
INNOVATION GREATER MANCHESTER PARTNERSHIP CHAIR CANDIDATE PACK

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Welcome Letter

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the position of the Chair of Innovation Greater Manchester (IGM). This is an exciting and vibrant time for the IGM Board as we move forward as a reinvigorated partnership.

Greater Manchester (GM) is one of the fastest growing, broadest economies in the UK, enabled by the breadth and depth of our academic research excellence, with strengths across all seven of the key technology families in the UK Innovation Strategy. GM is experiencing the beginning of a productivity resurgence and there is growing confidence that GM can be a world leading innovation hub, delivered by building out from frontier sector strengths and connecting them to enabling and supporting sectors, and continuing to create a vibrant and attractive city-region.

Innovation is a complex activity and is not a linear process, and so the world's most successful and prosperous regions are based around strong innovation ecosystems that bring together the actors, relationships, and conventions needed to conceive, create, commercialise, and adopt innovations, and speed the flows of knowledge, finance, people and services between them. GM has many of the key elements for a high performing innovation ecosystem, and all elements need further investment to build an ecosystem that can drive productivity, local job creation, and compete for investment and talent globally.

The recognition in national policy of the need for a stronger element of place in research and innovation funding has created a demand among government funding agencies, such as UKRI (including Innovate UK, Research England, and the Research Councils), for authoritative, representative, and credible local organisations to work with. IGM seeks to be an exemplar of such an organisation.

IGM exists to create a stronger, greener and more inclusive innovation ecosystem driving innovation led economic growth across GM. At its heart is a partnership that combines the power of businesses, universities, and local government to drive up productivity through collaboration, research and innovation. IGM seeks to establish GM as an internationally recognised and leading innovation ecosystem with clusters of innovation-led businesses and globally significant R&D&I assets, centred on our frontier sectors, driving up productivity growth and prosperity across the North, and providing a blueprint that can be adopted by other places.

Our Board is made up of committed and passionate businesspeople, together with a small number of elected representatives from the Combined Authority and leaders from the city region's universities. Our triple-helix partnership wants to make a real difference to the region, creating a positive legacy which reflects our commitment to inclusive growth and the role the private sector can play in ensuring all our residents can enjoy the benefits of that growth. With our strong triple-helix partnership our vision is to take forward GM's ambition for global standing in R&D&I.

We also understand that different people bring different ideas, knowledge and perspectives. As part of this commitment, we're working to ensure our Board membership reflects the diversity of Greater Manchester's people as well as representing the breadth of Greater Manchester's innovation ecosystem on its Board. We're particularly keen to hear from leaders in frontier sectors but we welcome applications from anyone with relevant experience.

We continue to face several challenges within a complex, fast moving business and political environment but there are also great opportunities and if you would like to play a part in leading the strategic direction of our R&D&I offer, I'd be delighted to hear from you.

We look forward to receiving your application,

Lou Cordwell
Deputy co-Chair of Innovation GM

Advertisement

The Innovation Greater Manchester Partnership Board invites applications for the role of Chair.

Innovation Greater Manchester (IGM) is a business-led partnership that harnesses the collaborative power of businesses, universities, and local government to drive productivity through collaboration, research, and innovation.

Through Innovation Greater Manchester, investments into R&D&I and innovation will drive real change and deliver across all 12 levelling up missions stimulating Greater Manchester's whole innovation ecosystem for the long-term.

Innovation Greater Manchester's goal is to build an innovation ecosystem and ensure the whole city-region benefits from the excellence created and developed, through high-quality education and training, high-quality jobs, good healthcare, affordable houses, spaces to support new and scaling businesses and good infrastructure with improved connectivity for all.

Innovation Greater Manchester will enable our city-region to be a leader of the fourth industrial revolution, known globally for the strength of its innovation ecosystem. By 2030, clusters of innovation-led businesses, centred on our frontier sectors, will fuel productivity growth and prosperity across the North in ways that can be replicated across the UK.

It is not a plan for just Greater Manchester; it is a plan to create a new national engine of growth at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse.

