

# Oldham Borough Council



**Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday 9 September 2015**



## OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

To: ALL MEMBERS OF OLDHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL,  
CIVIC CENTRE, OLDHAM

Tuesday, 1 September 2015

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council which will be held on Wednesday 9 September 2015 at 6.05 pm or at the rise of the Clayton Playing Fields Trust meeting, whichever is the later, in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, for the following purposes:

### Open Council

- 1 Questions to Cabinet Members from the public and Councillors on ward or district issues

*(15 minutes for public questions and 25 minutes for Councillor questions)*

### Formal Council

- 2 To receive apologies for absence
- 3 To order that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 15th July 2015 be signed as a correct record (Pages 1 - 26)
- 4 To receive declarations of interest in any matter to be determined at the meeting
- 5 To deal with matters which the Mayor considers to be urgent business
- 6 To receive communications relating to the business of the Council
- 7 To receive and note petitions received relating to the business of the Council (Pages 27 - 28)

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

- 8 Outstanding Business from the previous meeting

*(time limit 15 minutes).*

Councillor Moores to MOVE and Councillor Hibbert to SECOND:

This Council was dismayed to hear, that Transport Secretary Patrick McLoughlin had announced that electrification work on the Transpennine route between Leeds and Manchester was being "paused".

This Council is extremely concerned that any delay in progressing plans for electrification and the introduction of faster and more reliable trains linking Manchester and Leeds will hamper economic recovery. Transport connections and infrastructure are the foundation on which an economy is built; the north already loses out

substantially in terms of investment, now it will see this vital project fall even further back in the queue. This decision is bad for regional growth and jobs. How can the government expect to build a northern powerhouse if it is unwilling fund vital transport links and infrastructure? This decision is another example of the inequality that exists when it comes to regional investment, it will have a negative impact on the residents of Oldham.

This Council resolves to instruct the Chief Executive to write to Patrick McLoughlin, Transport Secretary and Hon George Osborne, Chancellor of the Exchequer, asking them to remove the “pause” that was placed on the electrification of the TransPennine route between Manchester and Leeds.

Also to write to Debbie Abrahams MP, Angela Rayner MP and Michael Meacher MP to ask them to support the motion and to use any other parliamentary means available to remove any further delay to the electrification of the TransPennine route between Manchester and Leeds.

9 Leader's Annual Statement

10 Youth Council

*(time limit 20 minutes)*

Inhumane, discriminatory and ineffective... The ‘Mosquito Device’ is an alarm that emits a high-frequency sound that can only be heard by people under the age of 25. We believe that the mosquito device should not be used against young people and believe that its use should be prohibited.

Mosquito alarms are strategically placed outside of buildings where anti-social gatherings are known to take place. The purpose of its presence is to disperse groups of young people and to prevent loitering around buildings.

It has come to our attention that there is a mosquito device in operation in the Shaw and Crompton ward. Its presence has been highlighted to the Youth Council directly from young people and has been an issue that has been raised on social media.

We believe these devices are unjust as they specifically target young people regardless of their behaviour. It therefore threatens the fundamental human rights of young people and in our opinion, alongside that of the Council of Europe, we believe the use of the device also breaches the *UN Convention on the Rights of a Child ‘Article 37’ (Inhumane Treatment and Detention)*<sup>1</sup>

The device is incapable of differentiating between those who are anti-social and those who are not, causing a breach of *‘Article 15’ of the UN Convention on the Rights of a Child (Freedom of Association)*<sup>2</sup>. The right entitles children and young people to assemble freely and without restriction if doing so peacefully, which the mosquito alarm prohibits without inflicting *“torture”*<sup>3</sup>.

We understand that anti-social behaviour is an issue that should always be challenged; we also know that young people are not the only demographic who are involved in anti-social behaviour. Using these devices is not a proportionate response to loitering as groups causing a nuisance can simply move somewhere else. The use of the device doesn’t effectively tackle the issue, it simply moves it elsewhere. There are other more effective interventions that can have a longer term impact.

We understand that Oldham Council already has a framework in place to control the use of these devices however we propose that this is reviewed and a policy agreed to

reduce the risk of discrimination of young people.

Appendix:

**1) Article 37:**

States Parties shall ensure that:

(a) No child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

(Neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without possibility of release shall be imposed for offences committed by persons below eighteen years of age)

(b) No child shall be deprived of his or her liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily. The arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

(c) Every child deprived of liberty shall be treated with humanity and respect for the inherent dignity of the human person, and in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age.

In particular, every child deprived of liberty shall be separated from adults unless it is considered in the child's best interest not to do so and shall have the right to maintain contact with his or her family through correspondence and visits, save in exceptional circumstances;

(d) Every child deprived of his or her liberty shall have the right to prompt access to legal and other appropriate assistance, as well as the right to challenge the legality of the deprivation of his or her liberty before a court or other competent, independent and impartial authority, and to a prompt decision on any such action.

(Reference: Unicef - <http://www.unicef.org.uk>)

**2) Article 15:**

1. States Parties recognize the rights of the child to freedom of association and to freedom of peaceful assembly.

2. No restrictions may be placed on the exercise of these rights other than those imposed in conformity with the law and which are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security or public safety, public order, the protection of public health or morals or the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

(Reference: Unicef - <http://www.unicef.org.uk>)

**3) Torture:**

Definition:

*Noun. The action or practise of inflicting severe pain on someone as a punishment or in order to force them to do or say something.*

(Reference: Oxford English Dictionary - “

<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/derfinition/english/torture>”)

11 Leader and Cabinet Question Time

*(time limit 30 minutes – maximum of 2 minutes per question and 2 minutes per response)*

12 To note the Minutes of the meetings of the Cabinet held on the undermentioned dates, including the attached list of urgent key decisions taken since the last meeting of the

Council, and to receive any questions or observations on any items within the Minutes from Members of the Council who are not Members of the Cabinet, and receive responses from Cabinet Members (Pages 29 - 40)

*(time limit 20 minutes):-*

a) 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

b) 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015

### 13 Notice of Administration Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

#### Motion 1

Councillor Mushtaq to MOVE and Councillor Ball to SECOND:

This Council notes with considerable concern that the Secretary of State for Justice has announced the closure of a number of courts in the country including Oldham County Court and Oldham Magistrates Court. The closures in a borough like Oldham will have a much more profound effect than other areas particularly when combined with other policies and 'tough decisions' taken by the government.

Access to justice is one of the fundamental freedoms we all enjoy but the impact of this decision will affect local residents in a number of ways including:

- Increased travel times and cost associated with accessing the courts and justice system.
- Residents potentially being denied justice given the out of touch guarantee that residents will be able to access a court in one hour, by car should their local court be closed.
- Potential relocation of law firms from Oldham due to the adverse impact on their business with the knock on effect on Oldham's provision and economy.

The list could go on but the underlying theme is an inaccessible justice system and an attack on the fundamental rights of everyone in the borough.

The Council resolves to:

Instruct the Chief Executive to write to Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Justice, to ask him to reconsider the decision to close the County Court and Magistrates Court in Oldham. To note the impact the cuts have already had on the regions ability to deliver justice for its residents and to refrain from targeting boroughs such as Oldham as an easy first option when making 'tough decisions'.

Also to write to Debbie Abrahams MP, Michael Meacher MP and Angela Rayner MP to ask them to support the motion and to use any other parliamentary means available to achieve the same outcomes.

#### Motion 2

Councillor Jabbar to MOVE and Councillor Fielding to SECOND:

This Council notes the passing of this Tory Government's Welfare Bill in the House of Commons.

The bill will cut away another £12 Billion from the welfare budget, hitting the most vulnerable in our society the hardest, the poor, the jobless, the sick to name a few.

This Tory Government seems to be hell bent on attacking towns like Oldham in its cuts to Local Government funding, and now it is taking aim at families who can't make ends

meet.

This bill moves to cut tax credits and housing benefit, measures which we believe will lead to increases in child poverty, this is despite the Conservatives pledging the opposite in their manifesto – a promise not kept.

Indeed, the House of Commons Library has put the average household loss at £1350 a year because of this regressive bill.

This Council resolves:

- To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the appropriate government minister, expressing this council's concern over measures in the Welfare Bill and that an assessment be made of its impact on Oldham should it become law.
- To ask our three Members of Parliament to campaign against the bill during its passage through both Houses of Parliament and to reasonably amend or vote against the bill, encouraging other parliamentary colleagues to do the same.

#### 14 Notice of Opposition Business

*(time limit 30 minutes)*

##### Motion 1

Councillor McCann to MOVE and Councillor Sedgwick to SECOND:

This Council notes that:

- Many people beyond the age of 50 are denied the opportunity to participate in employment on the grounds of age
- 10.2 million people in the UK are aged between 50 and the state pension age, yet 2.9 million (or 28%) are out of work
- People continue to lead full and productive lives well beyond state pension age, and this can include a desire to participate in paid employment
- Denying work on the grounds of age to people who wish to do so has a deleterious effect on their well-being and upon the economy
- Its responsibility, as a leading employer in the borough, to have a diverse workforce, including an age-diverse workforce, to reflect the community it serves

This Council further notes:

- The report 'A New Vision for Older Workers: Retain, Retrain and Recruit' published by Dr. Ros Altmann CBE, the Government's Business Champion for Older Workers, in which recommendations of good practice are made to employers, including:
  - Monitoring and promoting age diversity in the workforce
  - Carrying out audits to identify skill shortages when older workers leave
  - Ensuring training remains available to employees over 50
  - Offering mid-life career reviews to employees over 50
  - Retaining older employees as mentors, rather than forcing them to retire
  - An alumni programme for retired staff

- Making flexible working arrangements available so that older employees who care for others or who have a health condition can continue to work
- Providing Gap Breaks and Family Crisis leave, especially for carers, to help retain older staff
- Establishing 'age-blind' recruitment processes
- Valuing the experience of job applicants as much as the possession of a degree whenever possible in the selection process
- Creating Mature Apprenticeships and work experience opportunities for applicants over 50

This Council also notes the welcome expansion of the Council's Traineeship scheme to applicants of all ages.

This Council:

- Requests the relevant Cabinet Member carry out an audit of the Council's current practices to ensure that these follow best practice as identified by Dr Altmann in her report, and bring a report back to Council on this issue.
- Requests the relevant Cabinet Member actively promotes the Traineeship scheme to applicants who are 50 or over
- Requests the relevant Cabinet Member give consideration to creating Mature Apprenticeships and work experience opportunities for older applicants within the Council as part of the 'Get Oldham Working' offer and that he urges other progressive employers within the borough to also do so.

#### Motion 2

Councillor Heffernan to MOVE and Councillor Sykes to SECOND:

Council notes that:

- Today (September 9<sup>th</sup> 2015) marks the date upon which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second has become Britain's longest serving Monarch. Her Majesty has so far reigned for 23,226 days.
- A role model for her subjects and a steadfast rock for our country, our Queen has unfailingly honoured the promise she made at her Coronation to serve this Nation and the Commonwealth well, and, despite being 89 years of age, she still faithfully fulfils a very heavy diary of Royal commitments.
- Her Majesty's reign has been momentous in many ways – she has moved from being leader of an Empire to head of the Commonwealth; there have been tremendous advances in science and technology; our nation has become much more diverse and inclusive; and her reign has been increasingly illuminated by the media with her every move, every expression and every action flashed around the world in milliseconds.

This Council, wishing to mark this momentous occasion, requests that the Chief Executive write to Buckingham Palace offering our congratulations to Her Majesty and our best wishes that she may continue her long and remarkable reign for many years to come.



### Motion 3

Councillor Williamson to MOVE and Councillor Harkness to SECOND:

This Council notes that:

- Approximately 100,000 people a year die after having a sudden cardiac arrest
- The current survival rate for out of hospital cardiac arrest is less than 10%
- Research has shown that, while awaiting the arrival of paramedics, using a defibrillator in conjunction with CPR can increase the survival rate to over 70%

This Council, recognising its public health duties, acknowledges the value of installing more defibrillators in public buildings and large private-sector developments across the borough.

This Council resolves to:

- Work to increase the number of defibrillators in existing and new Council buildings, such as the Civic Centre and the two new leisure centres
- Ensure that the locations of all defibrillators in Council buildings are promptly registered with the North West Ambulance Service
- Ensure that defibrillators in Council buildings are properly maintained and that training in their use is provided to the appropriate staff
- Engage with the Council's commercial partners to ensure that the new Princes Gate, Old Town Hall and Hotel Futures developments have sufficient functional defibrillators

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant a spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 41 - 90)

*(time limit 8 minutes):-*

Transport for Greater Manchester	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 (AGM and Ordinary)
Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Executive	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 (AGM)
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 (AGM) 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2015
Joint GMCA/AGMA Executive	26 <sup>th</sup> June (AGM)

- 15 To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant b spokespersons to respond to questions from Members (Pages 91 - 98)

*(time limit 7 minutes)*

Oldham Care and Support Company	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Oldham Leadership Board	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2015

- 16 2014/15 Statement of Accounts (Pages 99 - 106)

A hard copy of the appendices to the report will be available to view at Access Oldham,

Civic Centre Oldham, the Civic Entrance, Civic Centre Oldham and the Groups rooms.

- 17 Treasury Management Review 2014/15 (Pages 107 - 124)
- 18 Interim Greater Manchester Mayor - Voting rights and Membership of AGMA (Pages 125 - 126)
- 19 Oldham Distress Fund Final Accounts 2014/15 (Pages 127 - 134)
- 20 Update on Actions from Council (Pages 135 - 160)

**NOTE: The meeting of the Council will conclude 3 hours and 30 minutes after the commencement of the meeting.**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Wilkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Carolyn Wilkins  
Chief Executive**

**PROCEDURE FOR NOTICE OF MOTIONS**  
**NO AMENDMENT**

MOTION – Mover of the Motion to MOVE



MOTION – Secunder of the Motion to SECOND – May reserve right to speak



DEBATE ON THE MOTION: Include Timings



MOVER of Motion – Right of Reply



VOTE – For/Against/Abstain



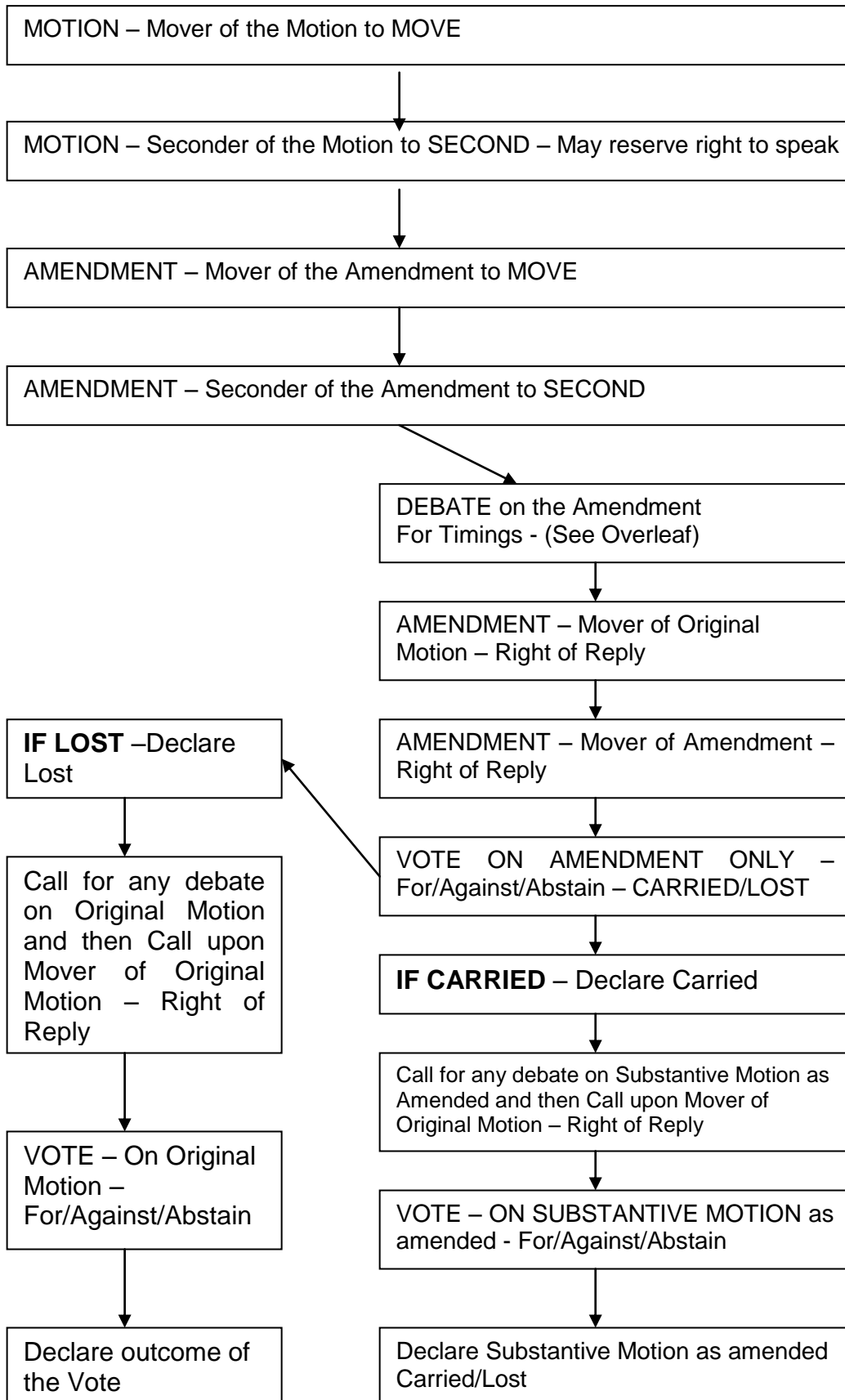
Declare outcome of the VOTE

**RULE ON TIMINGS**

(a) No Member shall speak longer than four minutes on any **Motion or Amendment**, or by way of question, observation or reply, unless by consent of the Members of the Council present, he/she is allowed an extension, in which case only one extension of 30 seconds shall be allowed.

(b) A Member replying to more than question will have up to six minutes to reply to each question with an extension of 30 seconds

## WITH AMENDMENT





**COUNCIL**  
**15/07/2015 at 6.00 pm**

**Present:** The Mayor – Councillor Ur-Rehman (Chair)

Councillors Ahmad, Akhtar, A. Alexander, G. Alexander, Ali, Ames, Azad, Ball, M Bashforth, S Bashforth, Bates, Blyth, Brownridge, A Chadderton, Chauhan, Cosgrove, Dawson, Dean, Fielding, Garry, Gloster, Harkness, Heffernan (Vice-Chair), Hibbert, Hudson, Hussain, Iqbal, Jabbar, Judge, Kirkham, Klonowski, Larkin, Malik, McCann, McLaren, McMahan, Moores, Murphy, Mushtaq, Price, Qumer, Rehman, Roberts, Sedgwick, Shah, Shuttleworth, Stretton, Sykes, Toor, Turner, Williamson, Williams and Wrigglesworth

1 **QUESTIONS TO CABINET MEMBERS FROM THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ON WARD OR DISTRICT ISSUES**

The Mayor advised the meeting that the first item on the agenda in Open Council was Public Question Time. The questions had been received from members of the public and would be taken in the order in which they had been received. Council was advised that if the questioner was not present, then the question would appear on the screen in the Council Chamber. The following public questions had been submitted: (15 mins)

1. Question from Ian Manners via email

“Can the Cabinet Member for Transport say what improvements are being made for the provision of transport between the Saddleworth villages?”

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that, following deregulation of the bus market in 1985, the majority of bus services within Greater Manchester (around 80%) had been delivered by commercial operators and, as a result Oldham Council and TfGM were very limited in terms of what they could do. TfGM had a responsibility for funding services where there was a social need, which the market did not consider commercially viable. At the current time, TfGM were facing budget cuts whilst trying to maintain and improve existing subsidised services. Their subsidised network included the popular Saddleworth and Mossley Local Link.

The Council was committed to working with TfGM and other operators to get the best service for Saddleworth and the rest of the borough. We were the only authority in Greater Manchester to work with TfGM and put forward a bid to the Government’s Total Transport Pilot Fund. We secured a grant through this Fund which will allow us to explore how existing bus and minibus services can be brought together to deliver more joined-up and efficient services in the Saddleworth area. This study will take place over the next couple of years, led by TfGM and, if

successful, the new approach could be rolled out to benefit Saddleworth and other areas of Greater Manchester.



In the longer term, the proposal included in the Greater Manchester Devolution Agreement for the Mayor to have responsibility for franchised bus services, will, if adopted, provide an opportunity to overcome the barriers we face with the current deregulated system and allow us to provide a fully integrated transport system.

2. Question from Simon@S\_C\_W via Twitter

"@OldhamCouncil when is something going to be done about the dangerous zebra crossing in Royton? (We then asked what crossing it was) Hi, thanks for getting back to me. The one outside Royton town hall, Rochdale Road near the pound bakery. Market day in particular is awful with pedestrians walking out in front of traffic."

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that some time ago the Council made a commitment to review all the Zebra crossings in the borough and carry out any improvements deemed necessary. The majority of the zebras had now had their road markings refreshed and shortly new belisha beacons will be installed to make the sites more visible.

The zebra crossing outside the Town Hall had been prioritised and the belisha beacons and posts had already been replaced. The road had been resurfaced and the road markings will be installed very shortly (they were delayed to avoid the new road surfacing material bleeding through the white markings). This will be a big improvement on the previous position and certainly make the crossing more visible to both pedestrians and motorists.

In the longer term we will look at traffic movement generally as part of the regeneration of Royton District Centre and this will include whether the zebra could be upgraded a different facility for example a Pelican Crossing (now called a PUFFIN crossing).

The description of the crossing as dangerous was rejected as, when used properly, it was safe for everyone.

3. Question from Sarah Riley via email

"In Oldham we have 2 streets which are full of takeaways (Union Street and Yorkshire Street). As a mother of 2 children who attend Oldham Six Form College I am worried about the potential impact this is having on my children and other children as they are encouraged to have takeaways at lunchtime. In Oldham we have got major investment going on to improve the town centre and increase foot fall. When people visit Oldham they have the impression we are a "Takeaway Town". This is affecting people's health when they are always eating junk food on a daily basis. Why can't the council establish a licensing

process which governs the takeaways like how you have done it with the selective landlord licensing scheme.”



**Oldham**  
Council

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded, thanking the member of the public for this question. As part of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Council was working closely with schools, colleges, residents and businesses to promote healthy eating in the borough.

In terms of enforcement of takeaways, as part of the Local Plan, the Council had a Supplementary Planning Document called ‘Vibrant Centres’, which provided guidance to be read alongside other relevant planning policies. It aimed to provide clear and consistent guidance for promoting and maintaining the vitality and viability of Oldham Town Centre and the borough’s other allocated ‘Centres’. This included guidance for food and drink uses (including hot food takeaways) and sought to manage the concentration and clustering of such uses. However, whilst this guidance was a positive start to controlling such uses, it could only be used when assessing future planning applications for new hot food takeaway uses and could not be applied retrospectively to existing uses which were already established.

In terms of Environmental Health, officers regularly visited food establishments to ensure that food was stored, prepared and sold appropriately.

The Council was working to support a range of new businesses in the Town Centre and actively encourage a choice of alternative places to eat.

#### 4. Question from Gary Millward via email

“Kava Coffee - can anyone explain the decision why this building has escaped the jaws of the demolition team. The demolition of its neighbouring slums has really highlighted the deterioration of the building it appears to have no aesthetic beauty especially from the rear. The upper storeys are very dilapidated. The cost to bring it into the 21st century would be financially unviable and also compromise a possible future development. Just because it's old doesn't make it worthy of preservation.”

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise Region responded with thanks for this question. Simply because the building was old did not mean it should be demolished. Those buildings that had been demolished were those that the Council had bought with consent and had led to ongoing development.

The Council do not own this building and are working with its owner to bring about improvements to its external appearance. The building could be restored to looking good and making a positive contribution to the area.

#### 5. Question from Jonny\_Chaos via Twitter

“Why is there constant work being done on the bungalows on Mabel Road playing field? Literally every single week day.”



**Oldham**  
Council

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that people would be happy to know that Oldham looks after its vulnerable residents in their old age. As part of a long-term partnership with the Council, Housing & Care 21 managed and maintained over 1400 sheltered homes across the borough, including 819 bungalows.

The bungalows on Limeditch Road and Recreation Road had been subject to some external maintenance work by Housing & Care 21. From time to time, programmes of works were undertaken which may involve items such as new roofs, windows, doors, pointing etc. Keeping the bungalows in a good state of repair ensured quality affordable sheltered housing was provided for the older people of the borough.

The Council's officers who oversee the partnership ensured that tenants were kept fully informed about any planned works and made sure that suitable tenant welfare arrangements were in place.

6. Question from Hardacre1900 via Twitter

“Bloom and Grow – who came up with the rubbish taxi idea? How much did that mess cost Oldham tax payers?”

Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives responded that this was a view of a small minority. Bloom and Grow was about co-operation and community involvement, and about the community and businesses working together. Oldham had successfully won the national award for the past two years and the regional award for the last four, and the judges this year had been very impressed with the quality of planting. The taxi centrepiece had cost Oldham tax payers nothing, as the taxi had been donated and the work done by volunteers.

7. Question from Kimberley Leach via email

“Having seen your post on Facebook, I thought I would take the opportunity to enquire about something which me and my husband have questioned ourselves the last few years.

We are a forces family who live married unaccompanied in Royton. My husband who has served in the Royal Engineers for nearly nine years travels each week from a variety of camps back to our home. I live at home with our seven month old daughter and work for the local authority.

Having spoken to many other forces families in the same position, we are aware that other authorities provide alone what of a benefits package. For example, those who are married unaccompanied pay a single occupancy rate on the council tax for their home. I have enquired about this each year and have



been told it is not something which Oldham Council do for forces families.

We are also aware that other authorities, the nearest Rochdale being one of them provide free/reduced rate fee on local authority sports centres membership (due to reduced time at home to benefit from a full membership).

There are probably many benefits which Oldham Council do provide which we as a family are unaware of. But I am aware that Oldham council have signed the Armed Forces Covenant however, the evidence of the support and benefit is very limited in particular for those which it is supposed to help the most. The extension and promotion of this would be beneficial for many other forces families who live in the same position as I do in the Oldham area.

I would be very grateful for you to put forward my question at this evenings council.”

Councillor Shah, Cabinet Member for Performance and Corporate Governance responded that Oldham Council, as a member of the Oldham Co-operative Commission, signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant in October 2013. We were proud to sign up as we recognised the importance of our Armed Forces and their families as well as the moral obligation between the nation, the government and the Armed Forces which the covenant embodies. The Covenant encouraged local communities to support Armed Forces personnel, and their families in their area and promote understanding and awareness among the public of issues affecting the Armed Forces community.

