1. BACKGROUND

As the implementation of the Greater Manchester Devolution Agreement gathers pace, there has never been a more interesting and challenging time for Greater Manchester, as we work hard to create a prosperous employment and skills landscape that benefits all residents and businesses across the city region.

Greater Manchester has a long and proud history of innovation and leadership, and our ambition is to see this great city region not only at the heart of a thriving Northern Powerhouse but also leading the way as an exemplar of what can be achieved through a dynamic, integrated work and skills system which recognises that with better skills comes improved employability and, in turn, increased productivity.

The ambition is clear: we want all our residents to be in a position to achieve their goals through productive, fulfilling employment with skills at the heart of personal and professional development, whether entering the world of work for the first time or progressing in their careers. Our ground-breaking devolution agreements with Government provide a unique opportunity to deliver our ambitions and to join up with other public services such as transport and health.

We want to ensure that Greater Manchester’s employers have access to and ownership of an adaptable, resilient local workforce with the skills they need to thrive now as well as a work-ready talent pool to draw upon for the future. We want to ensure that the work and skills infrastructure in Greater Manchester – from providers of learning and skills to the support services which enable residents of all ages to identify, access and excel in their chosen learning – provides the support and the pathways that will deliver a system with the needs of our employers and learners at its heart.

This Work and Skills Strategy, and the ten priorities which underpin it, will be key to delivering this ambition.

2. ROLE

Members of the GM Work & Skills Executive Group will be nominated by each local authority. They will be Executive Members who have responsibility for Work & Skills in their district.

The GM Work & Skills Executive Group will:
• Provide strategic political oversight for the continued development of work and skills in GM, reporting progress to GMCA.

• Ensure GMCA & local authorities are supported in their role in monitoring progress and scrutinising progress in the implementation of GM work and skills priorities.

• Ensure cross-sector collaboration continues to be prioritised in the development of work and skills plans.

• Review and inform GM work and skills proposals on behalf of GMCA.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

The GM Work & Skills Executive Group will meet quarterly. The Group will be chaired by the GMCA Leader who holds the W&S portfolio. The Group will be supported by the GM W & S Executive and officers.