

MINUTES OF THE GM HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD THURSDAY 09 DECEMBER 2021 AT THE TOOTAL BUILDINGS - BROADHURST HOUSE, 56 OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER, M1 6EU

PRESENT:

Bolton	Councillor John Walsh (Chair)
Bury	Councillor Martin Hayes
Oldham	Councillor Barbara Brownridge
Rochdale	Councillor Linda Robinson
Rochdale	Councillor Ashley Dearnley
Stockport	Councillor Colin MacAlister
Stockport	Councillor Janet Mobbs
Tameside	Councillor Mike Glover
Tameside	Councillor Liam Billington
Trafford	Councillor Kevin Procter
Wigan	Councillor Fred Walker

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA	Andrew McIntosh
GMCA	Joanne Heron
GMCA	Ninoshka Martins
GMCA	Simon Nokes

HP&E 21/20 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mandie Shilton-Godwin (Manchester), Akilah Akinola (Trafford) and Stuart Dickman (Salford).

HP&E 21/21 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Chair's announcements or urgent business.

HP&E 21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declaration of interests were received.

HP&E 21/23 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 07 OCTOBER 2021

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 07 October were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 07 October 2021 be approved.

BOLTON
BURY

MANCHESTER
OLDHAM

ROCHDALE
SALFORD

STOCKPORT
TAMESIDE

TRAFFORD
WIGAN

Consideration was given to a report that set out the six Growth Locations identified within the updated Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and the work that had been done to support the development of the Growth Locations.

The following Growth Locations had been identified:

- North East Growth Corridor
- Eastern Growth Cluster
- Airport & Southern Growth Corridor
- Central Growth Cluster
- Western Gateway
- Wigan & Bolton Growth Corridor

The report highlighted that these six Growth Locations had been identified represented opportunities for the entire city-region that would bring forward large scale development that would drive a transformational change in GM.

The following comments were made:

Members welcomed the report and noted the need for the Overview & Scrutiny function to be written into the Growth Locations report to allow the committee to carry out its scrutiny functions. The accountable officer welcomed the suggestion and assured members that the committee would continue to receive regular updates on this piece of work.

A discussion was held around the benefits of providing GM residents with the opportunity to attain the necessary qualifications and develop the skills required to support growth in the new industries that would be brought about by means of these Growth Locations.

Members sought to understand how GM would work with developers to deliver GM's social housing target. Members were advised that there were plans to work with key housing providers to ensure that the housing offer in each location would meet the local needs.

It was noted that the Growth Locations would provide employment opportunities that would benefit the entire city region. However, it was highlighted that the absence of a reliable transport network would prove to be a challenge for residents living in remote areas.

A member sought to understand how priorities would be brought together to support the entire city-region. Members were advised that work was underway between GMCA, Local Authorities and TfGM to develop plans for each of the Growth Locations

in an effective place-based approach with the ultimate view to ensure the attainment of GM's collective ambitions.

Members were advised that as identified within the CSR submission to government, that there was a clear opportunity for GM to develop a place-based investment and an accountability framework with Government across the Growth Locations. It was further reported that as part of the next steps work was underway to develop individual Growth Plans and a Local Investment Framework for each of the Growth Locations to be able to secure the required investment for priority projects.

It was highlighted that a portion of the mayoral precept had funded transport related activities and therefore a member sought to understand how the funding had been utilised. Members were advised that the mayor had been invited to attend the January meeting and therefore would be able to address any concerns regarding the mayoral precept at that meeting.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the function of Overview & Scrutiny be written into the Growth Locations paper to allow the committee to carry out its scrutiny functions.
2. That the six GM Growth Locations as set out in section 2 of the report be endorsed.
3. That the work plan, progress update and next steps as set out in sections 4 and 5 of the report be noted.

HP&E 21/25 DELIVERING NET ZERO CARBON SOCIAL RENTED HOMES: A WHOLE SYSTEM CHALLENGE

Consideration was given to a report that provided an overview of the proposed approach to the delivery of net zero carbon social rented homes.

The GM Mayor's manifesto commitments for the 2021 election had included a stepping up of earlier pledges around affordable housing delivery and it had done so in two ways:

- Taking an existing (GM Housing Strategy, draft GM Spatial Framework and now Places for Everyone) commitment to deliver 30,000 social and affordable rent homes by 2037, and focused specifically on 30,000 social rented homes: and
- Further required that these 30,000 homes would be net zero carbon, as a step towards the existing 2028 target date for all new developments in GM to be net zero carbon.

The report further outlined the challenges in delivering these targets and outlined the approach in developing a plan for delivery.

The following comments were made:

Members welcomed the report and noted the need to move forward with the plans to deliver the outlined net zero carbon housing target for GM.

It was noted that an element of this work would be led under the Homelessness and Infrastructure portfolio therefore a member sought to understand how this strategy would address the homelessness issue in GM. Members were advised that within the 30,000K target, a fraction of homes would be utilised to provide necessary accommodation to the homeless in GM.

Given the scale of delivery, it was noted that the success of the strategy was highly dependent on Government funding therefore in making the case to Government GM would need to clearly articulate how this strategy would deliver Government's set national net zero carbon targets. In addition, it was noted that it would be useful to gain the support of Ministers to tie in lasting and substantial levelling up outcomes for GM.

Concerns were raised around the lack of Local Authority capacity and expertise on this matter; and it was therefore, noted that it was crucial for districts to work together to successfully deliver on this strategy. Members were advised that GMCA had supported and had been closely working with districts by providing additional capacity to bring forward available land.

The cost involved in building new net zero carbon homes was recognised and therefore a member sought to understand how costs would be recovered whilst delivering affordable social housing. In response, it was stated that the cost of rent would not be linked to the cost of the property thus making the homes affordable. It was added that, building cost could be recuperated from the grants that would be received by Homes England and it was noted that it is likely that developing a pipeline of demand would drive down cost disparities associated with retrofitting.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the ambitions proposed in the attached draft GMCA paper be noted.
2. That the suggested adoption of a whole system challenge approach be noted.
3. That the need for significant support from Government as part of that approach be noted.

HP&E 21/26**GREATER MANCHESTER STRATEGY REFRESH**

Consideration was given to a report that provided an overview re-draft text for the refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy. The report highlighted the proposed approach to the development of a detailed delivery plan and its implementation.

Members were advised that further work was underway to continue to finalise the draft strategy, performance measures and populating the initial delivery plan. It was reported that further work had been done to develop the aboutgreatermanchester.com website to ensure that the strategy could go live on the website following adoption. The website would continue a good representation of linked materials, strategies, and case studies from day one. It is intended that the web content would be further developed and added to over time, and over time would be the 'first port of call' for Greater Manchester led strategies and activities.

It was reported that a final draft of the refreshed strategy, along with the initial delivery plan and performance framework will be presented to the GMCA for views and adoption at their meeting on 17th December.

RESOLVED/-

That the report on the draft Greater Manchester Strategy text and the proposed approach to the development of the supporting delivery plan be noted.

HP&E 21/27**WORK PROGRAMME 2020/2021**

Consideration was a report that provided a summary of the items that would be considered by the Committee during the 2020-2021 municipal year.

RESOLVED/-

That the Work Programme be noted.

HP&E 21/28**DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS****RESOLVED/-**

1. That a meeting of the committee be scheduled for 11 January at 10:30 am.
2. That the following revised dates for committee be noted:
 - 11 January 2022; 10:30 am
 - 1 February 2022; 10:30 am
 - 8 March 2022; 10:30 am