

CITY DEAL & INCLUSIVE FUTURE FUND

**Delivering Inclusive & Sustainable
Growth for the Derry~Londonderry
& Strabane City Region**



Derry City & Strabane
District Council
Comhairle
Chathair Dhoire &
Cheantar an tSraitha Báin
Derry Cille & Strabane
Deistrick Council

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021

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1 Foreword

The City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund is the largest ever single investment package by Government into the Derry City and Strabane District Council area. It is an historic and exciting intervention that will contribute to building a stronger, more competitive, resilient and inclusive economy, will deliver higher paid jobs and help create a more regionally-balanced economy over the coming years.

Together we have secured a funding package of £210m through the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund from the UK Government and Northern Ireland Executive. Derry City and Strabane District Council and its project delivery partners are contributing additional funding of circa £40m which will bring the total investment to around £250m.

This funding will significantly expand three world-class centres of innovation excellence currently operating in the City, enhance and maximise our digital connectivity, deliver two major transformational city and town centre regeneration schemes, provide skills and employability programmes and build a new Graduate Entry Level Medical School for Northern Ireland to be located at Ulster University's Magee campus.

This investment will catalyse delivery of a number of projects featured within the City and District's inclusive Strategic Growth Plan 2017-2032 and will advance in parallel with progress on strategic infrastructural and connectivity projects such as rail and roads (A6, A5 & A2 Bunrana Road), investment in healthcare and leisure, and in our communities through Derry City and Strabane District Council's extensive and ongoing community capital investment programme.

Now as we plan for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the new and evolving circumstances created by the UK's exit from the European Union, we must once again adapt and come together in partnership in order to face these new challenges whilst still working together to improve long-established ones as well as recognising and embracing the opportunities created.

By continuing to work together, to build together, to grow together, we, and all of our communities, will become more resilient and stronger to face existing and new challenges as we continue to focus on the horizon ahead, striving to deliver upon our vision of:

A thriving, prosperous and sustainable City and District with equality of opportunity for all.

[Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan \(Nov. 2017\)](#)



2 Summary of the Deal, Projects & Impacts

The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund

City Deals in Northern Ireland are tailored packages of funding and investment negotiated between the UK government, the Northern Ireland Executive and local authority led partnerships. City Deals are designed to create new jobs and employment opportunities, and leverage additional investment to accelerate inclusive economic growth through a medium to long term investment.

The Derry-Londonderry & Strabane City Region City Deal, led by Derry City and Strabane District Council, will be bolstered by further investment through the **Inclusive Future Fund**. The Inclusive Future Fund (IFF) is aimed at bringing greater prosperity and social benefits to our communities.

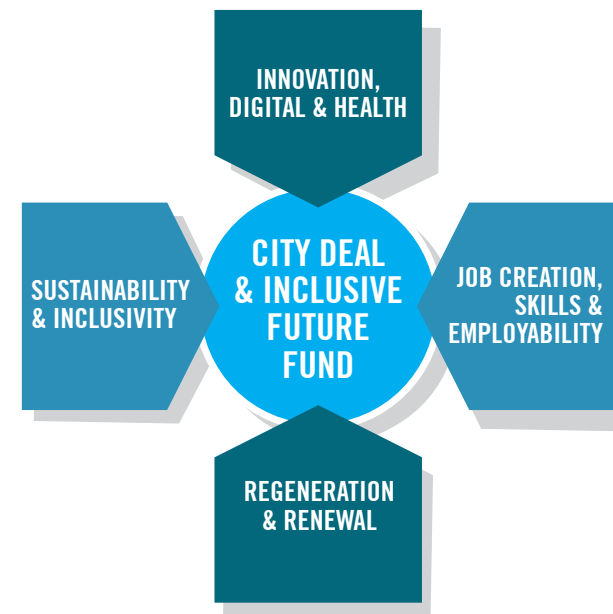
The **total investment package will see circa £250m** invested across our City Region. This is made up of **£100m City Deal** funding with £50m from the UK Government match funded by the Northern Ireland Executive with a further £50m.

The **Inclusive Future Fund comprises an investment of £110m** with £55m coming from the UK Government and £55m match funding from the Northern Ireland Executive to:

- Tackle the causes and consequences of long-term social and physical deprivation
- Create pathways to employment by providing jobs and skills opportunities
- Build on the economic potential of the local university and innovation assets, making the local area more accessible and attractive to live, visit, study and invest.

Derry City & Strabane District Council and its project delivery partners at Ulster University, Western Health and Social Care Trust, North West Regional College and C-TRIC will commit an additional investment of circa £40m to the government funding package of £210m.

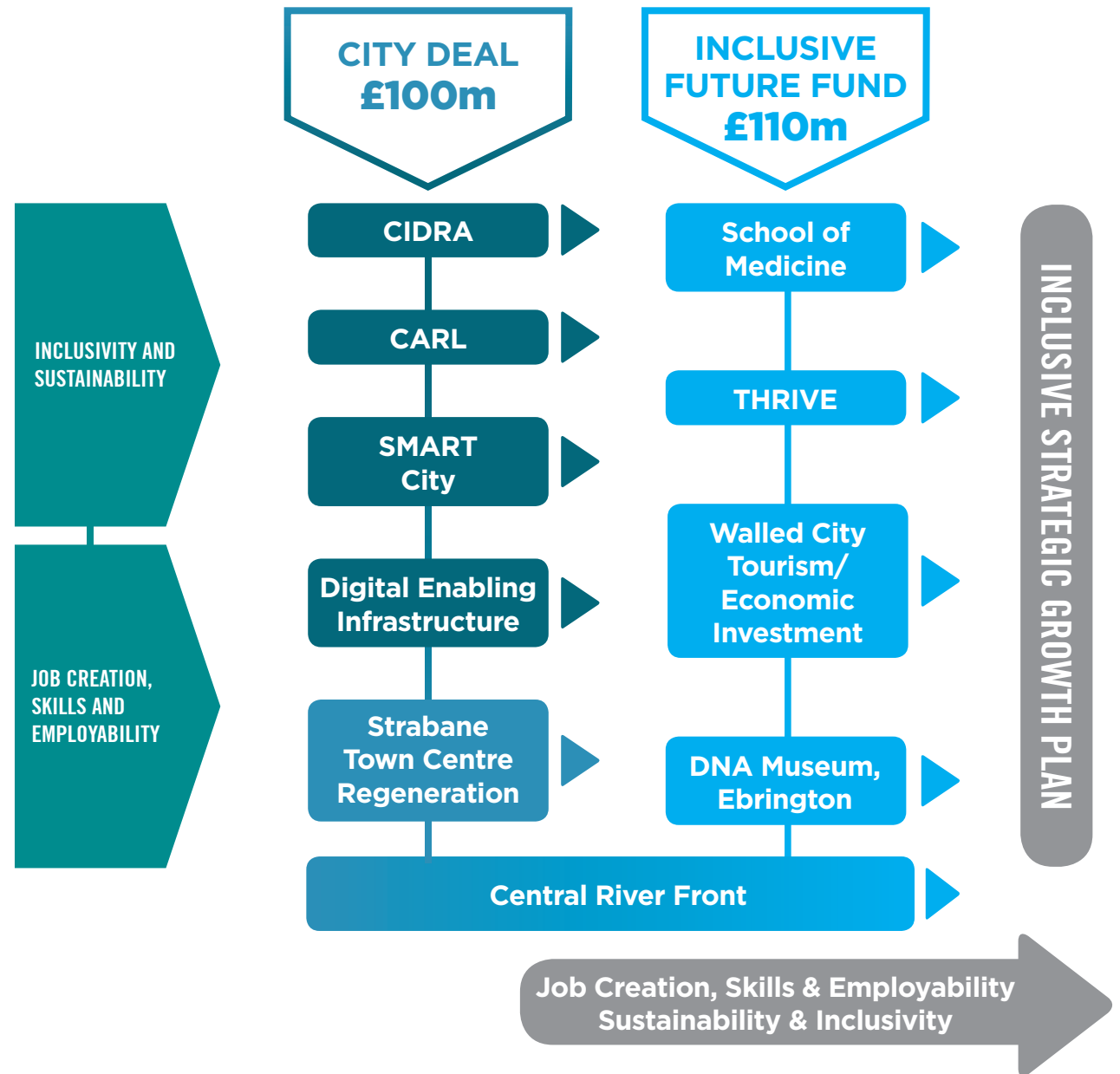
The aim of the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund is to increase and realise the economic potential of the City Region to support a more prosperous, united community and stronger society. The Derry City and Strabane City Deal investment will help boost innovation and the digital potential of the city region and unlock local partner funding, whilst the Inclusive Future Fund is aimed at bringing greater prosperity and social benefits to the whole of the community. The investment package for the Derry City and Strabane City Region will enable us to take forward a range of regionally significant strategic projects across **Innovation, Digital and Health and Regeneration, Tourism and Renewal**. This investment will be underpinned by a programme for job creation, skills and employability and by the principles of sustainability and inclusivity.



