

DRAFT

**Protocol 1 : Traffic Signals**  
**Between**  
**Greater Manchester Combined Authority and**  
**Transport for Greater Manchester Committee and**  
**Transport for Greater Manchester**  
**And**  
**The AGMA Local Highway / Traffic Authorities**

**Introduction**

1. The Greater Manchester (Combined Authority) Order 2011 statutorily delegates to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority ('GMCA') the following functions of the constituent councils in relation to traffic signals:
  - functions under section 65 (placing of traffic signs) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 so far as it relates to traffic signs that are traffic light signals;
  - functions under section 23 of that Act (pedestrian crossings) so far as it relates to Pelican and Puffin crossings as defined by regulation 3(1) of the Zebra, Pelican and Puffin Crossings Regulations 1997

The Order states that "traffic light signals" means a traffic sign of the size, colour and type prescribed by regulation 33, 34, 37, 39, 41, 44, 45, 46 47, 48, 49 or 52 of the Traffic Signs Regulations 2002 or another traffic sign of a like nature prescribed by those Regulations as from time to time amended or any regulations for the time being replacing those Regulations

2. The delegation relates to the light signals specified in the following regulations of the Traffic Signs Regulations 2002:

Regulation 33	Light signals for the control of vehicular traffic
Regulation 34	Green arrow light signals
Regulation 37	Light signals for control of vehicular traffic entering or proceeding on motorway or dual carriageway
Regulation 39	Light signals to control traffic at level crossings etc
Regulation 41	Light signals for the control of tramcars
Regulation 44	Light signals for lane control of vehicular traffic
Regulation 45	Warning light signals on motorways and dual carriageways
Regulation 46	Matrix signs

Regulation 47	Light signals at signal controlled pedestrian facilities
Regulation 48	Light signals at equestrian crossings
Regulation 49	Light signals at toucan crossings
Regulation 52	Light signals for pedestrian traffic at level crossings

and functions relating to pelican and puffin crossings.

3. The GMCA will also have power to enter into Agreements under s278 Highways Act 1980 to enable it to obtain 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding for such signals and crossings.
4. The delegation does not include functions relating to portable light signals, school crossing warning light signals or powers relating to zebra crossings which will continue to be authorised by the relevant traffic authority.
5. For the purpose of this protocol the term 'traffic signals' (except where otherwise indicated) means the light signals set out at paragraph 2 above (and the term 'traffic signal function' shall be construed accordingly). The function includes the installation, upgrading, replacement, maintenance and management of traffic signals on local highway authority roads.
6. This protocol sets out the roles and responsibilities of GMCA, the Transport for Greater Manchester Joint Committee ('TfGMC'), Transport for Greater Manchester ('TfGM') and the local highway/traffic authorities ('LTAs') with regard to installing, managing, maintaining and running traffic signals under the combined authority arrangements. It is expected that all parties will work together in close partnership to ensure an effective, efficient and integrated approach to the matters covered by this protocol.

## **GMCA Role**

The GMCA is responsible for:

1. producing and developing policies in relation to the installation, maintenance, and management of traffic signals which are consistent with the Greater Manchester Strategy, the GM Local Transport Plan objectives and the GMCA's and LTA's budgets.
2. Setting budgets in relation to traffic signals including the TfGM unit responsible for traffic signals.
3. Entering into agreements under section 278 of the Highway Act 1980 in relation to traffic signals.

4. Determining the functions to be carried out in relation to traffic signals by TfGMC and TfGM respectively and making arrangements accordingly.

### **TfGMC Role**

The TfGMC is responsible for:

1. making recommendations to the GMCA in respect of:
  - (a) the development of policies relating to the installation, maintenance, and management of traffic signals that take both strategic and local strategies and frameworks into account
  - (b) the GMCA's budget for traffic signals
2. making arrangements for the discharge of the functions to be carried out in relation to traffic signals by TfGM.
3. monitoring and overseeing the activities and performance of TfGM in relation to the traffic signal function.

### **TfGM Role**

TfGM is responsible for:

1. designing and arranging for the construction of traffic signals (including carrying out any necessary statutory formalities) and associated equipment to meet the GMCA's and LTA's objectives and the agreed programme.
2. agreeing with LTAs, on a case by case basis, whether the TfGM or the relevant LTA will be responsible for carrying out lining, installation of tactile paving and ancillary signing for traffic signals.
3. producing and updating a traffic signals asset management plan which identifies cost effective programmes for replacing time expired traffic signals and associated equipment.
4. maintenance of traffic signals.
5. designing, managing and adjusting traffic signal timings in a manner that takes into account the needs of users of both the strategic and local road networks, following consultation with the relevant LTA.

6. coordinating the carrying out of traffic signal works with ancillary signing/lining and any complementary highway improvement works to be carried out by the relevant LTA.

## **LTA Role**

LTA's are responsible for:

1. identifying locations where the benefits of introducing new traffic signals or upgrading existing installations are justified to meet the LTA's priorities and are consistent with GMCA policies.
2. including such locations within their programmes and requesting TfGM to design and install the traffic signals.
3. advising TfGMC of any revisions they recommend to maintenance policies and standards.
4. informing the TfGM of LTA objectives and local priorities, which need to be taken into account alongside GM strategic objectives and priorities, in designing, managing and adjusting traffic signal timings.
5. carrying out complementary highway improvement works and, where agreed with TfGM carrying out the ancillary lining, tactile paving and signing in respect of traffic signals, coordinating these works with the traffic signal works to be carried out by TfGM.
6. carrying out temporary traffic management following accidents/incidents which result in temporary traffic signals failure.
7. repairing highway surfaces in advance of detection loops being installed or repaired.
8. carrying out functions in relation to portable light signals, school crossing warning light signals and zebra crossings.
9. entering into agreements under section s278 of the Highways Act 1980 in respect of non traffic signal highway works.