

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE MEETING OF THE GREATER  
MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY, 12 JULY, 2024**

**PRESENT:**

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

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Group Chief Executive Officer	Caroline Simpson
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Andrew Williamson
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow

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

## **1. APOLOGIES**

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

## **2. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

1. That Caroline Simpson be welcomed to her first meeting as the Group Chief Executive for GMCA, TfGM & GMFRS.
2. That the GMCA expresses its best wishes to Joanne Roney in her last meeting as the Chief Executive of Manchester City Council.
3. That the GMCA expresses its congratulations to Alison McKenzie-Folan following her award of an OBE for services to local government.

4. That Michael Cullen be welcomed to his first meeting as the Chief Executive of Stockport Borough Council.
5. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family, friends and former colleagues of Sir Howard Bernstein following his sad passing.
6. That the GMCA expresses its condolences to the family, friends and former colleagues of Paul Argyle, who had served as a Deputy Chief Fire Officer for GMFRS.
7. That the Mayor's update on the gathering of Metro Mayors at Downing Street following the recent national election result be received.
8. That the update from the Deputy Mayor for, Police, Crime & Fire on the plans for Part 4 of the CSE Assurance Review being commissioned through HMICFRS be received.
9. That it be noted that Oldham MBC welcomed the commissioning of Part 4 of the CSE Assurance Review.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester has a financial interest in Item 28 (Independent Remuneration Panel Review of GM Mayoral Remuneration) and will leave the meeting for that item.
2. That the Deputy Mayor, Police, Crime and Fire declare an interest in Item 19 – GM Investment Zone, as a Governor of Manchester Metropolitan University.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 14 JUNE 2024**

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

### **5. GREATER MANCHESTER APPOINTMENTS**

1. That Cllr Frankie Singleton (Stockport), be appointed as the member and Cllr Jilly Julian (Stockport), be appointed as the substitute member to the GM Culture and Social Impact Fund Committee.

2. That Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) be appointed to the Green City Region Board.
3. That Cllr Colin MacAlister (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Frankie Singleton (Stockport) be appointed as the substitute member, to the GM Homelessness Board.
4. That the following members be appointed to the GM Children's Board:  
  
Cllr Wendy Meikle (Stockport)  
Cllr Lucy Smith (Bury)  
Cllr Julie Reid (Manchester)
5. That Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Grace Baynham (Stockport) be appointed as the substitute member, to the GM Clean Air Charging Authorities Committee.
6. That Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Grace Baynham (Stockport) be appointed as the substitute member, to the GM Air Quality Administration Committee.
7. That Cllr Lisa Smart (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Jeremy Meal (Stockport) be appointed as the substitute member, to the GM Clean Air Scrutiny Committee.
8. That Cllr Mark Hunter (Stockport) be appointed as the member, and Cllr Mark Roberts (Stockport) be appointed as the substitute member, to the Integrated Care Partnership Board.

## **6. GMCA ANNUAL CONSTITUTION REVIEW**

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

## **7. GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH REVIEW: AFFORDABLE HOMES**

1. That the full list of recommendations within the report be endorsed.
2. That opportunities be sought where the GMCA can support the delivery of the recommendations, specifically:
  - to influence the development of the next Affordable Homes Programme through strengthened partnership arrangements within the latest devolution deal to ensure it is

flexible enough to meet the needs of our residents (Recommendation 1).

- to continue to support Local Authorities to seek out potential schemes through innovative approaches and bold actions (Recommendation 1).
  - to support Local Authorities and Housing Providers to ensure tenants have full access to welfare and other hardship funds through every interaction (Recommendation 2).
  - to co-design the next GM Housing Strategy with other key stakeholders that builds on what is already being done, but also confidently pushes the boundaries as to what can potentially be done, setting the standard as zero carbon (Recommendation 3).
  - to ensure that advice on cost-of-living support (e.g. food and fuel bill support) provided through registered providers is also available via private landlords (Recommendation 7).
  - to ensure that being an accredited member of the Good Landlord Charter is universally recognised, with its unique benefits clearly identified (Recommendation 8).
  - As a first step, GMCA to organise an event to discuss the findings of this review and actions which can be taken to remove barriers for the delivery of viable schemes (Recommendation 10).
3. That it be noted that the report will now be shared with GM Local Authority Councillors, Cabinet Members for Housing, and Scrutiny Committees, for their information and appropriate action.
  4. That the GMCA record its thanks to the Task and Finish Group for their contributions to a timely report on the housing issues impacting the region and the wider country.
  5. That the information provided on the establishment of the GM Housing First Unit and the plans for how it would contribute towards addressing the housing crisis in the region be received.

