

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD
05/11/2020 at 6.00 pm



Present: Councillor McLaren (Chair)
Councillors Taylor, Toor, Jacques, Curley, Price (Vice-Chair),
Surjan and Williamson

Also in Attendance:

Councillor Roberts	Cabinet Member for Housing
Emma Barton	Director of Economy
Joanne Betts	Principal Transport and Highways Policy Officer
Elizabeth Dryden-Stuart	Team Leader, Strategic Planning and Information
Lori Hughes	Constitutional Services
Sian Walter-Browne	Constitutional Services

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

3 **URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

4 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

No public questions were received.

5 **GREATER MANCHESTER'S PLAN FOR HOMES, JOBS
AND THE ENVIRONMENT (GMSF)**

The Board gave consideration to a report which asked them to consider recommending to the Cabinet that the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework be approved for publication and submission to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The Board was informed that the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Executive Board on 30th October 2020 had resolved to note the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting background documents and had recommended the documents to the districts with the intention that the districts approve:

- a) Publication of the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for representations between 1 December 2020 and 26 January 2021; and
- b) Submission of the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 to the Secretary of State for examination following the period for representations.

Following approval by the ten districts, it was intended that consultation on the Publication Draft 2020 would commence 1st December 2020 and last until 26th January 2021.

When adopted, the GMSF would become part of Oldham's development plan. It would replace parts of Oldham's Core Strategy and change the Proposals Map. A list of Core Strategy policies that would be replaced was attached at Appendix 1 of the report. The Proposals Map would be changed through the addition of allocations for housing and employment development, and changes to Green Belt boundaries.

The GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting documents could be viewed at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/>.

The full AGMA Executive Board Report, which included a list of the supporting documents available, was attached at Appendix 2 of the report.

The Board noted the report summarised the main components of the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and what it meant for Oldham. It also set out the implications for the review of Oldham's Local Plan.

The Board was informed that the 'Publication stage' was a formal consultation on the draft joint DPD pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 ("the Regulations). It was a statutory stage that provided an opportunity for organisations and individuals to submit their final views on the content of the plan. The decision to 'Publish' the draft joint DPD was an Executive decision for the Greater Manchester (GM) local authorities.

Following consultation on the Publication Plan, the draft joint DPD and the representations made at the Publication stage would be sent to the Secretary of State – this was the 'Submission stage' under Regulation 22 of the Local Planning Regulations. Submission required approval of each of the 10 Full Councils of the GM local authorities. Upon completion of the consultation on the Publication draft in January 2021, a post-consultation report would be prepared and the plan would be submitted to the Secretary of State for Examination in mid-2021. Whilst anyone could make a representation on any point, only those pertaining to the 4 tests of soundness would be taken into account by the Inspector(s). If major new issues arose at the Publication consultation stage, there would need to be further consultation.

An Examination in Public would take place after which a Planning Inspector would consider the joint DPD and representations made in respect of it and determine whether the joint DPD was capable of being adopted, either with or without amendments.

Assuming that the document was capable of adoption, whether with or without amendments, the ultimate decision to adopt must be taken by each of the 10 Full Councils.

Members asked for and received clarification on the following:

- How would the Plan be affected by Covid – it was not possible to be definitive at this time. The Council was very focussed on providing ongoing support for local businesses. The policies would be monitored in the context of what was occurring at the time.
- Was there flexibility, particularly around housing and business accommodation – there would be opportunities to review and the policies would be monitored.
- Flexibility across all strands beyond 2023 – this was the final opportunity to comment on the publication draft before it moved forward for adoption. The Local Plan would be monitored and reviewed regularly. Flexibility would come from the availability of land at any particular time and whether brownfield sites could be made attractive to developers. GMSF would provide a framework to assist Councils bidding for funding and would help Councils be active participants in shaping development.
- Helping to tackle inequalities – GMSF and the Local Plan were formulated to meet the needs to address inequalities. They would provide a structure to enable Councils to require such matters as quality homes and meaningful employment.
- Distil to ward level so the public could easily see what was happening in their neighbourhood – the Local Plan would translate the high-level framework to the community level. The policies would help with neighbourhood planning.
- Set out simply how the policies integrated with each other – this would be sought from GMCA colleagues to make the links clear to the public.
- Develop a Scrutiny framework – the Local Plan was expected to come to the Board at its next meeting. A forward plan would be put together for consideration and specific elements could be brought as required.

RESOLVED that:

The following be recommended to the Cabinet:

1. That the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020, including strategic site allocations and green belt boundary amendments, and reference to the potential use of compulsory purchase powers to assist with site assembly, and the supporting background documents, for publication pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 for a period for representations between 1 December 2020 and 26 January 2021 be approved.

2. That the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for examination following the period for representations.
3. That delegation to Director of Economy authority to approve the relevant Statement of Common Ground(s) required pursuant to the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 be approved.
4. That delegation to the Greater Manchester Lead Chief Executive, Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, in consultation with Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett the Portfolio Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure to make minor or non-material amendments to the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and background documents prior to their publication be approved.

The Cabinet be requested to recommend the following to the Council:

1. That the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting background documents be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 following the period for representations between 1st December 2020 and 26 January 2021 be approved.
2. That delegation to the Greater Manchester Lead Chief Executive, Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, in consultation with Salford City Mayor, Paul Dennett the Portfolio Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure to make minor or non-material amendments to the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and background documents prior to their publication be approved.

