

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER, 2022 AT
TRAFFORD COUNCIL, TRAFFORD TOWN HALL, STRETFORD, MANCHESTER.**

PRESENT:

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
Bolton	Councillor Martyn Cox
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Amanda Chadderton
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Salford	Councillor Jack Youd
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Gerald Cooney
Trafford	Councillor Andrew Western

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Deputy Treasurer	Rachel Rosewell
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	John Searle
Stockport	Caroline Simpson
Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan

Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale
TfGM	Simon Warburton

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny	Cllr John Walsh
Chair of GM LEP	Lou Cordwell
GM Transport Commissioner	Vernon Everitt
The Growth Company	Mark Hughes

GMCA 156/22 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED/-

That apologies be received and noted from Deputy Mayor, Police Fire & Crime, Bev Hughes, City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford) (represented by Councillor Jack Youd) and Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan).

GMCA 157/22 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the Royal Family following the passing of Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
2. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family and friends of the former leader of Oldham Council, Councillor Jean Stretton, following her sad passing.
3. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family, friends and GMFRS colleagues of Watch Manager Daniel Lee, following his sad passing.

GMCA 158/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED/-

There were no declarations received in relation to any item on the agenda.

GMCA 159/22 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 29 JULY 2022

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 29 July 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 160/22 GREATER MANCHESTER RESOURCES COMMITTEE -
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 JULY 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Greater Manchester Resources Committee held on 29 July 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 161/22 GMCA OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MINUTES
OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 AUGUST 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 24 August 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 162/22 GMCA AUDIT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON 27 JULY 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Audit Committee held on 27 July 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 163/22 GMCA TRANSPORT COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE
MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Transport Committee held on 12 August 2022 be noted.

GMCA 164/22 APPOINTMENTS TO GREATER MANCHESTER BODIES

RESOLVED/-

1. That the appointment of Councillor Joanna Midgely, as a substitute member of the GMCA, replacing Councillor Luthfur Rahman for Manchester City Council, be noted.
2. That Councillor Tom McGee, Stockport Council, be appointed as a substitute member of the GMCA Audit Committee.
3. That Councillor Ashley Dearnley, Rochdale Council, be appointed to the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and that Councillor John Taylor, Stockport Council, Councillor Russell Bernstein, Bury Council, and Councillor Robin Garrido, Salford Council, be appointed to the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee Pool of substitute members.

**GMCA 165/22 COST OF LIVING AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN
GREATER MANCHESTER**

Councillor Amanda Chadderton, Portfolio Lead for Equalities, Inclusion and Cohesion & Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Economy, Business & International, were invited to provide an update on the cost-of-living pressures upon

both residents and businesses in GM, and some of the measures being put in place by the GMCA and its partners in response.

Primary Areas of concern included increasing levels of food poverty, housing insecurity and the cost of doing business were highlighted. Also referenced were the concerning results of the recent GM Big Disability Survey 2022, with it being agreed that receiving further detail on the findings of the report was a key priority.

The importance of being able to communicate effectively with residents on these issues and signposting them towards the support they required was noted. GM's Helping Hands website was cited as a good example of this. Other developing responses at the GM level included the Pension & Credit Top Up campaign; the Living Wage campaign; and the Bus Fare Cap campaign.

The Cost-of-Living Dashboard was now in-place and included up-to-date metrics around housing, homelessness, employment, finances & welfare, food, fuel and crime. It was intended that future iterations would also incorporate wider health impacts.

Given the pressing need to address these issues, it was agreed that each meeting of the GMCA should give consideration to the work undertaken each month to make tangible benefits to the lives of GM residents within the context of this crisis.

Councillor John Walsh was invited, in his role as the Chair of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee, to provide an update on the Committee's suggestions to help strengthen the CA's response to the crisis. These included a suggestion that the Helping Hands website be made a universal source of reference for support; a specific request for a round-table meeting with the 'big five' energy suppliers, particularly around the issue of pre-payment meters; a request to further consider partnership working to assist in service delivery; and to look at opportunities from the GMCA to reaffirm and further develop its commitment to the Real Living Wage.

