

AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE 2020/21

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Thursday 3 September 2020

TIME: 10.00 am

VENUE: Microsoft Teams Live Meeting Event

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE 2020/21 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

That the GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture be Chair of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee for 2020/21 Municipal Year
3. **MEMBERSHIP OF THE AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE 2020/21** 1 - 2
4. **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND URGENT BUSINESS**
5. **MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DECLARATION FORM** 3 - 16

To remind Members of their obligations under the GMCA Members' Code of Conduct and to request Members complete an annual declaration of interest form, which will be published on the GMCA website.
6. **TO NOTE THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE** 17 - 20

BOLTON	MANCHESTER	ROCHDALE	STOCKPORT	TRAFFORD
BURY	OLDHAM	SALFORD	TAMESIDE	WIGAN

Please note that this meeting will be livestreamed via www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk, please speak to a Governance Officer before the meeting should you not wish to consent to being included in this recording.

ORDINARY BUSINESS

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 21 - 24

To receive declarations of interest in any item for discussion at the meeting. A blank form for declaring interests has been circulated with the agenda; please ensure that this is returned to the Governance & Scrutiny Officer at the start of the meeting.

8. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2019 25 - 28

9. GREATER MANCHESTER COUNTY RECORD OFFICE AND GREATER MANCHESTER ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES PARTNERSHIP 29 - 36

Report of Neil MacInnes, Head of Libraries, Galleries and Culture (Manchester City Council), Sheena MacFarlane, Head of Cultural Services (Oldham Council) and Philip Cooke, Citywide Services Manager, Libraries and Archives (Manchester City Council)

10. CLOSEDOWN OF AGMA S48 GRANTS 37 - 40

Report of Alison Gordon, Assistant Director, Business, Innovation and Enterprise, GMCA

11. DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

That meetings be organised in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference (at least twice a year) and circulated to Members.

BOLTON	MANCHESTER	ROCHDALE	STOCKPORT	TRAFFORD
BURY	OLDHAM	SALFORD	TAMESIDE	WIGAN

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Committee Membership 2020/21

Name	Organisation	Political Party
Councillor Norman Briggs	Oldham Council	Labour
Councillor Kate Butler	Stockport Council	Labour
Councillor Stephen Coen	Salford City Council	Labour
Councillor Martyn Cox	Bolton Council	Conservative
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council	Labour
Councillor Leanne Feeley	Tameside Council	Labour
Councillor Bernard Stone	Manchester City Council	Labour
Councillor Jane Black	Bury Council	Labour
Councillor Elizabeth Patel	Trafford Council	Labour
Councillor Paul Prescott	Wigan Council	Labour
Councillor David Greenhalgh	Bolton Council	Conservative

For copies of papers and further information on this meeting please refer to the website www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk. Alternatively, contact the following Governance & Scrutiny Officer: Jenny Hollamby, Senior Governance Officer
✉ Jenny.hollamby@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

This agenda was issued on 25 August 2020 on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

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Membership of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee for the 2020/21 Municipal Year

To note the Membership of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee as agreed at the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Bard on 26 June 2020:

Portfolio	Holder	Chief Executive
Culture	David Greenhalgh	Alison McKenzie-Folan
District	Member	Substitute Member
Bolton	Martyn Cox (Con)	Stuart Haslam (Con)
Bury	Jane Black (Lab)	David Jones (Lab)
Manchester	Bernard Stone (Lab)	To be confirmed
Oldham	Norman Briggs (Lab)	Mohammed Alyas (Lab)
Rochdale	Janet Emsley (Lab)	Susan Smith (Lab)
Salford	Stephen Coen (Lab)	Anne- Marie Humphreys (Lab)
Stockport	Kate Butler (Lab)	Tom McGee (Lab)
Tameside	Leanne Feeley (Lab)	Mike Smith (Lab)
Trafford	Liz Patel (Lab)	Mike Freeman (Lab)
Wigan	Paul Prescott (Lab)	Bill Clarke (Lab)

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AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

Date: 3 September 2020

Subject: Members Code of Conduct and Annual Declaration Form

Report of: Jenny Hollamby, Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer, GMCA

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To remind Members that the GMCA's Member Code of Conduct sets out high expectations with regard Members' conduct. As Members of the committee are co-opted on to a GMCA Committee the GMCA's code applies to them when they are acting in this capacity.

RECOMMENDATION:

Members are asked to note the GMCA's Member Code of Conduct (Appendix A) and to complete an annual register of interest form (Appendix B).

CONTACT OFFICER:

Jenny Hollamby, Jenny.hollamby@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

The following is a list of the background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100D (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents, which would disclose exempt or confidential information as identified by that Act.

None.

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SECTION A: CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS Part 1

General Provisions

1 Introduction and Scope

- 1.1** The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is determined to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its Members, Co-opted Members and those councillors from Greater Manchester's districts appointed to roles in which they act on behalf of the GMCA. The GMCA has adopted a Code of Conduct for Members in line with its obligations under section 27(2) of the Localism Act 2011.
- 1.2** This Code mandatorily applies to those acting as Members of the GMCA (including the Mayor and Substitute Members), voting Co-opted Members of the GMCA's committees or Appointed Members of Joint Committees, and references to "official capacity" are to be construed accordingly.
- 1.3** Compliance with this Code is a statutory requirement for those identified in paragraph 1.2. To promote good governance the GMCA strongly recommends voluntary compliance with the Code by non-voting Co-opted Members of the GMCA's committees and by elected members from Greater Manchester's ten districts when they otherwise act for or represent the GMCA. Where a member is only subject to the Code through voluntary compliance (as described in this paragraph) they will not in law be subject to the statutory obligations relating to member conduct under Chapter 7, Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 nor can the conduct of such a member, insofar as it concerns that member's GMCA role, amount to any of the criminal offences referred to in this Code. However, the conduct of a member who has agreed to voluntarily be subject to the Code may be considered under the GMCA's arrangements for determining whether a member has breached the Code.
- 1.4** In this Code – 'meeting' means any meeting of:
- the GMCA; or
 - any of the GMCA's Committees or Sub-Committees, Joint Committees or Joint Sub-Committees.
- 1.5** This Code does not have effect in relation to a member's conduct other than where it is in that member's official capacity.
- 1.6** This Code will be reviewed every two years by the GMCA's Standards Committee or earlier if required by a change in legislation.

