

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY 12TH JULY 2024 AT SALFORD TOWN HALL**

PRESENT

Mayor of Greater Manchester	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
Deputy Mayor (Police, Crime & Fire)	Kate Green
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Gerald Cooney
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Bolton	Councillor Emily Mort
Bolton	Councillor Nadim Muslim
Rochdale	Councillor Janet Emsley
Salford	Councillor Lewis Nelson
Salford	Councillor Jack Youd
GM Moving Chief Executive	Hayley Lever

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Group Chief Executive Officer, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM	Caroline Simpson
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Managing Director, TfGM	Steve Warrener
Bolton	Andrew Williamson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney

Oldham	Harry Catherall
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Tom Stannard
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Trafford	Sarah Saleh
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
TfGM	Danny Vaughan
TfGM	Martin Lax
TfGM	Luke Masterson
GMCA	Neil Evans
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

GMCA 87/24 APOLOGIES

That apologies be received from Councillor Nicholas Peel (Bolton), City Mayor Paul Dennett (Salford), Councillor Tom Ross (Trafford), Sue Johnson (Bolton) & Sara Todd (Trafford).

GMCA 88/24 CHAIRS ANNOUCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, opened the meeting by acknowledging that this was the first full combined authority meeting following the appointment of Caroline Simpson to the role of Group Chief Executive for GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM.

It was also acknowledged that this would be the last Combined Authority meeting of Joanne Roney as Chief Executive of Manchester City Council ahead of her taking up the same role of Birmingham City Council. The Mayor acknowledged the huge contribution Joanne had made to the work of Manchester and the wider region over the past seven years.

Alison McKenzie-Folan was congratulated following her recent recognition in the King’s Honours list with an OBE for services to local government, and Michael Cullen

was welcomed to his first meeting of the Combined Authority as the new Chief Executive of Stockport Borough Council.

The Mayor acknowledged the recent sad passing of Sir Howard Bernstein. Sir Howard had made a huge contribution to the building of the modern Manchester and throughout his entire career had been a devoted leader of Manchester's regeneration on a national scale. The continued growth of the city region would remain his legacy.

The sad passing of Paul Argyle, former Deputy Chief Fire Officer at Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service was acknowledged by the Combined Authority. The Mayor noted the support he had received from Paul following the tragic events at Manchester Arena in 2017.

The Mayor advised that following the election of the Labour government on Thursday 4th July, he had taken part in a historic gathering of all metro mayors in the Cabinet Room at 10 Downing St with new Prime Minister Kier Starmer. It was hoped that this was a sign that the new government would be a different one to those seen previously, that focussed on growth everywhere as a national mission, with devolution at its root. GM had for many years now demonstrated that devolution could bring about significant change and growth on a regional level.

The Mayor invited Deputy Mayor Kate Green to address the Combined Authority on the plans for Part 4 of the CSE Assurance Review being commissioned through HMICFRS. Following the publication of Part 3 earlier in the year, there was an awareness of continued public concern about CSE in GM, with repeated assertions through the media that nothing had changed and that perpetrators continued to evade justice. It was agreed that Part 4 would more comprehensive and wider ranging in its scope to provide further assurance that current practice was at the expected level and that the concerns raised in the first three parts were being directly addressed. Councillor Shah stated on behalf of Oldham Borough Council that they welcomed the commissioning of Part 4 of the review, highlighting how vital it was that lessons were not only being learned, but fully embedded throughout all services.

RESOLVED /-

1. That Caroline Simpson be welcomed to her first meeting as the Group Chief Executive for GMCA, TfGM & GMFRS.

2. That the GMCA expresses its best wishes to Joanne Roney in her last meeting as the Chief Executive of Manchester City Council.
3. That the GMCA expresses its congratulations to Alison Mckenzie-Folan following her award of an OBE for services to local government.
4. That Michael Cullen be welcomed to his first meeting as the Chief Executive of Stockport Borough Council.
5. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family, friends and former colleagues of Sir Howard Bernstein following his sad passing.
6. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family, friends and former colleagues of Paul Argyle, who had served as a Deputy Chief Fire Officer for GMFRS.
7. That the Mayor's update on the gathering of metro mayors at Downing Street following the recent national election result be received.
8. That the update from the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime on the plans for Part 4 of the CSE Assurance Review being commissioned through HMICFRS be received.
9. That it be noted that Oldham MBC welcomed the commissioning of Part 4 of the CSE Assurance Review.

