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Dear «First_Name»

City Region Governance in Greater Manchester

I am writing to you in my role as a Leader of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) about the future governance of our city region. Many of you to whom this letter has been sent (there is a full circulation list at its end) will be aware that this has been an issue which, in local Government circles, has provoked a great deal of discussion over the past 18 months.

We have been working with partners in Greater Manchester to produce a business case to support our argument for more devolved governance at a sub regional level. However we are conscious that talking to Government alone is not enough. Within AGMA we recognise that we need to be as open as we can about our plans and to engage with others, both inside and outside Greater Manchester to explain in more detail what it is we want to do and why.

The attached discussion paper is meant to be one stage in this process. In brief form it attempts to set out our current thinking and what we see as our priorities for the next stage of development of this project. The paper refers to the more detailed proposals we have made to Government Ministers and directs you to where these can be found on our web site.

For many of you we hope to be able to engage in more detailed discussions in order to discuss some of these issues in more detail in other arenas, specific meetings and events. But, collectively, the Leaders of AGMA thought that now was the time to start a dialogue with you. You will see that the paper attached raises issues and asks questions. We would be interested to

hear your views on these, anything else within the paper and any other thoughts surrounding city region governance you may have.

This is a developmental rather than a statutory process that we are engaged in and we see this dialogue continuing over the coming months. However for the sake of convenience it would be very helpful to us to have some initial reactions by the 20 April. Please send any such initial responses to our Policy Unit at the above address.

Yours sincerely



Lord Peter Smith
Leader, AGMA

Letter and Paper circulated to: -

NW Regional Level

- NWDA
- NWRA
- GONW
- Regional Health Authority
- Regional LSC
- All NW Regional MEPs

Outside G Manchester: Local & Sub Regional

- All Local Authority Leaders in NW Region outside G Manchester (cc their Chief Executives)
- Local authority leaders from authorities outside N W England but with boundaries with G Manchester (cc their Chief Executives)
- All sub regional partnerships outside G Manchester

Within G Manchester

- All G Manchester MPs
- Vice Chancellors of universities in G Manchester
- G Manchester Chamber of Commerce
- G Manchester LSC
- G Manchester Association of PCTs
- Manchester Enterprises
- Manchester Solutions
- GMCVO
- Marketing Manchester
- pro Manchester
- Chairs of local LSPs

cc Leaders & Chief Executives of AGMA Authorities