

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED  
AUTHORITY HELD ON 25 MARCH 2022 AT BOLTON TOWN HALL,  
VICTORIA SQUARE, BOLTON**

**PRESENT:**

Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett (In the Chair)
Deputy Mayor for Police & Fire	Beverley Hughes
Bolton	Councillor Martyn Cox
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Amanda Chadderton
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Andrew Western
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Risdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Salford	Tom Stannard
Stockport	Caroline Simpson
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward

**GMCA 40/22      APOLOGIES****RESOLVED/-**

That apologies be received and noted from GM Mayor Andy Burnham, Cllr Arooj Shah (Cllr Amanda Chadderton attending), Geoff Little (Lynne Risdale attending), Tony Oakman (Sue Johnson attending) and Steve Rumbelow.

**GMCA 41/22      CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS****The war in Ukraine**

The GMCA had released a statement on 11 March, which had expressed solidarity with Ukraine and its people. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees had reported that 3.6 million Ukrainians had fled the country, and 6.5 million Ukrainians had been displaced within Ukraine, leaving behind their homes, livelihoods and loved ones to escape the unprovoked invasion by Russia. Greater Manchester would offer help and support to Ukrainian people who were seeking safety in the United Kingdom.

Greater Manchester had recently welcomed and supported refugees from Afghanistan, but many were still being housed in hotels across the city region and across the country. Many had not yet been awarded work permits and the GMCA called on Government to create capacity within the immigration system to expedite the process. It was also emphasised that each council across the country should play a role in ongoing humanitarian efforts and mandate equitable dispersal.

Thanks were expressed to all residents, community groups, voluntary and faith-based organisations for their ongoing humanitarian support, including those officers of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service who were currently part of a convoy taking humanitarian aid to families in the Ukraine.

**Greater Manchester's Clean Air Zone**

The GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, had written to the Prime Minister on 3 March to set out Greater Manchester's position in relation to the Clean Air Zone but a response had not yet been received. The plan aimed to achieve compliance with legal air quality limits in Greater Manchester by 2026, whilst protecting jobs and livelihoods across the city region. The current preferred option was to implement a non-charging Category B zone across Greater Manchester. As a Category B zone, light goods vehicles would be excluded, which would address the concerns of many residents who relied on light goods vehicles for business and recreational use. The non-charging element would mean that there was no charge to travel in the zone but that funding avenues would be opened to support residents to upgrade their vehicles. It had been concerning that there had been no response from Government to date as the new plans would require significant financial support for residents, who needed certainty about the future of Greater Manchester's Clean Air Zone amidst a time of significant cost of living increases.

#### **RESOLVED /-**

1. That it be noted that the GMCA issued a statement on the 11 March regarding the war in Ukraine and that Greater Manchester remained in solidarity with all who have been impacted by the invasion from Russia.
2. That the GMCA urge for an end to the hostilities in Ukraine, in the meantime, efforts to provide humanitarian aid would continue and those seeking asylum would be welcomed.
3. That the GMCA request Central Government review the immigration system to create greater capacity and ensure that nationally all Local Authorities play their role in the humanitarian effort through a mandated equitable dispersal arrangement.
4. That it be noted that the GM Mayor had written to the Prime Minister on the 3 March outlining Greater Manchester's position and aspirations for moving forward with a non-charging Category B Clean Air Zone, however, to date there had been no reply from Government, resulting in a lack of certainty for residents.
5. That the GMCA express their thanks and support to those officers of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service who were currently supporting a humanitarian aid convoy to Ukraine.

**GMCA 42/22            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**RESOLVED /-**

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

**GMCA 43/22            MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 11 FEBRUARY 2022**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 11 February 2022 be approved.

**GMCA 44/22            MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11  
FEBRUARY 2022**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meeting held on 11 February 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 45/22            MINUTES OF THE GMCA HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 MARCH 2022**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 8 March 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 46/22            GMCA APPOINTMENTS**

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the appointment of Cllr Luthfur Rahman (Manchester), as the substitute member to the GMCA, be noted.
2. That the appointment of Cllr Elaine Taylor (Oldham) to the Corporate Issues Overview & Scrutiny Committee be approved.

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships and Digital City Region, introduced a report which updated Members on the closure and performance of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) during the 2020/2021 academic year. Over the course of the year, 52,000 adults across Greater Manchester had accessed courses under the AEB. The AEB had engaged numerous providers and the courses that had been delivered had helped to address the need for skilled employees across the city region.