GMCA 89/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester has a financial interest in Item 28 (Independent Remuneration Panel Review of GM Mayoral Remuneration) and will leave the meeting for that item.

2. That the Deputy Mayor for Policing, Crime & Fire declared an interest in Item 19 (GM Investment Zone) as a governor of Manchester Metropolitan University.

GMCA 90/24 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2024

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 14 June 2024 be approved as a correct record.

GMCA 91/24 GREATER MANCHESTER APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED /-

1. That Cllr Frankie Singleton (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Jilly Julian (Stockport) as the substitute member, to the GM Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee.
2. That Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) be appointed to the Green City Region Board.
3. That Cllr Colin MacAlister (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Frankie Singleton (Stockport) as the substitute member, to the GM Homelessness Board.
4. That the following members be appointed to the GM Children's Board:

Cllr Wendy Meikle (Stockport)
Cllr Lucy Smith (Bury)
Cllr Julie Reid (Manchester)
5. That the appointment of Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) as the member, and Cllr Grace Baynham (Stockport) as the substitute member, to the GM Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee be noted.

6. That the appointment of Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) as the member, and Cllr Grace Baynham (Stockport) as the substitute member, to the GM Air Quality Administration Committee be noted.
7. That the appointment of Cllr Lisa Smart (Stockport) as the member, and Cllr Jeremy Meal (Stockport) as the substitute member to the GM Clean Air Scruriny Committee be noted.
8. That the appointment of Cllr Mark Hunter (Stockport) as the member, and Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) as the substitute member to the Integrated Care Partnership Board be noted.

GMCA 92/24 GMCA ANNUAL CONSTITUTION REVIEW

Gillian Duckworth, GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, was invited to present a report setting out the review of GMCA's Constitution and the recommended amendments arising from it.

RESOLVED /-

That the revised constitution accompanying the report be adopted as the Constitution of the GMCA.

**GMCA 93/24 GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH REVIEW:
AFFORDABLE HOMES**

Councillor Nadim Muslim, Chair of the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee was invited to introduce a report informing of the recent task and finish exercise undertaken by the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee in relation to Affordable Living, its key recommendations and next steps. As a committee there had been a keenness for

members to look into this topic which was of great strategic importance across the whole of the region.

Councillor Lewis Nelson, who had chaired the task and finish group, was then invited to feedback. The figures in the GM region remained stark, with over 68,000 households currently on the waiting list for affordable social housing, which resulted in an overreliance on the private rented sector with properties often in poor condition. It was hoped that the change in national government would result in a reset of the approach being taken and the addressing of many of the problems highlighted within the review.

The Mayor welcomed the report, stating that it was timely, as he had asked that the Group Chief Executive establish a Housing First Unit to sit at the heart of work taking place within the GMCA that would respond to all the recommendations highlighted within the report. It was fully recognised that the aspirations for all residents of GM simply could not be achieved without access to a good secure home.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the full list of recommendations within the report be endorsed.

2. That opportunities be sought where the GMCA can support the delivery of the recommendations, specifically:
 - to influence the development of the next Affordable Homes Programme through strengthened partnership arrangements within the latest devolution deal to ensure it is flexible enough to meet the needs of our residents (Recommendation 1).
 - to continue to support Local Authorities to seek out potential schemes through innovative approaches and bold actions (Recommendation 1).
 - to support Local Authorities and Housing Providers to ensure tenants have full access to welfare and other hardship funds through every interaction (Recommendation 2).
 - to co-design the next GM Housing Strategy with other key stakeholders that builds on what is already being done, but also confidently pushes the

boundaries as to what can potentially be done, setting the standard as zero carbon (Recommendation 3).

