

**MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER GMCA MEETING  
HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2019 AT NO 1 RIVERSIDE, ROCHDALE**

**PRESENT:**

Greater Manchester Mayor	Andy Burnham (In the Chair)
Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor	Baroness Bev Hughes
Bolton	Councillor David Greenhalgh
Manchester	Councillor Richard Leese
Oldham	Councillor Sean Fielding
Rochdale	Councillor Allen Brett
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Elise Wilson
Tameside	Councillor Brenda Warrington
Trafford	Councillor Andrew Western
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Rochdale	Councillor Janet Emsley
Rochdale	Councillor Sara Rowbotham
Tameside	Councillor Leanne Feeley
GM Transport Cttee	Councillor Roger Jones

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

GMCA – Chief Executive	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA - Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA – Monitoring Officer	Liz Treacy
GMCA - Treasurer	Richard Paver
Bolton	Tony Oakman
Bury	Geoff Little
Manchester	Joanne Roney
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	Jim Taylor
Stockport	Pam Smith
Tameside	Steven Pleasant
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Simon Nokes
GMCA	Julie Connor
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh

**BOLTON**

**MANCHESTER**

**ROCHDALE**

**STOCKPORT**

**TRAFFORD**

**BURY**

**OLDHAM**

**SALFORD**

**TAMESIDE**

**WIGAN**

GMCA  
TfGM  
TfGM

Nicola Ward  
Simon Warburton  
Kate Brown

## **GMCA 235/19**

## **APOLOGIES**

### **RESOLVED /-**

That apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor David Jones and Councillor Andrea Simpson (Bury), Councillors Sue Murphy and Councillor Bev Craig (Manchester), Councillor Tom McGee (Stockport), Councillor Mark Aldred and Councillor Jenny Bullen (Wigan) and Carolyn Wilkins (Oldham).

## **GMCA 236/19**

## **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

### **a) Fire - Bolton Cube**

The GM Mayor thanked members of the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) for their exemplary and professional response to the recent fire at Bolton Cube student accommodation. He reported that thankfully there had been no fatalities or serious injuries and acknowledged how learning exercises in relation to command and evacuation procedures following the Grenfell fire had made a significant difference as to how the fire service responds to incidents of this scale. He further thanked both students and staff from Bolton University who offered outstanding support to those affected.

This incident highlighted further the ongoing situation regarding cladded buildings, and emphasised the important role of the High Rise Task Force in supporting frontline services to better respond and also continue to lobby Government on this issue.

City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, added that the Bolton Cube building had been inspected by GMFRS in 2017, and it was reported that the cladding did not include any aluminium composite. In 2018 a further assessment was undertaken an appropriate action undertaken. Following the incident at Bolton Cube, a full investigation was underway. Alongside this, the High Rise Task Force have undertaken an independent review of building regulations and the Fire Safety Order which has highlighted that the current legislative system was not fit for purpose. Government austerity was contradicting any promise of prioritisation for the removal and replacement of combustible cladding. The criteria in relation to the height of the building, and the composition of the cladding materials were also too restrictive, with the burden of the costs of replacing cladding being borne by residents. The Task Force would be urgently lobbying Government to re-consider this issue again on a person centred risk based approach rather than the current restrictive building focus.

Councillor David Greenhalgh, Leader of Bolton Council, echoed the views expressed, and added his own personal thanks to the Fire Service, emergency services, community and students for their response to the incident. He further added that the building regulations classification did need to be reviewed.

Dawn Docx, Deputy Chief Fire Officer, GMFRS, thanked members of the GMCA for their comments and offered to pass them on to the fire crews directly. She further added her support to the need for Government to review the cladding criteria to ensure that further incidents of this nature are minimised.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GMCA record its thanks to GM Fire & Rescue colleagues for the professionalism of the response to the fire at the Cube in Bolton.
2. That the GMCA recognised and praised the response of Bolton MBC officers, local residents, students and the business community in responding to the fire.
3. That the actions of the fire officers in implementing the learning from the Grenfell Tower tragedy be noted.
4. That the GMCA record its thanks to the City Mayor, Paul Dennett, for the work of the High Rise Task Force in raising the profile of this issue and providing greater opportunities to respond to and lobby Central Government.
5. That the GMCA submit a joint submission to Government requesting a review of the criteria for replacing cladding and the establishment of a hardship fund to remove non-compliant cladding materials, irrespective of the height of the building, and application of legislation following the Grenfell Tower Enquiry.

**b) 'Dippy on tour North West' – Natural History Adventure**

Councillor Allan Brett invited Councillor Janet Emsley to deliver a presentation which informed the GMCA of the forthcoming National History Adventure Tour, whereby Rochdale would be the only place in the North West to host a Diplodocus skeleton for 20 weeks from the 10 February 2020.

