

# LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: The Chair and Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting: 22nd July 2020

Authority/Authorities Affected: All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

## REPORT OF THE METRO MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT

### PUBLICATION OF THE POST COVID-19 ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority has drafted an Economic Recovery Plan on behalf of its members and dozens of key stakeholders. The Combined Authority's members have agreed this report and submitted it for consideration by government. This paper presents the report and immediate actions resulting.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee members:
- a) Note the approved plan;
  - b) Note the need to regularly update the plan to reflect government's own recovery planning and the evolving course of the pandemic; and
  - c) Endorse the actions already underway to progress actions within the plan.

#### 3. DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

- 3.1 In developing this Economic Recovery Plan the Combined Authority has; conducted on-going economic impact analysis, including through primary research, review of secondary research, constant liaison with government, frequent surveys and direct contact with organisations and individuals; engaged extensively with over 300 stakeholders from the Liverpool City Region across the private, public and community and voluntary sectors; and examined approximately 100 potential project or programme contributions.
- 3.2 This is therefore a City Region plan rather than a Combined Authority plan or public sector plan. It will support the City Region's engagement with government on recovery planning/funding as well as provide a local framework for delivering the

recovery. Since both government's thinking and the course of the pandemic will continue to change, the Combined Authority will continue to update the plan.

#### **4. IMPLEMENTATION**

- 4.1 Officers from the Combined Authority and its member local authorities have already launched working programmes to maximise the impact of building retrofit, employment programmes for 16-18 year olds and development of key investments. The scale of the challenges ahead underline the need for a new level of partnership.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Plan will act as a framework for allocating future City Region resources further to government clarification of the national recovery package.
- 5.2 There are no direct costs arising from publication of the Recovery Plan. Further iterations of the Recovery Plan will be undertaken using existing Combined Authority staff resources.

#### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no legal implications arising as a result of the recommendations of this report.

#### **7. RISKS AND MITIGATION**

- 7.1 There are no direct implications. The Recovery Plan will help set the strategic direction for economic growth policy across the City Region and support the prioritisation of the associated national recovery package.

#### **8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 Inclusivity and equality is at the heart of the Recovery Plan, and through the adoption of the Build Back Better principles we have ensured that the development of the plan has reflected this. The consultation exercise has been thorough and includes an array of interested parties, including the public (through focus group, events and surveys). The Recovery Plan will also be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment during July.

## **9. COMMUNICATION ISSUES**

- 9.1 A Communications Strategy accompanies the Recovery Plan. The Recovery Plan has been developed in an accessible format and in a way which is public facing. The key messaging from the plan will also be disseminated in a variety of ways to reach different audiences across the City Region.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 This Economic Recovery Plan was drafted, and must be delivered, in partnership. It is key to shaping medium term policy and investment priorities and decisions for the City Region, protecting businesses' operations and residents' livelihoods today whilst supporting the longer term aims of the LIS – underpinned by measures designed to “build back better”.

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### Appendices:

Economic Recovery Plan, Final Version – (This will be circulated under separate cover)