

**MINUTES OF THE PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION MEETING
HELD ON 29 FEBRUARY 2016**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Councillor Sue Derbyshire - Chair	Stockport MBC
Councillor Bernard Priest	Manchester CC
Councillor John Blundell	Rochdale MBC
Councillor Derek Antrobus	Salford CC
Councillor Ged Cooney	Tameside Council
Councillor Michael Young	Trafford Council
Jenny Hope	United Utilities
Stephen Trusler	Laing O'Rourke
Ian Munro	New Charter

PLANNING & HOUSING EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Councillor Nicholas Peel	Bolton Council
Councillor Sandra Walmsley	Bury Council
Councillor Rishi Shori	Bury Council
Councillor Ollie Manco	Manchester CC
Councillor David Hibbert	Oldham Council
Councillor John Taylor	Tameside Council

ADVISORS

Marie Hodgson	HCA
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SUPPORT OFFICERS

Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Paul Beardmore	Manchester CC
Garreth Bruff	GMIST
Chris Findley	Salford CC
David Fowler	Bury Council
Steve Fyfe	GMCA AGMA Planning & Housing Team
Alison Gordon	New Economy
David Hodcroft	GMCA AGMA Planning & Housing Team
Lucy Woodbine	New Economy
Kate Green	Manchester CC
Andy Cameron	Environment Agency
Kerry Bond	GMIST

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Kate Chappell (Manchester), Richard Roe (Trafford), David Molyneux (Wigan), Paula Vickers (United Utilities), Jane Healey Brown (Arup), Simon Bedford (Deloitte),

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7th OCTOBER 2015

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2015 be approved as a correct record.

4. GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK

a. UPDATE

Chris Findley, Greater Manchester Planning Lead, presented a report updating members on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, including:

- Numbers of submissions to the recent consultation exercise call for sites exercise
- Work to analyse the submissions and assess the submitted sites
- Identification of possible implications for the GMSF as it is developed
- Next steps
 - response to the consultation and call for sites will be published for information
 - comments on the strategic options are being analysed and reviewed
 - work has started on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)
 - submitted sites are being assessed
 - districts are updating their existing land supply to be used to guide the development of spatial options and the development of the draft plan, which is timetabled for consultation in October 2016
 - the evidence base is being developed with work on the natural environment, flooding, town centres, greenbelt assessment, low carbon and resilience underway

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report, the outcomes of the consultation and next steps.
2. That a report on Strategic Housing Market Assessment be brought to a future meeting.

b. GM INFRASTRUCTURE MAP

Lucy Woodbine gave an interactive demonstration of the Greater Manchester Open Data Infrastructure Map (<http://mappinggm.org.uk/gmodin/>)

Greater Manchester Open Data Infrastructure Map

This is an open map of relevant public and private infrastructure data and makes use of existing local, regional and national datasets on a variety of

topics - from open public sector and environmental assets to energy utility networks and aims to support better decision making in the pre-planning process for developers by identifying relevant local infrastructure, and thereby highlighting the potential costs or benefits of new developments.

New Economy made a bid to the Cabinet Office to support the development of an interactive, open data map for Greater Manchester. The map, built by Salford City Council, brings together both public and private sector open data for planners, developers and the public to use. The map will remain live and will be regularly updated with additional information.

Three new data sets have been recently added to the map:

1. Broadband
2. Property prices
3. Zoopla heat map

As part of the continuing process to support new developments of the map, people are encouraged to suggest or recommend new data layers for the map. Each suggestion will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of how open the data is, the difficulty of adding the information to the map, and the strategic fit with an infrastructure focus.

The submissions received to the relevant call for sites will also be made available through the GM map.

Discussion ensued and key points and comments included:

- Members queried whether submissions to the consultation and call for sites are publicly available.
 - Officers confirmed that this information is being digitised and will be published as part of the GMSF communications plan.
- Communication is key, some people may not understand what the map is being used for and the difference between for example, call for sites and existing land supply etc, the information needs to be detailed as clear as possible.

Members asked that their congratulations be given to officers involved in the development of the GM Map.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the interactive map demonstration and next steps.

5. HOUSING IN GREATER MANCHESTER - AFFORDABILITY

Marie Hodgson, Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) gave a presentation detailing:

- New government objectives for planning and housing
- The direction and role of the Homes and Communities Agency
- Outcomes of the Spending Review for the Homes and Communities Agency
- North West emerging priorities for 2016

Discussion ensued and key points and comments included:

- What is being done to address the lack of skills in GM, and any studies underway to address the skills issue?
 - GM do have a skills strategy, the government are looking at initiatives that can be brought forward to address the shortage of specialised skills within GM. Registered providers are also working with Salford University to address the skills shortages.
- Do we know the number of construction companies that have apprenticeships
 - A headcount can be carried out for those engaged via the Housing Investment Fund.

Paul Beardmore gave a presentation on housing affordability in Greater Manchester detailing:

- The emerging housing and planning policy that will impact on our future decision making
- National context including the Planning and Housing Bill
- A definition of affordability in GM
- Data including – stock profile, sales figures, home ownership and rental affordability, purchase and income requirements
- Forecast housing delivery in the next 5 years

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Commission note and welcome the progress with more information to a future meeting.
2. That a construction skills report be brought to the next meeting.

6. FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT

Members received a presentation from Andy Cameron, Environment Agency updating members on the 2015 Boxing Day floods, the lead up to, and next steps following the event, including-

- Forecasts and flood guidance prior to the event
- Data, including number of properties affected, rainfall, river and flow levels
- Community engagement and resilience following the event
- Next steps for Greater Manchester
- Climate change

Discussion ensued and key points and comments included:

- The benefits of good planning in Lower Broughton and Rochdale, reducing the impact of floods

- The importance of developing a catchment based approach in future planning looking at upstream solutions
- Role of planning in reducing the risk of surface water flooding, which will be a key issue in the heart of the conurbation
- Learning of registered housing providers who are collaborating on this to improve the way that responses are made in the future

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the presentation and thank the Environment Agency.

7. EMPTY HOMES PROGRAMME 2016-18

The Commission received a progress report from Steve Fyfe detailing the GMCA's agreement to a Empty Homes Programme for 2015-18 following success of the previous Empty Homes Programme in 2012-2015.

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) have confirmed that £3,691,705 is available to GM for this programme, subject to revised scheme proposals being submitted to them for assessment. This will aim to bring 232 long-term empty properties back into use (i.e those empty for six months or more).

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Commission note the plans for the GMCA Consortium to deliver a further empty homes programme, continuing the successful track record in helping reduce the numbers of long-term empty homes in Greater Manchester.
2. To receive a further report detailing delivery of the programme, following sign off of the HCA agreement by all partners.

8. FUTURE MEETING DATES:

13th April 2016 - 2:00 - 4:00pm

6th July 2016

12th October 2016

17th January 2017

5th April 2017

All meetings (except April 2016) will be held from 2:30pm-4:30pm, Manchester Town Hall

