

## Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 10 January 2019

**Subject:** Walking and Cycling Update

**Report of:** Chris Boardman, GM Cycling and Walking Commissioner

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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update of progress since the approval of the recommendations contained in *Made to Move*, approved by the GMCA in December 2017.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

To note the contents of the report

### CONTACT OFFICERS

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### BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following is a list of the background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100D (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as identified by that Act.

N/A

**The above papers and documents may be inspected during normal office hours at GMCA, Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU.**

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. Chris Boardman was appointed by the Mayor of Greater Manchester as his Cycling and Walking Commissioner on 1 September 2017.
- 1.2. The Mayor asked him for his recommendations of how to make walking and cycling real options for people for their short journeys. The Commissioner presented his recommendations to GMCA, in a report titled 'Made to Move', in December 2017.
- 1.3. GMCA also agreed that £160 million from the Transforming Cities Fund would be made available for walking and cycling infrastructure via the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund.

## **2. MADE TO MOVE**

- 2.1. The report sets out a goal: 'To double and then double again cycling in Greater Manchester and make walking the natural choice for as many short trips as possible. We must do this by putting people first, creating world class streets for walking, building one of the world's best cycle networks, and create a genuine culture of cycling and walking.'
- 2.2. It recommends 15 steps to achieve the goals including the development of a detailed infrastructure plan, a 10-year £1.5 billion fund, a total highways design guide, ensuring new transport and housing development have walking and cycling at their heart, making walking and cycling the first choice on the school run, reducing the risk of road casualties and delivering greater access to public bikes.

## **3. THE MAYOR'S CYCLING AND WALKING CHALLENGE FUND**

- 3.1. On 29 March 2018, GMCA agreed to allocate £160 million of Greater Manchester's £243 million Transforming Cities Fund to develop a Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF). The governance of the £160 million MCF was approved by GMCA on 25 May 2018. It was further updated on 15 December 2018 to allow scheme promoters to claim delivery costs prior to full approval.
- 3.2. The fund will be used to kick-start the delivery of Greater Manchester's cycling and walking infrastructure proposal (adopted by GMCA in June 2018), as part of a GM 'Streets for All' highways improvement programme. The 'Beelines' proposal contains principles around the types of infrastructure that would meet the Commissioner's standard as set out in 'Made to Move' and the initial network plan covering 1,000 miles across every community in GM.
- 3.3. The network plans were subsequently made public to gather feedback over a 3 month period. Over 4,000 comments were received on the plan and these are now being processed with aim of publishing an update of the plan in early 2019.

- 3.4. On 27 July, 28 September and 15 December 2018 GMCA approved tranches 1, 2 and 3 comprising of a total 24 cycling and walking schemes with a current forecast total funding requirement from the MCF of around £39 million.
- 3.5. TfGM has been working closely with scheme promoters to set up the projects, in line with the agreed governance arrangements, and has established a Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Support Team to provide collaborative support to District Partners to ensure that there is a consistent pipeline of high quality cycling and walking schemes, that are developed and delivered in accordance with the agreed governance.
- 3.6. Further work is taking place to enable further support to district partners to help enable the delivery of schemes via the MCF, including complete lifetime support for scheme delivery, and training opportunities.