

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 OCTOBER  
2022 AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:**

Wigan	Mark Aldred (Chair)
Bolton	Stuart Haslam
Bolton	Mohammed Ayub
Bury	Kevin Peel
Bury	Jo Lancaster
Manchester	Naeem Hassan
Manchester	Dzidra Noor
Manchester	Tracey Rawlins
Oldham	George Hulme
Oldham	Howard Sykes
Rochdale	Phil Burke
Rochdale	Aasim Rashid
Salford	Roger Jones
Salford	Damien Bailey
Stockport	Angie Clarke
Stockport	David Meller
Tameside	Warren Bray
Trafford	Aiden Williams
Wigan	John Vickers
GMCA	Eamonn O'Brien

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

GMCA	Gwynne Williams
GMCA	Ninoshka Martins

GMP	Ronnie Nelson
TfGM	Peter Boulton
TfGM	Simon Warburton
TfGM	Lucy Kenon
TfGM	Steven Rhodes
TfGM	Matt Bull
TfGM	Kate Green
TfGM	James Baldwin
TfGM	Rosalind O'Driscoll

**GMTC 39/22            APOLOGIES**

That apologies were received and noted from Councillors Andrew Western, Linda Blackburn, and Doreen Dickinson.

Apologies were also received from officers Bob Morris (TfGM), Steve Warrener (TfGM) and Eamonn Boylan (TfGM).

**GMTC 40/22            CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chair requested the Committee to note the appointment of Councillor Tracey Rawlins as Chair and Councillor Kevin Peel as Vice Chair to the Active Travel Sub Committee for the 2022/23 municipal year.

**GMTC 41/22            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

That Councillor Phil Burke declaration of interest, be noted in respect of being an employee of Metrolink.

**GMTC 42/22**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2022**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GM Transport Committee meeting held on 12 August 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**GMTC 43/22**

**MINUTES OF THE SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- Metrolink & Rail Sub Committee held on 23 September 2022

In relation to a member's query regarding the Dogs on Tram pilot, officers advised that as per the work programme an update has been scheduled for the next meeting of the Metrolink & Rail Sub Committee.

In relation to minute reference GMTMRC 29/22, a member added further insight and requested the Committee to note the delays experienced by passengers on the Transpennine Express particularly on the Huddersfield Line.

- Bus Services Sub Committee held on 7 October 2022

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the minutes of the Metrolink & Rail Sub Committee held on 23 September 2022 be approved as a correct record.
2. That the minutes of the Bus Services Sub Committee held on 7 October 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**GMTC 44/22**

**NETWORK REVIEW AND MARKET RENEWAL UPDATE**

Simon Warburton, Transport Strategy Director, TfGM introduced to the Committee Rosalind O'Driscoll, Head of Policy, TfGM who then provided an update on the

progress made in relation to the public transport Network Review and Market Renewal programme of work.

Members welcomed the report and noted the progress made on this piece of work.

It was noted that there was an opportunity for significant growth in Greater Manchester, therefore as part of this programme services and interventions would be reviewed with the view to delivering products that would ultimately grow patronage on buses.

With regards to rail, it was reported that considerable amount of work had been undertaken with the rail industry and the Great British Rail Transition Team (GBRTT) focused on ticketing and joint working arrangements.

In discussing the reach of the campaign, it was suggested that in addition to Metrolink advertising the #GetOnBoard campaign on buses would have a further reach. Officers noted the suggestions and advised that this would be fed back to the Marketing Team. Members were advised of the marketing done through digital channels and the plans that were underway to explore specific markets. It was therefore recommended that an update on the progress of the 'Get on Board' campaign would be brought to a future meeting.

The introduction of capped bus fares in the current economic climate was welcomed and the benefit to residents was noted, however, a question was raised whether there were any plans to lower the price of weekly/monthly tickets. Officers explained that this measure was focused on targeting the most expensive tickets initially however, in recognising the current cost of living rises and in anticipation of greater control over the bus network, further discussions were underway with operators, looking at developing further affordable and flexible ticketing models. It was therefore recommended that once concluded, the findings of the exercise conducted looking at the implications around weekly/monthly ticket offer would be shared with the Committee.

Concerning Metrolink fares, it was noted that the city region had undertaken significant borrowings to invest into Metrolink hence the inextricable link to the fare box therefore the challenge to reduce fares.