6

GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT STRATEGY 2040, OUR FIVE-YEAR DELIVERY PLAN (2020-2025) AND OLDHAM LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Board gave consideration to a report which provided details of new, and updated, transport strategy documents that had been prepared by Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM), working with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), the ten Greater Manchester councils and the Greater Manchester Mayor, to cover the entire city-region.

This work included a refreshed version of the long-term, statutory local transport plan – the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 - and a final version of Our Five-Year Delivery Plan (2020-2025) which set out the practical actions planned to deliver the Strategy over the next 5 years. In addition, ten new Local Implementation Plans had been prepared (one for each Greater Manchester council), including Oldham.

Draft versions of the documents were published as part of the GMSF Transport Evidence Base for the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) Executive Board on 30th

October, which noted the GMSF: Publication Draft 2020 and supporting background documents and recommended the documents to the GM local authorities. The GMSF 2020 and supporting documents could be viewed at <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/housing/gmsf2020/>.



The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040 was first published in February 2017 and had undergone a 'light touch' policy refresh to reflect work undertaken and the changed context since 2017, including, for example, the adoption of the "Right-Mix" ambition for at least 50% of all journeys to be made by active travel and public transport by 2040 and further development of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. The refreshed 2040 Transport Strategy would be published in December 2020 alongside the GMSF consultation, as part of the GMSF evidence base.

The long-term approach to planning Greater Manchester's transport network, set out in the 2040 Transport Strategy, was underpinned by a series of five-year Delivery Plans. The first Delivery Plan (2016-2017 to 2021-2022) was published in 2017, alongside the 2040 Transport Strategy. An updated, draft Delivery Plan was published for consultation – alongside the first version of the GMSF - in January 2019. A final version of this document had now been prepared.

Our Five-Year Delivery Plan sets out the practical actions planned, over the next 5 years, to deliver the 2040 Transport Strategy and achieve the transport ambitions of the GMCA and the Mayor, in parallel with the development of the GMSF. The Delivery Plan included a mapped summary of proposed place-specific schemes as well as a range of GM-wide interventions ranging from Emergency Active Travel measures to support social distancing as part of the Covid-19 recovery, to a GM-wide reformed bus network and associated infrastructure, clean air plan, and integrated fares and ticketing standards. Our Five-Year Delivery Plan would be published in support of the GMSF consultation and as part of the GMSF evidence base in December 2020. The report included details of the interventions that could result in direct investment in Oldham or were particularly relevant to Oldham. The Delivery Plan also contained details of the strategic transport interventions associated with GMSF allocations that may be brought forward. This report included details of the GMSF interventions associated with Oldham's GMSF allocations.

Our Five-Year Delivery Plan was supported by ten Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) covering the period 2020 to 2025. Each of the ten councils that made up Greater Manchester had its own LIP, including Oldham. LIPs were a new feature of the GM2040 Transport Strategy suite of documents and provided more detail on each Council area. LIPs would be included in an appendix to the final version of Our Five-Year Delivery Plan. They would be 'live' documents for a period of time and would

be updated as councils developed and published transport plans and strategies, or as new schemes were developed or delivered.



Oldham
Council

Members asked for and received clarification on the following:

- Flexibility as priorities developed – there was a high degree of control at local level with delivery plans. The strategy was based on GMSF and was flexible enough to accommodate change. The Council had control over its own implementation plan and how often it was reviewed.
- Effect of Covid on funding – the Plan was largely related to capital investment and capital funding was still being allocated. Revenue funding was reduced by fewer passengers and the impact of that could not be assessed at this time.
- Rationalisation of bus services across Greater Manchester – GM was developing a franchising scheme, which had been out for consultation. No decisions had yet been made and the impact of Covid would need to be understood before proceeding.
- Balancing different needs in regenerating the town centre – the aim was to make the town centre attractive and easy to access for all. Major projects had been delivered and funding had been secured for further schemes. Many households did not have a car and it was therefore important to improve cycling and walking routes as well as public transport.
- Strategies to reduce short journeys eg school journeys – various projects had been undertaken. Some were school-specific and some more general. The service was working with schools on a 1:1 basis to develop school travel plans.
- Availability of a ward-level version – the Local Implementation Plan would provide that level of detail.
- Greenfield station – work had not yet progressed to provide a fully-accessible station. As electrification would not happen soon, discussion continued to find an alternative solution and any available opportunities would be exploited.

RESOLVED that:

1. It be noted that, on the 9th November 2020, the Cabinet would be recommended to endorse the refreshed Greater Manchester Transport Strategy and the final version of Our Five-Year Delivery Plan for approval by GMCA and publication in December 2020, alongside Greater Manchester's Plan for Homes, Jobs and the Environment (GMSF), subject to the correction of a small number of errors identified in Appendix D.
2. It be noted that, on the 9th November 2020, the Cabinet would be recommended to approve the Oldham Local Implementation Plan for publication as an appendix to Our Five-Year Delivery Plan, acknowledging that this was a 'live' document and would be subject to regular review and update as appropriate.

3. It be noted that, on the 9th November 2020, the Cabinet would be recommended to delegate authority to the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Culture to approve future updates of the Oldham Local Implementation Plan.
4. An update be brought to the Board in six months.



The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 7.40 pm