An update was also provided on the plans and progress of the National Skills Fund Adult level 3 offer for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023. In the coming months, National Skills Fund bootcamps and the Multiply scheme would continue to contribute to the education and upskilling of residents. Local Authority grant funding would also continue to play a key role in reaching some of the most deprived residents and would support them to gain the education and training that they required to join the workforce and progress in their roles.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the closure and performance of the 2020/2021 academic year, as set out in Section 2 of the report, be noted.
2. That the planned approach for the commissioning of the extension and increase to National Skills Fund Adult Level 3 offer for GM for April/Mary 2022 through July 2023 be noted.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeship, to take forward the commissioning of the National Skills Fund Adult Level 3 offer, including contract awards, as set out in Section 3 of the report.
4. That the following be approved:

- An increase of the GMCA management fee from 1.5% to 1.8% for 2022/2023 onwards.
  - The proposed indicative allocations and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded further education institutions and contract for services skills providers.
  - To grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and the GMCA.
5. That the list of proposed indicative allocations including the current 2021/22 allocation by provider and the indicative allocation for 2022/2023, excluding funds applicable for continuing learners, as set out in Section 4 & Annex 1 of the report, be noted.
6. That the proposed approach for taking forward the new Multiply Scheme for the 2022/2023 academic year onwards be noted and that authority delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for the Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships and Digital to agree relevant grant conditions, commissioning route and award of individual grants/contracts, as set out in Section 6 & Annex 3 & 4 of the report.
7. That the proposed approaches to allocating funding to key initiatives from April 2022 onwards, to increase participation in adult skills across GM, as set out in Section 7 of the report, be approved.
8. That the GM Mayor be recommended to:
- Approve the proposed 2022/2023 indicative allocations and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded local authorities and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to approve any minor changes that arise in the course of discussions between each local authority and GMCA, as set out in Section 4 & Annex 2 of the report.
  - Approve the continued £1/5m allocation to Local Authorities for the AEB LA Grant Programme supporting alleviating barriers to adult education, improving digital inclusion through skills, and continue the support of the GM ESOL Advice Service for 2022/2023, as set out in Section 5.

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Portfolio Lead for Young People, took the GMCA through a report which provided an update on the #BeeWell Survey and its findings from Autumn 2021. #BeeWell had been the largest survey of its kind in the country and had surveyed nearly 40,000 Year 8 and Year 10 pupils in Greater Manchester on their wellbeing. It had been co-created with young people and had been administered in schools in each local authority. The results of the survey had been made available at a neighbourhood level and would be a valuable resource for local authorities for the duration of the research project. The data captured by the survey would support the creation and delivery of initiatives that young people found important in terms of their wellbeing, education, and future opportunities in Greater Manchester. The Chair recognised the significant level of participation in this survey and urged all Local Authorities to make best use of its findings when considering the development of services for young people.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the key findings of the #BeeWell survey be noted.
2. That a system-wide response to the findings be encouraged, to ensure that young people's voices were leading the response to the survey findings.
3. That the existing good practice and strengths of Greater Manchester communities be celebrated during the launch of the survey findings.

Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, took Members through a report which sought agreement for an approach for utilisation of surpluses from the GM Housing Loans Fund to support growth and levelling up across GM as part of the GM Housing Strategy. This would create longer-term certainty over financial availability for local authorities across the city region. Previously, surpluses had been used to support the delivery team and had contributed towards progress with Greater Manchester's Good Landlord scheme.

There were several allocations of funding that had been proposed within the report. Financial support would be given to the Growth Locations across the city region to support development activity on housing schemes. Additionally, graduate trainee programmes and apprenticeship positions would be created to provide opportunities for people within Greater Manchester. The professionals in these roles would work closely with local authorities to support housing activities. Work around modern methods of construction would continue and this would contribute to the target of building 30,000 net-zero carbon social rented homes over the period of the Places for Everyone plan. Partnership working had been successful with Homes England and funding would support partnerships that had been established to accelerate the delivery of targeted outcomes in several areas. Finally, work had been progressing on the development of a Good Landlord Charter and an allocation had been proposed to support this activity.

## **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the allocation of £4m from the GM Housing Investment Loan Fund Surpluses to fund the activity identified in the report, be approved.
2. That the proposal for the costs of Greater Manchester Delivery Team to be included with the Core Investment Team budget, be approved.

