MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY, HELD ON FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2017 AT STOCKPORT TOWN HALL

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor  Andy Burnham
Deputy Mayor  Baroness Beverley Hughes
(Police and Crime)
Bury Council  Councillor Rishi Shori, (Deputy Mayor)
Manchester CC  Councillor Richard Leese, (Deputy Mayor)
Oldham Council  Councillor Jean Stretton
Rochdale BC  Councillor Allen Brett
Salford CC  City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport MBC  Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside MBC  Councillor Kieran Quinn
Trafford Council  Councillor Sean Anstee
Wigan Council  Councillor Peter Smith

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDENCE:

Fire Committee, Chair  Councillor David Acton
GMWDA, Chair  Councillor Nigel Murphy
TfGM, Chair,  Councillor Andrew Fender
Bolton Council  Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury Council  Councillor Jane Black
Bury Council  Councillor Andrea Simpson
Manchester CC  Councillor Angelicki Stogia
Stockport MBC  Councillor Wendy Wild
Tameside MBC  Councillor Lynn Travis
Tameside MBC  Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford Council  Councillor Dylan Butt
Trafford Council  Councillor Laura Evans
Wigan Council  Councillor Jennifer Bullen

OFFICERS IN ATTENDENCE:

GMCA Chief Executive  Eamonn Boylan
GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive  Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer  Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer  Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor  Kevin Lee
Bolton Council  Margaret Asquith
Bury MBC  Pat Jones Greenhalgh
Manchester CC  Joanne Roney
Oldham Council  Maggie Kufeldt
Rochdale BC  Steve Rumbelow
Salford CC          Jim Taylor
Stockport MBC       Pam Smith
Tameside MBC        Kathy Roe
Trafford Council    Theresa Grant
Wigan Council       Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM               Simon Warbuton
GMFRS              Dave Keelan
Manchester Growth Co Mark Hughes
GMCA               Julie Connor
GMCA               Sylvia Welsh
GMCA               Lindsay Dunn
GMCA               Simon Nokes
GMCA               Emma Stonier

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCVO              Alex Whinnom
                    Patsy Hodson

195/17            APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Richard Farnell (Rochdale Council, Councillor Allen Brett attending), Councillor Cliff Morris (Bolton Council – Councillor Linda Thomas attending) Chief Executives – Donna Hall (Wigan Council – Alison McKenzie-Folan attending), Ian Hopkins (GMP), Jon Lamonte (TfGM – Simon Warbuton attending), Jon Rouse (GMHSCP), Steven Pleasant (Tameside Council – Kathy Roe attending) and Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham Council – Maggie Kufeldt attending).

196/17            CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

a)    Town Centre Challenge

In welcoming Members, the GM Mayor reminded the meeting that it marked the opening of the Red Rock Development in Stockport. It was also confirmed that Stockport would be the first town in GM nominated under the town centre challenge.

b)    Gender Balanced Combined Authority

The GM Mayor introduced and welcomed the district nominated Assistant Portfolio Leads to the meeting. He highlighted that this was a further step towards gender equality within the Authority and demonstrated GM’s commitment to inclusive gender balance. Members were reminded that 2018 will mark the centenary of women receiving the right to vote, a campaign that was prominently lead in Manchester.
c) White Ribbon Day

The Chair noted that white ribbons were being worn to mark White Ribbon Day on 25 November, a global campaign to end violence against women and girls was supported by all GM public agencies.

d) Carers Rights Day

The GM Mayor informed members that the 24 November marked Carers Rights Day. He announced that later in the day he would be delivering a speech to the Carers Rights Day event in GM that would demonstrate strength and commitment to help carers in their local community to receive the help and support they are entitled to.

e) Kerslake Review – Emergency Services Response to the Manchester Arena Attack

The GM Mayor reminded the meeting that the closing date for submissions from those who were affected by the Manchester Arena Attack to the Kerslake Review was the 24 November.

