



EMBARGOED UNTIL 1PM 11TH NOVEMBER 2019

PRESS RELEASE: The Monastery Manchester chosen as SDG hub for health and education programme.

Nov 11 2019.

The Monastery Manchester was selected by the UNGSII Foundation to be a nexus to work with Greater Manchester as a Global HUB for Health & Education.

On September 25 2015, 193 heads of state decided to ensure the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in their countries no later than December 2030, the Monastery in Greater Manchester was chosen to serve as a role model for the light house project 25+5 SDG Leadership platform, that unites 25 Cities from all continents as well as 5 Indigenous Communities to fast-track the implementation by Dec 2025.

The selection of The Monastery was based on their knowledge and partnerships in health, well-being and quality education, and their long established reputation in delivering projects for the benefit of the local community.

The Monastery has a 22 year track record of building and developing successful projects in Greater Manchester that have been recognised by the UNU RCE (Regional Centre of Expertise) for Education in Sustainable Development.

The UNGSII selection is regarded as a major boost for Greater Manchester and the Northern Powerhouse development as a whole. It boosts the region's global presence at a time when the UK is approaching its withdrawal from the EU.

This major opportunity unlocks considerable investment for health, wellbeing and learning initiatives that will assist in the delivery of Greater Manchester's strategic health and community objectives.

The announcement will be made at 2pm at the Monastery on Monday 11th November 2019 by Roland Schatz CEO of UNGSII and Gareth Presch, CEO of the World Health Innovation Summit (WHIS) who is the SDG 3 & 4 Expert Adviser for UNGSII.

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SDG means Business: the 25+5 SDG Cities Leadership Platform provides all partners with the funding, know-how and global awareness inspiring the other 9975 Cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants to follow this best practice example.

“Replacing Diesel-Buses with Zero Emission Buses and building affordable houses in line with SDG quality or constructing new assisted living for those in need will change the life for the young and the old, but at the same time it will change the order books of those companies committed to the principle of sustainability.” Roland Schatz, Founder and CEO, UNGSII Foundation.

“This provides Greater Manchester with the opportunities to improve people’s health and wellbeing, create new and meaningful jobs while implementing the UN SDGs to ensure that everyone benefits” Gareth Presch, WHIS, CEO and UNGSII, SDG3/4 Expert

“The Monastery team is passionate about improving the health, wellbeing and quality of education in our local communities. We are honoured to have been chosen by UNGSII to become an SDG3/4 Global Hub for Health, Well-Being and Education and look forward to working with our new partners to maximise this opportunity for the benefit of everyone who lives Greater Manchester.” Elaine Griffiths CEO The Monastery Manchester

“The Monastery is an iconic building at the heart of its local community and has been a key contributor to the city-regions ambitions to improve health and well-being and to enable our citizens to realise their full potential. The selection of the Monastery as a global hub for sustainable development is wonderful news for Greater Manchester”

Eamonn Boylan – Chief Executive

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) &
Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)

“The Monastery has been an anchor in the Gorton community for more than two decades and their being chosen to be a hub for health and education is fantastic for the local area, Manchester and the region.”

Joanne Roney OBE, Chief Executive of Manchester City Council

Notes to the Editor:

UNGSII Foundation www.ungsii.org

In September 2015, 193 heads of state pledged their commitment to implement the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at the United Nations. The UNGSII FOUNDATION was created to assist and accelerate the implementation process. Our mission is to ensure that the world reaches its goal, at the latest, by 2030.

World Health Innovation Summit (WHIS) www.worldhealthinnovationsummit.com

WHIS is a preventative healthcare platform, which empowers people to improve their health and wellbeing by facilitating community engagement.

The Monastery www.themonastery.co.uk

This former Franciscan Church & Friary has been described as architect Edward Pugin's masterpiece and is a stunning example of the gothic style he made popular in Victorian Britain.

This precious sacred heritage site is still owned by the Monastery Trust, a charity set up in 1996 by local volunteers to save the building from dereliction when it was listed by the World Monuments Fund as one of the 100 most endangered sites in the world and given the nickname Manchester's Taj Mahal.

The Monastery has been lovingly restored and is back at the heart of the community, serving the people of Manchester once again through its charitable projects in Education, Skills, Arts & Health.

Winning over 30 prestigious awards The Monastery generates its own income by operating as a corporate, cultural and community venue. All profits are donated to back to the Trust to maintain these magnificent buildings and deliver its charitable projects.

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