## **GMCA 50/22                    DELIVERING 30,000 NET ZERO CARBON SOCIAL RENTED HOMES: INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (KEY DECISION)**

Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, introduced a report which sought approval for an initial implementation plan for the delivery of 30,000 net-zero carbon social rented homes by 2038. The report also sought approval for a further period of engagement and co-production with partners and stakeholders, including registered housing providers and local authorities as the primary developers of social housing in GM on a more detailed partnership implementation plan which would embody the 'whole system challenge' approach agreed by GMCA in December 2021. This approach would focus on skills, work, and business development in the city region to capitalise on the opportunities that would be created.

The proposed implementation plan had proposed greater engagement with Government to address some of the key challenges in terms of funding as the criteria for the Government's



Affordable Homes programme had excluded five local authorities in Greater Manchester and did not cover the additional costs of making affordable homes net-zero carbon. The plan also proposed substantial joint working between local authorities, housing providers, the private sector, and central Government to deliver the green industrial revolution that had been a key policy aim over previous years. It was highlighted that the plan would contribute to the green recovery from COVID-19 and kickstart economic growth within the city region.

## **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the initial implementation plan, as detailed in the report, be endorsed.
2. That the proposal for work with partners to be commissioned to co-produce a more detailed partnership implementation plan for approval at a future meeting be approved.
3. That the proposal that engagement with Government be a key element of the partnership required to achieve substantial and sustained progress, be approved.

## **GMCA 51/22            GREATER MANCHESTER ECONOMIC DASHBOARD AND ECONOMY PORTFOLIO UPDATE**

Councillor Elise Wilson, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business, took the GMCA through the latest version of the Greater Manchester Economic Resilience Dashboard and provided an overview of activity related to the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy and the Economy portfolio.

The invasion of Ukraine had created a significant degree of global uncertainty, which had placed additional upward pressure on prices, particularly in respect of energy and grain costs. It was expected that supply chains in some sectors would experience significant disruption, which had created an additional degree of concern for businesses. The latest figures for inflation had depicted a rise of just over 5% but forecasts had warned that this figure could double. The domestic energy price cap would rise by 54% in April and further rises had been anticipated for October 2022. Transport had also been affected by global events and there had been a 43% rise in the cost of oil compared to the beginning of 2022.

The reported cost increases contained within the report would have a huge impact on residents and represented a serious economic situation. The number of people in receipt of unemployment benefits had remained higher than pre-pandemic levels and it was noted that businesses had been struggling to maintain their workforces. Although the measures within the Chancellor's Spring Statement would help some residents, they would not go far enough to fully support low- and middle-income residents, who were facing unprecedented pressures on their finances. Each local authority had been working with businesses and voluntary organisations to create packages of support in their area, however the severity of the situation was clear, with an additional 600,000 people anticipated to be forced into poverty as a result of the Government's latest budget announcements.

Despite recent challenges, the real living wage campaign had accelerated in recent months. There had been over 60 new accreditations since November 2021, which had taken the total number of employers in receipt of the accreditation to nearly 450. The Good Employment Charter had also seen an increase in engagement. Around 800 employers had engaged with the Charter, which covered nearly 300,000 employees.

The GM Industrial Strategy had recently launched and signalled to the international community that Greater Manchester was open for business. A trade mission to Ireland and Northern Ireland had been planned for later in the month. Greater Manchester representatives would join representatives from Liverpool to explore and promote trade in each city region. This would be the largest trade mission of its kind to leave Greater Manchester and would be supported by the Economy and Business portfolio, as well as the Department for International Trade.

Greater Manchester had been awarded £100 million funding under the Government's innovation accelerator, jointly with the West Midlands and Glasgow city region, which would support local businesses to reap the benefits of the research and development expertise of GM's universities and further accelerate growth.

## **RESOLVED /-**

That the latest update of the Greater Manchester Economic Resilience Dashboard and response, including delivery of the Local Industrial Strategy and Greater Manchester Economic Vision be noted.

Councillor Neil Emmott, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, introduced a report which set out the background on the national requirement for mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) which would be implemented in November 2023, the ambition to maximise the opportunities from BNG within Greater Manchester, and the key issues and solutions associated with this.

All new developments post this date would be required to improve biodiversity which would result in a net gain for biodiversity. Where that would not be possible, developers would need to offset biodiversity losses elsewhere. It was noted that BNG would play an important role in delivering Greater Manchester's five-year environment plan and would enhance the natural environment across the city region. GM would work closely with partners to create a flexible and robust market for biodiversity offsetting with the majority of benefits being directly located within the city region.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the proposal for the GMCA to be named as the provisional responsible authority for developing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Greater Manchester, be approved.
2. That the work that has been delivered by GMCA to date to ensure Greater Manchester is prepared for mandatory BNG, be noted.
3. That the delivery of the Greater Manchester BNG 'Need and Supply Assessment' by GM Ecology Unit be supported.
4. That the pursuit of a range of offsetting options for Greater Manchester be supported and that GMCA works with key stakeholders, including landowners and developers to continue to develop this understanding.
5. That the development of a Greater Manchester market for BNG Units including the work that is being delivered by the GM Environment Fund be supported.

6. That the development of a policy position on biodiversity offsetting as part of the scope of the forthcoming Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy be supported.
7. That authority be delegated to the Portfolio Lead Chief Executive, Green City Region, to prepare a submit a response to the Government BNG consultation in line with the ambitions/issues raised in this paper.

**GMCA 53/22            THE EDINBURGH DECLARATION ON BIODIVERSITY AND  
DECLARING A BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY (KEY DECISION)**

Councillor Neil Emmott, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, took Members through a report which sought approval to add the Mayor of Greater Manchester's signature to the Edinburgh Declaration on Biodiversity and declare a biodiversity emergency. Numerous cities and city regions across the world had signed the declaration and it was emphasised that the Mayor's signature to the Declaration would reaffirm GM's commitment to biodiversity.

By declaring a biodiversity emergency, GM would acknowledge the severity of the crisis that nature had been facing, the importance of tackling biodiversity decline as part of tackling the climate emergency, and the intention to tackle biodiversity loss alongside partners in the city region. Annex 1 of the report was brought to Members' attention. In particular, it was highlighted that key bird species, which were considered to be an indicator of the health of wildlife, had declined by between 25-40% over the last 40 years in Greater Manchester.

It was noted that the GMCA had declared a climate emergency in 2019. It had since become apparent that addressing the steady decline in biodiversity was an integral part of the work that needed to be done to address the wider climate emergency.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the signature of the GM Mayor to the Edinburgh Declaration on Biodiversity, on behalf of the GMCA, be approved.
2. That the declaration of a biodiversity emergency be approved.

**GMCA 54/22            THE GREATER MANCHESTER GREEN SPACES FUND**

Councillor Neil Emmott, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, introduced a report which set out proposals for the delivery of the Greater Manchester Green Spaces Fund, a key commitment to improving green spaces, and access to them, across the city region. The report set out the need for investment in the city region's green spaces, the proposed aims of the fund, the types of projects to be supported, how community participation and action would be enabled and arrangements for the fund's delivery. The fund would allow local communities to apply for funding to create new green spaces or enhance existing areas and funding would be targeted to areas where green space was most needed. The report contained proposals for community enablers, who would work with communities to develop project proposals. It was noted that this programme would empower residents to take action on the climate and biodiversity emergencies and to improve their local areas.

The £2.6 million investment into the Green Spaces Fund was welcomed as Members reflected on previous challenges in securing funding for green spaces. Salford had been supported by Lottery funding and the addition of the Green Spaces Fund would help the city region as a whole to further invest in its green spaces for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

#### **RESOLVED /-**

That the report and the proposals for the Greater Manchester Green Spaces Fund be noted.

#### **GMCA 55/22            DRIVING SOCIAL VALUE IN GM PUBLIC PROCUREMENT**

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships and Digital City Region, took the GMCA through a report which sought the agreement of set of principles and supporting actions to accelerate the work already occurring in Greater Manchester on leveraging social value from public sector spending. Greater Manchester had held long-standing ambitions to support local businesses and create local jobs. Whilst there was an abundance of good practice across the city region, it had been important to standardise the approach to social value to simplify the process for businesses competing for opportunities within Greater Manchester's public procurement mechanisms.

The City of Manchester was provided as an example. Manchester had worked on social value for over a decade and by utilising 60% of its public sector spending on work with local businesses, it had been able to re-generate over £150 million back into the city's economy.

This method of public sector spending had also created 2300 new jobs, 630 apprenticeships and 14,000 hours of volunteering.

It was noted that a further report would be provided to the GMCA, which would contain basic principles for public procurement and a series of clear actions for delivery. Local authorities, the Combined Authority, and relevant partners would be considered as part of this work as they would all have a role to play in meeting the new principles. It was emphasised that public procurement could be used to improve standards for residents by containing requirements related to the real living wage and the Good Employment Charter, as well as additional factors such as the environment.