The Council knew that actions spoke louder than words and had:

- worked with local businesses, through the town centre partnership, to introduce a range of special offers and discounts for armed forces and reserve personnel in over 60 local stores in Oldham.
- worked with the Royal British Legion to provide an outreach desk in Access Oldham every Tuesday from 10-12 especially to provide support and guidance.
- introduced a Reservist Policy to support currently serving personnel and provide fair terms and conditions of employment.
- begun exploring whether there were more opportunities to introduce discounts for Armed Forces personnel and their families.

There was an Armed Forces page on the council website giving lots of advice and information about support agencies. There was also the Oldham Remembers website which, in this

centenary year, celebrated and remembered the significant contribution Oldham people made during the First World War as well as providing information about upcoming events.



In respect of the specific question around Council tax discounts, this was not something this Council currently offered and Councillor Shah committed to looking into it. She suggested that this was done with with the Greater Manchester partners with whom the Council was working closely on other Armed Forces issues.

If Mrs. Leach would like to discuss any of these issues with Councillor Shah, she would be very happy to meet with her.

The following questions were submitted by Councillors on Ward or District Matters: (25 mins)

1. Councillor Fielding to Councillor Hibbert

“I am in receipt of dozens of queries from local residents regarding the condition of Hulmes Road and Lord Lane in Failsworth. After Oldham Road, these roads are arguably the busiest in Failsworth acting as one of the main thoroughfares through the town. Could Council please confirm if and when these roads will come up for resurfacing under the priority routes re-surfacing programme?”

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that Hulmes Road (Boundary to Lord Lane) and Lord Lane (full length) had been allocated a budget for the 2015-16 Capital Programme and work will be carried out this financial year.

Due to the Lord Lane / Hulmes Road carriageway requiring different levels of intervention, the work will be carried out in two phases. Phase 1 which includes the section of Ashton Rd West to Clive Road will commence on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015 for approximately 5 days. Phase 2 which includes the section of Lord Lane and Hulmes Road between Clive Road and the boundary will commence within the next 6 weeks and will take approximately 2 weeks.

2. Councillor Shuttleworth to Councillor Hibbert

“With the metrolink service now well established and being well supported by residents throughout Oldham including Chadderton, may I seek clarification from our representative on TfGM or relevant Cabinet Member as to:

1. when the service frequency will increase to every 6 minutes as previously indicated;
2. and when can we expect to see double units becoming the norm as all too often, especially at peak times, many passengers are unable to be seated for reasons as stated in my opening comments.”

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that TfGM currently deployed as many doubles as possible, catering to the highest levels of demand they saw on the network. When they launch the 6-minute service, they will have fewer trams available to comprise double units, however the carrying capacity overall will be increased, enabling Metrolink to carry more passengers. TfGM will continue to monitor demand and will add doubles where they are most needed, subject to the availability of trams. The Council will be pushing for more trams, in the best interests of the people of Oldham, as this is an exceptionally well-used service.

3. Councillor Roberts to Councillor Brownridge

“Please can the relevant Cabinet Member confirm when action will be taken to improve the paths in Royton Cemetery which are uneven and in need of repair and maintenance and when Cemetery Road (as the name suggests the road used to enter the cemetery) will be resurfaced?”

Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives responded that the Council undertook a periodic review of its building assets over a five year rolling programme of quinquennial surveys that informed the capital maintenance programme. Unfortunately, at the moment the Council had identified circa £35m of priority works that were required at various premises, which included cemeteries, but had a £3-4m fund to address such priority issues, so this budget had already been committed to works that were deemed as an essential priority, to maintain the operational use of buildings and to address health and safety matters.

The Councillor will request that the cemetery is inspected by Unity Partnership to review and update the condition of the footpaths and road surfaces, and will respond to any priority items reported thereafter both from a responsive maintenance and planned maintenance perspective.

4. Councillor Harkness to Councillors Hibbert and Akhtar

“On 28th July, a public meeting will be held with local residents from Dobcross and Diggle about their traffic concerns relating to the new Saddleworth School.

Residents are particularly concerned that Dobcross could become a rat-run and that access to Diggle could become unsafe.

I welcome the highways consultation events that have already taken place (albeit a little belatedly) and appreciate that the planning application will permit a public consultation on these issues.



However it is a little unfortunate that the planning applications and highways applications will be submitted before the public meeting takes place in Dobcross.

My fear is that this will lead to more accusations that the council does not listen to the public.

I know that over the new Saddleworth School that this is not so, so can I have please ask the Cabinet Member for assurances that the council will continue to listen openly to public concerns, will consider options such as parking options or enforceable access only through Dobcross centre, and will leave no stone unturned in a bid to address the real concerns of local residents?"

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that the residents of Dobcross could be reassured that their views and ideas suggested at the meeting on the 28th July will be taken into account and considered before any highways works that would impact upon Dobcross are finalised. The Councillor had already met with Councillor McCann and Harkness on this issue.

The works that could have a direct impact upon Dobcross do not require planning consent and would be achieved using Highways Acts powers.

The Council was committed to continuing further informal consultation during the coming months in addition to the statutory consultation requirements so that it could design a final highways scheme that achieved the right balance in terms of pupil and highway safety, traffic flows and value for money.

#### 5. Councillor Toor to Councillor Brownridge

"After a spate of Arson attacks on the Fitton Arms pub in Fitton Hill, I am extremely concerned at the Health & Safety situation on the site. The pub poses a serious threat to the safety of local residents. Can I ask the executive member responsible to provide an update on actions taken so far to secure the site, in the short term and what steps will be taken to secure a long term permanent solution?"

Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives responded that she shared the ward members' concerns as to the state of the old Fitton Arms building and surrounding land. Officers had been dealing with the condition of the building ever since it was purchased by the present private owner in early 2012. The owner did secure the building once, when it initially became open to access in June 2012, however the owner had faced a constant battle to secure the building and remove rubbish from its surroundings. The Council had met with the owner and had served numerous legal notices to secure the building and remove fly tipping from the land. The works then had to be carried out by the Council contractors and recharged because the owner had not complied.

Recently officers had been informed that the owner was in advanced discussions as to the sale of the dilapidated building and land and the Councillor would ensure that any perspective new owner had a plan for the building and land and that local residents were consulted on any future use, if this came to pass. Officers would continue to put pressure on the present owner to act on his responsibilities in the short term.

6. Councillor Alexander to Councillor Hibbert

“My question relates to the Northgate Estate and roundabout in the St James Ward. We are faced with the problem that the original builder Westbury homes, was bought out by Persimmon. Now after 10 years despite assurances from Persimmon earlier this year, they have not moved any further forward to complete the work which includes disabled access not aligned, top road surfacing, traffic signs, double yellow lines and kerb edgings needing resetting. Can the relevant cabinet member clarify what steps the council can and will take to ensure that this work is completed so the estate can be formally adopted?”

Councillor David Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways responded that he would like to thank Councillor Alexander for raising this issue regarding the condition of roads on the Northgate estate and her role in seeking to resolve this matter.

He fully appreciated the concerns of residents and members about the delay in these works being completed and could reassure Members that the Council was progressing this issue. A drawing submission to finalise the works was received from Persimmon Homes on 9<sup>th</sup> July and officers in Unity Partnership were in discussion with them on details, so that a Section 38 agreement could be finalised to complete the remaining works.

As there were some changes required and this was a complicated scheme, officers anticipated that it would take up to 8 weeks to sign the agreement. The Councillor will ensure that officers keep ward members up to date on progress in negotiations, and projected timescales for completion of all the works and adoption.

7. Councillor Ames to Councillor McMahon

“Being that is some time since the residents of Hollinwood were informed of any development at the Hollinwood Junction. Could the cabinet member for Regeneration update them on progress so far?”

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise Region responded that it had taken some time to remove the former gas holder and he was delighted to report that, in principle, terms had been agreed with National Grid. The delay had allowed for a more comprehensive development.

He was hopeful that funding for this activity would be obtained via the Greater Manchester Investment Fund and it would not fall on the Council to meeting funding.

8. Councillor Sykes to Councillor McMahon

“Shaw and Crompton Councillors have been hearing recently from Market Traders that Oldham Council has had another change of heart about the relocation of Shaw Market.

Like its namesake, the children’s party game Musical Chairs, this seems to becoming a tale of Musical Markets.

At first this Administration wanted to move the Market onto the South side of Market Street that joins High Street, then the North side of Market Street adjoining Rochdale Road.

Now there are rumours that the Market will after all remain on its historic site until some un- specified time next year (2016).

Will the Leader confirm or deny whether Shaw Market is to move?

And if so where and when?

Or will he hold his hands up and admit – as I hope he will – that the Market can remain at its current location as per the wishes of local Councillors, the local community, market traders, high street shop keepers, the Police, and two of the largest employers in the Borough (Littlewoods and JD Williams).

And will he also agree to invest the money that that has clearly been budgeted for this year (2015/16) to revitalise Shaw Market by replacing the fixed market stalls with pop-up stalls.”

This solution will not only remove the shelter that attracts youths intent on anti-social behaviour but also provide more car-parking on non-Market Days, therefore contributing to the general vitality of Shaw’s District Centre.

After all the above solution is what local Councillors along with key agencies like the Police have been asking and campaigning for more years than I care to remember.”

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economy and Enterprise Region responded that the Council was committed to the development of vibrant town centres, however Shaw market was not in a convenient location for shoppers and it would be a false economy to invest in the current site. There may be minor investment to attract traders and keep the market vibrant, but there was a strong business case for change. If the Council wanted to retain the market, it needed to support the change.

At this point in the meeting the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.



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**RESOLVED** that the questions and the responses provided be noted.

2 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Briggs, Dearden, Haque, Harrison, Salamat and Sheldon.

3 **TO ORDER THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 20TH MAY 2015 BE SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015 be AGREED as a correct record.

4 **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER TO BE DETERMINED AT THE MEETING**

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Councillors Gloster and Garry declared a pecuniary interest in Item 12, Notice of Administration Business, Motion1 and Item 14, Police and Crime Panel Minutes, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Councillor Wrigglesworth declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 12, Notice of Administration Business, Motion 3.

Councillor McCann declared a personal interest in Item 14b – Minutes of the Oldham Care and Support Company by virtue of his appointment to the Board.

5 **TO DEAL WITH MATTERS WHICH THE MAYOR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT BUSINESS**

The Mayor informed the meeting that no items of urgent business had been received.

6 **TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Mayor advised the meeting that no items had been received related to the business of the Council.

The Mayor took the opportunity to congratulate Councillor McMahan on receiving the OBE award.

7 **TO RECEIVE AND NOTE PETITIONS RECEIVED RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Mayor advised that five petitions had been received for noting by Council:

Health and Wellbeing

Abuse of Child Protection Powers (received 14 April 2015)  
(1049 signatures) (Ref 2015-06)

Planned Closure of Glodwick Pool from Glodwick Infant and Nursery School (received 2 June 2015) (666 signatures) (Ref 2015-12)



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Planned Closure of Glodwick Pool from Horton Primary School (received 11 June 2015) (172 signatures) (Ref 2015-15)

### Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives

St. Paul's Methodist Church – Church Fencing (received 6 May 2015) (120 Signatures) (Ref 2015-09)

### Economy & Skills and Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives

Clarksfield Pitch and Arundel Street Public Space (received 1 June 2015) (147 signatures) (Ref 2015-11)

**RESOLVED** that the petitions received since the last meeting of the Council be noted.

## 8 **OUTSTANDING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Mayor advised the meeting that there were no items of outstanding business.

## 9 **YOUTH COUNCIL**

The Mayor advised the meeting that there were no items of business received from the Youth Council.

## 10 **LEADER AND CABINET QUESTION TIME**

The Leader of the Opposition raised the following questions:

### 1. Oldham's Education Deficit

“Schools in Oldham have recently received public attention, but regrettably for all of the wrong reasons.

If Oldham were itself a pupil, there is no doubt that the Borough's Annual School report would read: 'once again failed to reach its potential and could do much better if it just applied itself'.

Oldham has the third worst record in the country for the number of infant pupils taught in classes of more than 30.

More than 2,300 children (nearly one in three) of five to seven year olds.

In junior schools more than 2,900 children are in classes over 30 in size.

In fact the average class size in Junior School in Oldham Borough is 28.9 pupils, the seventh highest in the country.



In addition nearly a fifth (20%) of Oldham pupils will not be able to attend their first choice Secondary School as places at the most popular schools do not meet demand.

This is understandable as demand at popular schools will continue to rise as Oldham's Secondary Schools overall are judged poorly with only 36.5% of our pupils in 'good or excellent' Secondary Schools which is less than half the UK national average of 73.5%.

I am sure that the Leader will agree with me that much more needs to be done.

We are currently failing to give thousands of our children the opportunities they deserve.

Our Borough's children deserve an excellent education to help reach further and higher education, set them up to become productive and well remunerated in the workplace, active citizens and positive parents and role models for their own children.

Let me be clear the Liberal Democrat Group will do all in its power to assist in changing the current state of affairs.

Labour has promised much for the Oldham Education Commission – indeed it would appear to have its work cut out – so can the Leader tell us all what this Administration is doing and will do to address the clear educational deficit in Oldham and when we might expect to have sight of the Commission's final report, remembering its interim report in January was never published?"

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council responded that solutions were not simple and, where the school was a free school or an academy, the Council had no input. The Council was however positive about improvements to education and the Education and Skills Commission would be very important in finding solutions that worked for all in the community. This was due to report at the end of summer and the Council would then need to assess what it could do, involving both parents and the community.

## 2. Sunday Trading

"The Chancellor proposed in last weeks' Budget that areas such as Greater Manchester should be permitted to extend Sunday trading hours if we wish to do so.

Extended Sunday trading hours could provide additional jobs and additional business as a stimulant to the retail economy of our Borough, and may lead to the Borough becoming a 'destination' of choice for weekend shoppers accessing our retail offer by Metrolink, particularly if the Princes Gate

development is the 'game-changer' the Leader has promised it will be. It could also be used to build upon the cultural offer town centre.

However it can also encroach on quality time and family life.

I would therefore like to ask the Leader whether within the new Combined Authority he would support the proposal for extended Sunday opening hours within Greater Manchester and specifically on Oldham, or not?

In essence would he echo the view that: "Sunday was the most miserable day of the week" before retail laws were relaxed, or support the view that limited opening hours on Sunday are sacrosanct as it is the only day that shop workers and their families can "bank on some time with their kids?" "

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council responded that there were other higher priorities and pressures for the Council. He currently had no view on the issue and would consider the evidence and form a view at the appropriate time. He would expect the issue to be decided by the people of Oldham.

The Mayor reminded Members that the Council had previously agreed that, following the Leaders' allocated questions, further questions would be taken in an order which reflected the political balance of the Council.

Members raised the following questions:

1. Councillor Shuttleworth to Councillor McMahon

"STOP THE MADNESS was the headline on a political leaflet, which was more about talking Oldham down than political, doing the rounds in parts of Oldham during the recent local and general election campaign.

Taking into account the Old Town Hall development, Princes Gate with its proposed store and residential accommodation, M&S, the much welcomed return of T J Hughes, to name but a few, could the Leader of the Council tell the good people of Oldham when they can expect some more MADNESS!"

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council, responded that he had been indifferent about the leaflet, except when it had been talking down the town. Oldham was now in a very different place and people were behind what the Council was doing, especially where it was investing growth, for example the leisure centre.

2. Councillor Ball to Councillor Brownridge

"Last October and November the Royal British Legion and our Cadets worked hard raising money on the poppy campaign.

Could the cabinet member give an indication as to the amount of money raised by Oldhamers, and what is being done to encourage our cadets to continue this good work?"

Councillor Brownridge, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives, responded that Oldham raised over £149,273.41 in 2014/15 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Award.

The money was used by the Royal British Legion to give financial and emotional support to people who have served or are currently serving in the armed forces and their dependents.

The Royal British Legion Oldham Branch were again awarded The Norman Webster Shield for the most money raised in one year, for the 4<sup>th</sup> year running. The shield was proudly on display in the civic silverware to showcase Oldham's dedication to raising money.

The Royal British Legion Oldham Branch also worked very closely with the cadets helping to raise huge amounts of money. The poppy is an enduring symbol of remembrance, and last year was particularly important as we commemorated the centenary of the start of the First World War.

Each year, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester held a presentation evening to recognise the achievements of the cadets from across the County, and Oldham 2200 Air Training Cadets were awarded as Greater Manchester's overall winning unit after they raised a tremendous £15,014.30. The squadron had now won the trophy for the third year running.

### 3. Councillor Malik to Councillor Akhtar

"The increase in the Primary age population is placing great pressure for places on the Boroughs Schools Can the Cabinet Member concerned confirm that OMBC has plans to deal with this demand to ensure all the Borough's infants find places in local schools."

Councillor Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills responded that Oldham was aware of the current pressure. There was a robust forecasting method in place taking in to account births, housing and new arrivals. The Local Authority had expanded schools in many areas of the borough to ensure there was sufficient additional capacity to meet the increased demand. Since 2013 the Council had created 1,050 additional primary school places, with a further 840 places planned to be available by September 2016.

The additional capacity had created more choice for parents applying for reception places for September 2015. 90% of parents received places in their first choice of school, with 95% getting a place at one of their preferred schools.

Although the pressure on primary places remained in the Year 1 to Year 5 cohort, the Council was working closely with Primary colleagues to look at creative solutions to ease this pressure, including a possible increase in schools planned admission numbers in the areas with most demand and least capacity. Councillor Malik would be aware there was a new three-form entry school being planned in his ward.

#### 4. Councillor Gloster to Councillor Stretton

“Crompton Health Centre is outdated and no longer fit for purpose. The people of Shaw and Crompton rightly compare the current shoddy condition of their local facility with the excellent, modern health centres available to the people of Royton and Werneth, and wonder when they too can expect something new.

Under the proposals for devolution in Greater Manchester, the health care budget will be devolved to come under the control of the new Mayor and combined authority.

Can the relevant Cabinet Member assure me that this Administration will back Ward Councillors in fighting for the money to replace outmoded health centres in this borough as the local Lib Dem Councillors in Shaw and Crompton are keen to take up this fight for a modern facility fit for the patients of our district?”

Councillor Stretton, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing, responded that the Council had been working with the NHS Oldham over many years and this had included joint work to improve the estate from which primary and community health services are commissioned and delivered.

Responsibility for such developments previously resided with Oldham PCT and the LIFT programme (Local Improvement Finance Trust) saw the development of excellent new buildings in Oldham from which health and occasionally leisure services are now delivered.

That responsibility moved to NHS England under the Health and Social Care Act and was currently less subject to local control. As Councillor Gloster stated, the devolution of health and social care to Greater Manchester would bring this responsibility under the new Mayor and combined authority with the opportunity for more local influence. The detail of how this would be done had yet to be determined.

The Council was continuing to work with Oldham CCG to commission and deliver first rate health and social care services and plans for the future would include the development of buildings and facilities wherever in the Borough that was required. The Council would ensure that Oldham got the best possible benefit from the devolution deal.

5. Councillor S Bashforth to Councillor Hibbert

There had recently been travellers on Clayton Playing Fields, who had left no mess and there had been a co-ordinated response. Had there been risk assessments and checks made on open spaces?

Councillor Hibbert, Cabinet Member for Housing, Planning and Highways, responded that everything had been done to protect residents from unwelcome visitors. This group had moved on within twenty-four hours and officers were constantly reviewing their procedures to ensure there was a swift response.

6. Councillor Rehman to Councillor Akhtar

What was the Council doing to assist families who could not support their children in education, for example where parents were unable to help their children with homework?

Councillor Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills responded that there were a number of initiatives including homework clubs and youth clubs. The Education and Skills Commission would produce recommendations to assist all children across the borough.

7. Councillor Harkness to Councillor Akhtar

“A former Council employee was recently found guilty of stealing a sizable quantity of shopping vouchers with a value of £17,000 intended to reward Oldham students for excelling in their academic performance.

Rather than the students enjoying the benefit of these vouchers, they were instead spent by the guilty party for her own benefit.

Now that the court case has been concluded, can the Cabinet Member for Education please tell me what administrative safeguards have now been put in place to ensure that this situation cannot arise again?”

Councillor Akhtar, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills responded that, following this incident, an audit of the administration of all vouchers within the Council was undertaken as a priority. The objective of the audit was to ensure our systems in this area were as secure as possible.

The overall opinion by Internal Audit of the operation of the controls for the cash incentive scheme was that they were adequate based on the work carried out. A number of recommendations were made and implemented in order for the service areas to improve past processes. The implementation of these recommendations had been followed up and this work had made the Council's systems more

secure.

8. Councillor Chauhan to Councillor McMahon

Had Oldham seen any investment from Greater Manchester to assist with the Borough's regeneration?

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council, responded that there was a continual process to get grants and loans to Oldham businesses. A number of them had benefitted and the Council had also had benefits. Oldham was getting its fair share, as it had good plans and it delivered them.

9. Councillor Williams to Councillor McMahon

What would devolution mean for Oldham?

Councillor McMahon, Leader of the Council, responded that it was hard to be specific at this point as the devolution debate had happened very quickly. There was a need to ensure proper checks and balances, especially with regard to police, fire and transport. He would expect strong Oldham representation and for these representatives to be properly heard.

At this point in the meeting the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.

**RESOLVED** that the questions asked and responses provided be noted.

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**TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET HELD ON THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, INCLUDING THE ATTACHED LIST OF URGENT KEY DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL, AND TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS ON ANY ITEMS WITHIN THE MINUTES FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE CABINET, AND RECEIVE RESPONSES FROM CABINET MEMBERS**

The Cabinet Minutes for the meetings held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 were submitted.

Questions and observations were raised by the following Councillors on the Cabinet Minutes as detailed below:

Councillor Blyth – Cabinet meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March, Item 10, page 19, Local Welfare Provision Scheme 2015/16, in relation to the projected underspend, was the council advertising adequately and correctly in regard to access to funding? The Council had put money into "Our House"

Councillor McMahon advised that "Our House" was not part of the welfare provision considered in this Item, however it provided a facility for people to purchase white goods they

would not have the cash to buy outright. Our house covered the cost, it was not for profit and everyone benefitted. It was an example of what co-operation and the community could achieve and was a much better alternative for Oldham.

Councillor McCann – Cabinet meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March, Item 10, page 19, Local Welfare Provision Scheme 2015/16, the underspend was a substantial amount of money that could be used to make a difference. Could it be used to, for example, provide a basic funeral service, be put towards relief from food poverty, expand the fuel poverty scheme or have a welfare team to expand this provision?

Councillor Jabbar responded that this fund was limited and time-limited. The underspend would be ring-fenced to welfare activities, however once this money was spent, there would be no more. It was difficult to see how the Council could offer, for example, a funeral service when the fund was very limited and would soon be gone.

Members made the following observations:

1. Councillor Murphy – Cabinet meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March, Item 14, page 23, Contract with Age UK Oldham 2015-2017 – Older people were not well served, though some parts of the Borough were better than others. A community shop was proposed, where excess food could be sold at lower prices. There was also a need to explore other options, and have a strategic vision and Borough plan. A Food Commission was needed.
2. Councillor Harkness – Cabinet meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March, Item 8, page 17 Saddleworth School: Site Selection – welcomed the decision to ensure a new school was built. There was much to be done, but the Council cannot do nothing.
3. Councillor McCann – Cabinet meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> March, Item 10, page 19, Local Welfare Provision Scheme 2015/16 – there was no criticism of the underspend and he understood there could be no overspend. He welcomed the commitment to spend on welfare.
4. Councillor Jabbar responded – there will be a need to support residents affected by welfare cuts and the fund will be ring-fenced to welfare provision.
5. Councillor McMahon responded – the Overview and Scrutiny Board have set up a working group to look at the value for money of a community shop and a Food Commission

**RESOLVED that:**

1. the minutes of the Cabinet meetings held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 be noted.

2. The questions and observations on the Cabinet Minutes be noted.



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## **NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS**

### Motion 1

Councillor McMahon MOVED and Councillor Stretton  
SECONDED :

“This Council recognises the newly created Office of the Mayor of Greater Manchester and congratulates its newly appointed holder Tony Lloyd. The Office of the Mayor presents a good opportunity for Oldham, through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to present itself to central government as well as helping to forge stronger connections with neighboring boroughs, towns, cities and communities.

The Council stresses the need for the Mayor and indeed the Combined Authority to be publically accountable, through direct elections, emphasising the need for greater public engagement with communities, ensuring towns like Oldham are heard across Greater Manchester.

The Council notes that Greater Manchester generates £48 billion per annum in GVA, 4% of the national economy, but that there is room to grow through the innovation opportunity devolution provides. Through greater flexibility, engagement and communication with central government, Greater Manchester and we in Oldham can get the fair devolution deal we deserve. The Council Resolves:

- To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the new Mayor of Greater Manchester on behalf of the council welcoming him to his post.
- To Instruct the Chief Executive to write to Oldham’s three Members of Parliament updating them on the Devolution deal to date.”

Councillors S Bashforth, Rehman, McCann, Roberts, Dean, Hudson, Sykes and Bates all spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor McMahon exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the VOTE, the meeting UNANIMOUSLY voted IN FAVOUR of the MOTION, which was therefore CARRIED.

### **RESOLVED that:**

1. The Chief Executive be instructed to write to the new Mayor of Greater Manchester on behalf of the council welcoming him to his post.
2. The Chief Executive be instructed to write to Oldham’s three Members of Parliament updating them on the Devolution deal to date.



At this point in the meeting the Mayor advised that the time limit for this item had expired.

Motion 2

Councillor Jabbar MOVED and Councillor Wrigglesworth  
SECONDED :

On being put to the VOTE, the meeting UNANIMOUSLY voted  
IN FAVOUR of the MOTION, which was therefore CARRIED.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. The Chief Executive be instructed to write to the Director of Finance (interim) on behalf of the council, thanking the department for its efforts.
2. The progress made in account finalisation by Oldham Council and the positive remarks made by the auditors in regards to the speed and accuracy of Oldham Councils accounts be noted.
3. That Oldham Council has been given a clean bill of financial health by the auditors be noted.

Motion 3

Motion 3 was carried over to the next meeting

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**NOTICE OF OPPOSITION BUSINESS**

The Mayor RULED that submitted Motions (1) and (3) were outside the scope of motions that could be considered by the Council, as they did not relate to matters over which the Council had a direct influence (Council Procedure Rule 8.2)

Motion 2

Councillor Murphy MOVED and Councillor Williamson  
SECONDED :

“This Council notes that:

- For customers on low incomes, water bills can represent a real financial challenge.
- The water industry, water regulator, consumer groups, academics and government deem that paying for water consumption becomes problematic for households is when they spend more than 3 per cent of their household income on water costs. This threshold is taken as a measure of ‘water poverty’.
- Studies have found that households who spend at least 3 to 5 per cent of household income on water consumption often struggle to pay their bill.

However, Council further notes that:

- Regional water provider United Utilities has several schemes to support customers struggling to pay a bill or settle arrears. These include a trust fund, a debt matching and write-off scheme, and a new social tariff. Government also endorses schemes to promote direct payment from benefits and provide a capped bill for larger families or customers with certain medical conditions.
- Many low-income households are unaware of the support available to them.

Council believes that:

- More action is needed from central Government to address 'water poverty'.
- More should be done in Oldham to promote awareness of, and access to, the support schemes available to customers facing 'water poverty'.