Deputy Mayor Beverley Hughes provided members with an update on the progress of the independent commissioned Kerslake Review Panel that commenced in October. It was noted that all single and multi-agency debrief documents from those involved in the response to the incident at the Arena. However, the primary focus of the review has been what lessons can be learned from the experiences of the people and their families involved in the incident, including those that came to assist and respond on the night, which can be picked up in future contingency planning. During the first phase of the review, the NSPCC have been commissioned as the conduit of the personal experiences to the Panel. The time period was extended to continue to gather views and the response so far, was described as very good. This has been gathered by large numbers of phone calls, e-mails and a number of face to face interviews from members of the public, victims and their families, who have been directly affected. A progress report will be presented in January 2018 and the final report with the findings will be produced in Spring 2018.

f) Autumn Budget

Consideration was given to a late paper circulated the previous evening in response to the key announcements made in the Government’s Autumn Budget on 22 November. The GM Mayor described the Autumn statement as a mixed picture for GM. It was highlighted that Government’s commitment to strengthen devolution and improve outcomes to Greater Manchester Combined Authority was clear as the City region was the only area to have an agreement published alongside the main Budget document.

Recognition was offered from the GM Mayor on behalf of the GMCA to the Chief Executive and colleagues who continue to engage in a professional and
effective manner in securing the best interests of GM which was
demonstrated in the publication of the Greater Manchester Autumn Budget
2017.

The Chancellor had announced that GM will be provided with an allocation of
£243 million over four years as part of the Transforming Cities Fund. This
funding will provide GM with the flexibility to make strategic decisions on the
priority transport projects, and help to improve connectivity and reduce
congestion in the region. This announcement of the fund will allow for the
implementation of proposals in response to the recent public consultation
regarding congestion. In addition, Government has also recently committed
up to £300 million towards ensuring HS2 infrastructure and ‘touch points’ to
accommodate future Northern Powerhouse and Midlands rail services.

As part of the agreement, the Government will also invest £28m in Housing
First pilots in three mayoral areas across England, one of which will be in GM. 
Approximately £9m will be awarded to GM to support rough sleepers with the
most complex needs to turn their lives around.

Confirmation was received that GM will be a Digital and Technological Hub
alongside the Government’s commitment to working with GM to develop a
Local Industrial Strategy pilot. It was acknowledged that a caveat to this was
that the Budget announcement did not progress on the devolution of post 16
skills funding. Further discussions on this issue allied with the Industrial
Strategy will be pursued with Government.

The GM Mayor further announced that GM had been awarded a share of the
funding to commemorate and celebrate 100 years of women being given the
right to vote. This announcement was welcomed by members.

The Government and GMCA have also committed to work together on a
range of other policy areas, including Trade and Investment, Housing, Skills,
Offender Management, and Employment Support.

On a less positive note it was highlighted that although a package of funding
was announced with respect to the NHS, there was no significant
announcements on, or additional funding for the proposed pilot on social care.
Furthermore, there were no declarations in respect of funding for policing or
counter terrorism budgets, which indicated the future settlement will be held at
‘flat cash’. This was described as challenging as it suggested, in real terms,
the prospect of a reduction in Central Government funding for policing in GM.

Members expressed their disappointment at the lack of acknowledgment in
the Budget with regard to additional resources for adult social care or
children’s services, as two of the main pressure point for local councils across
the country. Prior to the Autumn Budget, The Local Government Association
(LGA) presented a cross party submission to Government about the funding
required and the consequences of not providing investment in those areas. In
addition to this, GM provided a constructive offer to Government to test a
different way of providing care in the home and community for older people
which recognised the current deficit in social care funding. Members raised concerns with regards to the delay of the Green Paper on care and support for older people. Furthermore, the package of funding announced with respect to the NHS was described as insufficient to deal with the winter pressures of increased demand on the health and social care system.

Members were also reminded that GM had previously been awarded £450M Transformation Fund to look at how GM provides care and well being services, with good work already underway in localities to deliver those commitments, notwithstanding the pressing need for sustainable funding for social care.

Deputy Mayor, Beverley Hughes expressed concerns with regard to the failure of Government to address policing and security. She described the impacts of successive budgets in terms of loss of officers and staff and described this year as the most challenging given the added pressures at a time when the threat level from terrorism was severe and impacting on neighbourhood policing.

Further lobbying of Government ahead of next month’s settlement would be pursued by representatives of GM.

Dissatisfaction was voiced in respect of the lack of any announcement in public sector pay awards. Members highlighted Local Government budgets have been cut at a time when demand for public services would continue to rise year on year.

The GM Mayor raised the matter of the recovery of costs for the attack at Manchester Arena. He described the absence of any substantive response in the Budget as frustrating but highlighted that a statement from the Prime Minister was expected later in the day.

196/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Leese declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Items 16, Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval for Recommendation and 19 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation as Manchester City Council own the site of Stagecoach.

197/17 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of GMCA meeting held on 27 October 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-
That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 27 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

198/17 MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2017

The minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meeting held on 27 October 2017 were submitted for consideration.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee meeting held on 27 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

199/17 MINUTES OF THE ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH AND SKILLS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 10 November 2017 be noted.

200/17 MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE ISSUES AND REFORM OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Corporate Issues and Reform Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 21 November 2017 be noted.

201/17 MINUTES OF THE HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2017

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the Housing, Planning and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 16 November 2017 be noted.

2. That the appointment of Councillor Jamie Walker (Bury) (Labour) to the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee be approved.
RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee held on 10 November 2017 be noted.

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 13 November 2017 be noted.

The GM Mayor introduced a report providing members with an update on the development of an Accord between the Greater Manchester Mayor and Combined Authority and the GM Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise.

In introducing the report, the GM Mayor explained that another piece of history was being made as the Accord set out the principles of a new relationship of trust based on a shared vision for the city region as highlighted in the refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy to unlock the full potential of citizens and communities.

In order to provide the adequate level of leadership for this, it was announced that Councillor Kieran Quinn (Tameside) will be the Portfolio Lead and responsible for Investment, Finance, Community, Voluntary and Cooperatives. It has been suggested that delivery of the Accord and development of a GM VCSE Action Plan would require additional capacity. Following discussions, it was initially proposed that an additional £50k of funding was provided to support crime and disorder issues.

Alex Whinnom, Chief Executive of GMCVO and Patsy Hodson, Chair of GMCVO, were introduced to the meeting as representatives from the Voluntary and Community and Social Enterprise Sector in GM. The Chair of GMCVO welcomed the ambition to extend into a new relationship with the GMCA and as highlighted in the GM Strategy, take a proactive approach to create new partnerships and encourage more diverse voices to have an active role in shaping and challenging policy.

Councillor Kieran Quinn further added that austerity has highlighted that GM would be a far weaker place without the extended role that the VCSE provide.
One of the key commitments from the GM Mayor and GMCA will be to develop an investment approach based on long-term funding arrangements which extend beyond annual contracting and cover core costs not just project funding.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GM Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Accord and arrangements as detailed in the report be endorsed.

2. That the funding arrangements detailed in paragraph 4.4 be noted.

205/17 LOCAL GROWTH FUND 3 – GM BUSINESS PRODUCTIVITY AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAMME

RESOLVED /-

That the report be deferred and considered at the meeting of the GMCA on 15 December 2017.

206/17 PLANNING FOR THE RIGHT HOMES IN THE RIGHT PLACES: RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT’S CONSULTATION PROPOSALS

City Mayor Paul Dennett provided members with an update on the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) consultation document and the GMCA’s response, considering implications for the preparation of the next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

The consultation on a standardised methodology for calculating Objectively Assessed Housing (OAH) need was published on the 14 September. The consultation was described as significant for local planning authorities, planning professionals, house builders and developers in that it presented Government’s proposals on how housing need should be calculated in local areas. This has important implications for local and joint plans like the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF). It was highlighted that there is an expectation that local planning authorities should adopt the standard approach.

A detailed response to all of the proposals was submitted on behalf of the GMCA and a copy of the full submission was attached to the report at Annex One.

On behalf of the GMCA, the GM Mayor welcomed the Government’s proposals of the introduction of a robust and consistently applied method for calculating local housing need.

RESOLVED /-
1. That the report and proposals that the Government are suggesting in the consultation be noted.

2. That GMCA’s response to the consultation be endorsed.

3. That information from the consultation be used to inform further work to prepare the next draft of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

207/17 BREXIT MONITOR – MONTHLY UPDATE

Councillor Richard Leese, Portfolio Leader for Business and Economy, introduced a report which updated members on the key economic and policy developments in relation to the UK’s decision to leave the EU, adding that a ‘no deal’ scenario would be considered disastrous for GM.

It was brought to the attention of members that the economic forecast had been revised since writing the report following the Autumn Budget. Furthermore, there has been considerable debate with regard to the extent to which the UK can change its mind on the decision to leave the EU as people are made further aware of the economic consequences of Brexit.

RESOLVED /-

That the November Brexit Monitor be noted.

208/17 WARM HOMES FUND

Councillor Alex Ganotis, Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, introduced a report that provided details of an opportunity to supplement the existing GM Local Energy Advice Programme (LEAP), being delivered by Agility Eco and Local Authorities with c. £1.8m Warm Homes Funding to further assist the most vulnerable fuel poor residents in GM, specifically those in off-gas grid areas.

Tribute was paid to officers within the GMCA responsible for the bid and securing the subsequent funding of £1.8m which, supported the delivery of the GMS Implementation Plan action to “Deliver a programme of energy switching, local energy advice and domestic energy efficiency retrofit particularly to fuel poor households”.

It was confirmed that it is intended that these funds would be used to install central heating in urban ‘off gas’ IMD areas (25% worse Index of Multiple Deprivation areas). The paper demonstrated how these new monies would complement the previously agreed GM Local Energy Advice Programme (LEAP).
The GM Mayor thanked officers of the GMCA and Councillor Alex Ganotis for the work undertaken to successfully attain the Warm Homes Fund monies.

Councillor Richard Leese offered support for the report and highlighted the importance of ensuring that the implementation of any new heating systems should be user friendly as well as energy efficient.

RESOLVED /-

That the utilisation of c. £1.8m Warm Homes Funds to supplement delivery of the existing Local Energy Advice Programme be agreed.

209/17 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK – GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FUNDS UPDATE

Councillor Kieran Quinn, Portfolio Leader for Investment, Finance, Community, Voluntary and Co-operatives, introduced a report which provided a six month update on the Greater Manchester Investment Funds.

Key highlights included £5.3m of funding dedicated to fourteen businesses and £113.9m of housing funding committed to nine developments. It was reported that the developments will see the creation of 1,334 new homes helping to meet the challenge of housing growth across the conurbation. £7.9m of commercial property funding has been committed within the city and towns across GM. CBRE were reported as the successful bidder in the Evergreen procurement process and are now managing Evergreen 1 and Evergreen 2.

The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund was launched in March 2017 offering debt and equity funding packages to businesses. £138m of business funding has been committed with a further £18m of funding requirements in the pipeline. It was noted with success, that £50.3m of funding has been recycled from funds to date.

It was highlighted that the funds are overseen by the Core Investment Team with due diligence. In support, Councillor Richard Leese commented that the report highlighted success for GM and further expressed his appreciation to Councillor Kieran Quinn and officers from the GMCA Authority who have overseen the investment of the funds.

The GM Mayor conveyed his gratitude to the Portfolio Lead and officers in the Core Investment Team for the work undertaken to actively support growth in Greater Manchester.

RESOLVED /-

That the update on the Greater Manchester Investment Funds be noted.
Councillor Kieran Quinn introduced a report for approval for loans to Planixs Limited. The loan will be made from recycled funds and was recommended to the Combined Authority for approval following appraisal by the Core Investment Team.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the funding application by Planixs GRP Limited (investment of £750k) be conditionally approved and progressed to due diligence.

2. 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 of 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 loan.

**211/17 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION**

*Councillor Richard Leese declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this report, as Manchester City Council own the site of Stagecoach and left the room during the discussion of the report.*

City Mayor, Paul Dennett presented the GMCA with a report for approval of the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan detailed below.

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<td>Rowlinson Developments</td>
<td>Stagecoach site, Moss Side</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
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<td>Ltd. SPV</td>
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Members were asked to approve the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan in the table as detailed further in the report and the accompanying Part B paper.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GM Housing Investment Loans Fund loan in the table above, as detailed further in the report and the accompanying Part B paper be approved.

2. That Manchester City Council be recommended to approve the above and prepares and effects the necessary legal agreements in accordance with its approved internal processes.
212/17 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Members noted that the commercially sensitive information contained in Item 18 Greater Manchester Investment Framework and Conditional Project Approval and item 19 Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation was taken as read during consideration of the Part A - Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update (minute ref 210/17 refers) and Greater Manchester Housing Investment Loans Fund – Investment Approval Recommendation (minute ref 211/17) and for this reason the exclusion resolution was not moved.

213/17 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Framework Projects Update at minute 210/17 above.

214/17 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION

CLERK’S NOTE: This item was considered and noted in support of the Part A Greater Manchester Investment Loans Fund Investment Approval at minute 211/17 above.