- to ensure that advice on cost-of-living support (e.g. food and fuel bill support) provided through registered providers is also available via private landlords (Recommendation 7).
 - to ensure that being an accredited member of the Good Landlord Charter is universally recognised, with its unique benefits clearly identified (Recommendation 8).
 - As a first step, GMCA to organise an event to discuss the findings of this review and actions which can be taken to remove barriers for the delivery of viable schemes (Recommendation 10).
3. That it be noted that the report will now be shared with GM Local Authority Councillors, Cabinet Members for Housing, and Scrutiny Committees, for their information and appropriate action.
 4. That the GMCA record its thanks to the Task and Finish Group for their contributions to a timely report on the housing issues impacting the region and the wider country.
 5. That the information provided on the establishment of the GM Housing First Unit and the plans for how it would contribute towards addressing the housing crisis in the region be received.

GMCA 94/24 GM MOVING MoU REFRESH

Hayley Lever, Chief Executive of GM Moving, was invited to present a report that provided a strategic update on the work of GM Moving, including the MoU refresh with Sport England, Place partnerships and deepening investment with Sport England, and the GM Integrated Care Partnership plans for 2024-25 and beyond.

The success of the journey across the past seven years of GM Moving was highlighted. The MoU had focussed as much on how working together with Sport England would take place as much as what was being sought in terms of delivery. The Plans had been brought together with a range of colleagues across sectors and had considerable buy in.

The report would be taken for final approval at the next meeting of the Integrated Care Partnership, which it was hoped would be a celebration of the progress made.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the refreshed MoU with Sport England and wider GM Moving Partnership Board Members be approved.
2. That the contents of the report on Place and Health Integration be noted.
3. That the recommendations, next steps and support, strategic and collective/distributed leadership on these areas be noted:
 - Local Authority leadership and teams be supported to fully engage with this work as we move forward.
 - Place Deepening: progress, timescales and methodology be noted, including the work of the Place Partnership Network (including locality leads) contribution to develop local plans for peer review and final submission to Sport England in August 2024.
4. That the establishment of Live Well be noted.
5. That it be noted that September 2024 would mark three years since the launch of the GM Moving in Action Strategy 2021-31. This, along with the signing of the MOU would be officially marked with a presentation to the GM ICP Board on 27 September, with the Chief Executive Office of Sport England and members of GM Moving Partnership Board in attendance.

6. That the GMCA record its thanks to GM Moving for their contributions towards the refresh.

GMCA 95/24 THE GM GOOD LANDLORD CHARTER

Councillor Gerald Cooney, Portfolio Lead for Housing, was invited to present a report setting out the detail of the Good Landlord Charter and how it will be delivered by an independent implementation unit.

It was planned that the Charter would recognise that there were good landlords in the region, and that these would be duly commended, however, it also served as a warning to the unscrupulous landlords in the region, that poor condition private rented housing that blighted neighbourhoods and impacted upon health would no longer be accepted, and that the GMCA would target such landlords strongly. It was hoped that a successful Charter would then go on to inspire its introduction in other areas of the country.

The Mayor advised that a pilot scheme would be running in Salford later in the year around the right for residents to request a property check. This would empower residents who currently felt trapped within their living conditions and felt unable to speak out against their landlord for fear of the consequences in terms of their living situation. GMFRS would play a key role in the undertaking of these checks.

