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| Meeting: | Bury Local Bee Network Forum |
| Meeting date: | Thursday 4 th December 2025 |
| Title of report: | Draft Local Transport Plan - Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2050 and Transport Delivery Plan (2027-2037) |
| Report by: | Joanne Betts |
| Decision Type: | Report for information and discussion |
| Ward(s) to which report relates | All |

Summary

Greater Manchester is updating its statutory Local Transport Plan, replacing GM2040 Transport Strategy with the GM Transport Strategy 2050 and the GM Transport Delivery Plan (2027-37). These documents set out how the Bee Network and wider transport system will evolve to support a thriving, sustainable city region.

The Bury Local Bee Network Forum will receive a presentation on the draft GM Transport Strategy 2050 and GM Transport Delivery Plan (2027-37), including key proposals in Bury.

Recommendations

The Bury Local Bee Network Forum is recommended to:

- Discuss and comment on the draft GM Transport Strategy 2050 and GM Transport Delivery Plan (2027-37); and
- Support and promote the 12-week consultation and encourage residents and stakeholders to participate.

Reasons for recommendations

To maximise participation from Bury residents, businesses, and stakeholders in the consultation and strengthen the borough's case for inclusion of local priorities in the final GM Transport Strategy 2050 and GM Transport Delivery Plan (2027-37).

Alternative options considered and rejected

N/A

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Greater Manchester is leading the way in creating a transport system that supports inclusive growth, improves life chances, and revitalises places — but further progress is needed.
- 1.2 The Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2050 and Transport Delivery Plan (2027–2037) form the proposed new statutory Greater Manchester Local Transport Plan (LTP), replacing the current GM Transport Strategy 2040.
- 1.3 Aligned with the priorities in the Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and its emerging Delivery Plan, these documents set out how Greater Manchester will develop the Bee Network and the wider transport system to 2050, delivering a world-class network for a global city region.
- 1.4 The Delivery Plan will guide investment priorities for the £2.5 billion Transport for City Regions (TCR) funding that Greater Manchester is due to receive from Government, starting in April 2027 and running for five years.
- 1.5 For Bury, this is critical to securing investment for local priorities such as the Bury Interchange redevelopment, new Metrolink connections, and active travel improvements that support regeneration and climate goals.

2. The GM Transport Strategy 2050 and Transport Delivery Plan

- 2.1 The Bee Network — Greater Manchester’s integrated transport system designed to provide seamless travel across buses, trams, trains, walking, wheeling, and cycling — is at the heart of the draft Strategy.
- 2.2 The draft Delivery Plan sets out investment priorities for the next decade alongside bold, long-term policies to sustain, grow, and transform the Bee Network and Greater Manchester’s wider transport system through to 2050. While each part of GM will have tailored plans, transport investment is essential to support ongoing growth and development across the city region.
- 2.3 These documents are intended to be “live” and flexible, updated annually by GMCA to reflect changing needs and opportunities.
- 2.4 Bury has a key role in shaping and benefiting from these plans, with major schemes such as the Bury Interchange redevelopment, new Metrolink connections, and active travel improvements critical to supporting regeneration and climate ambitions.
- 2.5 The GM Transport Strategy 2050 and GM Transport Delivery Plan (2027-2037) set the regional framework within which Bury’s local priorities must align to secure funding and delivery. They provide the strategic context for key schemes in Bury, ensuring that local ambitions for connectivity, regeneration, and climate action complement Greater Manchester’s long-term transport vision.
- 2.6 Key areas within the Strategy and Delivery Plan are:

- **Long-term vision:** The Strategy looks ahead to 2050; the Delivery Plan focuses on priorities for 2027–2037, including for Greater Manchester’s £2.5 billion Transport for City Regions (TCR) funding to be spent over five years starting in April 2027.
- **Right Mix target:** By 2040, the aim is for 50% of journeys in Greater Manchester to be made by walking, wheeling, cycling, or public transport to create a sustainable, healthier city region.
- **Network management:** Updated policies for streets and roads to keep the network running smoothly; strong focus on safety and reliability.
- **Vision Zero:** Commitment to eliminate fatalities and life-changing injuries on roads by 2040.
- **Rail integration:** Plans to bring rail services into the Bee Network and strengthen regional connections, including Northern Powerhouse Rail.
- **Future Metro options:** Exploring potential for a Metro/underground system in Manchester city centre to improve city-region connectivity.
- **Investment priorities:** Draft priorities included in the Transport Delivery Plan feed into the GM Strategy Integrated Pipeline, supporting a decade of inclusive growth across all parts of Greater Manchester.

3. Public Consultation on Greater Manchester’s Future Transport Plans

- 3.1 Subject to GMCA approval at its meeting on 28 November 2025, a 12-week public consultation on the draft GM Transport Strategy 2050 and Transport Delivery Plan will commence in December 2025 to gather feedback and shape the final Strategy and Delivery Plan.
- 3.2 The consultation will run from Monday 1 December 2025 until 11.59pm on Monday 23 February 2026.
- 3.3 The consultation process has been designed to reach as many people as possible, in order to make the consultation accessible, visible, and inclusive for all, and includes:
 - **An online Platform:** The GM Consult platform gmconsult.org/transport2050 will host all key documents and response forms, with alternative formats and language support available
 - **In-person drop-in Events:** Public sessions in each local authority area. Bury’s event will be at the Mill Gate Shopping Centre on Tuesday 27th January.
 - **Targeted Meetings:** Engagement through existing forums with businesses, transport operators, health, and equality groups.
 - **Printed and Accessible Materials:** All core documents, including an Easy Read and text-only version of the summary document, will be

available online and in print at key locations across Greater Manchester, including at Bury Town Hall, Bury libraries and other public buildings, as well as on request. Translations and other accessible formats will be provided as requested.

- **Ongoing Engagement:** Additional outreach during the consultation to involve underrepresented groups and trade unions.
- **Communications:** Comprehensive campaign via websites, social media, local press, printed materials, and community networks.

3.4 Following completion of the consultation, comments will be reviewed and incorporated into updated versions of the Strategy and Delivery Plan.

3.5 The final Strategy and Delivery Plan are proposed to be approved by all 10 GM Local Authorities and the GMCA by Summer / Autumn 2026, to align with the commencement of the £2.5 billion Transport for City Regions (TCR) funding starting in April 2027 and running for five years.

4. Why this matters for Bury

4.1 The GM Transport Strategy 2050 and Delivery Plan (2027 – 2037) are vital for Bury as they set the framework for future transport investment and connectivity across Greater Manchester, including priorities for the £2.5 billion Transport for City Regions (TCR) funding that runs for the five year period starting April 2027.

4.2 These plans will influence funding for key local priorities, including bus reform, active travel routes, and road network improvements, while supporting major regeneration projects such as the Bury Town Centre Masterplan and Radcliffe Strategic Regeneration Framework. For Bury, this includes major schemes such as:

- **Redevelopment of Bury Interchange** into Greater Manchester's first operationally carbon-neutral transport hub, integrating bus, Metrolink, and active travel facilities.
- **New Metrolink stop and Travel Hub/Park & Ride at Elton Reservoir**, supporting the Places for Everyone housing allocation.
- **Exploration of tram-train technology** to connect Bury with Heywood, Rochdale, and Oldham.
- **Active travel improvements** across the borough, including Bee Network-standard walking and cycling routes.
- **Bus priority measures** and corridor upgrades on key routes such as Bury–Bolton and Bury–Rochdale.
- **Highway and junction improvements** to reduce congestion and improve safety, and to support new development sites like Northern Gateway, Elton and Walshaw.

- **Road resurfacing and safety schemes** to improve route conditions and reduce accident risk across Bury, supporting smoother journeys for all road users and maintaining network resilience.
- 4.3 By promoting cleaner air, reducing congestion, and encouraging sustainable travel, the GM Transport Strategy 2050 aligns with the aims of the Bury Local Transport Strategy and Bury's climate health ambitions, and complements the local priorities for inclusive growth and wellbeing set out in the boroughwide "Let's Do It" Strategy.
- 4.4 Active participation in the consultation process on Greater Manchester's Future Transport Plans is essential to ensure Bury's priorities are reflected in regional plans and future funding opportunities.

5. How to find out more

- 5.1. To find out more you can:
- Read the Consultation Draft Summary for an overview of both documents.
 - Access the full GM Transport Strategy 2050, Delivery Plan, and supporting evidence at gmconsult.org/transport2050.
 - View printed copies and supporting evidence in public buildings across Greater Manchester.

6. How to Take Part

- 6.1 You can share your views in the following ways:
- Complete the online survey at gmconsult.org/transport2050.
 - Email: transport2050@tfgm.com.
 - Return a printed questionnaire by Freepost.