



# Atom Valley Overview

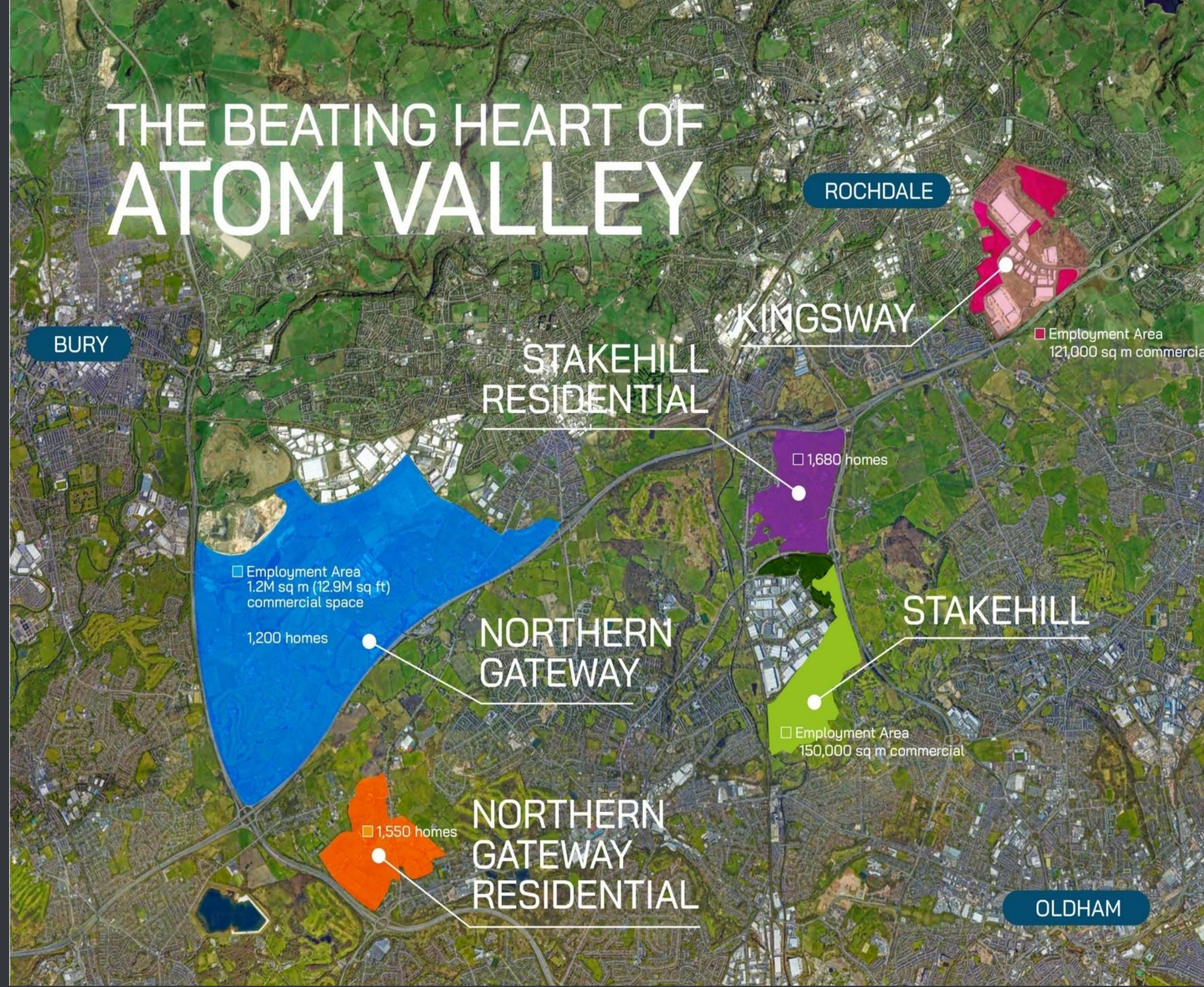
Mark Robinson, Director of Economy, Rochdale Borough Council