Members queried the sanction element of the Charter's plans. Would this really convince bad landlords to become good landlords, or would they just ignore the benefits of accreditation and continue as usual? The Mayor accepted that this was a valid challenge and Housing First Unit would play a key role in working on ways to ensure that bad landlords suffered the consequences of being so. The first step would be the right for all residents to request a property check as a form of enforcement. Beyond that the GMCA would support the local authorities in the serving of improvement notices where properties were found to be deficient, and if these notices were not followed, compulsory purchase orders would not be ruled out at this stage. Work was also taking place with the new Deputy Prime Minister about the possible

return to parliament of the renters reform bill, which could provide vital additional enforcement powers.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the design of the Good Landlord Charter and the associated activity to implement the Charter, including the proposal not to charge a fee to landlords for participation in the Charter be approved.
2. That the utilisation of £250,000 from retained business rates in 2024/25 to procure an independent implementation unit for the charter, with future years' funding to come through the budget setting process, be approved.
3. That the Government be lobbied on the repeal of Section 21 and introduction of the Renters Reform Bill be pursued.
4. That the investment into a Good Landlord Charter pilot scheme in Salford be noted.

GMCA 96/24 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report updating the GMCA on progress implementing the Bee Network: a high-quality, affordable and fully integrated public transport and active travel system which can support sustainable economic growth.

It set out where GM currently stood on its delivery, and where it would be following the next steps being taken. Regulated services within tranches 1 & 2 were both now significantly exceeding the performance standards of the previous deregulated services. Patronage and revenue were both strong and above initial projections. TfGM remained on course to deliver tranche 3 from 5th January 2025. To ease the understandable difficulties in delivering so much change on a single date, it had been agreed that the integrated ticketing scheme would now go live from March 2025.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the update on delivery of the Bee Network be noted.
2. That it be noted that the fully integrated ticketing system, PayGo, is expected to go 'live' in March 2025.

GMCA 97/24 DRAFT RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report seeking approval of the draft Greater Manchester Rapid Transit Strategy, a sub-strategy of the 2040 Transport Strategy, and summarised its contents – including how fast and frequent mass transit will support the integrated Bee Network.

The Mayor emphasised the importance of including 8 existing rail lines within GM to be enveloped within the Bee Network plans going forward, effectively doubling the provision of local cost effective rail line services in the region.

A request was received that a full assessment should be undertaken on the possibility of expanding the Metrolink network into Leigh. It was advised that the report would be amended ahead of its submission to the Bee Network Committee to incorporate this.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the draft Greater Manchester Rapid Transit Strategy be approved, subject to any feedback from the Bee Network Committee, for wider engagement.
2. That officers would be requested to amend the report ahead of submission to the Bee Network Committee to reference commitment to a full assessment of the case for expanding Metrolink to Leigh.
3. That the proposed extension of the Bee Network to include 8 rail lines during this Mayoral term be noted.

GMCA 98/24 BEE NETWORK FARES & TICKETING

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham, presented a report proposing a number of changes to Bee Network fares and ticketing products to increase access to public transport through affordable and simpler fares and ticketing.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proposal to reduce Bee Network bus fares, with effect from 5th January 2025, be approved as follows:
 - a) reduce the price of 7-day Bus Travel on Bee Network Services from £21 Adult/£10.50 Child to £20 Adult/£10 Child
 - b) reduce the price of 28-day Bus Travel on Bee Network Services from £85.40 Adult/£42.70 Child to £80 Adult/£40 Child
2. That the introduction of a paper 'Hopper' single ticket for Bee Network bus users from 5th January 2025 be approved.
3. That the proposal to introduce a scheme, with local Credit Unions, from January 2025 to improve access to annual bus tickets be approved, in principle.
4. That the extension of the 'recompense scheme' to support the transition from commercial ticketing products to Bee Network products in the Tranche 3 area be noted.
5. That a further report on Bee Network fares and ticketing products be submitted to GMCA in September 2024.

GMCA 99/24 TFGM EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report setting out proposals to amend the membership of the Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) Executive Board to ensure that TfGM's governance continued to be effective, supporting the operation and delivery of the Bee Network: a high-quality, affordable

and fully integrated public transport and active travel system which could support sustainable economic growth.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the appointment of the GM Transport Commissioner and the GM Active Travel Commissioner to the TfGM Executive Board be approved.
2. That the appointment of a GM Local Authority Chief Executive to the TfGM Executive Board, as recommended by the Group Chief Executive, be approved.
3. That the GMCA Treasurer be confirmed as an advisor to the TfGM Executive Board to ensure that membership of the Executive Board does not exceed the limit imposed by legislation.
4. That the proposal to undertake a further review of TfGM's governance and the role of its Executive Board before the end of 2024 be noted.