Council therefore resolves to:

- Promote the availability of these support schemes on-line, in our publications, in our public buildings, and at public events, as part of the 'Make the Most of Your Money' and 'Warm Homes' campaigns.
- Work with United Utilities and the United Utilities Trust to offer training to elected members and front-line staff so they can actively promote them.
- Offer this training to staff and volunteers from social landlords and other partners.
- Support the research being undertaken by United Utilities to establish greater public acceptance for the social tariff and to identify the most effective ways to engage and support 'harder-to-reach' customers.
- Support an application to the United Utilities Trust for funding to deliver, through partner agencies, money advice and financial literacy services targeted at 'water poor' customers.
- Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, The Rt, Hon. Liz Truss MP, requesting that:
  - 'Water poverty' be defined in law and that it be measured
  - The Government establish an action plan and make a definite commitment to eliminate 'water poverty' within the lifetime of this Parliament."

Councillor Heffernan spoke in support of the motion.  
Councillor Hudson spoke against the motion.  
Councillor Harkness spoke in support of the motion.



A move to vote was MOVED and SECONDED

Councillor Murphy exercised his right of reply.

On being put to the VOTE, FIFTY THREE VOTES were cast IN FAVOUR of the MOTION with ONE cast AGAINST. The MOTION was therefore CARRIED.

**RESOLVED:**

1. To promote the availability of these support schemes on-line, in our publications, in our public buildings, and at public events, as part of the 'Make the Most of Your Money' and 'Warm Homes' campaigns.
2. To work with United Utilities and the United Utilities Trust to offer training to elected members and front-line staff so they can actively promote them.
3. To offer this training to staff and volunteers from social landlords and other partners.
4. To support the research being undertaken by United Utilities to establish greater public acceptance for the social tariff and to identify the most effective ways to engage and support 'harder-to-reach' customers.
5. To support an application to the United Utilities Trust for funding to deliver, through partner agencies, money advice and financial literacy services targeted at 'water poor' customers.
6. To instruct the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for the Environment, The Rt, Hon. Liz Truss MP, requesting that:

'Water poverty' be defined in law and that it be measured  
The Government establish an action plan and make a definite commitment to eliminate 'water poverty' within the lifetime of this Parliament"

14(a)

To note the Minutes of the following Joint Authority meetings and the relevant spokespersons to respond to questions from Members

Minutes of the Joint Authorities were submitted as follows:

Police and Crime Panel	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Joint GMCA/AGMA Executive	27 <sup>th</sup> February

	2015 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
National Park Authority	6 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2015
Transport for Greater Manchester	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2015
Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority	13 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2015

There were no questions.

Members made the following observations:

Councillor Heffernan - Greater Manchester Combined Authority, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015, Item 41/15, page 52, Alliance Textiles Project Update – this had not had much publicity. The textile industry should be brought back to Greater Manchester and the council should support it coming back to this area. Councillor McMahon observed that the Textile Project was very important for Oldham as a textile town. There was a value to the British brand and the Council would wish to bring this to Oldham to build on existing skills.

Councillor Sykes - Transport for Greater Manchester, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015, Item 14/77, page 102, The Carriage of Non-Assistance Dogs on Metrolink: Feedback from Consultation – there was no report back to the next meeting, however there was a report to a later meeting and the decision was deferred for six months. Councillor Hibbert was at the later meeting and observed he was not sure of the benefit of delaying the decision. Having travelled on the trams, he would not support being able to travel with a dog on one.

Councillor Williams - Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015, Item 99, page 121, Wigan Community Fire and Ambulance Station – this combined station was the first in the country . The services would be encouraged to share and collaborate on resources.

**RESOLVED that:**

1. the minutes of the Joint Authorities as detailed in the report be noted.
2. The questions raised and observations made, along with the responses, given be noted.

14 (b)

To note the Minutes of the following Partnership meetings and the relevant spokespersons to respond to questions from Members



Minutes of the Partnership Meetings were submitted as follows: **Oldham Council**

Oldham Leadership Board	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2015
Oldham Care and Support Company	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015
Health and Wellbeing Board	17 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Unity Partnership Board	8 <sup>th</sup> January 2015 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2015

There were no questions or observations.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Partnership meetings as detailed in report be noted.

15

#### **WELFARE REFORM UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report that included the periodic Welfare Reform Dashboard, and a deeper analysis of Food Poverty and Food Banks within Oldham.

The Welfare Reform Dashboard highlighted in particular the levelling-off of unemployment after a period of consistent falls.

The Food Poverty Deep Dive highlighted the wide-ranging nature of food poverty, estimated to affect over 10% of Oldham's population, and the actions which could be taken to mitigate it. Food banks were one such action, but only addressed the immediate crisis, rather than building individual and community resilience.

Councillor Jabbar **MOVED** the report, which was **SECONDED** by Councillor Chadderton.

Councillor McCann made an observation on the report.

**RESOLVED that:**

The report be **NOTED**.

16

#### **REVIEW OF LAND AND PROPERTY PROTOCOLS**

Consideration was given to a report that sought approval to amend the Land and Property Protocols in order to improve the Council's decision making process and more accurately reflect the Council's recently reviewed organisational structures.

Councillor McMahon **MOVED** the report and Councillor Sykes **SECONDED**.

**RESOLVED that:**

The revised Land and Property Protocols be APPROVED.



17

**UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM COUNCIL**

Consideration was given to a report which informed Members of actions that had been taken following previous Council meetings and provided feedback on other issues raised at the meeting.

A letter from E.on had been circulated at the meeting, which reflected progress made and agreed a follow-up meeting in four to six months.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 9.00 pm



## COUNCIL

### Petitions

**Portfolio Holder:** Various

**Officer Contact:** Various

**Report Author:** Elizabeth Drogan, Head of Constitutional Services  
**Ext.** 4705

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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#### Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the petitions received by Council in accordance with the Petitions Protocol.

#### Petitions Received

##### Neighbourhoods and Cooperatives

Duchess Street Experimental TRO Order (received 15 July 2015) (78 Signatures) (Ref 2015-16)

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that Council note the petitions received.

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**Present:** Councillor McMahon (Chair)  
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, Harrison, Hibbert, Jabbar, Shah  
and Stretton

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest at Items 10 and 14, Negotiation of potential transfer of St Mary's District Heating System to First Choice Homes, by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5 **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 27TH  
APRIL 2015**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 be approved.

6 **OLDHAM COUNCIL'S DEFERRED PAYMENTS SCHEME**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Health and Wellbeing which sought approval of the proposed approach to a Deferred Payments Scheme that would ensure people going into residential care were not forced to sell their homes within their lifetime to pay for their care costs.

The report provided details on the duty placed on Local Authorities to implement a Universal Deferred Payment scheme as set out in The Care Act 2014.

The duty also provided Local Authorities with the power to charge interest and administrative fees to support the cost of setting up and managing the scheme, to ensure cost neutrality. The deferred payment policy, demand modelling of the financial impact and an equality impact assessment were detailed within the appendices to the report.

Options/Alternatives considered

Administrative Charges

Option 1 - To maintain the current status quo and not to apply administrative charges for application and management of the deferred payment scheme.

Option 2 – Adoption of 3 levels of administrative charges which would cover the initial set up, annual maintenance and closure of accounts.

Rental Income

Option 1 – All income achieved from a person renting out their property whilst in receipt of a deferred payment would be retained by the individual.

Option 2 – The individual could retain 25% of their rental income, with the additional; 75% being offset against their deferred payment debt.

#### Interest charges

Option 1 - Adopt the maximum interest rate as set out in the Care Act 2014, set at 2.65%

Option 2 – Operation of a deferred payment scheme which did not apply interest rate charges.

#### Consultation

Approximately 500 questionnaires and information packs were sent out detailing the proposed deferred payment scheme in Oldham to all residential establishments within the local area, those people who were classed as self funders and a selection of service users in receipt of community based services.

The responses were outlined within the report.

**RESOLVED** – That the proposed approach to the Deferred Payment Scheme be approved in particular:

- a. Adoption of the proposed Deferred Payment Policy approach to administering deferred payments in the Borough as detailed in appendix 1.
- b. The adoption of the proposed administrative charges to enable the scheme to be cost neutral.
- c. The adoption of the maximum interest charge (currently 2.65% pa) as detailed within the Care Act Support and Guidance 2014 (available on line).
- d. The percentage of rental income a person could retain under the scheme be set at 25%.

7

### **WELFARE REFORM QUARTERLY UPDATE**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Policy and Governance which provided the quarterly welfare reform dashboard as detailed at Appendix 1 and a deeper analysis of Food poverty and Food Banks within Oldham. It was reported that the ‘deep dive’ into food poverty highlighted the wide ranging nature of food poverty estimated to affect over ten per cent of Oldham’s population and the actions which could be taken to mitigate food poverty.

Options/Alternatives considered

None

**RESOLVED** – That the Welfare Reform: Food Poverty ‘Deep Dive’ be noted.

8

### **ESTABLISHING A GREEN DIVIDEND IN OLDHAM**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Neighbourhoods and Co-operatives which sought approval of the implementation of the Universal and Targeted Green Dividend offer for a period of 18 months from implementation.

The report provided details of the initiative that would enable Oldham residents to access funding to support the development and implementation of green space projects including green spaces in alleyways, pavements, parks, playing fields and allotments.

The fund would provide two distinct offers, a universal offer available to community groups and groups of residents and a second targeted offer to focus on establishing green space initiatives to support the work in eight selective licensing areas.

Options/Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do not implement the scheme

Option 2 – Implement the Universal offer only

Option 3 – Implement the Targeted offer Only

Option 4 – Implement both the Universal offer and Targeted offer

RESOLVED – That the Universal and Targeted Green Dividend Offer be approved for a period of 18 months from implementation.

9

### **COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT MARCH 2015**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Policy and Governance which provided details of the Council's performance for March 2015.

The report provided details of the forty nine rated measures within this period and of those, 53% per cent met the target. In addition to this information there were 27 Corporate Plan actions this quarter and of those, 84% were on track or had been completed.

The Cabinet acknowledged the report.

Options/Alternatives considered

None.

RESOLVED – That the Council Performance Report March 2015 be noted.

10

### **NEGOTIATION OF POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF ST MARY'S DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM TO FIRST CHOICE HOMES**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest at Items 10 and 14, Negotiation of potential transfer of St Mary's District Heating System to First Choice Homes, by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economy and Skills which sought approval to negotiate terms with First Choice Homes (FCHO) for the potential transfer of ownership of the St. Mary's heating network and to authorise the Director of Legal Services to conclude the proposed transfer.

It was reported that following the transfer of Council owned homes on St. Mary's estate to FCHO, a decision was made for the Council to continue to own the St. Mary's District heating Network however it was agreed pursuant to schedule 23 of the Stock Transfer Agreement that the Council could serve a two year termination notice to end the current arrangement in relation to the system.

Negotiations with FCHO had been continuing since December 2014 to consider the transfer.

Option 1 – Oldham Council to continue to own manage, maintain and operate the district heating system.

Option 2 – To continue to seek to negotiate a smooth transfer of ownership from Oldham Council to FCHO ensuring continuity of energy supply to all current households and to establish a business model to ensure the continued operation of the system in a financially suitable fashion.

RESOLVED – That Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 14 of the agenda before reaching a decision.

11

### **ST AUGUSTINE'S, CHAMBER ROAD: SELECTION OF PREFERRED DEVELOPER FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Economic Development which sought approval of the outcome of the selection process for a developer of the former St. Augustine's school site.

The report provided details of the European Union compliant selection process for a residential developer and the indicative proposals for 64 new homes on the site.

It was further reported that since the publication of the report, the specification for the site had revised and that the housing specification was 19 four bed houses and 34 three bed houses.

Option 1 – To appoint the preferred bidder to develop the site as detailed within their bid as amended.

Option 2 – Do not appoint and remarket the site.

Option 3 – Leave the site vacant and maintenance to be continued by the Council.

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 15 of the agenda before reaching a decision.

12

### **EASTERN GATEWAY TOWN CENTRE LAND AND PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS - ACQUISITION OF ROSCOE MILL, ROSCOE STREET, RHODES BANK [ST. MARY'S]**

The Cabinet gave consideration to a report of the Director of Economic Development which sought to inform the Cabinet of the proposal to acquire a freehold interest in Roscoe Mill which was required to support the adjoining Prince Street Development.

The report provided details of the approved plans for redevelopment of land at Mumps and in addition to this, the Council had looked at the potential to assemble a development opportunity to the west of Price Street largely occupied by Roscoe Mill and the RSPCA building which had already been acquired by the Council.

It was reported that negotiations with the owners of Roscoe Mill had resulted in agreed terms.

Options Alternatives considered

Option 1 – Do not acquire Roscoe Mill  
Option 2 – The Council seeks to acquire Roscoe Mill  
Options 3 – The Council seeks to acquire Roscoe Mill and supervise the demolition of the former Oldham, Hide Skin and Fat property.



RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information at Item 16 of the agenda before reaching a decision.

13

### **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraphs 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

14

### **NEGOTIATION OF POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF ST MARY'S DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM TO FIRST CHOICE HOMES**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest at Items 10 and 14, Negotiation of potential transfer of St Mary's District Heating System to First Choice Homes, by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The report be noted.
2. The Executive Director of Corporate and Commercial Services, the Executive Director, Economy and Skills and the Director of Finance be authorised to enter into detailed negotiations with First Choice Homes and other third parties as may be necessary to achieve the desired outcome to agree the terms of the transfer of the St. Mary's District Heating Network.
3. The Director of Legal Services or his nominee be authorised to enter into contracts and carry out necessary lawful activities required to continue the operations of the network until any negotiations and future plans for the network are concluded.

15

### **ST AUGUSTINE'S, CHAMBER ROAD: SELECTION OF PREFERRED DEVELOPER FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT**

RESOLVED – That:

1. The selection of the preferred bidder, Galliford Try Partnership for development of the site be approved including the amended specification of nineteen four bed houses and thirty four three bed houses.
2. The finalisation of the legal documentation be delegated to the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Director of Economic Development and the Director of Legal Services.
3. The site be sold on a 250 year leasehold basis.

4. The ground rent would be paid as directed by the Council and the decision on how the income was utilised be delegated to the Leader of the Council in consultation with the Director of Economic Development.



16

**EASTERN GATEWAY TOWN CENTRE LAND AND  
PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS - ACQUISITION OF ROSCOE  
MILL, ROSCOE STREET, RHODES BANK [ST. MARY'S]**

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Council proceed to acquire the freehold interest in accordance with option 3 of the report and the terms and conditions as detailed at appendix 3 of the commercially sensitive report.
2. All further recommendations as detailed within the commercially sensitive report be approved.

The meeting started at 6.00pm and ended at 6.50 pm

**Present:** Councillor McMahon (Chair)  
Councillors Akhtar, Brownridge, Harrison, Hibbert, Shah and  
Stretton

1           **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Jabbar.

2           **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

3           **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest in Items 11 and 14, Meridian Development Company - Construction and Sale of Property at Primrose Bank / Crossbank Street [Werneth], by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

4           **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions received.

5           **MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 22ND  
JUNE 2015**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 be approved.

6           **2014/15 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services that advised the Cabinet of the recently approved 2014/15 Final Accounts and the External Audit (Grant Thornton) Audit Findings report.

The Council's 2014/15 Final Accounts were audited, approved and published on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and Members were advised this was the quickest year end closedown that the Council had ever achieved.

The Audit Findings report was very positive with an unqualified opinion and an unqualified Value for Money (VFM) opinion. The VFM opinion concluded that the Council had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. For the first time the Council had a full suite of "green" VFM indicators. There were no material errors for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in succession and the report commented on the high quality of the accounts despite the challenging timetable.

Options/Alternatives considered:

That Cabinet did not note the final accounts, the audit report and the items outlined in the report or refer them on to Council.

RESOLVED - That the Final accounts for 2014/15 and audit reports and items referred to in the report be noted.

RECOMMENDATION that the Final Accounts 2014/15, the audit reports and the items referred to in the report be commended to Council.

7

### **TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2014/2015**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance, which advised the Cabinet of the requirement by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2014/15. This report met the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

The report demonstrated full compliance with the reporting requirements and, during 2014/15, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements.

The Director of Finance confirmed that the statutory borrowing limit (the authorised limit) was not breached. The financial year 2014/15 continued the challenging investment environment of previous years, namely low investment returns.

Options/Alternatives considered:

No options/alternatives were presented.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The actual 2014/15 prudential and treasury indicators in the report be approved.
2. The annual treasury management report for 2014/15 be approved.

RECOMMENDATION – That the report be commended to Council for consideration and approval

8

### **SELECTION OF A PREFERRED SPONSOR FOR A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN OLDHAM**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Economy and Skills which required an endorsement from the Cabinet of the preferred sponsor for a new 3-form entry primary school prior to the Council making representations to the Secretary of State.

It was reported that at its meeting on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014, the Cabinet had resolved to allocate basic needs funding and the Council's capital allocation for the provision of a new 3 form entry school in central Oldham that was required to address the current and future shortage of school places.

As the new school must be an Academy, the Secretary of State would make the decision in relation to the sponsor of the school. Local Authorities were able to make representations regarding a preferred sponsor and, following a rigorous local competition process, a preferred sponsor had been identified. The views of residents and other interested parties had been taken into consideration.

It was reported that throughout the competition process, the Harmony Trust had demonstrated high levels of aspiration, ambition and enthusiasm for the Coldhurst Ward and its



community. The competition and selection process, together with the concurrent consultation, placed officers in a strong position to be able to make a secure decision on the preferred sponsor. The process had been rigorous and had involved elected members and senior officers which had afforded it the highest level of integrity.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: For Cabinet to endorse the decision to identify the preferred sponsor, which is The Harmony Trust.

Option 2: For Cabinet to recommend a different sponsor to the Secretary of State, choosing from those who put forward a bid during the competition process.

Option 3: For Cabinet to choose not make a recommendation to the Secretary of State.

RESOLVED – That the decision to identify the preferred sponsor as The Harmony Trust based on the detail as set out in section 3.1 of the report be endorsed.

9

### **FOOD AND FEED SERVICE PLANS 2015/16**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Cooperatives and Neighbourhoods, which sought Members' approval of the 2015/2016 Food and Feed Service Plans. The report set out the details of the proposed Food and Feed Service Plans 2015/2016 and the Food Standards Agency (FSA) sought Elected Member approval of these plans as an important part of the process, to ensure that national and local priorities/standards are addressed and delivered.

Options/Alternatives considered:

That Cabinet did not approve the Plans.

RESOLVED – That Food and Feed Service Plans 2015/16 be approved.

10

### **REQUEST APPROVAL TO EXTEND A CONTRACT WITH KEYRING LIVING SUPPORT NETWORKS FOR A FURTHER YEAR**

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director Health and Wellbeing that requested approval to extend the contract with KeyRing Living Support Networks Ltd for a further year.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 - Allow the contract to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015.

Option 2: Tender the service.

Option 3: To extend the Councils contract with KeyRing Living Support Networks Ltd for a further year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 and reduce the block contract value by 5% (£13,000) from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.

Option 4: To extend the Councils contract with KeyRing Living Support Networks Ltd for a further year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 at the current contract value.

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Councils contract with KeyRing Living Support Networks Ltd be extended for a further year from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

2. The block element of the contract by reduced by 5% (£13,000) and this would be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015.

11

**MERIDIAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY - CONSTRUCTION AND SALE OF PROPERTY AT PRIMROSE BANK / CROSSBANK STREET [WERNETH]**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest in Items 11 and 14, Meridian Development Company - Construction and Sale of Property at Primrose Bank / Crossbank Street [Werneth], by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economic Development updating members in respect to the status of a Council joint venture company and proposals to enter into an agreement with First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO) for the construction of an industrial property on company land.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: Do Nothing.

Option 2: Participate in an agreement with FCHO

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 14 of the agenda before reaching a decision.

12

**ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF LAND AT THE FORMER WESTHULME HOSPITAL, CHADDERTON WAY, OLDHAM**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economic Development seeking approval for the Council to acquire the former Westhulme Hospital site from the NHS Trust and simultaneously complete a sale to a third party to facilitate the development of the site.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1 : Do nothing

Option 2: Support the NHS Trust

RESOLVED – That the Cabinet would consider the commercially sensitive information as detailed at Item 15 of the agenda before reaching a decision.

13

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they contain exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and it would not, on balance, be in the public interest to disclose the reports.

14

**MERIDIAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY - CONSTRUCTION AND SALE OF PROPERTY AT PRIMROSE BANK / CROSSBANK STREET [WERNETH]**

Councillors Brownridge and Hibbert declared a personal interest in Items 11 and 14, Meridian Development Company - Construction and Sale of Property at Primrose Bank / Crossbank Street [Werneth], by virtue of their Council appointment to the First Choice Homes Board.

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economic Development updating members in respect to the status of a Council joint venture company and to seek approval to use company money to enter into an agreement with First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO) for the construction of an industrial property on company land.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: Do Nothing.

Option2: Participate in an agreement with FCHO.

RESOLVED – The

1. The position and future objectives of the company be noted;
2. The Council seeks to enter into an agreement with FCHO (in respect to the land shown edged red on the attached plan) on the basis of the proposed heads of terms outlined in Appendix Two of the report.
3. Authority be delegated to the Executive Director, Economy and Skills to negotiate the final heads of terms for the construction and sale of property at Primrose Bank/Crossbank Street.

15

#### **ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF LAND AT THE FORMER WESTHULME HOSPITAL, CHADDERTON WAY, OLDHAM**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Economic Development seeking approval for the Council to acquire the former Westhulme Hospital site from the NHS Trust and simultaneously complete a sale to a third party to facilitate the development of the site.

Options/Alternatives considered:

Option 1: Do nothing

Option 2: Support the NHS Trust

RESOLVED – That:

1. The Council would proceed to enter into an agreement with the NHS Trust to acquire their land at Chadderton Way and simultaneously enter into an agreement to dispose of the site to a third party to redevelop the site.
2. The agreements were to be completed in accordance with the heads of terms outlined in Appendix Two of the report, which include a direct disposal
3. Authority be delegated to the Director, Economic Development, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder, to negotiate any minor amendments to the final terms of the agreement that may be required prior to completion.
4. The Director of Legal Services or his nominated Representative be authorised to sign and/or affix the

Common Seal of the Council to all documents and associated or ancillary documentation referred to in this Report or required to give effect to the recommendations in this Report.



The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.15 pm

## 4a

### MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE, HELD ON 12 JUNE 2015

#### PRESENT

Councillor David Chadwick	Bolton
Councillor Guy Harkin	Bolton
Councillor Stuart Haslam	Bolton
Councillor Noel Bayley	Bury
Councillor Joan Grimshaw	Bury
Councillor Andrew Fender	Manchester (in the Chair)
Councillor Naeem Hassan	Manchester
Councillor Chris Paul	Manchester
Councillor Tracey Rawlins	Manchester
Councillor Josie Teubler	Manchester
Councillor Norman Briggs	Oldham
Councillor Howard Sykes	Oldham
Councillor Shakil Ahmed	Rochdale
Councillor Philip Burke	Rochdale
Councillor Ian Duckworth	Rochdale
Councillor Robin Garrido	Salford
Councillor Roger Jones	Salford
Councillor Barry Warner	Salford
Councillor Geoff Abell	Stockport
Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick	Stockport
Councillor Syd Lloyd	Stockport
Councillor Iain Roberts	Stockport
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside
Councillor Doreen Dickinson	Tameside
Councillor Peter Robinson	Tameside
Councillor Rob Chilton	Trafford
Councillor Michael Cordingley	Trafford
Councillor Mark Aldred	Wigan
Councillor James Grundy	Wigan
Councillor Lynne Holland	Wigan
Councillor Eunice Smethurst	Wigan

#### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jon Lamonte	Chief Executive, TfGM
Bob Morris	Chief Operations Officer, TfGM

Steve Warrener	Finance and Corporate Services Director, TfGM
Dave Newton	Transport Strategy Director, TfGM
Rod Fawcett	Transport Policy Manager, TfGM
Julie Connor	Head of GMIST
Rodney Lund	Monitoring Officer
Paul Harris	GMIST

**TfGMC15/01            APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors David Hibbert (Oldham), June Reilly (Trafford) and Jim McMahon (GMCA).

**TfGMC15/02            APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF TfGMC FOR 2015/16**

Nominations were sought for the appointment of Chair of TfGMC for 2015/16.

A nomination for the appointment of Councillor Andrew Fender as Chair of TfGMC was moved and seconded.

**Resolved/-**

That Councillor Andrew Fender be re-appointed as the Chair of TfGMC for the 2015/16 municipal year.

**\*COUNCILLOR FENDER IN THE CHAIR**

**TfGMC15/03            CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

**a. Group Photograph**

The Chair reminded Members that the TfGMC Members group photograph was to be taken at the rise of the meeting.

**b. Members' Training**

Members noted that following the meeting, a Members' training session was to take place which would provide an introduction to the terms of reference and the work of TfGMC and TfGM.

**TfGMC15/04            APPOINTMENT OF THREE VICE CHAIRS 2015/16**

The Chair sought three nominations for the positions of Vice Chair of TfGMC for the 2015/16 municipal year.

Nominations were received for Councillors Mark Aldred, Doreen Dickinson and Guy Harkin. These nominations were moved and seconded.

**Resolved/-**

That Councillors Mark Aldred, Doreen Dickinson and Guy Harkin each be appointed as a Vice Chair of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

**TfGMC15/05 WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND A VOTE OF THANKS TO RETIRING MEMBERS**

The Chair referred to the following changes to the membership of the Committee for 2015/16:-

<b>District</b>	<b>New Members</b>	<b>Retiring Members</b>
Oldham	Cllr David Hibbert (Lab)	Cllr Adrian Alexander (Lab)
Stockport	Cllr Geoff Abell (LD) Cllr Iain Roberts (LD) Cllr Syd Lloyd (Con)	Cllr Martin Candler (LD) Cllr Kevin Dowling (LD) Cllr William Wragg (Con)
Wigan	Cllr James Grundy (Con)	Cllr Norman Bradbury (Ind)

**Resolved/-**

1. To welcome Councillors Abell, Grundy, Hibbert, Lloyd and Roberts as new Members on TfGMC.
2. To place on record the Committee's thanks to retiring TfGMC Councillors Alexander, Bradbury, Candler, Dowling and Wragg.

