

**DECISIONS AGREED AT THE MEETING OF THE
PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION
HELD ON 12 SEPTEMBER 2018**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mayor Paul Dennett
Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Councillor Suzanne Richards
Councillor Hannah Roberts
Councillor Linda Robinson
Councillor Derek Antrobus
Councillor James Wright

GM Portfolio Holder - Chair
Bury Council
Manchester CC
Oldham Council
Rochdale Council
Salford CC
Trafford Council

Jane Healey Brown
Matthew Harrison

Arup
Great Places Housing Association

SUPPORT OFFICERS

Molly Bishop
Nick Cumberland
Lindsay Dunn
Chris Findley
Steve Fyfe
Jill Holden
Derek Richardson
Steve Rumbelow

GMCA
Homes England
GMCA
GM Planning Lead
GMCA Planning & Housing Team
GMCA
GM Ecology Unit
GM Housing, Homelessness and
Infrastructure Lead Chief Executive
Environment Agency

Helen Telfer

09/19 ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED/-

That the appointment of Mayor Paul Dennett as the GM Portfolio Holder for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure as Chair of the Planning and Housing Commission as per the Terms of Reference be noted.

10/19 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

It was proposed that the appointment of Vice Chair of the Planning and Housing Commission should continue to be a representative from the GM registered housing provider sector.

A nomination for Matthew Harrison, Chief Executive of Great Places Housing Group was received and approved.

RESOLVED/-

That Matthew Harrison, Chief Executive of Great Places Housing Group be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Planning and Housing Commission for the municipal year 2019/20.

11/19 MEMBERSHIP 2019-20

The Committee was asked to note its Membership for the 2019/20 Municipal Year:

District	Member
GMCA Portfolio Lead	Mayor Paul Dennett (Lab)
Bolton	Toby Hewitt (Con)
Bury	Eamonn O'Brien (Lab)
Manchester	Suzanne Richards (Lab)
Oldham	Hannah Roberts (Lab)
Rochdale	Linda Robinson (Lab)
Salford	Derek Antrobus (Lab)
Stockport	David Mellor (Lab)
Tameside	Ged Cooney (Lab)
Trafford	James Wright (Lab)
Wigan	Terence Halliwell (Lab)

RESOLVED/-

That the Membership for the 2019/20 Municipal Year be noted.

12/19 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members were advised that the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board approved the revised terms of reference for the Planning and Housing Commission on 28 June 2019. The revised terms of reference had previously been presented as a draft to the Planning and Housing Commission on 12 September 2018 and the Commission were requested to note the key areas of change.

It was highlighted that despite private sector engagement being recognised, it appeared that membership did not include a representative from the private sector Panel. It was clarified that a representative of the core group of private sector stakeholders which make up the Panel, will be included in the membership.

It was advised that any reference to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) should be corrected to Homes England (HE).

The Commission agreed that the proposed amends discussed would be completed and the revised terms of reference would be presented at the next meeting of the Planning and Housing Commission. These would then be presented to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive in June 2020 for approval.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the Planning and Housing Commission Terms of Reference be noted.
2. That membership of the Commission be amended to include a representative from the core group of private sector stakeholders which make up the Panel.
3. That any reference to the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) be corrected to Homes England (HE).
4. That the revised Terms of Reference be presented to the next meeting of the Planning and Housing Commission.

5. That the revised Terms of Reference be presented to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive in June 2020 for approval.

13/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Ged Cooney (Tameside), Councillor Terence Halliwell (Wigan Council), Councillor David Meller (Stockport), Carl Moore (Homes England) and Simon Nokes (GMCA).

14/19 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENT AND URGENT BUSINESS

There were no announcements or matters of urgent business reported.

15/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in relation to any item on the agenda.

16/19 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 5 MARCH 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019 were presented for consideration.

The Commission were provided with an update with regards GM Housing Allocations. It was reported that the development of a GM Housing Allocations Framework had commenced and further work with the districts was now required.

Members discussed concerns with the allocations to provide additional homeless provision as part of 'A Bed Every Night' and further wrap around support. It was advised that a further £54m of funding to address homelessness and rough sleeping had been announced by Government in the September Spending Review. A proposal for GM to obtain a proportion of the new funding was being developed.

It was agreed that those issues raised would be considered further and Molly Bishop, Strategic Lead for Homeless, GMCA would contact those districts individually who had expressed concern.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019 be approved.
2. That £54m of new funding to address homelessness and rough sleeping announced in the September Spending Review be noted.
3. That the concerns raised with regards to allocations of 'A Bed Every Night' provision be further considered.
4. That those districts who raised concerns with 'A Bed Every Night' allocations would be contacted to discuss further.

17/19 OVERVIEW OF PLANNING AND HOUSING COMMISSION POLICY AREAS

Anne Morgan, Head of Planning Strategy, GMCA introduced a presentation which provided an overview of Planning and Housing Commission policy areas in the context of the future of Greater Manchester.

An update on the Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment – Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) was provided. The Commission were

advised of the process, the key issues raised during the consultation and the next steps.

Members were reminded that through the 2014 Devolution Agreement the Mayor has a duty to produce a Spatial Development Strategy (SDS), building on work carried out for the GMSF.

Consultation on the Revised Draft of the GMSF took place between January and March this year and there had been approximately 17,500 responses to the consultation on the draft plan.

A Consultation Summary report will be published following the GMCA meeting on the 27 September 2019. The responses have been analysed by thematic policy area and key issues identified which will need to be considered during the preparation of the next version of the plan.

These key issues will inform the further evidence work that needs to be undertaken and also the engagement strategy over the coming months. This would involve utilising and establishing relationships with networks across GM rather than another consultation process.

A Consultation Final Report will be produced with the next Draft GMSF which will outline how these issues have been considered and how the plan has been changed as a result of comments made, or why some comments have not resulted in changes.

