

Sept Health Scrutiny – Chair’s Update

GMCA Health Scrutiny – Tuesday September 16th

1. Final Overview & Scrutiny Task and Finish Review - In Her Shoes: A Review of Safety of Women and Girls on Public Transport.

- a. The report was presented by Councillor Helen Hibbert, the Chair of the Task and Finish Group and can be found here: <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s39653/Final%20Task%20and%20Finish%20Report%20-%20final%20for%20approval.pdf>
- b. The report has already come to full Council as part of the GMCA reports but as there wasn't time to discuss it, the Health Scrutiny Committee members have agreed to raise it in their meetings and share with other members.
- c. The task & finish (T&F) group included members from different GMCA committees and areas, reflecting how this is an issue across GM and the different scopes of the committees. There were 15 sessions and included conversations with Vernon Everitt, GM Transport Commissioner and Kate Green, Deputy Mayor.
- d. There were 26 recommendations that range from strategic priorities on areas like transport spaces should be designed so that they are safe for women and girls to use or transition onto public transport, and ensuring we secure the funding to do this, to practical short term solutions like having more staff on duty on transport or hubs, having a reliable Bee Network App or licensing training.
- e. The discussion in the meeting focused on:
 - i. issues of misogyny
 - ii. whether disabled women had been considered
 - iii. how we could use this in our own boroughs (e.g. we are getting a new Bus Station in Bury)
 - iv. how can people get bystander training
 - v. the impacts on your life if you don't drive – what job you can get – and what opportunities you may lose (income is a wider determinant of health).
- f. In Health Scrutiny and the Health and Wellbeing Board we have discussed some of these issues such as how women are less likely to exercise outside at night or use public transport when it is dark to get to classes or the gym. This will be impacting their physical health – because they don't feel safe. Some of the focus on design and effective and reliable transport apps could help with this.
- g. In the meeting we will consider anything we think should be raised in Bury – noting this report should also go to our local Bee Network Committee unless it already has.

2. Supporting our Workforce: An update from NHS GM

- a. The GMCA Health Committee had raised their concerns about the impact on people from the Reforms to close NHS England, cut the Budget of the ICB by 39% and the further challenges to the Trusts, alongside an NHS Sustainability Plan that already required cuts and reinvestment into different areas.
- b. The report is here: <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s39655/WORKFORCE%20JHSC%20September%202025FINAL.pdf>
- c. The committee asked for some clarification about the tables in the documents. It was confirmed they were not up to date and the 600 job losses from the ICB 39% cut was not in the numbers

presented. We also asked how staff were being supported, noting the survey was before the changes were implemented and asked how the survey participation levels could be improved.

- d. Through questioning we were able to understand that the consultation process hadn't started yet and that any change to the SEND and Safeguarding elements of the ICB (the model states these are no longer to be done by the ICB) will be delayed by 12 months.
- e. Of the three requirements of the committee, we did not endorse the approach being taken to implement NHS Reform in GM because there wasn't enough information about this in the document to do so. Through questioning we agreed we could only acknowledge the work.

3. Monthly Service Reconfiguration Report and Forward Look

- a. A new report was developed to help us understand where we are in the process for each of the changes - <https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s39656/Monthly%20Service%20Reconfiguration%20Progress%20Report%20and%20Forward%20Look%20-%20Sept%202025.pdf>
- b. Please note Adult ADHD and IVF will now go to clinical decision making before being implemented and Children's ADHD and Diabetes Education are in the process of being implemented.

4. Plan for Engagement on Procedures of Limited Clinical Value

- a. This report was to outline how NHS GM has changed its approach from an initial plan (Dec 24) to review c50 procedures at once and to say when they would and wouldn't be commissioned to a new approach of reviewing them in batches over a 5 year cycle.
<https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s39657/Procedures%20of%20Limited%20Clinical%20Value%20Sept%202025.pdf>
- b. The current procedures are Repair of Split Torn Ear Lobes, Shoulder Impingement and Assisted Conception. And to develop a new commissioning statement for Extracorporeal shockwave therapy for the treatment of tendinopathies (currently there is no GM Commissioning Statement for this intervention).

5. Committee Work Plan

- a. We added Elective waiting times and the NHS league tables to the following:
<https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s39606/Greater%20Manchester%20Joint%20Health%20Scrutiny%20Work%20Programme%202025-26%20WORKING%20VERSION.pdf>

NCA Joint Scrutiny Committee Thursday 25th September

Verbal Update on the day