

## GROWTH DEALS 3 FACTSHEET – CHESHIRE & WARRINGTON

### 1. How much is the Government investing in Cheshire & Warrington as part of the Growth Deal programme?

	<b>Growth Deal One (July 2014)</b>	<b>Growth Deal Two (Jan 2015)</b>	<b>Growth Deal Three (Nov 2016)</b>
Local Growth Fund Award	£142.7m	£15.1m	£43.3m
<b>Total Award</b>	<b>£201.1m</b>		

### 2. What will this new funding deliver?

This new tranche of funding will deliver:

- **Unlocking Winsford Industrial Expansion Land** – Infrastructure improvements to unlock the development potential of a 30 hectare area of new employment land around Winsford Industrial Estate, with a highways access scheme that includes a new highway alignment and upgrading of the local road network.
- **Warrington East Highway Improvements** – Designed to unlock land for development and maximise the growth potential of the Birchwood employment area in East Warrington.
- **Crewe High Speed Ready Heart** – A project to ensure Crewe is ready to deliver growth ahead of the development of the HS2 Hub Station by delivering redevelopment, including leisure, retail and residential elements, and a new bus interchange.
- **Joint Cheshire and Warrington Sustainable Travel Access Fund** – A package of transport infrastructure targeted at overcoming walking and cycling barriers to key economic areas across Cheshire and Warrington, including new cycle routes, bridge crossings and upgrading existing routes.
- **Omega Local Highway Schemes Phase 2** – Major junction improvements at the junction of Omega Boulevard and Lingley Green Avenue in North and West Warrington to reduce traffic congestion and accessibility problems, which are both seen as a key constraint on growth and investment in the adjoining Omega and Lingley Mere development sites.
- **A51 Tarvin Road** – Removing two pinchpoints by delivering carriageway improvements, additional lanes and widening the A51/B5132 roundabout to alleviate a bottleneck and improve economic development, access to jobs and opportunities and strategic investment along the A51 corridor.
- **Skills Capital** – A programme of projects to deliver higher level technical and professional education to support demand within the Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone, the wider Northern Gateway Development Zone and the Mersey Dee Economic Axis.
- **Energy Innovation Fund** – supporting the delivery of the LEP’s Low Carbon Action Plan by stimulating innovation in SMEs working in the low carbon and energy sectors, and by

increasing skills and capacity of SMEs and their workforce to expand services into low carbon market.

### 3. What has previous funding delivered?

This builds on previous Growth Deal investments in Cheshire & Warrington which have funded or will fund the following projects:

- **Chester Bus Interchange** - £13.5 million for road improvements and bus infrastructure including a new bus interchange to free up capacity and open up development sites for a multi-million pound development project in the city centre.
- **Omega Birchwood Transport Improvements** - £2.1 million for a package of works to enable the use of sites in the Birchwood area of Warrington, a major employment site and key within the Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone.
- **West Warrington, Omega, M62 Junction 8** - £5 million to improve access and reduce congestion to Omega development sites to create new employment and housing opportunities.
- **Thornton Energy Demonstrator** - £6.8 million to utilise the significant national asset left by Shell to the University of Chester to enable energy companies to test at scale new power saving and distribution technologies.
- **Life Science Investment Fund** - £10 million investment into a £45 million fund, working jointly with Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership, to support growth in the life science cluster in Cheshire and Greater Manchester to encourage new business start-ups and spin out companies following AstraZeneca's departure from Alderley Science Park.
- **Skills Capital** - £12.1 million for an employer led programme to address skills needs in engineering, energy, logistics, manufacturing, agri-tech and sports science with a focus on estate renewal and employer-led business hubs.
- **Warrington Waterfront** - £5.3 million to create a new bridge crossing over the River Mersey and improve a key route at the southern end of the town centre to support the release of employment and residential sites.
- **Warrington West Railway Station** - £6.5 million for a new station to improve accessibility in west and north Warrington and key employment sites including Omega and Lingley Mere.
- **Poynton Relief Road** - £22 million to support the physical and social regeneration of Poynton and improve connectivity for the Northern Macclesfield business route and the strategic link between the A6 to Manchester Airport Relief Road and junction 17 of the M6 via Congleton.
- **Congleton Link Road** - £45 million to develop a 5.5km single carriageway road between the A534 Sandbach Road and the A536 Macclesfield Road, a crucial piece of infrastructure needed to support the employment and housing aspirations in the Local Plan Strategy.
- **Ellesmere Port Development Zone Public Sector Services Hub** – £8.4 million to bring together seven public sector stakeholders and release a number of sites across the town centre for redevelopment as housing and employment land.
- **Crewe Green Roundabout** - £3.3 million to remove a key congestion pinchpoint on the main distributor network in Crewe and improve access to strategic employment sites at Basford, Capricorn (J1) and directly open up an allocated housing site.