## **8. GM MOVING MOU REFRESH**

1. That the refreshed MoU with Sport England and wider GM Moving Partnership Board Members be approved.
2. That the contents of the report on Place and Health Integration be noted.
3. That the recommendations, next steps and support, strategic and collective/distributed leadership on these areas be noted:
  - Local Authority leadership and teams be supported to fully engage with this

work as we move forward.

- Place Deepening: progress, timescales and methodology be noted, including the work of the Place Partnership Network (including locality leads) contribution to develop local plans for peer review and final submission to Sport England in August 2024.

4. That the establishment of Live Well be noted.
5. That it be noted that September 2024 would mark three years since the launch of the GM Moving in Action Strategy 2021-31. This, along with the signing of the MOU would be officially marked with a presentation to the GM ICP Board on 27 September, with the Chief Executive Office of Sport England and members of GM Moving Partnership Board in attendance.
6. That the GMCA record its thanks to GM Moving for their contributions towards the refresh.

## **9. THE GM GOOD LANDLORD CHARTER**

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

## **10 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK UPDATE**

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

## **11 DRAFT RAPID TRANSIT STRATEGY**

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

## **12 BEE NETWORK FARES AND TICKETING**

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

## **13 TFGM EXECUTIVE BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

1. That the appointment of the GM Transport Commissioner and the GM Active Travel Commissioner to the TfGM Executive Board be approved.
2. That the appointment of a GM Local Authority Chief Executive to the TfGM Executive Board, as recommended by the Group Chief Executive, be approved.

3. That the GMCA Treasurer be confirmed as an advisor to the TfGM Executive Board to ensure that membership of the Executive Board does not exceed the limit imposed by legislation.
4. That the proposal to undertake a further review of TfGM's governance and the role of its Executive Board before the end of 2024 be noted.

#### **14. COST OF LIVING AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE**

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

#### **15. GMCA SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY: ANNUAL REPORT**

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

#### **16. LOW CARBON SKILLS FUND OPPORTUNITY**

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

#### **17. GREATER MANCHESTER CULTURE STRATEGY**

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

#### **18. GM ARMED FORCES COVENANT ROADMAP**

1. That the progress made to deliver against the Armed Forces Covenant coherently

across GM be noted.

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

## **19 INVESTMENT ZONE UPDATE**

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

## **20 STOCKPORT TOWN CENTRE WEST MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN**

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

## **21 MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR NORTHERN GATEWAY - IN PRINCIPLE DECISION**

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

## **22 ASHTON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE - BUSINESS PLAN**

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

## **23 UKSPF PROPOSAL FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF POTENTIAL UNDERSPEND**

## **2024/5**

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

## **24 REVENUE OUTTURN REPORT - QUARTER 4**

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

## **25 CAPITAL OUTTURN REPORT - QUARTER 4**

1. That it be noted that the 2023/24 actual outturn capital expenditure of £541.1m, compared to the forecast position presented to GMCA on 9 February 2024 of £579.1m.
2. That the update on property acquisitions for Project Skyline, as detailed in section 8 of the report, be noted.

3. That the additions to the capital programme in 2024/25, as listed in section 8 of the report, be approved.

## **26 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND AND BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND**

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

## **27 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK, CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL**

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

reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

## **28 INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REVIEW OF GM MAYORAL REMUNERATION**

1. That the recommendations of the IRP be approved:
  - a) That the remuneration of the GM Mayor remains at £118,267, subject to any indexation going forward.
  - b) That the remuneration of the GM Mayor continues to be indexed at the NJC annual percentage salary increase, specifically with reference to Spinal Column Point 43.
  - c) That the index continues to be applied to the same year that it applies to officers. This is normally from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March. Where the index is applicable to officers for more than 1 year it should also be applicable to the GM Mayor for the same period.
  - d) That the recommendations contained in the report be implemented with effect from the date of the GM Mayor taking up the new term of office in May 2024.
  
2. That the IRP's views be noted that the GM Mayor should have access to an appropriate pension scheme that provides for an employer's contribution equivalent to that made to the pension scheme for Police and Crimes Commissioners (it should be noted that the panel sets out the legal position at paragraphs 37 to 40 of its report and notes that currently there are no legal powers to do so.)
  
3. That it be agreed that lobbying would take place on behalf of the Mayor to ensure that Metro Mayors were given fair access to appropriate pensions schemes.

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

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

## **30 STOCKPORT TOWN CENTRE WEST MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S - ACTION PLAN**

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

**Clerk's Note:** This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 20 above refers).

### **31. GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVALS**

That the contents of the report be noted.

**Clerk's Note:** This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 27 above refers).