Joint Authorities Questions:

1) In last year's Combined Authority consultation on the Greater Manchester Strategy Framework, how many consultation responses were received from Bury residents in support of the proposals to build on greenbelt land and how many were received that were against? - Councillor Tegolo

Consultation on the 2019 draft of the GMSF generated a total of 67,000 individual comments from 17,500 people and organisations and these are all available on the GMCA's web site.

Specific comments were received for each of the proposed allocations and these ranged in number from 327 responses for Whitefield to 690 for the Elton Reservoir proposals. The majority of these responses objected to these sites.

Whilst public opinion is clearly important in shaping the approach taken in the GMSF, it is important to recognise that this is just one of a wide range of complex considerations that have to be balanced in shaping the strategy set out in the GMSF.

For example, it is also necessary for plans to be consistent with the Government's national planning policy and guidance, including the requirement for plans to set out a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed development needs.

Councillor O'Brien to respond

2) What proportion of eligible older people in Greater Manchester (and in Bury if known) are current owners of a £10 card to allow for free Metrolink travel? Councillor Powell

In Bury, there are currently **37,095** concessionary card holders. Of these, **13,499** have added the 'add tram & train' product. That's **36%** of the eligible customers.

For the whole of Greater Manchester, the take-up figure is **28%** of all eligible card holders.

Councillor Gold to respond

3) How are Transport for Greater Manchester enforcing the COVID-19 rules to ensure safety of travel for residents? Cllr. Dorothy Gunther

Safe Travel

TfGM alongside operators are working to ensure passengers adhere to the Covid-19 travel guidelines through education, encouragement and awareness. TfGM are providing customer support across the Metrolink and bus networks, and at interchanges. Face coverings are available at travel shops, alongside visual and printed materials encouraging use. Announcements are regularly made across the Metrolink network and posters are on display at tram stops encouraging passengers to use face coverings, socially distance and use contactless payment methods. There is also online support with advice on public transport use, journey planning and the availability of cashless ticketing options to minimise contact.

Days of Action

Several TravelSafe Partnership 'Days of Action' have been implemented across the bus and Metrolink networks since July. The multi-agency approach aims to engage, explain and encourage passengers to wear face coverings, adhere to social distancing and to use contactless payment/ticketing products where possible. Activity has included staff presence across the transport network, combined with a social media campaign and coverage through television and radio channels.

Face covering compliance has increased after the implementation of the 'Days of Action', with compliance across all modes now at circa. **85%**. Additional days have been scheduled in over September.

Enforcement

Transport staff will engage and educate customers not adhering to face covering rules (taking exemptions into account). If necessary, staff will deny travel to anyone not adhering to these guidelines, and where appropriate will request the support of GMP/Transport Unit to take enforcement action, which may result in the issuing of a fine.

Councillor Gold to respond