

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Corporate Plan: Summary for the VCFSE sector

On 24th July 2020, the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority published their roadmap for delivering a “stronger, fairer and cleaner” LCR within their 62 page Corporate Plan.

The Corporate Plan outlines the long-term vision for the City Region and what activity the Combined Authority will undertake over the next three years to achieve the objectives identified. With forewords signed off from Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram, Deputy Metro Mayor Janette Williamson, leaders from all 6 boroughs and the new LCR CA Chief Executive, Katherine Fairclough, it is fair to say that the plan has a substantive level of influence and backing.

However, it is important to understand how and where the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector fits in with the Combined Authorities ambitions, and how the Corporate Plan aligns with the LCR VCFSE Manifesto for 2021-2024. In this document we have outlined key areas of the Corporate Plan that are most relevant for the VCFSE sector and would benefit most from VCFSE sector involvement.

Priority areas and themes

The plan is broken down into **5 priority areas** under which all activity will be undertaken, emphasising the need to work collaboratively with all partners to improve outcomes across these areas of work:



Alongside the priority areas, the plan has three cross-cutting themes that run through it, reflecting the most pressing challenges that the City Region faces for the next three years and beyond:

- **Recovery** – From the COVID-19 pandemic
- **Equality** – Tackling inequalities that the pandemic has exposed and widened
- **Sustainability** – Addressing the climate emergency

**VS6 – Working together to build
a stronger Liverpool City Region**





Fairer City Region

Social innovation, inclusive economy, tackling inequalities, opportunities

- **A “Young Person’s Guarantee”:** Working with LA’s and “other partners” to support young people out of work for more than six months into employment, training or apprenticeships
- **Homelessness Framework:** Working with LA’s, develop a framework that identifies how the CA will complement and enhance solutions for people who are homeless
- **Food Poverty Reduction Strategy:** Working with a wide range of partners, take a convening role to develop sustainable approaches to addressing food insecurity
- **New funding opportunities for VCFSE organisations:** Provide more than £1m of funding to support 100 grassroots organisations across every LA area, including the development of a new Mayoral Charitable Fund
- **Race Equality Programme:** Deliver a £3.6m programme to tackle systematic injustice and inequality to drive forward positive change for Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority employees and residents
- **Digital inclusion:** Working with LA’s and other partners to support programmes addressing digital inclusion
- **Equality Scheme:** Promote equality and diversity across LCR
- **City Region approach to mental health:** Continue to support a consistent focus on ensuring that everyone is able to access the mental health support they need
- **Pipeline of employment and skills projects:** Develop and deliver demand-led portfolio of projects to support delivery of strategic objectives



Stronger City Region

Business and innovation, good quality jobs, social value & community wealth building

- **Developing and deliver a £150m COVID Recovery Fund:** Create new jobs across LCR
- **Community Wealth Building:** Work with LA’s and “other partners” to embed a City Region wide approach, including plans for a Community Bank
- **Fair Employment Charter:** Sign up a minimum of 75 businesses
- **Develop and embed a Social Value Framework:** Improve the social, financial and environmental impact of CA funding with annual reviews
- **Strengthen and develop the business support ecosystem:** Ensure the whole economy is supported



Cleaner City Region

Net-zero, clean energy & sustainability

- **Achieving net-zero carbon target:** Develop an evidence-based plan to achieve net-zero
- **Explore the potential to establish a municipal energy company:** Retail power from Mersey tidal power and other renewable energy sources
- **Pipeline of strategic, community focused green infrastructure projects:** Across all LA's with funding for delivery
- **New interventions to create more green jobs**
- **Continue to implement the Air Quality Action Plan**



Connected City Region

Connecting communities, digital inclusion, reformed transport system

- **Fast and reliable digital infrastructure network:** High broadband speeds across all six areas, aligned to digital inclusion ambitions
- **Local Transport Plan:** How transport planning will deliver the LCR vision and address long-term strategic transport challenges
- **Implementing the City Region Digital Strategy:** With an emphasis on digital inclusion
- **Digitising concessionary travel:** Continue to provide residents with access to affordable concessionary travel



Vibrant City Region

High streets, cultural offer, communities, housing & wellbeing

- **Town Centre Place-Making and Development Programmes:** Provide direct investment and strategic support
- **CA Response to the Town Centres Commission:** Implement and deliver three pilot projects
- **Develop visitor attractions:** Within CA ownership and fund new projects to enhance the City Region's cultural offer
- **Deliver the LCR Cultural Compact Plan**
- **Publish the Spatial Development Strategy**
- **Implement the LCR Brand Strategy:** Strengthen the region's profile nationally and internationally
- **Pipeline of public land assets:** Maximise the positive impact for local people through the Land Commission