The Projects

Delivered together, the City Deal and the Inclusive Future Fund will catalyse a transformative integrated economic and social regeneration programme of investment for the North West, with a new School of Medicine and Centres of Innovation Excellence in data analytics Cognitive Analytics Research Lab - CARL; robotics and automation Centre for Industrial Digitilisation Robotics and Automation - CIDRA; and personalised / stratified medicine Transformation Healthcare Research Innovation Value Based Ecosystem - THRIVE driving the sustainability and expansion of Ulster University's Magee campus.

This diagram shows which projects the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund will fund and presents the important and critical interconnected and interdependent nature of our catalyst investment priorities.



2 : Summary of the Deal, Projects & Impacts

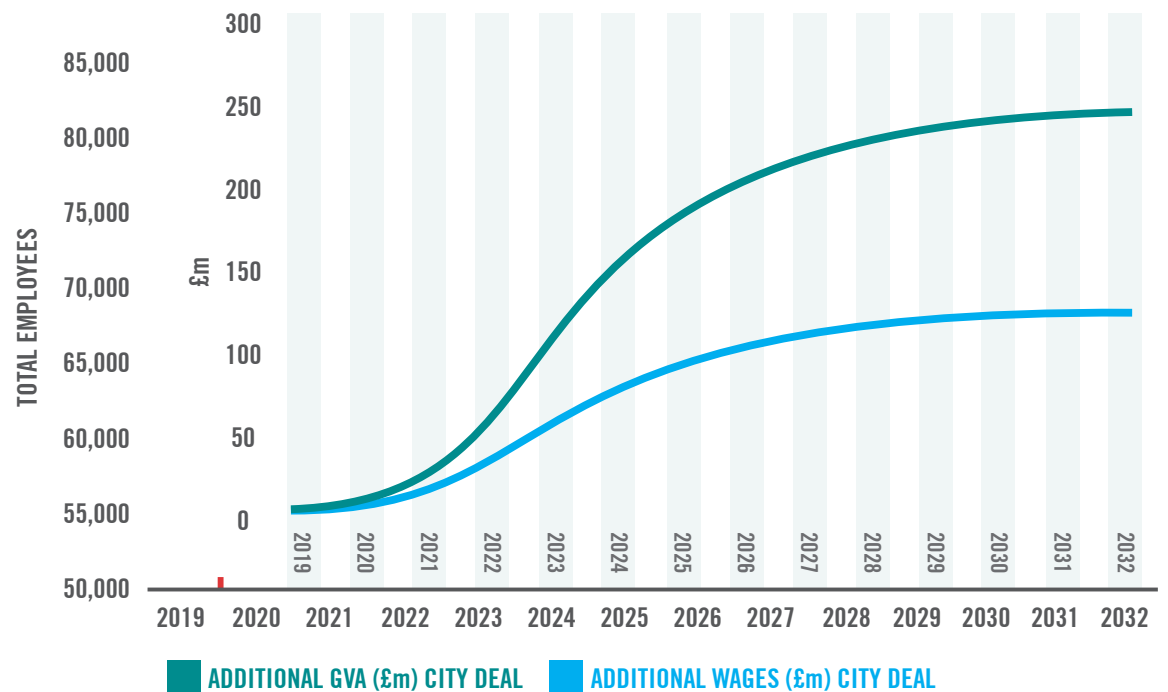
Impacts

Investment through the City Deal is being prioritised to support and achieve growth in a number of high potential innovation assets in the City and District and seeks to deliver the greatest economic impact as well as helping to deliver on our vision for inclusive growth and to ensure that no one gets left behind. It is an integrated programme of investment that cuts across the responsibilities of local, NI and UK Governments with each project building on, complementing and supporting the others.

The investment through the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund is forecast to lead to a tripling of the expected rate of employment growth, with an additional 7,000 jobs created by 2032, a boost to Gross Value Added (GVA - i.e the value of local goods and services) by £230m per annum by the end of the decade and an additional £126m per annum in wages by 2032.

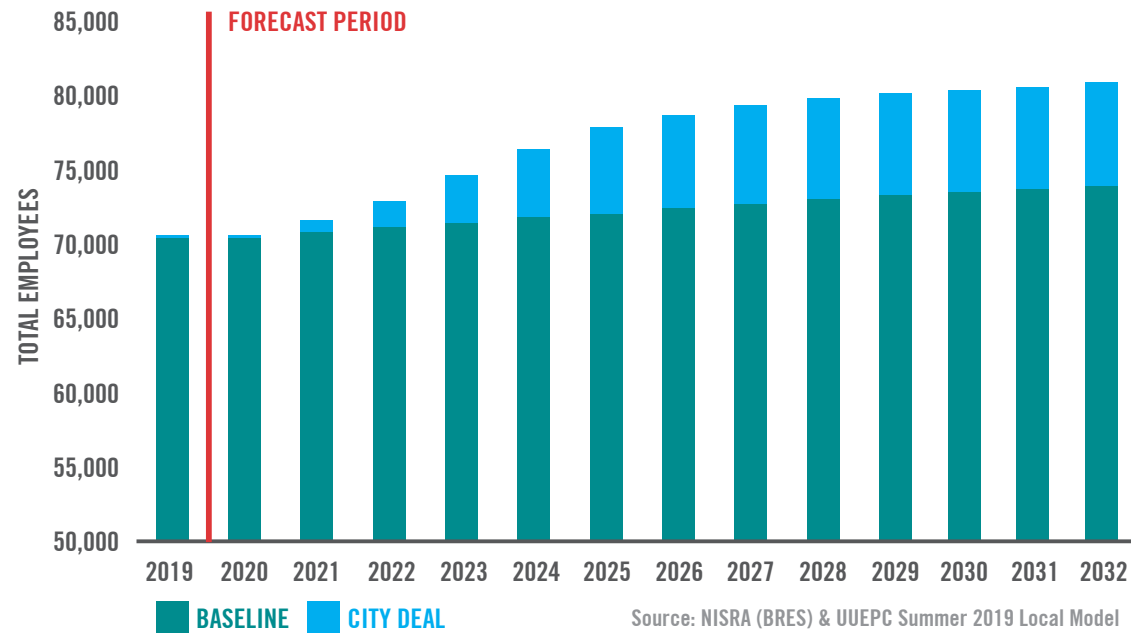
These forecasts of the immediate economic impacts do not include the potential catalytic effect of the investment in knowledge capital in the region in tandem with greatly improved infrastructural linkages, in particular digital connectivity. It will thus create a city region that is a significant driver for a rejuvenated NI economy.

