
Greater Manchester Autumn Budget 2017
Update: Further commitments between
Government and the Greater Manchester
Combined Authority (GMCA) and the directly
elected mayor



Greater Manchester Autumn Budget 2017 Update: Further commitments between Government and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)

1. The Government is fully committed to strengthening devolution to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). This agreement provides an update on devolution to Greater Manchester and sets out new commitments between Central Government and the GMCA to further strengthen joint working. This builds on the four previous devolution deals agreed between the GMCA and Government, along with the Memorandum of Understanding that devolved £6 billion of health and social care spending to Greater Manchester. This agreement aims to further improve outcomes across the city region and continue to build the Northern Powerhouse.

Local Industrial Strategy

2. The Government wants to work closely with Greater Manchester to deliver on key national priorities within the Industrial Strategy where the region provides a good opportunity to secure global leadership and enhanced growth. Government will work with Greater Manchester to develop a local industrial strategy. This will be a long-term vision for growth, based on robust evidence and focused on raising productivity and earning power in the area. It will be underpinned by strong cooperation between national Government and the private sector, local leadership and key institutions.
3. The strategy will set out how Greater Manchester will work in partnership with Government to support the key foundations of productivity. It will focus on raising skills levels across the area. It will identify and work to grow its leading sectors, support new high value businesses, back the area's world-class science and innovation assets, and build on opportunities in all parts of the area.
4. The strategy will reflect the main themes of the national Industrial Strategy, but also take 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, economic growth.

Investment in Growth

Transport and infrastructure

5. Government is committed to supporting Greater Manchester's transport ambitions. Together, Greater Manchester and Government have developed and delivered the first transport fund: a 10 year, £3 billion investment in local transport that has enabled transformative projects. These include new Metrolink lines and expansions, the redevelopment of Oxford Road, and new guided busways. Government has also provided substantial additional investment for transport in the region, including

construction of the Ordsall Chord, which will enable new direct services to link Manchester Airport to key towns and cities across the North. The Government has also made the M60 a smart motorway between junction 8 of the M60 and junction 20 of the M62 to help relieve congestion and improve journey times.

6. Government has recently committed up to £300 million to go towards ensuring HS2 infrastructure can accommodate future Northern Powerhouse and Midlands rail services. Transport for the North are working up the case for these services, including aiming to enable faster journeys between Liverpool and Manchester and services between Liverpool and Leeds to go via Manchester Piccadilly station.
7. Greater Manchester is developing and prioritising a pipeline of transport investment programmes for the next 20 years that will help support the delivery of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and city region's 2040 Transport Strategy. To support this, the Autumn 2017 Budget announces that Greater Manchester will be provided with an allocation of £243 million over four years as part of the Transforming Cities Fund. This funding will provide Greater Manchester with the flexibility to make strategic decisions on the priority transport projects to take forward to support delivery of their strategies, and help to improve connectivity and reduce congestion in the region.
8. In addition, Greater Manchester and the Government will continue to work together to explore future funding for transport for Greater Manchester beyond the Transforming Cities Fund, including exploring mechanisms to capture land value. We have set up a working group to explore mechanisms to capture the increase in land value created from new development and regeneration, to help reinvest in local infrastructure and services. The Government and Greater Manchester are also continuing discussions on a housing deal for Greater Manchester which we aim to conclude next year.
9. Greater Manchester is taking an integrated approach to transport and environmental issues, working with Government through the new UK Plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations. The Government and Greater Manchester will work in partnership to ensure that Greater Manchester is able to bring forward and implement its local air quality plan so that air quality limits are achieved within the shortest possible time.

Homelessness

10. Government will invest £28m in Housing First pilots in three areas across England, one of which will be in Greater Manchester. This will support rough sleepers with the most complex needs to turn their lives around. Under this approach individuals will be

provided with accommodation alongside intensive key worker support to enable them to recover from issues such as mental health or substance abuse and sustain their tenancies.

Work and Skills

Post-16 skills

11. The Government commits to work with the GMCA as we implement one of the first Skills Advisory Panels (SAP), building on the already established Greater Manchester Skills & Employment Partnership. The SAP will involve an enhanced local partnership between the GMCA, local employers, post-16 skills providers and Central Government. SAPs will have a key role in bringing together strategic planning for post-16 skills provision based on data and intelligence on local labour market demand, and in influencing post 16 skills provision, including the implementation of T levels in the local area.
12. In particular, the Government and the GMCA will take account of SAP analysis when allocating future capital and workforce development funds to local colleges to ensure colleges and providers in the region have plans that meet local labour market needs. The GMCA will work with Government and local employers to encourage a strong Greater Manchester offer of traineeships, work placements and apprenticeship placements.
13. Working within the Government's forthcoming strategy for careers services, the Government will work with GMCA to ensure GMCA fully engages employers in playing a full role.

Offender Management

14. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Greater Manchester have been working together for several years to deliver improved criminal justice outcomes in the local area, fostered by the agreement of the first justice devolution deal in March 2016. Building on this agreement to better join up justice services with those in the community, our new commitment will focus on supporting GMCA and local operational leaders to improve integration between education provision within prisons and work and skills opportunities in the community.
15. The MoJ and GMCA will continue to work together to join up offender management services with those in the community, and to deliver this will refresh their joint Memorandum of Understanding by March 2018, clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of the MoJ, GMCA and senior operational leaders. In doing this, a particular focus will be given to delivering the existing commitment to better integrate adult education and skills training provision in the community with education

provision in prisons, ensuring that empowered prison governors are supported to deliver within the context of a place and its labour market as well as a wider integrated work and skills system to avoid duplication and ensure transition from learning and skills in prison to community is connected.

Employment support

16. Through the Working Well Programme, Government and Greater Manchester have worked together to put in place a localised employment support programme that meets local labour market needs and connects the range of support services on offer, tackling fragmentation and duplication and resulting in better outcomes for residents at a reduced cost for the tax payer. Government and Greater Manchester will work with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and local Jobcentre managers to explore opportunities to improve employment support for older people, including consideration of a locally tailored offer targeted at the over 50s.

Trade and Investment

17. In the 2014 Devolution Deal, Government and Greater Manchester committed to working together to provide integrated business support services to Greater Manchester businesses that reflects the needs of export and investment customers. Building on the progress that has been made since 2014, the Department for International Trade (DIT) will work with Greater Manchester to agree a new Trade and Investment Plan, to serve the customer and economy better in terms of increasing exports and investment and, following appropriate analysis, agree how Greater Manchester and DIT activities and resources can be better aligned and enhanced to achieve this.

Mayoral capacity and funding

18. The Government will launch a one-off Mayoral Capacity Fund totalling £12 million over two years, which will be available to Mayoral Combined Authorities with elected mayors, including GMCA. This fund will support the new mayors by boosting their capacity and resources to deliver for their local area.