GMCA 100/24 COST OF LIVING AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business and Councillor Arooj Shah Portfolio Lead for Equalities and Communities, provided an update on the cost of living pressures on residents and businesses in Greater Manchester, and some of the measures being put in place by the GMCA and partners to respond.

The helpful role that these reports had played over the past several years in helping the GMCA and partners to focus their priorities was acknowledged. However, it felt that now was the right time to look to refocus towards a more appropriate format for delivery, therefore this would be the last of the regular monthly cost of living updates delivered directly at the GMCA meetings.

Of course, the cost of living crisis had not gone away and would remain a key focus across the Combined Authority and the ten GM Local Authorities, and members looked forward to working with the new government on the myriad challenges that needed to be faced.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the latest assessment and emerging response, and views given on the next steps in that response be noted.

GMCA 101/24 GMCA SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY: ANNUAL REPORT

Caroline Simpson, Group Chief Executive Officer GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM, presented a report that provided an overview of progress in delivering the GMCA Sustainability Strategy 2022 – 2026 and outlined activity undertaken during 2023/2024 that had contributed towards current progress. The report also outlined actions set to be delivered in 2024/2025.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the progress made against the priority areas of the GMCA Sustainability Strategy 2022 – 2026 be noted.
2. That the contents of the report including actions proposed for 2024/2025 be noted.
3. That the implications of the Biodiversity Duty on GMCA and the proposed response be noted.

GMCA 102/24 LOW CARBON SKILLS FUND OPPORTUNITY

Caroline Simpson, Group Chief Executive Officer GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM presented a report outlining the funding opportunity to support further Greater Manchester public building retrofit activity, through the Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund Phase 5 (LCSF 5) via Salix Finance. The funding would support further feasibility and design studies to assess the potential retrofit of 36 public sector buildings in Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED /-

That it be noted that the Low Carbon Skills Fund (LCSF) bid was unsuccessful, but work was already underway on an alternative approach to support some of the work that would no longer be funded by LCSF.

GMCA 103/24 CREATE GM: THE GREATER MANCHESTER STRATEGY FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND CREATIVITY

Councillor Neil Emmott, Portfolio Holder for Culture, presented a report that provided an overview of CreateGM, the new Greater Manchester Strategy for Culture, Heritage and Creativity and the process taken to develop it.

A number of overarching areas were detailed within the report – these were Insight; Representation; Care; and Ethics. A number of thematic priorities sat under these such as health; wellbeing & aging; prosperity; environment; and reputation.

In terms of local cultural hubs, there had been a good news story in Oldham recently with the reopening of Oldham Coliseum, thanks were recorded to all of those who had worked tirelessly to see this through to fruition.

RESOLVED /-

1. That CreateGM, the Greater Manchester Strategy for Culture, Heritage, and Creativity be approved.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to all those who had worked tirelessly to secure the reopening of Oldham Coliseum.

GMCA 104/24 GM ARMED FORCES COVENANT ROADMAP

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report providing an update on the work that had taken place, together with information about the Greater Manchester Armed Forces Covenant Roadmap that had been developed using the expertise of the GM Armed Forces Leads across the localities and City Region partners.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the progress made to deliver against the Armed Forces Covenant coherently across GM be noted.
2. That the 5-year Roadmap, as a framework to enhance cohesive delivery across the City Region, be endorsed.
3. That the enduring and sustained effort to go even further and make GM the best place in the UK for members of the Armed Forces Community to live be recognised and the re-signing of the GM Armed Forces Covenant be approved.

