MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT WIGAN TOWN HALL

PRESENT

GM Mayor	Mayor Bev Craig (In the Chair)
GMCA	Deputy Mayor Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Akhtar Zaman
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Garry Bridges
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Stockport	Councillor Mark Roberts
Tameside	Councillor Andrew Mclaren
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross
Wigan	Councillor Nazia Rehman

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair of Innovation GM	Andrew Hodgson
Director of Innovation GM	David Levene

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Interim Group Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Lightfoot
Deputy Group Monitoring Officer	Melinda Edwards
Group Chief Finance Officer	Steve Wilson
GMCA Secretary	Sarah Horseman
Bolton	Lee Fallows
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	Tom Stannard
Oldham	Shelley Kipling
Rochdale	Kuiama Thompson

Salford	Stephen Young
Stockport	Michael Cullen
Tameside	Emma Alexander
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
TfGM	Steve Warrener
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

GMCA 79/26 APOLOGIES

That apologies be received from Councillor Eleanor Wills (Tameside), with Councillor Andrew Mclaren attending as substitute. Apologies were also received from Sue Johnson (Bolton) with Lee Fallows substituting, and Julie Murphy (Rochdale) with Kuiama Thompson substituting.

GMCA 80/26 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Mayor Bev Craig welcomed members to the meeting and outlined progress on shared priorities, including the announced extension of bus travel provision to young people aged 11–16 from January 2027, housing delivery and additional Homes England funding for affordable homes. The Mayor thanked the ten local authorities and Combined Authority staff for supporting the Cost-of-Living Summit, which had brought together almost 300 representatives from businesses, charities, public services and community organisations.

The Mayor referred to reports of a disrupted planned attack targeting Jewish communities in Greater Manchester and expressed solidarity with those affected. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor would continue working with council leaders to tackle antisemitism and support community safety. Arrangements would also be made to mark the first anniversary of the Heaton Park Synagogue terrorist attack.

Members were invited to note the revised portfolio arrangements for the year ahead and Councillor Garry Bridges was welcomed to his first meeting of the GMCA as the Leader of Manchester City Council.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the following Portfolio Leaders were announced:

Portfolio	Leader	Portfolio	Leader
Healthy Lives	Mayor of GM, Bev Craig,	**Technical Education & Skills**	Eamonn O'Brien
Safer and Stronger Communities	Deputy Mayor Kate Green	**Anti-poverty, Equalities & Communities**	Eleanor Wills
Housing First	City Mayor Paul Dennett	**Digital City Region**	Akhtar Zaman
Economy, Good Growth & Business	Garry Bridges	**Culture**	Neil Emmott
Transport, Clean Air and Green City Region	Tom Ross	**Resources and Investment**	Nazia Rehman
Children and Young People	Mark Roberts		

2. That the GMCA welcomed Cllr Garry Bridges to his first meeting as the new Leader of Manchester City Council.

GMCA 81/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be noted that no declarations of interest were received.

GMCA 82/26 MINUTES OF THE GMCA MEETING HELD ON 10 JULY 2026

RESOLVED /-

1. That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 10 July 2026 be approved.

GMCA 83/26 MINUTES OF THE BEE NETWORK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2026

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the Bee Network Committee held on 25 June 2026 be noted.

GMCA 84/26 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 JULY 2026

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the Audit Committee held on 22 July 2026 be noted.
2. That the amendments to the Audit Committee Terms of Reference, as recommended by the Audit Committee, be approved as follows:
   Receive the annual report of the Chair of the TfGM Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee and a summary of the meetings of the Committee as, amongst other things, a means of providing assurance with regard to TfGM's internal control environment and risk management framework for the management of operational risk.

GMCA 85/26 MINUTES OF THE WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 JULY 2026

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the Waste & Recycling Committee held on 22 July 2026 be noted.
2. That the appointment of Councillor Alan Quinn as Chair and Councillor Stephen Adshead as Vice Chair of the GMCA Waste and Recycling Committee, on the recommendation of the Committee, be approved.

GMCA 86/26 MINUTES OF THE GMCA RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2026

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proceedings of the GMCA Resources Committee held on 28 August 2026 be noted.

