

## Environmental and Social Data Sheet

### Overview

Project Name: Greater Manchester Urban Regeneration  
Project Number: 2014-0024  
Country: United Kingdom  
Project Description: Framework loan to finance urban regeneration investment in Greater Manchester, focusing on improvements in public space and community facilities, redevelopment of brownfield sites to productive use to stimulate growth and employment, and investments which will contribute to greater energy efficiency including heating networks and street lighting. Some schemes will be co-financed with EU Structural Fund financial instruments supporting urban regeneration.

EIA required: Yes (3 schemes appraised together with the framework loan)

This is a multi-scheme Framework Loan operation. Some of the schemes fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive and have to be screened by the Competent Authority. Should any scheme be screened in, the Promoter shall deliver the NTS of EIAs to the Bank, if applicable, before the Bank funds are allocated.

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise<sup>1</sup>: No

### Summary of Environmental and Social Assessment, including key issues and overall conclusion and recommendation

Schemes under the Framework Loan are priorities under the Manchester Core Strategy, for which an SEA has been completed.

For 6 schemes appraised together with the Framework Loan, 3 schemes were screened in per Annex II of the EIA Directive, in which cases the NTS have been received; 2 schemes were screened out; for 1 scheme there are 2 components, 1 screened out and the other still to be screened but similar to the first screened out scheme. In relation to this last component (the Levenshulme Leisure Centre), an explanation as to the EIA requirements of the project following environmental screening, and (if applicable) the Non-Technical Summary of the EIA will need to be provided.

Given the nature and relatively small size of the individual schemes, most of the schemes are deemed not to have significant environmental impacts.

In case of the construction or renovation of community facilities and development of public space, there are a number of positive effects expected, including energy savings, improved linkages to public transport, and social benefits of improved leisure, sports and cultural facilities, some of which will be located in deprived areas.

Investments in new office, commercial or industrial buildings on former brownfield sites are required to conform to BREEAM excellent standards for new build and BREEAM very good standards for refurbishment, and are therefore expected to be energy efficient.

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<sup>1</sup> Only projects that meet the scope of the Pilot Exercise, as defined in the EIB draft Carbon Footprint Methodologies, are included, provided estimated emissions exceed the methodology thresholds: above 100,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year absolute (gross) or 20,000 tons CO<sub>2</sub>e/year relative (net) – both increases and savings.

Investments specifically targeting energy efficiency aim to contribute to the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy which includes a target 48% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on 1990 levels by 2020, and form part of a low carbon programme for Greater Manchester. Planned investments include replacing street lighting with efficient LED lighting and controls, and developing an efficient heating network for the Manchester Civic Quarter.

Taking these factors into consideration, the operation is considered acceptable for EIB financing from an Environmental and Social perspective.

## **Environmental and Social Assessment**

The investments under the Framework Loan are priority investments to help fulfil the Manchester City Council Core Strategy, for which an SEA was carried out, approved by the Competent Authority in March 2012, and adopted by Manchester City Council in July 2012. The SEA was carried out according to the requirements of the SEA Directive as well as the requirements for sustainability assessment under the UK Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

The Framework Loan is intended to finance several different types of scheme – the development of urban public space in the city centre and in local communities, the refurbishment or construction of new community facilities including leisure, sports and cultural facilities, the redevelopment of brownfield sites to energy efficient office or commercial buildings, and energy efficiency investments including heating networks and street lighting. It is expected that the operation will result in significant positive environmental and social externalities through the remediation of former industrial sites, resource efficiency of urban densification and re-use of brownfield sites, avoidance of urban sprawl, energy efficiency improvements to refurbished buildings, safeguarding or improved access to jobs, and improved quality of life.

Should any scheme included under this Framework Loan require an EIA, it would be subject to the Bank's standard review of the non-technical summary of the EIA. The Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of the relevant EU Directives, including the, EIA, Habitats and Birds Directives and relevant sector directives applicable to the individual schemes. The Promoter shall deliver to the Bank a confirmation or equivalent by the competent authority that the schemes have no significant impact on nature sites of Community Importance or their equivalents, as well as the NTS of EIAs where applicable.

Some of the schemes in the operation fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU and therefore have or will be subject to screening by the competent authority. Furthermore, should any schemes in the programme have an impact on protected sites, the Promoter will be required to act according to the provisions of Articles 6(3) and/or 6(4) of the Habitats and Birds Directives respectively.