**Total work-based employment, Baseline & Additional City Deal
Additional GVA & Wages under City Deal (£m)
Derry City & Strabane 2019 - 2032**



Source: ONS (Regional Accounts) & UUEPC Summer 2019 Local Model • Source: NISRA (BRES) & UUEPC Summer 2019 Local Model

Total work-based employment, Baseline & Additional City Deal Derry City & Strabane 2019 - 2032



The City Deal will create more than 7,000 additional jobs by 2032. 70% of these jobs will be filled by local residents.



3 : The Deal in Context

Our Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan

Since the creation of the new Derry City and Strabane District Council in April 2015, Council's priority has been the development of our Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan launched in November 2017.

The plan – our community plan, was developed and agreed following a significant co-design and consultation process in November 2017. The plan has been designed to improve social, economic and environmental wellbeing and to deliver a vision of a:

...thriving, prosperous and sustainable City and District with equality of opportunity for all.

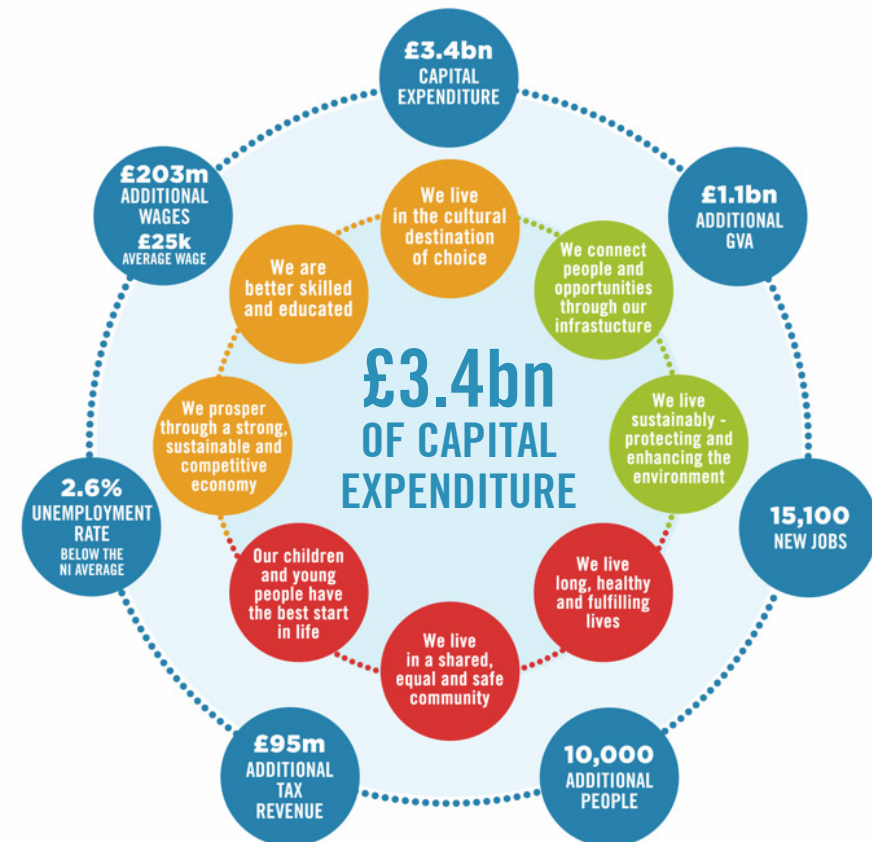
Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan (Nov. 2017)

The City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund have been developed within this framework to deliver core elements of the Derry City and Strabane District's Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan.

Iteratively reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure complementarity with Government's key social and economic policies and initiatives, the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan is aligned to the Programme for Government, UK Industrial Strategy and draft NI Industrial Strategy, New Decade New Approach Deal, and most recently the Northern Ireland Executive's medium-term economic recovery plan to address the impact of the Covid-19 crisis.

The Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan forecast in 2017 was to create 15,000 new jobs, reduce economic inactivity to the Northern Ireland average and generate £1.1bn additional GVA to the economy by 2032.

Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan impacts by 2032



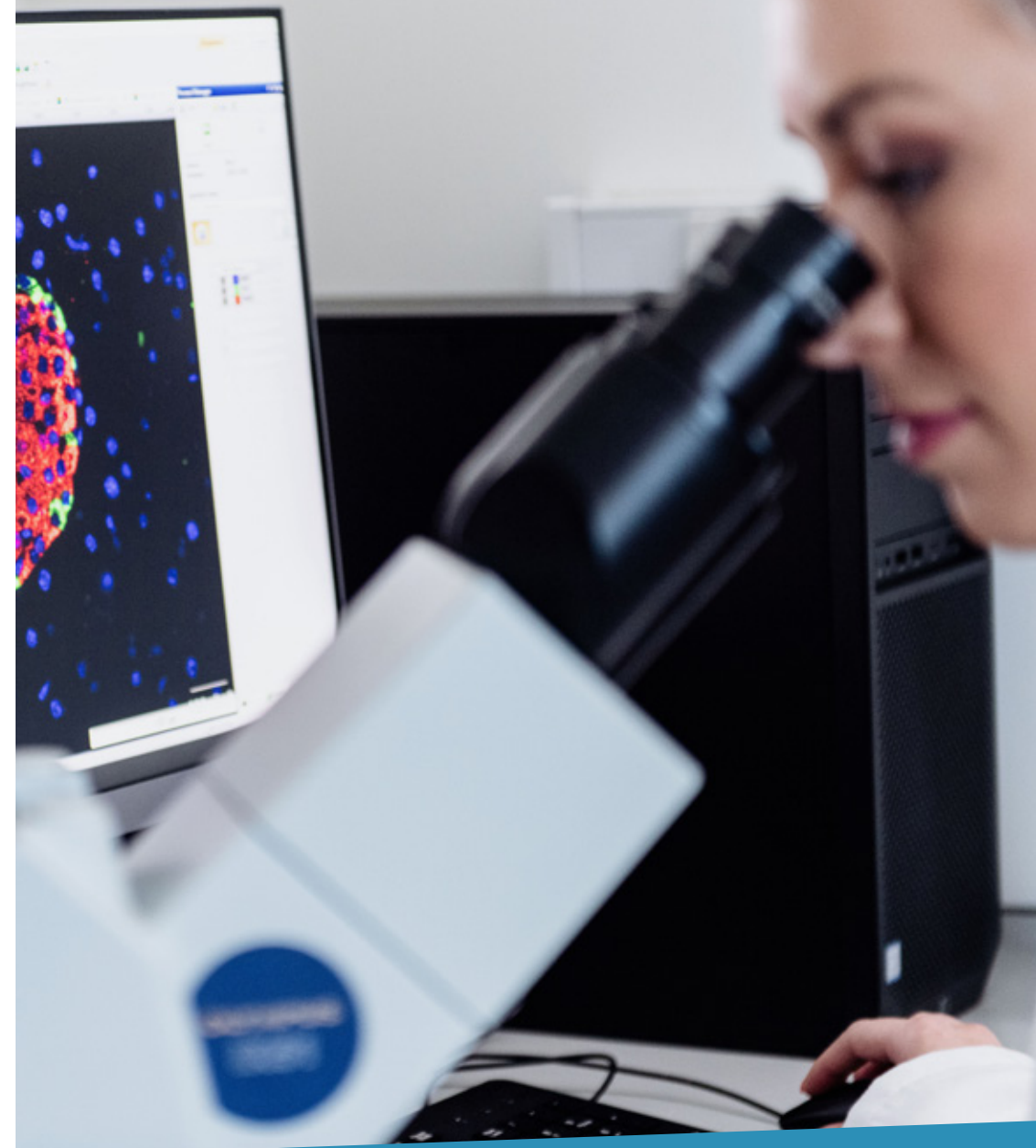
*An ongoing review by DCSDC on the specific impact of significant University expansion on cities, including Lincoln in the UK and Limerick in the Republic of Ireland has indicated that this UUEPC forecast of 6,800 could be conservative and as such DCSDC has amended the figure for additional people with ongoing analysis