The role of partner organisations was noted by Members, particularly in relation to Greater Manchester Police who were keen to adopt a framework for their social value approach to procurement. The sharing of expertise in this area was welcomed and consideration of the police was requested. Further attention from Members was given to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) who had often experienced barriers within public procurement processes. Building on good practice across the city region would help these businesses to take advantage of the available opportunities.

#### **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the appointment of Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester) and Senior Responsible Officer, to be confirmed, be designated to act as sponsors to work with each of the Greater Manchester Local Authorities to identify how working at Greater Manchester level can add value to the shared objectives and declared Greater Manchester Strategy priorities; and to garner wider participation across Greater Manchester anchor institutions including Transport for Greater Manchester, Greater Manchester Police and the Health system.
2. That the successful progress in this policy area would require significant investment be acknowledged and that a further report would be submitted to the GMCA setting out the resourcing challenge and quantified options.
3. That the decision to revise the GMCA Sustainability Decision Tool for use upstream as part of business case development (for potential adoption by others) be approved.

4. That the exploration of options for developing a Greater Manchester 'Brokerage' platform, with the ability to provide a live environment matching supplier offers with 'system' asks, be approved.
  
5. That the adoption of the following principles be approved and that this report be commended for approval and adoption by all Greater Manchester Councils in order to build on existing good work on social value and to significantly increase the collective Greater Manchester approach to social value, with the potential to make a real step change in the role of public procurement in supporting the delivery of GMC priorities:
  - Restate a strong presumption that social value forms part of the evaluation on all procurement over threshold.
  - Building on the Greater Manchester Social Value Framework, develop an approach which can be aggregated at a GM level for capturing bid offers as contractual commitments, providing contract management performance data and common standards for city region scale reporting.
  - Adopt definitions to allow development of plans for capturing consistent metrics (See Appendix 1) for a set of key Greater Manchester Priorities:
    1. Real Living Wage
    2. Principles of Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter
    3. Carbon Reduction – net zero by 2038 (Greater Manchester) / 2050 (UK)
    4. Tackling Inequality (protected characteristics)
    5. Economic Diversity (Small Medium Enterprise and Voluntary Community Social Enterprise)
    6. Local Spend (Greater Manchester based businesses)
  - Adopt a policy for all procurements over the regulated threshold (unless evidenced as legally and commercially unviable):
    - a. By 2023 we will only contract with organisations who agree, themselves and for their 1st line sub-contractors, to pay Real Living Wage at date of contract or within 1 year of contracting.
    - b. By 2023 we will only contract with organisations who have signed up to be supporters of the Good Employment Charter (or equivalent indicators) at date of contract or within 1 year of contracting.

- c. By 2023 we will only contract with organisations who have a credible plan to become carbon neutral by 2050 in place at date of contract or within 1 year of contracting.
- Agree that the policy goal should be to increase our supplier diversity by:
    - a. Reserving relevant 'below threshold' contracts for Voluntary Community Social Enterprise sector organisations or Greater Manchester based Small Medium Enterprises (unless the requirement cannot be fulfilled by these markets).
    - b. Increasing the proportion of spend (with primary contractors and 1st line subcontractors) from Greater Manchester public procurement that is spent within Greater Manchester.
    - c. Make plans to monitor and report on the diversity of the ownership of leadership of the organisations we work with.
6. That it be noted that small and medium enterprises would need to be supported to facilitate opportunities to bid for public service contracts.

## **GMCA 56/22            GREATER MANCHESTER NIGHT TIME ECONOMY STRATEGY**

Alison McKenzie-Folan, Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Culture, introduced a report which outlined the draft GM Night Time Economy Strategy, which had been developed by the Mayor of GM's Night Time Economy Adviser, Sacha Lord, supported by the GMCA Culture and Night Time Economy team. The Strategy outlined the proposed focus of the Night Time Economy Adviser and the Night Time Economy Panel's work for the next three years across seven priorities: safety, diversity, workers, transport, national and international partnerships and campaigns, regeneration, and business and sector support.

The Strategy celebrated the unique night time economy of each of the ten local authorities in GM. It had been based on conversations with stakeholders across Greater Manchester and reflected the issues that were important to the night time economy, including the impact of COVID-19. The implementation plan would be updated annually based upon the most up-to-date information as the sector began to recover from the pandemic. Manchester city centre had a long-standing night time economy and the Strategy had sought to emulate the best practice found in Manchester across other areas within the city region, where the night time economy offer had been developing. A significant amount of work was already underway and



it had been anticipated that the Strategy would strengthen the partnerships across the conurbation.

