

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: Friday 24th June 2022

Subject: Levelling Up Fund: Large Transport Bid

Report of: Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, Portfolio Lead for Transport and Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM.

Purpose of Report

This report requests approval for the proposal to delegate the decision to submit the Levelling Up Fund large transport bid to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester to approve the Levelling Up Fund large transport bid. Recommendations:

The GMCA is requested to:

1. Delegate approval to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester to approve and submit the GM Round 2 Levelling Up Fund large transport bid.
2. Note that the Department for Transport encourage a 10% local contribution to be provided, which is being sought via the relevant local authorities.

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Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Equalities Implications:

Greater Manchester's Levelling Up Fund large transport fund will enhance sustainable connections between disadvantaged communities and employment opportunities.

Infrastructure will be designed to ensure that it is inclusive for all users.

Impacts Questionnaire		
Impact Indicator	Result	Justification/Mitigation
Equality and Inclusion	G	
Health	G	
Resilience and Adaptation	G	
Housing		
Economy	G	
Mobility and Connectivity	G	
Carbon, Nature and Environment	G	
Consumption and Production		
Contribution to achieving the GM Carbon Neutral 2038 target		
Further Assessment(s):	Equalities Impact Assessment and Carbon Assessment	
 Positive impacts overall, whether long or short term.	 Mix of positive and negative impacts. Trade-offs to consider.	 Mostly negative , with at least one positive aspect. Trade-offs to consider.
		 Negative impacts overall.

Climate Change Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures:

This bid, if successful, will improve and increase provision of sustainable travel infrastructure.





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Carbon Assessment		
Overall Score		
Buildings	Result	Justification/Mitigation
New Build residential	N/A	
Residential building(s) renovation/maintenance	N/A	
New Build Commercial/Industrial	N/A	
Transport		
Active travel and public transport		
Roads, Parking and Vehicle Access		
Access to amenities		
Vehicle procurement	N/A	
Land Use		
Land use	#####	
No associated carbon impacts expected.		High standard in terms of practice and awareness on carbon.
		Mostly best practice with a good level of awareness on carbon.
		Partially meets best practice/ awareness, significant room to improve.
		Not best practice and/ or insufficient awareness of carbon impacts.

Risk Management

In the event that DfT funds are secured through this bid, established risk management process as set out in the GM capital programme assurance framework will be followed in the delivery of the project. A Risk Register and Risk Mitigation Plan has been established for this project.

Legal Considerations

It is not considered that there are specific legal considerations associated with this bid.

Financial Considerations - Revenue

The development costs of this bid have been budgeted for. Should the bid be successful, further scheme development costs will be funded by the award.

Financial Considerations – Capital

10% local match funding is required. Discussions are ongoing with Local Authorities regarding the source of this funding.

Number of attachments to the report:

None

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Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee

N/A

Background Papers

- Levelling Up Fund Prospectus: [Levelling Up Fund Round 2: prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/levelling-up-fund-round-2-prospectus)

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution?

Yes.

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?

No. However, the deadline to submit bids to DfT for consideration is 6 July 2022.

GM Transport Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

N/A

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1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities and the Department for Transport launched Round 2 of the Levelling Up Fund in March 2022. Combined Mayoral Authorities can bid for up to £50m for large transport projects.
- 1.2 In collaboration with the ten Local Authorities of Greater Manchester, Transport for Greater Manchester is in the process of developing a submission.
- 1.3 This fund potentially offers the opportunity for Greater Manchester to accelerate the creation of the Bee Network, with an emphasis on providing sustainable travel connections from deprived communities to opportunities, and with a focus on access to jobs.
- 1.4 This report summarises the requirements of the Levelling Up Fund and the approach taken to developing the bid.

2. GMCA LUF Large Transport Bid

- 2.1 In common with Round 1 of the Levelling Up Fund, Round 2 will seek to provide investment across three themes, namely;
 1. **Transport:** transport schemes which will reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, cut congestion, support economic growth, and improve the safety, security and overall experience of transport users.
 2. **Regeneration and town centres:** upgrade eyesore buildings and dated infrastructure; acquire and regenerate brownfield sites; invest in secure community infrastructure and crime reduction; and bring public services and safe, accessible community spaces into town and city centres.
 3. **Cultural:** maintaining, regenerating, or creatively repurposing existing cultural, creative, heritage and sporting assets, or creating new assets that serve those purposes.
- 2.2 The Levelling Up Fund Prospectus confirms that “*Investment proposals should focus on supporting high priority and high impact projects that will*

make a visible positive difference to local areas. We recognise that what constitutes priority investment will vary across local authorities and geographies”.

2.3 The Levelling Up Fund is a competitive bidding process, key requirements of the bid are summarised below:

- i. The submission date is the 6 July 2022 and a relatively detailed level of appraisal is required. Therefore, schemes included in the bid must already be well developed;
- ii. Projects should be delivered by 31 March 2025, exceptionally by 31 March 2026. Therefore, schemes included in the bid must be well-developed and have relatively low delivery risks associated with them;
- iii. Projects should also be able to demonstrate good public and stakeholder engagement and support;
- iv. Up to three projects can be included in the bid. Projects, and their constituent schemes, must complement each other; and
- v. 10% local match funding is encouraged.

2.4 Large transport projects must be for at least 90% transport, and the remaining investment must be related to the transport element of the bid. GM local authorities were invited to submit details of schemes they would like to be included in the bid to TfGM via the GM Delivery Group. These schemes have been considered in the context of LUF guidance and the Levelling Up White Paper, with a unifying theme identified of “Improving access for deprived communities to employment, key services and opportunities through sustainable travel”.

2.5 The schemes suggested for inclusion in the bid were shortlisted using criteria which included the constraints shown in paragraph 2.3. To develop a bid which would have the highest likelihood of attracting funding there was then need to “package” schemes into three coherent projects. The projects which resulted from this process are:

- **Access to Logistics North:** Network of cycling and walking interventions which will enhance access to Logistics North and rapid transit from Atherton, Tyldesley, Leigh and Higher Folds.
- **Access to Regional Centre:** Network of cycling and walking schemes which will enhance access to opportunities in the Regional Centre from deprived areas located to the west of the Regional Centre. Constituent schemes are likely to include:
 - a) Junction improvements on the inner ring road to enhance active travel connectivity and safety.
 - b) Active neighbourhood schemes on the boundary of the inner ring road.
- **Access to jobs in Stockport Town Centre:** Cycling and walking links which will enhance access from deprived communities to the Town Centre and associated employment and rapid transit opportunities. Constituent schemes are likely to include:
 - a) Edgeley to Stockport Town Centre cycle route. This includes a new bridge over the railway and links into the new ramp to the interchange.
 - b) Ramp to the podium level of Stockport Interchange which will provide a high quality, LTN1/20 compliant cycle route from the Interchange and the train station to the Town Centre.
 - c) Romiley to Stockport cycle route.

2.6 As cost plans for the projects are refined there may be a requirement, or opportunity, to change the schemes included in the submission.

2.7 Schemes proposed to be included in the LUF bid should be able to show local support. The role of MPs is key in this regard. MPs are permitted to submit one formal letter of support and multiple informal letters of support.

2.8 Due to the tight timelines associated with submitting this bid it is requested that the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester, be given delegated responsibility to approve the final bid for submission.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 Complete the finalisation of the three projects and, in collaboration with the concerned Local Authorities, develop and complete the business case bid for submission on or before midday on the 6 July 2022.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 As per front page