- **Sydney Road Bridge** - £5.85 million to remove the bridge to significantly improve access to the development sites of Leighton West, Coppenhall East and Maw Green. The scheme will provide journey time improvements on a key urban link between the A534 and A530 and improve access to the accident and emergency department from the M6, Sandbach and Congleton.
- £350,000 to support development and operation of a Business Growth Hub.
- An increase in the Housing Revenue Account borrowing for Cheshire West and Chester Council of £7.5 million.

#### **4. How will this benefit the local community?**

This Local Growth Fund investment will deliver projects that will make a real difference to local people. Transformational infrastructure projects such as Winsford Industrial Estate, Omega Local Highway and Tarvin Road will pave the way for developments that will create thousands of local jobs and new homes, while Crewe High Speed Ready Heart will create local employment and training opportunities and improve quality of life for the local community through new and improved leisure and retail facilities, new homes, and new bus services.

#### **5. How will this benefit local businesses?**

The projects funded through the Local Growth Fund will create the right conditions for local businesses to develop and grow through improved infrastructure around major employment sites to improve access and ease congestion, opening up new land for development and investment, and ensuring they are able to attract the skilled workers they need to meet their needs. Projects are developed with the needs of local people and businesses as their key priority. For example, Crewe High Speed Heart will ensure the chosen developer promotes sub-contract opportunities to local SMEs and delivers local jobs and apprenticeships.

#### **6. How will this Deal help the Government work to deliver one million homes in this Parliament?**

This new funding will deliver over 1,400 new homes. For example, through highways improvements around the Omega site in Warrington, nearly 400 new homes will be created in one of the fast-growing areas in the North. Investment for the A51 Tarvin Road will also directly contribute towards a housing development that will build over 200 homes.

#### **7. How does this link to the Northern Powerhouse?**

The Northern Powerhouse is a vehicle for addressing productivity gaps across the country and ensuring a stronger, more sustainable economy for all parts of the UK. Through the Local Growth Fund, central government has already agreed over £2.9 billion worth of Growth Deals in the North to help address these issues by supporting locally-led projects to boost economic growth. This additional funding round will provide an extra boost of **£556 million** to LEPs within the Northern Powerhouse. The funding will also build upon the innovation, improved business support, and major capital projects which have already led to economic growth in the North, acting as a catalyst for growth building towards the Prime Minister's vision of an economy that works for everyone up and down the country.

### **Other Sources of Funding for LEPs**

This is currently the last round of Growth Deals that will take place in this Parliament. However, LEPs are eligible to bid for many other sources of funding, which they can use to make investments in significant economic projects in their local area.

Cheshire & Warrington LEP has already successfully secured additional investments to fund new projects through for example:

- The Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone, launched in April 2016.
- Growing Places Fund (£13.1 million).
- The Cheshire & Warrington EU structural funds programme (€141.6 million).
- Large Majors business case development funding from the Department for Transport for Middlewich Eastern Bypass, Warrington Waterfront Western Link and the A500 Dualling.

**Communities Secretary Sajid Javid** said:

“As part of efforts to deliver an economy that works for everyone, the Government is equipping local people with the resources they need to drive forward local growth.

“That is why we’re giving £43.3 million new money to Cheshire & Warrington to give businesses the support and opportunities they need to achieve their potential – on top of the £157.8 million we have already awarded”.

**Northern Powerhouse Minister Andrew Percy** said:

“Across the Northern Powerhouse local people will benefit from £556.1 million extra investment thanks to these growth deals.

“This is more government money directly invested into the Northern Powerhouse. It is further proof that we will back the people of the North with the resources they need to reach their full potential.”

**Christine Gaskell Chair of Cheshire and Warrington LEP** said:

“This significant level of funding is great news for Cheshire and Warrington that will enable us to build on the successes of previous rounds of Growth Deal funding, which has supported the delivery of vital infrastructure projects to drive the area’s ambitions of creating a £50 billion economy by 2040.

“This valuable support from Government will fund a wide range of projects including opening up an important industrial site in Winsford, reducing congestion around the Cheshire Science Corridor Enterprise Zone in Birchwood and making improvements to the town centre in Crewe, as well as providing capital investment for our colleges.”