**TfGM15/06 MEMBERSHIP OF TRANSPORT FOR THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE 2015/16**

**Resolved/-**

The Committee noted the following membership of the Committee, as appointed by the 10 district Councils for the 2015/16 Municipal Year:-

<b><u>Bolton:</u></b>	Cllr David Chadwick (Lab) Cllr Guy Harkin (Lab) Cllr Stuart Haslam (Con)	<b><u>Bury:</u></b>	Cllr Noel Bayley (Lab) Cllr Joan Grimshaw (Lab)
<b><u>Manchester</u></b>	Cllr Andrew Fender (Lab) Cllr Naeem Hassan (Lab) Cllr Chris Paul (Lab) Cllr Tracey Rawlins (Lab) Cllr Josie Teubler (Lab)	<b><u>Oldham:</u></b>	Cllr Norman Briggs (Lab) Cllr David Hibbert (Lab) Cllr Howard Sykes (LD)
<b><u>Rochdale:</u></b>	Cllr Shakil Ahmed (Lab) Cllr Philip Burke (Lab) Cllr Ian Duckworth (Con)	<b><u>Salford:</u></b>	Cllr Roger Jones (Lab) Cllr Robin Garrido (Con) Cllr Barry Warner (Lab)
<b><u>Stockport:</u></b>	Cllr Geoff Abell (LD) Cllr Dean Fitzpatrick (Lab) Cllr Syd Lloyd (Con)	<b><u>Tameside:</u></b>	Cllr Warren Bray (Lab) Cllr Doreen Dickinson (Con) Cllr Peter Robinson (Lab)

Cllr Iain Roberts (LD)

**Trafford:** Cllr Rob Chilton (Con)  
Cllr Michael Cordingley  
Lab)  
Cllr June Reilly (Con)

**Wigan:** Cllr Mark Aldred (Lab)  
Cllr James Grundy (Con)  
Cllr Patricia Holland (Lab)  
Cllr Eunice Smethurst (Lab)

## **TfGMC15/07 MINUTES OF THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Minutes of the proceedings of the 2014 Annual Meeting of the TfGMC, held on 20 June 2014, were submitted.

### **Resolved/-**

That the Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting of TfGMC, held on 20 June 2014, be approved as a correct record.

## **TfGMC15/08 TfGMC RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Members considered the Rules of Procedure for TfGMC, as set out in Section 2 of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Operating Agreement.

### **Resolved/-**

That the Rules of Procedure for TfGMC, as set out in Section 2 of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Operating Agreement, be noted.

## **TfGMC15/09 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SUB COMMITTEES OF THE TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE**

Members considered the Terms of Reference for the Capital Projects and Policy, the Bus Network and TfGM Services, and the Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committees.

### **Resolved/-**

1. That the Terms of Reference for the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee be approved, as set out in the report.
2. That the Terms of Reference for the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee be approved, as set out in the report.
3. That the Terms of Reference for Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committee be approved, as set out in the report.



**TfGMC15/10 SUB COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS FOR 2015/16 AND THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE CHAIRS AND DEPUTY CHAIRS OF SUB COMMITTEES**

Consideration was given to the appointment of the Chair and Deputy Chair and Members of each of Capital Projects and Policy, the Bus Network and TfGM Services, and the Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committees.

**Resolved/-**

That the membership to Sub Committees for 2015/16 be approved as follows:-

**(a) Capital Projects & Policy; (15 Members) 10 Lab, 4 Con, 1 LD**

Cllr Shakil Ahmed	Lab	(Rochdale)
Cllr Michael Cordingley	Lab	(Trafford)
Cllr Doreen Dickinson	Con	(Tameside)
Cllr Andrew Fender	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr Dean Fitzpatrick	Lab	(Stockport)
Cllr Robin Garrido	Con	(Salford)
Cllr Joan Grimshaw	Lab	(Bury)
Cllr James Grundy	Con	(Wigan)
Cllr Guy Harkin <b>(Chair)</b>	Lab	(Bolton)
Cllr Stuart Haslam	Con	(Bolton)
Cllr David Hibbert	Lab	(Oldham)
Cllr Roger Jones	Lab	(Salford)
Cllr Iain Roberts	LD	(Stockport)
Cllr Peter Robinson	Lab	(Tameside)
Cllr Eunice Smethurst <b>(Deputy Chair)</b>	Lab	(Wigan)

Substitutes:

Cllr Geoff Abell	LD	(Stockport)
Cllr Noel Bayley	Lab	(Bury)
Cllr Warren Bray	Lab	(Tameside)
Cllr Norman Briggs	Lab	(Oldham)
Cllr Patricia Holland	Lab	(Wigan)
Cllr Syd Lloyd	Con	(Stockport)
Cllr Chris Paul	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr June Reilly	Con	(Trafford)

**(b) Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee (13 members) - 9 Lab, 3 Con, 1 LD**

Cllr Shakil Ahmed	Lab	(Rochdale)
Cllr Mark Aldred <b>(Chair)</b>	Lab	(Wigan)

Cllr Noel Bayley	Lab	(Bury)
Cllr Warren Bray	Lab	(Tameside)
Cllr Philip Burke	Lab	(Rochdale)
Cllr David Chadwick	Lab	(Bolton)
Cllr Rob Chilton	Con	(Trafford)
Cllr Stuart Haslam	Con	(Bolton)
Cllr Naeem Hassan	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr Syd Lloyd	Con	(Stockport)
Cllr Chris Paul	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr Howard Sykes	LD	(Oldham)
Cllr Barry Warner ( <b>Deputy Chair</b> )	Lab	(Salford)

Substitutes:

Cllr Robin Garrido	Con	(Salford)
Cllr Ian Duckworth	Con	(Rochdale)
Cllr Guy Harkin	Lab	(Bolton)
Cllr David Hibbert	Lab	(Oldham)
Cllr Tracey Rawlins	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr Iain Roberts	LD	(Stockport)
Cllr Josie Teubler	Lab	(Manchester)

**(c) Metrolink & Rail Networks.** (13 members) - 9 Lab, 3 Con, 1 LD.

Cllr Geoff Abell	LD	(Stockport)
Cllr Norman Briggs	Lab	(Oldham)
Cllr David Chadwick	Lab	(Bolton)
Cllr Michael Cordingley	Lab	(Trafford)
Cllr Doreen Dickinson ( <b>Chair</b> )	Con	(Tameside)
Cllr Ian Duckworth	Con	(Rochdale)
Cllr Dean Fitzpatrick	Lab	(Stockport)
Cllr Lynne Holland ( <b>Deputy Chair</b> )	Lab	(Wigan)
Cllr Roger Jones	Lab	(Salford)
Cllr Tracey Rawlins	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr June Reilly	Con	(Trafford)
Cllr Peter Robinson	Lab	(Tameside)
Cllr Josie Teubler	Lab	(Manchester)

Substitutes:

Cllr Rob Chilton	Con	(Trafford)
Cllr Joan Grimshaw	Lab	(Bury)
Cllr Stuart Haslam	Con	(Bolton)
Cllr Naeem Hassan	Lab	(Manchester)
Cllr Eunice Smethurst	Lab	(Wigan)
Cllr Howard Sykes	LD	(Oldham)
Cllr Barry Warner	Lab	(Salford)

Members considered the Programme of TfGMC and Sub Committee meetings for 2015/16.

**Resolved/-**

That the following programme of meetings be agreed for 2015/16:-

**(a) Transport for Greater Manchester Committee**

- Friday 12 June 2015 (AGM)
- Friday 17 July 2015
- Friday 11 September 2015
- Friday 13 November 2015
- Friday 15 January 2016
- Friday 11 March 2016
- Friday 10 June 2016 (AGM)

**Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee**

- Friday 3 July 2015 **(2.00 PM)**
- Friday 2 October 2015
- Friday 6 November 2015
- Friday 5 February 2016
- Friday 4 March 2016
- Friday 15 April 2016

**Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee**

- Friday 10 July 2015
- Friday 9 October 2015
- Friday 20 November 2015
- Friday 15 January 2016 **(2.00 pm)**
- Friday 11 March 2016 **(2.00 pm)**
- Friday 22 April 2016

**Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committee:**

- Friday 3 July 2015
- Friday 25 September 2015
- Friday 23 October 2015
- Friday 18 December 2015
- Friday 12 February 2016
- Friday 8 April 2016

## **TfGMC15/12 APPOINTMENT OF TfGMC CYCLING CHAMPION**

The Committee received a report that set out the Terms of Reference for a TfGMC Cycling Champion and sought a Member nomination for this role. A nomination of Councillor Chris Paul was moved and seconded.

### **Resolved/-**

1. That the Terms of Reference for a TfGMC Cycling Champion be noted.
2. That Councillor Chris Paul be re-appointed as the TfGMC Cycling Champion for 2015/16.

## **TfGMC15/13 NOMINATIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES 2015/16**

Members were asked to consider the following appointments to external bodies for 2015/16:-

### **(a) The City Regions Transport Special Interest Group of the LGA**

#### **Resolved/-**

That Councillors Andrew Fender, Guy Harkin and Doreen Dickinson be appointed to City Regions Transport Special Interest Group (SIG) for 2015/16.

### **(b) Greater Manchester Low Carbon Hub Board**

Members considered a TfGMC nomination to become a Member of the GM Low Carbon Hub Board for 2015/16

The nomination of Councillor Eunice Smethurst was moved and seconded.

#### **Resolved/-**

That Councillor Eunice Smethurst be appointed to the GM Low Carbon Hub Board for 2015/16.

### **(c) Greater Manchester Museum of Transport Advisory Panel**

The Committee considered nominations to the Greater Manchester Museum of Transport Advisory Panel.

#### **Resolved/-**

That Councillors Geoff Abell, Dean Fitzpatrick, Robin Garrido, Patricia Holland and Eunice Smethurst be appointed to the Greater Manchester Museum of Transport Advisory Panel for 2015/16.

**(d) Ring and Ride Community Forum (previously Steering Groups)**

Members considered the following appointments to the Ring and Ride Community Forum for 2015/16:-

Bolton	Councillor David Chadwick
Bury	Councillor Noel Bayley
Manchester	Councillor Naeem Hassan
Oldham	Councillor Norman Briggs
Rochdale	Councillor Shakil Ahmed
Salford	Councillor Barry Warner
Stockport	Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick
Tameside	Councillor Peter Robinson
Trafford	Councillor Michael Cordingley
Wigan	Councillor Eunice Smethurst

**Resolved/-**

That the appointments to the Ring and Ride Community Forums for 2015/16 be approved as set out in the preamble above.

**(e) Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES)**

**Resolved/-**

That Councillor Chris Paul be appointed as the TfGMC representative to the CLES Board for 2015/16.



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE  
TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE, HELD ON 12  
JUNE 2015**

**PRESENT**

Councillor David Chadwick	Bolton
Councillor Guy Harkin	Bolton
Councillor Stuart Haslam	Bolton
Councillor Noel Bayley	Bury
Councillor Joan Grimshaw	Bury
Councillor Andrew Fender	Manchester (in the Chair)
Councillor Naeem Hassan	Manchester
Councillor Chris Paul	Manchester
Councillor Tracey Rawlins	Manchester
Councillor Josie Teubler	Manchester
Councillor Norman Briggs	Oldham
Councillor Howard Sykes	Oldham
Councillor Shakil Ahmed	Rochdale
Councillor Philip Burke	Rochdale
Councillor Ian Duckworth	Rochdale
Councillor Robin Garrido	Salford
Councillor Roger Jones	Salford
Councillor Barry Warner	Salford
Councillor Geoff Abell	Stockport
Councillor Dean Fitzpatrick	Stockport
Councillor Syd Lloyd	Stockport
Councillor Iain Roberts	Stockport
Councillor Warren Bray	Tameside
Councillor Doreen Dickinson	Tameside
Councillor Peter Robinson	Tameside
Councillor Rob Chilton	Trafford
Councillor Michael Cordingley	Trafford
Councillor Mark Aldred	Wigan
Councillor James Grundy	Wigan
Councillor Lynne Holland	Wigan
Councillor Eunice Smethurst	Wigan

## **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Jon Lamonte	Chief Executive Officer, TfGM
Bob Morris	Chief Operations Officer, TfGM
Steve Warrener	Finance and Corporate Services Director, TfGM
Dave Newton	Transport Strategy Director, TfGM
Rod Fawcett	Transport Policy Manager, TfGM
Julie Connor	Head of GMIST
Rodney Lund	Monitoring Officer
Paul Harris	GMIST

### **TfGMC15/14 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no announcements or items of urgent business reported.

### **TfGMC15/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor James Grundy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 19, Transport for the North, specifically in relation to any matters concerning the HS2 spur route to Wigan.

### **TfGMC15/16 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the TfGMC meeting, held on 13 March 2015 were submitted.

In response to an enquiry from a Member, officers confirmed that an update on the study regarding the carriage of non-assistance dogs on the Metrolink network would be reported an upcoming meeting of the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee meeting on 3 July 2015.

#### **Resolved/-**

1. To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 13 March 2015 as a correct record.
2. To note that an update on the study regarding the carriage of non assistance dogs on Metrolink would be considered by the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee on 3 July 2015.

### **TfGMC15/17 MINUTES FROM SUB COMMITTEES**

#### **a. Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committee – 10 April 2015**

The minutes of the Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committee meeting held on 10 April 2015 were submitted.

#### **Resolved/-**

To receive the minutes of the Metrolink and Rail Networks Sub Committee meeting held on 10 April 2015.



**b. Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee – 10 April 2015**

The minutes of the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee meeting, held on 10 April 2015 were submitted.

**Resolved/-**

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Capital Projects and Policy Sub Committee meeting, held on 10 April 2015.

**c. Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee – 17 April 2015**

The minutes of the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee, held on 17 April 2015 were submitted.

**Resolved/-**

To receive the minutes of the Capital Projects and policy Sub Committee meeting, held on 17 April 2015.

**TfGMC15/18 FORWARD LOOK**

Members received a report which presented them with a Forward Look of key work streams requiring decisions from the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee over the next four months. The report also set out those significant elements of the Committee's work programme, where further updates on progress and activity were anticipated over a longer time period.

Following a suggestion from a Member, officers undertook to include details of when matters regarding bus franchising would be reported to the Committee in future Forward Look reports to the Committee.

**Resolved/-**

1. To note the Forward Look.
2. To agree that officers be instructed to include details of when the Committee would receive reports in relation to Bus Franchising in to future Forward Look reports.

**Section 2**

**TfGMC Recommendations for Further Approval by GMCA**

There are no items for further consideration by GMCA.

**Section 3**

**Items for Resolution by TfGMC**

There are no items for resolution by TfGMC.

#### **Section 4 Items for Information**

##### **TfGMC15/19 TRANSPORT TOR THE NORTH UPDATE**

**[Note: Councillor James Grundy declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item.]**

Members considered a report which presented them with the final version of the joint Transport for the North (TfN)/Department for Transport (DfT) report on the Northern Transport Strategy, which was launched by the Secretary of State for Transport on 20 March 2015. The report also presented a summary of the current and anticipated future work of TfN over the next 12 months and highlighted the anticipated associated budget requirements.

In response to a suggestion from a Member, officers undertook to provide a plain English summary of the report.

Following an enquiry from a Member regarding smart ticketing and travel information, officers noted that the Northern Transport Strategy would consider the introduction of complementary smart ticketing technology within individual city regions across the north.

A Member commented that in addition to city regions, improvements to transport connectivity would also be required around sub regional centres. In response, officers noted that work to this regard was on-going.

#### **Resolved/-**

1. To note the contents of the report and the Northern Powerhouse: One Agenda, One Economy, One North report, as appended to the report.
2. To note the anticipated development budget for TfN of up to £12.5 million over the 2015/16 financial year.
3. To note that the TfN update had been considered by GM Combined Authority and the GM Local Enterprise Partnership.

##### **TfGMC15/20 TRAFFIC SIGNALS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT – YEAR 4 REVIEW**

A report was presented which updated Members on the outcomes of the Year 4 Review of the Traffic Signals Maintenance Contract. Members noted that this was a contractually specified review to ensure that the contract was operating as intended and to confirm operating arrangements for the next four years.

In response to an enquiry from a Member, officers noted that data for September 2014 had not been collated following an administrative error by the contractor. Members noted that measures have now been introduced by the contractor to ensure that this oversight was not repeated.

Following an enquiry from a Member regarding how traffic flows may be accurately evaluated, officers explained the data analysis processes involved for understanding

traffic flows. Members also noted that as part of the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) scheme, highway sensors were being introduced in roads at a number of junctions in Greater Manchester, which will provide real time road usage information and enable more accurate traffic flow data to be produced.

**Resolved/-**

To note the findings of the year 4 review of the Traffic Signals Contract, as set out in the report.

**TfGMC15/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**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 of business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**Section 5**

**Part B Item for Resolution by TfGMC**

**TfGMC15/22 PROPERTY DISPOSALS**

Members considered a report which set out proposed property disposals of land at Radcliffe, Ashton and Manchester.

**Resolved/-**

To approve the disposal of land at those locations in Radcliffe, Ashton and Manchester, as detailed in the report.

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**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD  
HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015 AT OLDHAM CIVIC CENTRE**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Cliff Morris
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Iain Roberts
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

**JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

GMP	Ian Hopkins
GMWDA	Councillor Nigel Murphy
DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER	Jim Battle
TfGMC	Councillor Andrew Fender

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Howard Bernstein	GMCA Head of Paid Service
Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Paul Najsarek	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Rodney Lund	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Donna Hall	Wigan Council

Jon Lamonte  
Andrew Lightfoot  
Mark Hughes  
Simon Nokes  
Clare Regan  
Julie Connor  
Sylvia Welsh  
Kerry Bond

TfGM  
GM Director of Public Service Reform  
Manchester Growth Company  
New Economy  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
) Greater Manchester  
) Integrated Support Team  
)

**01/15 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Sue Derbyshire, David Acton, Cath Piddington and Jim Taylor, Peter Fahy.

**02/15 APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**RESOLVED/-**

The AGMA Executive Board agreed to appoint Richard Leese, Leader, Manchester City Council as the Chair of the AGMA Executive Board for this meeting and until GM Local Authorities have determined a request for the GMCA to become a full member of AGMA, at which point the appointment of the Chair of AGMA Executive for 2015/16 to be reconsidered.

**03/15 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRS**

**RESOLVED/-**

The Combined Authority agree to appoint 3 Vice Chairs for 2015/16, one from each political group on the GMCA as set out below-

<b>Political Group</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Labour</b>	Vacant – to be determined following appointment of Chair, as detailed in above minute 02/15
<b>Lib Democrats</b>	Sue Derbyshire
<b>Conservative</b>	Sean Anstee

**04/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**05/15 CONSTITUTION**

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the AGMA Constitution as agreed by the Executive Board in June 2012.

**06/15 GREATER MANCHESTER APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS 2015/16**

The AGMA Executive Board received a report from Donna Hall, Secretary to AGMA requesting members to agree A) AGMA appointments and nominations received from the GM local authorities to Greater Manchester statutory bodies; B) nominations received from Greater Manchester local authorities for appointment to joint GMCA and AGMA bodies; and C) appointments to other outside bodies for 2015/16

**RESOLVED/-**

**A) AGMA Appointments and Nominations received from the Greater Manchester local authorities to Greater Manchester Statutory and other bodies.**

1. To note the appointments from local authorities to the AGMA Executive Board as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute Member</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Cliff Morris	Linda Thomas Ebrahim Adia
<b>Bury</b>	Michael Connolly	Rishi Shori Vacancy
<b>Manchester</b>	Richard Leese	Sue Murphy Bernard Priest
<b>Oldham</b>	Jim McMahon	Jean Stretton Dave Hibbert
<b>Rochdale</b>	Richard Farnell	Peter Williams Allen Brett
<b>Salford</b>	Ian Stewart	David Lancaster Paul Dennett
<b>Stockport</b>	Sue Derbyshire	Iain Roberts Shan Alexander
<b>Tameside</b>	Kieran Quinn	John Taylor Jim Fitzpatrick
<b>Trafford</b>	Sean Anstee	Michael Young Patrick Myers
<b>Wigan</b>	Peter Smith	David Molyneux Christopher Ready

2. To note the appointments from local authorities to the Police and Crime Panel as set out below-

District	Member
Bolton	Cliff Morris
Bury	Michael Connolly
Manchester	Richard Leese
Oldham	Jim McMahon
Rochdale	Richard Farnell
Salford	Ian Stewart
Stockport	Sue Derbyshire
Tameside	Kieran Quinn
Trafford	Sean Anstee
Wigan	Peter Smith
Co-opted member	Diane Curry
Co-opted member	Maqsood Ahmad

3. To note that the Police and Crime Panel will be considering the re-appointment of the 2 co-opted members to the Police and Crime Panel for a further 3 year term.
4. To note the appointments from local authorities to the Police and Crime Steering Group as set out below-

District	Member
Bolton	Derek Burrows
Bury	Tamoor Tariq
Manchester	Nigel Murphy
Oldham	Barbara Brownridge
Rochdale	Daalat Ali
Salford	David Lancaster
Stockport	Shan Alexander
Tameside	Joe Kitchen
Trafford	John Lamb
Wigan	TBC

5. To agree to approve the appointment of Mike Connolly, the GMCA Police and Crime Portfolio Holder to the Police and Crime Steering Group.
6. To note the appointments from local authorities to the GM Health Scrutiny Committee as set out below-

District	Member	Substitute Member
Bolton	Champak Mistry	Carol Burrows



<b>Bury</b>	Sarah Kerrison	Joan Grimshaw
<b>Manchester</b>	Glynn Evans	Vacancy
<b>Oldham</b>	Brian Ames	Colin McLaren
<b>Rochdale</b>	Sara Rowbotham	Pat Sullivan
<b>Salford</b>	Margaret Morris	Jim King
<b>Stockport</b>	Tom McGee	June Somekh
<b>Tameside</b>	Claire Reynolds	Vacancy
<b>Trafford</b>	Patricia Young	Angela Bruer-Morris
<b>Wigan</b>	John O'Brien	Nigel Ash

7. To agree to appoint 6 members, from the nominations received, plus the Health and Wellbeing portfolio holder to the Interim GM Health and Wellbeing Board as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Portfolio holder</b>	Cliff Morris
<b>Bury</b>	Andrea Simpson
<b>Manchester</b>	Paul Andrews
<b>Salford</b>	Lisa Stone
<b>Stockport</b>	John Pantall
<b>Trafford</b>	Patricia Young
<b>Wigan</b>	Keith Cunliffe

8. To agree to appoint 6 members from the nominations received, plus Planning and Housing portfolio holder to the Planning and Housing Commission as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Portfolio holder</b>	Sue Derbsyshire
<b>Manchester</b>	Bernard Priest
<b>Oldham</b>	Dave Hibbert
<b>Rochdale</b>	Jacqueline Beswick
<b>Salford</b>	Derek Antrobus
<b>Tameside</b>	Gerald Cooney
<b>Trafford</b>	Michael Young

9. To approve the nominations by local authorities to the Statutory Function Committee as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute Member</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Madeline Murray	Cliff Morris
<b>Bury</b>	Judith Kelly	Vacancy
<b>Manchester</b>	Alistair Cox	Vacancy
<b>Oldham</b>	Graham Shuttleworth	S Bashforth

<b>Rochdale</b>	Daalat Ali	Peter Williams
<b>Salford</b>	Ann Marie Humphreys	Jane Hamilton
<b>Stockport</b>	John Pantall	Keith Holloway
<b>Tameside</b>	Jackie Lane	Vacancy
<b>Trafford</b>	Bernard Sharp	Dylan Butt
<b>Wigan</b>	Paul Kenny	Bill Clarke

**B) Nominations received from the Greater Manchester local authorities for appointments to Joint GMCA and AGMA Bodies**

10. To note the appointments from local authorities to the GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Anne Graham Andrew Morgan Alan Bury
<b>Bury</b>	Iain Bevan Jane Black T Tariq
<b>Manchester</b>	Ahmed Ali Angeliki Stogia Matt Strong
<b>Oldham</b>	Colin McLaren Cath Ball Julia Turner
<b>Rochdale</b>	Niel Butterworth Sara Rowbotham Robert Clegg
<b>Salford</b>	John Ferguson Jillian Collinson John Walsh
<b>Stockport</b>	Sue Ingham Wendy Wild John McGahan
<b>Tameside</b>	John Bell Gill Peet Maria Bailey
<b>Trafford</b>	Pamela Dixon Jonathan Coupe Barry Brotherton
<b>Wigan</b>	Pam Stewart John O'Brien Edward Houlton

**C) Nominations received from the Greater Manchester local authorities for appointment by the AGMA to Outside Bodies**

11. To approve the appointment of 10 members, nominated by the local authorities to the GM Pensions Fund Management Panel as set out below-

District	Member
Bolton	Mike Francis
Bury	Joan Grimshaw
Manchester	Luthfur Rahman
Oldham	Peter Dean
Rochdale	Allen Brett
Salford	Paul Dennett
Stockport	John Pantall
Tameside	Kieran Quinn (Chair)
Trafford	Alan Mitchell
Wigan	Terry Halliwell

12. To appoint 7 members, from the nominations received from the local authorities to the Asylum Seekers Board as set out below-

District	Member
Portfolio Holder	Mike Connolly
Bolton	Kate Lewis
Manchester	Paul Andrews
Oldham	Barbara Brownridge
Rochdale	Aftab Hussain
Salford	Paul Dennett
Stockport	Patrick McAuley
Tameside	Lynn Travis

13. To agree that appointment of representative to the Halle Board be determined at the next meeting.
14. To agree to approve the appointment of 1 member to the People's History Museum Board as set out below-

District	Member
Salford	Derek Antrobus

15. To note the appointment of Councillor Zuman Chauhan (Oldham) in June 2014 to the Council of Governors for the Christie Hospital NHS Foundation

Trust for a three year term of appointment, to be reviewed in June 2016.

**07/15 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2015/16**

**RESOLVED/-**

To approve the planned cycle of meetings as detailed below-

Friday 31 July 2015	-	Rochdale
Friday 28 August 2015	-	Salford
Friday 25 September 2015	-	Stockport
Friday 30 October 2015	-	Bury
Friday 27 November 2015	-	Trafford
Friday 18 December 2015	-	Manchester
Friday 29 January 2016	-	Bolton
Friday 26 February 2016	-	Oldham
Friday 18 March 2016	-	Rochdale (25 March is Good Friday)
Friday 29 April 2016	-	Salford
Friday 27 May 2016	-	Stockport
Friday 24 June 2016	-	Tameside

Chair

**GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY ANNUAL  
MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 26 JUNE AT OLDHAM CIVIC CENTRE**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Cliff Morris
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Iain Roberts
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

**JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

GMP	Ian Hopkins
GMWDA	Councillor Nigel Murphy
DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER	Jim Battle
TfGMC	Councillor Andrew Fender

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Howard Bernstein	GMCA Head of Paid Service
Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Paul Najsarek	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Rodney Lund	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Donna Hall	Wigan Council
Jon Lamonte	TfGM
Andrew Lightfoot	GM Director of Public Service Reform
Mark Hughes	Manchester Growth Company

Simon Nokes  
Clare Regan  
Julie Connor  
Sylvia Welsh  
Kerry Bond

New Economy  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
) Greater Manchester  
) Integrated Support Team  
)

**73/15 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Sue Derbyshire, David Acton, Cath Piddington. Jim Taylor and Peter Fahy.

