

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY, 16 DECEMBER, 2022 AT
MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Baroness Beverley Hughes
Bolton	Councillor Martyn Cox
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Amanda Chadderton
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Bill Fairfoull
Wigan	Councillor Nazia Rehman

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Sue Johnson
Bury	Lynne Risdale
Manchester	Neil Fairlamb
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Salford	Tom Stannard
Stockport	Caroline Simpson
Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny
TfGM
The Growth Company

Cllr John Walsh
Steve Warrener
Mark Hughes

GMCA 223/22 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED/-

That apologies be received and noted from Councillor David Molyneux (Wigan), Councillor Ged Cooney (Tameside) and Andrew Western (Trafford), Geoff Little (Bury), Joanne Roney (Manchester), Steve Rumbelow (Rochdale) & Sara Todd (Trafford).

GMCA 224/22 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The GM Mayor opened the meeting by expressing the GMCA's congratulations to Sandra Stewart following her appointment as the Chief Executive of Tameside Council; to Lynne Risdale following confirmation of her appointment as the Chief Executive of Bury Council with effect from March 2023; and to the Leader of Trafford Council, Cllr Andrew Western following his successful campaign to be voted in as the new MP for the Stretford & Urmston Ward of Trafford.

The GM Mayor also advised that the GM Police, Fire & Crime Panel had unanimously agreed to the Mayor's proposal that Kate Green be appointed as the new Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime with effect from January 2023.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the GMCA records its congratulations to Sandra Stewart following her appointment as the Chief Executive of Tameside Council.

2. That the GMCA record its congratulations to Lynne Risdale following confirmation of her appointment as the Chief Executive of Bury Council with effect from March 2023.
3. That the GM Police, Fire & Crime Panel's unanimous agreement to the appointment of Kate Green, as the new Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire & Crime, with effect from January 2023, be noted.
4. That the GMCA records its congratulations to Trafford Leader Andrew Western following his successful campaign to become the new MP of the Stretford & Urmston Ward of Trafford.

GMCA 225/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED/-

There were no declarations received in relation to any item on the agenda.

**GMCA 226/22 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 25
NOVEMBER 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 25 November 2022 be approved as a correct record.

**GMCA 227/22 MINUTES OF THE GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 NOVEMBER 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 23 November 2022 be noted.

**GMCA 228/22 MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER TRANSPORT
COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2022**

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the meeting of the Greater Manchester Transport Committee held on 9 December 2022 be noted.

GMCA 229/22 GM APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED/-

1. That Councillor Eamonn O'Brien be appointed as the GMCA representative on the GM Transport Committee.

2. That the Mayor's appointment of Cllr Mark Aldred as Chair of the GM Transport Committee be noted.

**GMCA 230/22 A REVIEW OF SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES
FOR MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE GREATER
MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY – OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Gillian Duckworth, Monitoring Officer, GMCA, was invited to present a report of the recommendations of the GM Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the remuneration of the Members of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee, with a request to districts that they make said payments for an interim period, during which the full amount would be reimbursed by the Combined Authority.

Members were reminded that the reimbursement of members was a recommendation that had arisen from the recent independent review of the overview

and scrutiny committee function, noting that the new arrangements now in place were already having a clearly positive impact.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the recommendations of the report of the GM Independent Remuneration Panel be noted and accepted.
2. That it be noted that the levelling up bill is still proceeding through parliament and therefore the GMCA does not yet have legislative power to pay allowances directly to the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee members.
3. That it be recommended that the GM Districts consider paying such allowances to their appointees to the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee in the interim, noting that the full amount of the allowance will be reimbursed by the GMCA.
4. That a request be made to the GMCA Treasurer to ensure that appropriate arrangements be put in place with GM Districts to enable the payment of the allowances, subject to reimbursement from the GMCA.
5. That it be recommended that any Special Responsibility Allowances for Members and Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee be set as recommended in the report and be backdated to 24th June 2022 when the new scrutiny arrangements were put in place.

GMCA 231/22 GREATER MANCHESTER EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND CO-FINANCING PROGRAMME UPDATE

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, Portfolio Lead for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, was invited to provide an update on GMCA's three European Social Fund (ESF) Co-financing contracts noting key progress made, as well as challenges and risks – including the end financial position alongside recommendations to ensure that Greater Manchester could maximise its use of the remaining ESF programme before it closed in December 2023.