Leading a new triple-helix partnership:

- Innovation Greater Manchester is a new triple-helix partnership, overseen by an industry-led Board, whose goal is to radically increase the levels of investment in R&D&I in the city region.
- The Partnership is harnessing the collaborative power of businesses, universities, and local government too drive real change that is central to the long-term evolution of Greater Manchester's innovation ecosystem.
- By increasing investment into our innovation assets and supporting clusters of innovation-led businesses, centred on our frontier sectors¹, the Partnership will fuel productivity growth and prosperity across the North in ways that can be replicated across the UK. This will enable the city-region to be a leader of the fourth industrial revolution and to be known globally for the strength of its innovation ecosystem as well as cementing Greater Manchester as the national engine of growth at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse.
- The partnership is also striving to ensure the whole city-region benefits from the research and innovation excellence being created here through increasing productivity and the number of high-quality jobs, high-quality education and training, good healthcare, affordable houses, spaces to support new and scaling businesses, and excellent infrastructure with improved connectivity for all.

The Innovation Greater Manchester Partnership Board objectives are to:

¹ Greater Manchester's Frontier Sectors: <https://www.innovationgreatermanchester.com/about-innovation-greater-manchester/frontier-sectors/>

- Increase public and private R&D&I spend in the region by an additional £750m.
- Increase productivity, so that Gross Value-Added increases by £3.8 billion, 5% of additional Gross Value Added
- Create over 100,000 additional jobs related to R&D intensive sectors and occupations.
- Enable a diverse skills and talent pipeline, easy access to finance, and business networks that fuel innovation and enterprise.
- Be recognised as a top ten European city region for science and innovation.
- Deploy innovative approaches to help deliver on levelling up missions, focusing on the role innovation can play to accelerate the transition to a net zero society and reduce health inequalities.
- Ensure the economic, environmental and social benefits of local innovation translate into inclusive economic growth across all parts of the city region.
- Build local capability and capacity to deliver local innovation policy, investment and programmes.

For an informal discussion about role of Chair please contact – Lou Cordwell (Innovation@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) and a call will be arranged.

Closing Date for Applications: 5:00pm on Friday 19th April 2024

Job Description

Chair of Innovation Greater Manchester Partnership Board

Core priorities for the Chair:

- Setting the strategic direction and purpose of the Innovation Greater Manchester Partnership.
- Leading on promoting and delivering the Innovation Greater Manchester Vision².
- Building an effective Partnership Board to implement the Innovation Greater Manchester Vision.
- Acting as an Ambassador for the Partnership and for the Greater Manchester city-region.
- Ensuring the Partnership Board has effective decision-making processes and applies sufficient challenge to major proposals.
- Working with the Executive Director, providing advice, support, guidance and challenge where necessary.
- Complying with the Nolan Principles of standards in public life.³

Chair's essential attributes and experience:

- Strong commitment to UK's innovation agenda and understanding of the drivers and challenges to increasing innovation-led growth and productivity at a city region, national and international level.
- Substantial experience gained at a very senior level, with a high profile and credibility across the wider innovation community.
- Independently minded – clear vision and drive, providing clarity in the development of strategy and the identification of opportunities.
- A high-level of capability with recent, relevant Board experience as a dynamic and respected leader of large complex organisation(s). Ideally experienced in leading partnerships that span more the one element of the triple helix.
- A strong commitment to collaboration and partnership working, leading the vision for an innovative and dynamic culture across the Partnership and wider stakeholders.
- Committed to equality of opportunity and diversity, including an understanding of the barriers and challenges faced by economically or socially excluded groups.

² Greater Manchester Local Innovation Plan sets out the Innovation Greater Manchester Vision: https://assets.simpleviewinc.com/simpleview/image/upload/v1/clients/investmanchester/IGM_Exec_Summary_Nov_22_1_63d0f877-c7fa-4c0f-a328-04fc0cdbeae9.pdf

³ Nolan Principles: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life/the-7-principles-of-public-life--2>

How to apply

Apply by submitting a CV and Covering Letter (no more than 2 sides of A4 in length aligned to the person specification). Please also include your contact details.

Please complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form when you upload your details.

The following timetable sets out the key dates in the recruitment process:

Date	Activity
Closing Date	5:00pm on Friday 19 th April 2024
Longlist/Shortlist Meeting (Candidates are not required to attend)	Late April
Final Panel Interviews	End of April – early May
Decision	Mid-May

To apply for this role, please email your CV and covering letter to - Innovation Greater Manchester Innovation@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

For an informal discussion about role of Chair please contact – Lou Cordwell (Innovation@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk) and a call will be arranged.