

## **Appendix 2 – Corridor Manchester and its partners**

### **Corridor Manchester Partnership**

Corridor Manchester is the first partnership of its kind in the UK. It brings together Manchester City Council, the University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University and the Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust to build on the partners' investments in the 243 hectare area running south from St Peter's Square to Whitworth Park along Oxford Road, Manchester. The partnership is committed to generating further economic growth and investment in the knowledge economy for the benefit of the city region.

Within the Corridor area, 43% of the activity is within the knowledge-intensive sector, against a national and regional average of 22% and 21% respectively. The Corridor generates £2.8bn GVA which represents 22.5% of Manchester's total GVA. The Corridor employs some 55,000 people, 18% of the city's workforce. It is the knowledge powerhouse of Manchester.

By 2020 the Corridor will see a total investment of over £2.5bn aimed at developing under-utilised land and buildings and securing infrastructure improvements on the Corridor. This investment is part of the Corridor's ambition to deliver £4.7bn GVA with a workforce of 77,000 by 2020.

Such ambitious growth plans need to be set against the equally ambitious targets that the Corridor partners have set for carbon reductions. Carbon reduction targets for the Corridor partners range from 41% to 48% by 2020. The conundrum faced is an increased workforce, building development and infrastructure that would typically increase carbon consumption. Thus the partnership is committed to reducing carbon consumption against a backdrop of increasing demand for consumption brought about by economic growth.

The partnership are fully aware that the achievement of both economic growth and carbon reduction can only be realised by working together. The partnership has fully committed itself to the achieving the 2020 Vision for the Corridor and has established a unique working relationship that transcends institutional boundaries, looking instead to the Corridor as a whole.

## Corridor Manchester 2020 Vision

Our long term Vision is that the Corridor will be recognised globally and locally as a place that is ***original, creative and smart***. It is where knowledge is put to work.

- *Original* because the Corridor not only reflects the radical thinking so evident in the history of the area but is also a pioneer of future city design and growth.
- *Creative* because we encourage and support people to take risks and experiment.
- *Smart* because it is a place of academic excellence and a physical expression of the knowledge economy - where intellect and experience feed a multiplicity of successful ventures.

Our five themes are:

- Transport - Oxford Road's role as a key radial route into the city will be reconciled with its economic strength and potential. Our major investment in public transport will provide us with an efficient system that makes the Corridor much more accessible.
- Environment and Infrastructure - We will transform the physical environment and infrastructure of the Corridor.
- Research and Innovation - The area will be nationally and internationally renowned for the strength of key knowledge sectors – bio and life sciences, healthcare, creative and digital industries, and medical devices.
- Employment, Business and Skills – The Corridor will be a place of quality employment, skills training and education at all levels.
- Sense of Place – The Corridor will be bold, inspiring, original and inventive. It will be known as place for the development of knowledge and people.

We will transform the physical environment and infrastructure of Corridor Manchester. We want to create a living and breathing laboratory that not only brings nature and beauty to Corridor Manchester but is linked to exciting and innovative scientific projects, like our I-Trees project, which will help inform future policy in the fight against climate change.

The main Oxford Road /Oxford Street Boulevard will be a green, thoroughfare linked to the city through the redesigned St Peter's

Square. Visitors will be drawn down Corridor Manchester by the attractive landscaping and vibrancy of the culture and leisure offer, public art installations, events and festivals.

There will be extensive tree planting, and green walls and roofs will be commonplace. The open spaces at Whitworth Park and Grosvenor Park will be improved and an I-Forest established adjacent to Birley Fields campus. The landscaping and planting of that campus will have matured to produce a new green lung for the city.

We will improve the east-west connectivity so there are easy and well used connections between communities in Hulme, Ardwick, Rusholme and Moss Side. There will be landscaped routes for pedestrians and cyclists, and safe crossing points on both Cambridge Street and Upper Brook Street.

The digital infrastructure of Corridor Manchester will be continually updated following the success of the initial pilot in 2009/10. The reputation established through our pilot scheme will ensure the area remains at the forefront of technological advances. The advantages of being a test bed for digital innovation will help the adjoining communities to improve aspirations and life chances.

### **The Corridor Manchester Partners are:**

[The University of Manchester](#), one of the country's top four research universities and a leading teaching institution. World-class academics lead research programmes in a range of fields. This research has produced many of the high value businesses located in the Corridor, as well as having a wider impact on the performance of companies across the region and the UK.

