

Planning and Housing Commission

21 March 2023

David Hodcroft - GMCA

Integrated Water Management Plan **2023**

Recap

- A **whole catchment approach** is required working across Greater Manchester and with those outside (we are connected by water).
- This is a **cross-cutting and multidisciplinary** issue for the GMCA and the individual Local Authorities, due in part to the complexities that exist through legislation, governance, and funding.
- Compounded within the GMCA governance structures - there are many groups, workstreams and boards where water management is embedded within their terms of reference. It is not, however, apparent what **collective responsibility and accountability** these groups take in supporting the delivery of water management and this needs to be addressed.
- 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 GMS 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 and there is a need to focus on how we deliver more efficiently to address issues, while driving economic opportunity as a result of the expenditure.

Common cause requiring leadership



Water can be an existential threat to cities; too much is as dangerous as not enough. Globally, 2.1bn people live without readily available safe water at home, while 1.2b people are a risk of flooding.

The [#CitiesSolveCitiesDeliver](#) is sharing inspirational city stories on water resilience in the lead up to the UN 2023 Water Conference [#wateraction](#).

Link to post:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/rcitiesnetwork_citiessolvecitiesdeliver-wateraction-nyww-activity-7036687827610324992-xukn?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Twitter:

Working together, Greater Manchester will manage water wherever it falls so that its quality and quantity are enhanced to support people, places & prosperity and to enable green & sustainable growth.

+ @: https://bit.ly/CSCD_GM

#CitiesSolveCitiesDeliver

@greatermcr #WaterAction

Plan outputs for March 2023

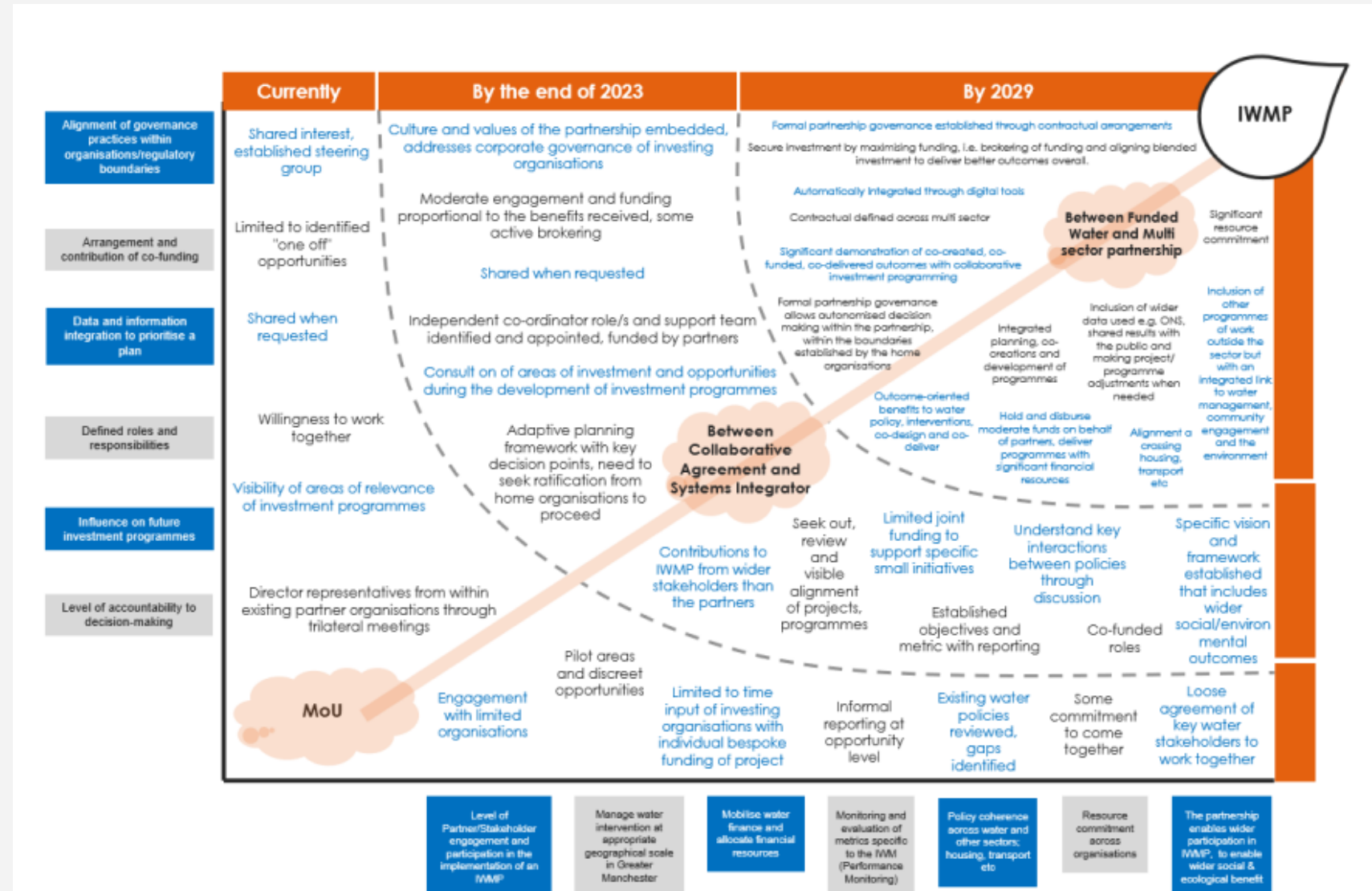
- A **vision** for integrated water management in Greater Manchester
- An **adaptive planning framework** to support successful IWM in Greater Manchester - The framework should identify the WHAT and, where possible, provide the HOW or at least provide a steer to what the HOW should look like including through a maturity matrix.
- 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 deliver the vision** and make progress against the baseline of existing issues, risk and opportunities.