Members welcomed the report and reflected on the impact that it would have for the 464,000 people who were working in jobs and businesses with significant activity at night, which represented 33% of the workforce in Greater Manchester. The delivery of the Strategy would add value in several areas, including regeneration, culture, creativity and leisure.

## **RESOLVED /-**

That the Night Time Economy Strategy be noted, and the Implementation Plan be reviewed on an annual basis.

### **GMCA 57/22            HIGH SPEED RAIL (CREWE – MANCHESTER) BILL, AUTHORISATION FOR GMCA TO OPPOSE THE BILL AT PARLIAMENT (KEY DECISION)**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, took Members through a report which sought to gain the GMCA's authorisation to participate in the Hybrid Bill process, which required the GMCA to resolve that it was expedient to oppose the Bill, in accordance with s239 of the Local Government Act 1972. The resolution would require a majority of Members to vote in favour. If approved, the GMCA would work with TfGM to create a petition against the Bill, which was the only mechanism to oppose the Bill since it had already been laid at Parliament.

The proposals contained within the Bill were severely sub-optimal for Greater Manchester. There were significant concerns around several proposals, including the proposed overground rail line serving Piccadilly, the severance of the Ashton Metrolink line, and connections to Manchester Airport across the city region. A petition would need to be submitted which outlined in detail the areas of concern ahead of the Select Committee process.

It was emphasised that HS2 presented a once in a generation opportunity, for which Greater Manchester was grateful. However, the delivery of HS2 would have to meet the current and anticipated future needs of the region in order to deliver the best return on investment for the Government and ensure that the network reached its full potential. Members agreed that the current proposals were inadequate for Greater Manchester's needs and alternative options

needed to be explored to ensure that an investment of this scale was done right and prepared for future growth ambitions.

In response, it was confirmed that work would be carried out to understand the short-, medium- and long-term implications for compatible services. Greater Manchester would also continue to call on Government to better integrate the plans for HS2 with other projects, like Northern Powerhouse Rail, to provide the best possible connectivity in the city region.

## **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the recommendation to oppose elements of the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill, being satisfied that it is expedient to do so, pursuant to section 239(1), (2) and (4A) of the Local Government Act 1972, be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester, to take all such steps as may be incidental, necessary, or expedient in connection with GMCA's opposition to the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill, including all steps required for a petition to be submitted, maintained and if considered appropriate modified or withdrawn (in whole or in part) in the event that any petition points have been resolved satisfactorily with HS2 Ltd and/or DfT in respect of the Bill, and to negotiate and/or seek assurances, undertakings and/or agreements to the Bill as well as to appear at any Select Committee considering the Bill.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer to agree the final terms of any agreements and enter into and complete any necessary legal documentation.

## **GMCA 58/22            HIGH SPEED RAIL (CREWE – MANCHESTER) BILL, AUTHORISATION FOR TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER TO OPPOSE THE BILL AT PARLIAMENT (KEY DECISION)**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, introduced a report on behalf of Transport for Greater Manchester which sought approval from the GMCA to oppose the Bill, in accordance with section 10(1)(xxix) of the Transport Act 1968. The report set out the proposal by TfGM to oppose elements of the Bill. In accordance with the GMCA's Constitution, TfGM's request for approval to oppose the Bill had been referred to the Greater

Manchester Transport Committee, whose recommendations were reported to the GMCA for their consideration in determining whether to grant approval.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That it be noted that at its meeting on the 24 March the GM Transport Committee considered the proposal by TfGM to oppose elements of the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill and the reasons for that proposal and resolved to recommend to the GMCA the approval is granted for TfGM to oppose elements of the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill, pursuant to s10(1)(xxix) of the Transport Act 1968.
2. That approval be granted for TfGM to oppose elements of the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill, pursuant to s10(1)(xxix) of the Transport Act 1968.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester to take all such steps as may be incidental, necessary or expedient in connection with TfGM's opposition to the High Speed Rail (Crewe – Manchester) Bill, including all steps required for a petition to be submitted, maintained and if considered appropriate modified or withdrawn (in whole or in part) in the event that any petition points have been resolved satisfactorily with HS2 Ltd and/or DfT in respect of the Bill, and to negotiate and/or seek assurances, undertakings and/or agreements to the Bill as well as to appear at any Select Committee considering the Bill.
4. That TfGM and the GMCA would continue to work through addressing the wider impacts of proposals on individual Local Authority transport networks, recognising the significant impact on broader connectivity across the network and the economy of Greater Manchester.