GMCA 87/26 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report requesting that the GMCA approve the interim appointment to the role of Group Chief Executive GMCA, Fire & TfGM, following consideration and a recommendation to approve by Resources Committee on 28th August 2026.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the appointment of Andrew Lightfoot to the role of Interim Group Chief Executive Officer for the GMCA, Fire and TfGM, with effect from 28 August 2026, at the salary set out in paragraph 4, be approved.
2. That Andrew Lightfoot, as Interim Group Chief Executive Officer, be designated as the statutory Head of Paid Service for the GMCA in accordance with s4 Local Government & Housing Act 1989.

3. That Andrew Lightfoot, as Interim Group Chief Executive Officer, be appointed as the Combined Authority Returning Officer for any Combined Authority election taking place after commencement of his appointment.
4. That Andrew Lightfoot, as Interim Group Chief Executive Officer, be appointed as the Director General of TfGM in accordance with the provisions of the Transport Act 1968.

GMCA 88/26 APPOINTMENTS TO GREATER MANCHESTER BODIES

Members considered a report setting out additional appointments to committees and other bodies.

Councillor Roberts requested a written explanation from the Monitoring Officer of how committee places had been allocated, following a change to the expected Liberal Democrat representation on the Bee Network Committee. It was agreed that officers would liaise with Councillor Roberts to confirm the political balance calculation process that had been followed.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the appointment of Councillor Arooj Shah (Lab) as the member and Councillor Elaine Taylor (Lab) as the substitute member to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, by Oldham MBC, be noted.
2. That the appointment of Councillor Abdul Jabbar (Lab), as the member and Councillor Ken Rustidge (Lab) as the substitute member, nominated by Oldham MBC, to the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee be approved.
3. That the appointment of Councillor Tom Ross, as the GMCA member, and Councillor Garry Bridges, to be the substitute GMCA member, on the Bee Network Committee be approved.
4. That the appointment of Councillor Andrew Brooks (Reform), as the member, and Councillor Jon Ford (Reform) as the substitute member, from Oldham MBC, to the Bee Network Committee, be noted.

5. That the appointment of Councillor Rachel Wise (Lab), Stockport, to replace Councillor Christine Roberts (Lab), Wigan, to the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee, be approved.
6. That the appointment of Councillor Barbara Brownridge (Lab) as the member, and Councillor Ken Rustidge (Lab), as the substitute member, nominated by Oldham MBC, to the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee, be approved.
7. That the appointment of Councillor Kamran Ghafoor (Oldham Group), as the member and Councillor Aisha Kouser (Oldham Group) as the substitute member, nominated by Oldham MBC, to the Culture & Social Impact Fund Committee, be approved.
8. That the appointment of Councillor Abdul Jabbar (Lab), nominated by Oldham MBC, to the GM Green City Region Board, be approved.
9. That the appointment of Councillor Helen Bishop (Lib Dem), nominated by Oldham MBC, to the GMCA Children's Board, be approved.
10. That the appointment of Councillor Andrew Brooks (Reform) as the member and Councillor Peter Klonowski (Reform) as the substitute member, from Oldham MBC to the GM Air Quality Administration Committee, be noted.
11. That the appointment of Councillor Max Woodvine (Con), as the member and Councillor Beth Sharp (Con) as the substitute member, from Oldham MBC, to the GM Clean Air Scrutiny Committee, be noted.
12. That the appointment of Councillor Paul Taylor (Reform) and Councillor Mark Wilkinson (Reform), from Oldham MBC to the Police, Crime & Fire Panel, be noted.
13. That the appointment of Councillor Paul Taylor (Reform), from Oldham MBC, to the Police, Crime & Fire Steering Group, be noted.
14. That the appointment of Councillor Arooj Shah (Lab), as the member and Councillor Barbara Brownridge (Lab) as the substitute member, from Oldham MBC, to the GM Integrated Care Partnership Board, be noted.

GMCA 89/26 GREATER MANCHESTER GOOD GROWTH FUND SEPTEMBER ALLOCATIONS

Mayor Bev Craig and Deputy Mayor of the GMCA Paul Dennett presented a report setting out recommendations for a new package of investments to support city centre

densification, unlocking growth through transport infrastructure, accelerating innovation, and increasing the delivery of social and affordable homes. The report also launched a new Good Growth Fund (GGF) partnership approach with social & affordable housing providers, creating a longer-term framework to support delivery of GM's genuinely affordable housing ambitions.

