

**DECISIONS AGREED AT THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND HOUSING
COMMISSION
HELD ON 31 OCTOBER 2016**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Councillor Nicholas Peel	Bolton Council
Councillor Sandra Walmsley	Bury Council
Councillor Bernard Priest	Manchester CC
Councillor Barbara Brownridge	Oldham Council
Councillor Richard Farnell (Portfolio Holder, Chair)	Rochdale BC
Councillor Derek Antrobus	Salford CC
Councillor Paula Boshell (Deputy Portfolio Holder)	
Councillor Philip Harding	Stockport MBC
Councillor Mark Hunter (Deputy Portfolio Holder)	Stockport MBC
Councillor Gerald Cooney	Tameside MBC
Councillor David Molyneux	Wigan Council
Ian Munro (Vice Chair)	New Charter

ADVISORS

SUPPORT OFFICERS

Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC & Chief Executive Lead for GM
Paul Beardmore	Manchester CC & GM Housing Lead
Garreth Bruff	GMIST
Chris Findley	Salford CC & GM Planning Lead
David Fowler	Bury Council
Steve Fyfe	GMCA AGMA Planning & Housing Team
Alison Gordon	New Economy
Jill Holden	GMCA AGMA Planning & Housing Team
Anne Morgan	GMCA AGMA Planning & Housing Team
Richard Roe	Trafford Council
James Shuttleworth	Manchester CC
Lucy Woodbine	New Economy
Nicola Wooding	HCA

**1/16 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION – 2016/17**

RESOLVED/-

That Councillor Richard Farnell (Rochdale MBC) be appointed as the GM Portfolio Holder for Planning and Housing, as Chair of the Greater Manchester Planning and Housing Commission for 2016/17.

**2/16 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION - 2016/17**

RESOLVED/-

That Ian Munro, (New Charter) be appointed Vice Chair of the Greater Manchester Planning and Housing Commission for 2016/17.

**3/16 MEMBERSHIP OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER PLANNING AND
HOUSING COMMISSION**

RESOLVED/-

To note the membership of the Greater Manchester Planning and Housing Commission for 2016/17 as agreed by the AGMA Executive Board on 23 June 2016 as follows:

District	Member
Bolton	Nick Peel
Bury	Sandra Walmsley
Manchester	Bernard Priest
Oldham	Barbara Brownridge
Rochdale	John Blundell
Rochdale	Richard Farnell (Portfolio Holder and Chair)
Salford	Derek Antrobus
Salford	Paula Boshell (Deputy Portfolio Holder)
Stockport	Philip Harding
Stockport	Mark Hunter (Deputy Portfolio Holder)
Tameside	Gerald Cooney
Trafford	Brian Shaw
Wigan	David Molyneux

**4/16 GREATER MANCHESTER PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION
REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Councillor Farnell presented the amended terms of reference for the GM Planning and Housing Commission for approval in line with the AGMA/GMCA constitution.

The membership of the Commission has been expanded to include a nominated representative from all ten Local Authorities in GM. The terms of reference has

been amended to reflect this decision as well as the role of the GM Planning and Housing Deputy Portfolio Holders, who are also invited to attend Commission meetings.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the revised Terms of Reference of the Planning and Housing Commission.

5/16 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor John Blundell Jane Healey Brown and Jenny Hope.

6/16 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENT AND URGENT BUSINESS

Councillor Farnell welcomed all members to the meeting of the Planning and Housing Commission. The draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework has been published and the consultation period started today, Monday 31 October 2016.

He reminded members it was a public meeting and that there will be a great deal of public interest across GM, which will continue when the consultation period closes on 23 December 2016.

7/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

8/16 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 APRIL 2016

Minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2016 were submitted for consideration. The following matters were raised:

Garreth Bruff, Policy Manager, GMIST provided a verbal update to the Commission on Greater Manchester's submissions to Local Garden Village. Two expressions of interest were received from Bolton and Wigan and one from Tameside. Decisions on these submissions will be announced in the Autumn statement.

A report that provided an update on the progress of the Get Digital Faster programme was provided for information to members.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2016.
2. To note the update with regard to Local Garden Village.
3. To note the progress in rolling out superfast broadband speeds and consider how best provision and take up can be promoted in the future in the context of the emerging GM Spatial Framework.

9/16 FLOOD INVESTIGATION REPORT

Nick Pearson, Environment Agency provided a report to members which provided an update on the progress from the winter flood event in 2015.

This was supplemented by a presentation that provided an overview of the impact of Storm Eva on Boxing Day 2015. A map that highlighted those areas with properties affected in GM was illustrated to the Commission.

In response to the consequences, a GM Section 19 Flood Investigation Report has been completed in partnership by The Environment Agency along with a plan for winter readiness and a national flood resilience review.

A six year investment programme has been identified in GM to address the risk. Key scheme locations and additional locations for capital work and operations and maintenance required were highlighted to members.

A discussion took place with regard to the rain fall in June and the subsequent flash flooding that occurred. This highlighted that this was not just a winter problem and members asked if the same level of rain fall happened again would the same results occur.