**74/15 APPOINTMENT OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER INTERIM MAYOR**

The Combined Authority considered a report from Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer and Julie Connor, Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team detailing the recommendations of the Appointment Panel, the outcome of the Independent Remuneration process and requesting further resolutions to allow the role of Interim Mayor to be fully integrated into the decision making process of the GMCA and AGMA.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To approve the recommendation of the Appointment Panel to appoint Tony Lloyd to the role of Interim Mayor for Greater Manchester for the period of June 2015-May 2017 following a successful interview process.
2. To note the outcome of the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations in relation to the allowance payment to the Interim Mayor.
3. To approve the resolution as per section 5.2 to allow voting rights to the Interim Mayor on all decisions taken by the GMCA.
4. To agree to the GMCA applying to become a full member of AGMA in its own right; and to request that each GM Local Authority is recommended to agree to this proposal as soon as possible.

**74/15 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRS**

The Combined Authority agree to appoint 3 Vice Chairs for 2015/16, one from each political group on the GMCA as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Manchester</b>	Richard Leese
<b>Stockport</b>	Sue Derbyshire
<b>Trafford</b>	Sean Anstee

**75/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**76/15 GMCA CONSTITUTION**

The Combined Authority considered a report from Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer detailing proposed revisions to the GMCA Constitution.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree to adopt revised Parts of the GMCA Constitution, namely – Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4, Part 5, Part 6, Part 7 and Part 8 as detailed in the report.
2. To note that Appendix 1 of the Constitution will contain the updated Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011 to include the amendments arising from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (Amendment) Order 2015.

**77/15 GREATER MANCHESTER APPOINTMENT AND NOMINATIONS 2015/16**

The Combined Authority considered a report from Donna Hall, Secretary to the GMCA requesting members to agree A) portfolio responsibilities for 2015/16; B) GMCA appointments and nominations received from the GM local authorities to Greater Manchester statutory bodies; C) nominations received from Greater Manchester local authorities for appointment to GMCA and AGMA bodies; and D) requests for GMCA appointments to other outside bodies for 2015/16.

**RESOLVED/-**

**A) Proposed Portfolio holders**

1. To agree that the allocation of portfolio holder responsibilities to appropriate Leaders and Chief Executives for 2015/16 will be determined at the meeting scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015, existing responsibilities stand until this meeting.

**B) GMCA Appointments and Nominations received from the Greater Manchester local authorities to GM Statutory and other bodies**

**Greater Manchester Combined Authority**

2. To note the appointments by local authorities to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority as set out below-

District	Member	Substitute Member
Bolton	Cliff Morris	Linda Thomas
Bury	Michael Connolly	Rishi Shori
Manchester	Richard Leese	Sue Murphy
Oldham	Jim McMahon	Jean Stretton
Rochdale	Richard Farnell	Peter Williams
Salford	Ian Stewart	David Lancaster
Stockport	Sue Derbyshire	Iain Roberts
Tameside	Kieran Quinn	John Taylor

<b>Trafford</b>	Sean Anstee	Michael Young
<b>Wigan</b>	Peter Smith	David Molyneux

3. To agree to appoint 5 GMCA members or substitute members (3 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Conservative) to the Standards Committee.

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Cliff Morris
<b>Salford</b>	Ian Stewart
<b>Stockport</b>	Sue Derbyshire
<b>Trafford</b>	Sean Anstee

4. To note that the GMCA, in July 2012, appointed 1 Co-opted Independent member, Amanda Isles, to act as the Chair of the Standards Committee and 2 Independent Persons, Elizabeth Carmichael and Naseem Malick, to assist the Monitoring Officer and Hearing Panel in dealing with allegations that members of the GMCA have acted in breach of the GMCA's Code of Conduct.
5. To note the resignation of Naseem Malick as an Independent Person on the GMCA Standards Committee and to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make arrangements for the recruitment of 1 'Independent Person, in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011, and whose appointment must be approved by the majority of the members of the GMCA.
6. To note the appointments by local authorities to the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee for 2015/16 as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Members</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	David Chadwick Guy Harkin Stuart Haslam
<b>Bury</b>	Noel Bayley Joan Grimshaw
<b>Manchester</b>	Andrew Fender Chris Paul Naeem Hassan Josie Teubler TBC
<b>Oldham</b>	Dave Hibbert Norman Briggs Howard Sykes
<b>Rochdale</b>	Shakil Ahmed Philip Burke Ian Duckworth
<b>Salford</b>	Robin Garrido Roger Jones Barry Warner
<b>Stockport</b>	Geoff Abell Syd Lloyd Dean Fitzpatrick Iain Roberts



<b>Tameside</b>	Warren Bray Doreen Dickenson Peter Robinson
<b>Trafford</b>	Rob Chilton June Reilly Michael Cordingley
<b>Wigan</b>	Mark Aldred Lynne Holland Eunice Smethurst James Grundy

7. To agree to appoint 4 GMCA members (Chair and Vice Chairs) to the Local Enterprise Partnership as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Chair of GMCA</b>	Tony Lloyd
<b>Vice Chair of GMCA</b>	Richard Leese
<b>Vice Chair of GMCA</b>	Sue Derbyshire
<b>Vice Chair of GMCA</b>	Sean Anstee

8. To agree to appoint 5 GMCA members to the Manchester Growth Company, as set out below-

<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Member</b>
Economic Strategy/Growth Deal	Richard Leese
Internationalisation & Marketing (including Trade & Investment)	Richard Farnell
Skills, Employment & Worklessness	Sean Anstee
Investment Strategy & Finance	Kieran Quinn
Business Support & Business Finance	Ian Stewart

9. To agree to appoint 5 GMCA members or substitute members, including the Skills & Employment portfolio holder, to the Skills and Employment Partnership as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Sean Anstee
<b>Manchester</b>	Bernard Priest
<b>Salford</b>	Ian Stewart
<b>Stockport</b>	Iain Roberts
<b>Trafford</b>	Michael Young

10. To agree to appoint Sue Derbyshire, the GMCA Low Carbon portfolio holder to the GM Low Carbon Hub.
11. To agree to appoint 1 representative and 1 substitute to the NW European Programmes Local Management Committee as set out below-

District	Member
Manchester	Sue Murphy
Salford	Ian Stewart

12. To agree to appoint 5 GMCA members to the Greater Manchester (European Programmes) Local Management Committee as set out below-

Portfolio	Member
Economic Strategy/Growth Deal	Sue Murphy
Transport	Jim McMahon
Skills, Employment & Worklessness	Sean Anstee
Investment Strategy & Finance	Kieran Quinn
Business Support & Business Finance	Ian Stewart

13. To agree to appoint 3 GMCA members to the Greater Manchester Investment Board as set out below-

Portfolio	Member
Economic Strategy/Growth Deal	Richard Leese
Investment Strategy & Finance	Kieran Quinn
Business Support & Business Finance	Ian Stewart

14. To note the appointments by local authorities to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool for 2015/16 as set out below-

District	Member
Bolton	Alan Bury Annie Graham Andrew Morgan
Bury	Jane Black Iain Bevan Tamoor Tariq
Manchester	Ahmed Ali Angeliki Stogia Matt Strong

<b>Oldham</b>	Colin McLaren Cath Ball Julia Turner
<b>Rochdale</b>	Neil Butterworth Robert Clegg Sara Rowbotham
<b>Salford</b>	John Ferguson Jillian Collinson John Walsh
<b>Stockport</b>	Sue Ingham Wendy Wild John McGahan
<b>Tameside</b>	Maria Bailey John Bell Gill Peet
<b>Trafford</b>	Pamela Dixon Jonathan Coupe Barry Brotherton
<b>Wigan</b>	Pam Stewart John O'Brien Edward Houlton

15. To agree to appoint Ian Stewart to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee.
16. To agree to appoint 3 GMCA Substitute members to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee as set out below-

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Salford</b>	David Lancaster
<b>Vacancy</b>	
<b>Vacancy</b>	

17. To agree to appoint 3 members to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee from the Joint GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool of members, from the nominations received from the local authorities.

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>Bolton</b>	Alan Bury
<b>Oldham</b>	Colin McClaren
<b>Wigan</b>	Pam Stewart

**D) Nominations received from the Greater Manchester local authorities for appointment by the GMCA to Outside Bodies**

18. To agree to appoint Ian Stewart to the Atlantic Gateway Board for 2015/16.
19. To agree to appoint 3 representatives to the North West Flood and Coastal Committee as set out below, and that those appointed be requested to appoint their own substitute.

District	Member
Salford	Derek Antrobus
Stockport	Chris Gordon
Wigan	Kevin Anderson

20. To agree to appoint 3 GMCA members to the Regional Leaders Board as set out below-

District	Member
Chair / Interim Mayor	Tony Lloyd
Manchester	Richard Leese
Trafford	Sean Anstee

#### 78/15 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2015/16

Members agreed that the meetings of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority will take place on the same day as the AGMA Executive Board, as set out below-

Friday 31 July 2015	-	Rochdale
Friday 28 August 2015	-	Salford
Friday 25 September 2015	-	Stockport
Friday 30 October 2015	-	Bury
Friday 27 November 2015	-	Trafford
Friday 18 December 2015	-	Manchester
Friday 29 January 2016	-	Bolton
Friday 26 February 2016	-	Oldham
Friday 18 March 2016	-	Rochdale (25 March is Good Friday)
Friday 29 April 2016	-	Salford
Friday 27 May 2016	-	Stockport
Friday 24 June 2016	-	Tameside

**GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING  
HELD ON FRIDAY 26 JUNE AT OLDHAM CIVIC CENTRE**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Cliff Morris
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Iain Roberts
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

**JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

GMP	Ian Hopkins
GMWDA	Councillor Nigel Murphy
DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER	Jim Battle
TfGMC	Councillor Andrew Fender

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Howard Bernstein	GMCA Head of Paid Service
Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Paul Najsarek	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Rodney Lund	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Donna Hall	Wigan Council
Jon Lamonte	TfGM
Andrew Lightfoot	GM Director of Public Service Reform
Mark Hughes	Manchester Growth Company

Simon Nokes  
Clare Regan  
Julie Connor  
Sylvia Welsh  
Kerry Bond

New Economy  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
) Greater Manchester  
) Integrated Support Team  
)

## **ORDINARY MEETING**

### **79/15 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Sue Derbyshire, David Acton, Cath Piddington. Jim Taylor and Peter Fahy.

### **80/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

### **81/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING ON 29 MAY 2015**

#### **RESOLVED/-**

To approve the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 29 May 2015 as a correct record.

### **82/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS**

#### **RESOLVED/-**

To note the Forward Plan.

### **83/15 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE SCRUTINY POOL – 12 JUNE 2015**

#### **RESOLVED/-**

To note the minutes of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Scrutiny Pool meeting held on 12 June 2015.

### **84/15 MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE – 12 JUNE 2015**

To note the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee meeting held on 12 June 2015.

### **85/15 GMCA REVENUE OUTTURN 2014/15**

The Combined Authority considered a report from Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, informing members of the revenue outturn for 2014/15 and to note the position on reserves and asked to approve the transfer of funds to earmarked reserves and requests submitted for carry forward of underspends in to 2015/16.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the revenue outturn position for 2014/15 which is a net surplus of £0.196 million after contributions to earmarked reserves.
2. To approve the contribution of £15.042m to earmarked reserves as detailed in paragraph 2.3 of the report.
3. To note and approve the budget adjustments referred to in paragraph 2.5 of the report.
4. To note the position on reserves as detailed in paragraph 4 of the report.
5. To approve the carry forward requests as detailed in paragraph 5 of the report and to approve the carry forward requests be funded, as appropriate from the balance declared on the general reserves as at 31 March 2015.
6. To note that the statement of accounts will be completed by 30 June 2015 and signed by the GMCA Treasurer, in accordance with audit requirements.
7. To note that the final outturn position is subject to the completion of the annual external audit to be finalised by 30 September 2015 which will be reported to the GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee at its meeting on 18 September 2015.

**86/15 GMCA CAPITAL OUTTURN 2014/15 (agenda item 15)**

The Combined Authority considered a report from Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presenting the 2014/15 GMCA capital expenditure outturn.

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the 2014/15 actual capital expenditure compared to the forecast position agreed by GMCA in January 2015.

**87/15 DIGITAL, CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL SECTOR STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Theresa Grant, Chief Executive, Trafford Council and Mark Hughes, Chief Executive, Manchester Growth Company, updating members on the progress towards delivering Greater Manchester's ambitions in relation to the digital, creative and technology industries.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree that the ambition for Greater Manchester to become a global digital city as outlined in the report.
2. To agree the outline action plan to support the ambition under the four priority themes of: profile and perception; investment finance; skills and infrastructure.
3. To agree that Manchester Growth Company should co-ordinate the implementation of this action plan, working closely with the private sector, and report progress back to the Combined Authority through the MGC Business Support Advisory Board.

## **88/15 GROWTH DEAL UPDATE – TRANSPORT**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, TfGM, providing a quarterly update on the latest position in relation to the Local Growth Deal Transport Programme.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the current position in relation to the initial Growth Deal Major Schemes programme.
2. To note the current position in relation to the initial Growth Deal Minor Works programme.
3. To approve the addition of the Growth Deal 2 transport schemes into the capital programme.
4. To approve the release of up to £6 million from the total Growth Deal grant received in 2015/16 for the Growth Deal 2 scheme promoters costs.
5. To note the current position in relation to the Growth Deal 2 Additional Priorities and minor works programmes.
6. To note the ongoing activities that are taking place in order to progress the programme generally.

## **89/15 GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2040**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, TfGM, updating members on progress made in developing a new long term transport strategy for Greater Manchester to replace the current Local Transport Plan, and seeking comments on the draft GM Transport Strategy 2040 'Vision' document, to act as the focus for local consultation on the revised strategy.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the need to revise the current Local Transport Plan (LTP3) to reflect the future emerging transport priorities for Greater Manchester and the transport devolution and reform programme underway.
2. To approve the GM Transport Strategy 2040 Vision as the basis for consultation.

## **90/15 TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER – APPOINTMENT OF NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, TfGM, confirming the outcome of the recruitment process, whereby one candidate is recommended for appointment as Non Executive Director at TfGM.

### **RESOLVED/-**



1. To approve the appointment of Mr Les Mosco as a Non-Executive Director of TfGM.
2. To delegate authority to Jon Lamonte, Chief Executive, TfGM, to formalise the terms of his appointment.

**91/15            GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING FUND – INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Bill Enevoldson, GMCA, Chief Investment Officer, detailing the proposed Investment Strategy that will guide the selection, structuring and management of investments made by the £300m GM Housing Fund.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To approve the Investment Strategy at appendix 1 of the report.
2. To note that any changes to the Investment Strategy would be subject of further GMCA approval, following consideration by the GM Investment Board.

**ITEMS CONSIDERED UNDER PART B OF THE AGENDA**

**92/15            GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT APPROVALS**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive, Stockport MBC seeking approval for a project.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the project funding application be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. To delegate authority to Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan at 1) above.

**93/15            NORTH WEST FUND – FUND INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive, Stockport MBC, detailing the proposals to bid for an extension to the existing North West Fund programme so that it is able to continue to invest beyond 2015 whilst the new fund (NWF2) is established. Members were also asked to note the letter of support provided in respect of the extension fund which was signed by Mike Blackburn, Chair, GM LEP Chair and Councillor Kieran Quinn, the GM Portfolio Holder for Investment Strategy and Finance.

**RESOLVED/-**

To note that a bid for an extension to the existing North West Fund programme has been submitted to the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills together with a letter of support signed by Mike Blackburn, Chair, GM LEP Chair and Councillor Kieran Quinn, the GM Portfolio Holder for Investment Strategy and Finance.

**94/15 PROPOSED FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR WORKING WELL EXPANSION**

The Combined Authority considered a report of Theresa Grant, Chief Executive, Trafford Council, and Simon Nokes, Interim Chief Executive, New Economy, detailing the proposed funding model arrangements to expand the Working Well from dealing with 5,000 people to 50,000 people as a key part of the Devolution Deal signed with Government.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree to pursue Local Co-Financing Organisation status for European Social Fund (ESF) funding, to support the upscale of Working Well, subject to further discussions with the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and should a direct ESF application not be possible.
2. To note that the implementation of Local Co-Financing Organisation status would be subject to a further paper to the GMCA that addresses the risks set out in this report.
3. To note the proposal for Trafford Council to act as the Local Co-Financing Organisation applicant in the short term, until the Combined Authority receives data sharing powers, and for the exchange of letters between authorities to cover any initial responsibilities/liabilities equally between the 10 authorities.

Chair

**MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY  
MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 31 JULY 2015 AT ROCHDALE COUNCIL OFFICES**

GM INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Ebrahim Adia
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Sue Derbyshire
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

**JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

GMFRS	Councillor David Acton
GMFRS	Councillor John Bell
TfGMC	Councillor Guy Harkin

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Margaret Asquith	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Geoff Little	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Steve Rumbelow	Rochdale MBC
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Laureen Donnan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Paul McKeivitt	Wigan Council
Bill Enevoldson	GMCA Chief Investment Officer
Peter O'Reilly	GMFRS

Peter Fahy	GMP
Mark Hughes	Manchester Growth Company
Simon Nokes	New Economy
John Holden	New Economy
Adam Allen	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Clare Regan	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
Steve Warrener	TfGM
Amanda White	TfGM
Julie Connor	) Greater Manchester
Sylvia Welsh	) Integrated Support Team
Kerry Bond	)

**95/15 APOLOGIES**

Councillor Cliff Morris, Sir Howard Bernstein, Paul Najsarek, Jim Taylor, Eamonn Boylan and Donna Hall.

**96/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None received.

**97/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

To approve the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

**98/15 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

To approve the minutes of the GMCA ordinary meeting held on 26 June 2015 as a correct record, with the addition of Steve Rumbelow, Chief Executive, Rochdale MBC on the list of attendees.

**99/15 MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT for GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 JULY 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee meeting held on 17 July 2015.
2. To endorse Transport for Greater Manchester Committee's decision to approve transport policy priorities for 2015/16 as per minute TfGMC15/29: 2015-16 Policy Priorities.

**100/15 MINUTES OF THE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP BOARD HELD ON 2 JULY 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the minutes of the Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 2 July 2015.

**101/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF GMCA**

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the Forward Plan.

**102/15 FURTHER DEVOLUTION TO GREATER MANCHESTER**

Simon Nokes, Managing Director, New Economy presented a report providing an overview of the additional freedoms and flexibilities awarded to Greater Manchester as part of the supplementary Devolution Agreement, announced in the Summer 2015 Budget on 8 July 2015 and seeking formal endorsement of the supplementary agreement by the GMCA.

Liz Treacy provided the meeting with an update on the progress of amendments to the Cities and Devolution Bill, which has now completed its progress through the House of Lords with an expectation to progress to the House of Commons in September for a first reading, with committee stage in October. The Select Committee leading the Bill has requested the GMCA to submit written evidence by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. The meeting was reminded that the delivery of Health Devolution in Greater Manchester is an opportunity to address the health needs of Greater Manchester residents in a radically different way rather than within the current national setting.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To endorse the Greater Manchester Agreement: Further Devolution to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and directly-elected Mayor as attached at Annex A to the report.
2. To request officers to submit further reports to future meetings as detailed in the report.
3. That the draft select committee propositions in relation to evidence be circulated to members in advance of the 1st September submission date.

**103/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY CAPITAL EXPENDITURE UPDATE 2015/16**

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented an update in relation to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority 2015/16 capital expenditure programme.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note and approve the revisions to the capital budget as set out in appendix A and detailed within the report.
2. To note the actual expenditure as at June 2015 and the current 2015/16 forecast compared to the revised 2015/16 capital budget.

**104/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16**

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented a report informing members of the 2015/16 forecast revenue outturn position as at the end of June 2015.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the transport revenue outturn position for 2015/16 which is in line with budget after contributions to earmarked reserves of £0.759 million.
2. To note the Economic Development and Regeneration revenue outturn position for 2015/16 which shows a budgeted break-even position.
3. To approve the contribution of £0.759m to earmarked reserves as detailed in paragraph 2.4 of the report.
4. To note and approve the budget adjustments referred to in paragraphs 2.2-2.4 of the report for Transport budgets and paragraphs 3.2-3.8 of the report for Economic Development and Regeneration budgets.

**105/15 GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2015/16**

Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, presented a report informing members of the proposed changes to the Combined Authority's Treasury Management Strategy for 2015-16, specifically:

- to include the use of non-specified investments, specifically that the Authority can invest with Manchester City Council for the purpose of the Regional Growth Fund leverage scheme
- to revise the credit limits available to the Authority for 2015-16
- to update the prudential indicators

**RESOLVED/-**

To approve the revisions to the Combined Authority's Treasury Management Strategy for 2015-16.

## **106/15 GREATER MANCHESTER BUSINESS SURVEY**

Simon Nokes, Managing Director, New Economy introduced a report, updating on the findings of the 2014/15 Greater Manchester Business Survey and the main implications of its results for Greater Manchester. Members were assured that discussions regarding the Apprenticeship Levy process were being programmed as part of the CSR process. The Planning and Housing Commission are currently undertaking a review of land availability within local authorities, which will inform the Greater Manchester Strategy to facilitate the growth of local employers. The ESF programme has also been realigned to focus on low paid workers, to raise them above the benefits base.

Members expressed concerns in relation to ensure sufficient pace in getting the right skills in place and that efficient coordination and communication was happening quickly enough. In addition that land assembly could be done efficiently to help businesses grow, there were still significant challenges that we needed to respond to so as to ensure these issues do not impact on further growth.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the findings and implications of the 2014/15 GM Business Survey and the actions that are now on-going to ensure these are fed into GM policy development and programme delivery.
2. To receive a further report detailing levy proposals for skills training and implications of the new skills package.

## **107/15 TRANSPENNINE ELECTRIFICATION AND STRATEGIC RAIL ISSUES**

Steve Warrener, TfGM, presented a report summarising the impact on Greater Manchester the delay of the implementation of Rail Electrification schemes announced by the Secretary of State for Transport on 24 June 2015. The meeting was advised that George Osborne had written to Sir Richard Leese, as the Chair of Transport for the North Partnership, regarding the working relationship with Government going forward and the multi-year settlement, which includes £30m of funding for Transport for the North. The letter also reiterates the commitment to progress the Transpennine Scheme, with the appointment of a new Network Rail Chairman, Sir Peter Hendy, who has been charged with a review of plans to upgrade rail links in the North and implement a plan by the Autumn to take forward the rail enhancements.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the contents of the report.
2. To note the actual and potential impacts on rail travel and economic growth of delays to the Rail Electrification programme.
3. That the letter received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer detailing the reasons for the delay to the Transpennine Electrification scheme and the remedies to be implemented going forward be circulated to members.

**108/15 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**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 item of business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 3, Part 1, Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

**109/15 GREATER MANCHESTER AND CHESHIRE LIFE SCIENCES FUND**

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking approval for the establishment of the Greater Manchester and Cheshire Life Sciences Fund.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree that funding be made available for establishment of the fund, to be funded by the Local Growth Fund, as detailed in the report.
2. To approve the appointment of Catapult Venture Managers as fund manager.
3. To agree to delegate authority to the Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan and fund manager agreements at 1) and 2) above.

**110/15 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND-  
INVESTMENT  
APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION**

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking endorsement of the first proposed loan by the Greater Manchester Housing Fund.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree that approval be given to the project application as detailed in the report.
2. To agree to recommend to Manchester City Council that it prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance within its approved internal processes.

**111/15 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT  
APPROVALS**

Bill Enevoldson, GMCA Chief Investment Officer, presented a report seeking approval for a project funding application.



**RESOLVED/-**

1. To agree that the project funding application as detailed in the report be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. To agree to delegate authority to Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer and Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the loan at 1) above.

Chair



**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER  
COMBINED AUTHORITY AND THE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD  
HELD ON 26 JUNE 2015 AT OLDHAM CIVIC CENTRE**

INTERIM MAYOR	Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)
BOLTON COUNCIL	Councillor Cliff Morris
BURY COUNCIL	Councillor Mike Connolly
MANCHESTER CC	Councillor Richard Leese
OLDHAM COUNCIL	Councillor Jim McMahon
ROCHDALE MBC	Councillor Richard Farnell
SALFORD CC	Ian Stewart
STOCKPORT MBC	Councillor Iain Roberts
TAMESIDE MBC	Councillor Kieran Quinn
TRAFFORD COUNCIL	Councillor Sean Anstee
WIGAN COUNCIL	Councillor Peter Smith

**JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

GMP	Ian Hopkins
GMWDA	Councillor Nigel Murphy
DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER	Jim Battle
TfGMC	Councillor Andrew Fender

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Howard Bernstein	GMCA Head of Paid Service
Liz Treacy	GMCA Monitoring Officer
Richard Paver	GMCA Treasurer
Paul Najsarek	Bolton Council
Mike Owen	Bury Council
Rodney Lund	Manchester CC
Carolyn Wilkins	Oldham Council
Ben Dolan	Salford CC
Eamonn Boylan	Stockport MBC
Steven Pleasant	Tameside MBC
Theresa Grant	Trafford Council
Donna Hall	Wigan Council

Jon Lamonte  
Andrew Lightfoot  
Mark Hughes  
Simon Nokes  
Clare Regan  
Julie Connor  
Sylvia Welsh  
Kerry Bond

TfGM  
GM Director of Public Service Reform  
Manchester Growth Company  
New Economy  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner  
) Greater Manchester  
) Integrated Support Team  
)

**33/15 APOLOGIES**

Councillors Sue Derbyshire, David Acton, Cath Piddington. Jim Taylor and Peter Fahy.

**34/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**35/15 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – 29 MAY 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

To approve the minutes of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board meeting held on 29 May 2015 as a correct record.

**36/15 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS**

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the Forward Plan.

**83/15 MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTRE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE STANDING CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE – 4 JUNE 2015**

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the minutes of the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Standing Conference Executive meeting held on 12 June 2015.

**84/15 OUTCOME OF THE REVIEW OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA SCRUTINY POOL**

The Joint meeting of the Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board considered a report from Liz Treacy, GMCA Monitoring Officer and Julie Connor, Head of GMIST, detailing the findings of the GMCA and AGMA scrutiny review that reflects Greater Manchester's desire to ensure that the scrutiny function can play a full role in supporting GM's strategic ambitions, particularly in the light of November's Devolution Agreement.

Councillor Sean Anstee reported that he had attended the joint meeting with scrutiny members and that it had been a positive discussion, scrutiny members had supported the findings, had supported that the existing membership numbers should be retained to allow a task and finish approach; there should be regular meetings with Leaders in relation to their portfolios; and that the majority of members did not support allowance payments for scrutiny members.

Members referred to the need to convey through effective communication the benefits of the work of the GMCA, in particular Devolution and the need for greater understanding and transparency across the GMCA's governance structures. Better use of IT eg live streaming meetings where possible could help to achieve this.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note findings of the review.
2. To approve the implementation of the review's recommendations by officers with members of the scrutiny pool as amended and detailed in the report including areas for further development.
3. To agree that a report on the progress made towards implementing these findings be submitted to Scrutiny Pool early in 2016.
4. To note that the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill makes provision in relation to overview and scrutiny of combined authorities and that officers be requested to submit a report to the scrutiny pool on the implications of the Bill.