GMCA 105/24 INVESTMENT ZONE UPDATE

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business, presented a report on work with government and partners across the city region to prepare proposals for the Investment Zone. This had aligned with the overall Greater Manchester Investment Plan, which would deploy the range of new tools in a strategic and integrated way to deliver agreed priorities in the Greater Manchester Strategy – such as the Growth Locations – and the Frontier Sectors in the Local Industrial Strategy. The report set out the indicative project allocations for the overall Investment Zone programme alongside the allocations for 2024-25.

RESOLVED /-

That the update on ministerial approval, confirmation of the project allocations in 2024-25 and the overall indicative allocations across the programme as a whole be noted.

GMCA 106/24 STOCKPORT TOWN CENTRE WEST MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN

Caroline Simpson, Group Chief Executive Officer GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM, presented a report seeking approval from the GMCA for the Stockport Town Centre West Mayoral Development Corporation's Strategic Business Plan 2024-2029 and the Annual Action Plan which set out more detail on the commercially sensitive activities

the MDC would undertake over the course of 2024 / 2025 to deliver the objectives in the full plan.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Stockport Town Centre West Mayoral Development Corporation's Strategic Business Plan May 2024 – March 2029 (Annex A) be approved.
2. That the Stockport Town Centre West Mayoral Development Corporation's Action Plan May 2024 – March 2025 (Part B) be approved.

GMCA 107/24 MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR NORTHERN GATEWAY – IN PRINCIPLE DECISION

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business, presented a report seeking approval in principle for the creation of a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for the Northern Gateway project, with further details and decisions to follow as set out within the paper.

It was agreed that there was now a need to sharpen focus and to build pace into taking the Atom Valley site forward following the adoption of Places for Everyone, it now being a declared Investment Zone, and its potential around delivery of growth as sought by the incoming Labour government.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the creation of an MDC for the Northern Gateway project be approved, in principle.
2. That it be agreed that GMCA officers explore with Bury, Oldham, and Rochdale Councils, detailed options for an MDC to be created for the Northern Gateway, with these matters to be decided upon by GMCA and the Local Authorities in due course.

GMCA 108/24 ASHTON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE – BUSINESS PLAN

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, presented a report that sought approval from the GMCA for the Ashton Mayoral Development Zone Business Plan 2024-25.

It was stated that this would inspire further growth in the eastern side of the region and would provide an ideal strategic sit in terms of infrastructure and transport links.

RESOLVED /-

That the Ashton Mayoral Development Zone Business Plan 2024-25 be approved.

GMCA 109/24 UKSPF PROPOSAL FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF POTENTIAL UNDERSPEND 2024/25

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Resources, presented a report that set out the current position of UKSPF and plans for mitigation of the risk of underspend.

With 2024/25 being the last year of the programme the biggest risk was underspend and with that, the report outlined how this would be closely monitored and the principles on which risk would be mitigated.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proposal for the mitigation of underspend risk be approved.
2. That it be agreed that the proposal was a strategic fit with the GM UKSPF Investment Plan and that it was deliverable, as set out in the report.
3. That the mitigation measures, as set out in the report, be approved.
4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Resources and Investment to agree any alternative projects where underspend is identified.

GMCA 110/24 REVENUE OUTTURN REPORT – QUARTER 4

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Resources, presented a report that informed members of the provisional revenue outturn for 2023/24.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be noted that the Mayoral General Budget provisional revenue outturn position for 2023/24 was breakeven, after planned transfer to earmarked reserves.
2. That it be noted that the GMCA General Budget provisional revenue outturn position for 2023/24 is £2.1m, which will be transferred to earmarked reserves.
3. That it be noted that the Mayoral General – GM Fire & Rescue provisional outturn position for 2023/24 was breakeven, after a transfer of revenue funding to capital.
4. That it be noted that the Waste and Resourcing provisional revenue outturn position for 2023/24 was breakeven, after a transfer from reserve of £18.7m.
5. That it be noted that the GMCA Transport and TfGM provisional revenue outturn positions for 2023/24 were breakeven, after transfers between earmarked reserves.
6. That it be noted that the final position was subject to the submission of the audited accounts to be submitted to the GMCA Audit Committee.

