



Steady State Manchester

steadystatemanchester.net

**Could DevoManc create an economy for
the common good?**

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“continuing with economic growth over the coming two decades is incompatible with meeting our international obligations on climate change” Anderson and Bows-Larkin, 2013

“Globally, economic and population growth continue to be the most important drivers of increases in CO2 [E]missions from fossil fuel combustion. between 2000 and 2010 the contribution of economic growth has risen sharply [and] outpaced emission reductions from improvements in energy intensity.” IPCC, 2013

“growth is also failing on its own terms. It is not providing lasting solutions to the problems of unemployment and poverty, and it is not making people any happier when they already enjoy high levels of consumption” O'Neill & Deitz, 2010.

The GMCA / Treasury model:

- × attracting inward investment to boost competitiveness in the globalised economy;
 - × prioritising large infrastructure developments and other high-profile projects;
 - × enhancing workforce skill and mobility; and
 - × making savings through ‘public sector reform’.
- Assumption of trickle-down.

The reality

- 600,000 Greater Manchester residents are currently experiencing the effects of extreme poverty. In addition, as many as 1.6 million people are at risk of sliding into deeper poverty.
- Those living in poverty face hunger, isolation, fear and frustration. The greatest concentrations of poverty are found among families with children and home-owners. Many of those living in poverty are in part-time work on low wages and suffer from fuel poverty, food poverty and reduced access to basic services such as transport and technology.

Greater Manchester Poverty Commission





care community conviviality
degrowth **ecological**
economic energy enough
ensuring equality equity everyone
investment justice life living **local** localisation needs
people **reduce** resilient
social solidarity steady
stewardship support system **viable**
well-being **work** world





Steady State Manchester engages with decision-makers, influencers and the wider public within Greater Manchester to promote and support the understanding of and implementation of a Steady State Economy and Society. This is based on an understanding of the interconnectedness of the **ecological**, the **social** and the **economic** dimensions for planetary and human well-being.

From the critique of growth to defining the alternative.

- Living well and more equally.
- Security and resilience through environmental protection & green jobs, local production, shorter supply chains.
- More money stays local, funding things like energy efficient, affordable housing.
- Balance. Some sectors must grow, (e.g. renewable energy) and some must shrink (e.g. fossil fuels).
- Focussing on what we want the economy to deliver, rather than the GDP fetish.

The Viable Economy.

Working out what this means at a regional level, with business, public services and community organisations.



Our work

Awareness raising *Publications, blogging, workshops, talks etc.*
Collaborative networking across sectors. Lobbying.

Re-localisation of production, shortening of supply chains. *The local food economy.*

The money system: investment, debt, alternative means of exchange. *Local government & Pension Fund investments and alternatives. Alternative financial systems and the social economy.*

Equality: income distribution and poverty, working hours. *Pay inequality and procurement.*

Measuring success – beyond GDP/GVA. *Ecological footprint and well-being measurement.*