Inclusive Growth for Greater Manchester

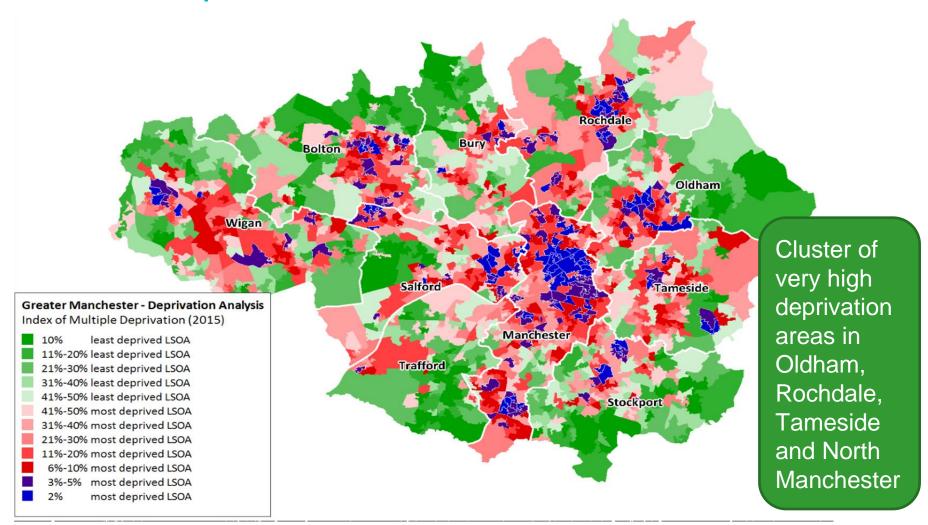
Cllr Jean Stretton, Leader of Oldham Council and Fairness, Equality and Cohesion Lead for Greater Manchester



What did the Brexit vote confirm about how people feel across our region?

- People and places left behind economically
- Widening distrust of the metropolitan elite, media, central government and authority
- A nation divided voting patterns aligned with skills levels

Current picture - tale of two cities



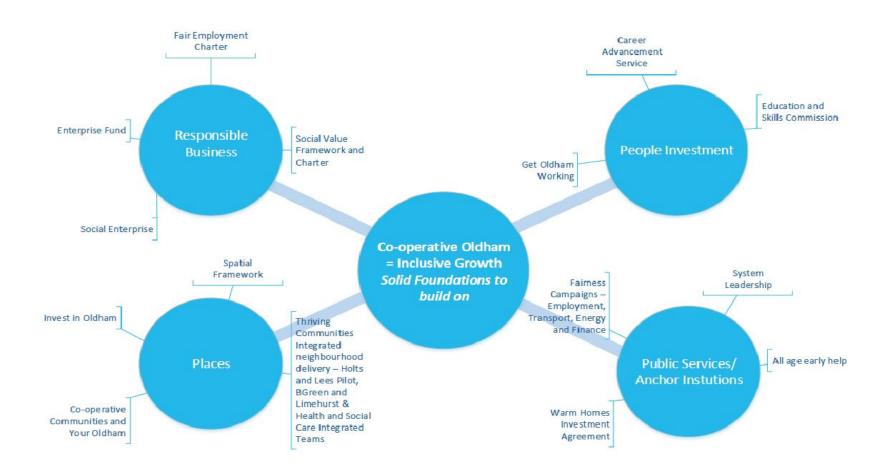
Devolution - The opportunity and challenge

Findings from the Resolution Foundation report, City Living, Nov 16

- There is significant disparity between the average employment rate in GM compared with the rest of the UK.
- There is disparity within GM Trafford has an employment rate of 79%, Rochdale 63%.
- This variation is caused by low employment rates in low economic activity groups.
- GM needs to spread prosperity and investment much more widely to avoid areas being left behind.
- Employment would be boosted more by lifting employment rates among 'low activity' workers across the region to the level of the highest performing local authority on that measure (Stockport).

Pre-conditions for addressing these concerns

- 1- Supporting Thriving Communities
- 2- Collaborative Public Services



Achieving Inclusive Growth in the GM Economy

- Agree a set of 'good GVA' metrics that can be used to target future investment
- Embed Inclusive Growth into all that we do including delivering on the GM Spatial Framework and refreshing the GM Strategy
- Recognise the importance of infrastructure and people/skills investment
- Continue to lobby government on infrastructure and skills devolution but with realistic funding attached

What I want to see from today

- 1- Agreement on what we are trying to achieve in terms of Inclusive Growth.
- 2- Understanding of **existing good practice** across the region (getting people into work, increasing pay, local entrepreneurship).
- 3- Agreement on a **set of priorities** for driving our agenda.
- 4- Agreement on what needs to be in place to make this happen.

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