LEP/17/55 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS
The following interest were declared by LEP Members:

Councillor Sean Anstee, Councillor Richard Leese, Councillor Jean Stretton, Richard Topliss and Mike Blackburn declared their interests in the item regarding ‘Manchester Business Productivity and Inclusive Growth Programme’ (Minute LEP/17/61 refers) by virtue of being Board Directors of the Manchester Growth Company.

Mike Blackburn declared an interest in the item regarding Greater Manchester Digital Strategy Update (Minute LEP/17/58 refers) as he was employed by British Telecom. He also declared an interest in the Item regarding the Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund (Minute LEP/17/62 refers) as a Trustee of the Lowry Theatre.

Fiona Gibson declared an interest in the item regarding the Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund (Minute LEP/17/62 refers) as she was employed in the arts sector in Greater Manchester.

LEP/17/56 MINUTES
Consideration was given to the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2017.

AGREED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the GM LEP Board held on 18 September 2017 be approved and that the verbal update on the Autumn Budget be noted.

LEP/17/57 MATTERS ARISING
Submission to the Autumn Budget (Minutes LEP/17/52 refers)

The Board was informed that wide ranging dialogue had been undertaken with Government officials in preparation for the Autumn Budget on the potential next steps in the devolution of powers and resources to GM.

The Board was informed that discussion had centred on the priorities of the Greater Manchester Strategy and included proposals on skills, transport innovation, Early Years and housing.

There was also further work on the role of education with the Ministry of Justice, GM’s approach to supporting trade and investment as well as proposals on health and social care efficiencies.

GM was now waiting for a statement from Government to clarify their position which will be shared with the Board.

**LEP/17/57 EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

A report was submitted that outlined the key priorities of the GM Employer Engagement Framework. The report also set out the five priorities and agreed areas for immediate focus activity within each priority over the next six months. The details on these priorities were set out in paragraph 2.4 of the report and were accompanied by an action and implementation plan.

The Board noted that the proposed GM Employers Charter would help to address a number of issues raised in the report and that a consultation will be drafted shortly with input from GM employers and employees themselves.

The Board recognised that for a number of unemployed people, a lack of skills was the not the primary issues but rather being unable to find out about opportunities or having the resources to apply for jobs

The Board discussed how such an ambitious programme could be achieved and how partners could be brought together to drive this forward, particularly with those people/agencies already active in this area.

The Board was informed that GM had made significant progress in a number of priorities but that it would be crucial to harness the contribution of partners in future.

The Board felt it would be useful to have a further report setting out the key measurables for the programme in order to better gauge progress.

**AGREED**

1. That the Employer Engagement Action and Implementation Plan be noted.
2. That a further paper be submitted to the Board in 6 to 12 months-time outlining the key measurables.

**LEP/17/58 GREATER MANCHESTER DIGITAL STRATEGY UPDATE**

(At this point in the proceedings Nancy Rothwell took the Chair as Mike Blackburn had declared his interest in this item)
Members received a presentation on Greater Manchester’s Digital Strategy which included key facts on GM’s digital and creative economy and GM’s ambition to be a recognised global digital city region which highlighted emerging actions to recommend to the Digital Summit on 8 December 2017.

The Board noted that GM approach could be strengthened by taking account of the new digital data produced on health and social care by local universities.

The Board welcomed the report which provided a strong strategy to take forward GM’s digital ambitions. Further work could be useful in identifying those areas where GM intervention could add most value including areas such as e-commerce and the creative digital industries, digital health, digital industry and digital smart infrastructure (City Verve).

There was also a need for the strategy to consider the needs of small businesses as this sector would require assistance with digitalisation and enabling capacity as well as new regulations regarding data protection.

**AGREED**

That the presentation be noted.

(Mike Blackburn retook the Chair at this point in the proceedings)

**LEP/17/59 LOCAL GROWTH DEAL (1, 2 AND 3): SIX MONTHLY TRANSPORT PROGRESS UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report on the Local Growth Deal in relation to a programme of Major Schemes, Minor Works and Additional Priorities. (Growth Deal 1, 2 and 3). The report updated the Board on the current position and recent progress of the Growth Deal transport programme.