**85/15            JOINT GREATER MANCHESTER HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Joint meeting of the Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board considered a report from Councillor John O'Brien, Chair, GM Health Scrutiny Committee, detailing the activity undertaken by the GM Joint Health Scrutiny Committee over the past 12 months.

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the report.

**86/15            AGMA REVENUE OUTTURN REPORT 2014/15**

The Joint meeting of the Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board considered a report from Richard Paver, AGMA Treasurer, informing members of the revenue outturn positions for 2014/15, and to approve requests submitted to AGMA for carry forward of underspends in to 2015/16.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. To note the revenue outturn position for 2014/15, which is an underspend of £982,000 after contributions to earmarked reserves.
2. To approve the contribution of £1,394,000 to earmarked reserves as detailed in paragraphs 1.8 and 2.5 of the report.
3. To note the position on reserves as detailed in paragraph 2 of the report.
4. To approve the proposal to transfer the balance on County Records Office reserve to the AGMA General Reserves as detailed in paragraph 2.2 of the report.
5. To approve the carry forward requests as detailed in paragraph 2.6 of the report and to approve that the carry forward requests will be funded, as appropriate, from the balance declared on the general reserves as at 31 March 2015.
6. To note that the statement of accounts will be completed by 30 June 2015 and signed by the AGMA Treasurer in accordance with audit requirements.
7. To note that the final outturn position subject to the completion of the annual external audit to be finalised by 30 September 2015 which will be reported to the GMCA and AGMA Audit Committee at its meeting on 18 September 2015.

**87/15            GREATER    MANCHESTER    STRATEGY    PERFORMANCE  
                         FRAMEWORK**

The Joint meeting of the Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board considered a report from Sir Howard Bernstein, Head of Paid Service, GMCA comprising a performance framework for the Greater Manchester Strategy as a whole.

**RESOLVED/-**

To note the report and welcome its findings and request that the good progress made across targets be made public.

Chair



## Oldham Trading Services Group

**[Oldham Care Services Ltd: Oldham Care and Support Ltd: Oldham Care and Support at Home Ltd]**

## [P] Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

25<sup>th</sup> March 2015

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Board members</b> Cllr Zahid Chauhan (Chair)[ZC] Cllr Jenny Harrison [JH] Cllr John F McCann [JMc] Cllr Barbara Brownridge (BB) Danielle Procter –Managing Director [DP]	<b>In attendance</b> Maggie Kudfelt – OMBC Exec Director acting as shareholders advisor to the Board [MK] Paul Whitehead - Finance Director [PW]
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**Apologies:** None

No	Agenda Item
1	<b>Welcome, attendees and apologies</b> The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> JMc is a member of the Unity Partnership Board and JV Board
3	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> The minutes of the last formal board meeting, held on 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015 were agreed as a correct record. The approval to circulate the public minutes of the same meeting to Full Council was also secured.  <b>Action [Ref 01_250315]: DP to forward minutes to constitutional services</b>

4	<p><b>Matters arising not on the agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Closed Actions from Action Log – the Board approved the closure of identified actions</li> <li>• Matter arising taken from open Actions from Action Log <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Role of board members on OMBC panels – to be picked up by DP at SLA update meeting with OMBC commissioners</li> <li>○ NED roles: ZC to discuss with MK as part of MD recruitment.</li> <li>○ Board meeting at Limecroft – given changes in service provision, all space is now being used for service delivery hence there isn't a suitable room in which to hold a board meeting. ZC encouraged Board members to undertake service visits were possible</li> <li>○ Board meeting dates – now rescheduled to the last Wednesday each month. Revised dates were previously circulated by DP</li> <li>○ Board to Board meetings – Given MK's role on the Board it was agreed that MK will act as the interface between OCS and OMBC senior teams</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>DP to amend action log accordingly</b></p>
5	<p><b>Managing Directors report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Issuing of S188 and associated consultation documents</b> – DP briefed the board on progress will issuing the agreed S188, Bank Holiday and Supported Living consolidated hours consultations. The consultation has commenced and the overall S188 and BH consultations are due to close on 24<sup>th</sup> April. The supported living proposal will close in the middle of May as it is assumed further information requirements will emerge during the consultation period. It was agreed that DP will keep the board briefed on the outcome of the relevant consultations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action [ref 02_2015] : DP to brief the board on the outcome of the relevant S188 and workforce consultations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Marketing and positioning materials</b> – the new signs for the company have been ordered and fitting has been arranged. The board and executive meeting rooms have been set up. DP continues to work with staff and designers to produce a range of marketing materials. As part of this we need to progress the development of the group website. DP advised the Board that it would be of benefit to source a development partner through a small local competition.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action [ref 03_2015] DP to progress the development of the website by sourcing a local development partner through a small competition.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Current complaints/incidents</b> - DP briefed the board on two current serious incidents which are subject to further investigation [Limecroft and Helpline].</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Audit Committee minutes [30 January 2015]</b> The audit committee minutes were received and approved by the Board</p>
7	<p><b>Remuneration Committee minutes [30 January 2015]</b> The remuneration committee minutes were received and approved by the Board</p>
8	<p><b>Matters relating to the set- up of Oldham Trading Services</b> PW presented a range of documents to the board for approval and signature. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmation of banking arrangements – the board approved the use of Barclays bank as the provider of the company bank account</li> <li>• Indemnity forms – to enable all three Group companies to use direct debits to collect debts from private customers (subject to changes in the Agresso system)</li> <li>• Share certificates</li> </ul>



	<p>All the relevant documents were approved and signed.</p> <p>Appointment of legal advisors – DP advised the board that Capsticks have been successful in their response to the small procurement exercise to secure a legal partner to assist with the set-up of the top-co company. Work will commence in the next few weeks</p>
9	<p><b>Head Quarters Ena Hughes</b></p> <p>DP updated the Board on discussions that have taken place as part of the redesign of supported living that potentially sees the company not being able to use Ena Hughes as its head-quarters in the longer term. Discussion took place regarding the need to secure a permanent HQ. It was agreed that if we are not able to do this by occupying council properties, that we should look to the external market. MK advised that DP should meet with Darren Jones [DJ] OMBC property team to discuss further</p> <p><b>Action [ref 06_2015] MK to brief DJ on the issues regarding HQ longer term occupancy and introduce DP to Darren Jones</b></p>
10	<p><b>Managing Director Appointment</b></p> <p>ZC/MK updated the Board on progress with the MD appointment. The closing date was 24<sup>th</sup> March. The recruitment advisors have stated that there has been a positive response. Final interviews are scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> May.</p>
11	<p><b>Annual Strategic Development Plan and associated strategic service development plan</b></p> <p>DP presented the annual plan and strategic service development plan to the board for consideration. The annual plan adds detail to the strategic aims agreed as part of the 3 – 5 year business plan for OCS and OCSH.</p> <p>The detail within the annual plan formalises the strategic aims and priorities agreed by the Board in January 2015. The plan also outlines that activities needed to achieve the strategic objectives and in doing so sets out the objectives for the MD which in turn will be cascaded through to managers, teams and individual workers. It is proposed that performance of the plan will be governed by the relevant committees of the board with an overall report being produced for the board at quarterly intervals.</p> <p>The board considered and discussed the plans and congratulated the MD and wider management team on producing an easy to read, concise yet comprehensive documents.</p> <p>Following consideration that annual plan and strategic service development plan were approved by the Board.</p> <p><b>Decision [Ref 01:250315]:</b> The Board approved the 2015 Annual Strategic Development plan and Strategic service development plan for the group.</p>
13	<p><b>Detailed Budget</b></p> <p>PW advised the Board that the budgets for OCS and OCSH had been agreed at Finance Committee and recommended to Board for approval. The Finance Committee had requested</p>

	<p>that a more detailed document be brought to Board to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A budget for Oldham Care Services Ltd</li> <li>• A detailed breakdown of the efficiencies required in Oldham Care and Support</li> <li>• Details around the assumptions for growth in Oldham Care and Support at Home</li> </ul> <p>The Board considered the report and the assumptions and commented that the report was thorough in its content. Following some detailed questions the Board approved the budget for the Financial Year 2015.</p> <p><b>Decision [Ref 02:250315]:</b> The Board approved the 2015 Budget.</p>
14	<p><b>Finance report (management accounts)</b></p> <p>Board were presented with Management Accounts for both OCS and OCSH for the first 2 months of Financial Year 2015. These were currently better than expectations showing the results of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCS - £31k loss, £52k positive variance</li> <li>• OCSH - £1k profit, £2k positive variance</li> </ul> <p>Losses are expected in OCS during the early part of the year pending delivery of the required efficiencies. Board were advised that although progress is being made in relation to efficiencies, challenges remain to deliver them all in this financial year.</p> <p>Challenges relating to the growth of Homecare were discussed at length. It was acknowledged that challenges with practical application of the Care at Home commissioning framework is impacting on our ability to deploy staff effectively and secure our financial targets. Discussion also took place regarding the ethics of asking private payers to pay a higher price than OMBC funded service users. It was agreed that unless the service provider to private payers was enhanced, we would not be true to our values as a business if we charged a higher price unless we could demonstrate why this was the case. The management team were asked to consider this in the development of the service.</p> <p>The Financial performance for Month 2 was noted.</p>
15	<p><b>Risk Register</b></p> <p>The Board considered the corporate risk register. It was agreed that a number of risk areas required updating. PW was also asked to include a risk around delays in service change having an impact on the delivery of efficiency plans and the effect this may have on the outturn financial results for the year.</p> <p><b>Action [ref 07_2015]: PW to update the corporate risk register</b></p>
16	<p><b>AOB</b> None</p>
17	<p><b>Date and Time of next meeting</b> <b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May. 12 – 2.30. Board Room. Ena Hughes</b></p>

# Minutes

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## Oldham Leadership Board

Themed meeting: Oldham's role in Devolution Manchester.

25 June 2015, 10am until 12noon

Lees Suite, Civic Centre, Oldham

**Present:**

Cllr Jim McMahon	Leader, Oldham Council (Chair)
Cllr Jean Stretton	Oldham Council
Stuart Lockwood	Oldham Community Leisure
Julie Price	DWP / JCP
Liz Windsor-Welsh	Voluntary Action Oldham
Caroline Drysdale	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
Richard Spearing	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
Nadine Armitage	Pennine Acute Trust
Glenn Parkes	National Probation Service
Ian Wilkinson	NHS Oldham CCG
Denis Gizzi	NHS Oldham CCG
Cath Green	First Choice Homes Oldham
Alun Francis	Oldham College
Cllr Barbara Brownridge	Oldham Council
Helen Lockwood	Oldham Council
Emma Alexander	Oldham Council
Michele Carr	Oldham Council
Jill Beaumont	Oldham Council
Alan Higgins	Oldham Council
Liz Wade	Oldham Council
Mark Reynolds	Oldham Council
John Rooney	Oldham Council
Jackie Wilson	Oldham Council

**Apologies:**

Carolyn Wilkins	Chief Executive, Oldham Council
Maggie Kufeldt	Oldham Council
Elaine McLean	Oldham Council
Cllr Howard Sykes	Oldham Council
Caroline Ball	Greater Manchester Police
Michael McCourt	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
Martin Roe	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
John Schofield	Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust
Jeremy Broadbent	Oldham Business Leadership Group
Dave Benstead	Oldham Business Leadership Group
Jayne Clarke	Oldham 6 <sup>th</sup> Form College
Nigel Elliot	Cheshire & Greater Manchester CRC
Nisha Bakshi	Oldham Probation
John Jesky	Pennine Acute Trust
Dr Gillian Fairfield	Pennine Acute Trust
Ian Bailey	Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service

<b>1</b>	<b>Minutes and matters arising from meeting on 23 March 2015</b>
	The minutes of the meeting of 23 March 2015 were agreed as a correct record of proceedings.
<b>2</b>	<b>Governance and implementation of Devolution Manchester</b>
	<p>The chair welcomed Board members to the Devolution themed meeting, noting how far Oldham and Greater Manchester have come in the past 2 years. The chair stressed that Devolution is not ‘business as usual’ and that the Partnership needs to ensure that Oldham are best placed to get the benefits of the deal economically, socially and democratically.</p> <p>Michele Carr, Oldham Council, took the Board through the new powers received by both the Directly Elected Mayor and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) under the Devolution deal. Included in this were the expectations of Oldham and its strategic partners in delivering Devolution through growth and reform. In addition, the Board discussed the key communications challenges and priorities, and the leadership role of the Board as ambassadors for Oldham at the GM table.</p>
	<p><b>AGREED / ACTION</b> Slide pack to be circulated to the Board</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Exploring the detail of Devolution</b>
	<p>The chair introduced the item to explore the detail of the different elements of the Devolution deal, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current position of the theme</li> <li>• Opportunities, risks and the Partnerships role within each theme</li> </ul> <p><b>Skills</b> Alun Francis, Oldham College, outlined what is included, and excluded, within the devolution of skills provision. There followed a discussion by Board members around this topic including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the need for flexibility;</li> <li>• the opportunities to build better joined up / effective services (supply and demand);</li> <li>• and coordinating early help to enable a sustainable employment base.</li> </ul> <p>Specific areas were highlighted as being opportunities such as in-work support and the links between health and skills. The Board discussed the importance of listening to the voice of Oldham’s young people and how the Partnership can provide support to them to make decisions that are aligned with Oldham’s ambitions e.g. our economic strategy etc.</p> <p><b>Economy and infrastructure</b> Michele Carr outlined the detail relating to both support for businesses and the proposals for changes to transport systems. The chair added that Oldham must be ambitious / have clear goals to benefit from and utilise the opportunities at a Greater Manchester level.</p>

	<p>It was discussed and agreed that the Board should take a more proactive leadership role in ensuring that Oldham is on the map and a primary destination where people come to shop, socialise and work.</p> <p><b>Health and social care</b> Alan Higgins, Oldham Council, took the Board through the detail of the Health and Social Care Devolution. He highlighted the timescales and the need to produce a place-locality plan by the end of July.</p> <p>The Board agreed that Health Devolution offers Oldham a great opportunity to recast models and do things differently. It is also essential that we engage communities to reduce demand and manage expectations. A question was raised and debated about the specific freedoms / benefits that Devolution will give to Oldham. Specifically if Oldham can demonstrate efficiency savings, can these savings be reinvested back into Oldham?</p> <p><b>Planning and housing</b> Cath Green, First Choice Homes, and John Rooney, Oldham Council, outlined the detail relating to the planning and housing aspects of Devolution; including the GM spatial framework, housing investment, and the asks / offers of housing providers. The Board discussed the importance of 'one voice' and a coordinated approach as the Devolution deal develops. Communications and tactics will be crucial to ensure success for Oldham.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Specific actions for OLB within Devolution</b>
	<p>The chair wrapped up the theme-based discussions by re-iterating the importance of working alongside GM colleagues and ensuring Oldham benefits from Devolution and the wider-GM work.</p> <p>The chair requested that each Cluster now consider the following and report back to the next Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of OLB as leaders in driving Devolution and getting the best deal for Oldham.</li> <li>• Communications, tactics and messaging</li> <li>• Organisational and partner repositioning around Greater Manchester.</li> <li>• North East Manchester Group in partnership with Rochdale and Tameside?</li> <li>• Public engagement strategy for Devolution: build up to the directly elected Mayor in 2017</li> <li>• Leading areas of Devolution for Greater Manchester.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>AGREED/ACTION:</b> Clusters to meet to discuss specific opportunities and actions in relation to Devolution, and to report back to the next Board.</p>
	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	<p>Wednesday 2 September 9.30-11.30am, Civic Centre Theme: Economy and Skills</p>

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**Oldham**  
Council

## Report to Council

### 2014/15 Statement of Accounts

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Abdul Jabbar – Cabinet Member for Finance and Human Resources

**Officer Contact:** Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services, Emma Alexander

**Report Author:** Anne Ryans Director of Finance  
**Ext.** 4902

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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#### Reason for Decision

To advise the Council of the approved 2014/15 Final Accounts and the External Audit (Grant Thornton) Audit Findings report.

The report was considered by Cabinet at its meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and commended to Council.

#### Executive Summary

The Council's 2014/15 Final Accounts were audited, approved and published on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015. This was the quickest year end closedown that the Council has ever achieved.

The Audit Findings report is very positive with an unqualified opinion and an unqualified Value for Money (VFM) opinion. The VFM opinion concludes that the Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. For the first time the Council has a full suite of "green" VFM indicators.

There are no material errors for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in succession and the report comments on the high quality of the accounts despite the challenging timetable. This has been achieved through the effective closedown processes and procedures adopted. There were no changes to the Council's outturn or the balances position as a result of the audit.

#### Recommendations

That Council notes the final accounts, the auditor's reports and the comments in the report.

**2014/15 Statement of Accounts**

**1 Background**

- 1.1 The Council submitted for audit its draft 2014/15 Statement of Accounts to the external Auditors, Grant Thornton on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 five days earlier than planned. Throughout the audit process officers responded promptly to audit queries in line with agreed protocols. The Auditor was able to comment that this positively contributed to the completion of the audit.
- 1.2 The draft 2014/15 Statement of Accounts was presented to the Audit Committee at the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The agenda papers including the draft Statement of Accounts were issued on 15<sup>th</sup> April and this early submission of the draft financial statements allowed members of the Committee to review the Council's financial statements in detail in advance of the meeting and thus enabled them to ask challenging and pertinent questions before being asked to approve the audited 2014/15 Statement of Accounts.
- 1.3 In allowing time for the detailed review, it evidenced the open and transparent process the Council has followed throughout the accounts closedown in line with best practice.
- 1.4 The Audit Committee approved the audited 2014/15 Statement of Accounts on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015. These are shown in Appendix 1.
- 1.5 Changes made to the accounts during the audit process are shown in Appendix 2 and as can be seen these changes are minor in nature and quantum.
- 1.6 The External Audit (Grant Thornton) reports are shown in Appendix 3.

**2 Current Position**

**2.1 Audit Reports and Opinions**

- 2.1.1 Grant Thornton is required to provide the Council with an annual Audit Findings and VFM Opinion. Both are shown in the Audit Findings Report at Appendix 3.
- 2.1.2 The Audit Opinion is very positive and gives an unqualified opinion. There are no material errors for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in succession and the report comments on the high quality of the accounts despite the challenging timetable. This has been achieved through the effective closedown processes and procedures adopted by the Council.
- 2.1.3 The changes identified during the audit are restricted to a change as a result of additional pension information being made available after the draft accounts had been submitted to the Auditor, a reclassification of expenditure and a small number of presentational changes which were included to aid the readers understanding of the accounts.
- 2.1.4 There are five audit judgements of which four are green and one is amber (the latter being an accounting requirement clarification regarding assets valuations). This has been referred to by the Auditor as a "technical amber" as it expected that the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) requirements will be changed to align to the practice applied in Oldham, when CIPFA issues its 2015/16 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.



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- 2.1.4 There were no changes to the Council's outturn or the balances position as a result of the audit.
  - 2.1.5 The auditor was only able to make one recommendation as to how the Council could improve its financial statements. This was simply that the Council should continue to declutter the accounts to aid the readers understanding. Officers will continue this process and build on the substantial improvements already made when taking forward the 2015/16 accounts closedown process.
  - 2.1.6 The auditors VFM opinion is also extremely positive concluding that overall the Council's arrangements for securing financial resilience remain effective. The report states the Council has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.
  - 2.1.7 The six overall VFM audit judgments are rated Green. The audit judgement relating to the Council's level of borrowing has improved from the Amber rating given in 2013/14. The Council therefore has for the first time, a full suite of Green ratings.

## 2.2 Revenue Outturn

- 2.2.1 A comparison of revenue budget and outturn is set out in Table 1 with the actual expenditure as reported against the budget for each Directorate for 2014/15.
- 2.2.2 The final net revenue expenditure budget for 2014/15 was reported at Month 9 as £222.755m. After adjusting for recognised capital grants and contributions of £12.665m, PFI grant income of £9.958m, other minor revenue grant adjustments of £0.165m and the Collection Fund adjustment of £ 0.078m, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), the budget increased to £245.621m, the financing of which is set out in Table 1.
- 2.2.3 The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement sets out the cost of services that the Council provides in accordance with the requirements of published accounts. This does not completely align to the way in which financial information is managed in-year. Therefore, set out below is the 2014/15 financial position in accordance with the Directorate structure, under which the Council operated for the majority of 2014/15, and the in-year financial monitoring information that was presented to officers and Members. This shows a comparison of budget to actual outturn spending.

**Table 1 - Revenue Outturn Compared to Budget**

	Budget £'000	Actual £'000	Variance £'000
<b>NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>			
Deputy Chief Executive	5,047	4,414	(633)
Neighbourhoods	69,613	69,511	(101)
Commissioning	108,797	108,798	1
Commercial Services	34,570	34,577	7
Development & Infrastructure	13,278	13,338	61
Corporate Management	2,158	2,066	(92)
Parish Precepts	290	290	-
Corporate and Democratic Core	3,891	3,891	-
Capital and Treasury Management	7,977	8,318	341
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>245,621</b>	<b>245,203</b>	<b>(418)</b>
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
Council Tax Payers	(72,556)	(72,556)	-
Revenue Support Grant	(69,534)	(69,534)	-
PFI Credits	(9,958)	(9,958)	-
Capital Grants	(16,829)	(16,829)	-
Council Tax Freeze Grant	(866)	(866)	-
Other Non Ringfenced Government Grants	(8,116)	(8,116)	-
Housing and Council Tax Benefit Administration Grant	(1,855)	(1,855)	-
New Homes Bonus	(1,622)	(1,622)	-
Council Tax New Burdens Grant	(157)	(157)	-
Central Services Education Grant	(3,970)	(3,970)	-
Collection Fund Surplus	(832)	(832)	-
Multiplier Cap Grant	(613)	(613)	-
Empty Property Relief Grant	(2)	(2)	-
Long Term Empty Property Relief Grant	(20)	(20)	-
Retail Relief Grant	(509)	(509)	-
Small Business Rate Relief Grant	(1,328)	(1,328)	-
Retained Business Rates	(27,429)	(27,429)	-
Business Rates Top Up Grant	(29,425)	(29,425)	-
<b>TOTAL FINANCING</b>	<b>(245,621)</b>	<b>(245,621)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Underspend</b>		<b>(418)</b>	<b>(418)</b>

2.2.4 In overall terms, the Council achieved a surplus of £0.418m at the end of the financial year, which is close to the final position included in the last 2014/15 financial monitoring report (month 9) presented to Cabinet (23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015). This projected a £0.472m under spend at the year-end.

2.2.5 The surplus of £0.418m has been added to the General Fund Balance to address future years risk requirements. The General Fund Balance now stands at £18.122m which is in alignment with the sum recommended in the 2015/16 Revenue Budget report approved at Council on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

## 2.3 Capital

2.3.1 The Council incurs expenditure on capital projects in accordance with the definition of capital expenditure as in the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations 2003. This relates essentially to spending on assets that have a life of more than one year.

2.3.2 The Council spent £66.851m on its capital programme in 2014/15. This is presented in Table 2 by Portfolio area. The financing of the capital programme is also presented and shows that the major funding sources was Prudential Borrowing followed by Government grants and contributions and also revenue contributions.

2.3.3 As can be seen, there was a £26.592m variation between the forecast capital programme expenditure level and the final outturn. The majority of the expenditure will, however, reprofile into 2015/16 together with the financing and does not therefore present any financial issues for the Council to address.

**Table 2 – Capital Outturn Compared to the Forecast Outturn**

Portfolio and Funding	2014/15 Capital Programme £000	2014/15 Outturn £000	Variance £000
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Commercial Services	27,011	16,426	(10,585)
Commissioning	1,354	1,306	(48)
Deputy Chief Executive	100	100	-
Neighbourhoods	23,737	17,159	(6,578)
Development and Infrastructure	38,131	31,859	(6,272)
Funds Yet to be Allocated	3,109	-	(3,109)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>93,442</b>	<b>66,851</b>	<b>(26,592)</b>
<b>Resources</b>			
Grants & Other Contributions	(29,587)	(18,650)	10,938
Prudential Borrowing	(35,600)	(26,614)	8,986
Revenue	(19,284)	(18,295)	989
Capital Receipts	(8,971)	(3,292)	5,679
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>(93,442)</b>	<b>(66,851)</b>	<b>26,592</b>

## 2.4 Timetable for Closure

2.4.1 Members of the Council will be aware that since 2009/10, the Finance Team has been both accelerating the timeline for the closure of the accounts and improving the quality of the accounts. Set out below is the track record since the initiative began:

- The 2009/10 the accounts were prepared by 27<sup>th</sup> May and an audit opinion obtained, and the accounts published, on 31<sup>st</sup> August (placing the Authority 6<sup>th</sup> in the list of all Councils and the 1<sup>st</sup> Metropolitan Authority to close its accounts for that year).

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- The 2010/11 the accounts were prepared and submitted for audit by 19<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and an audit opinion received and the accounts published on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2011. This made the Council the joint first of any Council to close its accounts for the year.
  - The 2011/12 the accounts were prepared and made ready for audit by 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2012. The accounts were published on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012, making the Council the first Council and Local Government Body to close and publish its accounts and the first to do so in June since the Audit Commission began reporting on this.
  - The 2012/13 the accounts were handed over for audit on 26<sup>th</sup> April and published on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013. This was a further step change on previous years achieved through refined processes and the hard work and dedication of finance staff. This confirmed the Council as the first local government body to publish its accounts for 2012/13 and the first to do so in May.
  - The 2013/14 accounts were handed over for audit on 17<sup>th</sup> April and published on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Again the Council was the first local government body to publish its accounts.

2.4.2 The 2014/15 closedown process with a hand over to Audit on 14<sup>th</sup> April and approval and publication on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 has clearly improved on the speed of earlier years. The much improved quality of the accounts makes the overall performance for 2014/15, the best yet. This therefore sets a very high standard for other Local Authorities to follow.

## 2.5 The Performance of the Finance Service

2.5.1 The preparation of the Council's accounts represents one outcome from work that is continuing in order to enhance and develop the performance of the Oldham Finance Team. The work of the Finance Team underpins the work of the Council as well as ensuring compliance with statutory requirements, budget management and excellent financial practice.

2.5.2 The improvements in financial management which have led to the accounts being produced include the 4 key approaches of:

- project management;
- challenging timelines and quality;
- improving technical expertise;
- refining quality assurance techniques.

2.5.3 Using project management disciplines the Council has prepared a highly detailed final accounts action plan, set defined roles and responsibilities for individuals and teams, prepared a communication and stakeholder management plan, as well as embedded risk management techniques and progress reporting

2.5.4 The approach that has been taken which has been refined and improved year on year is to work so that there is:

- Early planning – with a timetable review as soon as previous year's accounts have closed, early and continuous identification of risks and mitigating actions, identifying technical requirements
- Ongoing programmes of technical activity through technical task groups

- Earlier assurance with month 6 and month 9 closedowns routines
- Early completion of work where possible e.g. recharges
- Close and regular liaison at a strategic and operational level with the external auditors Grant Thornton
- The inclusion of financial statements within the financial monitoring reports prepared for Cabinet covering the full suite of statements
- Proactive work by internal audit, supporting the assurance process with two stage fundamental financial systems audits all completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March
- Technical expertise development – identification of key individuals with support where necessary
- Refined quality assurance processes

2.5.5 The early closure of accounts is a significant driver of efficiency, allowing work to be undertaken more effectively. This means that members of the Finance Team are able to work on other tasks and projects once the short closure exercise is complete.

