

## LOW CARBON HUB BOARD

**Date:** 19th January 2017

**Subject:** UPDATE: GREEN SUMMIT PROPOSALS

**Report of:** Mark Atherton, Asst Director Environment

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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this paper is to update the Board on the emerging proposals for the Mayoral Green Summit, to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board is requested to:

- Discuss and comment upon the proposals for the Mayoral Green Summit

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<b>TRACKING/PROCESS</b>		
Does this report relate to a Key Decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution or in the process agreed by the AGMA Executive Board		No
<b>EXEMPTION FROM CALL IN</b>		
Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the AGMA Scrutiny Pool on the grounds of urgency?		NA
AGMA Commission	TfGMC	Scrutiny Pool
19 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	NA	NA

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 Greater Manchester has traditionally held a strong aspiration towards reducing carbon emissions. GM is currently on track to meet its 2020 target of a 48% reduction (from 1990). To support the existing ambition of Districts, the GM Mayor's manifesto included a commitment to hold a Green Summit within the first year of him taking office "to declare a new, accelerated ambition for Greater Manchester on the green economy and carbon-neutrality" and "in the meantime, ask experts and city stakeholders to lead a public debate on what that new goal should be."
- 1.2 Many (soon to be all) Districts will have independently signed up to the UK100 Cities '100% Clean by 2050' commitment. The Mayor would like to emphasise Greater Manchester's leadership on this agenda by setting a new ambition for clean air, access to quality green-space and an accelerated ambition for Greater Manchester to become 'carbon neutral' before 2050. These outputs directly relate to wider socio-economic outcomes for improved health, reduced fuel and food poverty, reduce flood and business risk and support sectoral growth.
- 1.3 To ensure that the views of GM citizens, businesses and organisations are heard, we intend to bring together stakeholders, academics and environmentalists by hosting Green Summit 'listening' events to scope out the way in which citizens can shape their future and demonstrate how we can work together on environmental issues that affect us all and support the development of a Green Charter leading up to and as part of the Summit.
- 1.4 The Green Summit could also result in the production of a post 2020 "GM Environment Strategy" following the event. It is therefore proposed that the Green Summit will be the culmination of an engagement exercise, rather than the beginning of the discussion.

## **2.0 UPDATE**

- 2.1 The date of the Green Summit has now been set for 21<sup>st</sup> March to avoid both purdah and MIPIIM in Cannes. Manchester Convention Centre has been booked for the full day. The venue can hold up to 800 people, however their catering can only support 400. A list of key note national and international speakers has been drawn up and informal approaches have been made.
- 2.2 'Hold the Date' Invitations to the event were distributed to local civic, public and private leaders, LCH Board and Steering Group members before Christmas. This was then circulated to a wider audience post-Christmas. To date there are approximately 300 expressions of interest from people wanting to attend the Summit.
- 2.3 If the number of people expressing an interest exceeds capacity, a selection process will be undertaken to try to get a good spread of people, experts, business and other organisations. These will then be sent a formal invitation.

As part of the invitation, there may be a request for attendees to outline in their acceptance what their organisation would be willing to do to support a new environmental vision for Greater Manchester.

- 2.4 As mentioned at the last Board meeting, GM has received funding from BEIS to develop a city region transition pathway to 2050 (SCATTER) and tools for other Core Cities to develop future energy scenarios which will help to inform what a future carbon neutral target date should be. Five SCATTER workshops were held in mid-November for experts on the topics of Transport, Energy, Buildings, Sustainable Consumption and Production and Natural Capital. The feedback from these events will help to inform the low carbon pathway for Greater Manchester and provide some of the base information required to engage a wider audience.
- 2.4 GM has also attracted further funding from BEIS and a small number of Low Carbon Hub Board member organisations (Siemens, United Utilities, Electricity Northwest, Environment Agency and Salford University) to support the Summit, wider engagement activities and facilitate the development of an Environment Charter for GM (particularly the energy related elements of that), which could be agreed as a result of the Summit and could subsequently lead to the production of a Post 2020 GM Environment Strategy following the Green Summit.
- 2.5 It is currently intended that the Environment Charter will be a short document (10-15 pages) which will set out a new 'Vision' for Greater Manchester, based on the feedback from the SCATER workshops and wider 'listening events'. It is currently proposed that the Charter will set out a narrative of what a future Greater Manchester would look like in environmental terms; set out a date by which GM could aim to be carbon neutral, set out some detailed short term actions (to 2020) including key actions from the existing Climate Change and Low Emissions Implementation Plan (2016-2020) and the longer term requirements for us to achieve carbon neutrality by the date specified.

### **3.0 ENGAGEMENT**

- 3.1 A local Green Summit Steering Group (Chaired by Cllr Ganotis) has been formed to support this work, oversee the development of the Summit and ensure the widest possible engagement with Greater Manchester's businesses, organisations, communities and environmental groups.
- 3.2 We want to listen to the views of our residents to understand their aspirations for the sort of city they want for themselves and their children to live, work and play; A natural, liveable city. As well as expert workshops, we will support the running of 'listening events' and use social media to stimulate a discussion and help create a new environmental vision for the city region, ensuring suitable areas of interest and 'communities' within GM are targeted, invited and engaged in the lead-up to the Green Summit.

- 3.3 Proposals for the listening events are now being finalised however, offers of support to host workshops have been received from Pro-Manchester, Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, NW Business Leadership Team, MACF and others. It is intended that these events will be held in January and February 2017, split between Themed events and General Environment Events.
- 3.4 The Steering Group expressed the view that events should not be limited to the central Manchester Area if a wider diversity of voices were to be heard. A number of Local Authorities have expressed interest in running more general events in Town Halls to engage District stakeholders. GM Fire has also suggested that a number of Fire Stations could be used as venues for the same purpose, or for static displays. All events will feedback into the communications channels devised to ensure coordination.
- 3.5 We are also setting up channels for feedback (e.g. online questionnaires), correspondence and coordination – using twitter, GMCA email, Facebook and website and are keen to set the correct communication tone, branding and channel plan. This work is being supported by Environment Agency and GMCA PR.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 4.1 The Board is requested to:
- Discuss and comment upon the proposals for the Mayoral Green Summit

A draft work programme for the Low Carbon Pathway work, the Green Summit and engagement sessions is attached at Annex 01.