Government is currently considering the request from Greater Manchester to amend the Spatial Development Regulations (SDS) to allow the GMSF to be progressed as an SDS. If Government is minded to make the minor amendment required, it is uncertain what the timescale for this will be. The next GMSF will be produced as an SDS if the regulations are in place, otherwise it will continue as a Joint Development Plan Document (DPD).

In discussion the Commission highlighted their concerns with delays and the potential impact on the timetable for local plans. Members requested clarification that Defra's 25 Year Environment Plan asking for new, strong standards for green infrastructure had been considered. It was confirmed that green infrastructure framework and standards were being developed in line with Defra and responses from the consultation had supported the natural environment and the rise of green infrastructure in planning policy.

Members questioned whether consideration had been provided to the new anticipated population projections. It was advised that these were expected in March 2020 and would be utilised, if available, to inform housing projections.

The Commission discussed methodology and the requirements with regards to social infrastructure. It was suggested that projections would continue to be an ongoing issue and the requirement to progress with the current methodology was required.

An overview of the focus on Town Centres was outlined which included Town Centre Challenge and the Future High Street Fund. It was suggested that the Commission may wish to receive an update on Stockport MDC at a future meeting.

Steve Fyfe, Head of Housing Strategy, GMCA provided an update on the Greater Manchester Housing Strategy, 2019-24. He thanked those involved in the development of the strategy which identifies safe, decent and affordable housing as

a priority in order for homes to fit the needs and aspirations of current and future citizens.

A commitment to deliver 50,000 additional affordable homes by 2037 along with a GM approach to determine affordability were identified as key strategic priorities of the GM Housing Strategy. Enablers to deliver safe, healthy and accessible homes required for all were highlighted.

The vision of infrastructure as a foundation of productivity, the challenges and the up and coming policy objectives were outlined to members. An overview of the GM Infrastructure Strategy, produced by the Strategic Infrastructure Board which addresses the eleven framework challenges was provided.

In discussion the Commission provided consideration to the provision of infrastructure that maintains and/or reduces flood risk across GM whilst accommodating developmental growth and climate change. Jill Holden, Flood and Water Programme Manager, GMCA, highlighted the scale of flood risk in GM and the investment and funding currently utilised to deliver flood risk reduction measures.

An overview of current governance was provided and it was advised that GM is represented at North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) and has a GM Flood and Water Management Board. It was suggested that stronger connections with the Planning and Housing Commission would help increase political support to potentially secure funding for areas of flood risk priority. It was proposed that going forward, representation on RFCC should be GM Planning and Housing Commission Members.

In discussion members highlighted the possibilities of utilisation of section 106 agreements to support flood management systems.

Molly Bishop, Strategic Lead for Homelessness, GMCA provided the Commission with an update with regards to the GM Homelessness Programmes including, the Rough Sleeper Initiative, Housing First and A Bed Every Night Phase 2.

The Commission highlighted the increasing numbers of homeless families and placements in temporary accommodation from outside boroughs. It was suggested that a strategic conversation across GM would be required to provide focus and ensure this was regarded as a priority.

Members provided consideration to the role of the Planning and Housing Commission with regards to governance, monitoring and tracking progress of delivery of strategic priorities. Partnership working along with lobbying was discussed. Members were requested to consider the prioritisation of issues in order to formulate a work plan for discussion.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the update provided be noted.
2. That an update on Stockport MDC be presented to the Planning and Housing Commission at a future meeting.
3. That additional attention be provided to the development of a strategy to address the increasing number of homeless families.
4. That it be proposed that representatives from the Planning and Housing Commission be appointed to the North West Regional Flood and Coastal Committee in June 2020.

5. That further consideration be provided by members of the Planning and Housing Commission with regards to the work plan of the Commission and be feedback to the Planning and Housing Team, GMCA.

18/19 NATURAL CAPITAL UPDATE ON BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN

Derek Richardson, GM Ecology Unit provided a presentation on behalf of Natural England on delivering biodiversity net gain for GM. The Commission were provided with an overview and update from the GM Natural Capital Group on biodiversity net gain in the context of both national and local policy.

Members were advised that planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity.

An overview of the Net Gain Task Group delivering biodiversity net gain for GM and the roadmap which set out how partners and stakeholders would work together to embed biodiversity net gain was provided.

It was advised that further engagement with districts and more GM developers to embed the principles and approach at a local level was required. Recommendations for a preferred approach will be reported to the Planning and Housing Commission along with continued engagement with DEFRA to inform National Net Gain Policy and delivery.

In discussion members highlighted that robust strategic planning and investment where the major potential benefit could be obtained for the whole of GM was essential. An understanding of the resources required and prospective obtainable net gain from biodiversity in GM were considered to be a critical requirement.

It was suggested that a member of the Housing Association sector should be included on the membership of the Net Gain Task and Finish Group.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the update be noted.
2. That membership of the Net Gain Task and Finish Group be extended to include a representative from the Housing Association sector.

19/19 HOUSING MARKET MONITOR

The item was deferred until the next meeting. Members were asked to consider the data pack on published Government and local data and provide feedback on which areas the Commission would like to discuss. Members were requested to contact Lindsay Dunn, Governance and Scrutiny Officer, GMCA with feedback prior to the next meeting.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the item be deferred until the next meeting of the Planning and Housing Commission.
2. That the data pack be reviewed by members of the Planning and Housing Commission.
3. That further consideration be provided on areas for deep dive analysis and feedback be provided to Lindsay Dunn, Governance and Scrutiny Team, GMCA.

20/19 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 5 December 2019 2.00 – 4.00pm
Thursday 19 March 2020 2.00 – 4.00pm

All meetings will take place in the Boardroom at Churchgate House