The Board was provided with a summary of the recent work undertaken in relation to mobilising the latest round of Growth Deal schemes (Growth Deal 3), including the proposed governance arrangements for these schemes.

It was reported that where projects have fallen behind target, further mitigation had been put in place and the programme would be managed carefully to cover any slippage.

A member queried how GM could challenge Government decisions where submissions for transport development had not been successful. In response it was reported that GM could ask for feedback and provide any challenge through colleagues in DCLG and DfT.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the position outlined in the report in relation to the current Growth Deal Major Schemes programme; Growth Deal Minor works and Additional Priorities programmes be noted.

**LEP/17/60 GM HS2 & NPR GROWTH STRATEGIES**
The Board received a paper that following a decision in autumn 2016, TfGM and Manchester City Council were awarded £2.5m funding by DCLG to develop growth strategies around the HS2 stations at Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport.

The Board was informed that the core outputs of the GM HS2 and Northern Powerhouse Rail Growth Strategies were contained in a summary document and a business case would be made to government outlining the scale of ambition that can be realised by harnessing the arrival of HS2 and NPR into Greater Manchester.

The summary document would be Greater Manchester’s outward-facing document which explains the Growth Strategies and the potential for growth by investing in infrastructure at Piccadilly and the Airport. It also explained how the strategies would be delivered and the role both Greater Manchester and the Government would need to play in delivering this ambitious plan.

The Board discussed GM’s preferred wish to develop an underground HS2 line to Piccadilly Station to meet current needs and address future additional capacity.

The Chair suggested GM’s approach could benefit from further engagement with the business sector so they could better understand the facts behind the proposal and galvanise support.

**AGREED**

That the report be noted.

The following items contained matters relating to the financial or business affairs of particular persons or organisations. It was therefore agreed that any discussion on these items should not be held in public.

**LEP/17/61 GREATER MANCHESTER BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAMME**

(At this point in the proceedings Nancy Rothwell took the Chair as Mike Blackburn had declared his interest in this item)

Consideration was given to a report that provided details of the GM Business Productivity and Inclusive Growth Programme which sought funding from the Local Growth Fund (LGF).

**AGREED**

1. That the proposed plans for the development of a GM Business Productivity and Inclusive Growth Programme be noted.
2. That, subject to the GMCA approving the match element of the programme and monitoring/evaluation arrangements being put in place (including for social value), a LGF grant agreement should be issued to the Growth Company to deliver this programme.
3. That it be noted that should the local authority match element not be approved by the GMCA, a further report will be brought to the LEP with a revised programme for LGF approval.
LEP/17/62 NORTHERN CULTURAL REGENERATION FUND: PROJECT SELECTION

The Board was informed that in September 2017, GM LEP and GMCA agreed to submit a project from Greater Manchester to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) “The Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund” to help towns and cities in the North ‘build a lasting regional legacy from the Great Exhibition of the North.

A report was submitted that updated the Board on the project selected and sought Board agreement to submit a strong business case for the Rochdale Runway project as GMs submission to the Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund by the deadline of 30 November 2017.

AGREED

1. That the panel’s project selection be noted and supported.
2. That the Rochdale Runway project should be submitted as the Greater Manchester proposal for funding via the Northern Cultural Regeneration Fund.

LEP/17/45 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 15 January 2018
Monday 19 March 2018
Monday 14 May 2018
Monday 16 July 2018
Monday 17 September 2018
Monday 12 November 2018

Monday 14 January 2019
Monday 18 March 2019
Monday 13 May 2019
Monday 15 July 2019
Monday 16 September 2019
Monday 11 November 2019

LEP/17/46 INFORMATION ITEMS

- An update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund
- A copy of the latest Brexit Monitor
- Verbal update on the University of Manchester’s plans for the redevelopment of their North Campus
- Verbal update on the development of a Textile Centre of Excellence in Manchester.