It was noted that whilst the report was procedural in nature, it did represent a wider issue about where further Greater Manchester could take devolution within this particularly important area.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the progress made in relation to the GMCA ESF Programmes be noted.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Lead Member and Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital (and subject to considerations around any conflicts of interest which might arise), to take forward the final ESF commissioning, including the procured element, to contract award where required.
3. That the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and GMCA Treasurer be requested to ensure that the GMCA continues to comply with all of its obligations in relation to the Greater Manchester European Social Fund Co-Financing Programme, including its obligations to retain records relating to the use of ESF monies for the required period following the end of this Programme in September 2023.

GMCA 232/22 DELIVERING THE BEE NETWORK

GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, introduced a report requesting that the GMCA approve the proposal to delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, to cap weekly bus fares.

It was advised that focus had initially been placed on single and daily bus fares as that was where the public had indicated most concern, not just in terms of overall variation, but indeed the high costs within certain parts of the city region. This had been well received and had represented a valuable contribution to combatting the cost-of-living crisis. Patronage since the introduction had shown that the public were

making wide usage of these reductions, with new passengers being integrated into the system.

Weekly products had always represented a better value offer to the public than single and daily tickets. Currently the price was £20.60 – which did represent good value for unlimited use of the GM network in any given week. However, given the current inflationary climate, there was a risk that the cost of the weekly ticket could rise to £23. The proposal within the report therefore was to limit the increase to £21 to retain the attractiveness of the weekly offer. The weekly offer would, as per other fares, be subject to a yearly review.

Councillor John Walsh (Chair of the GM Overview & Scrutiny Committee) was invited to provide feedback from the scrutiny review of the proposal. The Committee had been minded to accept the principle of the proposal but had expressed concerns that 2024/25 had risks around exponential increases, and also sought further evidence of the continued drive to increase patronage. The Committee also sought regular progress reports ahead of the annual review in September 2023.

RESOLVED/-

1. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM to cap weekly bus fares in Greater Manchester at £21 for adults and £10.50 for children from January 2023, subject to agreement with bus operators and Greater Manchester Travelcards Limited (GMTL).
2. That it be noted that the development of a sustainable funding model will be a key part of the annual review of the existing and proposed bus fare caps, to be undertaken in Summer 2023.
3. That the recommendations raised by the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny be noted and welcomed.
4. That the GMCA commits to providing monthly updates as we move through 2023

GMCA 233/22 TRANSPORT CAPITAL PROGRAMME

GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, introduced a report requesting approval to draw-down funding for the development and delivery of schemes being funded, either in whole

or in part, from Greater Manchester's City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

Members were advised that the strategic business case had now been submitted for the Bury Interchange Redevelopment to the Department for Transport and HM Treasury, and preparations were being put in place for taking this forward in the new year with the outline business case.

RESOLVED/-

1. That Strategic Outline Business Case submission for Bury Interchange Redevelopment to DfT and HM Treasury in November 2022, as part of the retained case process, and the importance of maintaining momentum on this scheme prior to Government's response be noted.
2. That the drawdown of £2.6 million of CRSTS funding to facilitate the progression of the Bury Interchange Redevelopment Outline Business Case (i.e. single preferred option) activity, with the intention being that this will enable the scheme to continue to be developed (including throughout the DfT's assessment of the SOBC as a retained scheme) be approved, noting that a further update will be submitted to the GMCA in due course.
3. That the overall Local Contribution, financed by borrowings, for the Bury Interchange Redevelopment for the current CRSTS tranche (to March 2027) is £10.8 million be noted and endorsed.
4. That the update on the Minor Works / Road Safety (previously ITB) funding be noted.

GMCA 234/22 GREATER MANCHESTER ACTIVE TRAVEL PROGRAMME

GM Mayor, Andy Burnham, presented a report seeking approval for the delivery funding requirements for the Manchester to Chorlton Area3, and GM Spot-Speed Safety Camera schemes, through the Mayor's Challenge Fund(MCF) Cycling and Walking programme.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the release of up to £7.209 million of MCF delivery funding for the Manchester to Chorlton Area 3 scheme be approved.
2. That the release of up to £3.451 million of MCF delivery funding for the GM Spot-Speed Safety Camera scheme be approved.

**GMCA 235/22 GREATER MANCHESTER INVEST FRAMEWORK
CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL**

Eamonn Boylan, Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, presented a report seeking approval for a loan to Erlson Precision Holdings Limited (“Erlson”) and an investment into Miribase Limited (“Shopblocks”). The investments were to be made from recycled funds.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the loan facility of up to £400,000 to Erlson Precision Holdings Limited be approved.
2. That the equity investment of up to £300,000 into Miribase Limited be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Combined Authority Treasurer and Combined Authority Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above investments, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the investments, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investments noted above.

GMCA 236/22 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 237/22 GM INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK, CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (minute 235/22)

RESOLVED/-

That the contents of the report be noted.