

pro·manchester  
Green Economy Group

Business Plan 2013



# Innovation through the power of collaboration

# pro-manchester and the Green Economy

## Purpose of the pro-manchester Green Economy Group

pro-manchester is a corporate membership organisation representing the 240,000 employed in the financial and professional service community in and around Greater Manchester.

Boasting more than 320 corporate member firms and engaging with over four thousand individuals which embody the city's network of expertise in the sector, pro-manchester is the natural gateway to the largest financial and professional regional service centre in the UK.

Driving the urgent transition to a greener economy in Manchester relies on the combined intellectual capabilities, and the access to capital, of the financial and professional services sector. At pro-manchester, we recognise the central role that our members have to play, together with the scale of the opportunity that the green economy represents locally, and more widely.

The pro-manchester Green Economy Group exists to ***provide a focus for the financial and professional services sector in Manchester to coalesce around the priorities and principles of sustainable development.*** More than that, it exists to ***propel Manchester as a global centre of excellence for financial and professional services in the green economy, with a view to capturing the economic advantage of exporting our skills and knowledge to wherever in the world we can add value.***

## The Green Economy

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) defines a green economy as one whose growth in income and employment is driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These investments need to be catalysed and supported by targeted public expenditure, policy reforms and regulation changes. This development path should maintain, enhance and, where necessary, rebuild natural capital as a critical economic asset and source of public benefits, especially for poor people whose livelihoods and security depend strongly on nature.

The UK Government defines a green economy as one where "value and growth are maximised while managing natural assets sustainably". DECC, BIS and Defra form a triumvirate of leading departments that share responsibility for driving forward the transition to a green economy in the UK. Institutions such as the Green Investment Bank are central to Government's ambitions for capitalising the green economy, whilst the Environmental Audit Committee has called for a stronger vision and more pervasive fiscal framework to accelerate the transition across all economic sectors.

More locally, Greater Manchester's ambitions for the green economy are reflected in the emerging Greater Manchester Strategy, whilst the GM Low Carbon Hub, chaired by Sir Richard Leese, provides the governance focus for a range of policy and implementation initiatives across the thematic areas of buildings, energy, transport, green spaces and waterways, and sustainable consumption. The overarching vision is for Greater Manchester to have pioneered a new model of sustainable economic growth by 2020, based around a more connected, talented and greener city region where all residents are able to contribute to and benefit from sustained prosperity.

# Group Objectives

In seeking to integrate knowledge, capability and ambition across the Financial & Professional Services sector in Greater Manchester, the Objectives of the pro-manchester Green Economy Group are:

- To encourage and foster collaboration and knowledge exchange within the GM Financial and Professional Services sector on matters relating to the green economy.
- By providing a platform for the coalescence of skills, knowledge and insights, to position the GM Financial and Professional Services sector as a global centre of excellence for green economy financial, advisory and transaction services.
- By aligning our activities to local priorities, to support Greater Manchester's efforts to expedite the transition to a green economy locally.

# Governance

The key features of our governance are:

- A Steering Group will be established comprising no more than 10 full members. New members can be nominated at any time and will be subject to agreement by the Steering Group and pro-manchester.
- A Chair will be elected by the Steering Group on an annual revolving basis, with two Vice-Chairs acting in support.
- A wider group of up to 30 active pro-manchester members will be established with whom the Steering Group will engage on a regular, bi-annual basis.
- Steering Group meetings will be held quarterly, with all minutes recorded and published on pro-manchester website
- Terms of Reference for both the Steering Group and the wider Membership Network will be established

# Activities

Key Activities	Frequency/ Timing	Target Audience	External Resources	Outputs	Lead
<b>1. Events &amp; Knowledge Transfer</b>					
Future Cities	14 January 2013	Public sector Real estate companies Developers Investors Built environment professionals Technology providers	Venue – Deloitte Catering – Deloitte	Members Briefing Paper	Brad Blundell
Real Estate - Understanding Value Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory outlook</li> <li>Minimum Energy Performance Standards</li> <li>Market sentiment</li> <li>Key initiatives</li> <li>Mitigating risk and capturing value opportunity</li> </ul>	10 May 2013	RE Companies & Developers Lenders Institutional investors Agents Legal Advisors Public sector	Venue – HSBC Catering – HSBC	Members Briefing Paper	Jon Lovell/ Anita Gupta / Tom Bashford
Renewables Transactions Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deal flow</li> <li>DD principles</li> <li>AGMA JV</li> </ul>	September 2013 (date TBC)	Financiers & Investors Legal Advisors Manufacturers Public sector	Venue – TBD Catering – TBD	Members Briefing Paper	Tom Bashford / Jenn Hazelhurst
Brownfield Asset Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investment Opportunities</li> <li>Policy &amp; Regulatory update</li> </ul>	November 2013 (date TBC)	Financiers Investors Legal Advisors Land Remediation Specialists Public sector Developers	Venue – TBD Catering – TBD	Members Briefing Paper	Warren Percival

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<b>2. Public Policy &amp; Bid Support</b>					
GM F&P Green Economy Capability Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote visibility with GM policy-makers and bid teams</li> <li>Promote GM as Centre of Excellence for F&amp;P services pertaining to the Green Economy</li> </ul>	Launch 1 March	GM Family (New Economy, AGMA, MIDAS, MCC etc)		Statement PR	Robina Williams Steve Connor
Dialogue with key policy makers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm capabilities against local needs</li> <li>Understand and align to relevant priorities</li> <li>Support GM relationships with central Govt</li> </ul>	Ongoing	GM Family (New Economy, AGMA, MIDAS, MCC etc); DECC; Cabinet Office; BIS; TSB; DfT			All
<b>3. F&amp;P Collaboration</b>					
Annual Social Event	Annual June (date TBC)	Extensive / cross-sector	Venue - Catering –		Robina Williams
Ideas for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century (though-lab) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitated workshop to brainstorm big ticket breakthroughs / initiatives to propel GM into green economy</li> <li>Provide a forum for the Low Carbon Hub to explore breakthrough ideas that could be trialled in GM for wider global application</li> </ul>	November 2013 (date TBC)	Active Member Network and invited guests	Venue - AGMA Catering – Facilitation -	White Paper	Mark Atherton / Jon Lovell
Establish Green Economy F&P Database	Launch 1 March	Extensive	Website host (proManchester)	Database PR	Robina Williams
<b>4. Group Business</b>					
Steering Group Meetings	Quarterly (Jan, April, July, Oct)	Steering Group Members Invited Guests	Venue -	Minutes	Robina Williams
Membership Liaison Meetings (to run back-to-back with Steering Group meetings)	B-Annual (April, Oct)	Active Member Network	Venue -	Minutes	Robina Williams

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