Alongside these proposed investments, the report provided an update on the progress and delivery of existing GGF-funded projects and sought approval to a number of proposed changes to previously agreed allocations. It also outlined recent GGF allocations made under previously agreed delegations.

The Mayor reported that the Fund had grown to £2 billion, with approximately £900 million beginning to be allocated. The approach sought to provide long-term investment certainty, attract additional investment and ensure that all boroughs benefited from growth beyond what the market alone would deliver.

The proposals covered transport, city densification, social and affordable housing, commercial premises and innovation. Investment was intended to support wider outcomes through the Good Landlord Charter, Good Employment Charter and employment opportunities for young people. A clearer statement of the Fund's good growth commitments would be brought together in the coming months. The Mayor also referred to the Homes England Strategic Partnership Fund, which was expected to support up to 4,000 social and affordable homes across Greater Manchester.

Members supported an integrated approach to placemaking that combined economic, social and environmental objectives and reflected the priorities of all ten local authorities. It was reported that, since February 2026, £110 million had already been approved to support approximately 900 homes, including 847 for social rent. Members stressed the importance of tackling the housing and homelessness crisis alongside transport and regeneration investment.

The discussion also highlighted the following local examples and priorities:

- In Wigan, the Cotton Works redevelopment near Wigan Pier was expected to provide more than 900 homes alongside a hotel, food hall, commercial workspace, leisure facilities and retirement living, while restoring historic mill buildings and bringing vacant brownfield land back into use.
- In Tameside, members highlighted 35 social rented homes in Ashton and reported that 200 social homes were being delivered across the borough. Strategic acquisitions were also expected to support employment opportunities.
- In Manchester, Victoria North had the potential to deliver up to 15,000 homes as part of a wider community, including green spaces, schools and health provision. Members also welcomed the CyanLines project's contribution to opening up waterways and improving the urban environment, together with investment in innovation.
- Members highlighted the potential for flexible, long-term collaboration between local, regional and national government to support regeneration in town centres. Upfront costs, inflation and the development of viable business cases remained significant challenges.

In concluding, the Mayor emphasised the need for a strong pipeline of schemes across every borough, linking housing, active travel, commercial development and innovation to jobs, investment and thriving communities.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the indicative allocation of £52.7m, to the recommended Transport projects, which will unlock 4 transformational growth projects across GM, as set out within the report, be approved.
2. That the indicative allocation of £49.8m, to the recommended City Densification Fund projects, supporting delivery of 729 new homes, subject to the conditions set out within the report, be approved.
3. That the indicative allocation of £25.69m, to the recommended Innovation projects, which will unlock 3 key innovations projects across GM, as set out within the report, be approved.
4. That the indicative allocation of £19m, to the recommended subsidised loan project, as set out within this report, supporting the delivery of 60 new homes, be approved.

5. That the indicative allocation of £3.96m, to the recommended Social and Affordable Housing project, supporting delivery of 144 affordable homes, as set out within the report, be approved.
6. That the amendments to previously approved Good Growth Fund allocations and funding arrangements for existing schemes, as set out within the report, be approved.
7. That the launch of the Good Growth Fund partnership approach with housing providers to support social and affordable housing delivery be noted.
8. That the scheme approved under the Social & Affordable homes pilot via delegated authority since the last CA report be noted.
9. That the approval of the investment into the acquisition of the Ashton Strategic Acquisition under delegated authority, as set out in the report, be noted.
10. That approval of the terms of a further Strategic Acquisition in Tameside be delegated to the Interim Group Chief Executive and Group Chief Finance Officer.
11. That the update on the approach to securing social value through the Good Growth Fund, as set out within the report, be noted.
12. That the prioritisation methodologies used to appraise the funding allocations recommended in the report, as set out in Appendix 1 be noted and have been publicly available at https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/economy/greater-manchester-good-growth-fund throughout the call period.

GMCA 90/26 CAPITAL PROGRAMME OUTTURN 2025/26

Councillor Nazia Rehman, Portfolio Lead for Resources & Investment presented a report informing members of the Capital Outturn for 2025/2026.

