's economy. It includes a range of long-term initiatives to help businesses innovate more effectively and become more productive, creating a greener and more resilient Greater Manchester.

This includes a clear commitment to tackle inequalities, embrace diversity and recognise the importance of civil society with actions aiming to encourage diversity in company leadership and workforce and turn Greater Manchester into a living wage city-region.

The Vision also builds on GM's bold target of carbon neutrality by 2038 and will support Greater Manchester in driving the UK as a global leader in low carbon innovation.

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# **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The 2018 national LEP Review set out that LEPs were required to publish an annual delivery plan setting out a summary of the key economic development priorities, interventions and funding along with an end of year report highlighting progress in achieving these priorities.
- 1.2 GM Business Board (LEP) has published an annual plan and report since then with the most recent Annual Delivery Plan agreed for 2022/23 which set out the key actions and performance indicators require to realise the ambitions of the Greater Manchester Strategy, Local Industrial Strategy and GM Economic Vision.
- 1.3 It outlined the key activities that the Board would lead on to drive the strategic development of Greater Manchester forward; the key milestones for growth programmes; and set out how the GM Business Board (LEP) would operate and develop as a Strategic Board in 2022/23.
- 1.4 The team has now produced a draft plan for 2023/24 along with the annual report for 2022/23 which have been approved in principle by the Chair with a view to ratification by the Board.

# **2. ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN 2023/24**

- 2.1 This Annual Delivery Plan sits alongside a number of other Greater Manchester documents that collectively provide a comprehensive framework for strategy development, project delivery, and performance management.
- 2.2 The Plan sets out the key activities that will help GM Business Board (LEP) realise its strategic agenda over the period to March 2024 with a focus on delivery of the GM Economic Vision which forms the main framework of action for the board.
- 2.3 The Plan highlights the strategic and policy context for the implementation of the Vision along with the role of the Board and partners in driving delivery and the governance that has been put in place to ensure the Board is able act as a transparent, accountable and high performing team.
- 2.4 However, In March 2022, the GM Business Board (LEP) received a letter from Minister Neil O'Brien MP (DLUHC) and Minister Paul Scully MP (BEIS) setting out that LEPs will now be integrated into local democratic institutions following the policy announcement made in the Levelling Up White Paper as well as indicating the process by which this will be achieved.

- 2.5 The Board is therefore evolving towards a new model fully integrated into GMCA with a remit to be as ambitious as possible, maintaining a strong business voice at the heart of city region and maximising economic growth across Greater Manchester.
- 2.6 This model was [approved by the Board and GMCA in September](#) and is reflected in the Annual Delivery Plan including an initial framework of GMS priorities for 2023/24 including Innovation; Net Zero; Real Living Wage; Economic Resilience; Marketing and International; Business Support; Investment Finance; Addressing Inequalities; and Skills.
- 2.7 In line with the approach adopted in previous Plans, the document is set out to reflect the key themes of Strategy, Performance and Governance as follows:
- **Strategy:** Outlines the key priorities the GM Business Board (LEP) will lead on to drive the strategic development of Greater Manchester
  - **Performance:** Sets out how the Board will maintain delivery of the GM Economic Vision whilst the process of LEP integration is finalised
  - **Governance:** Summarises how the GM Business Board (LEP) will operate and develop as a strategic Board in 2023

### 3. ANNUAL DELIVERY REPORT 2022/23

- 3.1 The report highlights GM Business Board (LEP)'s progress in achieving its priorities in 2022/23. As above, this is set out to reflect the key themes of Strategy, Performance and Governance.
- 3.2 This includes:
- **Strategy:** Sets out how the Board contributed to the strategic development of Greater Manchester including the refresh of the Greater Manchester Strategy, the next steps in developing the GM Local Industrial Strategy and the clear strategic framework provided by the GM Economic Vision
  - **Performance:** Highlights the progress in delivering against the board's key priorities with a focus on the GM Economic Vision including the Local Growth Fund, Get Building Fund and Capacity Fund
  - **Governance:** Demonstrates strengthened governance procedures through updated Board membership; maintaining transparency and accountability; and further developing partnership and engagement

### 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Recommendations appear at the front of this report.