A number of key interventions within the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan with the greatest impact on social, economic and environmental wellbeing have been included as part of the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund. **Our analysis indicates that** investment in our innovation assets, digital infrastructure, strategic regeneration sites and regional infrastructure will help address the unique circumstances and challenges Derry City and Strabane Region faces.

These investment priorities are fully integrated and interdependent on each other:

- **Long-term inclusive economic impact.** In order to address the region's systemic economic weaknesses the projects which will deliver the greatest long-term economic gains and transformative impacts have been prioritised.
- **Regeneration.** Projects were also considered in terms of their place-making impact, their ability to leverage additional private sector investment and to drive social, economic and environmental regeneration.
- **Physical location and sequenced delivery -** In order to fully maximise the impact of any investment the physical location and the ability to sequence delivery of the prioritised projects was considered. This sequencing will compound the level of economic stimulus and generate the critical mass needed to transform the City and Region.

The challenges that are constraining the growth of this unique Cross-Border City Region are well established and recognised. The benefits of addressing these long-established challenges through targeted investment are substantial and transformative.



3 : The Deal in Context

Our Challenges

The North West City Region has faced a complex range of interrelated, geo-political and historic circumstances which have led to economic decline and stagnation. Many of these challenges continue to impede wellbeing outcomes and the development of the City and region today. These circumstances include:

- The location of the City on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Resulting in the fragmentation of its functional economic area, fluctuating currency levels and differing regulatory and statutory controls and environment.
- Its peripherality as the most westerly City within the UK and situated on an EU border.
- A legacy of underinvestment in infrastructure with poor local and sub-regional connectivity, inadequate intercity road, rail and transport connections to Belfast, Dublin and other cities/regions and to/from the Island's ports and airports.
- Inadequate third-level educational provision with University places in the City at only 3 per 100 of population (compared to 17 per 100 of population in Belfast and 12 per 100 of population in Coleraine).
- A disproportionately low number of regional and sub-regional public and government offices, services, economic assets, anchors and headquarters for a city of its regional scale, significance and location.
- The weak breadth and diversity of its retail, manufacturing and industrial base.
- The 'Troubles', their historic impact and their ongoing legacy.
- The impact of the UK's departure from the EU has created uncertainty economically and socially.

The result is a City and region is not fulfilling its maximum potential and the gap in performance between Derry City and comparable Cities continues to diverge.

A sub-regional population living outside the Council area travels to work in Derry-Londonderry (accounting for over 40% of employment in the City). The further deepening of the Region's long established challenges, and the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, make it critical that all opportunities to rebuild, rebalance and grow the economy in the North West are taken.

The City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund therefore represent a very significant opportunity to address these challenges and to create a step change and transform the City and Region.

The Deal in Context

Key Parallel Regionally Significant Investment

Progression and delivery of the projects enabled by the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund will greatly contribute to the outcomes within the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan. Their potential and that of the many other exciting projects and investments currently being planned and delivered across the City and District will however be limited without full implementation of the key strategic commitments to significant expansion in university/3rd level provision in the City and Region and to delivery of critical strategic enabling road, rail, air and port infrastructure.

• University Provision

Full implementation of the commitments by Government in the New Decade New Approach agreement to the provision of a minimum of 10,000 university places in the City must be realised in parallel with the planning and delivery of the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund projects to provide maximum opportunity for young people from across the City and District and beyond to avail of the opportunities arising from the investment and to ensure long-term sustainable employment growth.

• Roads Infrastructure

High quality road connectivity providing fast, reliable and safe journeys to/from the City and District is critical and while the A6 Derry to Belfast is currently progressing well on-site, development of the remaining section of this important route needs to progress as soon as possible together with delivery of the full A5/N2 Western Transport Corridor to Dublin. Within the City it is vital that the A2 Bunrana Road widening scheme is provided to unlock the currently constrained economic development along its length from Fort George to the border.

• Rail

Recent improvements to the NW rail network and facilities must now be further built upon to include the delivery of the planned phase 3 works between the City and Coleraine. Feasibility studies into route development to Dublin via Strabane and Omagh and from the City to Letterkenny and beyond must now be initiated and completed to ensure future sustainability and maximum connectivity.

• City of Derry Airport (CODA)

Ongoing development and support of City of Derry Airport is required to enable affordable air connectivity for Derry ~ Londonderry and the wider North West City Region. The continued operation of CODA is important to ensure regional connectivity and to provide access to markets so that business and tourism can continue to grow and drive the economic performance of the region.

• Foyle Port

Foyle Port is the key marine gateway to the North West of Ireland for both commerce and tourism. The Port handles approximately two million tonnes of cargo per annum and offers a diverse range of services including towage, dredging, engineering and steel fabrication. Supporting in the region of 1000 jobs, the Port makes a vital contribution to the North West regional economy and its further development will ensure that it continues to play a significant role in the regeneration of the City and Region.





4 : The Deal Journey

The journey so far

APRIL 2015 -
NOVEMBER 2017

From the formation of the new Council in 2015 its priority was to address the long-established challenges impacting the region. It sought to achieve this through the co-design and launch of the City and District's Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan (our community plan) 2017-2032. The plan sets out outcomes, indicators and actions aimed at improving social, economic and environmental wellbeing. An economic analysis of the capital projects within the plan forecast that full implementation will create 15,000 new jobs, reduce economic inactivity to the Northern Ireland average and generate £1.1bn additional GVA to the economy by 2032.

DECEMBER 2017

In December 2017, as a catalyst to achieving these transformative outcomes, Derry City and Strabane District Council led the submission of an ambitious **Statement of Intent** to the UK Government for a City Region Growth Deal. Following a period of intense engagement the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Hammond, in a visit to the City in July 2018, invited the Council and its Partners to submit a City Deal proposal to Government.

SEPTEMBER 2018

Our Vision and Outline Bid Proposal for a City Deal was subsequently developed and submitted to the UK Government in September 2018. The proposal set out how a partnership with Government would contribute to growth in the Derry-Londonderry and Strabane City Region and within Northern Ireland. A comprehensive plan of integrated and interdependent projects emanating from the Strategic Growth Plan were put forward on the basis of greatest long-term economic impact having been independently and objectively prioritised.

MAY 2019

In May 2019, following a subsequent lengthy period of bid development and political and civic negotiation and intensive lobbying at regional and national level, the City and Region welcomed the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of a **£105m economic investment package for Derry~Londonderry and Strabane City Region comprising a £50 million City Deal and £55 million for a new Inclusive Future Fund.**

Recognising the unique circumstances and challenges we face, the stated aim by government of the package is to “boost the economic potential of the City and support a more prosperous, united community and stronger society”.

MAY 2020

In May 2020 **the Northern Ireland Executive announced its match funding of £105m to the UK Government investment package. Together with an additional commitment of circa £40million by Council and its wider project delivery partners, this brought the total overall confirmed funding to £250m.**

These announcements enabled the further development and completion of the Strategic Outline Business cases (SOCs) for each of the projects and their submission to relevant government departments for consideration.

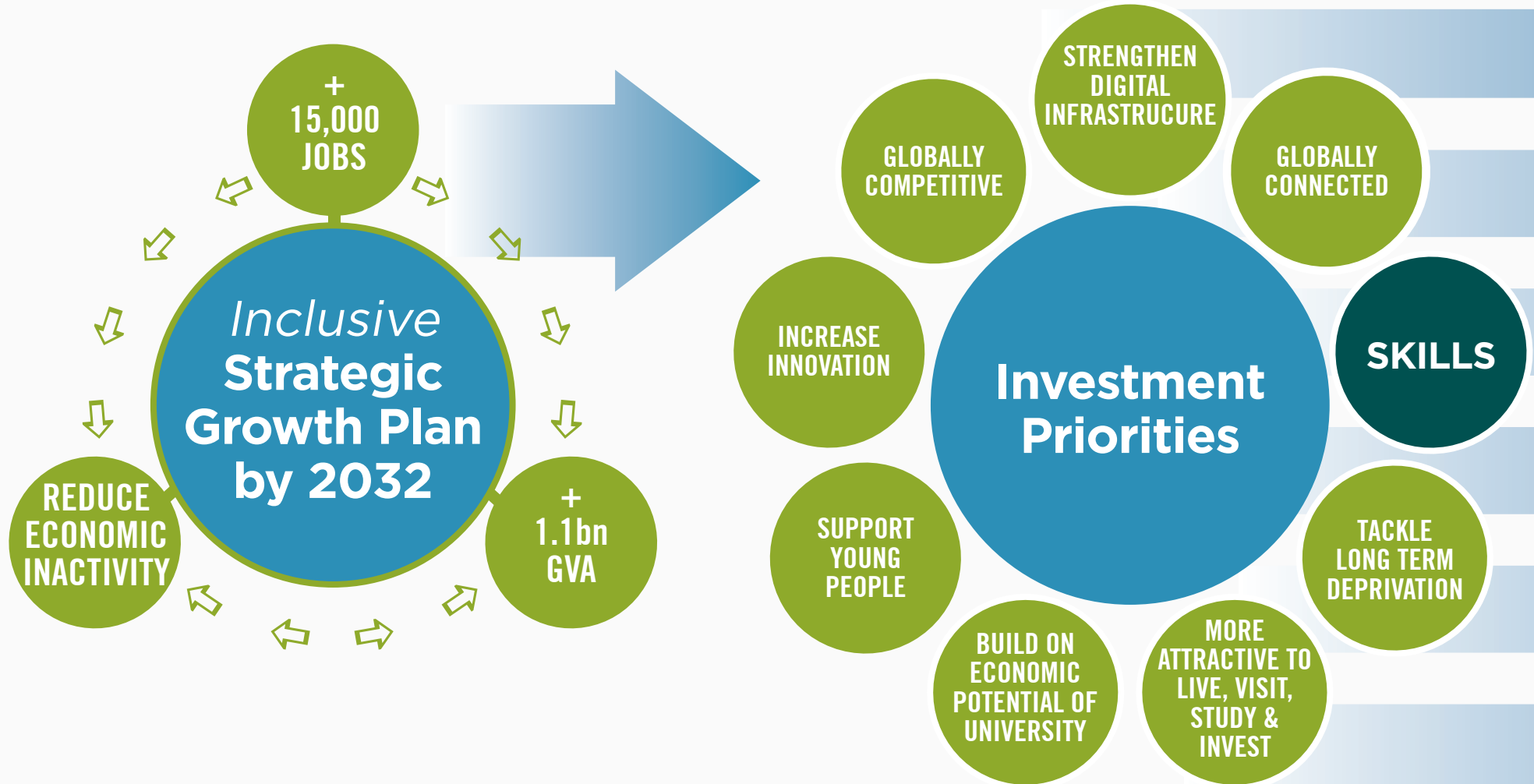
FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021 AND BEYOND

Following final clearance of all projects SOCs in January 2021 the joint formal ‘Heads of Terms’ were signed by UK Government, the Northern Ireland Executive, Derry City and Strabane District Council and Strategic Growth Partners in February 2021.

Following the announcement of the ‘Heads of Terms’ the required Governance and Delivery structures will be developed, agreed and implemented. Project delivery partners will then focus on the next stage in the journey – the development of ‘outline business cases’ for each of the projects – a process anticipated to take 18-24 months.

4 The Deal Journey

Overview





5 : The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund Investment Priorities and Projects

Innovation, Digital & Health

Innovation, Digital and Health investment sits at the very heart of the Derry-Londonderry and Strabane City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund Investment Plan and is aimed at transforming the City region's innovation and digital capability and capacity. This will be achieved through the establishment of research and innovation centres that build on Ulster University's strong track record of research excellence in data, health and life sciences and advanced manufacturing, and will be supported through enhanced digital capability, connectivity and smart infrastructure. The ambition is to create an Innovation Corridor, located on the City riverfront, that will be home to a fast-growing cluster of Ulster University research centres of excellence that will bring together researchers, business and the local community.

The Derry and Strabane City region will be super-charged with cutting-edge hubs focused on Health and Life Sciences and data-driven innovation to drive our regional economy, enhance our health and futureproof our industry.

Ulster University is working with partners in the Western Health and Social Care Trust and Derry City and Strabane District Council on a number of transformative projects that build on existing capabilities, including:

- **The Ulster University Centre for Industrial Digitilisation Robotics and Automation (CIDRA)** that will support industry and commerce in their adoption and exploitation of industrial digital technologies, robotics and automation promoting innovation and accelerating new applications in the service sectors. At the heart of this proposal is the need to improve innovation, productivity and competitiveness in the regional economic base whilst considering the needs, skills, and well-being of the future worker.
- **The Cognitive Analytics Research Lab (CARL)** is a transformational new cutting-edge Applied Research Centre that brings together data analytics and Artificial Intelligence ("AI") expertise which are key technologies for future innovation. The Centre seeks to exploit the massive advances in High Performance Computing by applying Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning techniques to sectors as diverse as health, financial technology, media, energy and public policy.





