MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY (GMCA) HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2019 AT GMPF OFFICES, MANCHESTER

PRESENT:

Greater Manchester Mayor: Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor: Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton: Councillor Linda Thomas
Bury: Councillor Rishi Shori
Manchester: Councillor Sue Murphy
Oldham: Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale: Councillor Allen Brett
Salford: City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport: Councillor Alex Ganotis
Tameside: Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford: Councillor Andrew Western
Wigan: Councillor Keith Cunliffe

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

TfGMC: Councillor Mark Aldred
Bury: Councillor Andrea Simpson
Tameside: Councillor Leanne Feeley
Rochdale: Councillor Janet Emsley
Rochdale: Councillor Sara Rowbottom

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA – Deputy Chief Executive: Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer: Liz Treacy
GMCA – Treasurer: Richard Paver
Office of the GM Mayor: Kevin Lee

Bolton: Tony Oakman
Bury: Geoff Little
Oldham: Carolyn Wilkins
Manchester: Joanne Roney
Rochdale: Steve Rumbelow
Salford: Jim Taylor
Stockport: Pam Smith
Tameside: Steven Pleasant
Wigan: Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM: Simon Warburton
GMCA: Julie Connor
Apologies were noted and received on behalf of:

Councillor Sharon Briggs (Bury), Councillor Richard Leese (Manchester), Councillor Janet Emsley (Rochdale) and Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan).

Apologies for absence were also received from Eamonn Boylan (GMCA) and Donna Hall (Wigan).

**GMCA 02/19 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GMCA acknowledge the immense contribution made by Councillor Kieran Quinn to Tameside and Greater Manchester as a whole.

2. That the GMCA note the imminent publication of rough sleeping levels, which are anticipated to have reduced thanks to the measures which have been put in place across GM including the ‘A bed every night’ provision and that thanks be recorded to each Local Authority and partner organisation for their efforts within this programme.

3. That the GMCA note the planned visit of Dame Louise Casey to offer independent advice on homelessness and rough sleeping, and that she will be reporting to the Reform Board in March 2019.

**GMCA 03/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made in relation to any item on the agenda.

**GMCA 04/19 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2018 AND JOINT GMCA & AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD HELD ON 11 JANUARY 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 14 December 2018 and Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board held on 11 January 2019 be approved.

**GMCA 05/19 MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2018**

**RESOLVED/-**
That the minutes of the GMCA Resources Committee held on 14 December 2018 be noted.

GMCA 06/19  MINUTES OF THE GMCA OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – DECEMBER 2018 AND JANUARY 2019

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the Economy, Business Growth and Skills Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 7 December 2018 and 11 January 2019 be noted.

2. That the minutes of the Corporate Issues and Reform Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 December 2018 be noted.

3. That the minutes of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 10 January 2019 be noted.

GMCA 07/19  MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER (TfGM) COMMITTEE HELD 10 JANUARY 2019

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the TfGM Committee held on 10 January 2019 be noted.

GMCA 08/19  MINUTES OF THE GM LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP (GM LEP) HELD 14 JANUARY 2019

RESOLVED /-

That the minutes of the GM LEP held on 14 January 2019 be noted.

GMCA 09/19  GM YOUTH COMBINED AUTHORITY UPDATE

Councillor Rishi Shori, Portfolio Lead for Young People introduced a report, which provided an update on activities of the Youth Combined Authority and also sought funding to continue its work for the next two years.

The report was supplemented by a presentation by Emily Sykes and Jacob Hirst members of the Tameside Youth Council, which detailed the activities they had undertaken during the past 12 months including their involvement in the development of the ‘Work Experience Charter’ and the ‘Curriculum for Life’.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the update on recent activities of the GM Youth Combined Authority be noted.
2. That the GMCA approve funding of £100,000 from retained business rates to fund two further years of the GM Youth Combined Authority.

3. That the GMCA record it’s thanks to the GM Youth Combined Authority for all their work, commitment and achievements to date.

4. That the GMCA and the GM Youth Combined Authority have a future conversation about shared priorities and the Greater Manchester Strategy.

