

A PLAN FOR GROWTH

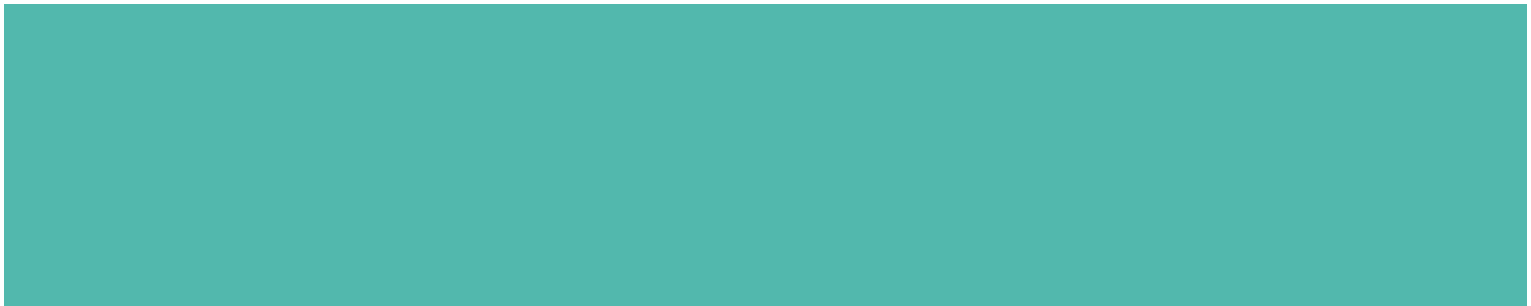
The Labour Government elected in July 2024 stated a clear focus on growth as one of its 5 'missions'. Upon entering office the challenge is to grow the average 1.1% growth since 2008 so that the UK can once again achieve the average growth of 2.8% seen in the preceding 50 years.

Following the May 2024 local elections, Andy Burnham as the GM Mayor will have a new range of funding and powers at his disposal via the Trailb

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- reestablish and grow trade links and develop new opportunities with the EU with a corresponding expansion in resources to deliver this, including preparing for upcoming new legislation and border control rules and changes to VAT packaging, labelling, and Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) that will impact UK businesses. EU barriers must be addressed by specialist advice and support already available within GM but which needs better coordination, is

THE NEXT UK GOVERNMENT TO:

Streamline and ensure that the impact of different taxation and other financial requirements on businesses are understood and changes are better co-ordinated. The cumulative impact of changes to various taxes and schemes is affecting a large number of business in critical ways.

Develop more local, devolved funding and spending mechanisms including a more efficient and equitable way of tackling the persistent problems created by the Business Rate system.

Guarantee that future funding schemes will not be run on resource intensive and wasteful bidding mechanisms and have longer timeframes. Recent funds have been restricted to short term scales and therefore at risk from sudden changes.

Restrictions on funding schemes to include a viable business

GMCC ASKS FOR

THE NEXT UK GOVERNMENT TO:

Commit and stick to net zero priorities and timescales to create certainty and clarity for business to help with investment and planning.

Develop a UK Green Industrial Strategy that will promote the UK as a place for investment for green technologies.

Standardise recycling across all councils and provide better transparency where recycled materials end up.

IN GM

A sustained campaign to make sure local businesses are aware of the 2038 net zero target for Greater Manchester and are informed of support and help available to make the transition. There is a lack of clarity over how this is to be delivered and businesses and residents must have a better understanding of what is required to achieve this ambition.

Support mechanisms that help businesses access innovative net zero technology, processes and techniques and help roll out locally based and developed net zero solutions.

Adequate funding to deliver the uplift in training and upskilling required to ensure GM has the skilled workforce necessary to deliver the net zero transition. This must include the training and skilling up of the tutors and trainers required to deliver this at the necessary scale and must ensure they are paid at a rate that will attract highly skilled professionals.

An inward investment strategy centred on innovative green technology to help make GM a leader associated with this technology this will be linked with the new model proposed for an expanded tradro h