

Item No. 8

GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD

SUBJECT: GM Freight and Logistics Strategy

DATE: 19 September 2016

FROM: Chief Executive, TfGM

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The rapidly growing population, urban infrastructure developments, changes to the way we live, and the Greater Manchester ambition for accelerated economic growth, particularly in the logistics market, are resulting in increased and different demands for goods and services.
- 1.2 These changes are already leading to an increase in levels of congestion, harmful emissions and noise which have a negative impact on the population of the conurbation as well as the number of visitors and businesses willing to invest in the region.
- 1.3 The logistics and servicing industries are predominantly private sector operations and attempts to manage the activities of the industry have historically been focused mainly on regulation and enforcement.
- 1.4 In order for Greater Manchester to prosper and encourage investment, it must present an attractive location in which businesses can operate fairly and flexibly, however, they must be encouraged to do so in a sustainable way.
- 1.5 Recognising the growth potential created by infrastructure investment and the need to minimise the impact on the region, Transport for Greater Manchester has developed the GM Freight and Logistics Strategy (Appendix 1) which is linked to, and supports the delivery of the Northern Freight Strategy commissioned through Transport for the North.

2. The Greater Manchester Approach

- 2.1 The freight and logistics industry is highly competitive and any interventions need to be carefully justified to avoid creating market distortions or adding unnecessary costs. The industry is responsive and adaptable so when the market or policy environment changes it can respond quickly to appropriate incentives introduced by a well-informed public sector.
- 2.2 The GM Freight and Logistics Strategy has been developed in consultation with a broad range of industry actors and stakeholders from both public and private sector organisations. Engagement has taken place through a series of individual meetings, workshops, forums and formal consultation, designed to obtain input regarding the philosophy for the strategy as well as the package of interventions.
- 2.3 The strategy incorporates a balanced package of interventions which seeks to encourage the industry to change their behaviour for the common good.
- 2.4 Criteria for the selection of interventions were based on the level to which they achieve the following:
- reduce externalities;
 - increase the economic efficiency of the freight and logistics industry and/or increase economic activity within GM; and
 - move GM closer to achieving the vision for freight and logistics.
- 2.5 For ease of consideration the key interventions proposed in the strategy can be categorised into five areas of focus:
- Strategy and Engagement – engagement with the industry, Local Authorities and other partner bodies; review of policies, strategies and new technologies; development of the evidence base;
 - Safety and Regulation – accreditation schemes; review of restrictions and regulation; education, training and provision of information;
 - Operational Activity – culture and behaviour change targeting procurers, planning and highways teams, facilities managers, logistics companies, freight operating companies and suppliers;
 - Infrastructure – network improvement, sustainable commercial development (Urban Distribution Centres, Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges), working with partners (Highways England, Network Rail); and
 - Planning and Research – Planning process, work with other city regions, long-term development and mode shift.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 The package of interventions set out in the strategy will be implemented jointly, between TfGM and the districts, across the conurbation. Work will continue to identify funding for delivery of specific projects.
- 3.2 Work has commenced to establish the Greater Manchester Freight and Logistics Forum with a launch event planned for 16th September 2016.
- 3.3 A Public sector conference is proposed for October 2016 which will bring together the main stakeholders who are in a position to influence the operations of the industry. The conference will provide an opportunity for exchange of ideas, collaboration and the development of consistent approaches across the conurbation.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The Board is recommended:
 - to note the contents of this report and the GM Freight and Logistics Strategy; and
 - support the implementation of the strategy across Greater Manchester.

Dr Jon Lamonte,

Chief Executive, TfGM