


Meeting:	The Council
Meeting date:	15 January 2025
Title of report:	Update on Greater Manchester Joint Authorities Activity 
Report by:	Leader of the Council
Decision type:	Non key decision
Ward(s) to which the report relates:	All
Summary:	This report provides an update on the activity of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

1. Background

This report provides an update on work of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and other Greater Manchester joint authorities following an update to Council in November 2024.

As agreed by Council, the report also now includes an update on a specific area of work, this months focus is the work of Transport for Greater Manchester.

This month's focus – Transport for Greater Manchester

- In the 28 November Bee Network Committee Meeting, Chris Barnes, TfGM Network Director of Infrastructure, presented a report on the Transport Infrastructure Pipeline. The report provided an update on progress delivering a pipeline of transport infrastructure improvements to support the operation of the Bee Network. The committee were requested to note the report and approve the drawdown of CRSTS funding and associated scheme progression on the following schemes relevant to Bury:
 - Development of Long-Term Rapid Transit Options – Transit-Oriented Development at Bury Interchange: £1.55m
 - Bury Radcliffe Central Phase 1 MCF scheme: £0.65m.
- Through the Integrated National Transport Strategy consultation and upcoming Spending Review submissions, the Mayor is urging the new Transport Secretary to back the next phase of the Bee Network—expanding it to include eight commuter rail lines to create the

first fully-integrated transport system outside London by 2028—alongside advocating for support for the development of Northern Powerhouse Rail.

Network Updates

- The city-region secured £66.5m in bus funding from government in the last Budget, which will support GM's ambitions for delivering a low fare, high patronage public transport system.
- Metrolink saw a new record high for passenger numbers – with 1.1 million journeys made in the week from November 25 to December 1, marking its busiest ever week. Meanwhile, the use of the current Bee Network buses is up by 5% since coming under local control, with money from bus fares 9% above forecast for the year.
- On 5 January, TfGM will complete Tranche 3 of bus franchising. More than 250 bus routes in Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and parts of Manchester and Salford will join the Bee Network. This marks the historic completion of the bus franchising process in GM.
 - Also from 5 January, earlier, later and more frequent buses will run on key routes, planned specifically to create better links with tram and train timetables. Learn more about this and other major Bee Network announcements [here](#).
- Applications are open for the new annual Bee Network bus ticket available for financing with GM's credit unions, delivering a saving of up to £240 over a year. January will also bring further cuts to the cost of 7-day and 28-day tickets.
- Aimed at delivering joined-up, reliable services, a programme of local bus network reviews continue in the new year. Network Reviews will explore how buses can better serve communities, making improvements that would not have been possible before franchising. Following local engagement in 2024, Bury is scheduled for consultation on any proposed changes resulting from the reviews in Spring 2025.
- The rolling programme of engineering works to maintain and improve the Metrolink network continues across several sites, ensuring tram journeys in GM remain safe, reliable, and accessible. The Bury Line continues to be affected. Planned works and disruptions can be seen [here](#).

Publications

- A consultation for the Draft School Travel Strategy launched on November 18. The 10-week consultation will run until 26 January 2025 and can be accessed [here](#).
- GM leaders from all 10 local authorities approved the Vision Zero Strategy and Action Plan. More information on Vision Zero is available [here](#).
- TfGM are holding several drop-in events and will be available in person at Bury Interchange on 15th January 2025 between 3pm and 5.30pm to answer questions and provide support to people in completing the consultation.
 - A new £1 million [Vision Zero Innovation Fund](#) was launched to support progress towards GM's Vision Zero ambition. The funding will be available to GM Safer Roads Partners and information on the application process has been shared with local authorities.
- Findings from a state-of-the-art camera trial in GM have been published [here](#), revealing more than 3,200 people have been caught using mobile phones while driving or not wearing seat belts. Findings will be used to inform campaigns to raise awareness of the consequences of not complying with the law.
 - Members of the public have been encouraged to continue to submit footage to help catch dangerous road users via [Operation Snap](#).

Waste and Resources Team: Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications Update

Festive Campaign

The festive period is a really busy time for the waste sector, with recycling centres and kerbside collections busier than at any other time of the year. It's a useful opportunity to encourage residents to reduce their waste and maximise recycling.