2 General Principles

- 2.1** The Code and the associated guidance are based on the following general principles.
- 2.2** Members must behave according to the highest standards of personal conduct in everything they do when acting as a Member or voting Co-opted Member (or in the case of those voluntarily subject to compliance with the Code in accordance with paragraph 1.3 above, where they are otherwise acting on behalf of the GMCA). They must observe the following principles of conduct, some of which are set out in law. The seven principles of Standards in Public Life known as the Nolan Principles underpin the provisions of the GMCA's Code of Conduct for Members. They are set out in paragraphs 2.3 to 2.9 below.
- 2.3** Selflessness: holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest. They should not do so in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.
- 2.4** Integrity: holders of public office should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties.
- 2.5** Objectivity: in carrying out public business, including making public appointments, awarding contracts, or recommending individuals for rewards and benefits, holders of public office should make choices on merit.
- 2.6** Accountability: Holders of public office are accountable for their decisions and actions to the public and must submit themselves to whatever scrutiny is appropriate to their office.
- 2.7** Openness: Holders of public office should be as open as possible about all the decisions and actions that they take. They should give reasons for their decisions and restrict information only when the wider public interest clearly demands.
- 2.8** Honesty: holders of public office have a duty to declare any private interests relating to their public duties and to take steps to resolve any conflicts arising in a way that protects the public interest.
- 2.9** Leadership: holders of public office should promote and support these principles by leadership and example.
- 2.10** Where those covered by this Code act as a representative of the GMCA:
- (a) on another relevant authority, they must, when acting for that other authority, comply with that other authority's code of conduct; or

- (b) on any other body, they must comply with this Code, unless it conflicts with any other lawful obligations to which that other body may be subject.

2.11 It is an individual's responsibility to comply with this Code. Failure to do so may result in a sanction being applied by the GMCA. A failure by a Member coming within the scope of paragraph 1.2 above to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in a criminal conviction and an unlimited fine and/or disqualification from office for a period of up to 5 years.

3 General Obligations for Members

3.1 You must not:-

- a. Do anything which may knowingly cause the GMCA to breach the Equality Act 2010;
- b. Bully or be abusive to any person;
- c. Intimidate or attempt to intimidate any person who is or is likely to be:
 - a complainant
 - a witness, or
 - involved in the administration of any investigation or proceedings, in relation to an allegation that a Member (including yourself) has failed to comply with the GMCA's Code of Conduct; or
- d. do anything which compromises or is likely to compromise the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the GMCA.

3.2 You must not:

- a. Disclose information given to you in confidence by anyone, or information acquired by you which you believe, or ought reasonably to be aware, is of a confidential nature, except where:
 - i. You have the consent of a person authorised to give it;
 - ii. You are required to do so by law;
 - iii. The disclosure is made to a third party for the purpose of obtaining professional advice, provided that the third party agrees not to disclose the information to any other person; or
 - iv. the disclosure:
 - is reasonable and in the public interest; and
 - is made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the GMCA; or
- b. prevent another person from gaining access to information to which that person is entitled by law.

3.3 You must not conduct yourself in such a way which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or the GMCA into disrepute.

3.4 You:

- a. must not use or attempt to use your position as a Member improperly to confer on or secure for myself or any other person, an advantage or disadvantage; and
- b. must, when using or authorising the use by others of the resources of the GMCA:
 - act in accordance with the GMCA's reasonable requirements;
 - ensure that such resources are not used improperly for political purposes (including party political purposes); and
- c. must have regard to any applicable Local Authority Code of Publicity made under the Local Government Act 1986.

3.5 When reaching decisions on any matter you must have regard to any relevant advice provided to you by:

- a. The GMCA's Treasurer (section 73 officer); or
- b. The GMCA's Monitoring Officer

where that officer is acting pursuant to his or her personal statutory duties.

3.6 You must give reasons for all decisions in accordance with any statutory requirements and any reasonable additional requirements imposed by the GMCA.

LOCALISM ACT 2011
GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
(GMCA)
CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

**REGISTER OF MEMBERS' AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS' DISCLOSABLE
PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 30 AND 31 OF THE
LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES (DISCLOSABLE
PECUNIARY INTERESTS) REGULATIONS 2012 (S.I. 2012 No. 1464)), AND
MEMBERS' AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBER'S PERSONAL INTERESTS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 2.1 OF THE GMCA'S CODE OF CONDUCT FOR
MEMBERS**

I, _____ (INSERT NAME)

Being a Member of the GMCA give notice that I have set out at PART 1 below under the appropriate heading the disclosable personal interests that I am required to notify to the GMCA's Monitoring Officer in accordance with Sections 30 and 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 and/or by virtue of Rule 16 of the GMCA's Procedure Rules and that I have set out at PART 2 below the personal interests which I am required to notify to the GMCA's Monitoring Officer under Paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2 of the Code of Conduct for Members adopted by the GMCA at its meeting on 30 June 2017 and have put 'NONE' where I am not required to notify any disclosable personal interests or personal interests under any heading.

I am aware that in accordance with Section 30(3) of the Localism Act 2011, I am required to notify at PART 1 both my own disclosable personal interests and also any disclosable personal interests of

- (i) my spouse or civil partner,
 - (ii) a person with whom I am living as husband and wife, or
 - (iii) a person with whom I am living as if we were civil partners
- ("my Partner"), where I am aware that my Partner has the disclosable personal interest.

PART 1

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1. ANY EMPLOYMENT, OFFICE, TRADE, PROFESSION OR VOCATION CARRIED ON FOR PROFIT OR GAIN.

