

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY  
HELD ON FRIDAY, 29 MAY 2020 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT:**

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor	Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton	Councillor David Greenhalgh
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese
Oldham	Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

GMCA – Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA - Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA - Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Carolyn Wilkins
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Pam Smith
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward
GMCA	Ross Macrae

**GMCA 58/20 APOLOGIES**

That apologies be received and noted from Steve Rumbelow (Rochdale) and Geoff Little (Bury).

**GMCA 59/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

The GM Mayor welcomed attendees to the first virtual meeting of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority which was also being livestreamed via the GMCA website.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the GMCA record its thanks to all those who participated, especially Cllr David Greenhalgh, as the Portfolio Lead for Culture and Rose Marley, in the Together in One Voice event on 28 May, celebrating how communities have pulled together through these unprecedented times.
2. That recognition be given to Councillor David Greenhalgh and the cultural team, in partnership with businesses, the arts and charities for ensuring young people who don't have on-line access to benefit from activities through the delivery of over 22,000 cultural packs.
3. That the GMCA record its thanks to all GM Local Authority Leaders and Staff, public bodies of GM, Community & Voluntary Organisations who continue to work together to support people in response to the Covid-19 crisis, with special thanks to front line services supporting those most vulnerable.
4. That the current position on Covid-19 related response be noted and that it also be noted that hospital admissions for non-covid related issues have begun to increase, with the public encouraged to present to their doctor if they experience any health issues and Covid-19 symptoms to ensure they are assessed appropriately.
5. That it be noted that the GM 'Test and Trace' scheme will work in conjunction with a national system and that the local element of the scheme would be crucial to ensure all communities could be reached.
6. That it be noted that work was underway to ascertain the level of resources, both financial and personal to support Mass Testing and Contact Tracing to inform the 'Ask' of Government.
7. That it be noted that the Government has responded to GM's request for a further financial package for Metrolink services, providing support up to 4 August 2020, which has enabled the frequency to be increased to a 12 minute service.
8. That it also be noted that discussions would continue with Government regarding longer term public transport funding, with an update on progress to be reported to a future meeting of the GMCA.
9. That it be noted that GM has some concerns regarding the Government's Registration Prospectus for the Building Safety Fund announced on 11 March, specifically in relation to the size, scope, 'first come first served' approach, restricted eligibility in terms of building height and individuals who have already commissioned works, timetable and the tight application window from 1 June to 31 July 2020.
10. That City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure and Chair of the High Rise Task Force would respond to the Secretary of State regarding the Prospectus for the Building Safety Fund on behalf of the GMCA.

11. That it be agreed that the report circulated on GM Bounce Back Loans Scheme be considered as an item of Urgent Business.

### **GMCA 60/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

That Councillor Richard Leese and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal interest as Directors of the Growth Company in relation to item 16a (GM Bounce Back Loans).

### **GMCA 61/20 APPOINTMENTS TO THE GMCA**

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the appointment of Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, the newly appointed Leader of Bury Council to the GMCA be welcomed.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Councillor David Jones for his work on behalf of the GMCA, and as the Portfolio Lead for Children and Young People.
3. That the appointment of Councillor Nigel Murphy, as Manchester City Council's substitute member, to the GMCA be noted.
4. That the GMCA record formerly acknowledge and recognise the work particularly on the reform agenda and 'A Bed Every Night' that Councillor Sue Murphy undertook to benefit residents from across GM.

### **GMCA 62/20 APPOINTMENTS: GMCA PORTFOLIOS, GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, GMCA AUDIT COMMITTEE & TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH**

The GM Mayor introduced a report which detailed the reconstitution and appointments to the GMCA Audit, Overview & Scrutiny and Transport for the North Committees.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That it be noted that the appointment of Portfolio Leads, Assistants and Lead Chief Executives by the GM Mayor and GMCA Head of Paid Service, will continue for 2020/21, with a review to be undertaken in May 2021.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Lord Peter Smith, Wigan MBC, for leading the work on the health portfolio and steering health devolution in GM.
3. That the re-constitution of the GMCA Audit Committee and the reappointment of Councillors Colin McLaren (Oldham) (Lab), Sarah Russell (Manchester) (Lab), Chris Boyes (Trafford) (Con) and Mary Whitby (Bury) (Lab) and substitute members James Grundy (Wigan) (Lab) and Peter Malcom (Rochdale) (Lab) to the GMCA Audit Committee be approved for the period up to 31 May 2021.

