

REPORT TO: Employment, Learning & Skills and
Community PPB

DATE: 24th June 2019

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Enterprise, Community &
Resources

PORTFOLIO: Employment Learning & Skills and
Community

SUBJECT. Liverpool City Region Growth Company

WARDS: Borough Wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 Update Members with the development of the Liverpool City Region Growth Company

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Policy and Performance Board receive the update.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 In the spring 2019, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority announced its intention to establish a special purpose delivery vehicle for economic growth. It will be known as the Growth Company.

3.2 The primary focus of the Growth Company is to develop a 'step change' to how the Liverpool City Region maximises its growth potential in future years. To achieve this, there is a need to develop a clearer and simpler model to support inward investment and business support in the City Region. It is also acknowledged that the success of the Growth Company will require greater partnership working with a number of key institutions, notably Local Authorities; Universities; Colleges and the Third Sector. The proposals seek to further strengthen links between the Combined Authority and Local Enterprise Partnership.

3.3. The establishment of the Growth Company also takes into account the national review of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and the fact that a 'LEP Membership' approach is no longer allowable under new Government rules, and, therefore, changes to the LEP's operating structures are also required. A City Region Partnership Fund is being established to resource the new approach.

3.4 There are a number of areas that could be delivered through this vehicle including:

Growth Sectors	- Sector Leads
	- New Initiatives
	- Supply Chain
	- Networks
	- Tourism Board
Global Promotion	- Liverpool Brand
	- Online Information
	- Internationalisation
	- Global Network
Inward Investment	- One Front Door
	- Account Management
	- Intelligence
	- Proposals
Business Growth	- Support Mapping
	- Growth Hub Expansion
	- Mentoring and Peer Networks
	- University Collaboration
Talent Development	- Skills Needs
	- Employer Led Initiatives
	- Talent Retention
	- Talent Mentoring
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School Partners	- Careers Hub
	- Skills and Opportunities

3.5 Specific areas which may be of interest to Members of this PPB are:

The Growth Company will include:

- the “One Front Door” for investment into the City Region to promote the City Region’s assets and capabilities, and manage and deliver international trade and investment campaigns in partnership with business and the public sector;
- a raft of sector initiatives to support, strengthen and promote our key sector specialisms and expertise and further grow our outstanding visitor economy;
- an enhanced “Local Growth Hub” service for local businesses to get the support they need to survive and scale up;
- programmes with schools, colleges and universities to help improve the transition between education and employment in the City Region to retain and enhance our talent base; and
- innovation and digitisation support for business (e.g. LCR4.0) to increase productivity and growth through effective adoption of digital technology and innovation.

3.6 The business being established is a company limited by guarantee and as such profits will not be collected by an individual, rather surpluses will be re-invested into service provision. The company has been established as a non-trading holding company and will have 5 directors

- 3.7 The Company registered with Companies House on 9th May 2019 formally as LIVERPOOL CITY REGION GROWTH COMPANY (HOLDCO) LIMITED
- 3.8 The Council's Business Improvement and Growth Team is working with the Combined Authority to ensure that there is a joined up approach to the delivery of business support and inward investment

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

A new structure for delivery can support skills development and economic growth in Halton

6.3 A Healthy Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.4 A Safer Halton

There are no implications associated with this report.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

There are no implications associated with this report.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

There are no implications associated with this report

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

There are no equality or diversity issues.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

None under the meaning of the Act.