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NB: You need to include details of any employment or business in which you or your Partner are engaged. Employees should give the name of their employer. You should give the name of any company of which you or your Partner are a partner or remunerated director. Where you or your Partner hold an office, give the name of the person of the body which appointed you or your Partner (in the case of a teacher in a maintained school – the local education authority; in the case of an aided school – the school’s governing body)

2. SPONSORSHIP

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NB You must declare any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the GMCA) made or provided to you in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties as a Member / Substitute Member of the GMCA or one of its Committees, or towards your election expenses, within the period of 12 months ending with the day on which you give your notification to the GMCA’s Monitoring Officer for the purposes of Section 30(1) of the Localism Act 2011 and/or by virtue of Rule 18 of the GMCA’s Procedure Rules. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

3. CONTRACTS WITH THE GMCA

Member	Partner

NB You should describe all contracts of which you are aware, which are made between the GMCA and

- (i) either yourself or your Partner or
- (ii) a body in which you or your Partner have a beneficial interest (being a firm in which you or your Partner is a partner, or a body corporate of which you or your Partner is a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner have a beneficial interest),

which are not fully discharged and which are contracts under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed.

Please note that the reference to "securities" means "shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

4. LAND IN THE AREA OF THE GMCA

Member	Partner

You should include any land (including houses, buildings or parts of buildings and any interests as mortgagee) within the GMCA's boundaries in which you or your Partner, either alone or jointly, have a proprietary interest for your or your Partner's benefit. You should give the address or brief description to identify it. **If you live within the GMCA's boundaries you should include your home under this heading** either as owner, lessee or tenant. You should also include any property from which you or your Partner receive rent, or of which you or your Partner are the mortgagee.

5. LICENCES TO OCCUPY LAND

Member	Partner

NB You should include any land (including buildings or parts of buildings) within the GMCA's boundaries which you or your Partner have a right to occupy for 28 days or longer (either alone or jointly with others). You should give the address or a brief description to identify it.

6. CORPORATE TENANCIES

Member	Partner

[NB You should list here any tenancies of properties of which you are aware, where the landlord is the GMCA and the tenant is a body in which you or your Partner have a beneficial interest (being a firm in which you or your Partner is a partner, or a body corporate of which you or your Partner is a director, or in the securities of which you or your partner have a beneficial interest).

7. SECURITIES

Member	Partner

- NB You should list here any beneficial interest of you or your Partner in securities of a body where –*
- (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land within the GMCA's boundaries; and*
 - (b) either –*
 - (i) the total nominal value of the securities held by you or your Partner exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or*
 - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you or your Partner has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.*

Please note that the reference to “securities” means “shares, debentures, debenture stock, Loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

PART 2

PERSONAL INTERESTS

1. BODIES TO WHICH YOU ARE APPOINTED OR NOMINATED BY THE GMCA

NB You should record here details of your **position of general control or management**, in any –

- *Body to which you have been appointed or nominated by the GMCA as its representative.*

2. INTERESTS IN CHARITIES, SOCIETIES AND OTHER BODIES

NB You should record here details of your **position of general control or management**, in any –

- *Public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature;*
- *Company, industrial and provident society, charity, or body directed to charitable purposes. (Freemasons should include here membership of the Masonic Grand Charity)*
- *Body whose principal purposes include the influence of public policy, including party associations, trade union or professional association.*

3. GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

You should list here any person from whom you have received a gift(s) or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £100 (including multiple gifts and/or hospitality with an aggregate value of at least £100 from the same person). You should provide a description of the gift(s) or hospitality and the person you believe to be the source of the gift(s) and hospitality (including accumulative gifts and/or hospitality).

You should list any such gifts or hospitality which you have received within whichever is the shortest of the period of 3 years or the period since you were first elected as a Member / Substitute Member of the GMCA.

I recognise that it can be a CRIMINAL OFFENCE under Section 34 of the Localism Act 2011 to:-

- i) fail to comply with the obligation to notify the GMCA's Monitoring Officer of any disclosable pecuniary interests as required by Section 30(1) of the Localism Act 2011;**
- ii) provide information in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests that is materially false or misleading, and**
- iii) fail to comply with the obligation to notify the GMCA's Monitoring Officer of any further disclosable pecuniary interests that require notification in accordance with Sections 30(2) and 30(3) of the Localism Act 2011.**

I authorise this information to be made available in the GMCA's Public Register of Member's / Substitute Member's Interests which will be published on the GMCA's website as required by Section 29(6)(b) of the Localism Act 2011.

Signed:

Date:

OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIVED

Signed

Officer of the GMCA

Date

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AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The Statutory Functions Committee (SFC) is a sub-committee of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Executive Board which discharges various functions in accordance with section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985 and the AGMA Constitution.
2. The Committee has one Member representative from each of the ten constituent Local Authorities. These representatives are nominated by each individual Authority and appointed by AGMA
3. The areas covered by the SFC are:
 - The AGMA Grants Scheme
 - GM County Records
 - GM Disaster Relief Fund
4. The quorum of the SFC will be two thirds of participating parties for any particular function that is under discussion. The SFC will meet at least twice a year with additional meetings as required.
5. The SFC's functions in relation to the AGMA Grants Scheme are:

Delegations

- Delegated authority to ensure the proper operation and application of a performance management framework of the AGMA Grants Scheme;

Referred to make recommendations

- Make recommendations to AGMA Executive Board on overall policies, strategy and priorities;
 - Make recommendations to AGMA Executive Board on the budget for the AGMA Grants Scheme; and
 - To consider grant applications and make recommendations to AGMA Executive Board in respect of grants to eligible voluntary organisations.
6. The SFC will receive reports from the Greater Manchester County Record Office.
 7. The SFC will receive and note an annual report in respect of the Greater Manchester Disaster Relief Fund outlining the allocation of grants made via the Fund.

8. The Chair of the SFC can call an Emergency Sub Committee meeting (consisting of the Chair, Vice Chair and one other minority Member) if any urgent decision is required.

Any decisions made by the Emergency Sub Committee will then be brought back to the next full Committee meeting.