RESOLVED /-

That the 2025/26 actual outturn capital expenditure of £497.6m, compared to the forecast position of £585.9m presented to GMCA on 13 February 2026, be noted.

GMCA 91/26 CAPITAL UPDATE QUARTER 1 2026/27

Councillor Nazia Rehman, Portfolio Lead for Resources & Investment presented a report updating members in relation to the GMCA's 2026/27 capital expenditure programme.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the current 2026/27 forecast of £968.8m, compared to the 2026/27 budget of £1,106.8m, be noted.
2. That the addition of £2.1m to the capital programme for the Investment team be approved.
3. That the addition of £50.5m to the capital programme for the Environment team be approved.
4. That the addition of £0.7m to the capital programme for the Regional Care Co-operative Accommodation Project be approved.
5. That the addition of £0.7m to the capital programme for the Digital team be approved.
6. That the addition of £3.0m to the capital programme for the Education, Work and Skills team be approved.
7. That the addition of £1.8m to the capital programme for the Waste and Resources team be approved.

GMCA 92/26 REVENUE OUTTURN 2025/26

Councillor Nazia Rehman, Portfolio Lead for Resources & Investment presented a report informing members of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority of the revenue outturn position for 2025/26.

RESOLVED /-

1. That it be noted that the GMCA General Budget revenue outturn position for 2025/26 was breakeven after transfers to/from earmarked reserves.
2. That it be noted that the Mayoral General Budget revenue outturn position for 2025/26 was breakeven after transfers to/from earmarked reserves.

3. That it be noted that the Mayoral General Budget – GM Fire & Rescue revenue outturn position for 2025/26 was breakeven after transfers to/from earmarked reserves.
4. That it be noted that the Waste and Resourcing revenue outturn position for 2025/26 was breakeven after transfers to/from earmarked reserves.
5. That it be noted that the GMCA Transport and TfGM revenue outturn positions for 2025/26 were breakeven after transfers to/from earmarked reserves.
6. That it be noted that the final position was subject to the submission of the audited accounts to be reported to the GMCA Audit Committee.

GMCA 93/26 REVENUE UPDATE QUARTER 1 2026/27

Councillor Nazia Rehman, Portfolio Lead for Resources & Investment presented a report informing members of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority financial position at the end of June 2026 (Quarter 1) and the forecast revenue outturn position for the 2026/27 financial year.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the forecast position at 30 June 2026 be noted.

GMCA 94/26 ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW 2025/26

Councillor Nazia Rehman, Portfolio Lead for Resources & Investment presented a report informing members of the annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2025/26 as required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Annual Treasury Management Review 2025/26 be approved.

GMCA 95/26 ROUGH SLEEPING FUNDING 2026/27

Deputy Mayor of the GMCA, Paul Dennett, provided an update to Leaders on the recently announced rough sleeping funding and initial plans for deployment across

Greater Manchester. This programme provides an opportunity to go further and faster on the GMS ambition to ensure that rough sleeping is a rare, brief and non-recurring experience in Greater Manchester.

Mayor Dennett outlined the pressures affecting homelessness, including accelerated asylum processes, a reported increase in section 21 no-fault evictions ahead of the Renters' Rights Act receiving Royal Assent, and the loss of affordable housing through Right to Buy and Right to Acquire. He reported that approximately 40% of homes purchased through Right to Buy subsequently entered the private rented sector, often at significantly higher rents. The annual rough sleeping count in Greater Manchester had fallen from 268 in 2017 to 89 in 2021, but had subsequently risen to 197 in 2025. Greater Manchester was however continuing to perform better than the trends in England and the North West.

The CA's role in supporting districts' statutory responsibilities through commissioning, data and intelligence, consistent standards and engagement with government was highlighted. Delivery included A Bed Every Night, Housing First, the Homelessness Inclusion Health Service, social workers embedded within rough sleeping outreach teams, local rough sleeping infrastructure and the enhanced LiveWell offer. The importance of person-centred, trauma-informed services integrating accommodation with mental health, drug and alcohol support and access to general practitioners was emphasised.