It was suggested that through the programme, TfGM should seek to introduce late night services. Officers noted the comments and informed members of the work being done with the Mayor's Night-Time adviser to understand patterns of movement. It was agreed that the outcome of the data gathering exercise looking at the night-time economy patterns would be shared with the Committee once available.

In discussing the reach of Rail and Metrolink, it was felt that there was considerable disparity within the region and therefore would welcome further investment to create better transport links. Officers advised that work was underway with Government through the 'Restore in your Railways Mechanism'.

With regards to the Atherton corridor, it was reported that work was underway looking at longer-term solutions to the constrictions in and around central Manchester that would unlock further services.

However, it was recognised that investment into the bus network should be the current focus as it was a crucial step in building the foundational blocks of an integrated public transport network.

In discussing the investment into the bus network, it was noted that a medium to long term funding strategy would be required to manage existing financial challenges. Officers reported that through the devolution trailblazer the Mayor and the Combined Authority had submitted to government a clear proposal to allow GM to move on to a long-term funding arrangement with central government and assured members that TfGM would continue to make the case to Government. However, it was noted that in addition to further funding support from Government there was a need to develop local funding sources as well as to develop a sustainable funding model for both Metrolink and Bus.

Concerns were raised around the inefficiency of the route planner, noting that it was a crucial feature in ensuring the success of the Bus Franchising Model. Officers noted the comments and advised members that the 'Information and Ticketing Road Map' had been scheduled for the next meeting of the full Committee, where a detail update would be provided.

With regards to a members query regarding the position of beeching cuts, it was reported that the findings had been submitted to Government and the evidence that had been gathered was used to strengthen the bus offer.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the challenges and opportunities facing the public transport network and the conditions and details for the Network Review and Market Renewal programme of work as set out in this report be noted.
2. That an update on the 'Get on Board' campaign be brought to a future meeting.
3. That once concluded, the findings of the exercise conducted looking at the implications around weekly ticket offers be shared with the Committee.
4. That the Committee would receive an update on the 'Information and Ticketing Road Map' at the next meeting of the full Committee on 9 December 2022.
5. That TfGM would continue to make the case to Government for a longer-term investment prospectus to support essential public transport services.
6. That the outcome of the data gathering exercise looking at night-time economy patterns be shared with the Committee once available.
7. That TfGM officers would feedback the suggestion of additional on-bus advertising 'wraps' to the marketing team.

Peter Boulton, Head of Highways, TfGM, took members through the report that provided members with an update on Department for Transport (DfT) road casualty figures for 2021. Also referenced within the report was Greater Manchester (GM) wide road safety initiatives and other road safety related developments, legacy road safety schemes supported by the Safer Roads Greater Manchester (SRGM) Partnership, and Local Authority (LA) scheme funding information.

In responding to a member's query raised regarding 'Vision Zero', officers explained that this wasn't an adopted policy decision. However, it was noted that was an ambition that GM should push towards. It was therefore agreed that under the Road Safety item, the Committee would continue to receive updates on the progress being made under Vision Zero.

With regards to the GM Safety Camera Project, it was reported that there were procurement delays for cameras following the change in the contracting model adopted by the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) Framework. It was noted that there had been no degradation of the cameras in the previous year. In relation to spot speed cameras, it was reported that the tenders had been received and were currently being evaluated.

Members highlighted that the criteria for new speed cameras needed to be re-evaluated for the benefit of residents and in doing so recognised the capacity issue. However, Community Speed Watch was highlighted as a valuable asset and therefore noted the need for the urgent implementation of schemes.

It was reported that requests for new safety cameras were assessed by officers in LAs against the criteria based upon DfT's Circular. DfT had previously indicated that the updated document was expected to be published during 2022, however till date no further updates were received.

Concerns were raised around the road collision data gathered; it was felt that it was crucial for 1<sup>st</sup> responders to be able to input data on 'DfT Collision Reporting and Sharing (CRaSH)' on their mobile device to allow for better tracking. Officers noted the comments and advised members that a date for the roll out of CRaSH on mobile devices was yet to be agreed however this would be picked up with the general roll out of the system. GMP clarified that this new system was a part of the national programme that looked at the causes behind fatalities on the roads across the country.

