

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED
AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2018
AT WIGAN TOWN HALL.**

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham
Deputy Mayor (Police and Crime)	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bolton	Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese, (Deputy Mayor)
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan	Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Fire Committee, Chair	Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair	Councillor Nigel Murphy
TfGMC	Councillor Guy Harkin
Bolton	Councillor Anne-Marie Watters
Manchester	Councillor Angelicki Stogia
Rochdale	Councillor Sara Rowbotham
Salford	Councillor Paula Boshell
Stockport	Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside	Councillor Lynn Travis
Trafford	Councillor Dylan Butt
Wigan	Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer	Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Ben Dolan
Stockport	Pam Smith

Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Theresa Grant
Wigan	Donna Hall
TfGM	Amy Harhoff
GMFRS	Dawn Docx
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Nicola Ward

GMCA 33/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Rishi Shori (Bury – Councillor O’Brien attending), Councillor Jean Stretton (Oldham), Councillor A Simpson (Bury), Councillor Laura Evans (Trafford), Councillor Andrew Fender (TfGM), Joanne Roney (Manchester), Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham), Jon Lamonte (TfGM) and Jon Rouse (GMHSCP).

GMCA 34/18 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

1. Condolences

The GM Mayor expressed his condolences to the families of Councillor Sheila Newman and Councillor Sue Dearden who had recently passed away.

GMCA 35/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by any member of the GMCA in relation to items on the agenda.

GMCA 36/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETINGS HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2018 AND 20 FEBRUARY 2018.

The minutes of the GMCA meetings held 26 January 2018 and 20 February 2018 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meetings held on 26 January 2018 and 20 February 2018 be approved as a correct record.

GMCA 37/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND SKILLS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 9 February 2018 be noted.

GMCA 38/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 20 February 2018 be noted.

GMCA 39/18 MINUTES OF THE GMCA HOUSING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Housing, Planning and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on the 15 February 2018 be noted.

GMCA 40/18 CARE 2020

This item was withdrawn from the agenda at the request of the Chair.

GMCA 41/18 GM HOUSING DEAL

Salford's City Mayor Paul Dennett introduced a report which described the ongoing conversations with Government regarding a Housing Deal for GM and sought permission from the GMCA to delegate authority to the GMCA Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Lead Chief Executive for Housing, Planning & Homelessness to agree a deal, if necessary, ahead of the next meeting of the GMCA. He proposed an amendment to the recommendation contained within the report to include the addition of the GM Mayor be added to the delegation.

The GM Mayor added that Government was keen to conclude the Housing Deal in the next few weeks, notwithstanding that the deal does need to be the right deal for GM adding that the detail of the Housing Deal it was crucial to preparing the GM Spatial Framework. He further thanked Paul Dennett for all his work to date in progressing the proposed deal.

RESOLVED /-

That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive of the GMCA, in consultation with the GM Mayor, City Mayor Paul Dennett (Portfolio Lead) and Steve Rumbelow (Lead Chief Executive) of Housing, Planning and Homelessness to agree a Housing Deal with Government (if necessary) ahead of the next meeting of the GMCA.

GMCA 42/18 GROWTH DEAL – WIGAN A49 LINK ROAD REQUEST FOR FULL APPROVAL AND FUNDING

The GM Mayor introduced a report which sought full approval and the release of necessary funding to enable the delivery of the Wigan A49 Link Road. He reported that the west-east connectivity across Wigan was required to improve journey times and productivity and emphasised the strategic importance of this scheme in preparing for future schemes.

Councillor Peter Smith, Leader of Wigan Council, expressed his appreciation to the GMCA for their support regarding this project which has been ongoing for some time.

RESOLVED /-

That Full Grant Approval for the Wigan A49 Link Road and the associated release of the remaining £9.226m, of the total £10.295m, of funding from the Local Growth Deal budget to enable the delivery of the scheme be approved.

GMCA 43/18 BREXIT MONITOR – FEBRUARY UPDATE

Councillor Richard Leese, Deputy Mayor and GMCA Portfolio Lead for Business and Economy introduced a report providing members with an update on the key economic and policy development in relation to the UK's decision to leave the European Union. He took members through the latest Brexit Monitor report which described ongoing national discussions and detailed the level of impact anticipated for the North West economy. GM were also undertaking their own Impact Assessment over the forthcoming weeks on all Brexit scenarios.