MAY 2025

# Atom Valley

Mayoral Development Zone

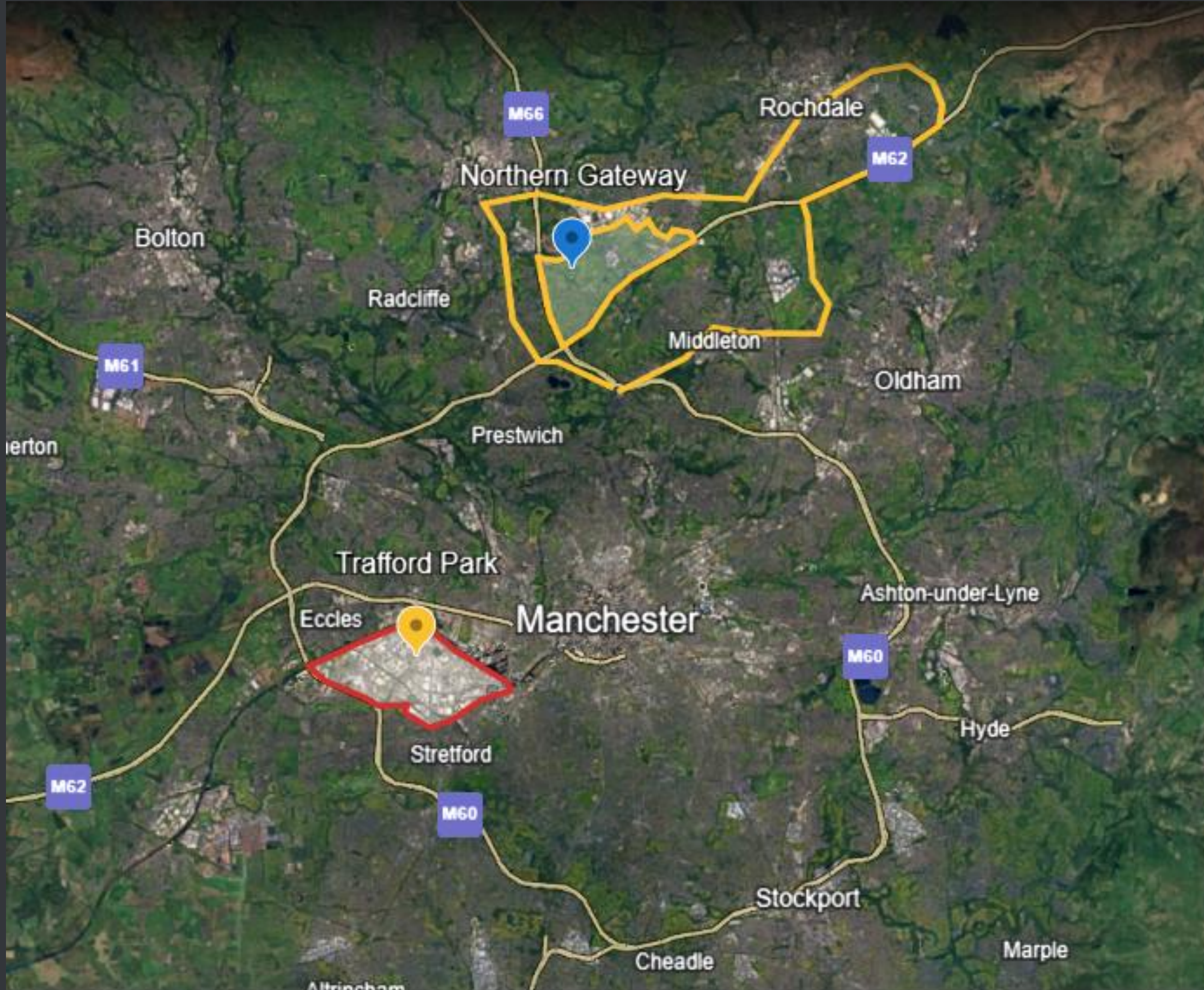
- Boosting northern competitiveness
- Rebalance the GM economy
- Raise productivity – focus on advanced manufacturing and materials
- GMCA, Bury, Oldham & Rochdale Councils
- Three Key Themes
  - Greener
  - Fairer
  - More prosperous



“Atom Valley will be the key to unlocking the huge economic potential of Greater Manchester as a world leader in research and innovation”