5

The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund

Investment Priorities and Projects

The Transformation Healthcare Research Innovation Value Based Eco-system (THRIVE),

a research-led, community and industry-facing research facility in partnership with the Western Health and Social Care Trust, based at both the Magee Campus and at Altnagelvin Hospital which has been developed which has been developed in response to the strategic needs of the Northern Ireland health and life science industry and in recognition of the global opportunities that exist. Core to this project will be the establishment of a Community Health Company which will study the genes of the people of the city and region. Similar to a Credit Union model, the local community will be owners and shareholders with any revenue generated being put back into the community for research and community well-being initiatives.

The newly established **Ulster University School of Medicine** with the first dedicated Graduate Entry Medical Programme (GEM) in Northern Ireland will help meet the region's need for increased medical student places to address the wider issue of a shortage of doctors whilst also developing and deepening Ulster University's position as an entrepreneurial civic university, embedded within and serving the local community.

Under the Innovation, Digital and Health priority, Derry City and Strabane District Council is leading on a further two projects which are complementary to the innovation and research projects:

- A **Digital Enabling Infrastructure Programme** that will create a step change in the digital infrastructure within the city region by focusing on next generation technologies including, digital connectivity and rural connectivity in areas with poor or no broadband connectivity. This will ensure that connectivity within the city region will be future proofed and will bring new capabilities in terms of availability, speed, capacity and resilience.
- The **Smart City** proposal will place the Derry Londonderry and Strabane city region at the leading edge of urban innovation supporting the development, deployment at scale and commercialisation of smart specialisations across a range of sectors and public service delivery.

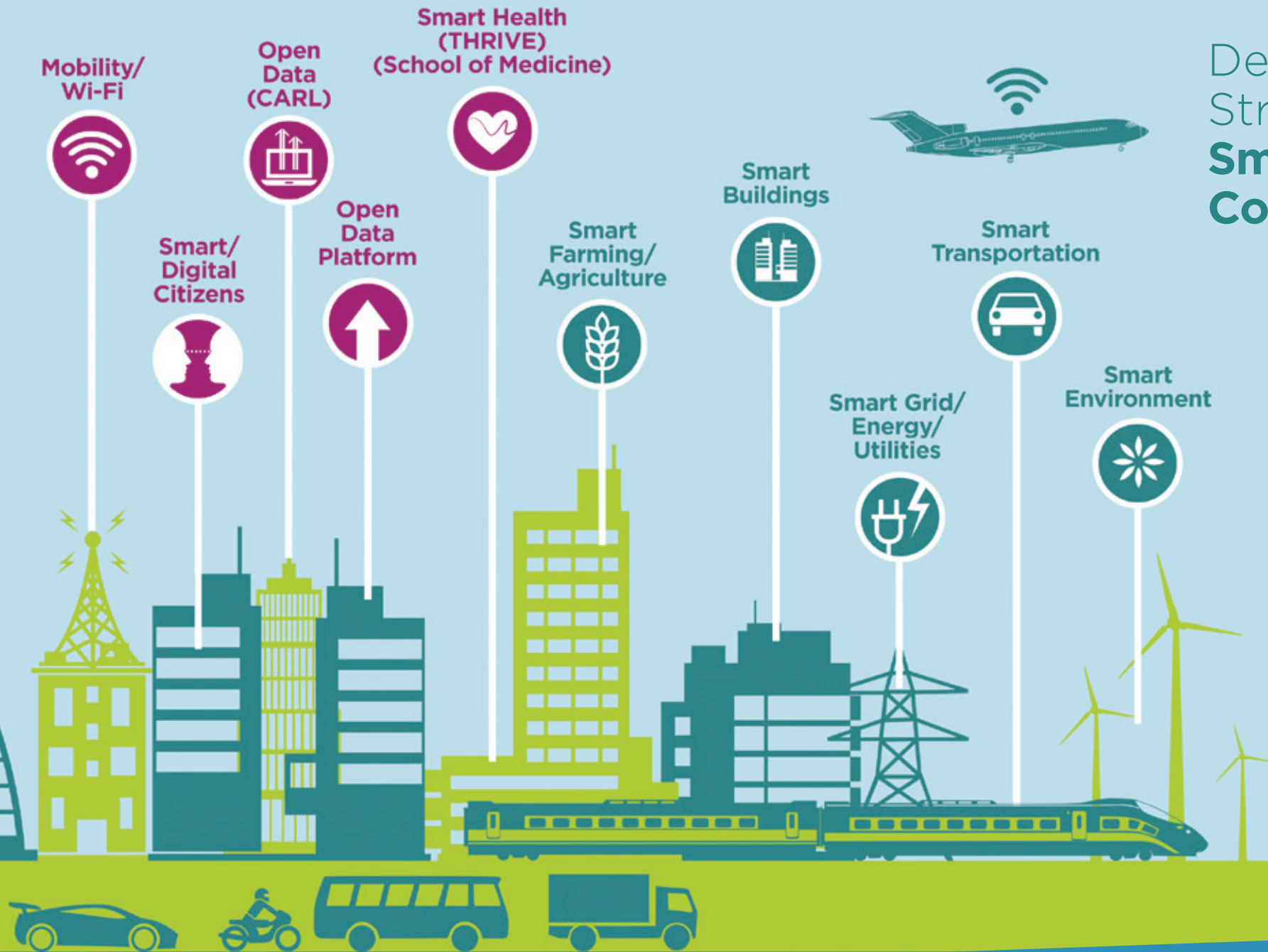
Smart Government



Smart Manufacturing (CIDRA)



Derry & Strabane Smart City Components



5

The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund

Investment Priorities and Projects

Regeneration, Tourism & Renewal

Derry City and Strabane District Council has been engaging with NI Government Departments to develop a programme of investment in infrastructure, place-making and tourism-led regeneration that will support the ambitions to deliver economic recovery and inclusive growth.