Perception/Driver Behaviour was highlighted as a major factor linked to speeding accidents and damage. It was noted that young individuals were linked to such cases it was therefore felt that road safety education was key to drive behavioural change. Officers noted the comments and informed the Committee of the various operations carried out by GMP and advised of the initiatives under the Road Danger Reduction Action Plan.

With regards to the Road Danger Reduction Action Plan, a member sought to understand the success of the pilot. It was agreed that the findings of the pilot looking at the success of Community Safety, including further details for the Junior Road Safety Ambassador Programme would be shared with Councillor Stuart Haslam.

The need to have adequate infrastructure in place to ensure the success of the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund schemes. However, it was noted that in the interim GM could look at the sequencing of traffic light as a measure to reduce incident rates. It was agreed that officers would meet with Councillor David Meller to discuss TfGM's role in monitoring the traffic light network to enhance road safety.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the report and its contents be noted.
2. That the Committee would continue to receive updates on the progress being made under Vision Zero.

3. That the findings of the pilot looking at the success of Community Safety, including further details for the Junior Road Safety Ambassador Programme would be shared with Councillor Stuart Haslam.
4. That officers would meet with Councillor David Meller to discuss TfGM's role in monitoring the traffic light network to enhance road safety.

## **GMTC 46/22 TRAVELSAFE UPDATE**

Lucy Kennon, Head of Resilience and Business Continuity, TfGM and Kate Green, TravelSafe Partnership Manager, TfGM took members through the report that provided an update on the work and achievements of the Greater Manchester TravelSafe Partnership during the first six-months of 2022, alongside a summary of the outcomes and successes of the GMP Transport Unit.

Members welcomed the report and welcomed the introduction of GMP Operation AVRO for the public transport network as a new force wide GMP initiative and thanked officers at TfGM and GMP for their continued efforts in tackling crime and antisocial behaviour on the public network.

A member highlighted that young people were heavily involved in anti-social behaviour (ASB) and therefore requested that further details on the work being done to educate young people. Officers noted the comments and advised that details to the team within the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) that provide VRU College Safety Roadshows would be provided to Councillor Aasim Rashid.

Concerns were raised around the number of incidents of Crime and ASB on the Metrolink Network particularly on the Oldham and Rochdale Line (ORL). Officers noted that anti-social behaviour was a wider public transport concern, and that the reassurance work of the TravelSafe Partnership was vital.

A member requested a breakdown of activity in relation to the number of arrests made on the Rochdale line particularly. GMP officers advised on the current activity and agreed to respond to Councillor Phil Burke's queries outside the meeting.

Members noted the challenges associated with knife crime within LAs and therefore queried what was being done to tackle such issues. Members were advised that the sites that were considered as hotspots were actively monitored through the use of CCTVs and other monitoring measures. Officers assured members that GMP were also closely working with staff at TfGM's control room to ensure that officers were effectively deployed.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the report and its contents be noted.
2. That officers would provide details of Councillor Aasim Rashid to the team within the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) that provide VRU College Safety Roadshows.
3. That officers would respond to Councillor Phil Burke's queries regarding Anti-Social Behaviour on the Rochdale line outside the meeting.
4. That the introduction of GMP Operation AVRO for the public transport network be noted as a new force wide GMP initiative and that thanks be expressed to officers at TfGM and GMP for their continued efforts in tackling crime and antisocial behaviour on the public network.
5. That the beginning of delivery of the Safer Streets (Round 4) projects be noted.

**GMTC 47/22            WORK PROGRAMME**

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the proposed Work Programme for the GM Transport Committee and its Sub Committees be noted.
2. That all bus operators be reminded of their invitation to attend Bus Services Sub Committee.

**GMCA 48/22            DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the dates and times of the Full Committee and the Sub Committees for the forthcoming year be noted.

Active Travel	28-Oct-22
Metrolink & Rail	11-Nov-22
Bus Services	18-Nov-22
Full committee	09-Dec-22
Metrolink & Rail	13-Jan-23
Bus Services	20-Jan-23
Full committee	17-Feb-23
Metrolink & Rail	03-Mar-23
Bus Services	10-Mar-23
Full committee	17-Mar-23

Signed by the Chair: (to be printed off and signed by the Chair at the next meeting)