



Liverpool City Region All Party Parliamentary Group

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Launch of Final Report of Liverpool City Region APPG Build Back Better Inquiry

“Level Up, Recover and Deliver Clean, Green and Inclusive Growth”

Wednesday 22nd September 13:00 - 14:00

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Liverpool City Region launches today – Wednesday 22nd September - [its final report](#) following its extensive Build Back Better Inquiry. Just weeks before the Spending Review on October 27th it calls for wide-ranging Government action to support the city region to “*Level Up, Recover and Deliver Clean, Green and Inclusive Growth*”.

Kim Johnson MP and Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram will be joined at the online launch of the report by a cross party panel of Lord Heseltine (non-affiliated, former Deputy PM), Jeff Smith MP (Labour, Shadow MHL&C Minister) and Baroness Hooper (Conservative, Trade Envoy). **Journalists are invited to attend by clicking the Zoom link above.**

Amongst its twelve recommendations, the report - written by the University of Liverpool’s Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place following three evidence sessions at which more than a hundred attendees heard from twenty witnesses - calls on :

- the new Education Secretary, Nadhim Zahawi MP, to deliver ‘London Challenge’ style targeted interventions in LCR schools to improve attainment in key subjects, including maths and English, and to devolve more powers and funding over adult education and lifelong learning.
- the new Levelling-up and Housing Secretary, Michael Gove MP, to support the Combined Authority’s plans to retrofit and decarbonise poor quality housing stock, with devolved funding in place to provide market certainty. It also call on him to provide far greater clarity on the on the places and industries that will be prioritised through ‘Levelling Up’.

Other recommendations include:

- progress local bus franchising, and ensure support is available for continued development of an integrated contactless payment system across buses, Merseyrail and other Merseytravel services.
- support the City Region’s ambitious target for R&D investment (5% of LCR GVA).

The Liverpool City Region All Party Parliamentary Group is kindly supported by:



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In a foreword Kim Johnson MP, Chair of the APPG writes, says:

“There can be no denying the last 18 months have placed a huge challenge on our essential public services and the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector as well as businesses and the public at large.

“Collaboration, resilience and new ideas as well as sheer effort, determination and support from both central and local government have been – and will be – key to getting through these unprecedented times.

“And we believe there is a new mood. People do not want to just return to how things were, they want to genuinely Build Back Better. We need a city region that is more community focussed, more inclusive, more equal and more green.”

Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor of Liverpool City Region, added:

“Working with the support of Government, Liverpool City Region now has the opportunity to help pioneer the UK’s transition to Net Zero, close long-standing performance gaps with the rest of the country, and contribute to the delivery of greater national prosperity.

“It is clear that by embracing the opportunities of devolution, Liverpool City Region is taking ownership of its economic recovery and laying the foundations for meaningful long-term renewal. It now needs all the support it can be given.

“We commend this report for the attention of the Treasury as they prepare their Spending Review as well as all relevant Government Departments. We also hope that it will be read with interest by all those who, like us, care passionately for the future of Liverpool City Region’s 1.6 million people.”

The full report can be found [here](#) – please

Please contact Steve Barwick for more information – 07826 872375 or steve@devoconnect.co.uk

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