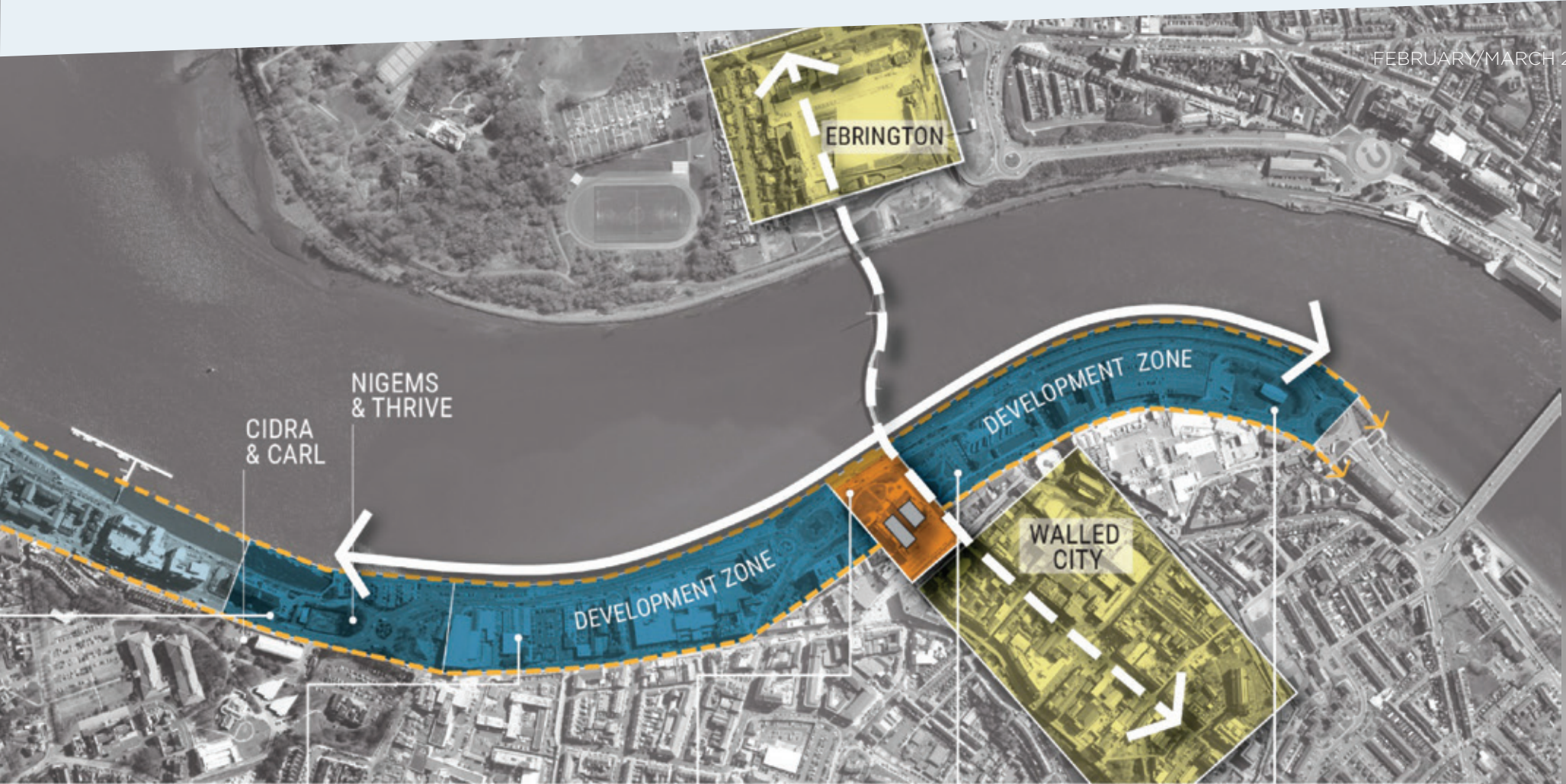
The Central Riverfront and the historic Walled City present an opportunity for the city, its people and the region to energise the economic, social and physical regeneration of the city. The vision is to shape a world class cultural, business, civic, learning and innovation district through transformational investment. This will create new opportunities for employment, while making the city a dynamic and exciting place in which to visit, study, work, invest and live. The Central Riverfront plays a crucial role in connecting all elements of the City centre, old and new whilst also reinforcing the positive relationship between the city and both sides of the river.

The City Deal investment in the Central Riverfront project of £45 million will include the complete reconstruction of Queens Quay and remodelling of Harbour Square.

The initiative has the potential to unlock private sector development opportunities along Queens Quay and Strand Road as well as opening up the opportunity for civic and commercial development on Foyle Street which together with the Derry/Londonderry North Atlantic (DNA) Maritime Museum at Ebrington and investment in the core of the Walled City will act as catalyst for the regeneration of the wider city centre and riverfront.

The City Deal Central Riverfront project will also release an axis of investment along the riverfront that includes Ulster University's new School of Medicine and proposed Innovation Centres of Excellence - THRIVE, CARL and CIDRA. It will facilitate the expansion of the University Campus to the Riverfront as well as complementing innovative development at Fort George and elsewhere along the Riverfront.





GREEN'S QUAY



GUILDHALL SQUARE



CIVIC / COMMERCIAL OFFICE



FOYLE EMBANKMENT

5

The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund

Investment Priorities and Projects

Walled City Tourism/ Economic Led Regeneration

Investment in **Walled City Tourism / Economic led regeneration** is a key priority and recognizes that in order to capture the very significant opportunities to strengthen the regional economy's offering, investment in culture, heritage and tourism is an integral part of the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund Investment Plan. The focus of the tourism led regeneration proposals will be on aiding post Covid-19 economic recovery and enhancing the visitor experience through the creation of a world class destination. It aims to further develop the City's role as a vibrant cultural hub by day, into the evening and by night reflecting a city that is emerging from the pandemic confidently and safely with a primary focus on economic recovery. It will build on the city's unique cultural, heritage and natural assets, with the Walls as its centre piece.

The City Deal and IFF investment will build an experience of the Walled City which demonstrates that heritage and culture are at its core but reflects a city that is re-emerging in a way that is responsive to changes in both market and public demand to secure its new

future whilst also building on the tangible, intangible and natural and historic assets in a lively and contemporary urban scene. This investment programme will extend the tourism experience across the PEACE Bridge to Ebrington with the DNA Museum project aimed at delivering a maritime visitor experience and archive of international significance sharing our globally important maritime stories and collections in an engaging way.

The Investment will reimagine and repurpose the City Centre and its environs to become a vibrant destination city where people have a reason to visit, live, invest, study or shop with confidence whilst also feeling safe. With a focus on place-making it will include public realm enhancement and activation; more intuitive movement, connectivity and wayfinding; high quality heritage management and interpretation and curation of the City; vibrant cultural expression and celebration as well as promoting and facilitating a diverse and healthy mix of public and private uses within the city's historic core.

The proposed investment along the riverfront and within the walled city will be advanced, shaped and developed in full consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and citizens of the City and District.





5 The City Deal & Inclusive Future Fund Investment Priorities and Projects

Strabane Town Centre Regeneration

Through investment under the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund of £50m and further investment from project partners, the Strabane Town Centre Regeneration Project will transform an area which has suffered from high deprivation, poor health outcomes and high unemployment as well as lack of inward investment.