Councillor Allen Brett informed members they would be receiving an invitation to the official launch early in 2020.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GMCA record its support to the National History Adventure Tour, and where possible, promote the events being held in Rochdale between the 10 February and 28 June 2020.

2. That it be noted that the GM Mayor, GM Leaders and GM Chief Executives would be invited to the official launch on 10 February 2020.

**GMCA 237/19            DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

**RESOLVED /-**

There were no interests declared.

**GMCA 238/19            MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 25 October 2019 be approved.

**GMCA 239/19            GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING HELD 8 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GM Transport Committee held on 8 November 2019 be noted.

**GMCA 240/19            GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEES – MINUTES OF THE  
MEETINGS HELD IN NOVEMBER 2019**

**a)        ECONOMY, BUSINESS GROWTH & SKILLS - 8 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the Economy, Business Growth & Skills Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 8 November 2019 be noted.

**b)        HOUSING, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT - 14 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 14 November 2019 be noted.

**c)        CORPORATE ISSUES & REFORM - 19 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the Corporate Issues & Reform Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 19 November 2019, in particular the comments made in relation to the report on Electric vehicles at minutes HPE/178/19, be noted.

**GMCA 241/19**

**GMCA WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE - MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 14 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee held on 14 November 2019 be noted.

**GMCA 242/19**

**GM LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11 NOVEMBER 2019**

**RESOLVED /-**

That the minutes of the GM Local Enterprise Partnership Board held on 11 November 2019 be noted.

**GMCA 243/19**

**GMCA APPOINTMENTS**

a) **EXTENSION OF THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT MEMBER OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND INDEPENDENT PERSON FOR STANDARDS**

Liz Treacy, Monitoring Officer to the GMCA, presented a short report which sought approval of the GMCA to extend the term of office of the Independent Person and Independent Member of the GMCA Standards Committee.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the extension of the term of office of Geoff Linnell (the Independent Co-opted Member and Chair of the GMCA Standards Committee) until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021 be approved.
2. That the extension of the term of office of Nicolē Jackson (the Independent Person for Standards) until the date of the Annual Meeting of the GMCA in 2021 be approved.

b) **APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED /-**

That it be noted that the report on the appointment of additional Independent members to the Audit Committee would be submitted to the GMCA in January 2020 following the conclusion of the interview process.

The GM Mayor introduced a report which highlighted the work of the charity Remembering Srebrenica, including its motion for local authorities to support its work. Members were reminded that 2020 will mark the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica where the national forces killed many Muslim men and boys. The Remembering Srebrenica Charity had launched a national day of remembrance on 11 July to promote awareness of the atrocity, and members of the GMCA were requested to support the work of the charity where possible.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the GMCA pass the following motion to support the work of Remembering Srebrenica:

- That it be noted that 2019 is the twenty-fourth anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which saw over 8,000 Muslim men and boys killed by Serbian nationalist forces.
- That it be noted that in 2009 the European Parliament passed a resolution that 11 July should be recognised as the day of commemoration of the Srebrenica genocide all over the EU; and in 2015 urged the development of educational and cultural programmes that promote an understanding of the causes of such atrocities and raise awareness about the need to nurture peace and to promote human rights and interreligious tolerance. All UK political parties have supported the work of Remembering Srebrenica in this regard.
- That the work of those involved in the pursuit of justice for the victims and their surviving relatives, including the International Commission of Missing People (ICMP) and the Mothers of Srebrenica, whose courage and humility in the face of unthinkable horror is an inspiration to us all be applauded.
- That the work of the charity, Remembering Srebrenica, in raising awareness of this tragic and preventable genocide and working in communities across Britain to help them learn the lessons of Srebrenica be commended.

2. That it be agreed to:

- To offer support to Remembering Srebrenica delegates from Greater Manchester who visited Bosnia on the 'Lessons from Srebrenica' education programme and have been working tirelessly in the community to raise awareness of the genocide and learn the lessons of Srebrenica.
- To support Srebrenica memorial events in July each year throughout Greater Manchester as part of the UK-wide Remembering Srebrenica Memorial Week.

- To support the work of Remembering Srebrenica in communities across Greater Manchester to learn the lessons from Srebrenica to tackle hatred and intolerance to help build a better, safer and more cohesive society for everyone.
- To support the work of schools and education providers to bring the lessons of Srebrenica to young people across Greater Manchester.

## **GMCA 245/19            GM SCHOOL READINESS PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Geoff Little, Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Young People and Cohesion, took Members through a report which provided an update on school readiness performance for the academic year 2018/19 and sought approval, in principle, to award £250,000 investment to develop and implement a universal digital platform to provide advice and resources for parents and professionals to support child development.

He reported that although there remained a gap between GM and the UK average for school readiness, individual Local Authorities were continuing to make good progress, especially in relation to Pupil Premium children.

Members of the GMCA recognised the importance of early years support, and the essential requirement for an online resource.

Members were assured that Directors of Children Services have been consulted and have been fully involved in the development of the proposals. The allocation of long term funding in place via Local Authority public health budgets was also confirmed

### **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the school readiness performance update for the academic year 2018/19 be noted.
2. That the recommendation of the Reform Investment Fund Panel to allocate £250,000 from the Reform Investment Fund, as set out in paragraph 4.1, to obtain a digital platform providing universal and targeted advice and resources to parents in relation to supporting good early year's outcomes, be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to obtain through an appropriate commercial arrangement the digital platform outlined in the report.

## **GMCA 246/19            METROLINK FARES AND TICKETING**

The GM Mayor introduced a report which set out and sought approval of proposed changes to Metrolink fares and the introduction of two Metrolink ticketing products, 'earlybird' and 'carnet' style tickets from early 2020. He explained how the price increase proposals were just below inflation, with an average increase of 2.2% across

all ticket types. Furthermore, there would be an increase of better value tickets for cheaper off peak travel and the ability to purchase a book a day tickets.

The GM Mayor confirmed that TfGM would investigate the potential to extend the 'earlybird' scheme to cash paying customers.

The 'carnet' ticket which would allow ten 'one day' tickets to be purchased together resulting in cheaper day travel rates over 28 day period, TfGM would also investigate the potential to extend the valid period beyond 28 days.

In relation to safety on the Metrolink, Baroness Beverley Hughes, GM Deputy Mayor, informed the GMCA that the new Transport Unit, working with the Travelsafe team, to be deployed across the transport network in partnership with GMP had been launched. Fifty warranted officers, with enforcement powers, would now replace PCSOs on the transport network. She further reported that since its launch, there had already been a number of arrests and charges.

The GM Mayor summarised that 2020 would mark a significant year for the Metrolink system with the opening of the Trafford Park line and the introduction of these new ticketing options.

#### **RESOLVED /-**

1. That the implementation of a weighted average fare increase of 2.2% in early 2020 be approved.
2. That it be agreed that a further report be submitted to the GMCA in early 2020.
3. That the introduction of an Early Bird product for Metrolink customers be approved.
4. That it be noted that the GM Mayor had requested TfGM to review the potential for the Early Bird products being made available to cash customers in addition to those using contactless cards.
5. That the introduction of a 'carnet' style Metrolink ticket be approved and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the GM Mayor, to agree the pricing of this product.
6. That authority be delegated to the to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the GM Mayor to agree the decision on the precise implementation dates of both the fare increase and the introduction of the Early Bird product and the 'carnet' style tickets.
7. That the update on the additional Police Officers present on the transport network across GM be noted.

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive of the GMCA & TfGM, introduced a report which set out and sought approval to introduce a tariff on the Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle charging network from 2020. He reported that it had been subject to extensive scrutiny review and that elements including the potential for a membership scheme and a charge for overstaying had been amended as a result of this scrutiny.

Members asked for clarification of the terms 'rapid' and fast' and urged that the use of terminology be simplified and consistent before introduction to members of the public.

Members of the GMCA also expressed their support for the scheme, confirming the importance of the introduction of infrastructure at the earliest opportunity and not waiting for the introduction of the Clean Air Plan. The early introduction of infrastructure would encourage the purchase of electric vehicles.

In summary, the GM Mayor commented that the Electric Vehicle network would play a significant role in contributing to GM's de-carbonisation ambitions.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the comments made by the Housing, Planning & Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee be noted, confirming that all the comments had been considered and addressed within the report, in particular:
  - Confirmed that proposals were in line with other schemes introduced in other areas across the country
  - Confirmed that the introduction of the scheme would be rolled out as planned to ensure the network was expanded and available as quickly as possible
2. That the introduction of the proposed electric vehicle charging tariff on the publicly owned GMEV charging network, subject to the development of a satisfactory Membership Scheme, be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the GM Mayor, to approve the Membership Scheme and to implement the proposed electric vehicle charging tariff.
4. That the market research undertaken and used to develop the tariff structure be noted.
5. That the potential financial impact of introducing a tariff, and the uncertainty surrounding electric vehicle charging demand be noted.

6. That it be noted that the electric vehicle charging market was a developing market, and a review of the tariff's performance may be required in response to changing demand and supply conditions.

**GMCA 248/19 THE MAYORS CYCLING AND WALKING CHALLENGE FUND**

The GM Mayor took members through a report which provided an update on the progress of the fifth tranche of schemes and sought approval for tranche 6x for programme entry to the Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund.

Work was underway to develop a pipeline of schemes which would strengthen further funding requests of Government.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the progress on the first five tranches previously granted Programme Entry for inclusion in the MCF be noted.
2. That the sixth tranche of cycling and walking schemes be approved for Programme Entry for inclusion in the MCF.
3. That the progress made in developing a prioritised list of schemes for development and delivery through the Mayor's Challenge Fund, as the first phase of the Bee Network, be noted.
4. That it be noted that a pipeline of schemes was being develop, to strengthen further funding requests of Government.

**GMCA 249/19 GM GROWTH DEAL – SALFORD BOLTON NETWORK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME: SALFORD DP3 (A666/A6) AND BOLTON DP5 (MANCHESTER ROAD GATEWAY) REQUEST FOR FULL APPROVAL AND FUNDING RELEASE**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive of the GMCA and TfGM, took Members through a report which sought full approval and the release of necessary funding to enable the delivery of the Salford Bolton Network Improvement DP3 (A666/A6) and the Bolton DP5 (Manchester Road Gateway).

**RESOLVED /-**

That the Salford Bolton Network Improvement Salford Delivery Package 3 (A666/A6) and Bolton Delivery Package 5 (Manchester Road Gateway) and the associated release of funding of £3.984m from the Local Growth Deal (£3.708m and MCF (£0.276m) to enable the delivery of Salford DP 3 (A666/A6) and the Bolton DP 5 Bury Road/Crompton Way schemes be granted full approval.

City Mayor Paul Dennett, Portfolio Lead for Housing, Homelessness and Infrastructure, introduced a report which sought approval in principle to provide GM Housing Investment Loan Fund (HILF) monies to the Rochdale Riverside Phase 2 scheme, in conjunction with further funding from Rochdale Council as part of their Town Centre Challenge.

Members of the GMCA commended Rochdale for their developments to date, and in particular the proposed phase two development at Riverside, which will underpin the growth of town centre living opportunities.

Councillor Allan Brett, Leader of Rochdale Council, added that in support of the town centre regeneration an integrated transport ticketing option for rail and Metrolink would be welcomed. The GM Mayor confirmed that he had commissioned TfGM to explore the potential for the introduction of a pilot integrated ticketing scheme for rail and Metrolink in Rochdale Town Centre

Members further added that a precedent for town centre development had been set by Stockport MBC, and that the Housing Investment Loans Fund could support this type of development, albeit that GM faced some larger viability challenges. Members were reminded that alongside the GM Spatial Framework, the GMCA has published the Infrastructure Framework, that still required Government's commitment and support.

The GM Mayor echoed this, and reported some high level market interest across all the town centres taking part in the Town Centre Challenge and that an update would be submitted to the GMCA in early 2020.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the current position in relation to Rochdale Riverside Phase 2, a Mixed Use Development in Rochdale Town Centre, be noted.
2. That the request to invest up to £4m for the Rochdale Riverside Phase 2 Mixed Use Development be approved, in principle, subject to a further request for the full approval of the investment being submitted to the GMCA in due course.
3. That it be agreed that a proposal for the introduction of a pilot scheme which will measure the impact of an integrated ticketing offer for Rail and Metrolink Services in Rochdale to support Town Centre living, be submitted to the GMCA in early 2020.
4. That an update on the Town Centre Challenge be submitted to the GMCA in early 2020.

Councillor David Molyneux, Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, introduced a report which sought approval of a series of loans from re-cycled funds through the GM Investment Framework. The report also sought approval to delegate authority to GMCA officers, in the absence of a meeting of the GMCA in December, to approve projects for funding from the GM Investment Framework or GM Housing Investment Loans Fund.

Members of the GMCA urged that within the application process, companies were requested to sign up to the Good Employment Charter, once it is formally launched.

**RESOLVED /-**

1. That the funding applications for Swim Sports Company Limited (loan facility of £500,000), Salford Evolution (loan facility of £5,800,000), Intechnica Limited (convertible loan of £150,000) and Erlson Precision Holdings Limited (loan facility of £700,000) be approved and progressed to due diligence.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the companies, 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 investments.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Leads for the period 30 November 2019 to 30 January 2020 to approve funding from the GM Investment Framework and GM Housing Investment Loans Fund. Recommendations approved under the delegation will be subject to the usual due diligence processes and will be reported to the GMCA at the next available meeting.
4. That any future loans made through the Housing Investment Loans Fund would be subject to the Company having signed up to the Good Employment Charter (once it is approved).
5. That it be noted that the membership criteria of Good Employer Charter was still under development, however as a point of principle discussions should have been held with the applicants and that the GM Mayor would confirm whether the discussions had been with Swim Sports Company Limited, Salford Evolution, Intechnica Limited and Erlson Precision Holdings.

**GMCA 252/19**

**EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED /-**

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 253/19**

**GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK AND  
CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL**

Clerks note: This item was considered in support of the Part A report at item 17 on the agenda (minute GMCA 251/19 refers).