5. That each member of the GMCA be encouraged to meet with representatives from the GM Youth Combined Authority to specifically discuss areas within their portfolio.

6. That the GM Youth Combined Authority be invited to engage with work to develop the Employment Charter and TfGM Opportunity Pass.

**GMCA 10/19 2019 BUDGET**

Andy Burnham, the GM Mayor, presented a report that set out proposals for the Mayoral General Budget and Precept for 2019-20 for consideration by Members of the GMCA.

The proposals being made were unique amongst Mayoral Combined Authorities and continued to include a significant element for the Fire Service, which had previously fallen to the GM Fire and Rescue (GMFR) Authority to determine. In a parallel process, there would also be a proposal relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) precept to the Police and Crime Panel, which was due to meet on 31 January 2019.

The Mayor added that the proposed budget reflected the priorities of the people in GM, for increased levels of policing and an improved bus network.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the GMCA note the Mayor’s proposal to set an overall Mayoral General Precept of £76.95 (Band D) comprising of £59.95 for functions previously covered by the Fire and Rescue Authority precept (no change) and £17 (an additional £9 for 2019/20 on the current £8) for other Mayoral General functions, specifically bus reform.

2. That the GMCA note the proposal for the Mayoral General Precept for 2019/20 is the second year of a 2-3 year strategy for setting the Mayoral precept baseline which will be adjusted in future years as further Mayoral functions are covered by the funding raised and that Government has again provided flexibility on the level of the Mayoral (General) precept.
3. That the GMCA agree to allow £5.75 million of Earnback grant to be used to support GMCA costs relating to bus-related activity, including bus reform.

4. That the GMCA note the following:
   i. the overall budget proposed for the Fire and Rescue Service, recognising that detailed proposals in relation to Programme for Change will be considered in the near future;
   ii. the use of the reserves to support the revenue and capital budgets, and the assessment by the Treasurer that the reserves as at March 2020 are adequate;
   iii. the proposed Fire Service capital programme and proposals for funding;
   iv. the medium term financial position for all functions covered by the Mayoral precept.

5. That the GMCA agree the Mayor’s proposals to make grants totaling £8.3m to District Councils to support their increased levy costs in relation to Bus Reform and the 16-18 Opportunity Pass:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>2019/20 £000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bury</td>
<td>562</td>
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<td>863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tameside</td>
<td>665</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trafford</td>
<td>698</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wigan</td>
<td>963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. That the GMCA note the detailed budget proposals for other Mayoral functions.

7. That members of the GMCA are invited to submit any written comments to the Mayor in line with the legal process and timetable described in this report.

8. That the GMCA note that at its meeting on 15 February there will be a revised budget submitted, consistent with the precept proposals, to reflect final tax base and collection fund calculations and the final Revenue Support Grant settlement.

9. That the GMCA write to Government expressing their concerns that reduced central funding has resulted in the need to increase the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) element of the Mayoral precept.
10. That the GMCA also write to Lord Porter (Local Government Association) regarding the imbalance in the proposed fairer funding calculations and the impact this will have on Local Authorities if levels of deprivation are not considered.

**GMCA 11/19 GREAT PLACE PROGRAMME**

Councillor Linda Thomas, Portfolio Lead for Culture, presented a report that informed Members of the plans to deliver the Great Place cultural programme, following the GMCA’s successful funding bid.

The Cultural Strategy consultation had been extended but was now nearing completion and its implementation would be overseen by the Cultural Steering Group.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GMCA acknowledge the receipt of Great Place funding

2. That the GMCA note the project approach outlined in section 2 of the report including GMCA co-commissioning activity with project partners and granting funding to Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust, Link4Life and the University of Manchester to deliver project activity on behalf of GMCA

3. That the GMCA note that the programme will be overseen by the GM Cultural and Heritage Steering Group chaired by the GM Cultural Portfolio Leader and GM Cultural Lead Chief Executive who will report back to the CA

4. That the GMCA approve the budget as set out in paragraph 1.8, including funding of £190k to the University of Manchester Museum and £300k to Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust, Link4Life

5. That the GMCA approve delegation to the Treasurer and Monitoring officer to enter into funding agreements / contracts as appropriate.

**GMCA 12/19 FUNDING FOR RENOVATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER/TRANSSEXUAL PLUS (LGBT+) CENTRE**

Councillor Brenda Warrington, Portfolio Lead for Equalities introduced a report that sought approval of funding to support the redevelopment of the GM LGBT+ Centre. The Centre was established in 1988 and had developed a world wide reputation for being the first publically funded centre in the UK which 30 years later, continued to provide a high level of support for people across the region. However, it was now in a state of dis-repair and in need of a re-build to ensure the facility remained fit for purpose.
RESOLVED /-

1. That the GMCA agree to provide £450,000 funding from retained business rates towards the renovation and reconstruction of the Proud Trust’s LGBT Centre.

2. That the GMCA delegate authority to the GMCA Monitoring Officer to complete all necessary legal agreements.

GMCA 13/19 CREATING A ‘SMART RESIDENT’ DATA EXCHANGE PLATFORM TO SUPPORT REFORM

Councillor Andrew Western, Portfolio Lead for the Digital City-Region, introduced a report, which requested support for a unique and fundamentally important increased digital capability that would provide support to many aspects of reform and service improvement across the city-region.

The initial focus of the programme would be on the Health Visiting Service which currently operated a paper-based process, which through digitalisation had predicted savings of £27m over the next five years.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GMCA endorse proposals to support reform and service improvement through a new, pan Greater Manchester (GM) Smart Resident data exchange platform which will ultimately enable delivery of several reform priorities and be a foundation upon which digital public services in GM can be built.

2. That the GMCA support its initial application in the priority area of School Readiness to generate a net gain in productivity in Health Visiting (commissioned via Public Services) of more than £27m over five years. Recognising that further benefits will be realised through better understanding of residents needs and commissioning improvements in this area.

3. That the GMCA agree funding of £6.8m for the initial two year build phase, subject to tender responses, by approving the release of £2m from the Reform Investment Fund and a further £4.8m from Retained Business Rates including a contingency of £1.5m. This is being matched by Health & Social Care funding of £8.5m.

4. That the GMCA agree, in principle, to revenue costs of approximately £700k a year in years’ three to five to fund ongoing delivery including hosting, security and maintenance. This to be secured from a future GM wide fund and be reviewed at an appropriate time.
5. That the GMCA record its thanks to the Digital Team at the GMCA for all their work on this agenda.

MCA 14/19  
CO-PRODUCTION IN GM AND FUNDING OF CO-PRODUCTION PROJECT FROM REFORM INVESTMENT FUND

Andy Burnham GM Mayor, presented a report, which highlighted the range of projects focussed on co-production with citizens that were currently operating in GM, offering significant learning around what constituted effective co-production.

The report proposed that building on a number of forthcoming events there was an opportunity to develop a ‘community practice’ that would enable learning from different projects to be shared (including examples from elsewhere) and this would help move to a common view and set of principles around what co-production looked like in GM. A pro-active approach to embedding ‘good’ co-production in Districts would further enable delivery on commitments within the GM Strategy to develop ‘communities in control’. The report recognised that GM organisations had a role to play as both a facilitator and participants of co-production activity in the city-region.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GMCA note the different projects that are already operating in GM focussing on co-production.

2. That the GMCA agree the request from the Reform Investment Fund Panel for the GMCA to match fund the second phase of the ‘Elephants’ co-production project in partnership with Lankelly Chase Foundation for £150k investment from the Reform Investment Fund.

3. That the GMCA support the participation in the range of co-production events and forthcoming activities that are planned over the next few months in GM as a means to increase knowledge and understanding and help GM move towards a ‘community of practice’ around co-production.

GMCA 15/19  
GM BREXIT MONITOR AND PREPAREDNESS FOR EU EXIT

Andy Burnham, GM Mayor introduced a report that provided the latest update of the GM Brexit Monitor, a recap of the economic analysis undertaken on the possible impacts of Brexit on GM and an overview of the organisational preparedness work underway by GM agencies.

He reported a continuing deteriorating picture for Greater Manchester which still had a number of uncertainties, especially in relation to the Shared Prosperity Fund.

RESOLVED /-
That the GMCA note the updated Brexit monitor and work underway to prepare Greater Manchester for EU exit.

**GMCA 16/19 NORTHERN RAIL AND TRANSPENNINE EXPRESS RAIL PERFORMANCE**

Andy Burnham, the GM Mayor presented a report that provided a summary of rail performance for Network Rail, Arriva Rail North (trading as Northern) and TransPennine Express. It highlighted a slight improvement in performance since December 2018, but also reported that union discussions impacting weekend services remained ongoing.

RESOLVED /-

That the report be noted and that the GMCA requests that the Mayor shares Members’ views in relation to continued overcrowding on short-formed trains at the next meeting of Transport for the North.

**GMCA 17/19 GM NATURAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN**

Councillor Alex Ganotis, Portfolio Lead for Green City-Region introduced a report that sought feedback on work undertaken by Eftec Consultants, funded through the Natural Course project, to define what a GM Natural Capital Investment Plan could contain and suggested actions to promote accelerated investment in opportunities that protected and enhanced GM’s natural capital.

Subject to agreement, it was proposed to launch the report at the Natural Capital Group Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 30 January 2019, with key recommendations to be considered for inclusion into the 5 Year Environment Plan, prior to the next Green Summit.

RESOLVED /-

That the GMCA note the consultant’s report on the development of a Greater Manchester Natural Capital Investment Plan.

**GMCA 18/19 GM CO-OPERATIVE COMISSION**

Councillor Allen Brett, Portfolio Lead for Community, Co-operatives and Inclusion, presented a report that detailed arrangements and Terms of Reference for the Co-operative Commission for approval.

RESOLVED/-

That the GMCA approve the Terms of Reference for the GM Co-operative Commission.
Councillor Sean Fielding, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships presented a report that provided an update on the latest position on the round 2 applications for Skills Capital funding from Bolton College, Learning, Training, Employment (LTE) Group, Wigan and Leigh College, Oldham College and the round 1 application from Bury College.

RESOLVED /-

That the GMCA note the update on the entire Round 2 Skills Capital Programme.

Councillor Sean Fielding, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships introduced a report, which provided an update on the outcome of the appraisal of the LTE Group full application for Skills Capital funding.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the GMCA agree the funding application for the total project cost of £139,200 with a skills capital funding request of £25,000 by LTE Group be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.

2. That the GMCA agree to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the grant above.

Councillor Sean Fielding, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work and Apprenticeships presented a report that provided an update on the application for Skills Capital funding from Wigan and Leigh College.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA agree that the funding application for a total project cost is £1,810,000 with a skills capital funding request of £603,000 by Wigan and Leigh College be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.
2. That the GMCA agree to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the grant above.

**GMCA 22/19**

**AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR GM-WIDE HOUSING FIRST PROGRAMME**

This had been withdrawn.

**GMCA 23/19**

**GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL REFERENDMENT**

This had been withdrawn.

**GMCA 24/19**

**GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPLICATIONS**

A report was introduced by Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment, which sought GMCA approval for investment into InTech Business Solutions Limited, which would be made from recycled funds.

**RESOLVED/-**

1. That the GMCA agree that the funding application for InTec Business Solutions Limited (loan of £1,000,000 and equity investment of £350,000) be given conditional approval and progress to due diligence.

2. That the GMCA agree to delegate authority to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the grant above.

**GMCA 25/19**

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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 items on business on the grounds that this involved the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

**GMCA 26/19**

**GM SKILLS CAPITAL 2017-2020: LTE (MANCHESTER COLLEGE) APPROVALS IN PRINCIPLE**

**RESOLVED/-**
That the report be noted.

GMCA 27/19 GM SKILLS CAPITAL 2017-2020: WIGAN AND LEIGH COLLEGE
RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

GMCA 28/19 GM HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND – INVESTMENT APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
This had been withdrawn.

GMCA 29/19 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK APPLICATIONS
RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.

GMCA 30/19 CREATING A ‘SMART RESIDENT’ DATA EXCHANGE PLATFORM TO SUPPORT REFORM
RESOLVED/-

That the report be noted.