He also highlighted the importance of rebalancing the economy outside of the South East of England, suggesting that work around the skills agenda was key to support GM could quickly build some resilience against the outcomes of Brexit. In order for this to happen, the pace of progression must increase through further conversations with Government regarding the devolution of skills funding and the development of a Local Industrial Strategy.

The GM Mayor added that the UK were now entering into a serious phase of discussions which would shape any future deal that it was unacceptable that GM still does not have a permanent seat at the Brexit negotiations, where difficult trade-offs may be made between different sectors of the economy. He also stressed that the situation cannot continue and it was too important to the GM Economy.

In a recent meeting the Brexit Secretary provided assurance that an analysis of what Brexit scenarios might mean for regional and GM economy had not been undertaken, however, a recent article had appeared in the media a few weeks ago which looked like regional analysis.

Councillor Richard Leese confirmed that such representations would be made to the Brexit Select Committee on the 19 March 2018.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Brexit Monitor for February 2018 be noted.
2. That it be noted that a submission would be made to the Brexit Select Committee, due to meet in Manchester on 19 March 2018, regarding permanent representation of GM in the Brexit negotiations.

GMCA 44/18 GREATER MANCHESTER AGE FRIENDLY HUB STRATEGY

The GM Mayor introduced a report, on behalf of Councillor Jean Stretton, which sought the approval of the Greater Manchester Age Friendly Strategy. He also expressed his appreciation to Councillor Jean Stretton for all the work undertaken to develop an excellent document, which supports GM to be at the forefront of the active ageing discussion which advances systems and services for older people.

He commented that this was an ambitious strategy, which enabled the breakdown of silos between the different public services and asks those service to work as one team to support older people to live the life they want to lead.

He also highlighted a number of issues, including:

- The eight dementia friendly communities established in Wigan were also highlighted, where much of the thinking in the Strategy was underway; working with the voluntary sector in a different way via Wigan Deal. A further example of work in Levenshulme, Manchester was also highlighted whereby local businesses had advertised that older people were welcome to use their facilities when they were out and about.
- An age friendly Health & Social Care system was integral, with GM already ahead of the rest of the country in terms of health and care and integration and dialogue will continue with Government to develop thinking focused on wrap around care for older people covering physical, mental and social needs. GM is uniquely well placed to put forward a new vision for a 21st century NHS, which doesn't see hospitals as the default setting for medical care, more on a person centred, health promotion modal centred approach to support people in their own home.
- Increased housing choice, to promote social connections and wellbeing in later life. A successful Housing Deal with Government may provide capacity to rethink how GM provides better housing for older people in communities. The town centre challenge may be an avenue to provide more supported living for older people within town centres. Links between health and housing does need to be developed moving forward.

- A transport network to support older people, to be addressed via bus reform, with easy access, including physical and sensory adaptations to enable all members of the community to access buses.
- A world leader in research and innovation, the University of Salford, as an institute for dementia, is undertaking work, not just in the treatment, but to support people to live well with dementia.
- Increasing the rate of activity needs to be at the heart of plans for improving public health in GM, for all, especially older people and the establishment of a social prescribing system that would sign post people to walking groups in their communities, which will also tackle loneliness alongside social isolation.

The Strategy would help GM to lead the debate.

GM's application to the World Health Organisation to become an age-friendly city has been accepted, with an announcement to be made over the forthcoming weeks.

Members of the GMCA welcomed the Strategy, with initiatives already underway within local authorities to deliver some of its pledges and outcomes already beginning to be realised.

Other members commented that the Strategy reflected the essence of Care 2020 and recognised that social health issues such as loneliness were having a significant impact on people's health and the health service and that such a programme was crucial to addressing these issues that were often overlooked. The importance of principles underpinning the Strategy were highlighted.

A member added that it was highly commendable to see GM setting the standard on this agenda, and that the language and values within the report were welcomed. However, they urged that the detail of the delivery plan needs to be reflective in the development of our own workforces to ensure the values were embedded.

Members were advised that it was intended that a presentation on Health and Social Care Asset Based Working (Care 2020) would be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.

Members commented that the Strategy needs effective resourcing to ensure that it can be delivered. Particular concerns were raised in relation to the diluted employment standards within the social care sector, the under-value of carers, who need improved employment practices, and the inevitable increased pressure on the NHS if no action was to be taken.

It was suggested that the development of the 'safe and well visits' by the Fire Service would underpin the Strategy. The role of the community in addressing the issues of loneliness for older people was also an issue to be addressed.

The GM Mayor summarised that this was a vital piece of work for an ageing population in GM, and that funding for social care would be the biggest challenge to the Strategy. However, discussions with Government regarding Care 2020 vision would help support this, in addition to work being undertaken through NHS reform to review domiciliary care. He added that the recent publication of the Carers Strategy helps to put older people at the centre of these discussions and national recognition had been given to the impact of loneliness and social isolation on people's health and wellbeing. The GMCA would be kept apprised of the progress of discussion with Government regarding the care 2020 proposition.

RESOLVED /-

1. That thanks and appreciation to Councillor Jean Stretton (Portfolio Lead) be recorded recognising the work undertaken to develop the Strategy.
2. That the GM Age Friendly Strategy be approved.
3. That it be noted that GM's application to the World Health Organisation to be recognised as an age-friendly city region has been accepted.
4. That a presentation on Health & Social Care Asset Based Working (Care 2020) be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.
5. That it be noted that the GMCA would be kept updated on the discussions underway with Government regarding GM's Care 2020 proposition.

GMCA 45/18 GREATER MANCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Councillor Sean Anstee, GMCA Portfolio Lead for Skills, Employment and Apprenticeships, introduced a report which updated members on GM's approach to applying to the Department of Education's £170m capital fund to develop an Institute of Technology (IoT) within GM. Discussion have been ongoing with Department for Education for some time around the prototype of what this would mean for the City Region.

He emphasised the need to be resilient in response to any changes as a result of Brexit, the need to ensure there was a skilled population, in particular at level 4 and 5 qualifications where there was a gap across GM. The creation of an IoT would be a complement to the current further and higher education institutions across GM as it would be able to offer further opportunities in the digital, construction, manufacturing and engineering sectors. In developing the proposition other considerations to ensure the opportunities were available in GM would include a review of travel to learn patterns.

The GMCA have prepared their outline proposal submission to phase one, and were seeking support to pursue the proposed application process with DfE. A more detailed application would be submitted in Phase two if successful.

Members welcomed the initiative albeit that the phase one application was an outline proposal and requested an assurance that there would be further be a opportunity to influence some of the important detail of the submission at the next stage of the application, including the location of the hub in localities. It was confirmed that the GMCA would be consulted on the application, including the location of the hub in localities and the principles around learning to address the skills gap at level 4 and 5 to ensure that it offered support to all learners across GM.

The GM Mayor summarised that GM would like to be one of the DfE areas for IoT as this would further support the development of our local Industrial Strategy and ambitions. This must be further supported by Government's commitment to skills devolution in order for GM to develop a skills base necessary for these growth industries.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the application process be supported.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive of the GMCA, in consultation with the GMCA Treasurer and Councillor Sean Anstee (Portfolio Lead) and Theresa Grant (Portfolio Lead Chief Executive) to agree the stage 1 application.
3. That it be agreed that, in the event of a successful stage 1 application, the detail of the stage 2 application be submitted to the GMCA in advance of submission to the Department for Education.
4. That it be agreed that in submitting the Stage 1 application, the GMCA demand from Government greater control of all aspects OF skills post 16, not just adult skills, and an urgent review of the operation of the apprenticeship Levy.
5. That thanks and appreciation to Councillor Sean Anstee and Theresa Grant be recorded for progressing the Institute of Technology proposition.

GMCA 46/18 GREATER MANCHESTER DIGITAL STRATEGY

Councillor Sean Anstee, Portfolio Leader for Skills, Employment and Apprenticeships, presented a report which sought the agreement of the GMCA on the Greater Manchester Digital Strategy, which was linked to the Skills Strategy.

He reported that GM had held a number of digital summits throughout the year and had listened to providers and stakeholders on how GM could differentiate itself in

the digital market through effective targets and measures and the required infrastructures to support and deliver these ambitions.

The GM Mayor thanked the steering groups for their involvement in developing the GM Digital Strategy, and commented that through higher levels of engagement with industry representatives there had been a greater degree of ownership in the co-production of the Strategy. Being a leading digital city, with a difference, was a major part of GM's ongoing story.

Members commented that consideration needs to be given to those areas in GM with limited and no internet coverage. Furthermore, continued investment in digital skills for schools was vital for the successful growth of the sector.

The GM Mayor also added that a detailed proposal of UCAS style of apprenticeships will be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GM Digital Strategy, measures and Strategic Action Plan, as included within Section 8 of the Strategy, be agreed.
2. That detailed proposals for a UCAS style system for apprenticeships be submitted to a future meeting of the GMCA.

GMCA 47/18 GMCA REVENUE UPDATE 2017/18

The Mayor of GM introduced a report which informed members of the 2017/18 forecast revenue outturn position as at the end of January 2018. It detailed a projected position for the year end, which included a modest underspend from the mayoral election.

He also emphasised it was a transitional year for the GMCA and will seek to provide as much transparency as possible.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Economic Development and Regeneration budget adjustments as detailed in section 2 be noted.
2. That the use of Business Rates Top-up Grant to be transferred to Reserves to fund Local Growth Fund revenue commitments in 2018/19 and later years and the consequent switch in LGF capital grant to fund elements of the overall transport capital programme be approved.
3. That the Economic Development and Regeneration revenue outturn position for 2017/18 which shows an underspend of £0.663m against budget, after transfers to earmarked reserves as detailed in section 2, be noted.

4. That the transport revenue outturn position for 2017/18, which was in line with budget after transfers to earmarked reserves as detailed in section 3, be noted.
5. That the Transport for Greater Manchester outturn position for 2017/18, which was in line with budget, be noted.

GMCA 48/18 INTERIM NOMINATIONS FOR GREATER MANCHESTER EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL INVESTMENT FUNDS/SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT SUB COMMITTEE

The GM Mayor GM introduced a report seeking agreement from the GMCA in relation to the proposed interim appointments to the GM ESIF / SUD sub committees until June 2018.

RESOLVED/-

1. That it be agreed that the existing GMCA nominees, Councillors Alex Ganotis, Jean Stretton and Sue Murphy, to the GM European Structural Investment Funds/Sustainable Urban Development Sub Committee remain unchanged.
2. That it be agreed that the nomination relating to the GMCA Investment Portfolio Lead be held vacant until the formal GMCA nomination process takes place at the AGM in June 2018.
3. That the appointment of Councillor Sue Murphy, the substitute GMCA Portfolio Lead for Business and Economy, as the Interim Chair of the GM ESIF / SUD sub Committee until the GMCA AGM in June be agreed.

GMCA 49/18 GREATER MANCHESTER SKILLS CAPITAL 2017 – 2020 PROGRAMME

Councillor Sean Anstee, Portfolio Leader for Skills, Employment and Apprenticeships, introduced a report providing members with an update on the outcomes of the appraisal of the Stockport Campus Skills Capital Project and sought approval to proceed with a conditional offer.

Members commented that this was a very positive outcome from the Area Based Review, and that a merger between Trafford and Stockport colleges would be a great development for the further and higher education sector.

Thanks were given to those involved in the work on this application to date, and its significance in relation to the wider skills agenda.

RESOLVED /-

1. That thanks and appreciation to Gemma Marsh, Councillor Sean Anstee and Theresa Grant be recorded for the work undertaken to date.

2. That it be agreed that the £16m funding application for Stockport Campus Skills Capital Project which forms part of a wider Stockport and Trafford College merger be conditionally approved and progressed to due diligence.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement to the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transactions, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the above grant, in discussion with the Portfolio Lead (Councillor Sean Anstee) and Chief Executive for Skills, Work and Apprenticeships (Theresa Grant).

GMCA 50/18 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED /-

That, under section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraph 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.

GMCA 51/18 UPDATE ON GM SKILLS CAPITAL 2017 – 2020 PROGRAMME

CLERK'S NOTE: This item was considered in support of the Part A GM Skills Capital 2017-2020 Programme (minute 49/18 refers).