Nick Pearson confirmed that given similar levels of rainfall, and similar saturated ground conditions, there could be a risk of further flooding in the future. However, work is ongoing to reduce the threat and concentrate on those areas most at risk.

Members expressed their concern at the low take up of resilience grants. Jill Holden, GMCA/AGMA Planning Team, confirmed that DCLG administer the grants and best practice has been reviewed and shared with Local Authorities.

Furthermore, the opportunities to obtain regional funding needs to be investigated as some schemes have still not been allocated any monies from the regional programme.

A discussion took place with regard to Operation Triton II. The operation was successful but highlighted areas that required focus. It was suggested that the 10 Authority leads in GM need to convene to collaborate on the flood risks in preparation for winter and review those highlighted by the operation.

Members pointed out that November is Flood Awareness month. It was suggested that it would be a good opportunity to feedback to those communities affected the work carried out and highlight future potential risks.

The Commission requested regular updates on the flood investigations that highlights the work that is being done by different agencies and the expected timescales. The requirement to reduce the significant threat to the public of further flooding needs to be progressed quickly and the Chair requested all organisations to consider the role they play to support the process.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report and support the forward programme.
2. To receive regular updates on the progress of the programme and key dates for completion of schemes.

3. To request that GM flood risk leads meet to ensure continued collaboration on flood risk management.

10/16 GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK (GMSF) – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

The Chair circulated an Executive Summary of the draft GMSF for the attention of the Commission.

He explained that the draft GMSF was an important document to consider as it has implications for all ten districts. It is a consultative document that demonstrates the collective GM ambition to achieve growth, new jobs and new homes for a more prosperous future. Councillor Farnell explained that the consultation beginning on 31 October 2016 was one part of a detailed public process and it will inform how the plan will be produced. Changes will be made as a result of the conversation with the public and stakeholders.

Chris Findley, supplemented this with a presentation that provided an overview of the vision and strategy of the GMSF, the strategic locations, thematic policies, allocations and timescales.

Lucy Woodbine provided a demonstration of the GMSF consultation portal and mapping tools. Navigation through the website demonstrated that it was a useful tool to consult, engage and understand how the plan fits across GM.

Members discussed a range of issues and opportunities, including:

- Developers and landowners would view this as an opportunity to make money and the challenge would be to persuade the public that this will also improve the quality of life for residents in localities.
- The difficulty of acquiring brownfield sites and the infrastructure to support the proposed developments.
- The focus on brownfield sites and urban regeneration and the benefits of a co-ordinated GM strategy that will be developed and reflect public consultation to meet the housing required by 2035.
- The need to ensure that all other options and powers including compulsory purchase, are utilised prior to building on green belt.
- The need to support growth in a co-ordinated way, in line with the delivery of the green infrastructure networks and resilience required.
- Issues beyond the draft plan and the implementation of the GMSF and the role of the Commission going forward.
- The need for assurances that road infrastructure and public transport would be developed to support the increase in new homes, at a time when bus operators in certain areas are cutting services.
- The draft GMSF is part of the overall devolution journey. GM have included a submission to the Autumn Statement for a second GM Transport Fund to

take into account extension of the Metrolink. Furthermore, bus operators currently have the freedom to make changes to services if they are not within a franchise network. The proposal for this is to change under new powers acquired through devolution.

- The need for GM to grasp the opportunity to deliver growth by 2035. Infrastructure has to be right and we have to plan together and support the opportunity as a region.

Closing discussion on this item, Councillor Farnell spoke about the requirement to redress the balance in GM with growth. He emphasised that all areas in GM play a part and it is a draft, evidence based realistic plan for growth over the next 20 years. In order to accommodate growth it will be necessary to develop and the best way to defend the greenbelt is by the adoption of a robust spatial strategy. He encouraged members not to lose sight of the bigger picture. Collectively, GM needs to grow our economy in order to compete as a City region globally.

RESOLVED/-

To note the report and agree the approach.

11/16 DRAFT HOUSING MARKET MONITOR

Paul Beardmore, introduced a report that proposed a revised format for the GM Housing Market Monitor. The report demonstrated the impact of the increased level of supply on house prices.

Lucy Woodbine supplemented this with a presentation on the format and key data in the monitor. The format has been revised to provide a more graphic, rather than text based, presentation of key trends. The presentation provided data mainly for the calendar year 2015 or financial year 2015-16.

The aim is to provide the information in a clearer and simpler way while retaining sufficient richness to add value to the Commission's work. Members were asked to consider the revised monitor and provide comment on the data presented and any that is missing that the Commission would find helpful.

Members requested the inclusion of data on empty properties that have now been brought back in to use. Lucy confirmed that this data was available and will be added to future reports.

RESOLVED/-

1. To comment on the revised Housing Market Monitor
2. To note the inclusion of empty property data in future reports.

12/16 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND

An update on committed capital projects up to 31 October 2016 was provided to the Commission for information.

RESOLVED/-

To note the update provided.

13/16 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

17 January 2017	2:00 – 4:00pm
5 April 2017	2:00 – 4:00pm