**GMCA 59/22            MAYORS CYCLING AND WALKING CHALLENGE FUND (MCF)  
(KEY DECISION)**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, took the GMCA through a report which sought approval of the development and delivery funding requirements for seven Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) Cycling and Walking Schemes, which included increases to previously approved budget values for a number of Salford City Council schemes. The

infrastructure built under the MCF would contribute to the Bee Network, which would transform Greater Manchester's transport system. 82 cycling and walking schemes had now been identified and would form the longest, integrated, planned network in the country, covering 1,800 miles.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the release of up to £0.594 million of additional development cost funding for the 3 Salford City Council MCF schemes set out in section 2 of this report be approved.
2. That the release of up to £5.45 million of MCF funding for the Bury and Salford schemes, as set out in section 3 of this report, be approved, in order to secure full approval and enable continued scheme delivery through the signing of the necessary legal agreements, and in the case of Trafford Road, the drafting and signature of a legal deed of variation.

**GMCA 60/22                      CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT SETTLEMENT DRAFT  
PROGRAMME CASE INTERIM AWARD B (CRST) (KEY DECISION)**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, introduced a report which updated Members on the process to secure a City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement for Greater Manchester. The report also requested delegation of the agreement and release of the interim CRSTS Programme Case award to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the GM Mayor.

In September 2021, the GMCA had approved the submission of a prospectus based on an upper bound guideline for £1.19bn for Government consideration as part of the 2021 Spending Review process. In November 2021, the Secretary of State had written to the Mayor of Greater Manchester and reported that the GMCA had been allocated an indicative £1.07bn of capital funding conditional on the submission of a programme business cases, which was submitted to the Government by the GMCA on 31 January 2022. It was unclear when funds would be awarded but it was anticipated that the GMCA may receive an interim award, which would be allocated across three programmes identified in the report.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That it be noted that GMCA, as requested by Government on 20 July 2021, prepared and submitted to the Government's City Region Sustainable Transport Fund in early September, as part of the process to secure up to £1.19 billion of capital funding for the period 2022/23 to 2026/27.
2. That it be noted that on 22 November 2021, the Secretary of State wrote to the Mayor of Greater Manchester advising that GMCA had been awarded an indicative allocation of £1.07 billion of capital funding conditional on the submission of a programme business case by the end of January 2022.
3. That it be noted that GMCA subsequently submitted the draft CRSTS Programme Case to Government on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022.
4. That it be noted that GMCA have been informed by the Department for Transport that they intend to grant at least an interim award of CRSTS funding to GMCA in March 2022, in advance of finalising the full award.
5. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor of Greater Manchester, the agreement and allocation of an interim award to ensure that those elements of the CRSTS programme that require funding from April 2022 were able to draw down funds.
6. That it be noted that the outcome of this process will be submitted to GMCA.

**GMCA 61/22            GREATER MANCHESTER ONE NETWORK PROCUREMENT (KEY DECISION)**

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships and Digital City Region, took Members through a report which set out the process for a joint procurement of ICT Wide Area Network services across several councils, GMCA including GMFRS, and Transport for Greater Manchester under the title of GM One Network. There had been an ambition to have over 1600 connected sites arising from the work that had been done with the Digital Blueprint and the GM Local Full Fibre Network. The project was scalable and there would be future opportunities for the GM One Network.

## **RESOLVED /-**

1. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and Greater Manchester Digital Portfolio Lead Chief Executive to enter into contract between GMCA and Cisco International for Greater Manchester One Network Integrator Services on behalf of the GMCA including GM Fire & Rescue and TfGM, and Bury, Stockport, Oldham, and Rochdale Councils as described in the report.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and Greater Manchester Digital Portfolio Lead Chief Executive to procure and enter into contracts to deliver BT Openreach Exchange Services and for ServiceNow capabilities as described in this report.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer for GMCA to enter into the Greater Manchester One Network Collaboration Agreement with TfGM and Bury, Stockport, Oldham, and Rochdale Councils and to review and complete all necessary legal documentation and commend to those organisations that they sign their respective Collaboration Agreements.
4. That £5.67m of expenditure over 10 years against existing and planned GMCA Wide Area Networking budgets for GMCA(FRS) connectivity via Greater Manchester One Network be approved.
5. That an investment of £9.546m for Wide Area Networking services, implementation and operation for GMCA/TfGM Urban Traffic Controls Signals and TfGM sites via Greater Manchester One Network to be funded from existing TfGM revenue budget of £4.890m and additional capital and revenue investment of £4.656m in line with the decision made by GMCA in January 2020, be approved.
6. That it be noted that this collaborative procurement had secured substantial value for money and social value commitments and creates a platform for future connectivity requirements.
7. That the progress towards completion of the Greater Manchester Local Full Network Programme and the efforts of officers and commercial partners in its delivery be noted.