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester

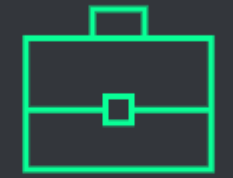
# The Scale



17 million



sq ft flexible employment space



20,000



new jobs



7,000



homes to be built

# Northern Gateway

- The major employment site in Bury & Rochdale
- One of only 8 UK Investment Zones
- The place for advanced manufacturing / machinery in Greater Manchester— critical for levelling up
- Aligned with GM's 2038 net zero carbon ambitions and TfGM 2040 plans
- Creation of new communities with aspirational homes
- A skills programme developed with colleges and industry for local residents



**£650M**  
CONSTRUCTION  
INVESTMENT



**20,000**  
GROSS FTES



**3,000**  
RESIDENTIAL  
UNITS



**£14M P.A.**  
IN BUSINESS  
RATE REVENUE



SUPPORTING INDIRECT /  
INDUCED JOBS LOCALLY  
**2,000 FTES**  
THROUGH SUPPLY  
CHAINS AND EMPLOYEE  
SPENDING



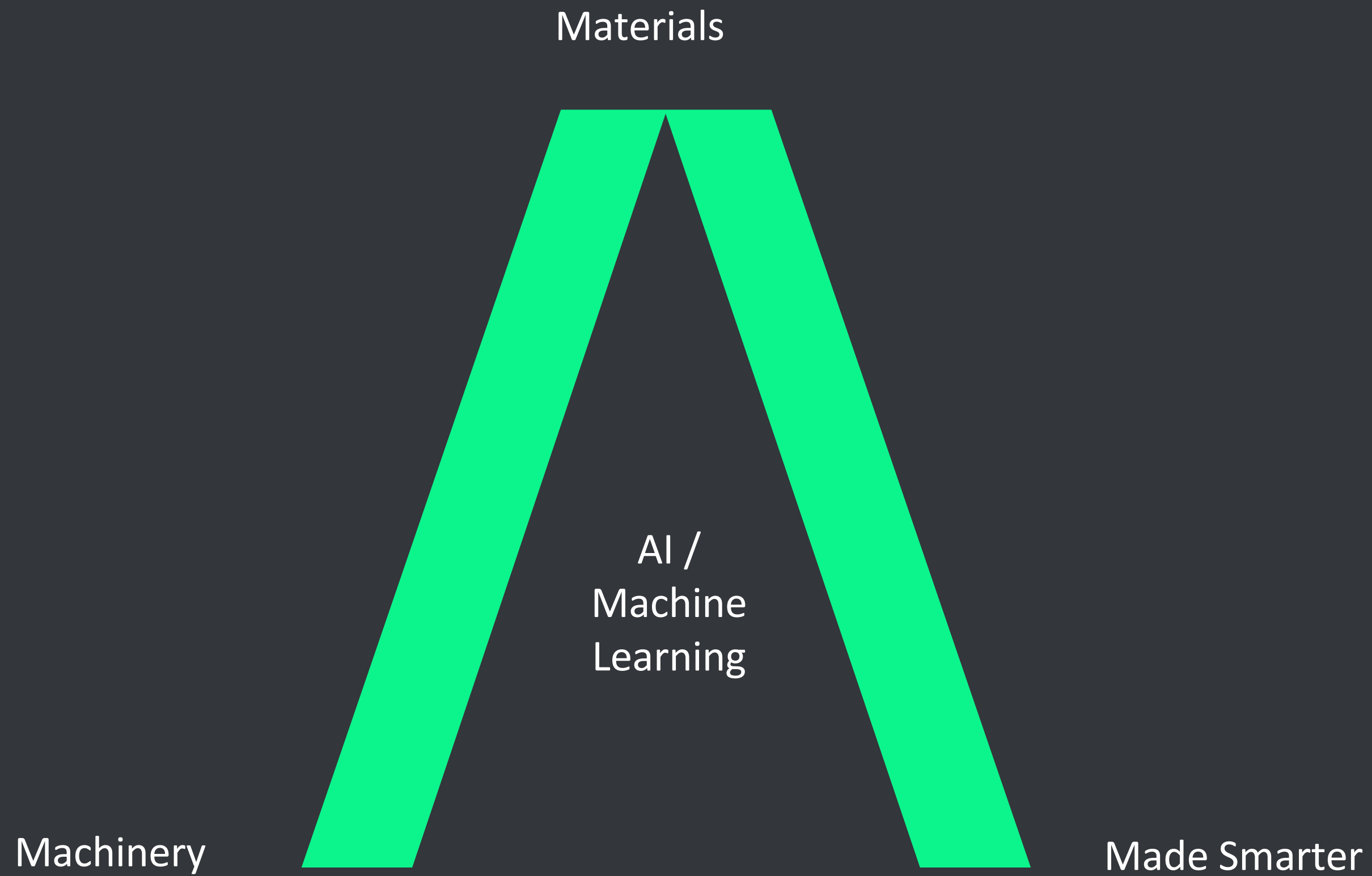
**1.2 MILLION M<sup>2</sup> NEW  
FLOOR SPACE**  
INCL. ADVANCED  
MANUFACTURING,  
INDUSTRIAL AND  
WAREHOUSE SPACE