9. The Committee has nominated deputies for each Member who may deputise at SFC and, in their absence, vote on his/her behalf.

GMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND AND STRUCTURE

THE GREATER MANCHESTER GRANTS SCHEME

The Greater Manchester Grants Scheme was established in 1986. It has become known as the Section 48 Scheme since the Statutory authority for the Scheme is set out in Section 48 of the Local Government Act 1985 which allows for a voluntary arrangement of districts in metropolitan areas to award grants to non-statutory organisations providing services of more than local significance relevant to that area. The Statutory Functions Committee (SFC) oversees this scheme.

The aim of the Grants Scheme is to:

- (i) Deliver a GVA led scheme, based on three overriding objectives, as follows:
 - To contribute to the recognition of Greater Manchester locally, nationally and internationally helping to create the conditions to attract new investment, new visitors and new talent to Greater Manchester (50%).
 - To make a positive contribution to improving the skills and employability of the residents of Greater Manchester encouraging people to achieve their full potential (30%).
 - To play a strong role in developing strong and inclusive communities, contributing to an improved quality of life and well-being for all residents (20%).
- (ii) Provide up to £100,000 per annum to be made available within the Scheme for a Social Impact Fund, to support social welfare organisations in recognition of their valuable contribution to the cohesiveness and wellbeing of communities in Greater Manchester.
- (iii) Grants to be awarded for 3 years, subject to an annual review of delivery against outcomes.

GREATER MANCHESTER COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

AGMA funds units, based in various locations across Greater Manchester, which cover a range of functions where joint provision benefits the ten Greater Manchester district authorities.

The Greater Manchester County Record Office (GMCRO) is operated by Manchester City Council's (MCC) Libraries, Information and Archives on behalf of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA). Since 1986 GMCRO has since been funded by annual contributions from participating districts and other joint AGMA authorities (excluding Stockport)

GMCRO houses 4 miles of archives and seeks to:

- identify, collect, preserve, and promote the widest possible public access to the documentary heritage of Greater Manchester in accordance with the statutory requirement of the Public Records Act 1958 and 1967, the Local Government (Records) Act 1962 and the Local Government Act 1972
- GMCRO also provides a range of services for the districts including conservation, preservation management, digitisation, digital preservation, staff development and training for volunteers
- GMCRO reports to the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee.

Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership

Archives and local studies services in Greater Manchester provide invaluable access to the documented past of the City Region. In addition, there are excellent examples of how archives and local studies are actively engaged with communities in order to contribute to their councils' priorities. Much of the strength of both the traditional and newer community engagement role is made possible by the services being located in the heart of their communities. The current level of funding for archive and local studies services is a very small part of a council's budget.

Following a feasibility study the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee approved the creation of a formal Partnership to provide an over-arching strategy and development plan for the local authority archive and local studies services in Greater Manchester. The AGMA Statutory Function in July 2012 approved:

- The creation of an officer group to lead the work of the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership report to the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee; and
- That the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee provide governance to the Greater Manchester Archives Partnership and to review the governance when the longer term vision and development plans are clear.

GREATER MANCHESTER DISASTER RELIEF FUND

The Greater Manchester Disaster Relief Trust was established in 1978 following a major fire at a store in Central Manchester. Its primary purpose then was to relieve financial need, sickness or other disability arising from large scale disasters involving loss of life or injury to persons or property. Historically, the Trustees of the Fund were the Leaders of the 10 AGMA authorities.

However, following a review of the Fund in April 2009, the Community Foundation Greater Manchester (CFGM) - now Forever Manchester - took over the administration of the Fund on AGMA's behalf. It was agreed as part of this arrangement that:

- a representative from the Committee be appointed to the Advisory Panel which was set up to consider applications; and
- CFGM/Forever Manchester to submit an annual report to the AGMA SFC outlining awards made from the Fund each year.

AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE 2020/21
THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2020

Declaration of Councillors' Interests in Items Appearing on the Agenda

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Minute Item No. / Agenda Item No.	Nature of Interest	Type of Interest
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary
		Personal / Prejudicial / Disclosable Pecuniary

Please see overleaf for a quick guide to declaring interests at GMCA meetings.

QUICK GUIDE TO DECLARING INTERESTS AT GMCA MEETINGS

This is a summary of the rules around declaring interests at meetings. It does not replace the Member's Code of Conduct, the full description can be found in the GMCA's constitution Part 7A.

Your personal interests must be registered on the GMCA's Annual Register within 28 days of your appointment onto a GMCA committee and any changes to these interests must notified within 28 days. Personal interests that should be on the register include:

- Bodies to which you have been appointed by the GMCA
- Your membership of bodies exercising functions of a public nature, including charities, societies, political parties or trade unions.

You are also legally bound to disclose the following information called DISCLOSABLE PERSONAL INTERESTS which includes:

- You, and your partner's business interests (eg employment, trade, profession, contracts, or any company with which you are associated)
- You and your partner's wider financial interests (eg trust funds, investments, and assets including land and property).
- Any sponsorship you receive.

FAILURE TO DISCLOSE THIS INFORMATION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

STEP ONE: ESTABLISH WHETHER YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS OF THE AGENDA

If the answer to that question is 'No' – then that is the end of the matter. If the answer is 'Yes' or Very Likely' then you must go on to consider if that personal interest can be construed as being a prejudicial interest.

STEP TWO: DETERMINING IF YOUR INTEREST PREJUDICIAL?

A personal interest becomes a prejudicial interest:

- where the well being, or financial position of you, your partner, members of your family, or people with whom you have a close association (people who are more than just an acquaintance) are likely to be affected by the business of the meeting more than it would affect most people in the area.
- the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.