[Manchester Metropolitan University](#) is one of the largest and most popular universities in the UK and our contribution to local industry takes many forms; providing continuing professional development courses, working with businesses and providing work-ready graduates with the skills and expertise that will add value to your business. MMU is also one of the top performing new universities in the UK in terms of its research profile. Our work shapes business and professional practice and influences policy-making, both nationally and internationally.

[Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust](#), a leading research and teaching hospital committed to being at the cutting edge of innovation within the NHS. Working with The

University of Manchester, the Trust is at the heart of a strong and successful bio-medical cluster in the Corridor. The Manchester Academic Health Sciences Centre reflects this shared ambition and lays the foundation of an exciting future.

[Manchester City Council](#). Manchester is an original and modern city with a tradition of entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and a thriving, knowledge-based economy. Today, Manchester is the largest and fastest growing economy outside London.

The Corridor is also home to [Manchester Science Park](#), an organisation that nurtures and supports the development of high value businesses. Many have spun out from The University of Manchester and are at the cutting edge of bio health and digital technology. The park has the potential to double in size over the next ten years.

Corridor Manchester is supported by the [Northwest Regional Development Agency](#)

### **Low carbon economy and green infrastructure**

A key objective in the *Greater Manchester Strategy (2009)* is to:

“Establish Manchester City Region as an internationally recognised research and consultancy centre in low carbon technologies and services and position firms as pioneers of low carbon business diversification.”

The Manchester City Region is one of four designated Low Carbon Economic Areas (LCEA) in the UK. LCEA status will support the Corridor in the development, testing, monitoring and measurement of the effects of new technologies and economic investment in the battle against climate change, achieving significant carbon reduction while helping to create jobs and economic growth. The Corridor’s *Low Carbon Laboratory* concept will support the LCEA objectives by providing real-time and longitudinal urban datasets that can contribute to policy and practise. The Corridor will be the epicentre of knowledge transfer for the LCEA – part of the Corridor’s ambition to be an exemplar for low carbon initiatives.

We are committed to deploying innovative environmental technology, linked with the world class strengths of the universities, to deliver cutting edge research that will measure and monitor the real life impact of climate change, and potential ways in which it can be tackled, on the urban environment.

There are already a number of live projects on the Corridor that focus on reducing pollution, improving air quality and creating greener and cleaner space.

- Work is underway to reduce the carbon footprint of existing buildings through innovative technologies such as installing smart meters into commercial properties on the Corridor.
- MMU's proposals for its new Birley Fields campus at Hulme aims to achieve "3 Zeros" – zero carbon, zero waste and zero water by pushing available technology to its limits and creating a living research test bed for future evaluation.
- The proposals by GMPTE for the cross city bus corridor along Oxford Road.
- The installation of super fast broadband (100 mps) directly to businesses and homes on the Corridor.
- Improvements to the public spaces on Oxford Road itself.
- MMU's new Business School designed by Feildon Clegg Bradley Studios which aims to be the greenest educational building the country.

We are working very closely with Manchester City Council, The University of Manchester and MMU on a number of action research projects to monitor and evaluate the impact of green infrastructure interventions on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The intention is to use the research findings to influence future interventions.

In 2009 we launched i-trees, which is the first of a series of green infrastructure projects we are planning to deliver. We are also looking to retro-fit five of the buildings along the Corridor with different types of green roofs. Like i-trees, their effectiveness and impact will be measured and monitored scientifically to provide essential data to inform how we can affect the city and its buildings to combat the effects of climate change.

#### **i-trees - action research to inform policy**

The i-trees project is a working partnership between Corridor Manchester, The University of Manchester, Red Rose Forest, Manchester City Council and Manchester Metropolitan University. i-trees is also supported by Manchester Science Park and Manchester Academy. Funding for this project has also been provided from the European INTERREG IVB fund as part of the VALUE programme.

i-trees is an action research study, which will measure accurately the important impact of trees in the fight against climate change. It

is being delivered by scientists from the University of Manchester working closely with Manchester City Council.

There are nine i-trees plots all located on the Corridor. Each plot consists of three 3m x 3m grids of tarmac, grass and a tree which are linked to monitoring equipment that gathers information on surface and air temperature, air quality and surface water run off.

The results will provide the data needed to demonstrate the multiple benefits of greenery to city and town environments. It is also hoped the study will be a useful tool to provide planners and developers with data to inform future developments in Manchester so that enough green space is provided to help keep people living, working and visiting the city cool and comfortable as the climate changes.

One of the I-trees plots is located at Manchester Academy High School where pupils are working directly with scientists helping them gather and analyse data:

"i-trees presents our students with a valuable opportunity to contribute to real scientific research. Furthermore, it is crucial that we involve young people in processes to combat climate change, as it is they who will pick up the baton and continue to find solutions".