It was reported that from national funding of £442 million, Greater Manchester had an allocation of £16.95 million, comprising £6.1 million in phase one and £10.85 million in phase two. The proposals sought to allocate funding for 2026/27 only. Allocations for 2027/28 remained indicative and would be considered through the task and finish group, informed by learning from delivery.

The Chair called for collective action across the Combined Authority, all ten local authorities, the NHS and other agencies. The proposed homelessness and rough sleeping task and finish group was asked to maintain innovation, drawing on previous learning and the development of A Bed Every Night and Housing First. Particular emphasis was placed on aligning mental health and addiction services, avoiding siloed provision and developing an enhanced A Bed Every Night offer.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the national funding programme's adoption of the A Bed Every Night approach to tackling rough sleeping be noted.
2. That the 2026/27 rough sleeping funding allocations across Greater Manchester be noted.
3. That the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to design and mobilise the Rough Sleeping Programme from 2027 onwards be noted that the commitment of strong local authority engagement in the process be noted.
4. That the commitment to tackling rough sleeping in Greater Manchester be reaffirmed, using GM's position as a leading region on this agenda to drive further progress locally and to go further and faster with our ambitions.

GMCA 96/26 GREATER MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY DELIVERY PLAN

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report seeking approval for the Greater Manchester International Strategy Delivery Plan Overview 2026-2028, setting out the proposed priorities, delivery framework and strategic outcomes that would guide Greater Manchester's international activity over the period.

The Delivery Plan would support the implementation of the Greater Manchester Strategy by aligning international activity to the city-region's wider ambitions for inclusive growth, innovation, sustainability and global influence, while strengthening Greater Manchester's position as an internationally connected and competitive city-region.

Mayor Paul Dennett highlighted the opening of the Yangzhou Scholars Garden at RHS Bridgewater and its contribution to longstanding international and cultural relationships. Thanks were placed on record to the late Dr Lee Kai Hung, his family and the Lee Kai Hung Foundation for supporting the garden, the Chinese Culture Gallery in Manchester and local universities.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Greater Manchester International Strategy Delivery Plan Overview 2026–2028 be approved.

2. That the priorities, delivery framework and strategic outcomes, set out in the plan, be endorsed.
3. That it be noted that the plan will guide Greater Manchester's international activity over the 2026–2028 period in support of the Greater Manchester Strategy.

GMCA 97/26 GREATER MANCHESTER LOCAL INNOVATION PLAN

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report providing an overview of the refreshed Greater Manchester Innovation Plan (GMIP), its purpose and how it related to the Greater Manchester Strategy and other key documents.

The GMIP built upon the co-designed approach initiated in 2022 with industry and universities. The Chair emphasised the role of innovation and frontier sectors in supporting economic growth that benefited residents across the city region and invited the Chair and Director of Innovation GM to contribute to the item.

The independent Chair of Innovation GM presented the ten-year plan, which aimed to establish GM as a globally recognised centre for innovation. Its principal themes were strengthening industrial and commercial partnerships, commercialising research and innovation, and ensuring that all boroughs and communities shared in the social, environmental and economic benefits.

Members were advised that the plan was intended to be launched at the Growth Company's Innovation Conference on 21 October, followed by development of a partnership action plan. Members welcomed the progress made through existing partnerships and stressed the importance of translating the high-level ambitions into delivery.

It was questioned whether the partnership model sufficiently reflected the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector. Highlighting innovation for the public good and the need to assess who benefited, including its contribution to jobs, apprenticeships, opportunities for young people not in education, employment or training, and tackling poverty.

The independent Chair supported the inclusion of social innovation and accessible language. Consultation had included the voluntary and third sectors, and further work

would be undertaken with Mayor Dennett and the Salford team to reflect these issues in the action plan.

A further question concerned how the plan's economic and social impacts would be measured, communicated and reported. It was confirmed that outputs and monitoring arrangements had not yet been agreed and would be developed through the action-planning process with members, partners and central government. Measures would need to extend beyond economic outputs, and the narrative should be understandable to a wider audience.

RESOLVED /-

That the final version of the Greater Manchester Innovation Plan be approved for publication.

GMCA 98/26 OLDHAM MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONSULTATION OUTCOME – APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report setting out the results of the consultation on the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Oldham and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for that area, seeking GMCA approval for the next steps in the process.

Councillor Arooj Shah welcomed progress towards establishing the MDC. She highlighted the potential to deliver much-needed homes and improve health outcomes through sports and health facilities. She reported support from over 84% of consultation respondents and welcomed the contribution of young people, who recognised the proposals' potential impact on their future.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the results of the consultation exercise in respect of the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Oldham and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation for that area be noted.
2. That it be noted that a statutory consultation has taken place with all GM constituent councils and each Member of Parliament whose parliamentary constituency was contained in any part of the area.

3. That the Mayor's response to the consultation be noted.
4. That it be noted that Oldham Council approved the proposal to designate the area under delegated authority 7th September.
5. That the proposal by the Mayor to designate the area, as identified on the plan at Appendix 1, as a Mayoral Development Area, be approved.
6. That it be noted that if the GMCA approves the Mayor's proposal, as set out at recommendation 5, the Mayor shall publicise the designation, notify the Secretary of State of the designation and the name to be given to the Mayoral Development as follows: "Oldham Mayoral Development Corporation"

GMCA 99/26 ASHTON & STALYBRIDGE MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONSULTATION OUTCOME – APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report setting out the results of the consultation on the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Ashton & Stalybridge and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for that area, seeking GMCA approval for the next steps in the process.

Councillor Andrew McLaren reported that Tameside's Cabinet had approved the proposals the previous month. The development potential was described as upwards of 3,000 homes, alongside wider regeneration and benefits across Tameside. Strong rail links to Manchester were highlighted, with stated journey times to Victoria of nine minutes from Ashton and 13 minutes from Stalybridge.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the results of the consultation exercise in respect of the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Ashton & Stalybridge and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation for that area be noted.
2. That it be noted that a statutory consultation has taken place with all GM constituent councils and each Member of Parliament whose parliamentary constituency was contained in any part of the area.
3. That the Mayor's response to the consultation be noted.

4. That it be noted that Tameside Council approved the proposal to designate the area under delegated authority on 26 August 2026.
5. That the proposal by the Mayor to designate the area, as identified on the plan at Appendix 1, as a Mayoral Development Area, be approved.
6. That it be noted that if the GMCA approves the Mayor's proposal, as set out at recommendation 5, the Mayor shall publicise the designation, notify the Secretary of State of the designation and the name to be given to the Mayoral Development as follows: "Ashton & Stalybridge Mayoral Development Corporation"

GMCA 100/26 MIDDLETON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONSULTATION OUTCOME – APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report setting out the results of the consultation on the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Middleton and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for that area, seeking GMCA approval for the next steps in the process.

Councillor Neil Emmott outlined a community-led, bottom-up approach to the proposed Middleton MDC, involving the local community and voluntary sector. A major consultation event at Middleton Arena had attracted 500 people. The acquisition of Warwick Mill was welcomed as an opportunity to address a longstanding regeneration issue.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the results of the consultation exercise in respect of the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Middleton and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation for that area be noted.
2. That it be noted that a statutory consultation has taken place with all GM constituent councils and each Member of Parliament whose parliamentary constituency was contained any part of the area.
3. That the Mayor's response to the consultation be noted.
4. That it be noted that Rochdale Council will consider if they support the proposal at their meeting on 29th September 2026.

5. That subject to Rochdale Council endorsing the proposal on 29th September 2026, by the Mayor to designate the area, as identified on the plan at Appendix 1, as a Mayoral Development Area, that approval be given.
6. That it be noted that if the GMCA approves the Mayor's proposal as set out at recommendation 5 and Rochdale Council endorse the proposal at their meeting on 29th September, the Mayor shall publicise the designation, notify the Secretary of State of the designation and the name to be given to the Mayoral Development Corporation, as follows: "Middleton Co-operative Mayoral Development Corporation".

GMCA 101/26 BOLTON MAYORAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONSULTATION OUTCOME – APPROVAL TO DESIGNATE

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report setting out the results of the consultation on the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Bolton and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for that area, seeking GMCA approval for the next steps in the process.

Councillor Akhtar Zaman noted that Bolton's proposals covered 13 sites and envisaged over 2,000 new homes, 31,000 square metres of employment space, 300 hotel bed spaces and new hospitality, community and leisure provision. Benefits would include the establishing of a dedicated delivery vehicle for long-term town-centre transformation and attracting investment. The MDC would bring together Bolton Council, GMCA, public bodies, investors and development partners, providing additional capacity, expertise and coordination to accelerate regeneration. Private investment alongside public funding would be essential to achieving the proposed scale of change.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the results of the consultation exercise in respect of the Mayor's proposals to designate a Mayoral development area in Bolton
and establish a Mayoral Development Corporation for that area be noted.

2. That it be noted that a statutory consultation has taken place with all GM constituent councils and each Member of Parliament whose parliamentary constituency was contained any part of the area.
3. That the Mayor's response to the consultation be noted.
4. That it be noted that Bolton Council will consider if they support the proposal at their meeting on 28th September 2026.
5. That subject to Bolton Council endorsing the proposal on 28th September 2026, by the Mayor to designate the area, as identified on the plan at Appendix 1, as a Mayoral Development Area, that approval be given.
6. That it be noted that if the GMCA approves the Mayor's proposal as set out at recommendation 5 and Bolton Council endorse the proposal at their meeting on 28th September, the Mayor shall publicise the designation, notify the Secretary of State of the designation and the name to be given to the Mayoral Development Corporation, as follows: ": "Bolton Town Centre Mayoral Development Corporation".

GMCA 102/26 TRANSPORT AND NET ZERO

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report that updated on progress in delivering the Greater Manchester Strategy 2025–2035 commitment to a greener, fairer city-region through the transition towards the UK's first fully integrated, zero-emission public transport system by 2030, including the use of long-term renewable energy to power Metrolink and progress in decarbonising the Bee Network bus fleet.

Councillor Tom Ross reported that the Bee Network Committee had discussed the item the previous day and welcomed both the power purchase agreement, which would support renewable electricity, and continued decarbonisation of the bus fleet.

RESOLVED /-

1. That progress in delivering the Greater Manchester Strategy 2025–2035 commitment to a greener, fairer city-region, including the transition towards the UK's first fully integrated, zero-emission public transport system by 2030, be noted.

2. That the selection of a preferred supplier and proposed signature of a 15-year Power Purchase Agreement to provide renewable energy for a level of consumption similar to that of the Metrolink network for up to 20 years, acting as a pathfinder for future clean energy arrangements as electricity demand increases across the Bee Network, be noted.
3. That continued progress in decarbonising the Bee Network bus fleet through the franchised network be noted.
4. That it be noted that these measures support Greater Manchester's carbon neutrality commitment by 2038 and provide practical delivery of the Mayor's Bee Network and net zero ambitions.

GMCA 103/26 TRANSPORT PIPELINE FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Mayor Bev Craig presented a report that provided an overview of the current position in relation to the transport infrastructure pipeline and brings forward a number of recommendations in relation to current and future revenue and capital allocations to optimise scheme development and delivery.

Mayor Craig stated that no existing programme had been unfunded, defunded, reprioritised or changed as a result. The allocation would enable councils to plan maintenance and resurfacing more effectively, rather than relying on repeated pothole repairs. Investment in highways would complement continued expansion of the Bee Network and walking and cycling infrastructure. Representations to government on fair and sustainable local government funding would continue.

Councillor Tom Ross reported that the Bee Network Committee had considered the item for noting. The simplification of revenue development funding was welcomed. Although questions had been raised about the process, the additional highways funding was broadly welcomed as a significant uplift to local capital budgets.

The proposed allocation of a further £1.5 million of unallocated active travel funding was also highlighted, supporting measures including crossings and school streets.

Members welcomed the additional resources in the context of financial pressures on local authorities and residents' concerns about road conditions, emphasising the value of directing funding back to districts.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the current transport infrastructure pipeline position be noted.
2. That the recommendation in relation to the consolidation of revenue funding in order to support future scheme development be approved.
3. That the allocation of the current circa £60m capital headroom in the Highways Portfolio to the 10 local authorities to support highways maintenance, utilising the previously agreed formulae, be approved.
4. That the allocation of Active Travel funding to support the Active Travel programme be approved.

GMCA 104/26 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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 105/26 GOOD GROWTH FUND ALLOCATIONS

RESOLVED /-

1. That the contents of the report be noted.