# Kingsway Business Park

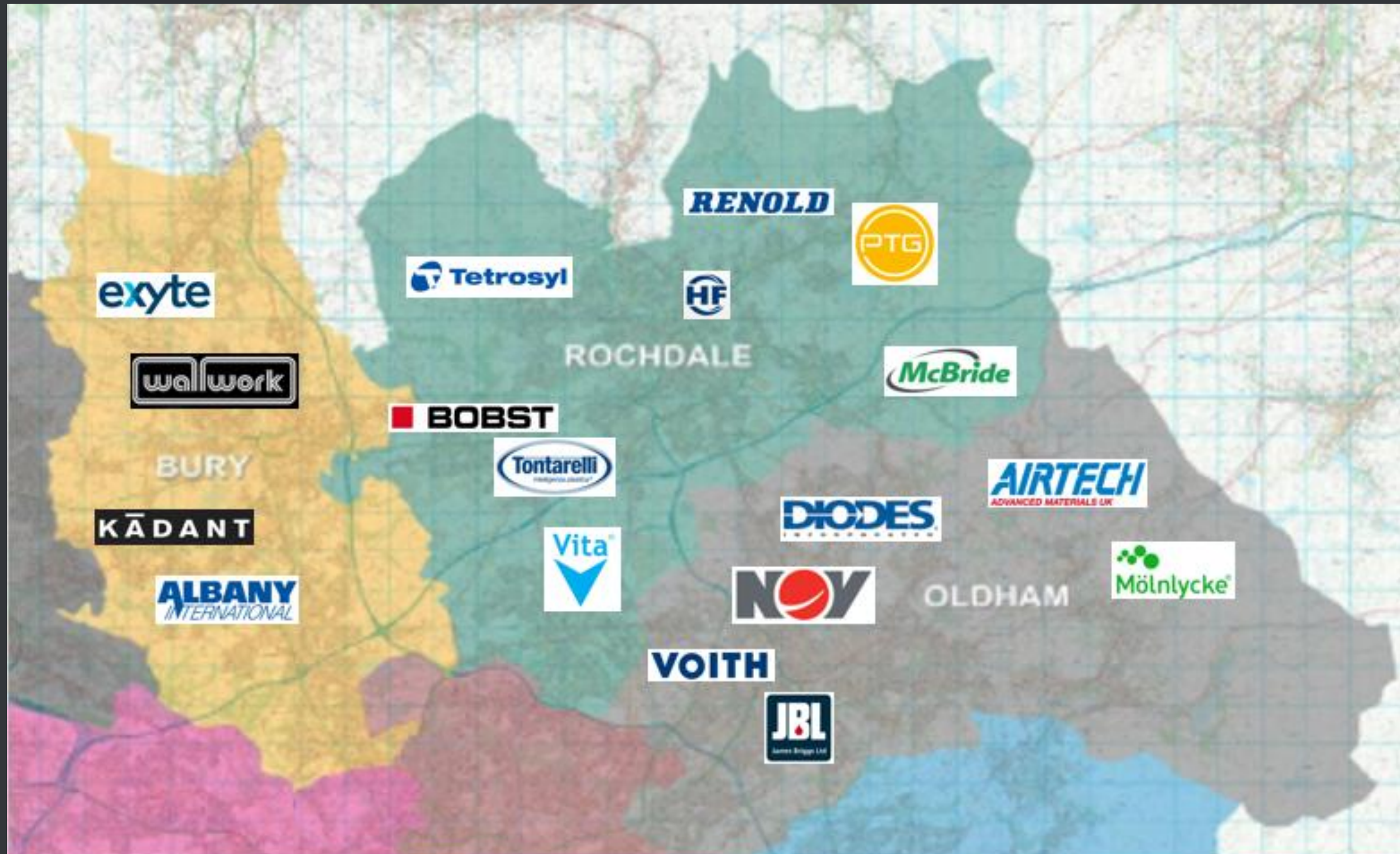
- J21 of the M62
- 420 acres
- One of the largest developments of its kind in the UK  
Home to first-class advanced manufacturing, logistics, warehousing or distribution base.
- Design & Build offices from 10,000 sq ft – 50,000 sq ft
- Freehold and Leasehold packages



# Future Approach



# Some existing companies in Atom Valley



- **Albany International:** Manufacturer of advanced conveyor systems
- **Bobst:** printing & packaging machinery
- **Diodes:** Semiconductors
- **Excyte Hargreaves:** Manufacturer of ventilation inc. for nuclear
- **HF Mixing Group:** Mixers, cutting equipment etc
- **James Briggs:** chemicals
- **Kadant:** composite materials products & global R&D Centre
- **McBride:** chemicals
- **Mölnlycke Health Care:** manufacturer medical products
- **NOV:** Manufacture fluid handling equipment
- **PTG Holroyd:** High precision advanced machine tools
- **Renold Gears:** manufacture of gears
- **Tetrosyl:** chemicals for car care (e.g. T-Cut)
- **Tontarelli:** Manufacture household storage products
- **Vita Group:** manufacture foam products (& trialling graphene)
- **Voith Paper:** paper manufacturing engineering
- **Wallwork:** Advanced Materials Processing – for aerospace etc



# Physical Development Potential



- Kingsway Manufacturing Innovation Neighbourhood around metrolink station
- Anchored by Investment Zone & Towns Fund investment



- Stakehill Local Industrial Decarbonisation Plan
- Expansion of Stakehill Industrial Park (Oldham) for new industrial and manufacturing uses



- Northern Gateway ability to host giga-scale development
- Ability to create cluster of advanced materials and manufacturing businesses at scale

# Sustainable Materials & Manufacturing Centre

- > Incubating a range of institutions and programmes together
- > Joined up ecosystem of support for manufacturers
- > Focus to diffuse advanced materials & manufacturing technologies



# Unlocking Northern Gateway

- > M62 Junction 19 link road complete and opened late 2022 opens up early phase of Northern Gateway
- > Improvements to the Western Access Road from M66 Junction 3 opens up the opportunity for Northern Gateway to be accelerated.
- > Funding for western access secured through GMCA Investment Zone fund.
- > Simister Island (J18 M62) improvements subject to planning / Government sign off



# Development alongside public transit

- > An ambitious programme of work to realise new homes and workspaces alongside railway stations across Rochdale.
- > Developments in this way will allow residents to access employment in Central Manchester & across Atom Valley.
- > Further work is underway to deliver the proposed tram-train between Rochdale and Heywood (Phase 1) and onto Northern Gateway & Bury (Phase 2).



# Culture & Placemaking

- > TOC 2025 2026
- > The Herds
- > Comedy Festival
- > Shilpa Gupta Installation
- > Ignite Fire Festival
- > Poet Laureate
- > Teenage markets
- > Heritage Open Days



# Investing in Skills

- > Hopwood is investing £6.1m in improving its manufacturing technology centre linked to SMMC
- > The Atom Valley Education Challenge Consortium has recently launched, hosted at Rochdale Sixth Form College and working with the University of Cambridge and Pembroke College Oxford.
- > Bury College has joined the Greater Manchester Institute of Technology
- > Recent partnership between Oldham and Eton College has been established to deliver a new sixth form



# Atom Valley



**SCAN ME**