**GMCA 62/22            GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK –  
REQUEST FOR DELEGATION**

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, introduced a report which sought the GMCA's approval to delegate authority to the Combined Authority Chief Executive in consultation with the Combined Authority Treasurer and the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding previously approved by the Combined Authority, for the period 26 March 2022 to 26 May 2022, in view of the prolonged timeframe between the GMCA's meetings during that period. It was noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation would be reported to the next available meeting of the Combined Authority.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 26 March 2022 to 26 May 2022.
2. That it be noted that any recommendations that are approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meetings of the GMCA.

**GMCA 63/22            GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND**

Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, took the GMCA through a report which sought the Combined Authority's approval to the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund ('GMHILF') loans detailed in the report, and approval for up to £20m of the loan for the Three60 development to be met from GMCA's Growing Places Fund if required as a result of a proposed £100m cap on GMHILF lending to Renaker city-centre developments, as detailed in the report. The report also contained details of decisions recently taken by the Chief Executive acting in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure under the delegation in the GMCA Constitution Part 3 Section F paragraph 3.17 to approve increases of less than 10% in the GM Housing Fund loans previously approved by the GMCA.

**RESOLVED /-**

**Clerk's Note:** This item has been made exempt from call in: [Exemption from Call-In](#)

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

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
GJS (Circle) Developments Limited	Three60	Manchester	£62.300m
Kellen Homes (GM) Ltd	Vernon Gardens	Oldham	£4.163m

2. That the proposal for up to £20m of the loan for the Three60 scheme to be met from GMCA's Growing Places Fund, if required as a result of a proposed £100m cap on GMHILF lending to Renaker city-centre developments, as detailed further in this report, be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, acting in conjunction with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
4. That the decisions recently taken under delegation in respect of GMHILF loans previously approved by the GMCA be noted.
5. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 26 March 2022 to 26 May 2022.
6. That it be noted that any recommendations that are approved under the delegation will be submitted to the next available meeting of the GMCA.



Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, introduced a report which updated the GMCA on the Greater Manchester EV charging tariff, and sought a delegation to determine the electric vehicle charging tariff to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor of Manchester. The report also provided an update on the On-Street Residential Charging Scheme Fund bid.

In December 2019, Transport for Greater Manchester entered into a 7-year contract with Amey MAP Services to operate and maintain Greater Manchester's EV charging network. EV tariffs, which had begun in October 2021, had been set on the basis of electricity costs of 14p per kilowatt hour. Since January 2021, the wholesale costs of electricity had risen by around 250% and TfGM had incurred net costs of around £8000 per month. The tariffs would need to be reviewed and amended in April 2022 and any new tariff would be set at a level to ensure the sustainability of the scheme.

Following a detailed review of the operational costs and financial case of the On-Street Residential Charging Scheme, it had been proposed that GMCA and TfGM did not continue with a bid to the On-Street Residential Charging Scheme Fund. Instead, a study would be commissioned to examine the future of Greater Manchester's EVs and how the public sector could best optimise the rollout of EV charging.

#### **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the impact of electricity prices on the financial viability of the current Electric Vehicle charging tariff be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester, to determine the electric vehicle charging tariff.
3. That the update on the On-Street Residential Charging Scheme Fund bid and that TfGM would be commission a study into the future of Greater Manchester and Electric vehicles to establish how the public sector could best influence the rollout of Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure.

**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 66/22            ONE NETWORK PREFERRED SUPPLIER CONTRACT AWARD**

**Clerk's Note:** This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Minute GMCA 61/22 above refers)

**RESOLVED /-**

That the report be noted.

**GMCA 67/22            GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND**

**Clerk's Note:** This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Minute GMCA 63/22 above refers)

**RESOLVED /-**

That the report be noted.

Signed by the Chair: