

A City ready for Economic Growth

The future economic landscape of the region is changing fast and Liverpool is at the centre of the region's growth as a major powerhouse in the UK economy.

Liverpool First for Economic Growth

Liverpool First for Economic Growth is the city's strategic issue partnership that sits within Liverpool First, focusing on issues and opportunities for the economic sector. It is committed to agreeing and driving forward the city's economic agenda and strategic plans, whilst targeting the right resources to deliver them. Above all else, it's a way for all partners to agree joint solutions and common approaches for the good of the economic prosperity of the city.

John Kelly, chair of the Liverpool First Economic Growth Partnership, said: "However you look at it, the region is a good prospect for investors in a variety of sectors – from pharmaceutical to knowledge. We have plenty of space for new commercial developments and great transport links both domestic and

international. We have world class business conference and exhibition facilities and an increasingly improved workforce; not only with home-grown talent but we're also attracting workers from the rest of the UK and overseas."

ONE goal

The partnership works by having the right kinds of people round the table, who can collectively take action on key issues that are affecting the growth of the local economy. Recent evidence of the partnership's effectiveness is the success in delivering a skilled workforce for the Liverpool ONE development, by meeting the needs of retail, hospitality and leisure sector employers.

Those partners involved in such projects include Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool Vision, Liverpool City Council, Job Centre Plus, Business Link, all three Liverpool universities

and the Learning and Skills Council. Jack Stopforth, deputy chair of the partnership and Chief Executive of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce is a firm believer in the benefits of partnership working. "The interests of business and those of the city are at last interdependent to a degree that we haven't seen for decades.

"The private sector has stepped up to the plate and is ready to drive the economy forward, notwithstanding the current turmoil in the financial markets. We must not lose the advantages that we have built up over the last five years and it is vital that all business focused bodies work together to drive this agenda forward."

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