4. That it be noted that the Audit Committee has 4 Independent Members; Gwyn Griffiths and Catherine Scivier, appointed in June 2017 for a term of office of three years, to be reviewed later this year and reported to the GMCA; and Grenville Page and Susan Webster appointed in January 2020 for a term of office of three years.
5. That it be agreed to re-constitute and appoint to the three Overview & Scrutiny Committees as detailed below for the period up to 31 May 2021:

<b>CORPORATE ISSUES &amp; REFORM OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY</b>		
1	Bolton	Bev Fletcher (Con)
2	Bury	Vacancy (Lab)
3		Tim Pickstone (Lib Dem)
4	Manchester	Vacancy (Lab)
5	Oldham	Colin McClaren (Lab)
6		Chris Goodwin (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Kallum Nolan (Lab)
8	Salford	Dave Jolley (Lab)
9		Tanya Burch (Lab)
10	Stockport	Dena Ryness (Lab)
11		John McGahan (Con)
12	Tameside	Teresa Smith (Lab)
13	Trafford	Anne Duffield (Lab)
14		Dave Morgan (Cons)
15	Wigan	Joanne Marshall (Lab)

<b>ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH &amp; SKILLS OVERVIEW &amp; SCRUTINY</b>		
1	Bolton	Samantha Connor (Con)
2		Susan Howarth (Lab)
3	Bury	Mary Whitby (Lab)
4	Manchester	Luke Raikes (Lab)
5		June Hitchen (Lab)

6	Oldham	George Hulme (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Daniel Meredith (Lab)
8		Mike Holly (Con)
9	Salford	Jim King (Lab)
10	Stockport	Kerry Waters (Lab)
11		Becky Senior (Lib Dem)
12	Tameside	Stephen Homer (Lab)
13	Trafford	Barry Brotherton (Lab)
14	Wigan	Charles Rigby (Lab)
15		Michael Winstanley (Con)

**HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY**

1	Bolton	John Walsh (Con)
2	Bury	Martin Hayes (Lab)
3		Dorothy Gunther (Con)
4	Manchester	Mandie Shilton-Godwin (Lab)
5		Jon-Connor Lyons (Lab)
6	Oldham	Barbara Brownridge (Lab)
7	Rochdale	Linda Robinson (Lab)
8	Salford	Sharmina August (Lab)
9	Stockport	Janet Mobbs (Lab)
10		Charles Gibson (Lib Dem)
11	Tameside	Mike Glover (Lab)
12		Liam Billington (Con)
13	Trafford	Kevin Procter (Lab)
14		Amy Whyte (Lab)
15	Wigan	Fred Walker (Lab)

6. That the appointment of up to 16 members to the GMCA scrutiny substitute’s pool, as detailed below for the period up to 31 May 2021 be agreed:

	<b>LABOUR</b>	<b>CONSERVATIVE</b>	<b>LIBERAL DEMOCRAT</b>
Bolton	Akhtar Zaman	Diane Parkinson	n/a
Bury	TBC	Roy Walker	n/a
Manchester	n/a	n/a	Greg Stanton
Oldham	TBC	n/a	Hazel Gloster Sam Al-Hamdani
Rochdale	Ray Dutton	Pat Sullivan	n/a
Salford	n/a	Ali Leitner Karen Garrido	n/a
Stockport	n/a	n/a	n/a
Tameside	Adrian Pearce	Ruth Welsh	n/a
Trafford	n/a	Sean Anstee	n/a

7. That it be noted that there were still some vacancies to be resolved, which would be reported to the GMCA at its meeting on 26 June 2020.
8. That the appointment of the GM Mayor to the Transport for the North Board be noted.
9. That the appointment of Councillor Roger Jones (same as 2019/20) to act as the GMCA’s member and Councillor Elsie Wraighte (substitute member), to the Transport for the North Scrutiny Committee for the period up to 31 May 2021 be agreed.

**GMCA 63/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GMCA HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2020**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held 14 February 2020 be approved.

**GMCA 64/20 GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES - MINUTES: FEBRUARY 2020**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings (Corporate Issues & Reform – 11 February 2020 and Planning, Housing & Environment – 13 February 2020) be noted.

**GMCA 65/20 REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS DURING MARCH - MAY**

Liz Treacy Monitoring Officer of the GMCA reported on the decisions taken under delegated powers by the GMCA's Statutory Officers during the period of March-May 2020 which had been published in accordance with the Constitution and were available to view via the GMCA website.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the decisions taken under delegated powers during the period March – May 2020 be noted.

**GMCA 66/20 GM RECOVERY RESPONSE**

The GM Mayor outlined Greater Manchester's high level recovery approach, which detailed three key stages; the short term release from lockdown, the medium term of living with Covid and the longer term recovery through building back better.

He described how the current situation had highlighted inequalities across the sub region, especially in relation to the financial security and employment status of many front line staff who have been delivering services throughout the pandemic. The report looked at the potential to use these challenging times to reset many of these inequalities to create a stronger, fairer Greater Manchester in order to achieve greater prosperity for all.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the work to date in developing GM's recovery response, and approach to be adopted going forward be endorsed, noting that the response and approach would continue to evolve.

**GMCA 67/20 GM CLEAN AIR PLAN: UPDATE**

The GM Mayor introduced a report which set out Greater Manchester's Clean Air Plan proposals including work to develop minimum taxi licensing standards to be delivered in tandem, with additional support through a 'clean commercial vehicle fund, and a 'hardship fund' to ensure that no jobs or businesses would be lost through the delivery of a Clean Air Zone.

Councillor Andrew Western, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, took members through further details of these proposals including the requirement for further funding agreements, revised plans for the consultation phase as a result of Covid-19 and the integral links to minimum taxi licensing standards. All of which were crucial to ensuring the best outcomes for Greater Manchester, whilst delivering on a range of ambitions from cleaner air to reforming our public transport system.

Reference was made specifically to the Strategic Road Network, which is currently exempt from the Clean Air Zone proposals, yet considerably contributes to emission levels. Furthermore, hotspots on the local road network were evidenced as being predominantly close to the motorway network, and therefore resolution on this discrepancy was required from Government to ensure an accurate picture could be given.

Further clarity and evidence as to the required level of funding from Government was imperative to deliver these schemes for Taxis and Private Hire Vehicles, as members of the GMCA agreed that the impact of these proposals should not have any detriment to businesses. The exemption for RGVs was welcomed, as would be the opportunity to tailor a scheme specifically for Greater Manchester.

## **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the progress of the GM Clean Air Plan be noted.
2. That the progress in the development of the Clean Commercial Vehicle and Hardship funds be noted.
3. That the initial funding award of £41m for clean vehicle funds to award grants or loans to eligible businesses be noted.
4. That it be noted that the Government has accepted the need for vehicle replacement funds for Hackney Carriages, and Light Goods Vehicles, and has requested further development of shared evidence on the needs within that complex sector before responding and does not support the sustainable journeys measure.
5. That it be noted that TfGM was seeking confirmation that the funding award for Bus Retrofit was a continuation of Clean Bus Technology Funds to be distributed as soon as possible as per previous arrangements.
6. That it be noted that the Government would not support electric vehicle charging infrastructure through Clean Air monies, however the Government has committed to work with GM on securing funding from OLEV.
7. That the GM Local Authorities be commended to move to a statutory public consultation on the GM Clean Air Plan as soon as reasonably practicable.
8. That the GM Local Authorities' decision to commence a public consultation should be taken once there is a clear timeframe for exiting lockdown and moving to the next phase of the COVID-19 response.
9. That it be noted that the implementation of a GM Clean Air Zone will be delayed to 2022 with a revised implementation date to be confirmed in the consultation commencement report.
10. That the Department for Transport's positioning paper "Decarbonising Transport – Setting the Challenge" be noted.
11. That the assessment of the possible impacts of COVID-19 to inform a technical briefing note for decision makers be noted.
12. That the GM Local Authorities intention to consult on GM's proposed Minimum Licencing Standards, alongside the Clean Air Plan consultation be noted and that the GM Local Authorities be commended to agree the proposed position for consultation, on when taxi/PHV fleets should be Zero Emission Capable as contained in paragraph 11.12.
13. That it be agreed that the inclusion of the Strategic Road Network was imperative to successfully addressing the clean air agenda.
14. That it be noted that discussions have continued with the Department for Transport including Transpennine goods and heavy goods vehicles and the inclusion of the Mottram By-Pass,



which will be delivered in the current investment period, with a commitment that it will be included in the Clean Air Zone.

15. That that it be noted that discussions with Government regarding funding with a view to ensure the costs will not be borne by Local Authorities, businesses and taxi/private hire companies.

#### **GMCA 68/20 GM BIKE HIRE - PROCUREMENT**

The GM Mayor updated the Combined Authority on proposals for a docked bike hire scheme in Greater Manchester, with the initial scheme beginning in Salford, Trafford and Manchester to support the first/last mile ambitions of an integrated public transport system. Phase two would see the scheme rolled out across the ten boroughs to support the wider public transport system and its increased pressures. He reported that there had been a significant increase of cycling over the past couple of months, and that this would be just one of a number of interventions to keep the momentum for more active forms of travel.

The increase in walking since Covid was also noted, and should be taken into account when planning how road space will be used going forward. Enforcement powers would also be imperative to ensuring safe spaces for walking and cycling, especially when encouraging more vulnerable residents to choose active travel options.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the proposal to move to commence the formal procurement of a GM Bike Hire scheme, in accordance with the proposed delivery strategy set out in the report, be endorsed.
2. That it be noted that Tameside would be willing to participate as a pilot area for phase two of a GM Bike Hire Scheme.
3. That the increased number of individuals walking and the need to move safely around the conurbation be recognised.
4. That it be noted that work was underway with the Cycling & walking Commissioner to explore opportunities to widen the availability of bikes to all the residents of GM.
5. That it be noted that discussions continue with Ministers around the increased use of cars and management and traffic management enforcement powers to create a safe space for everybody.
6. That it be noted that electric bikes were included in the scheme.

#### **GMCA 69/20 A BETTER DEAL FOR BUS USERS UPDATE**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM introduced a report which explained how the bus market had changed shape since the impact of Covid and as a result, changed the course of the Better Deal for Bus Users scheme. The GMCA would submit a revised Statement of Intent to Government on 26 June that would include proposals that were deemed feasible in this new

landscape. The report further sought delegation to officers to develop the relevant set of proposals for this investment.

Members of the GMCA urged that any decisions in relation to final routes should be done in consultation with Leaders. It was confirmed that there was already an agreement with the Department for Transport for some flexibility of these funds over a longer period.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the revised approach being adopted by TfGM to develop GM's Statement of Intent to Department for Transport for £1,589,849 for supported bus services, in the light of the wider implications on the bus network, and commercial bus operators, of the on-going coronavirus situation be noted.
2. That it be agreed that the submission of the proposed bus routes to be included in the Statement of Intent be circulated to Leaders in advance of submission to the Department for Transport.
3. That it be agreed that the final approach and submission of the Statement of Intent to Department for Transport by 26 June 2020, be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor, Portfolio Lead for Finance and Chair of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee (GMTC).
4. That the work which is being undertaken to determine whether there were feasible proposals for the other funding opportunity for which GMCA was eligible be noted and that it be agreed that the approval for the final approach and submission of any expression of interest by 4 June 2020, be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA and TfGM, in consultation with the Mayor, Portfolio Lead for Finance and Chair of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee (GMTC).
5. That it be noted that a report on the progress of work on Bus Reform would be submitted to the GMCA as soon as possible.

#### **GMCA 70/20 A BED EVERY NIGHT PHASE 3 HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMME (KEY DECISION)**

The GM Mayor updated members on phase three of 'A bed Every Night' which since its launch in November 2018 had supported 3000+ people into permanent accommodation. Alongside this, the 'Everyone In' scheme which has been running through the Covid-19 pandemic has ensured that another 600 people had been safely accommodated in hotel provision. Long term funding for both schemes was now even more critical than before, as there has been a national increase in people identifying as homeless and concern that this number may increase further as the economic implications of Covid begin to unfurl.

The report requests approval for £4.75m to support a further 445 households of accommodation, including 50 places specifically for women, and also specific provision for those who would identify as LGBT.

Concerns remain that Government policies removing the ability for some demographic groups to have recourse to public funds was incompatible with Greater Manchester's ambition to end rough

sleeping and that these matters must be addressed. The Prime Minister's recent public commitment and appointment of Louise Casey has been noted as a move in the right direction. However, members of the GMCA still felt that there was a much broader agenda to address, including the availability of local authority housing, the increased demand on welfare support and even broader, how we can prevent people from being homeless in the first instance.

Thanks were expressed to the voluntary sector and key partners who had continued provisions for homeless people, especially through the pandemic, but that stronger Government structures were needed in order to reduce the demand on these services and permanently support people into better accommodation.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the approach to Phase 3 of A Bed Every Night to provide a Covid-safe environment for people who were rough sleeping or are at imminent risk of rough sleeping be noted.
2. That the approach to Phase 3 of A Bed Every Night to be provided through both grant and welfare reclaim funding to ensure viability for self-contained/non-shared accommodation model be noted.
3. That it be agreed that the expenditure allocations of £4,750,000, with any further minor amendments to Local Authority grant payments, be delegated to the Treasurer in consultation with the GM Mayor and Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure.
4. That it be noted that the GMCA will underwrite from Mayoral reserves any shortfall arising from Greater Manchester Mayors Charity fundraising to support 60 'No Recourse to Public Funds' beds between October 2020 – March 2021.
5. That it be agreed that a guarantee for long term funding be sought from Government to enable GM to continue its support to homeless people.

#### **GMCA 71/20 GREATER MANCHESTER'S ADULT EDUCATION PLAN FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021 (KEY DECISION)**

Councillor Sean Fielding, Portfolio Lead for Digital, Education, Skills, Work & Apprenticeships introduced a report which sought approval for proposed changes to GM's Adult Education Budget policy and processes for 2020/21 in order to provide continued support for Greater Manchester's residents/employers.

Members of the GMCA recognised the significant opportunity that devolution had given GM to tailor the adult education programme to meet the needs of our residents, and that these proposals for the academic year 2020/21 would be an essential element to our post Covid recovery.

It was felt that this work should be aligned with the new arrangements for the GM Probation Service, as there would be cross over with many of the AEB priority cohorts.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the proposed approach for the management and administration of devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2020/2021 academic year be approved.
2. That the proposed provider allocations for the 2020/2021 academic year be approved.
3. That it be noted that the GMCA has already approved a 2 year stable approach for Grant funded providers to be in GMCA approaches to AEB and that it be agreed that the GMCA extend this to Independent Training Providers ensuring performance management in year where appropriate.
4. That it be agreed to delegate authority to GMCA Treasurer in consultation with the Leader & Chief Executive Portfolio Leads for Skills, Work & Digital to agree in year changes to:
  - Make decisions relating to distribution of funding for continuing learners. Current indicative allocations indicated in Appendix 2.
  - Make decisions relating to procurement of any new AEB activity which relates and responds to local needs, to the skills gaps outlined in the GM LIS and specific needs identified by GM priority groups i.e. care leavers, over 50's, offenders etc.
  - Make in-year provider exception funding decisions.
  - Make decisions on provider re-allocations mid-year and at the end-of-year reconciliation.
5. That it be noted that the Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime would raise the issue of ensuring effective links between the Probation Service and Adult Education Programme with their new director, Chris Edwards.

## **GMCA 72/20 ECONOMIC RESILIENCE DASHBOARD**

Councillor Elise Wilson, Portfolio Lead for Economy & Business informed the Combined Authority that this report would be a standing item on the agenda going forward, as it would help to inform members as to the economic position of GM. She reported that over £450m in business grants had been distributed since Covid, and in addition GM had established its own £3m fund for businesses who did not meet the initial criteria or had fallen through the gaps in other ways. The work of the Growth Company in tangent with the Combined Authority and Local Authorities to support businesses through this unprecedented period had been significant and a testament to how Greater Manchester responds promptly and works across organisation boundaries to deliver effectively, the impact of these initiatives on people's lives should not be under estimated.

The next challenge will be the re-opening of shops and businesses, whilst ensuring safety standards are met, and ensuring that people feel confident in returning to work. Concern was raised regarding the night time economy, as this would be one of the last sectors to come out of lockdown, and longer term support to this sector would inevitably be required. Further to this, would be the potential increase of Universal Credit claimants, as the Furlough scheme changes and the possible increase of redundancies.

### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the latest update of the Greater Manchester Economic Resilience Dashboard be noted.

2. That it be agreed that the Economic Resilience Dashboard be a standing item on future agendas of the GMCA.

## **GMCA 73/20 FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA took members through a report which summarised the financial implications of the GMCA and Local Authority response to the impact of measures put in place to support residents and businesses through the Covid-19 crisis and the direct implications from this loss of income and additional expenditure.

He reported that this was an estimated impact at this stage, as this was a moving financial picture but had been based on the monthly returns from each GM Local Authority to MCHLG. However, this estimated analysis had already indicated a significant cost pressure across Local Authorities and the Combined Authority, which despite £168m Government funding, a gap of £406m remained.

In relation to Metrolink, there had been an additional £13.3m received from Government, however there would still be a shortfall of £1.4m for the period up until 4 August, and an ongoing operational cost of £23m for the remainder of this year.

Local Authority Treasurers were undergoing significant work to keep an accurate record of costs whilst supporting recovery and minimising the impact to residents. They were also looking at longer term options in relation to the use of retained business rates.

Members of the GMCA added that this funding shortfall was on top of ten years of Local Authority austerity, and therefore budgets were already stretched and any further removal of services would have serious implications for the most vulnerable in our communities. It was felt that this message needed to be clearly articulated to Government, to ensure that the potential devastating impact to Local Authorities was considered in detail and that the required funding was made available. Concern was raised as without the necessary funding, there would be another recession, and the plans for economic growth for our region would have to be scaled down, therefore not achieving their potential outcomes.

Treasurers were also urged to consider how the Fire Service and Waste surpluses may also be most effectively used.

The unprecedented times, and unprecedented support from Government to date was noted. However, Members were aware that further challenges would come as Furlough finishes, unemployment potentially rises and people find themselves in rent arrears, and that further devolution in relation to welfare support and front line provision was needed to ensure that GM were in the best position to support residents effectively.

## **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the estimated financial impacts of COVID 19 on GMCA and TFGM budgets be noted.
2. That the utilisation of £1 million of transport reserves held by GMCA and TfGM to fund the shortfall in Metrolink net revenues in the period to 31 March 2020 be approved.

3. That it be agreed that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in conjunction with the TfGM Finance and Corporate Services Director to make the necessary 'Capital / Revenue switch' to enable the funding of GMIP development costs of up to £7m from the Transforming Cities 2 fund.
4. That the proposed approach to finance in the recovery phase of the COVID 19 response be noted.
5. That it be agreed that a Special meeting of the GMCA be held on Wednesday 24 June to specifically discuss the financial challenge for Local Authorities and the GMCA.
6. That it be noted that Councillor David Greenhalgh would support the GMCA in lobbying for funding to support the shortfall in Local Authority budgets, however, there was also a need for GM to prioritise its 'Asks' of Government recognising the current economic pressures that they were also facing.

#### **GMCA 74/20 GMCA TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT, BORROWING LIMITS AND ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2020/21**

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA introduced a report which set out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy Statement, borrowing limits and prudential indicators for 2020/21 to 2022/23 for the GMCA including the approved 2020/21 capital programmes for GMCA transport, economic development, Fire, Police and Waste.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy be approved, with effect from the 1 April 2020 be approved, in particular:

- The Treasury Management Scheme of Delegation at Appendix A.
- The Treasury Management Policy Statement at Appendix C.
- The Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Strategy at Appendix E.
- The Treasury and Prudential Indicators listed in Section 6.
- The Borrowing Strategy outlined in Section 8.
- The Annual Investment Strategy detailed in Sections 9.
- Delegation to the Treasurer to step outside of the investment limits to safeguard the GMCA's position, as outlined in paragraph 8.16

#### **GMCA 75/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT CAPACITY (KEY DECISION)**

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure outlined the proposed strategy to maintain and increase the investment capacity of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the strategy to maintain and increase the investment capacity of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund through the use of other funding available to GMCA be approved.

2. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer to identify and implement appropriate funding solutions in line with the strategy.
3. That the update on James Briggs Limited be noted.

**GMCA 76/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS (KEY DECISION)**

Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure introduced a report which sought approval of the GMCA for the G M Housing Investment Loans Fund loans and equity investments detailed below. The report also set out details of two loans which were approved under emergency powers by the Chief Executive acting in consultation with the Portfolio Lead Leader for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure in April 2020.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loans detailed in the table below be approved:

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Maya Property Developments Ltd	Riley's Snooker Centre, Altrincham	Trafford	£1.990m
The Sheridan Group	Diamond Hall, Woodhouses	Oldham	£1.967m

2. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund equity investments detailed in the table below be approved;

PARTNERSHIP	FUND	DISTRICT	EQUITY INVESTMENT
Resonance Limited	Resonance Impact Investment Property Fund	GM wide	£5.000m
Resonance Limited	Resonance Learning Disabilities Fund	GM wide	£5.000m

3. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer acting in consultation with the GMCA Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
4. That the following loans which were approved in April 2020 under emergency powers be noted.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
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Heath Farm Lane LLP	Heath Farm Lane, Partington	Trafford	£5.000m
Specialist Care Developments Ltd	Stephenson Street	Oldham	£0.981m

### **GMCA 77/20 GREATER MANCHESTER BOUNCE BACK LOANS (KEY DECISION)**

*Councillor Richard Leese and City Mayor Paul Dennett declared a personal interest as Directors of the Growth Company and left the meeting for discussion of this item.*

Steve Wilson, Treasurer to the GMCA set out a report which requested that Combined Authority approved in principle the establishment of a Greater Manchester Bounce Back Loan Scheme. The scheme would be established under the Government scheme announced on 4th May 2020 and would be 100% underwritten by Government through the British Business Bank.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

1. That the establishment of a Greater Manchester Bounce Back Loan Scheme under the Government scheme be approved in principle.
2. That the amendment to the GMCA capital programme to fund £10m of capital for the scheme, subject to appropriate funding arrangements, be approved.
3. That the delivery of the scheme via the Growth Company Business Finance Team be approved.
4. That it be agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer to authorise a contract to be awarded directly to the Growth Company by way of exemption from GMCA constitution Contract Procurement Rules (Part 6 section B) on the basis of urgency (Rule 3.2ii).
5. That it be agreed to delegate to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to the finalising of arrangements for the scheme.
6. That it be noted that the report was exempt from call in ensure the loan scheme can be introduced urgently to benefit Greater Manchester businesses as they recover from the Coronavirus crisis.

### **GMCA 78/20 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS**

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



**GMCA 79/20 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND - INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS (PART B)**

This item was considered in support of the Part A - GM Housing Investment Loans Fund - Investment Approval Recommendations (minutes reference GMCA 76/20)

**RESOLVED/-**

That the report be noted.