2.5.6 The accelerated and improved timescale and quality has been achieved by the hard work, commitment and dedication of the Finance Team who can all take pride in the early closure of the accounts and also in the other significant improvements in financial management that have been made. This represents a real team effort.

### 3 **Options/Alternatives**

3.1 As the Accounts have already been approved by the Audit Committee, the Council can note the final accounts, the audit report and the items outlined in the report.

### 4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 The preferred option is that the Council notes the final accounts, the audit reports and the items outlined in the report.

### 5 **Consultation**

5.1 Consultation has taken place with the Councils external auditors, Grant Thornton, the Councils Audit Committee and Cabinet.

### 6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 Dealt with in the body of the report.

### 7 **Legal Services Comments**

7.1 There are no Legal implications.

### 8. **Co-operative Agenda**

8.1 Improving the quality and timeliness of the financial information available to citizens of Oldham supports the cooperative ethos of the Council.

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9        **Human Resources Comments**

9.1      There are no Human Resource implications.

10       **Risk Assessments**

10.1     There are no risk implications attached as a result of this report.

11       **IT Implications**

11.1     There are no IT implications attached as a result of this report

12       **Property Implications**

12.1     There are no Property implications.

13       **Procurement Implications**

13.1     There are no Procurement implications.

14       **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1     There are no Environmental and Health & Safety implications as a result of this report.

15       **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1     There are no Equality, community cohesion or crime implications.

16       **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

16.1     Not Applicable

17       **Key Decision**

17.1     Yes

18       **Key Decision Reference**

18.1     CFHR-12-15

19       **Background Papers**

19.1     The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref:            Background Papers are provided in Appendix 1, 2 and 3

Officer Name:      Jonathan Davies

Contact No :        0161 770 8456

20       **Appendices**

20.1     Appendix 1 – 2014/15 Statement of Accounts

20.2     Appendix 2 – Changes to the Draft Statement of Accounts

20.3     Appendix 3 – Audit Findings Report



## Report to COUNCIL

# Treasury Management Review 2014/15

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Jabbar, Cabinet Member for Finance and HR

**Officer Contact:** Anne Ryans, Director of Finance

**Report Author:** Andy Cooper, Senior Finance Manager

**Ext.** 4925

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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### Reason for Decision

This Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2014/15. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

During 2014/15 the minimum reporting requirements were that the full Council should receive the following reports:

- an annual treasury strategy in advance of the year
- a mid-year (minimum) treasury update report
- an annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (this report)

The presentation of this report demonstrates full compliance with the requirements as it provides details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by Members

This report was considered and approved at the Cabinet meeting of 20th July 2015 and will be presented to the next meeting of the Audit Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

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## Executive Summary

During 2014/15, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements. The key actual prudential and treasury indicators detailing the impact of capital expenditure activities during the year, with comparators, are as follows:

Actual prudential and treasury indicators	2013/14 Actual £'000	2014/15 Revised £'000	2014/15 Actual £'000
Actual capital expenditure	43,664	89,796	66,851
Total Capital Financing Requirement:	479,872	534,730	527,364
Gross borrowing	148,117	148,117	148,117
External debt	396,120	443,853	426,660
Investments			
· Longer than 1 year	0	0	0
· Under 1 year	90,750	45,000	103,070
· Total	<b>90,750</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>103,070</b>
Net Borrowing	57,367	103,117	45,047

As can be seen in the table above, actual capital expenditure was less than the revised budget estimate. This was due primarily to delays in both start and development of some of the capital schemes that were expected to progress during the year. The planned expenditure has therefore slipped into 2015/16. No borrowing was undertaken during the year, again partly due to the reduced spending but also because of the policy of self-financing which was employed due to the uncertainty around interest rates which caused the Council to keep its investments short dated.

Other prudential and treasury indicators are to be found in the main body of this report. The Director of Finance also confirms that the statutory borrowing limit (the authorised limit) was not breached.

The financial year 2014/15 continued the challenging investment environment of previous years, namely low investment returns.

## Recommendations

Council is recommended to:

- 1) Approve the actual 2014/15 prudential and treasury indicators in this report
- 2) Approve the annual treasury management report for 2014/15



**Treasury Management Review 2014/15**

**1 Background**

1.1 The Council has adopted the Revised Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management 2011. The primary requirements of the code are as follows:

- Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement which sets out the policies and objectives of the Council's Treasury Management activities
- Creation and maintenance of Treasury Management Practices which set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives
- Receipt by the full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement - including the Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy - for the year ahead, a Mid-year Review Report and an Annual Report (stewardship report) covering activities during the previous year
- Delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and monitoring Treasury Management Policies and Practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions. In Oldham, this responsibility is delegated to the section 151 Officer (Director of Finance).
- Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and policies to a specific named body. In Oldham, the delegated body is the Audit Committee.

Treasury management in this context is defined as:

*“The management of the local authority’s investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”*

1.2 The report therefore summarises the following:-

- Council's capital expenditure and financing during the year;
- Impact of this activity on the Council's underlying indebtedness (the Capital Financing Requirement);
- Overall treasury position identifying how the Council has borrowed in relation to this indebtedness, and the impact on investment balances;
- Summary of interest rate movements in the year;
- Detailed debt activity; and
- Detailed investment activity
- Reporting of the required prudential and treasury indicators;

1.3 This report was considered and approved at the Cabinet meeting of 20th July 2015 and will be presented to the next meeting of the Audit Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

## 2 Current Position

### 2.1 The Council's Capital Expenditure and Financing during 2014/15

2.1.1 The Council incurs capital expenditure when it invests in or acquires long-term assets. These activities may either be:

- Financed immediately through the application of capital or revenue resources (capital receipts, capital grants, revenue contributions etc.), which has no resultant impact on the Council's borrowing need; or
- If insufficient financing is available, or a decision is taken not to apply resources, the capital expenditure will give rise to a borrowing need.

2.1.2 The actual capital expenditure forms one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the actual capital expenditure and how this was financed. As can be seen in the table below, actual capital expenditure in 2014/15 was less than the revised budget estimate. This was due primarily to delays in both start and development of some of the capital schemes that were expected to progress during the year. The planned expenditure has therefore slipped into 2015/16

	2013/14 Actual £'000	2014/15 Revised £'000	2014/15 Actual £'000
Non-HRA capital expenditure	40,320	83,607	61,060
HRA capital expenditure	3,344	6,189	5,791
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>43,664</b>	<b>89,796</b>	<b>66,851</b>
Resourced by:			
• Capital receipts	4,098	10,780	5,139
• Capital grants	15,872	26,090	17,182
• HRA	3,344	6,189	5,791
• Revenue	4,498	11,216	12,125
<b>Unfinanced capital expenditure</b>	<b>15,852</b>	<b>35,521</b>	<b>26,614</b>

### 2.2 The Council's Overall Borrowing Need

2.2.1 The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This figure is a gauge of the Council's indebtedness. The CFR results from the capital activity of the Council and

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resources used to pay for the capital spend. It represents the 2014/15 unfinanced capital expenditure (see above table), and prior years' net or unfinanced capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for by revenue or other resources.

2.2.2 Part of the Council's treasury activities is to address the funding requirements for this borrowing need. Depending on the capital expenditure programme, the treasury service organises the Council's cash position to ensure that sufficient cash is available to meet the capital plans and cash flow requirements. This may be sourced through borrowing from external bodies (such as the Government, through the Public Works Loan Board [PWLb] or the money markets), or utilising temporary cash resources within the Council.

#### Reducing the CFR

2.2.3 The Council's (non-Housing Revenue Account [HRA]) underlying borrowing need (CFR) is not allowed to rise indefinitely. Statutory controls are in place to ensure that capital assets are broadly charged to revenue over the life of the asset. The Council is required to make an annual revenue charge, called the Minimum Revenue Provision – MRP, to reduce the CFR. This is effectively a repayment of the non- HRA borrowing need (there is no statutory requirement to reduce the HRA CFR). This differs from the treasury management arrangements which ensure that cash is available to meet capital commitments. External debt can also be borrowed or repaid at any time, but this does not change the CFR.

2.2.4 The total CFR can also be reduced by:

- the application of additional capital financing resources (such as unapplied capital receipts); or
- Charging more than the statutory revenue charge (MRP) each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

2.2.5 The Council's 2014/15 MRP Policy (as required by CLG Guidance) was approved as part of the Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2014/15 on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

2.2.6 The Council's CFR for the year is shown in the table below and represents a key prudential indicator. It includes PFI and leasing schemes on the balance sheet, which increase the Council's borrowing need. In 2014/15 the Council had seven PFI schemes in operation; however no borrowing is actually required against these schemes as a borrowing facility is included within each contract.

CFR	2013/14 Actual (Restated) £'000	2014/15 Revised Budget £'000	2014/15 Actual £'000
Opening balance	466,698	479,699*	479,872
Add unfinanced capital expenditure (as above)	15,852	35,521	26,614
Add adjustment for the inclusion of on-balance sheet PFI and leasing schemes (if applicable)	19,758	38,840	39,221
Less MRP/VRP*	(11,589)	(11,836)	(10,886)
Less PFI & finance lease repayments	(10,847)	(7,493)	(7,457)
Closing balance	479,872*	534,730	527,364

\* 2013/14 closing balance restated for 2014/15 final accounts, hence differs to 2014/15 revised budget opening balance as per the 2014/15 Treasury Management strategy report.

2.2.7 Borrowing activity is constrained by prudential indicators for net borrowing and the CFR, and by the authorised limit.

#### Gross borrowing and the CFR

2.2.8 In order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term and only for a capital purpose, the Council should ensure that its gross external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year (2014/15) plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current (2015/16) and next two financial years.

2.2.9 This essentially means that the Council is not borrowing to support revenue expenditure.

2.2.10 This indicator allowed the Council some flexibility to borrow in advance of its immediate capital needs in 2014/15 if so required. The table below highlights the Council's gross borrowing position against the CFR. The Council has complied with this prudential indicator.

	2013/14 Actual £'000	2014/15 Revised Budget £'000	2014/15 Actual £'000
Gross borrowing position	148,117	148,117	148,117
CFR	479,872	534,730	527,364

The table above shows the position as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 for the Councils gross borrowing position and CFR. This shows, compared to the revised budget position:

- No movement in the gross borrowing position, reflecting the fact that no repayment of existing debt or new borrowing has been undertaken.

- A small reduction in the CFR, predominantly due to the slippage in the capital programme.

### The Authorised Limit

2.2.11 The authorised limit is the “affordable borrowing limit” required by Section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003. Once this has been set, the Council does not have the power to borrow above this level. The table below demonstrates that during 2014/15 the Council has maintained gross borrowing within its authorised limit.

### The Operational boundary

2.2.12 The operational boundary is the expected borrowing position of the Council during the year. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the boundary is acceptable subject to the authorised limit not being breached.

### Actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream

2.2.13 This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream.

	2014/15 Actual £'000
Authorised limit	590,000
Operational boundary	560,000
Actual external debt (Gross Borrowing inc. PFI)	426,660
Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream (General Fund)	14.90%

## **2.3 Treasury Position as at 31 March 2015**

2.3.1 The Council’s debt and investment position is organised by the treasury management service in order to ensure adequate liquidity for revenue and capital activities, security for investments and to manage risks within all treasury management activities. Procedures and controls to achieve these objectives are well established both through member reporting detailed in the summary, and through officer activity detailed in the Council’s Treasury Management Practices.

2.3.2 At the end of 2014/15 the Council’s treasury position was as follows:

	31 March 2014 Principal £'000	Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs	31 March 2015 Principal £'000	Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs
Fixed rate funding:						
-PWLB	15,723			15,723		
-Stock	6,625			6,600		
Market	125,768			125,794		
<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b>148,117</b>	4.38%	50.29	<b>148,117</b>	4.50%	49.90
<b>PFI &amp; Finance lease liabilities</b>	<b>248,003</b>			<b>278,543</b>		
<b>Total External debt</b>	<b>396,120</b>			<b>426,660</b>		
<b>CFR</b>	<b>479,872</b>			<b>527,364</b>		
<b>Over/ (under) borrowing</b>	<b>(83,752)</b>			<b>(100,704)</b>		
Investments:						
- in house	90,750	0.49%		103,070	0.72%	
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>90,750</b>	<b>0.49%</b>		<b>103,070</b>	<b>0.72%</b>	

2.3.3 The maturity structure of the debt portfolio was as follows:

Maturity structure of fixed rate borrowing during 2013/14	2013/14 Actual %	Upper limit %	Lower limit %	2014/15 Actual %
Under 12 months	43.41%	50%	0%	46.78%
12 months and within 24 months	3.38%	40%	0%	13.67%
24 months and within 5 years	38.31%	50%	0%	24.64%
5 years and within 10 years	4.62%	50%	0%	4.62%
10 years and above	10.29%	100%	40%	10.29%

The 2014/15 actual figures above do not represent a significant difference in maturity profile to the previous year, reflecting the fact that there has been neither any new debt taken on or repayment of debt.

2.3.4 The maturity structure of the investment portfolio was as follows:

	2013/14 Actual £'000	2014/15 Actual £'000
Investments		
Longer than 1 year	0	0
Under 1 year	90,750	103,070
<b>Total</b>	<b>90,750</b>	<b>103,070</b>

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### 2.3.5 Key features of the debt and investment position are:

- a) Over the course of the year 2014/15, investments have increased by £12.320m.
- b) The average rate of return decreased from 0.57% in 2013/14 to 0.52% in 2014/15. Continued low returns reflect current market conditions and the uncertainty of counterparty risk. The 'informal' policy adopted during 2013/14 was to limit the timeframe for investments to short dated investments; this was to ensure the security of funds, but also to allow flexibility as a result of receiving lower interest rates, in addition investments with commercial counter parties were restricted to on call only. This policy remained in place for the majority of 2014/15, hence the reduced average rate of return over the year, relaxations in the latter part of the year saw longer, fixed term investments being placed with other local authorities and approved financial institutions, this is reflected in the increased return (0.72%) on the investments held at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

## 2.4 The Strategy for 2014/15

- 2.4.1 The expectation for interest rates within the strategy for 2014/15 anticipated a low but rising Bank Rate (starting in quarter 1 of 2015), and gradual rises in medium and longer term fixed borrowing rates during 2014/15. Variable, or short-term rates, were expected to be the cheaper form of borrowing over the period. Continued uncertainty in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis promoted a cautious approach, whereby investments would continue to be dominated by low counterparty risk considerations, resulting in relatively low returns compared to borrowing rates.
- 2.4.2 The treasury strategy was to postpone borrowing to avoid the cost of holding higher levels of investments and to reduce counterparty risk.
- 2.4.3 The actual movement in gilt yields meant that PWLB rates saw little overall change during the first four months of the year but there was then a downward trend for the rest of the year with a partial reversal during February 2015.

## 2.5 The Economy and Interest Rates

- 2.5.1 The original market expectation at the beginning of 2014/15 was for the first increase in Bank Rate to occur in quarter 1 2015 as the unemployment rate had fallen much faster than expected through the Bank of England's initial forward guidance target of 7%. In May, however, the Bank revised its forward guidance. A combination of very weak pay rises and inflation above the rate of pay rises meant that consumer disposable income was still being eroded and in August the Bank halved its forecast for pay inflation in 2014 from 2.5% to 1.25%. Expectations for the first increase in Bank Rate therefore started to recede as growth was still heavily dependent on buoyant consumer demand.
- 2.5.2 During the second half of 2014 financial markets were caught out by a halving of the oil price and the collapse of the peg between the Swiss franc and the Euro. Fears

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also increased considerably that the European Central Bank (ECB) was going to do too little too late to ward off the threat of deflation and recession in the Eurozone (EZ). In mid-October, financial markets showed signs of uncertainty for about a week. By the end of 2014, it was clear that inflation in the UK was going to head towards zero in 2015 and possibly even turn negative. In turn, this made it clear that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) would have great difficulty in starting to raise the Bank Rate in 2015 while inflation was around zero and so market expectations for the first increase receded back to around quarter 3 of 2016.

- 2.5.3 Gilt yields were on a falling trend for much of the last eight months of 2014/15 but were then pulled in different directions by increasing fears after the anti-austerity parties won power in Greece in January; initially leading to increased fears that Greece could be heading for an exit from the euro. Whilst the threat of such action has subsided it is felt that the direct effects of this would be manageable by the EU and ECB, it is though very hard to quantify quite what the potential knock on effects would be on other countries in the EZ once the so called impossibility of a country leaving the EZ had been disproved. Another downward pressure on gilt yields was the announcement in January that the ECB would start a major programme of quantitative easing, purchasing EZ government and other debt in March. On the other hand, strong growth in the United States (US) caused an increase in confidence that the US was well on the way to making a full recovery from the financial crash and would be the first country to start increasing its central rate, probably by the end of 2015. The UK would be closely following it due to strong growth over both 2013 and 2014 and good prospects for a continuation into 2015 and beyond. However, there was also an increase in concerns around political risk ahead of the general election held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015.
- 2.5.4 The Funding for Lending Scheme, announced in July 2012, resulted in a flood of cheap credit being made available to banks which then resulted in money market investment rates falling drastically in the second half of that year and continuing throughout 2014/15.
- 2.5.5 The UK coalition Government maintained its tight fiscal policy stance in 2014/15 but strong economic growth and falling gilt yields led to a reduction in the forecasts for total borrowing in the March budget.
- 2.5.6 The European Union (EU) sovereign debt crisis had subsided since 2012 until the Greek election in January 2015 sparked a resurgence of fears. While the UK and its banking system has little direct exposure to Greece, it is much more difficult to quantify quite what effects there would be if contagion from a Greek exit from the Euro were to severely impact other major countries in the EZ and cause major damage to their banks.

## **2.6 Borrowing Rates in 2014/15**

- 2.6.1 PWLB maturity rates are set out as follows and are shown in Appendix 2 for a selection of maturity periods, illustrating the range (high and low points) in rates, the average rates and individual rates at the start and the end of the financial year.



- 
- **5 year PWLB rate** - started the year at 2.65%, peaking at 2.87% in July 2014 before falling to a low for the year of 1.71% in February 2015, climbing slightly to finish the year at 1.86%.
  - **10 year PWLB rate** - started the year at 3.63%, peaking at 3.66% in June 2014 before falling to a low for the year of 2.18% in February 2015, climbing to finish the year at 2.45%.
  - **25 year PWLB rate** - started the year at 4.29%, peaking at 4.30% 3 days later before falling to a low for the year of 2.85% in February 2015, before climbing to finish the year at 3.11%.
  - **50 year PWLB rate.** - started the year at 4.27%, peaking 2 days later at 4.28% before falling to a low for the year of 2.82% in February 2015, climbing slightly to finish the year at 3.08%.

## 2.7 Borrowing Outturn for 2014/15

### Treasury Borrowing

2.7.1 The Council did not undertake any borrowing in 2014/15:

### Repayment of Debt

2.7.2 There was no repayment of outstanding Council debt in 2014/15.

## 2.8 Compliance with Treasury Limits.

2.8.1 During the financial year the Council operated within the prudential indicators as set in the annual treasury management strategy. The outturn for all the prudential indicators and treasury management indicators is shown in Appendix 1.

## 2.9 Investment Rates in 2014/15

2.9.1 Bank Rate remained at its historic low of 0.5% throughout the year; it has now remained unchanged for six years.

2.9.2 Market expectations as to the timing of the start of monetary tightening started the year at quarter 1 2015 but then moved back to around quarter 3 2016 by the end of the year.

2.9.3 Deposit rates remained depressed during the whole of the year, primarily due to the effects of the Funding for Lending Scheme. Deposit rate movements are summarised below;

- **7 Day rate:** this started the year at 0.338% and ended at 0.358%
- **1 month rate:** this started the year at 0.362% and ended at 0.378%

- **3 month rate:** this started the year at 0.402%, peaking towards the end of the year on both 27<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 at 0.445%. The average for the year was 0.429%
- **6 month rate:** rates opened the year at 0.497% and peaked at 0.596% on 19th September 2014, ending the year marginally lower at 0.559%.
- **12 month rate:** this started the year at 0.783%, reaching a high point of 0.951% on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2014, ending the year at 0.841% on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

## 2.10 Investment Outturn

### Investment Policy

2.10.1 The Council's investment policy is governed by CLG guidance, which has been implemented in the annual investment strategy which for 2014/15 was approved by Council on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014. This policy sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties, and is based on credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, supplemented by additional market data (such as rating outlooks, credit default swaps, bank share prices etc.).

2.10.2 The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the Council had no liquidity difficulties.

### Resources

2.10.3 The Council's cash balances comprise revenue and capital resources and cash flow monies. The Council's core cash resources comprised as follows:

Balance Sheet Resources (£'000)	31-Mar-14 £'000	31-Mar-15 £'000
Balances General Fund	19,683	18,122
Balances HRA	20,728	16,374
Earmarked reserves	72,184	98,696
Provisions	28,374	23,531
Usable capital receipts	3,562	4,085
<b>Total</b>	<b>144,531</b>	<b>160,809</b>

### Investments at 31/3/14

2.10.4 The Council managed all of its investments in house with the institutions listed in the Council's approved lending list. At the end of the financial year the Council had £103.070m of investments as follows:

Start date	End date	Term – days	Rate %	Amount £'000	Institution
07-Jan-15	01-Apr-15	84	0.550%	1,000	Dudley MBC
20-Jan-15	30-Apr-15	100	0.500%	5,000	Leeds Building Society
10-Nov-14	11-May-15	182	0.700%	5,000	Bank of Scotland
10-Feb-15	11-May-15	90	0.570%	5,000	Bank of Scotland
04-Dec-14	04-Jun-15	182	0.700%	5,000	Bank of Scotland
16-Feb-15	18-Aug-15	183	0.660%	5,000	Nationwide BS
15-Apr-14	15-Oct-15	548	0.900%	5,000	Greater London Authority
09-Feb-15	09-Nov-15	273	0.800%	3,000	Bank of Scotland
26-Feb-15	26-Nov-15	273	0.780%	5,000	Barclays
23-Mar-15	21-Mar-16	364	0.920%	5,000	Barclays
01-Mar-15	01-Apr-15	31	0.470%	19,820	Ignis Money Market Fund (MMF)
27-Mar-15	01-Apr-15	5	0.460%	19,600	Federated (Primerate) MMF
31-Mar-15	01-Apr-15	1	0.430%	19,650	Goldman Sachs MMF
				<b>103,070</b>	

2.10.5 The Council's investment strategy was to maintain sufficient cash reserves to give it necessary liquidity, whilst trying to attain a benchmark average rate of return of London Interbank Bid Rate (LIBID) multiplied by 5%, whilst ensuring funds were invested in institutions which were the most secure. It should however be noted that, mindful of ensuring the security of its investments and because of the continued instability within financial markets, lending has again been for shorter periods because of historically low interest rates and also to give the Council greater opportunity to access its funds should it be perceived that one of the financial institutions holding Council resources was facing an uncertain future (taking into account lessons learned from recent events such as the demise of the Icelandic Banks). This has therefore been reflected in lower investments yields. The overall position was, however, kept under review during 2014/15 and was relaxed to allow longer term deposits in the latter part of the year so that income could be maximized.

2.10.6 During 2014/15, the average 7 day LIBID uncompounded was 0.352%, the target rate for the Council to achieve was therefore **0.3696%**

The Performance against this benchmark was as follows

a) An Actual Average Rate of return in year of **0.52%**

b) An Actual Rate of Return on investments on 31/3/14 of **0.72%**

### 3 Options/Alternatives

3.1 In order that the Council complies with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management the Council has no option other than to consider and approve the contents of the report. Therefore no options/alternatives have been presented.

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#### 4 **Preferred Option**

4.1 The preferred option is that the contents of the report are reviewed and approved by Council.

#### 5 **Consultation**

5.1 There has been consultation with Capita Asset Services, Treasury Management Advisors and Cabinet on 20th July 2015.

#### 6 **Financial Implications**

6.1 All included in the report.

#### 7 **Legal Services Comments**

7.1 None

#### 8 **Cooperative Agenda**

8.1 The treasury management strategy embraces the Council's cooperative agenda. The Council will develop its investment framework to ensure it complements the cooperative ethos of the Council.

#### 9 **Human Resources Comments**

9.1 None

#### 10 **Risk Assessments**

10.1 There are considerable risks to the security of the Authority's resources if appropriate treasury management strategies and policies are not adopted and followed. The Council has established good practice in relation to treasury management which have previously been acknowledged in Internal Audit reports and in the External Auditors' reports presented to the Audit Committee.

