

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY 9TH JUNE 2023 AT GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY OFFICE**

PRESENT

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Lucy Smith
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Elaine Taylor
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Bill Fairfoull
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Cllr John Walsh
Chair of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee	Cllr Alan Quinn
Salford Council	Cllr John Merry

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	James Binks

Oldham	Paul Clifford
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Maggie Kufeldt
Stockport	Mark Glynn
Tameside	Julian Jackson
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale
TfGM	Steve Warrener
TfGM	Anne-Marie Purcell

GMCA 100/23 APOLOGIES

That apologies be received and noted from City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford), Councillor Ged Cooney (Tameside), Councillor Arooj Shah (Oldham), Councillor Eamonn O'Brien (Bury), Joanne Roney (Manchester), Tom Stannard (Salford), Harry Catherall (Oldham), Steve Rumbelow (Rochdale), Sandra Stewart (Tameside) & Caroline Simpson (Stockport).

GMCA 101/23 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

GMCA 102/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

GMCA 103/23 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2023

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 26 May 2023 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 104/23 GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE – MINUTES OF THE
MEETING HELD ON 26 MAY 2023**

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the meeting of the GM Resources Committee held on 26 May 2023 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 105/23 THE GREATER MANCHESTER FRANCHISING SCHEME FOR
BUSES 2021 – PROCUREMENT UPDATE**

The Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham introduced a report which provided an update and made a number of recommendations in relation to the procurement process for the Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses 2021. In particular it asked members to note and agree the outcome of the process to procure service providers to operate the three Large Local Service Contracts in Sub-Area B of the Scheme.

Councillor John Walsh, Chair of the Greater Manchester Overview & Scrutiny Committee was invited to provide feedback from the meeting of the Committee that had considered this update on 7th June. Comments raised included:

- That the Committee had been reassured by the robust metrics within the procurement process and that consultation had been taking place with current bus operator staff to provide reassurances around their employment status.
- That the Committee sought for further consideration to be given to integrated career structures to allow for clear paths towards progression.
- That a continued role was sought for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee within the new Bee Network governance structure.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester welcomed the support given by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee throughout the franchise development and assurances were provided around the ongoing role for the Committee within the process.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the outcome of the process to procure a preferred service provider to operate the Middleton, Oldham and Queens Road Large Local Service Contracts in Sub-Area B of the Scheme be noted and approved.
2. That the proposed key contractual arrangements of the Middleton, Oldham and Queens Road Large Local Service Contracts be noted.
3. That that in relation to Sub Areas A, B and C of the Scheme, the proposal for TfGM to manage the implementation and operation of the Scheme and the Local Service Contracts awarded in relation to Sub-Areas A, B and C following their award on behalf of the GMCA be approved, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) TfGM will manage the implementation and operation of the Scheme and the above contracts in accordance with the provisions of an agreed Protocol with the GMCA
 - b) That authority to agree the final terms of the above Protocol and any other associated necessary legal agreements on behalf of the GMCA be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer & Solicitor
 - c) That authority to complete and execute the Protocol and any other necessary legal agreements be delegated to the GMCA Monitoring Officer & Solicitor.

(As agreed, this delegation will supersede the delegation set out at no. 4 in the recommendations in the report titled *Greater Manchester Franchising Scheme for Buses: Procurement* dated 25 November 2022, made by the GMCA at its meeting on 25 November 2022).

4. That the comments of the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee in relation to Item 6 be received and noted.

GMCA 106/23 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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 107/23 GREATER MANCHESTER FRANCHISING SCHEME FOR BUSES: PROCUREMENT UPDATE

The Mayor of Greater Manchester introduced a report which provided further information on the indicative preferred bidder based upon the most economically advantageous tender, with officers providing a report fully detailing the process.

Members sought further reassurance around cross-boundary services to neighbouring authorities, stating that it was vital to establish the strategic need to deal with these issues and avoid some of the deregistering of services seen in some areas following the start of tranche one.

Members noted that it was vital to ensure that the financial case for the continuation of the capped bus fare scheme was fully evidenced, and asked that the conclusions of the review of the scheme to date be submitted to the GMCA meeting at the end of June 2023.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester suggested that the future governance of the Bee Network would benefit significantly if each Local Authority was to establish their own Bee Network Working Group to review and monitor local services with a view to

developing suggestions for improvement for consideration by the GM Bee Network Committee.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the recommendations contained within Items 8A, 8B and 8C of the report be approved in full.
2. That the comments of the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee in relation to Item 8 be received and noted.
3. That the need to ensure that cross-boundary services were fully considered from a strategic perspective be acknowledged and endorsed.
4. That it be noted that the review of the Bus Fares Cap will be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.
5. That each GM Local Authority be encouraged to establish their own Bee Network Working Group to review and monitor local services with a view to developing suggestions for improvement for consideration by the GM Bee Network Committee.