

## **The Planning and Housing Commission**

We bring together private and public sector partners to create quality places that meet the needs of a competitive and thriving Greater Manchester.

Our membership includes councillors from across Greater Manchester and partners with expertise in housing, planning and infrastructure.

We're advised by representatives of Government Office for the North West, the Environment Agency, the Homes and Communities Agency and the Regional Development Agency.

What we do:

- Develop the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, setting out our investment priorities to deliver the Greater Manchester Strategy.
- Through our local investment plans, agree priorities for growth and regeneration to create quality places where people want to live.
- Develop new models for investment to squeeze the maximum value out of limited resources.
- Ensure that Greater Manchester has the infrastructure to support our ambitious plans for growth.
- Together we are developing a framework that will shape decision-making on housing, regeneration and jobs, as well an investment plan for housing and regeneration, creating places people will choose to live, work and invest in.

Reporting to the commission, council officers are also developing strategic approaches to manage infrastructure issues that cut across local authority boundaries. These include flood risk and water management, the valuable role of green infrastructure and the potential to develop renewable or de-centralised energy. These all have an impact on growth and development and benefit from a collaborative approach.

CASE STUDIES (to be used where needed)

### **Spatial Planning**

We're committed to delivering the best outcomes for Greater Manchester people. To support the delivery of the GMS we are producing a 'Spatial Framework' which sets out our priorities for the next 10 – 15 years. This will provide the framework for assessing spatial investment and development proposals. For example, housing proposals, through the second [Local Investment Plan](#) (LIP2), and transport, through work on the [Local Transport Plan](#) (LTP3).

The Spatial Framework will provide a sub-regional context for spatial decision-making, Although it will not have statutory status it will focus on how we can manage our growing economy and population most sustainably; move to a low carbon economy, and future proof our communities against climate change, within the context of reducing public sector resources. It will be evidence-based and updated over time.

### **Local Investment Plan**

The Local Investment Plan between the Homes and Communities Agency and AGMA, the first result of our Single Conversation process, set out a programme for how we can best invest around £375 million across Greater Manchester, and was one of the first in the country to be agreed. The Plan covers the period to next March and will ensure that housing and

regeneration investment is directly aligned to the priorities set out in the Greater Manchester Strategy.

Despite political and fiscal uncertainty, we are now working to develop a second Local Investment Plan (LIP2), which may have a five year timeframe to match the Spending Review period announced by Government . We are looking to use a strategic option appraisal process to structure our thinking, closely linked to the developing GM Spatial Framework. Ongoing work to develop new models for investment in housing growth should also feature in LIP2. In this climate of inevitable financial reductions, a collaborative and partnership approach will be vital in ensuring that available resources are coordinated and targeted to effectively contribute to economic growth in Greater Manchester, and to improve life chances for residents, particularly those in the most deprived areas.

### **Energy and the low carbon economy**

Providing energy and infrastructure in new sustainable ways is vital for growth and prosperity as well as our goals for reducing carbon emissions, ensuring energy security and tackling fuel poverty. To achieve this we need to need to change the way we plan and design new development and the way we supply energy to both new and existing buildings and local communities. Decentralised energy will provide an important role and is the broad term used to denote a diverse range of technologies, which can locally serve an individual building, development or wider community and includes energy for heating, electricity and cooling.

A Decentralised and Zero Carbon Energy Planning study for Greater Manchester published in January 2010, provides a robust understanding of where we are now and practical ways forward. Commissioned in response to the challenge of delivering decentralised energy infrastructure and zero carbon buildings, the study aims to realise the benefits of a coordinated and collaborative response by the 10 Greater Manchester districts.