#### 11 **IT Implications**

11.1 None

#### 12 **Property Implications**

12.1 None

#### 13 **Procurement Implications**

13.1 None

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14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

14.1 None

15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

15.1 None

16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

16.1 No

17 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

17.1 No

18 **Key Decision**

18.1 Yes

19 **Key Decision Reference**

19.1 CFHR-06-15

20 **Background Papers**

20.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

File Ref: Background papers are provided in Appendices 1 and 2  
Officer Name: Anne Ryans  
Contact No: 0161 770 4902

21 **Appendices**

Appendix 1 Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators  
Appendix 2 PWLB Rate Variations 2014/15

## Appendix 1 – Prudential and Treasury Management Indicators

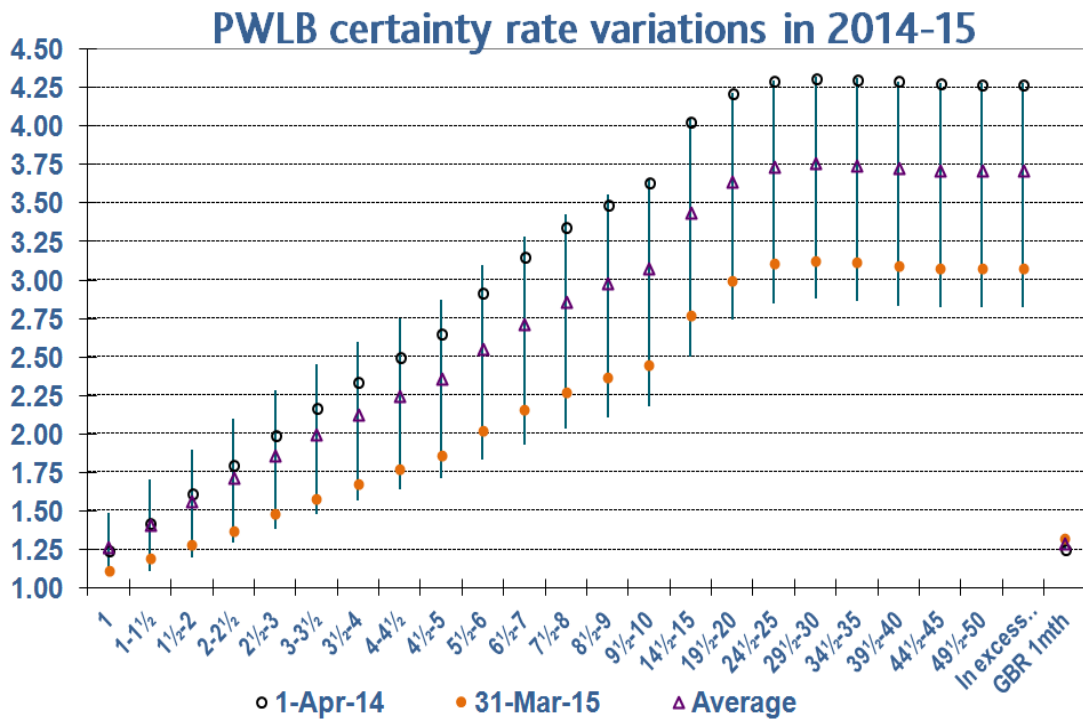
<b>TABLE 1: Prudential indicators</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Actual</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>				
Non - HRA	40,320	111,174	83,607	61,060
HRA	3,344	2,353	6,189	5,791
TOTAL	43,664	113,527	89,796	66,851
<b>Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream</b>				
Non - HRA	14.10%	16.81%	14.95%	14.90%
<b>In year Capital Financing Requirement</b>				
Non - HRA	13,174	87,425	55,031	47,492
TOTAL	13,174	87,425	55,031	47,492
<b>Capital Financing Requirement as at 31 March</b>				
TOTAL	479,872	597,618	534,730	527,364
<b>Incremental impact of capital investment decisions</b>	£ p	£ p	£ p	£ p
Increase in Council Tax (band D) per annum	£26.03	£55.93	£26.98	£25.23

<b>TABLE 2: Treasury management indicators</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Original</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Actual</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Authorised Limit for external debt -</b>				
borrowing	290,000	355,000	300,000	300,000
other long term liabilities	265,000	285,000	290,000	290,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>555,000</b>	<b>640,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>	<b>590,000</b>
<b>Operational Boundary for external debt -</b>				
borrowing	270,000	335,000	280,000	280,000
other long term liabilities	255,000	275,000	280,000	280,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>525,000</b>	<b>610,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>
<b>Actual external debt</b>	396,120			426,660
<b>Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure</b>				
Net principal re fixed rate borrowing / investments	100%	100%	100%	100%
Actual	100%			100%
<b>Upper limit for variable rate exposure</b>				
Net principal re variable rate borrowing / investments	40%	40%	40%	30%
Actual	0%			0%
<b>Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days</b>	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000

Appendix 2: PWLB Rate Variations 2014/15



Oldham Council



PWLB Borrowing Rates 2014/15 for 1 to 50 years

	01/04/2014	31/03/2015	High	High Date	Low	Low Date	Average	Spread
1	1.240%	1.110%	1.490%	16/07/2014	1.080%	23/01/2015	1.266%	0.410%
1- 1.5	1.420%	1.190%	1.700%	03/07/2014	1.110%	06/01/2015	1.417%	0.590%
2.5- 3	1.990%	1.480%	2.280%	03/07/2014	1.380%	07/01/2015	1.863%	0.900%
3.5- 4	2.340%	1.680%	2.600%	03/07/2014	1.570%	07/01/2015	2.130%	1.030%
4.5- 5	2.650%	1.860%	2.870%	03/07/2014	1.710%	02/02/2015	2.362%	1.160%
9.5- 10	3.630%	2.450%	3.660%	20/06/2014	2.180%	02/02/2015	3.083%	1.480%
24.5- 25	4.290%	3.110%	4.300%	03/04/2014	2.850%	02/02/2015	3.737%	1.450%
49.5 50	4.270%	3.080%	4.280%	02/04/2014	2.820%	02/02/2015	3.719%	1.460%
1 month Variable	1.250%	1.320%	1.340%	17/09/2014	1.250%	01/04/2014	1.290%	0.090%





## COUNCIL

# Interim Greater Manchester Mayor – Voting rights and Membership of AGMA

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Jim McMahon, Leader of the Council

**Report Author:** Elizabeth Drogan, Head of Constitutional Services  
Ext. 4705

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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### Reason for Decision

That Full Council as one of the ten Greater Manchester Local Authorities agrees to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) becoming a full Member of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA).

### Executive Summary

1. On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority considered a report which outlined the recommendations of the Appointment Panel and the outcome of the Independent remuneration process in relation to the Interim Mayor.
2. The report requested further resolutions to allow the role of Interim Mayor to be fully integrated into the decision making of the GMCA and AGMA.
3. Under section 85(4) of the Local Transport Act 2008 and the GMCA Order (as amended 2015), the Interim Mayor (who is not an elected councilor or elected mayor) has no automatic right to vote on any issue before the GMCA.
4. Members of the GMCA agreed the following resolution which would allow the Mayor to vote on all decisions of the Combined Authority.

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*Pursuant to section 104(2) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and section 85 (5) of the Local Transport Act 2008, the GMCA resolves that the provisions of Section 85 (4) of the LTA 2008 and para 3 (7) of Schedule 1 to the GMCA Order 2011, as amended, are not to apply in relation to the Interim Mayor and that the interim Mayor shall be entitled to vote on all questions coming or arising before the GMCA.*

5. Members of the GMCA were also requested to agree to the GMCA becoming a full member of AGMA in which would allow the Interim Mayor to become a member of the AGMA Executive (Clause 18 of the AGMA Constitution) and to Chair the meetings of the AGMA Executive. This was agreed.

4.3 Clause 18 of the AGMA Constitution is detailed below.

### **18. New membership and cessation of membership**

18.1 New Parties may join the Board provided that the Executive and full council of the joining Party (ies) and of all the Parties to the agreement for the time being so resolve.

18.2 Any of the Parties may cease to be a party to this Agreement following notice of cessation subsequent to a decision by the relevant Party/ies. A minimum of twelve months notice is required for any Party to leave the Board and in any event, any notice of cessation can only be effective at the end of a financial year.

18.3 Termination of this agreement must be by agreement of all but one of the Parties who are signatories to the agreement when any such termination is proposed.

### **Recommendation**

That Full Council, as one of the Greater Manchester Authorities approves the Greater Manchester Combined Authority becoming a full member of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities as per Clause 18 of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities Constitution.



## Report to COUNCIL

# OLDHAM DISTRESS FUND

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor Jean Stretton, Deputy Leader of the Council

**Report Author:** Mark Stenson, Head of Corporate Governance  
**Ext. 4783**

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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### Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the Oldham Distress Fund Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

### Executive Summary

1. This report provides the annual report including the financial statements of the Charity publicised on the Charity Commission website for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.
2. The Oldham Distress Fund is a registered charity operated by Oldham Council with the terms of reference to relieve poverty and hardship of people living in the Borough of Oldham. In 2012 it was utilised in response to the gas explosion which occurred in Shaw in June 2012.

### Recommendations

Council is asked to note the Oldham Distress Fund Annual Report including the Financial Statement.

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# **Oldham Distress Fund**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

## Reference and Administrative Information

**Trustees:** Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Councillor Howard Sykes  
Councillor Jean Stretton  
Councillor Jenny Harrison

**Principal Office:** Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Civic Centre – Room 422  
PO Box 196  
West Street  
Oldham  
OL1 1QJ

**Charity Number:** 225145

**Bankers:** Barclays Bank Plc  
25 High St  
Oldham,  
Lancashire  
OL1 3AZ

**Auditors:** N/A

The Trustees present their annual report and unaudited financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

## **Structure, governance and management**

The Oldham Distress Fund (the trust) is a registered charity, number 225145. The trust was re-established in 2012 based on the Terms of Reference for the relief of poverty and hardship of people living in the Borough of Oldham in response to the gas explosion which occurred in Shaw in June 2012.

The trust will comprise 3 members of the council appointed by the chief executive under emergency powers. The Chair will be appointed from amongst their number at the meeting.

Constitutional Services for Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council will service the Trust. Meetings of the Oldham Distress Fund will be convened by and attended by Constitutional Services.

All trustees give their time freely and no trustee was paid remuneration in the year.

## **Risk Management**

The major risks, to which the charity is exposed as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

The most significant risk was judged to be misappropriation of funds through fraudulent or inappropriate claims. The trust continues to mitigate this risk through the use of an application form and where appropriate waiting for receipts before payment or dealing with the supplier directly.

## **Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit**

The objective of the Trust is the relief of poverty and hardship through grants to buy essential items to people living in the Borough of Oldham. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the trust's aims and objectives.

The trust has carried out this objective by making grants to individuals still struggling after the Shaw disaster in 2012.

## Financial Review

The Trust has received no income in this financial year. A breakdown of expenditure is as follows:

Category	Amount
Legal Fees/Solicitors Costs	3,425.62
Household Refurbishment	1,690.00
Construction Costs	1,051.20
Insurance Excess	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,366.82</b>

## Plans for the Future

The remaining funds will be held into the next financial year, and will continue to be distributed to further the aim of the relief of poverty and hardship.



**The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.**

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature:	
Full name:	
Position (e.g. Secretary, chair etc):	
Date:	

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## COUNCIL

# Update on Actions from Council

**Portfolio Holder:** Various

**Officer Contact:** Executive Director, Corporate and Commercial Services

**Report Author:** Elizabeth Drogan, Head of the Constitutional Services  
**Ext.** 4705

**9<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

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### Reason for Decision

The decision is for Elected Members to note the updates to the actions from previous Council meetings.

### Executive Summary

1. This report provides feedback to the Council on actions taken at the Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.
2. This report also provides feedback on other issues raised at that meeting and previous meetings.

### Recommendations

Council are asked to note the actions and correspondence received regarding motions agreed at previous Council meetings.

**Update on Actions from Council**

**1 Background**

1.1 The report sets out the actions officers have taken on motions of outstanding business and notice of motions approved at the Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

**2 Current Position**

2.1 The current position from actions as a result of motions is set out in the table at Appendix One. Letters are attached at Appendix Two in response to the actions approved at Council.

**3 Options/Alternatives**

3.1 N/A

**4 Preferred Option**

4.1 N/A

**5 Consultation**

5.1 N/A

**6 Financial Implications**

6.1 N/A

**7 Legal Services Comments**

7.1 N/A

**8. Co-operative Agenda**

8.1 N/A

**9 Human Resources Comments**

9.1 N/A

**10 Risk Assessments**

10.1 N/A

**11 IT Implications**

- 
- 11.1 N/A
- 12 **Property Implications**
- 12.1 N/A
- 13 **Procurement Implications**
- 13.1 N/A
- 14 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**
- 14.1 N/A
- 15 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**
- 15.1 None
- 16 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**
- 16.1 No
- 17 **Key Decision**
- 17.1 No
- 18 **Key Decision Reference**
- 18.1 N/A
- 19 **Background Papers**
- 19.1 The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:
- Agenda and minutes of the Council meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 are available online at: <http://committees.oldham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails>
- 20 **Appendices**
- 20.1 Appendix 1 – actions taken following the Council meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015
- 20.2 Appendix 2 – Letters received in response to actions approved at previous Council meetings.

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### Actions from Council 15 July 2015

ACTION	RESPONSE	WHO RESPONSIBLE	DATE COMPLETED
Administration Business 1 – Office of the Mayor of Greater Manchester	<p>Letter to be sent to the Mayor of Greater Manchester welcoming him to his post</p> <p>Letters to be sent to Oldham’s MPs to update them on the Devolution Deal</p> <p>Letter received from Mayor of Greater Manchester dated 4 August 2015 received 17 August 2015</p> <p>Response received from M Meacher MP dated 27 July 2015 received 17 August 2015</p> <p>Response received from D Abrahams MP dated 3 August 2015 received 17 August 2015</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>23 July 2015</p> <p>22 July 2015</p>
Administration Business 2 – Closure of Final Accounts	Letter to be sent to the Director of Finance to thank Department for their efforts	Chief Executive	20 July 2015
Administration Business 3 – Electrification of Transpennine Route	To be rolled to the next full Council meeting to be held on 9 September 2015	Constitutional Services	9 September 2015
Opposition Business 2 – Water Poverty	Letter to be sent to the Secretary of State for DEFRA	Chief Executive	20 July 2015

	<p>Response received from DEFRA dated August 2015 received 18 August 2015</p> <p>The following actions also took place:</p> <p>A seminar was organised on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 with support from United Utilities staff, United Utilities Trust and staff. 28 delegates attended from housing associations, welfare rights and customer service backgrounds and two elected members. Delegates also received a bespoke information pack.</p> <p>United Utilities have provided a written article on help available to the network of Court Managers and Customer Services Staff at Housing 21.</p> <p>United Utilities have provided three presentations to the Guinness Partnership housing association staff whose roles have benefitted directly from the knowledge gained.</p> <p>United Utilities are arranging further training for staff from</p>		requested.
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	<p>Threshold Hosing.</p> <p>A further bespoke session open to elected members could be organised if requested.</p>		
<p>Ward Member Question from Councillor Roberts regarding Royton Cemetery</p>	<p>It is acknowledged that there are areas that require remedial works and attention, which unfortunately have to be considered against other maintenance priorities identified across our corporate estate i.e. at schools, operational premises, social care buildings, parks etc.</p> <p>That said, the work required to the cemetery footpaths has been divided in three phases (from 2015 -2018), which it is believed is a sensible and more pragmatic approach in regard to the amount of work required, balanced against the maintenance budget provided. In the first year, the Council would look at focusing on improving / repairing the footpath that provides the main route around the cemetery (in line with the budget availability), setting out a further programme of works as aforementioned(subject to maintenance budgets being maintained at the current 2015 level) over the next three years to</p>	<p>Councillor Brownridge</p>	<p>Update received 28 August 2015</p>

	address the remaining areas.		
Ward Member Question from Councillor G. Alexander regarding Northgate Estate	<p>A drawing submission to finalise the works was received from Persimmon Homes on 9<sup>th</sup> July and Nathan Bell in Unity has now discussed this with Persimmon. Detailed comments on this were provided to Persimmon on 13<sup>th</sup> August.</p> <p>The issues raised included some details on the drawings being missing relating to gully connections and a street lighting column. Details of the bond requirement have been outlined and, once Persimmon have re-issued their documents, Legal colleagues will be instructed to send a draft agreement to them. Once this agreement is signed, we will be able to confirm the timescale for resurfacing and will clarify how Persimmon will inform residents.</p> <p>Officer will be in contact when there is further progress on this matter.</p>	Councillor Hibbert	20 August 2015
Welfare Reform: Food Poverty "Deep Dive"	Report to be noted.	Council	The report was noted at the meeting on 15 July 2015.

Review of Land and Property Protocols	Council approved the revised Land and Property Protocols appended to the report.  Constitution to be amended.	Constitutional Services	31 July 2015
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Previous to 15 July 2015 Council:

<p>Opposition Business 1 – 20 MPH on Residential Roads (5 Feb 2014)</p>	<p>Refer to Overview and Scrutiny</p>	<p>Overview and Scrutiny Board</p>	<p>An update is scheduled at the Overview and Scrutiny Board on a proposed programme of work related to a revised road safety strategy on 8 September 2015.</p>
<p>Opposition Business 2 – Dog Fouling (22 Oct 2014)</p>	<p>Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board</p> <p>Referred to Neighbourhoods by Constitutional Services on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014</p>	<p>Neighbourhoods</p>	<p>A report has been scheduled for the O&amp;S Board in September 2015. The proposal will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data regarding the priority list of parks and cemeteries for which the current orders will be replaced with the new orders</li> <li>• Timescales for implementation</li> <li>• The link with Community Safety re other public space issues</li> </ul>
<p>Leader and Cabinet Question Time – Councillor Sykes to Councillor McMahon – Supporting Candidates and Councillors with Disabilities (17 Dec 2014)</p>	<p>Referred to Overview and Scrutiny to suggest where improvements could be made</p>	<p>Overview and Scrutiny</p>	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny Board received a report at the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Council were provided an updated in the action report on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015.</p> <p>The O&amp;S Board requested a further update in September</p>

			2015.
Opposition Business 1 – First Aid (4 February 2015)	Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	<p>The motion was referred to the Health and Wellbeing Board and Health Scrutiny.</p> <p>The item is due to be discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board in Sept 2015, it will then go to the Health Scrutiny meeting planned for 6 October – for the committee to review/comment on what was decided at the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p>
Opposition Business 2 – Supporting those with Dyslexia (4 February 2015)	Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	<p>A report was discussed at O&amp;S Board on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Further information was reported to Council on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The Board has requested an update in September 2015.</p>
Leader & Cabinet Question Time – Cllr Sykes to Cllr McMahon – Community Shop (4 February 2015)	Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board	Overview and Scrutiny Board	<p><u>Community Shop</u> – a report was presented to O&amp;S Board in July 2015. A workshop will be organised for all members to look at areas where the shop could be located as well as feasibility, cost constraints and timescales; a visit has been scheduled to the Barnsley Community Shop,</p>

			<p>and a further update to be provided to O&amp;S Board in October 2015.</p> <p><u>Community Bank</u> – a report was presented to O&amp;S Board on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The Board requested that other AGMA authorities be contacted to ascertain if there was any interest in the Community Bank and a further report be brought back to O&amp;S Board in three months time which outlined what was on offer and business solutions from seven local organisations.</p>
Opposition Business 1 – Loyalty Card Scheme (1 April 2015)	<p>Referred to Overview and Scrutiny Board to examine.</p> <p>Forwarded to Economy and Skills on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2015. Research had been ongoing as well as consultation with the Town Centre Partnership. A local digital media company were doing further research to be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Board.</p>	Overview and Scrutiny Board	A report is scheduled for the Overview and Scrutiny Board in September 2015.

Dr Carolyn Wilkins  
Chief Executive  
Oldham MBC  
Level 3, Civic Centre  
West Street  
Oldham  
OL1 1UG

4<sup>th</sup> August 2015

Dear Carolyn,

**Re: Oldham Council Resolution – Office of the Mayor of Greater  
Manchester**

Many thanks for your letter of 23<sup>rd</sup> July and your congratulations on my appointment as Mayor of Greater Manchester.

I note the resolution of Oldham Council from their meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July regarding the opportunities presented by the Office of Mayor and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

I agree that this provides a platform for Greater Manchester to both present itself to central government and improve the wellbeing of its residents, as well as forging stronger connections between its constituent localities including Oldham.

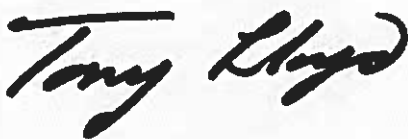
I also welcome the opportunity that devolution provides for Greater Manchester to innovate at a local level, driving economic growth and reforming public services to better serve the needs of our residents.

This reflects the vision set out in our Greater Manchester Strategy which outlines that by 2020, Greater Manchester will have pioneered a new model for sustainable economic growth based around a more connected, talented and greener city region, where all our residents are able to contribute to and benefit from sustained prosperity and a good quality of life.

By working together across the region to make this vision a reality, we will benefit not just Greater Manchester as a whole but also individual boroughs, towns and communities.

I look forward to working with colleagues in Oldham to achieve this goal.

Yours sincerely,



Tony Lloyd, Mayor of Greater Manchester

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Dr Carolyn Wilkins  
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Our Ref: OMM/WILK01005/01150205

27 July 2015

Dear Carolyn,

**Re: Oldham Council Resolution – Office of the Mayor of Greater Manchester**

Thank you for your recent update of the regional Devolution deal.

I believe that Greater Manchester has a lot to gain from Devolution and I trust that Oldham Council will work towards making sure that the town receives the best deal it can from it.

I look forward to receiving future updates.

Yours sincerely

The Rt Hon Michael Meacher MP  
Oldham West & Royton  
Including Chadderton & Hollinwood

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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins  
Chief Executive  
Oldham Council  
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Our Ref: KHM/PARK02002/02151898  
Your Ref: Council – GM Mayor - 20150715

03 August 2015

Dear Dr Wilkins

**Oldham Council Resolution – Office of the Mayor of Greater Manchester**

Thank you for your recent letter, received 27<sup>th</sup> July, on this issue.

This is just a note to acknowledge receipt and to thank you and Council Members for taking the time to keep me informed.

Yours sincerely

DEBBIE ABRAHAMS MP  
Oldham East and Saddleworth

Debbie Abrahams MP is proud to represent the people of  
Alexandra, Lees, Saddleworth, Shaw & Crompton, St Mary's, St James' and Waterhead

Website: [www.debbieabrahams.org.uk](http://www.debbieabrahams.org.uk) Twitter: @debbie\_abrahams

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OL1 1UT

Your ref: Council-Water Poverty-20150715  
Our ref: PO381251/GW

August 2015

**From Rory Stewart OBE MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Environment and Rural Affairs

Dear Dr Wilkins

Thank you for your letter of 17 July to the Secretary of State about water poverty and the support available to customers. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

I'm grateful for the steps you are taking to help promote and support the work of United Utilities in helping those customers who may have difficulty paying their bills.

Due to geographical and population differences the cost of water bills varies regionally. This, combined with differing socio-economic circumstances, mean that the challenges faced by water companies in England and Wales can vary greatly. This means that a definition of water poverty in legislation would be too rigid for all regions, and therefore potentially unhelpful when trying to support those in most difficulty.

Defra issued social tariffs guidance in 2012 that encourages water companies to develop social tariffs in consultation with their customers. The guidance allows water companies to design schemes with differing eligibility, levels of support and how they are funded to reflect local needs and the views of their own customers. Water companies' customers must broadly support schemes because they are funded through cross subsidy by ineligible customers.

All water companies have developed support for vulnerable customers and since April 2015, 14 water companies offer a social tariff. These are in addition to WaterSure, the Government mandated social tariff that all companies provide.

RORY STEWART MP



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE

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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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Dr Carolyn Wilkins  
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OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SB/OMBC01002/01150345

24 July 2015

Dear Carolyn

Please find enclosed a copy of a reply I have received from the DCLG in response to my letter on the Council's behalf regarding the funding formula. This is yet another reply that does not even attempt to answer the questions raised and makes no effort to counter the argument that richer authorities receive larger funding amounts than poorer areas like Oldham.

I have attached the reply for your information.

Yours sincerely

The Rt Hon Michael Meacher MP  
Oldham West & Royton  
Including Chadderton & Hollinwood

Encl.







**Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government**

The Rt Hon Michael Meacher MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**Marcus Jones MP**  
*Minister for Local Government*

*Department for Communities and Local  
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[www.gov.uk/dclg](http://www.gov.uk/dclg)

Our Ref: 1158963  
Your Ref: SB/OMBC01002/01150345

14 JUL 2015

*Dear Michael,*

Thank you for your letter of 12 June on behalf of Oldham Council and the funding formula for local authorities.

The context for the reductions in grant funding to local authorities is of course the need to reduce the deficit. Every part of the public sector needs to do its bit to tackle the deficit including local government which accounts for a quarter of all public spending.

Local authorities have shown great skill in generating efficiencies and prioritising services, and in doing so helping to reduce the deficit. Budgets have been balanced and council tax has fallen by eleven per cent in real-terms since 2010, while public satisfaction with local government has been maintained. It is right that local authorities continue to make sensible savings and work innovatively to deliver services that offer value for money for the taxpayer. The Government, meanwhile, will continue to deliver local government finance settlements which are fair to authorities in all parts of the country, north and south, rural and urban, metropolitan and shire.

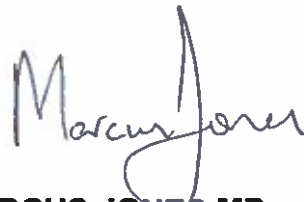
You noted concern that reductions to expenditure will eventually undermine councils' ability to protect the most vulnerable. I would also be most concerned and so I would be keen for details should such circumstances develop.

With regard to local authorities with the highest levels of deprivation, it remains the case that councils facing the highest demand for services continue to receive considerably more funding and have significantly higher spending power than less deprived authorities. In 2015-16 spending power per dwelling for the ten per cent most deprived authorities is around forty per cent higher than that for the least deprived ten per cent. Also for 2015-16 you will note that Oldham's Spending Power per dwelling remains significantly higher than the England average, £2,316 compared to the England average of £2,086.

The introduction of incentives to promote local economic growth by the introduction of retention of growth in business rates in 2013 marked a major shift away from previous policies which served to keep local authorities dependent on grant. Business rates retention instead gives local authorities tools and incentives so that they can share in the benefits of promoting growth in their local economies. All authorities, regardless of their level of dependency on grants, should make the most of these opportunities in order to increase the funding available to them, and also from the New Homes Bonus where there is demand for additional housing.

Finally, you mentioned devolution. The Government is committed to devolving greater powers away from Whitehall because those who live, work and do business in a place know best what their area needs in order to prosper. We have already seen that whereas before 2010, only one job in every three was created outside London and the South-East, since 2010 it has been three in every five. The Greater Manchester deal, referred to by the Leader of Oldham Council as "a major step forward" for Greater Manchester, will see the devolution of significant powers and budgets which will help the city-region to fulfil its potential and to deliver jobs and prosperity. This includes the consolidated transport fund, a £300m Housing Investment Fund, £30m a year 'Earn Back' infrastructure fund and £6bn worth of health and social care budgets.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcus Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

**MARCUS JONES MP**



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Our Ref: SB/OMBC01002/01150343

07 July 2015

Dear Carolyn

**Re; Council Resolution – Sky Lanterns**

Further to my previous letter; please find enclosed a copy of a reply I have received from DEFRA in response to my letter on your behalf.

I am not sure how helpful you will find the response as it is clear the government has no intentions of banning the use of sky lanterns, but they do claim that some products have been taken off the market and guidance is available for the use of lanterns.

Please get back to me if you wish to respond to the reply.

Yours sincerely

The Rt Hon Michael Meacher MP  
Oldham West & Royton  
Including Chadderton & Hollinwood

Encl.



**Department  
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Our ref: MC378135/SA  
Your ref: SB/OMBC01002/01150343

26 June 2015

**The Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP**  
Secretary of State

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter on 12 June on behalf of your local council about sky lanterns.

Sky lanterns are a long-running issue and the Government is aware that there have been concerns about their safety. We can assure you that, not only do we take these concerns very seriously, but action is also being taken to deal with this issue. However it is worth noting that an independent study we published in 2013 about sky lantern safety found that the risks to animals or damage to the environment by sky lanterns were relatively minor.

You will appreciate that any action we take must be proportionate to the level of risk. Naturally, we do not want to stop enjoyment of celebrations, but we do want to ensure that people think twice about the impact of a lantern after it leaves their hands, and the potential consequences of where it lands.

We know that voluntary actions and initiatives to raise awareness of risks can be effective. For example, last year, the Trading Standards Institute published an industry Code of Practice for sky lanterns. The Code is available on the TSI website – <http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/policy/skylanterns.cfm>.

Over the last few years, at those times of the year when they are more likely to be used, we have publicised the risks posed by sky lanterns. In addition, certain types of sky lanterns have been removed from the UK market where poor product quality has raised concerns over fire or health risks to the consumer.

Thank you again for your letter.

Best wishes,

**Elizabeth Truss MP**  
Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs