

**GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY HELD
ON 11TH JUNE 2020, AT 10:00 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

Councillor John Walsh (Chair)	Bolton
Councillor Barbara Brownridge	Oldham
Councillor Charles Gibson	Stockport
Councillor Mike Glover	Tameside
Councillor Sharmina August	Salford
Councillor Liam Billington	Tameside
Councillor Kevin Procter	Trafford
Councillor Amy Whyte	Trafford
Councillor Fred Walker	Wigan

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Councillor Ray Dutton	Rochdale
Councillor Karen Garrido	Salford
Councillor Adam Marsh	Wigan

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Kate Brown	TfGM
Emma Flinn	TfGM
Liz Treacy	GMCA
Julie Connor	GMCA
Matt Berry	GMCA
Joanne Heron	GMCA
Luke Smith	GMCA
Megan Rogers	GMCA
Carl Askew	GMCA
Ben Lancaster	GMCA

HPE 190/20 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dorothy Gunther (Bury), Councillor Linda Robinson (Rochdale).

Councillor Janet Mobbs (Stockport), Councillor Martin Hayes (Bury) and Councillor Mandie Shilton Godwin (Manchester) experienced IT difficulties and were unable to join the Live Microsoft Teams call.

BOLTON	MANCHESTER	ROCHDALE	STOCKPORT	TRAFFORD
BURY	OLDHAM	SALFORD	TAMESIDE	WIGAN

Please note that this meeting will be livestreamed via www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk, please speak to a Governance Officer before the meeting should you not wish to consent to being included in this recording.

HPE 191/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Joanne Heron opened the meeting and welcomed Members to the first virtual meeting of the Greater Manchester Housing Planning and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Members were notified that the meeting would be livestreamed to members of the public in line with the latest legislation enabling meetings to take place virtually during the Coronavirus pandemic.

RESOLVED/-

That the item be noted.

HPE 192/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Adam Marsh declared an Interest in ITEM HPE 200/20: GM Bus Consultation, as he had responsibility for lobbying the GMCA and TfGM on this issue on behalf of his employer.

RESOLVED/-

That Member Declarations of Interest be noted

HPE 193/20 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD 14 NOVEMBER 2019

*To add that Councillor Kevin Procter sent apologies for this meeting

RESOLVED/-

That with the above amendment, the minutes of the meeting held 13 February 2020 be agreed as an accurate record.

HPE 194/20 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR 2020/21

RESOLVED/-

Councillor John Walsh was appointed as Chair of this Committee.

HPE 195/20 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR 2020/21

RESOLVED/-

Councillor Charles Gibson was appointed as Vice Chair of this Committee.

HPE 196/20 MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020/21

The appointments of Members to this Committee at the GMCA meeting in May were noted, and Members wished to pass on their sincere thanks to Councillor Steve Gribbon, Councillor Barbara Brownridge, Councillor Jon-Connor Lyons, and Councillor Dorothy Gunther, who had subsequently indicated that they wish to step down from this Committee. It was noted that replacements would be arrangements through the GMCA.

RESOLVED/-

That the Membership of this Committee be noted.

HPE 197/20 MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Members were reminded of their obligations under the GMCA Members Code of Conduct.

RESOLVED/-

That Members of this Committee note the Code of Conduct .

M198/HPE ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM

It was stated that a Microsoft Word version of the Annual Declaration of Interest form would be issued to Members after this meeting. Members were reminded that the Annual Declaration of Interest form would be collectively published on the GMCA website.

RESOLVED/-

That the item be noted.

M199/HPE TERMS OF REFERENCE

To note the Committee's Terms of Reference.

RESOLVED/-

That the Terms of Reference be noted.

HPE 200/20 GM BUS CONSULTATION

Liz Treacy, Monitoring Officer GMCA, introduced the report, which detailed the feedback from the major public consultation launched on 14 October 2019 on a proposed bus franchising scheme for Greater Manchester. It was highlighted that the purpose of the consultation had been to allow stakeholders, including statutory consultees, and the public to provide their views on whether the

Proposed Franchising Scheme should be made, with or without modification, in accordance with section 123E of the Bus Services Act 2017.

Members heard that this report follows a previous paper taken to this Committee on the 23 September 2019, which outlined a recommended approach to consultation on a Proposed Franchising Scheme for GM. This report provided an update on the approach, methodology and outputs of the first consultation following its close on 8 January 2020.

Kate Brown, Head of Corporate Affairs TfGM, and Emma Flinn, Head of Consultations & Engagement TfGM, took Members through the methodology and delivery models of the consultation detailed in the report. This included the engagement strategy undertaken to consult statutory consultees, community groups and the wider public and stakeholders. Members heard that targeted engagement activity and a range of activity had been undertaken to encourage responses from hard to reach groups and those with protected characteristics.

It was highlighted that the GMCA had requested TfGM conduct the consultation on its behalf, with Ipsos MORI, an independent opinion research agency appointed to receive, manage, process and analyse the consultation responses and to produce a report for the GMCA on these findings.

It was stated that consultation questions had been developed with external legal advisors to meet statutory guidance and consultation requirements, and to assist responder understanding. It was noted that the consultation questions were embedded throughout the consultation document and in two questionnaires, a short version containing nine questions and a long version containing 48 questions.

Members heard that as well as engagement being undertaken via digital means, hard copies of all documents including the full and abbreviated questionnaires were made available across Greater Manchester. Large print versions of the consultation document and leaflet were also highlighted as being produced. It was also stated that a dedicated phonenumber had been established for the consultation period to answer queries which also offered a 'LanguageLine' service to support non-English speakers.

It was highlighted that a total of 8,516 responses were received during the consultation period with the report breaking down analysis of these responses by GM districts.

Members heard that the reports on the outcome of the consultation process would be considered by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority at its meeting on 26 June 2020, and comments or recommendations made by this Committee regarding the consultation process could be reported to that meeting.

Following Member questions in relation to what outreach engagement work had been conducted with residents in southern / high peak neighbouring areas such as with Cheshire East, it was clarified that information was provided and engagement work undertaken with elected representatives and authorities with all neighbouring areas to GM. It was also stated that drop-in sessions were advertised more widely than within GM borders.

Members commented that whilst the consultation had been conducted in an extensive comprehensive, inclusive manner which met objectives, that the outcome results would likely be different if conducted now, post impacts of managing the COVID-19 pandemic. Members

commented that transport utilisation including passenger numbers and transport modes were currently operating in a drastically altered fashion, which could potentially impact how residents responded to the consultation.

Members requested that TfGM colleagues convey this point made by the Scrutiny Committee to the Combined Authority later this month when the consultation report would be considered.

Following Member questions in relation to the availability of demographic figures on participation levels, it was clarified that this level of detail would be available in the subsequent Ipsos MORI report which would be taken to this Committee when available at a later date. Members also heard that information leaflets had been distributed at transport interchanges rather than on bus routes themselves.

Following comments by Members expressing concern by a lack of utilisation of the Language-line facility which may indicate missing engagement with a large portion of residents, it was reassured that some consultation with this group had been conducted through engagement with representative groups, and would also be highlighted in the upcoming Ipsos MORI report.

Members heard that in terms of reaching those that are un-sighted, that the surveys and website including all materials on there were accessible with screen readers and a guide had been produced alongside the consultation materials. It was also highlighted that the overview animation had an audio support to provide key information. It was also noted that engagement had been conducted through representative groups.

In terms of the cost of the consultation cost, Members heard that the projected budget for the consultation had been £660,000 and it had been delivered under this amount.

RESOLVED/-

That Members receive the report and request that their comments summarised above be submitted to the GMCA when it considers the report.

HPE 201/20 WORK PROGRAMME

Members agreed that a separate informal session to be arranged for Members and Substitute Members in the next 2 weeks to pull together areas of work that Members expressed an interest to focus on, including for the next meeting and for the coming year. It was noted that some items on the agreed schedule would need to take account of the availability of the GM Mayor as portfolio lead for Transport and Homelessness.

In terms of initial items of interest, Members indicated that they wished to see an update on the progress of the GMSF, an update of COVID-19 impacts in relation to homelessness and housing in GM, and the full Ipsos MORI report on GM Bus Consultation.

Following Member queries in relation to face masks being available for use on public transport as mandated by Government, an update on this would be provided to Members in the coming week.

RESOLVED/-

That a separate informal session of the Committee be arranged as soon as possible to develop the work programme.

HPE 202/20 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Members agreed that meetings would take place at 18:00 on the dates circulated:

- Thursday 9th July 2020
- Thursday 10th September 2020
- Thursday 8th October 2020
- Thursday 12th November 2020
- Thursday 10th December 2020
- Thursday 14th January 2021
- Thursday 4th February 2021
- Thursday 11th March 2021

Members requested that times and dates of future meetings be set and published in January before the reconstitution of this Committee in the following May. This would then inform which Members would be largely available and be appointed to this Committee.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 9th July 2020, 18:00 via Microsoft Teams

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