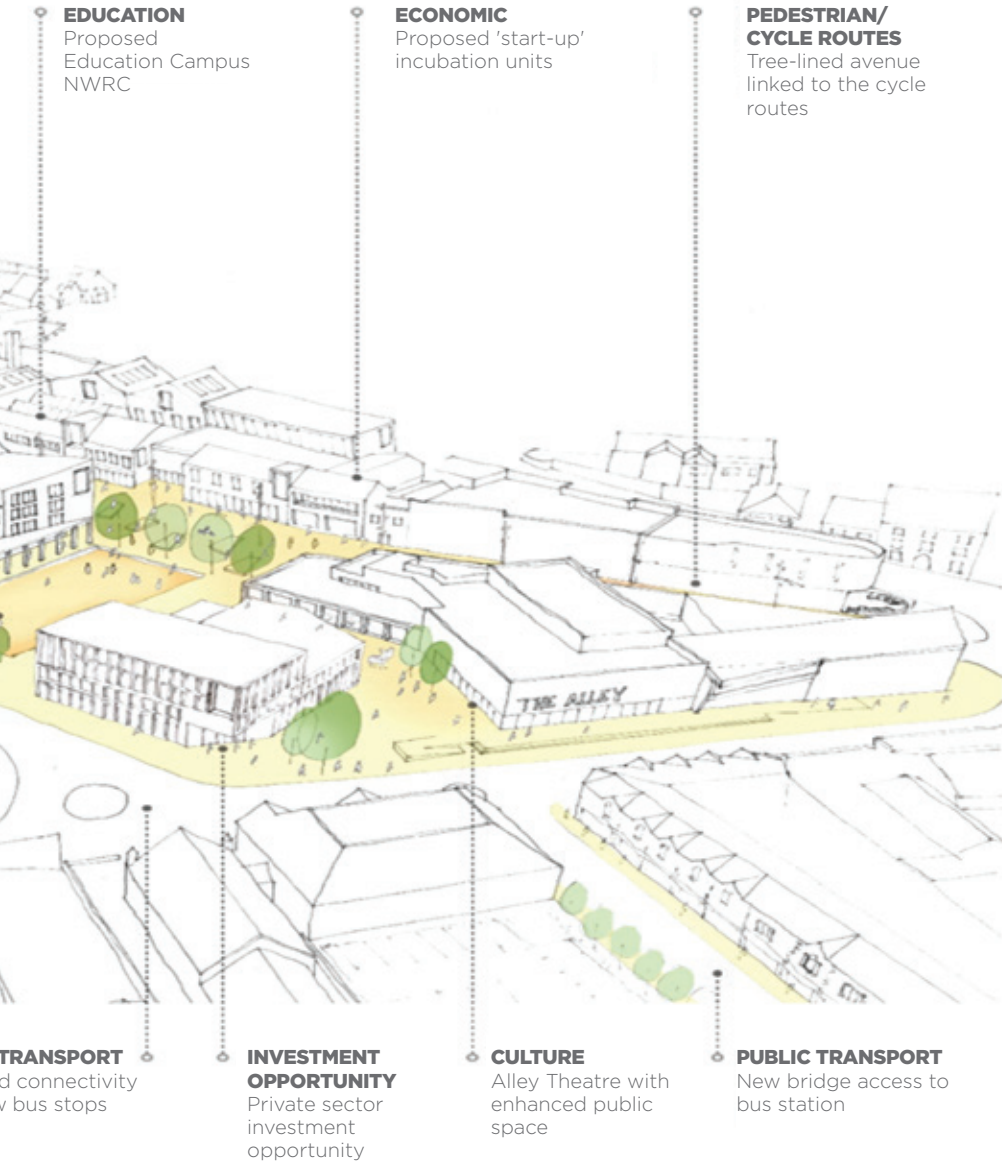
The **Strabane Town Centre Regeneration Programme** will revitalise Strabane Town Centre by creating new physical infrastructure centred around the historic canal basin to include a primary health care hub, a further and higher education campus of the North West Regional College and a leisure centre along with business incubation units.

Coupled with improved connections to public transport through a new foot bridge and enhanced high quality public realm, it will restore vibrancy and vitality to the town centre.

Funding will be invested in a modern, accessible and purpose-built **health hub** to support the delivery of high quality integrated primary and community care services within Strabane, **high quality public realm & Car Parking** that includes new streets and avenues and an outdoor performance space and a **pedestrian footbridge** will become an integral part of supporting the Council's active transport ambitions through enhanced accessibility for residents, providing vital connectivity to leisure, health and education services located in a town centre strategic location.

Inclusive Future Fund investment will be invested in a **town centre campus for the NWRC** and **incubation units** with Derry City and Strabane Council's major investment in a **new modern leisure centre** in the heart of the town.





6 : Cross-cutting Objectives

Job Creation, Skills and Employability

Skills and Employability Pathways are a crucial element - cross cutting the City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund Investment Plan. They will create the inclusive conditions and interventions required for our citizens to take full advantage of the opportunities that growth will bring. A strong focus will be placed on creating a skills pipeline for the employment opportunities that will be created; promoting inclusive growth and assisting with economic recovery. We will seek to ensure that our citizens (particularly young people and those removed from the labour market) are equipped with the skills for a modern economy and have improved levels of employability.

As projects progress through Outline Business Case stage, the skills and the employability interventions that will deliver the greatest impacts will be developed. Within this catalyst programme a number of indicative actions are currently being scoped and developed in partnership with local stakeholders and regional partners. Complementing and enhancing existing programmes, indicative actions may include for example an apprenticeship and skills hub, intermediate labour market programmes, interventions to support young people and those who are economically inactive as well as digital skills, re-skilling and upskilling initiatives. These interventions are crucial to support local job creation opportunities, reduce unemployment and improve wellbeing outcomes.



Sustainability and Inclusivity

The Deal partners commit to ensuring that community wealth building and environmental and ecological sustainability will be built into the development, design and implementation of this investment programme. Sustainability and inclusivity is a cross-cutting theme across all pillars of investment and detailed monitoring metrics will be put in place at concept design stage.

The investment will be implemented in accordance with the Green Transformation of the City and District by assisting the transition towards a smart, low carbon, sustainable and inclusive economy. Growth will be channelled through circular, zero-waste and resource-efficient initiatives. The City and District's precious natural heritage and biodiversity will be protected, restored and enhanced; sustainable transport systems and climate change mitigations – such as flood and infrastructure protection will be built into capital and infrastructural developments. Combined, this will deliver optimal impact and legacy as regards an overall Green Transformation.

Building on a community wealth building approach, Deal partners will work to ensure that there is socially-inclusive growth in the local economy and local people benefit and prosper. Purchasing and procurement will create maximum social value encouraging diverse supply chains.



7 Governance and Next Steps

Strong and effective leadership and governance is paramount to the successful implementation of the overall programme, and in providing assurance to funders and Deal partners. The City Deal and Inclusive Future Fund projects have been developed through joint working between the Council, UK Government, the Northern Ireland Executive and local delivery partners. All have consulted and engaged extensively to develop proposals and a governance approach that will deliver transformative economic growth for the North West.

A transparent project and programme management regime will be put in place which will oversee and drive progress. Deal partners will demonstrate a Value for Money case for each of the projects through the development of Outline Business Cases, before any funding is made available. This process will take 18-24 months to finalise. All projects will then be subject to the approval of Full Business Cases.” (FBCs) unless agreed otherwise by central Government. Business cases will demonstrate value for money for each project and how projects will contribute to the vision of inclusive growth before funding is made available.

A model of regional governance was set out by the Executive in May 2020. Deal partners will develop and agree detailed local governance arrangements to dovetail with these regional structures following agreement of Heads of Terms. These structures will provide the necessary assurance that decisions will be made in accordance with the requirements and commitments detailed within the Heads of Terms.

Formal governance structures will provide clear lines of accountability – reporting on the expenditure of public funds and demonstrating how local decision making will drive inclusive economic growth across the region. Deal partners will also develop new structures and approaches to intensify direct engagement with the business sector, both to deliver co-investment to maximise economic benefits and job creation opportunities.





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