

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE GREATER
MANCHESTER CULTURE AND SOCIAL IMPACT FUND COMMITTEE HELD ON
2 OCTOBER 2023 AT 10:30 AM**

MEMBERS:

Councillor Nadeem Ayub	Bolton Council
Councillor Charlotte Morris	Bury Council
Councillor Tim Whiston	Manchester City Council
Councillor Peter Dean	Oldham Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor Hannah Robinson-Smith	Salford Council
Councillor Frankie Singleton	Stockport Council
Councillor Sangita Patel	Tameside Council
Councillor Catherine Hynes	Trafford Council
Councillor Paul Prescott	Wigan Council

LEAD CHIEF EXECUTIVE:

Alison McKenzie-Folan	Wigan Council
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OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Neil MacInnes	Manchester City Council
Sam Elliott	Bolton Council
Marie-Claire Daly	GMCA
Hafiz Khokhar	GMCA
Alison Gordon	GMCA
Jenny Hollamby	GMCA
Helen Davies	GMCA

C&SIFC/01/23

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Vimal Choski Tameside Council, Councillor Sangita Patel was substituting.

BOLTON
BURY

MANCHESTER
OLDHAM

ROCHDALE
SALFORD

STOCKPORT
TAMESIDE

TRAFFORD
WIGAN

**C&SIFC/02/23 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR THE
2021/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

A nomination for Councillor Janet Emsley, Rochdale Council, to be appointed as Vice-Chair was received and approved.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note that the GMCA Portfolio Lead for Culture (Councillor Neil Emmott, Rochdale) be the Chair of the GM Social and Cultural Impact Fund Committee for the 2023/24 Municipal.
2. To note that Councillor Janet Emsley, Rochdale Council, be the Vice-Chair of the GM Social and Cultural Impact Fund Committee for the 2023/24 Municipal.

**C&SIFC/03/23 TO NOTE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GREATER
MANCHESTER CULTURE AND SOCIAL IMPACT FUND
COMMITTEE 2021/22**

RESOLVED/-

That the Membership for the 2023/24 municipal year be noted as below:

Councillor Nadeem Ayub	Bolton Council
Councillor Charlotte Morris	Bury Council
Councillor Tim Whiston	Manchester City Council
Councillor Peter Dean	Oldham Council
Councillor Janet Emsley	Rochdale Council
Councillor Hannah Robinson-Smith	Salford Council
Councillor Frankie Singleton	Stockport Council
Councillor Vimal Choski	Tameside Council
Councillor Catherine Hynes	Trafford Council
Councillor Paul Prescott	Wigan Council

**C&SIFC/04/23 MEMBER'S CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DECLARATION
FORM**

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA's Code of Conduct be noted.
2. That it be noted that all Members be requested to complete an annual register of interest form and return it to the Governance Officer.

C&SIFC/05/23 TO NOTE THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee noted its Terms of Reference for the 2023/24 Municipal Year.

C&SIFC/06/23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no Chair's announcements or urgent business.

C&SIFC/07/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Janet Emsley declared a personal interest by virtue of her position as GMCA representative on the Hallé Concert Society Board.

**C&SIFC/08/23 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD
ON 19 DECEMBER 22**

RESOLVED/-

That the Committee approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 19 December 22 as an accurate record.

C&SIFC/09/23

**GREATER MANCHESTER CULTURE INVESTMENT
APPROACH - PROPOSED SPIRIT AND SUSTAIN
PORTFOLIO**

A report was presented by Marie-Claire Daly, Principle - Cultural Policy, GMCA. The report informed members about the new GMCA Culture Portfolio that was approved by GMCA in February 2023 and signed a new culture investment approach 2023-2026.

A budget for the total package had been agreed and there were projects within the overall package. The Committee noted that 120 applications were received and 40 were funded. The application process included an independent appraisal that included a scorelist for projects that balanced scores against the artform, geography, diversity and scale to represent the best value for money for Greater Manchester. The Committee sought clarity on the application process specifically if they were visited, Officers advised that the application process reviewed a number of criteria that included artist output, fit, peer review, quality of management, finance and strategic fit to the programme. Strategic fit was the most important priority. Officers clarified that whilst the base of the organisation was important, the geographical delivery was also considered. The Hallé Orchestra would be expected to deliver across all ten districts given the scale of funding, in comparison to an organisation only delivering in one district.

The Committee noted a typo within the report on page 47:

“GM Arts has undergone a period of organisational development over the past year, refining and focussing their offer. This has resulted in a reduced ask of £200,00 (previously £306,000 p/a) for a reduction of grant of £100,000.”

This should read “...a reduced ask of £200,000...”

RESOLVED/-

That the report be received and noted.

A report was presented by Marie-Claire Daly, Principle – Culture Policy and Hafiz Khokhar, Project and Policy Officer (Culture & NTE), GMCA.

The report informed members about the activity delivered by the Greater Manchester Culture Portfolio between April 2022 and March 2023 following the £3.8million invested in January 2020 by GMCA to 35 organisations for 2-years. In 2021 agreement was given to roll-forward the funding in recognition of the instability created by the pandemic. The report summarised activity delivered by 33 organisations in the 12-months of the roll-over year. Two organisations were not delivering by July 2023, the Committee was advised that a course of action was being explored and it could result in withholding of grant payment until a resolution is found. Alongside the grant payments, GMCA operated a strategic budget of £270,000 to support activity that cannot be delivered by a single organisation. Members were advised that during April 2022 and March 2023 there had been over 7million engagements with activities supported through the Culture Fund. This was a significant increase since the last report due largely to the offer during the pandemic being completely different to activities before. During the pandemic there was little engagement, people were receiving furlough payments and reporting activity in live-stream performances were different to live-performances.

The increases now correlated with an increase in investment and the number of organisations funded which demonstrated that both the investment strategy was correct and the resilience of the organisations to deliver at a high-level.

The Committee asked for clarity on the district engagement, previously Manchester was reported at 24% and now it was 18%. Officers advised that this did not show a drop, rather there through investment across GM, there was greater parity across the other districts and those engagement figures had gone up.

The Committee noted that there was evidence in other parts of the country of organisations being cut through a lack of funding, Members agreed the impact on health and wellbeing should not be underestimated through art-based activities. The increase in participation showed recovery from the pandemic back to normality and it was noted that the introduction of the Bee Network would increase participation across GM.

RESOLVED/-

That the report be received and noted.

C&SIFC/11/23

CARTWHEEL ARTS - VERBAL UPDATE

A presentation to the Committee was provided by Becky Smyllie, Operations and Development, Cartwheel Arts that looked at the work of Cartwheel Arts and the impact for 2022-23.

RESOLVED/-

That the update be received and noted.

C&SIFC/12/23

GREATER MANCHESTER CULTURE STRATEGY REVIEW

A report was presented by Marie-Claire Daly, Principle – Culture Policy, GMCA. The report provided insight to members of the Greater Manchester Strategy 2019-2024 review.

The Committee was advised that GMCA was currently in negotiation with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and arms-length-bodies in respect of Devolution and governance implications for culture, Officers agreed to update on that process at the next meeting. A new Culture Strategy was being developed for April 2024- March 2029, consultation for this would begin in the next 2-weeks. Officers noted that since the first Culture Strategy in 2018, all the districts now have their own local Culture Strategy. Given that the prevalence of support for culture had increased over the last 5-years, the focus was now towards:

- what the GM Culture Strategy needed to more clearly reflect Greater Manchester
- where it added value; and
- defining the role of the districts and GM.

Officers gave key headlines from the report that included increased investment by 40% and a continued commitment to culture by more than doubling the amount of organisations across GM, this has included a more diverse portfolio that better reflects the residents. Arts Council England had also recognised the maturity of the approach to investment by GM and legacy workstreams such as GM NHS with dedicated staff that made links between culture and wellbeing.

Stockport was now the third town of culture following Stalybridge and Bury, this showcased the strength of talent across GM.

Stream GM, called United We Stream during the pandemic, recognised different types of culture such as nightclubs, it demonstrated a support for different types of creatives and added a broader value that made culture relevant to as many different lives as possible.

Members sought clarity in respect of cultural partnerships and collaborations what was required of the Committee. Officers noted that district colleagues regularly meet with GM officers to update across GM, officers were mindful that the same organisations could respond to consultations and therefore give one specific viewpoint. Officers noted that the Committee was able to review individual strategies of the districts, identify common themes and decide which should stay district specific.

RESOLVED/-

The report be received and noted.

C&SIFC/13/23 CREATIVE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

A presentation was provided by Gareth Williams, Principal Night Time Economy and Rebecca Swarray, Senior Policy Officer, GMCA about the Creative Improvement Districts. Officers had based themselves within three districts to work on specific priorities:

- Oldham was the pilot district for Creative Improvement Districts (CIDs) and the focus was on developing the towns nighttime economy and creative industries in the town centre;

- The focus for Stockport was within the culture museums team to assist in delivering aspects of their cultural and creative strategy which fed into building a baseline of a CID; and
- There were three areas of focus for Wigan, an audit of the current Nighttime Economy (NTE) and town centre offer with a focus on dwell time; business engagements specifically with NTE businesses in the town; and how NTE work was taken forward in the future, possibly an NTE strategy.

Officers were currently working with Trafford, Bury, Salford and Bolton to extend the CIDs programme.

Members noted Wythenshaw as an area that would benefit from a CID, given the amount of residents and distance from Manchester City Centre.

Some Members noted the regeneration happening within their own districts town centres and how this work could enhance that work.

Alison McKenzie-Folan thanked Officers for their work and noted that the relationships that were brought in with Licensee Holders in Wigan helped to move away from council business. Wigan had seen an increase in visitors and business and safety records had improved since the work carried out.

RESOLVED/-

The report be received and noted.

C&SIFC/12/23

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.