FOR A NON PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

YOU MUST

- Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you

FOR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

YOU MUST

- Notify the governance officer for the meeting as soon as you realise you

have an interest

- Inform the meeting that you have a personal interest and the nature of the interest
- Fill in the declarations of interest form

TO NOTE:

- You may remain in the room and speak and vote on the matter
- If your interest relates to a body to which the GMCA has appointed you to you only have to inform the meeting of that interest if you speak on the matter.

have a prejudicial interest (before or during the meeting)

- Inform the meeting that you have a prejudicial interest and the nature of the interest
- Fill in the declarations of interest form
- Leave the meeting while that item of business is discussed
- Make sure the interest is recorded on your annual register of interests form if it relates to you or your partner's business or financial affairs. If it is not on the Register update it within 28 days of the interest becoming apparent.

YOU MUST NOT:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your disclosable pecuniary interest during the meeting participate further in any discussion of the business,
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting

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Agenda Item 8

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT BOARDROOM, GMCA,
CHURCHGATE HOUSE, 56 OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER M1 6EU**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

Councillor David Greenhalgh (Chair)	Portfolio Lead for Culture
Councillor Martyn Cox	Bolton MBC
Councillor Norman Briggs	Oldham MBC
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale MBC
Councillor Stephen Coen	Salford CC
Councillor Kate Butler	Stockport MBC
Councillor Leanne Feeley	Tameside MBC

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Julie Oldham	Bolton Council
Philip Cooke	Manchester CC
Zoe Williams	Manchester CC
Sheena Macfarlane	Oldham Council
Darren Grice	Rochdale MBC
Peter Ashworth	Stockport MBC
Mandy Kinder	Tameside MBC
Georgina Bentley	Wigan Council
Marie-Clare Daly	GMCA
Kerry Bond	GMCA

SFC/1/19 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

That the GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture be Chair of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee for 2019/20.

A nomination was made for Councillor Janet Emsley to be appointed Vice Chair. There being no other nominations made, and upon a motion being proposed and seconded, it was:

RESOLVED/-

1. That the appointment of Councillor David Greenhalgh, GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture as Chair of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee for 2019/20 be noted.
2. That Councillor Janet Emsley be appointed as Vice Chair of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee for 2019/20.

SFC/2/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bernard Stone (Manchester CC), David Lancaster (Salford CC), Mike Smith (Tameside MBC), Carl Sweeney (Wigan Council). Alison McKenzie-Folan, GMCA Chief Executive Portfolio Lead (Wigan Council).

Apologies for absence were also received from the following Officers, Alison McKenzie-Folan (Portfolio Lead Chief Executive), Alison Gordon (GMCA), Tony Trehy (Bury) and Caroline Barrow (Salford).

SFC/3/19 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Chairs' announcements or items of urgent business introduced at the meeting.

SFC/4/19 2019/20 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee noted the 2019/20 Membership of the Committee as agreed at the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board on 28 June 2019:

	Portfolio Leader	Portfolio Chief Executive
	David Greenhalgh	Alison McKenzie-Folan
District	Member	Substitute Member
Bolton	Martyn Cox (Con)	Stuart Haslam (Con)
Bury	Joan Grimshaw (Lab)	David Jones (Lab)
Manchester	Bernard Stone (Lab)	Vacancy
Oldham	Norman Briggs (Lab)	Mohammed Alyas (Lab)
Rochdale	Janet Emsley (Lab)	Susan Smith (Lab)
Salford	Stephen Coen (Lab)	Anne-Marie Humphries (Lab)
Stockport	Kate Butler (Lab)	Tom McGee (Lab)
Tameside	Leanne Feeley (Lab)	Mike Smith (Lab)
Trafford	Jane Baugh(Lab)	Mike Freeman (Lab)
Wigan	Carl Sweeney (Lab)	Bill Clarke (Lab)

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee noted its Membership for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

SFC/5/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received prior to the meeting.

SFC/6/19 TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee noted it's Terms of Reference for the 2019/20 Municipal Year.

SFC/7/19 MINUTES

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 22 August 2018 as an accurate record.

SFC/8/19 MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM

Members were reminded of their obligations under the GMCA Members Code of Conduct and to complete an annual declaration of interest form which would be published on the GMCA website.

A blank form, along with their current Register as published on their local Council websites, were mailed to Members who had not previously completed a form prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED/-

That Members complete an annual declaration of interest form and return it to the Governance and Scrutiny Team for publication on the GMCA website.

SFC/9/19 GREATER MANCHESTER COUNTY RECORD OFFICE AND GREATER MANCHESTER ARCHIVES & LOCAL STUDIES PARTNERSHIP

The Committee considered a report that detailed the progress of Archives+ and the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership, its future priorities and the 2017-2020 Development Plan.

RESOLVED/-

Members noted the progress of Archives+ the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership.

SFC/10/19 CLOSEDOWN OF AGMA S48 GRANTS PROGRAMME

Members considered a report that informed the Committee of the closure of the AGMA-run Section 48 grants fund, in line with the legislative requirements concerning closure of the scheme as of the 1st April 2019.

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

SFC/11/19 GM DISASTER RELIEF FUND ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2018-2019

The Forever Manchester, Greater Manchester Disaster Relief Fund, Annual Impact Report 2018-2019 was considered.

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

SFC/12/19 DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

That meetings be organised in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference (at least twice a year) and circulated to Members.

RESOLVED/-

That dates and times be circulated to Members.

AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

Date: 3 September 2020

Subject: Greater Manchester County Record Office and Greater Manchester Archives & Local Studies Partnership

Report of: Neil MacInnes, Head of Libraries, Galleries and Culture, Manchester City Council
Sheena Macfarlane, Head of Cultural Services, Oldham Council
Philip Cooke, Citywide Services Manager, Libraries and Archives - Manchester City Council

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The Committee is asked to consider the progress of Archives+ and the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee is asked to note the progress of Archives+ the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership.

CONTACT OFFICER:

Philip Cooke, Citywide Services Manager, Libraries and Archives - Manchester City Council
p.cooke@manchester.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

The following is a list of the background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100D (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents, which would disclose exempt or confidential information as identified by that Act.

None.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Greater Manchester County Record Office (GMCRO) is operated by Manchester City Council (MCC) on behalf of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA). GMCRO was opened by the former Greater Manchester Council (GMC) in 1976. Since 1986 GMCRO has since been supported by all AGMA districts and other joint AGMA authorities. GMCRO houses 4 miles of archives and seeks to identify, collect, preserve, and promote the widest possible public access to the documentary heritage of Greater Manchester in accordance with the statutory requirement of the Public Records Act 1958 and 1967, the Local Government (Records) Act 1962 and the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1.2 GMCRO was previously based at Marshall Street in Manchester City Centre, and moved to Manchester Central Library in early 2014 as part of a wider archive partnership called Archives+. Archives+ had made archives more accessible by creating exciting interpretive exhibition spaces to provide new ways for more people to discover the richness and relevance of archives, share their own stories and have a personalised experience of the City Region's history. Manchester's iconic Central Library reopened after a four year in 2014, £50m transformation programme and is now one of the most popular libraries in the United Kingdom.
- 1.3 The Archives+ partners include the North West Film Archive (Manchester Metropolitan University), Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre and Trust (The University of Manchester), the Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society, and temporarily the Manchester Jewish Museum.
- 1.4 In 2012 a feasibility study commissioned by AGMA recommended the creation of a formal Partnership to provide an overarching strategy and development plan for the local authority archive and local studies services in Greater Manchester. There are significant potential benefits to be gained in terms of collaborating on service improvement and future sustainability.
- 1.5 At the Statutory Functions Committee in June 2012, the Committee agreed to provide governance to enable the Partnership to be set up. It also agreed to create an officer group to lead the work of the Partnership and report to the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee. GMCRO provides strategic leadership to the partnership. The Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership was formed, as a result and consists of representatives of each of the 10 GM authorities.
- 1.6 The Archives+ Partnership and GM Archives and Local Studies Partnerships (GMALSP) are held in high regard nationally as a model of best practice. Officers from our partnerships regularly speak at national archives conferences.

2.0 GMCRO and Archives+ - six years on

2.1 Our Partnership

The Archives+ Partnership consists of the following organisations, which are located at Manchester Central Library

- + Manchester City Council – Libraries and Archives
- + Greater Manchester County Record Office
- + North West Film Archive at Manchester Metropolitan University
- + Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre (The University of Manchester)
- + Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society.

The Partnership received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund from 2013 to 2017.

+ Manchester Jewish Museum have temporarily re-located to Central Library in 2019 and are therefore also temporary members of the Archives+ partnership, until they move back to the transformed Museum in 2021

2.2 Archives + for everyone

Archives+ has pushed the boundaries of what archive services can do and who they engage with. Each partner has their own knowledge and skills to make us better together.

It is now six years since Central Library re-opened following significant transformation. In 2019, over 2 million people visited the library, making it the most visited public library in the country.

As a focal point of the library, Archives+ has gone from strength to strength. Prior to the project, each Archives+ partner reached only 15,000 people annually. The family history helpdesk run by the Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society helped approximately 2,000 people in the first 6 months of this report.

Audience development is about more than numbers through the door. Through the Activity Programme the project has reached a far wider audience than similar activity undertaken previously:

- + The age of people engaged in the Archives+ activity programme is far wider and more evenly spread.
- + Peaks in the age of engagement with archives are now at ages 6–10 years and 26–59 years, rather than over 55 years old, which is the most common age usually for visitors to archives services.
- + approximately 70% of visitors are White, compared to the previous almost 100% White audience at Greater Manchester County Record Office.
- + The numbers of families and young people engaging with archives has increased significantly.

2.2 A sense of ownership

Archives+ is something people want to be part of. Community groups are constantly depositing their archive collections, and holding exhibitions in Central Library. The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah's Heritage Lottery Funded Coming in from the Cold project has increased engagement with community groups relating to ethnic minority community groups

2.3 Feedback and quotes about Manchester Central Library

"This has become my favourite place in Manchester." Customer

"This is what Libraries should be like. No shush we're reading as a party of Primary school pupils came with their packed lunches. It was easy for me to joinI was soon delving into my family history alongside a volunteer. There are banks of computers along with books and archives. A top class facility befitting the splendid Victorian Architecture. Modern Manchester, up to date with a glance back at our history. Tripadvisor review Dec 2019

"The Central Library is an iconic building in the heart of Manchester City Centre. It is a fascinating place to visit with a wonderful archive." Tripadvisor

3.0 Archives+ and GMALSP over the last 12 months

The 12 months since the last report in September 2019, has been in two distinct parts. Pre-Covid from September 2019-Mar 2020, and dealing with the results of the Covid pandemic, since then.

3.1 September 2019 – March 2020

This was a great 6 months for **Archives+**.

Over 2 million people visited Central library, in 2019 making it the most public visited library in the country.

The exhibition area of Archives+ housed several exhibitions. The exhibitions commemorating 200 years since the Peterloo Massacre proved extremely popular from May to Autumn 2019. In December an exhibition was created to celebrate 100 years since the Addison Act. The Housing and Town Planning Act of 1919 effectively launched the building of Council housing estates in this country. The exhibition moved from Manchester Central Library to Wythenshawe Forum Library in early 2020.

In 2018, The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre (The University of Manchester) was awarded **£357,000** from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the Coming in from the Cold project from 2018 to 2021. The project is progressing well, supporting local community groups who have been awarded funding from the HLF, develop their archives. Manchester Libraries and Archives has been awarded **£485,000** from the Heritage Lottery Fund to be the North West hub of the British Library's Unlocking the UK Sound Heritage. The project, which runs from 2019 to 2022, is now fully underway with the three staff beginning in post in February 2019. We are digitally preserving and making available thousands of at risk sound recordings, many of which are part of the North West Sound Archives held in Manchester Central Library. Collections of sound archives held across Greater Manchester and the North West are incorporated within this project. Many of these recordings are oral

histories, providing a fascinating insight into the lives of residents of Manchester and the North West, increasing awareness and pride in our communities. We will improve access by making it easier for people to find and listen to audio archives, engage the public in audio archives through events and activities and provide opportunities for residents to volunteer as part of the project. As part of this project, we will work in partnership with the MMU's Manchester Voices project which has recently been awarded £700,000 by the Arts & Humanities Research Council.

Manchester Jewish Museum have received £2.9 million to transform their museum in Cheetham Hill. Since July 2019 and until 2021 the Jewish Museum is located within Central Library. The 'Wandering Museum' is housed within Central Library, in City Library, and enables visitors to see highlights of their collection. The museum received higher numbers of visits (from September 2019 to July 2020) than at its permanent home. The majority of visitors have little previous knowledge of the museum. Most have limited understanding of Jewish faith, history and culture - so being in the library is significantly increasing awareness of the museum. The majority of visitors are 'young adults', which is an age group that traditionally, the museum struggles to attract.

We have been working with Manchester Art Gallery and the University of Manchester on the Manchester Together Archive. This project (supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund) aims to develop a digital archiving platform to support the digitisation, development and interpretation of more than 10,000 items that were left in the spontaneous memorials in St Ann's Square and elsewhere in Manchester after the Arena attack on 22nd May 2017.

This was a great 6 months for the **Greater Manchester and Local Studies Partnership** Action Plan.

GMALSP has continued to work effectively together, for the benefit of all 10 GM authorities. The GMALSP action plan 2017-20 was completed and a workshop was held in January 2020 to agree future priorities for the 2020-23 plan. Highlights of work from Sep 2019-Mar 20 include:

Artivists:GM

16th August marked 200 years since the Peterloo Massacre. Commemorations included the Artivists:GM project which was funded by GMCA: Great Place and co-ordinated by Manchester Histories. Each authority selected some materials from their archives that related to Peterloo, or one of its themes 'Freedom of Speech, Protest, Democracy'. Manchester Histories commissioned an artist for each authority (each authority's artist receiving £1k from Great Place) who created some, inspired by the archive material. The art forms are varied, including live performance, visual, interactive and digital. A sharing event was held on 26th September, which showcased the huge variety of work. GMALSP practitioners are going to use the learning from the project, when commissioning artists in the future, to bring their collections alive.

Digital Preservation

GMCRO created a Digital Preservation Archivist post to support this area of work in July 2020. The Digital Preservation Archivist is supporting all GMALSP members to ensure they are

approaching digital preservation in an effective manner.

3.2 **March 2020 – September 2020**

On 23rd March Manchester Central Library closed due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Therefore there was no physical Archives+ service until Manchester Central Library reopened on 20th August.

All GMALSP archives services also closed in March 2020. Some have reopened, with others having plans to reopen at various points over the next couple of months. Even though services were physically closed, Archives+ and GMALSP continued to operate, and in some ways were more important than ever.

Virtual enquiry service

All Archives+ partners and most GMALSP members continued to offer a virtual enquiry service. This provided continued access to important material held throughout the various archives.

Creating Covid-19 archives: Collecting Manchester people's stories

All Archives+ partners put out calls for collecting of Covid-19 stories of people's lives during lockdown. As lockdown will be in place for some time in some form, this will be a long term exercise.

NWFA have asked for films and have received some extremely interesting videos. This is a developing area for NWFA and will be a useful way to develop processes around born digital material.

AIU RRRRC are focusing on the Covid stories of BAME people and have put a huge amount of work in to developing ethical ways to do this. Their work takes into consideration the disproportionate impact of Covid on BAME communities. AIU RRRRC have recently been awarded £40,000 from the Resourcing Racial Justice Fund to further develop this archive. Manchester Libraries and Archives have been focusing on the city's response to Covid and the impact felt by the council and community. This work has included a lot of work on born digital records such as staff emails and capturing websites.

Many of the GMALSP Partners are also collecting stories around Covid. Trafford have worked with schools. Tameside Archives have worked with an artist. Stockport and Wigan have been collecting material from residents and their respective Councils. The GMALSP authorities have been supported in this work by the Digital Preservation officer providing training in digital preservation, for example capturing emails and websites.

Black Lives Matter

The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre and Educational Trust have provided support to organisations across the country as the profile of race discrimination have increased over the last few months.

This has ever intensified the need for each GMALSP's archives to be able to tell the story of its BAME residents and communities

GM Lives Replacement

GM Lives, which is the web portal for GM Archives, is not fit for purpose, therefore we need an alternative solution to showcase GM Archives in a much more effective, customer focused way.

Significant progress has been made with this. Using the Library Management System contract, 3 GM Authorities have now migrated their Archives data. Trafford and Manchester have joined Stockport on the system. It is likely more authorities will follow. A web front end will soon be developed to provide access to a joint catalogue/portal to all authorities archives that are on Spydus. This will be funded by the New Burdens funding received by GMCRO. This funding is awarded for the transfer of the public records from across Greater Manchester to GMCRO on behalf of services which are not approved Places of Deposit.

Recovery and Reopening

Archives+ within Manchester Central Library reopened to the public on 20th August 2020. 365 visitors used the library on its first day re-opened. Many of those used the Archives service, with microfilm machines busy and several visitors viewing archive material in the search room.

The library was opened in a manner to ensure the safety of staff and customers. Each authority is reopening its own service in a timetable that suits the local needs of their authority. GMCRO have provided advice and guidance to GMALSP members including advice on quarantining and conservation from the Conservation Officer.

4.0 Future Priorities

4.1 In January 2020, a workshop was held with all GM authorities to decide on the priorities for the 2020-23 GMALSP plan. The National Archives presented at this workshop. The following is a summary of the priorities agreed at this workshop, plus the priority for Archives+ and our post-Covid recovery priorities:

- **Reopen our physical archive services.** Providing full access to archives for our residents and researchers and supporting the recovery of the region
- **Collection of Covid Archives.** All partners to continue to collect stories and make these available in an effective manner.
- **Diversity and Inclusion and contemporary collecting.** Ensure we make our archives more representative of the diverse populations within Greater Manchester. Diversify our volunteer base, and increase the diversity of audiences. Develop approaches to contemporary collecting, using some of the techniques used as part of the Covid stories collecting.