GMCA 111/24 CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT – QUARTER 4

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Resources, presented a report informing members of the capital outturn for 2023/24.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be noted that the 2023/24 actual outturn capital expenditure of £541.1m, compared to the forecast position presented to GMCA on 9 February 2024 of £579.1m.

2. That the update on property acquisitions for Project Skyline, as detailed in section 8 of the report, be noted.
3. That the additions to the capital programme in 2024/25, as listed in section 8 of the report, be approved.

**GMCA 112/24 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND AND
BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND**

Councillor Gerald Cooney, Portfolio Lead for Housing, presented a report seeking approval to delegate authority to the Group Chief Executive, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, to approve new projects for funding and urgent variations to existing funding from the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund and Brownfield Housing Fund.

RESOLVED /-

1. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive, GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, to approve new funding and urgent variations to existing funding from the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund and Brownfield Housing Fund, 13 July 2024 to 26 September 2024.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the GMCA Solicitor and Monitoring Officer, to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
3. That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

**GMCA 113/24 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK, CONDITIONAL PROJECT
APPROVAL**

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Resources, presented a report seeking approval for an update on an existing loan facility to RealityMine Limited.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the changes to the terms of the RealityMine loan, in line with the update provided in the confidential part of the agenda, be approved.
2. That a £2m increase in the loan facility to Romaco Limited, from £3m to £5m be noted.
3. That the consolidation of two existing loans into a single facility with Broughton House, totalling £4.1m be noted.
4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above loans, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the loans, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loans noted above.
5. That authority be delegated to the Group Chief Executive , GMCA, GMFRS & TfGM and the 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 13 July 2024 to 26 September 2024.
6. That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegations will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

**GMCA 114/24 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REVIEW OF GM
MAYORAL REMUNERATION**

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester declared an interest in this item and left the chamber accordingly. The Chair for this item was taken by Councillor Bev Craig as a Deputy Mayor of the GMCA.

Councillor Bev Craig, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business presented a report detailing the recommendations of the GM Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) in relation to the remuneration of the GM Elected Mayor.

Members agreed that it was a real anomaly that Mayor Burnham did not have access to public sector pension schemes in his role, it was stated that lobbying would take place on behalf of the Mayor to ensure that Metro Mayors were given fair access to appropriate pensions schemes in line with those offered, for example, to Police & Crime Commissioners.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the recommendations of the IRP be approved:
 - a) That the remuneration of the GM Mayor remains at £118,267, subject to any indexation going forward.
 - b) That the remuneration of the GM Mayor continues to be indexed at the NJC annual percentage salary increase, specifically with reference to Spinal Column Point 43.
 - c) That the index continues to be applied to the same year that it applies to officers. This is normally from 1st April to 31st March. Where the index is applicable to officers for more than 1 year it should also be applicable to the GM Mayor for the same period.
 - d) That the recommendations contained in the report be implemented with effect from the date of the GM Mayor taking up the new term of office in May 2024.

2. That the IRP's views be noted that the GM Mayor should have access to an appropriate pension scheme that provides for an employer's contribution equivalent to that made to the pension scheme for Police and Crimes Commissioners (it should be noted that the panel sets out the legal position at

paragraphs 37 to 40 of its report and notes that currently there are no legal powers to do so.)

3. That it be agreed that lobbying would take place on behalf of the Mayor to ensure that Metro Mayors were given fair access to appropriate pensions schemes.

GMCA 115/24 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 116/24 STOCKPORT TOWN CENTRE WEST MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS ACTION PLAN

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (GMCA 106/24)

RESOLVED /-

That the Stockport Town Centre West Mayoral Development Corporation's Action Plan May 2024 – March 2025 (Annex B) be approved.

GMCA 117/24 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (GMCA 113/24).

RESOLVED /-

That the contents of the report be noted.