Maturity Assessment and Framework

- **Defined roles and responsibility** – loose casual and voluntary to clear roles and responsibilities.
- **Level of accountability** – Meet on a regular basis (informal) or formal partnership governance, scrutiny and accountability
- **Policy coherence** – Existing policies used (EA/Water Company/Local Authority/Combined Authority/TfGM) to align across water, housing, transport and place.
- **Projects** – fragmented projects at different scales of preparation (concept to full business case) or integrated programme to maximise opportunities.
- **Participation** - Informal discussion based on existing relationship and loose agreement of key water stakeholders to work together or specific vision and framework to inclusion of other programmes of work outside the sector but with an integrated link to water management and community engagement.

An actionable pathway to achieve a multisector Partnership by 2029

The maturity assessment demonstrated that the current position is aligned to having a MOU in place and for the end of 2023 the partnership should develop into a collaborative agreement with a focus on improving policy coherence, performance monitoring, and level of accountability to decision-making with the support of a Systems Integrator/ Opportunity Broker to around the areas of data and information sharing, co-funding, and having clear roles and responsibilities



Creating the governance principles to mature the partnership

Key governance attributes of the IWM;

1. Defined roles and responsibilities
2. Manage water intervention at appropriate geographical scale in Greater Manchester
3. Policy coherence across water and other sectors; housing, transport etc
4. Resource commitment across organisations
5. Data and information integration to prioritise a plan
6. Mobilise water finance and allocate financial resources
7. Influence on future investment programmes
8. Alignment of governance practices within organisations/regulatory boundaries
9. Level of accountability to decision-making
10. Level of Partner/Stakeholder engagement and participation in the implementation of an IWMP
11. The partnership enables wider participation in IWMP, to enable wider social & ecological benefit
12. Monitoring and evaluation of metrics specific to the IWM (Performance Monitoring)
13. Arrangement and contribution of co-funding

GMCA Scrutiny Recommendations: 1-5

GMCA Scrutiny Committee established a task and finish group last November and have been reviewing the issues associated with flood risk and water management. The task and finish group will present it's recommendations to full Scrutiny on **22 March and at the round table on 31 March**. The recommendations are:

(1) Increase awareness

Use the roundtable discussions with the GM Mayor and other key partners to highlight the scale of the problem ahead publicising the projected scale of increased rainfall on Greater Manchester and the impact it will have on residents and communities if no action is taken.

(2) A clear co-owned plan

Co-create a GM Integrated Water Management Plan with all responsible partner agencies, establishing a set of shared objectives, agreed outcomes against metrics, with clear lines of responsibility and accountability.

(3) Strong governance framework

Ensure that there are clear lines of accountability at GM level through an improved governance framework that actively engages with the relevant GMCA Portfolio Leads and ultimately reports to the GMCA.