This year we ran a bigger festive campaign than ever before. We created [a microsite of Christmas recycling information](#) on the Recycle for Greater Manchester (R4GM) website, tying together all of our key content and messages. We also produced lots of social media content, including videos for our TikTok and Instagram channels.

We created three radio adverts, which were advertised widely across Bury, including on Hits Radio, Greatest Hits Radio and Roch Valley Radio. The three adverts focused on sustainable and affordable gifts at our Renew shops, preventing food waste during the festive period and promoting the use of HWRCs after Christmas.

We also used two visual adverts, which you can see below. One encourages residents to recycle paper and card, whilst the other shows that residents can now recycle plastic pots, tubs and trays in their mixed recycling bin for the first time at Christmas. These adverts have been in The Bury Times newspaper, the Manchester Evening News (MEN) as well as on digital screens outside key locations such as supermarkets, gyms and within buses across the network.



Our key messages included:

- Shopping sustainably through the R4GM Renew shops and online store
- Recycling your paper and card including delivery boxes and wrapping paper
- Waste less food this festive season by shopping, storing and making new meals
- Not disposing of batteries or hidden batteries in any of your bins at home
- Recycle your plastic pots, tubs and trays in your mixed recycling bin
- Festive opening hours of your local recycling centre
- Recycle your Christmas tree: we've worked closely with JustHelping, a charitable organisation who collect Christmas trees throughout Bury

As well as Christmas messages, we also shared lots of Hanukkah content including a guide on how to ensure you don't waste food over Hanukkah, recipes from leftovers as well as sustainable Hanukkah gifts. For the first time, we've shared a specific Hanukkah toolkit with Bury Council colleagues.

Repair Week

Repair Week 2025 is taking place between 3rd – 9th March and we've recently published the event sign-up form. We're asking businesses, community group and individuals to host an event during Repair Week and empower residents to fix instead of throwing away. Events can either be existing repair activity or a bespoke event for the week.

Repair Week is a celebration of repair, reuse and upcycling. Repair plays a key role in keeping goods in circulation for longer and creating less waste.

Repair Week also helps promote amazing local businesses, giving them an opportunity to showcase their work to potential new customers. Businesses can sign-up to host a Repair Week event until 31st January. From mid-February, we'll be promoting the upcoming events to a Greater Manchester audience. To help residents connect with local repairers all year, we've created a [repair directory](#) on the R4GM website. If you know of any business who wants to host an event during Repair Week, they can [sign-up here](#).

Recycling Centre Rates

October 2024

Site	Month (%)	Year to date
Cemetery Rd, Radcliffe	61	65
Every St, Fernhill	59	64

Contact us

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Greater Manchester Combined Authority Meeting (November)

A link to the papers are available here:

[Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Friday, 29th November, 2024 10.30 am](#)

Items considered and agreed included:

Bee Network Update	Vision Zero For Greater Manchester
Implementation Of The GM VCFSE Accord	Five Year Environment Plan 2025-2030
GM Children And Young People Programme Update	Greater Manchester Investment Zone
Greater Manchester One Network Connectivity Partner Procurement	GMCA Revenue Update Quarter 2 2024/25
GMCA Capital Update Quarter 2 2024/25	Greater Manchester Investment Framework, Conditional Project Approval

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Meeting (December)

A link to the papers are available here:

[Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Friday, 13th December, 2024 10.30 am](#)

Items considered and agreed included:

Greater Manchester's Approach to Building Safety	Breaking Down Barriers to Opportunity- A Proposal for a Stronger Education System as Part of Greater Manchester's Strategy - to Enable Young People to Participate & Thrive across Greater Manchester
Delivering the Bee Network Update (Performance)	TfGM Power Purchase
Brownfield Land New Allocations	Government Consultation - Remote Meeting Attendance and Proxy Voting

2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That Council note the updates from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Transport for Greater Manchester, and Recycle for Greater Manchester, with further updates to be presented to future Council meetings.

List of Background Papers:-

Minutes of GMCA meetings linked throughout.

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