MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2016 AT GMP HEADQUARTERS, CENTRAL PARK, MANCHESTER

GM INTERIM MAYOR

Tony Lloyd (in the Chair)

BOLTON COUNCIL

Councillor Cliff Morris

 BURY COUNCIL

Councillor Rishi Shori

MANCHESTER CC

Councillor Richard Leese

OLDHAM COUNCIL

Councillor Jean Stretton

ROCHDALE MBC

Councillor Richard Farnell

SALFORD CC

Councillor John Merry

STOCKPORT MBC

Councillor Alex Ganotis

TAMESIDE MBC

Councillor Kieran Quinn

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Councillor Sean Anstee

WIGAN COUNCIL

Councillor Peter Smith

JOINT BOARDS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

GMF&RS

Councillor David Acton

GMWDA

Councillor Nigel Murphy

TfGMC

Councillor Andrew Fender

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Margaret Asquith  Bolton Council

Mike Owen  Bury Council

Howard Bernstein  Manchester CC

Carolyn Wilkins  Oldham Council

Steve Rumbelow  Rochdale MBC

Jim Taylor  Salford CC

Eamonn Boylan  Stockport MBC

Steven Pleasant  Tameside MBC

Theresa Grant  Trafford Council

Donna Hall  Wigan Council

Ian Pilling  GM Police

Paul Argyle  GM Fire & Rescue Service

Jon Lamoonte  Transport for Greater Manchester
201/16  APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from City Mayor Paul Dennett. Councillor John Merry deputised in the City Mayor’s absence.

Apologies were also received from Peter O’Reilly (GMF&RS) and Ian Hopkins (GMP).

202/16  CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

a) White Ribbon Day

In welcoming Members to the meeting, the Chair noted that white ribbons were being worn to mark White Ribbon Day, a global campaign to end violence against women and was supported by all Greater Manchester public agencies.

203/16  DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made by a Member in respect of any item on the agenda.

204/16  MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2016

The minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 28 October 2016 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 28 October 2016 as a correct record.

205/16  FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF GMCA

Consideration was given to a report advising members of those strategic decisions that were to be considered by the GMCA over the forthcoming months.
RESOLVED/-

To note the Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions, as set out in the report.

206/16 MINUTES

a) Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership – 10 November 2016

The Minutes of the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership held on 10 November 2016 were submitted for information.

RESOLVED/-

To note the minutes of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership held on 10 November 2016.

b) Transport For Greater Manchester Committee – 11 November 2016

The minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee (TfGMC) meeting held on 11 November 2016 were submitted for information.

With regard to minute reference TfGMC16/54, Metrolink Second City Crossing Service Patterns, Councillor Jean Stretton highlighted her disappointment that there was not a direct link to Piccadilly Station from Oldham and Rochdale included in the Metrolink service patterns which were agreed by TfGMC. She requested a meeting with the Chair of GMCA, Chair of TfGMC, representatives of Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) and Councillor Richard Farnell in relation to this matter. In supporting Councillor Stretton’s comments, Councillor Richard Farnell commented that a direct link to Piccadilly Station, as a major transport hub was important for the future economic growth of Oldham and Rochdale.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the minutes for the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee meeting held on 11 November 2016.

2. To note the comments of Councillors Jean Stretton and Richard Farnell in relation to minute TfGMC16/54, Metrolink Second City Crossing Service Patterns.

3. To agree that a meeting be convened with Councillors Stretton and Farnell, Chair of GMCA, Chair of TfGMC, representatives of TfGM at the earliest opportunity to discuss Metrolink Second City Crossing Service Patterns.
207/16 AUTUMN STATEMENT

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Lead for Economic Strategy introduced a tabled report that highlighted the announcements within the recent Autumn Statement with particular reference to those which are of specific relevance to Greater Manchester.

Members noted that with regard to Social Care funding, a 4% increase was needed rather than the 2% increase proposed in Autumn Statement. This level of increase would not make any significant change and potentially would leave people in vulnerable conditions worse off. This was disappointing and GM should continue to push strongly for Social Care funding.

RESOLVED/-

To note the contents of the report and to agree a more detailed analysis of the announcements set out in the Autumn Statement be submitted to the GMCA meeting on 16 December 2016.

208/16 GREATER MANCHESTER BREXIT MONITOR

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Lead for Economic Strategy presented a report which updated Members on the progress with work to understand the full implications of Brexit on GM and develop an appropriate policy response. The latest edition of the monthly Greater Manchester Brexit Monitor was attached to the report which provided a real-time snapshot of the economic and policy impact of Brexit.

RESOLVED/-

To note the update report and to agree that a further report be submitted to the January 2017 GMCA meeting, in consultation with relevant portfolio leads, which will outline the main issues that Greater Manchester will require the Government to respond to as part of the Brexit negotiations.

209/16 2014-20 ERDF PROGRAMME: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT PROPOSALS UPDATE

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance, introduced a report which provided an update to Members on the progress in respect of the establishment of the GM Fund of Funds (“FoF”) and the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund (“NPIF”), as part of the 2014-20 ERDF programme and sought their approval to the granting of £0.5m to the new structure to cover initial fund overheads.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the updated proposals to establish the new funds as set out in the report.
2. To grant approval for GMCA to lend £0.5m to support the establishment of the GM FoF in its initial phase with a further review of its sustainability before the 2018-19 financial year and to note that this £0.5m will be funded from a corresponding sum distributed to the GMCA from the Evergreen Holding Fund.

210/16 TRANSPORT FOR THE NORTH STRATEGIC ROAD STUDIES

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Lead for Economic Strategy, introduced a report which provided an update on the two strategic highways studies co-sponsored by the Department for Transport and Transport for the North which impact on the Greater Manchester road network, namely the M60 North West Quadrant and a Trans-Pennine Tunnel.

Members noted that the findings of the studies will be published during December 2016 and will feed in to the Autumn Statement. Further work was also to be undertaken to calculate the wider economic and resilience benefits to enable the completion of strategic outline businesses cases.

A Member supported the finding in relation to the M60 North West Quadrant scheme and highlighted how this would improve congested area, particularly in relation to Worsley, if this scheme was approved, the Highways Agency ought to be reminded to undertake any works in a way to minimise disruption, unlike their approach to the current M60 Smart Motorway works.

With regard to the Trans-Pennine Tunnel Members noted that it was anticipated that such works would improve journey times between Manchester and Sheffield by 30 minutes and welcomed the potential for the development of this scheme.

RESOLVED/-
To note the progress of the Strategic Road Studies in Greater Manchester.

211/16 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING FUND MID YEAR REPORT 2016/17

Councillor Richard Farnell, Portfolio Lead for Planning and Housing introduced a report which informed Members of the outturn and forecast positions of the GM Housing Fund for 2016/17. In addition, Members also noted the position in relation to the indemnity entered into by each of the Local Authorities in relation to the GM Housing Fund.

Members agreed to take the commercially sensitive Part B GM Housing Fund for 2016/17 report (Item 16) as read whilst considering this report.
RESOLVED/-

1. To note the outturn and forecast position of the GM Housing Fund for 2016/17 and to note that there has been no requirement for the GM Local Authorities to account for any impairment as a result of the performance of the Fund.

2. To note the position in respect of the indemnity given for the GM Housing Fund by GM Local Authorities.

212/16 METROLINK 2017 PROJECT

Tony Lloyd, GM Interim Mayor introduced a report which provided an update in relation to the process to procure a service provider to operate and maintain the Metrolink system from July 2017.

RESOLVED/-

1. To note the current position in relation to the project.

2. To approve in principle the creation of a rolling three year Metrolink renewal and enhancement capital programme as part of the Greater Manchester Transport Fund and to request the TfGM Finance and Corporate Services Director and GMCA Treasurer submit a further report for approval in January 2017.

213/16 METROLINK TRAFFORD PARK LINE

Tony Lloyd GM Interim Mayor introduced a report which provided Members with an update on the granting of powers under the Transport and Works Act 1992 for the construction and operation of the Trafford Park Line extension to the Metrolink system and sought approval to release the funding and enter into the contracts to deliver the scheme.

In welcoming the scheme a Member thanked Transport for Greater Manchester for their efforts in developing this extension to the Metrolink network and securing the Transport and Works Act Order from Government. He also noted the contribution made by Trafford Council with the use of Earnback funding.

Members agreed to take the commercially sensitive Part B Metrolink Trafford Park Line report, (Item 18) as read whilst considering this report.

RESOLVED/-

1. To welcome the Secretary of State’s decision to make the Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992 for the construction and operation of the Trafford Park Line.
2. To approve the release of the remaining funding to commit a total of £350 million for the scheme.

3. To approve that TfGM enter into the contracts with MPact Thales, various utilities and WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff for the delivery and management of the scheme to design and construct the line; and delegate authority to the TfGM Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer and the Finance and Corporate Services Director, in conjunction with the GMCA Treasurer to finalise the terms and enter into the contracts.

214/16 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVAL

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance introduced a report which sought approval for an investment into Clowdy Group Limited (T/A “Twine”). The investment will be made from recycled monies.

Members agreed to take the more detailed, commercially sensitive, Part B Greater Manchester Investment Framework Approval (Item 19) as read whilst considering this report.

RESOLVED/-

1. To agree that the project funding application by Twine, (investment of up to £300,000), as set out in the report, be given conditional approval.

2. To agree to delegate authority to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the transaction, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investment at a) above.

215/16 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members noted that as the commercially sensitive information was taken as read during the consideration of GM Housing Fund for 2016/17 (Minute 211/16), Metrolink 2017 Project (Minute 212/16) and Greater Manchester Investment Framework Approval (Minute 214/16) and for this reason were not considered in Part B of the Agenda.

Members considered the exclusion of the public from the meeting during consideration of the report at item 17.

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 item of 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.

216/16 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING FUND MID YEAR REPORT 2016/17

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Housing Fund Mid Year Report 2016/17 (Minute 211/16).

217/16 METROLINK 2017 PROJECT

Tony Lloyd, GM Interim Mayor and Portfolio Lead for Transport provided an update following the evaluation of bids submitted as part of the process to procure a service provider to operate and maintain the Metrolink system from July 2017. The report also sought the approval of Members to the appointment of the Confirmed Preferred Bidder for the project, as identified in the report.

RESOLVED/-

1. To approve the appointment of the Confirmed Preferred Bidder for the Metrolink 2017 project, as identified in the report, and to grant delegated authority to the TfGM Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer and the Finance and Corporate Services Director, in conjunction with the GMCA Treasurer, to finalise the terms and enter into the contract.

2. To approve in principle the creation of a rolling three year Metrolink renewal and enhancement capital programme as part of the Greater Manchester Transport Fund and request the TfGM Finance and Corporate Services Director and GMCA Treasurer submit a further report for approval in January 2017.

218/16 METROLINK TRAFFORD PARK LINE

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Housing Fund Mid Year Report 2016/17 (Minute 213/16).

219/16 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPROVAL

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Framework Approval (Minute 214/16).