### **Birley Fields Campus – Manchester Metropolitan University**

The Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) under its 2020 Vision for the University is undergoing a programme of transformation, consolidation and the reconfiguration of its existing estate, currently spread across seven different sites in Manchester and Cheshire.

A major part of this planned consolidation into the city centre is the £120 million investment in the \*Community Campus\* in Birley Field, Hulme. Both Hulme and Moss Side will benefit economically from the development as it is estimated the campus and its 6,000 staff and students will add £29.2 million net annual value to the local economy. The plans represent an exciting opportunity to complete the landmark regeneration of Hulme with facilities that will provide far-reaching community benefits over and above the ambitious targets set in the City Challenge programme of the early 1990s.

This ground breaking development has brought together a strong partnership of Manchester City, MMU, Corridor Manchester and HEFCE, with all partners committed to achieving real impact for the people of Hulme. MMU and its partners are aspiring to build the



greenest Campus in Britain and will strive to deliver against targets that promote a Three Zeros approach to the development \* Zero Carbon / Zero Water / Zero Waste, making a significant contribution to the City 's Carbon Reduction Strategy.

### **The Corridor Manchester Partnership in action**

The Corridor partnership is strategic in its vision but practical in its application. Faced with the challenge of economic growth and carbon reduction, the partnership commissioned a series of area based studies that mapped out the utility requirements of the Corridor, taking into account the projected growth in employment, infrastructure and developments. Taking this one stage further, the partnership commissioned Arup to consider the energy and carbon reduction strategies that the partnership could pursue. A Low Carbon Steering Group representing the partnership has then taken this to the next level – looking at potential applications across the Corridor area. This practical working philosophy is possible because 80% of the estate within the Corridor is owned by five organisations. This concentration of assets, knowledge, commitment and willingness is replicated across the working ethos of the Corridor partnership.

The Corridor is able to demonstrate the effectiveness of the partnership through a number of existing projects:

#### **1. The Royal Eye Hospital**

Corridor Manchester has brought together the partnership to pursue the opportunity presented by the redevelopment of the purpose built 1884 Manchester Royal Eye Hospital building. The £500m new hospitals development by Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust meant that the original eye hospital building was available for development. Because the Corridor had invested in demand and supply analysis of knowledge-based building requirements within the Corridor, a case for the eye hospital to be redeveloped into a centre for bio and health related businesses could be made.

Following a rigorous planning and developer selection process, the partnership has now secured a private and public sector consortium to develop and manage the eye hospital and have secured a leading clinical trials company as an anchor tenant. This £20m development project is unique to the Corridor and to the partnership.

#### **2. Next Generation Access – Broadband Pilot**

Corridor Manchester secured £1m funding for a pilot to test the demand for and benefits of 100mps high speed broadband networks within a commercial and residential location. The partnership appointed Geo Networks to build the physical infrastructure and the network. The project is well underway, with the first buildings set to come online in September. All the Corridor partners will have access to the network in conjunction with private sector business and residential developments within the Corridor. The pilot will not only provide the infrastructure but it will also work with the private and public sector to develop demand-led applications that can be used and testing across the network – for example, applications to deliver healthcare to the home.

### 3. Cross City Bus Corridor

GMPTe and Manchester City Council have been working towards reducing the number of cars within the city for some time. Part of this work culminated in the Cross City Bus Corridor project that will see bus, taxi and cycle only access on several of Manchester's arterial roads. Oxford Road is currently one of the busiest bus routes in Europe – coupled with heavy private vehicle usage and often narrow roads, the experience is not always pleasant. The Cross City Bus Corridor project will radically change this and provide the opportunity for this area of the city to become a visitor destination that befits the cultural, educational and health organisations that make up the Corridor.

The Corridor partnership have been working closely with GMPTe to consider how the project can be a catalyst for further change. The Vision 2020 looks to create a sense of place for the Corridor that is innovative and bold. To this end the partnership are working with GMPTe on the use of public realm and public art to deliver beyond the reduction in traffic and emissions. Why does a bus stop need to look like a bus stop when it can look like a piece of artwork, with broadband access that informs you about what is happening on the Corridor?

### 4. Public Realm Project

In addition to the opportunities that the Corridor are pursuing via the Cross City Bus Corridor, the partnership has recently secured £5m funding to redevelop the public realm round key Corridor sites including First Street, All Saints and the Whitworth buildings at the University of Manchester. The partnership wants to create public





spaces that position the Corridor as a destination and experience. This public realm project will be the start of that transformation.