- **Digital by Design.** We will continue to work with partners to digitise our collections and make them available online, through GM Lives replacement.
- **Digital Preservation.** GMCRO is supporting each of the GMALSP authorities to decide on the most appropriate set of actions to benefit each authority's archives collections, and our customers.
- **Engagement, Advocacy and Events.** Ensure archives services use local, regional, national and international commemorations, celebrations and events to increase the profile of archives and increase audiences
- **Learning.** Continue to work with schools and partners to ensure the archive collections are used as an inspiration for education, life-long learning developing new skills and creating a strong sense of place. Do this virtually and physically when possible.
- **Income Generation.** Ensure a multi-stranded approach to raising income and providing sustainability
- **Procedures, Policies and Raising Standards** – GMALSP work with each other to ensure high levels of customer service and preservation of archives
- **Partnership.** We will continue to build capacity by working in partnership with the Archives+ partners and the local universities
- **Unlocking the UK Sound Heritage project.** This project will continue to digitise 'at-risk' sound recordings across GM and the North West and begin to make some of these available to customers.
- **Coming in from the Cold Project.** The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre will continue to deliver this project and support community groups across GM.
- **Manchester Jewish Museum.** Continue to grow sustainable partnerships with other Archives+ partners that will prove beneficial when the Museum moves back to its permanent home in Spring 2021
- **The Archives+ exhibition area** in Central Library requires refreshing as it has been in place for over five years. Capital funding has been secured from Manchester City Council to achieve this.

6.0 Recommendation

- 6.1 The Committee is asked to note the progress of Archives+ and the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Studies Partnership.



AGMA STATUTORY FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

Date: 3 September 2020

Subject: Closedown of AGMA S48 Grants Programme

Report of: Alison Gordon, Assistant Director, Business, Innovation and Enterprise, GMCA

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To inform SFC of the closure of the AGMA-run Section 48 grants fund, in line with the legislative requirements concerning closure of the scheme as from the 1 April 2019.

RECOMMENDATION:

SFC is asked to note the closure of the AGMA-run Section 48 grants fund.

CONTACT OFFICERS:

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Marie-Claire Daly, Principal of Culture and Creative Policy, Business, Innovation & Enterprise Policy, GMCA
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BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Reports to joint Greater Manchester Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board 16 December 2016
Cultural Programme Consultation report GMCA 29 September 2017
Reports to the AGMA Exec Board 27 October 2017

1. Background

- 1.1 In December 2016, the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board agreed to recommend to the ten Greater Manchester district councils that consideration be given to the closure of the Section 48 AGMA grants scheme and that approval be sought from the districts for AGMA to undertake a consultation on the formal closure of the Section 48 scheme. The Joint Board also asked for a report to be brought back to it setting out detailed proposals for a new funding programme for culture, to be operated under the GMCA.
- 1.2 The Greater Manchester Grants Scheme, known as Section 48, was established in 1986 and is administered by AGMA on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester district councils. Since the scheme was established priorities and criteria for the scheme have changed, but its core purpose - to support organisations to deliver cultural, social or community activity and services across the ten districts of Greater Manchester - has remained. Between 2015/16 and 2017/18 (the last three year funding cycle) AGMA invested, on behalf of the districts, £9.9m in the Grants programme.
- 1.3 A report to the GMCA on 29 September 2017 outlined the outcome of a consultation (which closed on 16 September 2017) into the creation of the new GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund. The creation of this new fund was agreed by the GMCA and the call for projects was launched on Friday 6 October 2017. The September report to the GMCA also provided interim results on the consultation on the proposed closure of AGMA Section 48 scheme.
- 1.4 On 27 October 2017 the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board members recommended that Greater Manchester district councils should agree to close the Section 48 Grants programme, noting that it will be replaced by a new GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund from April 2018.

2. Consultation

- 2.1 By August 2017 AGMA had received approval from all ten Greater Manchester districts to consult on the possible closure of the AGMA Section 48 grants programme. As the both the potential closure of Section 48 and the establishment of a new GMCA fund were interlinked, consultations on both were aligned and opened on 9 August 2017.
- 2.2 A targeted consultation process was followed where Cllr Morris, GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture, Arts and Leisure contacted current recipients of the fund and members of the AGMA Statutory Functions Committee. Cllr Morris also contacted lead cultural officers in all ten LAs asking them to respond and forward through their networks. This communication was followed up by further targeted communication from the GMCA who also promoted the survey through voluntary and third sector networks in Greater Manchester. Consultation took the form of an online questionnaire and four open events.

3. Consultation Summary and Responding Actions

- 3.1 There was general support for closure of the AGMA Section 48 grants, as long as it was replaced by a suitable alternative. Consultees considered the proposed GMCA Culture and Social Impact Programme to be a suitable alternative and this programme commenced on 01 April 2018.

4. Closure of the Section 48 Scheme

- 4.1 By December 2017, all ten Greater Manchester districts had agreed to the closure of the Section 48 scheme.
- 4.2 Section 48(8) of the Local Government Act 1985 provides that a grants scheme made by councils under Section 48 "...may be revoked by those councils (or, in the absence of agreement between all of them, by a majority of those councils) with effect from the end of any financial year after that in which the decision to revoke the scheme is made."
- 4.3 This meant that even though the ten Greater Manchester districts agreed to close the Section 48 scheme, it still technically had to continue to exist until the end of the 2018/19 financial year. However, as that year was also the initial year of grant funding under the GMCA Culture and Social Impact Fund, the Section 48 Scheme was zero-funded for 2018/19 to avoid duplication of grant provision. It is to be noted that a precedent had already been set for potential zero funding of particular years of the Section 48 scheme, as the second and third years of the 2015/16 to 2017/18 Section 48 cycle of funding were not guaranteed and potentially could have been left unfunded (although this did not ultimately occur).

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the technical closure of the AGMA Grants programme, in line with the legislative requirements concerning closure of the scheme from the 1 April 2019.

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