PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on the LEP Review and the requirement to develop a LEP Annual Delivery Plan 2019/20 along with recommendations on key priorities to consider.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The LEP Board is asked to consider the report and provide feedback

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 As reported to the LEP Board in September 2018, a LEP Review led by Ministers was carried out last year. The review looked to bring forward reforms to leadership, governance, accountability, financial reporting and geographical boundaries to ensure LEPs remain independent and private sector led partnerships that are accountable to the communities they support.

1.2 ‘Strengthened Local Enterprise Partnership’ was published setting out the conclusions of the policy review which included a requirement that all LEPs publish an Annual Delivery Plan and end of year report. This will include key performance indicators to assess the impact of their Local Industrial Strategy, funding and interventions including Local Growth Fund awards.

1.3 Government subsequently published updated assurance guidance in January 2019 confirming the need for an Annual Delivery Plan to be in place for the year 2019/20 by May 2019 and this report sets out recommendations on agreeing a plan for GM LEP.

2. GMS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND LOCAL INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

2.1 The GM LEP is co-owner of the GMS which includes 10 priorities with 5 cross-cutting enablers and is structured around an Outcomes Framework providing a set of headline measures and 2020 targets for each of the strategy’s 10 priorities, alongside a broader set of performance measures.

2.2 The GMS is accompanied by a clear Implementation Plan which sets out actions and milestones up to 2020 to deliver the ambitions set out in the GMS. Performance against the milestones and progress towards the 2020 targets is reported on a six monthly basis to the LEP Board, GMCA Board, and GM Overview and Scrutiny Committees and milestones are updating accordingly – please see latest update attached.

2.3 The GMS Performance Dashboard sits alongside the Implementation Plan, setting out key headline indicators and metrics to help gauge performance and to ensure progress in delivering our outcomes remains on track.

2.4 The priorities of the GMS are informing the development of the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS), taking a place-based approach that builds on the area’s unique strengths and ensures all people in Greater Manchester can contribute to, and benefit from, enhanced productivity, earnings and economic growth.

2.5 The draft LIS suggests that there are a number of areas where Greater Manchester has strengths and opportunities where the LEP can play a leading role in supporting UK growth, deliver against the national Grand Challenges, and ensuring we have future-facing industries in the city region. These include:

- **Advanced materials**, where we have a large and internationally competitive manufacturing base, and globally recognised research strengths, which gives the ability to develop existing, and create new, industries which deliver against all four of the national Grand Challenge missions.
- **Health Innovation**, where health and social care devolution, our research strengths in academia and the NHS, and our life sciences sector offer the
potential to drive health and economic benefits and deliver against the Healthy Ageing Grand Challenge.

- **Digital and creative**, where we have nationally and some internationally significant place-based strengths and assets. Investing in, and exploiting these, will be important not only because they are growth opportunities in their own right, but also to support all firms to be digital.
- We also have the potential to pioneer new **green industries** as we drive forward with our carbon neutral ambitions, delivering against the Clean Growth Grand Challenge.

2.6 Once the LIS is agreed, it will be integrated into the wider GMS implementation and delivery processes with the LEP along with the CA as the lead body responsible for its oversight and implementation.

2.7 The GMS Implementation Plan and Performance Dashboard are due to be reviewed with a refreshed plan to be completed by May 2019, detailing the specific actions and activities underway to deliver GM’s strategic vision and ambitions for the year 2019/10.

3. **LEP ANNUAL DELIVERY PLAN**

3.1 Given the LEP’s role in providing oversight of both GMS and LIS development, it is recommended that the refreshed GMS Implementation plan is used as the basis of its Annual Delivery Plan including the LIS priorities highlighted above, with a particular focus on GMS priorities 3 and 4 as the areas where then LEP Board can use their private sector insight and experience to add most value in driving delivery of the LIS and GMS:

- Priority 3 (Good jobs, with opportunities for people to progress and develop)
- Priority 4 (A thriving and productive economy in all parts of Greater Manchester)

3.2 An end of year report will be produced in 2020 which will reflect progress made against these priorities represented by the relevant outcomes as set out in the Performance Dashboard.

3.3 Delivery on LEP priorities is not just through strategic input and oversight but driving project delivery with public, private and voluntary sector partners. There will therefore be opportunities within the Annual Delivery plan for individual LEP Board members to champion individual actions and to support delivery at a project level.

3.4 The reflects the approach the Board has taken with a range of projects to realise its ambitions including supporting the development of the digital Manchester Channel to build international recognition for Manchester’s key world class areas of excellence; supporting MIDAS to drive inward investment through bespoke programmes targeting key markets such as India and China; and leading a partnership of organisations across Greater Manchester to secure the £10m City Verve project to help embed smart technology and the Internet of Things in the Corridor Manchester.

3.5 Similarly, the Board also established four Task and Finish Groups chaired by a Board member to drive forward a number of key issues for the GM Economy
including Schools; Digital Skills; Business Start Up/Scale Up; and Adopting Digital Technologies.

3.6 Further, the LEP established a Foresight Group to look at potential 'disrupters' to business as normal aligned to the Grand Challenges of the Industrial Strategy and the issues and opportunities for GM over the next 5 to 10 years.

3.7 The LEP is also currently reviewing its private sector membership as reported at the January meeting. As part of the first stage interviews with existing LEP members, a number of suggestions were received on the future direction of the LEP and its forthcoming work programme. The development of an Annual Delivery Plan provides an opportunity to capture this feedback and help shape LEP delivery over the next twelve months.

4. TIMESCALES AND NEXT STEPS

4.1 In order to better explore the issues highlighted above and identify priorities for LEP delivery over the next 12 months, the Chair of the LEP has invited Jessica Bowles of Bruntwood to act as a facilitator at the March Board meeting.

4.2 As Director of Strategy at Bruntwood, Jessica brings a wealth of knowledge on Greater Manchester along with an independent perspective that will help Board members shape their approach to LEP delivery over the coming year.

4.3 In particular, it may be useful for the Board to focus on the following questions:

- Where has the LEP been successful/where could there be improvement?
- Where are the key LEP priorities for 2019/20 from within the GMS?
- What can the LEP do differently to strengthen future delivery? Where can the LEP add value?
- Are there any GMS priorities individual LEP members wish to champion?

4.4 The intelligence received will feed into the refresh of the GMS Implementation Plan and the subsequent draft of the LEP Annual Delivery Plan which will be brought to the May LEP Board meeting for final approval – see below for an outline template.

4.5 In parallel to this approach, there is an opportunity for an additional, informal Board meeting to be held in May for LEP Members to discuss wider Board issues arising from this discussion that fall outside of the scope of the Annual Delivery Plan.
### GMS Priority 3: Good jobs, with opportunities for people to progress and develop

- Ensure quality jobs, quality provision and career progression are embedded as core outcomes of all skills and work contracts
- Deliver a transformational digital skills programme
- Work with the business community to increase investment in workforce development and inclusive recruitment, including the roll out of the GM Employer Charter
- Increase the scale, quality and accessibility of adult skills provision, including apprenticeships
- Develop and implement a world class jobs and progression service with Jobcentre Plus
- Support people into and to progress in work through the Working Well system
- Develop a GM approach to managing welfare reform that delivers job progression and addresses low pay
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<td>GMS Priority 4: A thriving and productive economy in all parts of Greater Manchester</td>
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<td>• Provide support to GM businesses to enable them to be adaptable and resilient as the UK exits the EU – tackling issues of access to markets, access to labour and risk mitigation</td>
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<td>• Deliver an integrated approach to strengthening our international position (visitors, events, students, direct air connections), working via the Northern Powerhouse where it adds value</td>
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<td>• Grow our Trade with, and Investment from, the rest of the world by working with mid-sized companies to: identify projects early; develop direct access to overseas markets; bring buyers to GM; and put products/services on digital platforms</td>
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<td>• Deliver GM Industrial Digitalisation pilot; and communicating and market a headline digital story</td>
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<td>• Deliver a Productivity and Inclusive Growth Programme to support all parts of GM to realise growth opportunities</td>
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<td>• Develop a programme of enhanced support to companies to</td>
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<td>develop their Leadership and Management via business mentoring</td>
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<td>• Invest in our science and innovation assets and drive commercial opportunities, particularly around health innovation, digital and advanced materials</td>
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<td>• Develop a GM approach to public procurement and the use of public sector assets to grow market opportunities</td>
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<td>• Support growth in the regional centre, town centres, and strategic employment sites</td>
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