Reference was made to the initiative inaugurated by former Prime Minister Gordon Brown in Fife – in which a partnership was formed with Amazon to recycle household goods for the benefit of the community. The GM Mayor advised that a visit to further consider this had been postponed due to the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. However,

this remained on the table, and that a progress update would be provided at the next meeting to update Members on whether this was a viable proposal.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the latest assessment and emerging response, be noted.
2. That the GMCA's views on the next steps of the response, be noted.
3. That representatives of the GM Disabled People's Panel be requested to present the findings of the GM Big Disability Survey 2022 to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA.
4. That the future iterations of the Cost-of-Living Dashboard incorporate the wider health impacts arising from the crisis.
5. That the GMCA makes a commitment to reporting on the tangible work undertaken each month to improve the lives of the region's residents within the context of the cost-of-living crisis.
6. That it be noted that the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee welcomed the work undertaken on the cost-of-living crisis.
7. That the recommendations made by the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
8. That it be noted that the Mayor of Greater Manchester and Councillor Amanda Chadderton intended to meet with the UK's five biggest energy suppliers to discuss the issue of pre-payment meters and the impact on residents.
9. That it be noted that a progress report would be submitted to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA on the progress on the potential partnership with Amazon to recycle household goods, as per a model pioneered in Fife, Scotland.

GMCA 166/22 FUTURE OF GM LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP

Lou Cordwell, Chair of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was invited to provide an update, following the recent completion of the national LEP review.

It had been announced as part of the Levelling Up White Paper that LEP's would now be integrated into local democratic institutions. The report as presented set out a proposed model for the future role of the GM LEP following its integration into the GMCA.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the impacts of the proposal on equalities, carbon and sustainability as set out in the Decision Support Assessment, be noted.
2. That it be agreed that the report be used as the basis of the Integration Plan proforma to be submitted to Government.
3. That it be agreed that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Economy, Business & International and the Chair of the GM LEP, to submit the completed proforma.
4. That it be agreed that the role of 'a strong, independent and diverse business voice', as set out in para 4.21 of the report, be included in the Constitution as part of the functions of the GMCA.
5. That it be agreed that subject to the feedback received, a further report be submitted to the October 2022 meeting of the GMCA detailing any required proposed amendments to the GMCA Constitution.

**GMCA 167/22 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK: BUS NETWORK
STABILISATION, BUS FARES, OUR PASS, FRANCHISING
AND DEPOTS**

GM Mayor Andy Burnham introduced a report which provided an update on the progress made towards delivering a number of key elements of the Bee Network, including bus fares, fleet and depots. A number of delegations were also sought for officers to agree bus depot leasing arrangements in support of bus franchising, and delegations to TfGM to manage, maintain and insure those depots on behalf of GMCA.

The meeting was notified that a further change to the bus fare cap was being sought, which would see the addition of a weekly cap further to the single and daily caps already introduced. Engagement was taking place with the current operators on this proposal.

Further clarity was provided on the timetable moving towards full franchising of the bus network. Tranche 2 (north of city region) was due to commence on 31st March 2024 and Tranche 3 (south of city region) by 5th January 2025 – as of which the Bee Network would be fully operational.

GM Transport Commissioner, Vernon Everitt, was invited to provide further detail in support of the report. He advised that it was important that the Bee Network maintained an ethos where it was fully integrated yet also recognised the individual needs of each distinct GM Local Authority.

The importance of safety and security was highlighted. The TfGM TravelSafe Partnership had been successful in improving safety across the Network – and this week had seen work with GMP commence on ‘Operation AVRO’ which would essentially view the transport network as the ‘11th District’ of GM.

The biggest campaign yet to promote public transport and active travel had now commenced across the region, and as part of this the TfGM website had opened a ‘one stop shop’ that explained how all businesses could help their employees to travel more sustainably.

An update was provided on negotiations for the purchase of depots. These would be a mix of freehold and long leasehold agreements, with alternative options being explored if needed.

Members commented on the importance of keeping lobbying pressure on Central Government at all times to ensure that long-term funding for the bus franchising scheme was realised at the earliest opportunity to deliver necessary financial securities. It was also highlighted that the fare structure was not permanent at this stage and would be subject to an annual review. It was vital that the public made best use of this opportunity, as the more the Network was used, the better able the Network would be to maintain lower ticket costs.

A further update was provided on the position with Avanti West Coast. The GM Mayor had discussed his concerns regarding the franchise with the Secretary of State for Transport. Avanti had promised three trains an hour by December, but this was not considered sufficient. The Avanti contract was due to be renewed in mid-October and it was vital that strong representations were made about what the region expected as a minimum acceptable service, which would be a return to a minimum of two trains per hour in October and three trains per hour by December 2022.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the progress made towards delivering the Bee Network be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, to agree the final terms of leases of bus depots to be granted to TfGM and the terms of all subleases of the depots, both in respect of interim leaseback arrangements to existing operators and the franchise depot subleases to be granted to the franchise bus operators.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer to complete and execute all leases of bus depots to be granted to TfGM.

4. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, to manage, maintain and insure the bus depots, on behalf of GMCA, by way of lease of the bus depots granted by GMCA to TfGM.
5. That it be noted that the Mayor of Greater Manchester had requested consideration by given to a proposal for a further amendment to the bus fare structure to introduce a weekly fare cap.
6. That the confirmed dates for the remaining tranches of the Bee Network be noted.
7. That the collaboration work between TfGM and GMP on Operation AVRO be noted.
8. That the need for consistent lobbying of Government, to secure long term funding, for bus franchising be noted.
9. That it be noted that the bus fare structure would be subject to annual review.
10. That the need for strong representation to Government, from GMCA, Transport for the North and partners across the region, on the Avanti Trains West Coast mainline contract renewal be agreed.

GMCA 168/22 BUS SERVICE PERMIT SCHEME CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, Eamonn Boylan, introduced a report setting out the statutory process required to establish a 'service permit scheme' for the Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses 2021 and recommending that TfGM be given delegated authority to undertake a statutory consultation exercise on behalf of GMCA.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the report be noted.

2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive officer GMCA & TfGM to undertake the consultation on a service permit scheme pursuant to the Franchising Scheme (Service Permits) (England) Regulations 2018.

**GMCA 169/22 CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT
(CRSTS) GOVERNANCE AND ASSURANCE (KEY
DECISION)**

The GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, introduced a report seeking approval of the governance and assurance proposals for the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) programme including allocation of funding, and to seek approval for a specific CRSTS funding drawdown for the Rochdale-Oldham-Ashton Quality Bus Transit Scheme.

It was confirmed that a dual accountability process would be in place to both the Transport Committee and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the proposed governance arrangements for CRSTS funded schemes, which include the assurance route and the funding allocation and draw-down approvals in relation to the Scheme List agreed by the GMCA on 24 June 2022, be approved.
2. That it be noted that progress on scheme development and delivery would be reported through regular updates to GMCA, the GM Transport Committee and the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.
3. That, subject to the approval of the proposed governance arrangements, the release of up to £1.8 million of CRSTS funding to facilitate the development of the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the Rochdale-Oldham-Ashton Quality Bus Transit (QBT) scheme be approved.

**GMCA 170/22 GREATER MANCHESTER ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME
(KEY DECISION)**

The GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, introduced a report seeking approval of the delivery funding requirements for the named Wigan MBC Active Travel schemes, through the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) Cycling and Walking programme; and to note the outcome of the GM Mini-Holland assessment and the recommended award of revenue funding for Wigan MBC to progress a feasibility study, as the preferred bidder.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the release of up to £3.37 million of MCF delivery funding for the two Wigan MBC schemes, set out in section 2 of the report, in order to secure full approval and enable scheme delivery through the signing of the necessary supporting legal agreements, be approved.
2. That the award of up to £0.08 million of revenue funding to Wigan MBC, for the development of a Mini-Holland feasibility study, following a successful Expression of Interest submission to the Department of Transport, and a subsequent GM prioritisation exercise, as set out in section 3 of the report, be approved.

**GMCA 171/22 WORKING WELL WORK AND HEALTH PROGRAMMES AND
SPECIALIST EMPLOYMENT SERVICE CONTRACT
EXTENSIONS (KEY DECISION)**

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships, introduced a report that sought delegated authority for a 23-month extension to the Working Well Work and Health Programme (WHP) and to seek approval for the contract extensions of the Working Well Specialist Employment Service (SES).

The report was welcomed as an example of successful devolution. It was noted that a Health Foundation study of the first five years of devolution in GM had just found

that there had been a faster than expected rise in life expectancy over the period, including in some of the region's most deprived wards. This was additional proof that devolution in GM was working very well. It was acknowledged that partnership working and building strong collaborative relationships across the city region had been key to this.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the proposed Working Well: Work and Health Programme contract extension be approved, in principle.
2. That the proposed Working Well: Specialist Employment Service contract extension for the continued delivery of the existing contracts be approved, in principle.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to agree the final terms of the contract extensions and execute all necessary documentation.
4. That it be noted that the Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee had agreed that the report was exempt from call-in for the following two reasons:
 - a. **Working Well and Health Programme:** GM is required to extend the delivery of the WHP alongside DWP from 31st October (as per the legally binding requirement of the shared MoU between DWP and GMCA).
 - b. **Working Well Specialist Employment Service:** the programme is due to cease referrals from 30th September 2022. The extension will need to progress for referrals to continue from 1st October 2022.

GMCA 172/22 GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL AREA ENERGY PLANS

Councillor Martyn Cox, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, Waste & Recycling, introduced a report which sought GMCA approval to adopt the GM Local Area

Energy Plan (LAEP) as a city regional document, to be utilised to inform future policy, market, and investment development.

The target of 2038 would require a step change in approach to ensure delivery, and the Local Area Energy Plans provided a roadmap towards the infrastructure changes required. A critical issue for this moment was the low cost/high return projects that could be installed now and at scale. Through to 2038 the project was expected to cost in the region of £90b, but with 70% of this expenditure being met by a business-as-usual model.

At this stage a request was being made for a small programme delivery unit which would provide additional resources to GM Local Authorities and would be funded through retained business rates. Once established, these delivery units would enable capacity and would commence the initial development of the Local Area Energy Plans.

Members noted that investment opportunities in relation to renewable energy schemes would be welcomed by the GM Pension Fund Board.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the draft GM Local Area Energy Plan, its contents and the research undertaken to inform its development be noted.
2. That the GM Local Area Energy Plan for design & publication as included in Annex 1 to the report be approved.
3. That the next steps in delivering the city-regions Local Area Energy Plan(s) be approved.
4. That the GM Pension Fund Board be requested to consider further opportunities for investment in renewable energy schemes.

**GMCA 173/22 PUBLIC SECTOR DECARBONISATION SCHEME 3B
OPPORTUNITIES**

Councillor Martyn Cox, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, Waste & Recycling, introduced a report which outlined the funding opportunity to support further GM public building retrofit, through the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 3b.

There was agreement that if the UK as a whole was to meet the net-zero target of 2050, then significant government support would be needed to support areas such as GM to lead the way as early adopters.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the opportunity to bid for circa £20m from Salix (NPBD) under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 3b be noted.
2. That the receipt and defrayment of Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme funding, with delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to sign all necessary legal agreements (subject to successful award) be approved.

**GMCA 174/22 GREATER MANCHESTER SOCIAL HOUSING
DECARBONISATION FUND (WAVE 2)**

Councillor Martyn Cox, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, Waste & Recycling, introduced a report providing information on the forthcoming national £800m Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund and the opportunity this presented to all of the city-region's districts. Approval was sought to make an application for ~£30m grant, via a single application to the fund, which would provide the opportunity for ~17 registered providers and/or districts within in-house social housing stock, to collaborate.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the forthcoming funding opportunity presented by the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) be noted.
2. That the current delivery of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund through the initial award of £10m grant from SHDF (Wave 1) be noted.

3. That the proposed application approach, with GMCA acting as the accountable body for the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (Wave 2) be approved.
4. That, if successful, authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead, to:
 - a. Sign a Grant Funding agreement with BEIS to receive grant funding for a GM Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2 retrofit programme.
 - b. Expend the awarded grant funds by defraying agreements via the funding partners i.e. ~17 Registered Providers and/or Local Authorities.

**GMCA 175/22 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS
FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
(KEY DECISION)**

Councillor Andrew Western, Portfolio Lead for Clean Air, Regeneration and Housing, introduced a report which sought approval for GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loans detailed within. The report also provided information regarding a loan previously approved by the Combined Authority where an increase in the loan had been approved under delegation.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan detailed in the table below, as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report be approved:

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Blueoak Estates (Manchester) Ltd	Alexander House	Trafford	£11.289m
AH2 Gee Cross Ltd	Rowbotham Street	Tameside	£3.402m
FSG Bolton Moor Lane Developments (One) Ltd	Moor Lane	Bolton	£3.314m
Manchester New Square Limited Partnership	Manchester New Square	Manchester	£26.700m

2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer acting in conjunction with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
3. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan detailed in the table below, which has been approved by the GMCA Chief Executive acting in consultation with the Portfolio Leader for Place Based Regeneration & Housing under the delegation set out in the GMCA Constitution Part 3 Section F paragraph 3.17 to

approve an increase of less than 10% on a GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan previously approved by the Combined Authority be noted.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Splash Developments Ltd	Medlock Road	Oldham	£1.670m

**GMCA 176/22 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK,
CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL (KEY DECISION)**

The Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, Eamonn Boylan, introduced a report seeking approval for a loan to Apadmi Group Limited which would be made through recycled funds.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the increase of the previously approved loan facility to Apadmi Group Ltd from £2.7m to up to £3.3m be approved.
2. That the investment into The Modular Analytics Company Limited of £400,000, approved under delegation, be noted.
3. That authority be delegated to the Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above loan, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the loan, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan noted above.

**GMCA 177/22 RETIREMENT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF BOLTON
COUNCIL**

The GMCA was advised that this was Tony Oakman's last meeting, as he was taking retirement following four years as the Chief Executive of Bolton Council.

Members expressed their thanks for his contributions to the GM family and wished him well in his retirement.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA expresses its best wishes to Tony Oakman, who was retiring from the post of Chief Executive of Bolton Council.

GMCA 178/22 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED/-

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**GMCA 179/22 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS
FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION**

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (minute 175/22 above refers)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

**GMCA 180/22 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT
FRAMEWORK APPROVAL**

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (minute 176/22 above refers)

RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

Signed by the Chair: