MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2016 AT SALFORD CIVIC CENTRE

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

DEPUTY PORTFOLIO HOLDERS IN ATTENDANCE
Councillor Brenda Warrington (Tameside)  Health and Social Care
Councillor Wendy Wild (Stockport)  Health and Social Care
Councillor Linda Thomas (Bolton)  Health and Social Care
Councillor Paula Boshell (Salford)  Planning and Housing
Councillor Aasim Rashid (Rochdale)  Low Carbon, Waste and Environment
Councillor Lynn Travis (Tameside)  Low Carbon, Waste and Environment
Councillor Jenny Bullen (Wigan)  Skills and Employment
Councillor Abdul Jabbar (Oldham)  Skills and Employment
Councillor Donna Martin (Rochdale)  Children’s Services
Councillor Linda Blackburn (Trafford)  Children’s Services
Councillor Dylan Butt (Trafford)  Economic Strategy
Councillor Ebrahim Adia (Bolton)  Economic Strategy
Councillor Sue Murphy (Manchester)  Reform
APOLOGIES

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

Donna Hall (Wigan), Steve Rumbelow, (Rochdale) Steven Pleasant, (Tameside), Jim Taylor (Salford), Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham), Jon Lamonte (TfGM) and Peter O’Reilly (GMF&RS).

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

STATUTORY FUNCTION COMMITTEE – APPOINTMENTS

a) Statutory Functions Committee

Members considered the nomination of Councillor Abid Chohan (Manchester) as a substitute to Councillor Bernard Stone (Manchester) on the Statutory Functions Committee for the remainder of 2016/17.

RESOLVED/-
To note the nomination of Councillor Abid Chohan (Manchester) as a substitute to Councillor Bernard Stone (Manchester) on the Statutory Functions Committee for the remainder of 2016/17.

b) GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool

Members considered the nominations of Councillors Zahra Alijah and James Wilson (both Manchester) as Members of the GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool as direct replacements for Councillors Angeliki Stogia and Matt Strong (both Manchester) for the remainder of 2016/17.

RESOLVED/-

To note the nominations of Councillors Zahra Alijah and James Wilson (both Manchester) as Members of the GMCA and AGMA Scrutiny Pool as direct replacements for Councillors Angeliki Stogia and Matt Strong (both Manchester) for the remainder of 2016/17.

80/16 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON 26 AUGUST 2016

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board held on 26 August 2016 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED/-

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board held on 26 August 2016 as a correct record.

81/16 FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS OF JOINT GMCA & AGMA

Consideration was given to a report advising members of those strategic decisions that were to be considered by the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board over the forthcoming months.

RESOLVED/-

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

82/16 MINUTES OF THE JOINT GMCA AND AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2016

The minutes of the proceedings of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Audit Committee held on 23 September 2016 were considered.

RESOLVED/-

To note the proceedings of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Audit Committee held on 23 September 2016, as a correct record.
The minutes of the proceedings of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Scrutiny Pool held on 9 September 2016 and 14 October 2016 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

To note the proceedings of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Scrutiny Pool held on 9 September 2016 and 14 October 2016.

84/16 GREATER MANCHESTER SPATIAL FRAMEWORK – DRAFT CONSULTATION

Councillor Richard Farnell, Portfolio lead for Planning and Housing introduced a report which updated Members on the next stage of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). The report also sought the approval from Members to commence a consultation process under regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. Members noted that if agreed, it was proposed that the consultation process would commence on 31 October and would close on 23 December 2016 and will be undertaken in line with the Statement of Community Involvements of the 10 local planning authorities.

Councillor Farnell explained the basis of the GMSF was a strategy for greener, more sustainable growth and highlighted the importance of this framework for the future economy for Greater Manchester, including identifying land to develop 200,000 new jobs and a housing supply to meet the needs of a changing economy and a growing and ageing population. Members highlighted the importance that the GMSF was supported by improved transport infrastructure and an increase in the investment and provision of public service assets, such as schools, skills, training and health provision in order for Greater Manchester’s aspirations to be met.

Initial proposals in the GMSF consultation documents identified the use of brown-field sites. Members noted that 70% of the sites identified were located within urban areas, however this would not meet all of Greater Manchester’s needs and for this reason the Spatial Framework proposes the release of 8% of Greater Manchester’s Green Belt. In addition, it was noted that 43% of the Green Belt would remain and that a robust spatial framework was required in order for such to be protected from speculative development.

Members noted that a number of consultation events would take place until the initial consultation process closed on 23 December 2016 and the proposals would be updated to capture the comments received during this consultation.

Eamonn Boylan, lead Chief Executive for Planning and Housing gave a presentation on the contents of the draft GMSF, which included an overview of potential new sites and the wider consultation process timescales.

Councillor Anstee sought clarification that the assurances given in the plan regarding transport infrastructure provision were credible. In addition, he enquired as to how this plan may inform housing investment funding and planning powers to enable deliverability and to inform future requests to Government. In response, it was noted that delivery of growth and infrastructure was fundamental and as planning authorities, Greater Manchester Local Authorities were unlikely to approve developments unless they were satisfied that the infrastructure was present to support the development. Members noted that the Autumn
Statement submission to Government sought investment for transport infrastructure funding and also noted the importance of utility infrastructure from major providers.  
With regard to housing and housing investment, Members noted that delivery mechanisms to deliver at scale and speed would need to be explored.  
Councillor Merry highlighted that if there wasn’t a plan in place it could potentially lead to developers identifying sites on an ad hoc basis. The draft plan brings together the conurbation for planning for the future and would help to protect areas of green space. Support was given for the initial consultation process to commence.  
Councillor Morris commented that transport infrastructure plans were needed to take the GMSF work forward.  
Councillor Ganotis noted the GMSF provided a strategic approach for Greater Manchester for the next twenty years which will meet the economic and housing needs and minimises Green Belt incursion. He noted that the consultation processes went further than required and Councils were encouraged to engage with all stakeholders in relation to the consultation. It was noted that each district would need to formally endorse the GMSF.  
Councillor Richard Leese noted that as yet, this was not a statutory framework, but would in future become a statutory Mayoral Spatial plan. He noted that some Local Authorities had put their statutory frameworks on hold whilst the GMSF is being developed so it is a very important document. With regard to Green and Blue infrastructure policies, opportunities to green urban areas may be presented. He highlighted that the absence of a plan would leave local planning authorities vulnerable for planning decisions to be overturned.  
Councillor Quinn supported the comments made by Councillor Leese. The GMSF would allow for districts to challenge applications with regard to insufficient infrastructure provision. Clear advice and guidance was needed for the public in relation to the consultation engagement process.  
Councillor Peter Smith commented that it was important to make it clear that the Spatial Framework and Transport Strategy sit below the Greater Manchester Strategy, forming a suite of strategic documents, which when taken together set out the vision and ambitions and how it is intended that they will be implements.  
The Chair noted that the powers of local planning authorities would remain and reiterated that the investment in infrastructure was important. The use of existing brown field sites was important and that work was taking place with government to explore how brown field sites can be made more useable.  
In summing up, Councillor Farnell thanked Members for their comments. He highlighted that with regard to Rochdale, there was an opportunity to grow its population in order to provide a sustainable and attractive location for developing business opportunities. Councils were each encouraged to take a lead with regard to the consultation process within their own localities. Councillor Farnell reiterated that this was a plan and that districts would maintain their individual decision making processes with regard to planning applications.  
RESOLVED/-  
1. To note the report and unanimously agree the approach set out in the report.
2. To unanimously approve the Draft GMSF (Appendix 1), approach to site prioritisation (outlined in Appendix 2) and Integrated Assessment (Appendix 3) for consultation.

3. To unanimously agree to delegate responsibility to make final amendments to the Draft GMSF and background documents (Appendix 4) to Eamonn Boylan, Lead Chief Executive, Planning & Housing in consultation with Councillor Farnell, Portfolio Holder for Planning & Housing and agree publication of the documents for consultation.

86/16 AGMA PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

Tony Lloyd, GM Interim Mayor introduced a report providing an update on the Procurement Hub’s operation.

Members noted the social value elements contained in section 4 of the Annual Report

RESOLVED/-

To note the Annual Report.

87/16 BUSINESS RATES UPDATE

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance, introduced a report providing members with an update on the Business Rates Pool position in 2016/17. GM Districts will need to make an in principle decision on whether to retain the Pool for 2017/18 by the end of October 2016, though any district can decide to opt out of the pool at the time of the provisional RSG settlement.

The GMCA Treasurer confirmed that work was progressing with the 10 GM Districts and 2 Cheshire authorities regarding the risk assurances regarding pooling. An update from DCLG has indicated that they were supportive of the pooling initiative.

RESOLVED/-

1 To agree the principle of the continuation of the Business Rates Pool to include the GM districts plus Cheshire East and Cheshire West, with the final recommendation being agreed by the GMCA Treasurer and the Portfolio Holder for Investment Strategy and Finance once the provisional finance settlement has been announced. At that stage the decision will be subject to appropriate approvals by each of the participating authorities.

2 To note that progress continues to be made with Communities and Local Government with regard to participation in the 100% Business Rates Pilot and will be the subject of a future report.

88/16 AGMA REVENUE UPDATE 2016/17

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Lead for Investment Strategy and Finance, introduced a report informing members of the 2016/17 forecast revenue outturn position as at end September 2016.
RESOLVED/-

1. To note the report and the current revenue outturn forecast for 2016/17 which is projecting a minor underspend of £14,000 against budget after transfers to ear-marked reserves.

2. To approve the revisions to the revenue budget plan 2016/17 as identified in the report and described in paragraphs 1.2-1.5 of the report.