Greater Manchester 2040+

DRIVERS OF CHANGE: SUMMARY TABLE

A UK Foresight *Future of Cities* project

This is a summary list of some key 'drivers of change' which are likely to shape the future of Greater Manchester, in the period 2020-2040. Each one contains not only known trends, but huge uncertainties, which can be explored in the External Scenarios. GM's responses to these drivers, and the opportunities or threats they bring, are then the focus of the Success Scenario to be created.

The drivers are set out in 7 themes in the STEEP framework, i.e. Social, Technology, Economic, Environment, Politics, Culture and Urban themes. The list is a start for discussion rather than a fixed answer, and there are more to be explored, as in the full report on www.gm2040.com

1	SOCIAL & COMMUNITY		
a		Demographic change:	Population growth and structural change: growing share of elderly and "100+": changing family patterns: growth of single-person households
b		Inequality trends	Growing enclaves of deprivation alongside enclaves of wealth: challenges to social cohesion: possibly leading to new forms of social enterprise & self-help
c		Health & lifestyle	Continuing pressure / restructuring of health service: advances in biotechnologies (genomics, stem cells, prosthetics, etc.) with applications to health, lifestyle, food etc.
2	TECHNOLOGY & INFRASTRUCTURE		
a		Digital revolution	Continuing growth & power of Information Technology, including internet of things, wearable computers, AI & robotics, augmented reality, social media & generation Y
b		Materials & manufacturing	"Reinvention" of manufacturing, including use of new materials, 3d printing, nano-technology, biomimicry: 're-shoring' & new business models: re-use / recycling etc
c		Transport & communications	Urban mobility / accessibility transition: smart integration / geo-location, electric shared / driverless cars, cycle / walking, HS2 / HS3, virtual reality communications
3	ECONOMIC & EMPLOYMENT		
a		Globalization	Rise of emerging economies as major producers and as mass markets. Changing division of labour, global value chains, offshoring, new forms of regional specialisation
b		Economic restructuring	Continuing shift from industry towards services & finance: growing power of investors / large corporations over local economic affairs, governance, infrastructure etc.
c		Work & livelihood	Rising insecurity & decline of traditional / formal jobs, rise of freelancing, changing work-life balance: increased automation, polarization of workforce & career structures

4	ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCES		
a		Global climate & resources	Growing impacts of climate change, incl. flood, drought, heat, storm: insecurity of resources (energy, water, food, scarce materials, etc.): indirect impact of migration, conflict etc.
b		Local environment	Trends in air and noise pollution: pressure for urban climate adaptation, flood protection etc: increase in urban food, greenspace & biodiversity, healthy living etc
c		Energy & low carbon transition	Continuing pressure on energy system: new methods of production, storage, distribution, harvesting: radical efficiency in buildings & industry: carbon budgets & markets.
5	POLICY & GOVERNANCE		
a		Multi-level governance	Current trend of (limited) devolution to GM & other city-regions, elected Mayor etc: changing relations between regions / nations of UK & EU:
b		Private-public balance	Continuing public deficit & austerity pressures: privatization of formerly public assets and public services: potential responses in new public-private-community partnerships.
c		Trust in governance & society	Growth of political distrust / alienation, extremist parties: potential responses in new forms of activism, digital governance, crowd-source participation & investment
6	CULTURE & VALUES		
a		Lifestyles & well-being	Diversification of lifestyles, rise of identity politics & new forms of community: changing work-life balance, social enterprise & community networks
b		Migration & diversity	Continuing migration trends: internationally / within UK: and both inward / outward: leading towards urban 'super-diversity'.
c		Education & skills	Demand for new workforce skills, technical & social capabilities: potential responses in new forms of education / training, e.g. online, blended, lifelong learning
7	URBAN DEVELOPMENT		
a		North-south & regional balance	Growth / "overheating" of London and Southeast: potential responses e.g. new regional distribution: continued rural migration & shrinking of older industrial areas.
b		Urban development & regeneration	Continued growth of GM centre / HE / airport axis: decline in town centres & polarization of urban areas: potential responses in new forms of area & local regeneration:
c		Housing & community	Growing housing stress, supply / demand market failures: transient neighbourhoods & communities: potential responses in new forms of housing design, tenure & finance: