

**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD ON FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2024**

PRESENT:

Andy Burnham	Mayor of Greater Manchester
Councillor Eamonn O'Brien	Bury
City Mayor Paul Dennett	Salford
Councillor Tom Ross	Trafford
Councillor David Molyneux	Wigan

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillor Joanna Midgely	Manchester
Councillor Mark Roberts	Stockport
Caroline Simpson	Group Chief Executive, GMCA, FMFRS & TfGM
Kevin Lee	Office of the GM Mayor
Sylvia Welsh	GMCA

RC/09/24/25 Apologies

Apologies were received and noted from Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester) and Councillor Mark Hunter (Stockport).

RC/10/24/25 Chairs Announcements and Urgent Business

There were no Chair's announcements.

RC/11/24/25 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared at the meeting.

RC/12/24/25 Minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Resources Committee held on 12 July 2024

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2024 be approved as a correct record.

RC/13/24/15 GMCA Update on Group Arrangements

Caroline Simpson, Group Chief Executive Officer, introduced a report which provided the Resources Committee with an update on the Senior Leadership structure of the new Group arrangements following her appointment as Group Chief Executive Officer and seeking input and support for the next stages of development.

The report also set out some key appointments and requests for approval for changes to existing delegations that will support the direction of travel that was proposed, whilst ensuring full accountability and transparency.

In introducing the report, the GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, suggested that it has been a fantastic start for the Group Chief Executive Officer, with the change programme already being felt across the Group in terms of relationships and strategies, albeit that GMFRS and TfGM have retained their individual identities.

The Group Chief Executive assured the Committee that the Senior Leadership structure was not a merger or a dilution of identity and was an alignment of leadership and vision, with opportunities to work closer across the GM system, including health and GMP.

The Committee was advised that it was proposed to submit a report of the Group Chief Executive's utilised delegations to the Resources Committee on an annual basis.

A further report will be submitted to the Resources Committee in January 2025 regarding the outcomes of the engagement of independent HR/OD support to identify where senior leadership roles were changing in terms of scope and responsibilities and review appropriate remuneration.

Members confirmed that the strategic coherence across the ten GM Local Authorities and GMCA was very good, recognising that further work was required to align with health and housing, in particular the development partnership with Homes England, which needs to be more regionalised. Work will continue with both GM Health and Homes England, who were now helpfully located within the GMCA offices, which should assist with developing relationships.

Influencing Government was highlighted as a priority, with the majority of responsibility currently sitting with the Mayor and GM Chief Executives, suggesting that there was further potential to grow the leadership across the Group.

The closer working relationship with TfGM has resulted in the strategic alignment of shared objectives and has worked well.

It was important to ensure that as the GMCA progressed that the GM's Local Authorities were not left behind.

The GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, assured the Committee that the change programme across the Group had been carefully considered, and was focussed on being disciplined with a view to relieving financial pressures on Local Authorities.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the direction of travel for the GMCA/TfGM Group structure and senior leadership arrangements in the context of the Single Integrated Settlement and the next phase of growth and system working across Greater Manchester be noted and endorsed.

2. That Steve Warrener, current interim Managing Director of TfGM, be confirmed as the permanent Managing Director of TFGM.
3. That the engagement of independent HR/OD support to identify where senior leadership roles are changing in terms of scope and responsibilities and review appropriate remuneration be supported.
4. That the intention to utilise a current Senior Leadership role in TFGM to support wider system change and integration across the group arrangements be supported.
5. That the GMCA be recommended to approve a) the extension of delegations to the Group Chief Executive and b) changes to the terms of reference of this Committee to be included within the GMCA Constitution regarding staffing matters to align with common practice in local government, as set out in the report.
6. That the intention through the budget setting process for 2025/26 to release funding back into the 10 local authorities in light of the above arrangements and efficiencies to be gained as part of the proposals in the report, be noted.
7. That the reframing of the Police, Crime, Criminal Justice and Fire Directorate to Safer Stronger Communities Directorate, be noted.
8. That the intention to present a further report to the Committee in early 2025 with a more detailed update on potential opportunities for further integration and efficiencies, as well as an update and proposed approach for the next level of leadership in GMCA and TFGM, be noted.