(4) Effective use of knowledge, skills and resources

To develop and strengthen the resources available at GM level to offer Local Authorities support, additional specialised advice and guidance and provide capacity for better collaboration to enable the effective delivery of projects.

(5) Ensuring social justice is at the heart of action

Ensure that the Co-owned Strategy provides clear guidance to all partner organisations that all GM schemes must have social justice as a key lens through which schemes are viewed.

GMCA Scrutiny Recommendations: 6-10

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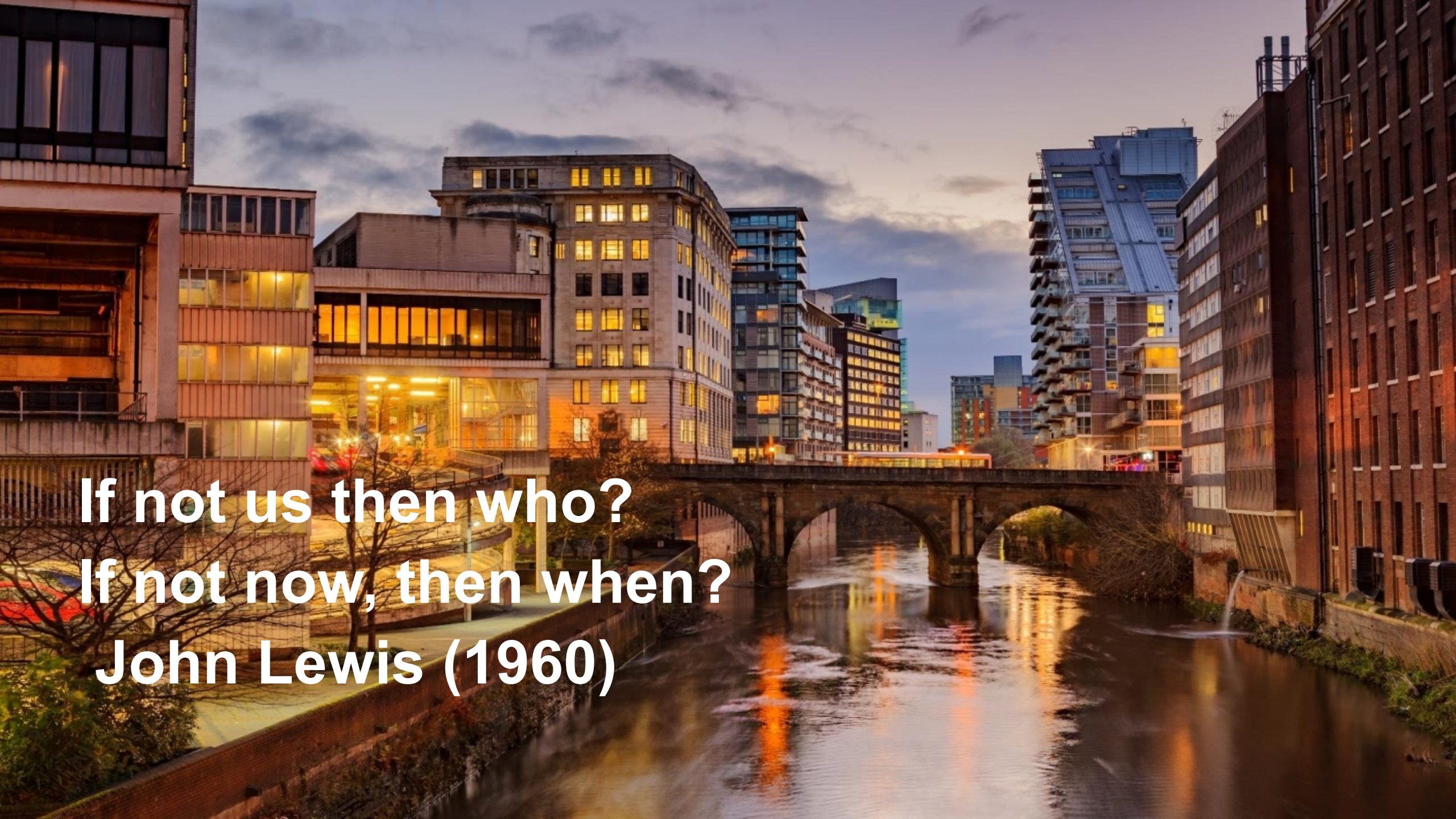
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**If not us then who?
If not now, then when?
John Lewis (1960)**