

# REPORT FOR DECISION

**MEETING:** COUNCIL

**DATE:** 9 SEPTEMBER 2015

**SUBJECT:** MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES

**REPORT FROM:** LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

**CONTACT OFFICER:** MIKE OWEN (CHIEF EXECUTIVE)

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**TYPE OF DECISION:** COUNCIL

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:** FOR PUBLICATION

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**SUMMARY:** The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), at its meeting on 26 June 2015, agreed that it should apply to become a full member of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) in its own right and requested the ten GM Local Authorities to agree to this proposal as soon as possible.

This report sets out the background to this issue, the implications and the impact on voting rights.

**OPTIONS &  
RECOMMENDED OPTION**

Council is recommended to:

1. Agree to GMCA becoming a full member of AGMA in its own right.
  2. Note that further consequential amendments to the AGMA constitution may be agreed by AGMA as a result of the admission of an eleventh member of AGMA.
  3. Note that Tony Lloyd, Mayor of the GMCA, will be enabled to vote at GMCA meetings.
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**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:**

Do the proposals accord with Policy Framework? Yes.

**Statement by s151 Officer:** There are no financial implications arising from this report.

The report presents a practical solution to facilitate the Interim Mayor becoming a member of the AGMA Executive.

**Statement by Executive Director of Resources and Regulation:** There are no wider resource implications arising from this report.

**Equality/Diversity implications:** None

**Considered by Monitoring Officer:** Yes JH

**Are there any legal implications?** These are set out in the report.

**Wards Affected:** All

**Scrutiny Interest:** Overview & Scrutiny

**TRACKING/PROCESS**

**DIRECTOR: Mike Owen**

| Chief Executive/<br>Strategic Leadership<br>Team | Cabinet<br>Member/Chair | Ward Members | Partners    |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| CE                                               | Yes                     |              |             |
| Scrutiny Committee                               | Cabinet                 | Committee    | Council     |
|                                                  |                         |              | 9 Sept 2015 |

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), at its meeting on 26 June 2015, agreed that it should apply to become a full member of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) in its own right and requested the ten GM Local Authorities to agree to this proposal as soon as possible.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (Amendment) Order 2015 (SI 2015/960) provided for the appointment by the GMCA of an Interim Mayor, prior to legislation changes to enable the election of a Mayor for Greater Manchester in 2017.

2.2 The Combined Authority at its meeting on 26 June 2015 approved the recommendation of the Appointment Panel to appoint Tony Lloyd to the role of Interim Mayor for Greater Manchester following a successful interview process.

- 2.3 AGMA is a Joint Committee of the ten GM Local Authorities. The GMCA is not a full member of AGMA, only an Associate Member. Therefore the Interim Mayor is not currently a member of AGMA Executive. If it is wished to overcome this and enable the Interim Mayor to also Chair meetings of AGMA, it is proposed that the ten GM Local Authorities are asked to agree to the GMCA becoming a member of AGMA in its own right and being able to appoint its Chair to the AGMA Executive.
- 2.4 The AGMA Constitution provides that no new member shall be admitted without a resolution of the full Council of each of the ten participating local authorities. The implications of GMCA becoming a full member of AGMA are as follows:
- The delegated functions of the ten authorities will also be shared with GMCA which will become a voting member of AGMA. At the moment the GMCA powers are not the same as the ten local authorities powers although GMCA powers are under review and soon to change after the Cities and Devolution Bill becomes law.
  - Arrangements for procedure at meetings and decision making will need to be revised to reflect the fact that there are now 11 members. In particular the current constitution provides that where AGMA is deadlocked by an equal vote it will not proceed and the Chair will not have a casting vote. The inclusion of GMCA will break the deadlock within AGMA.
  - Each current member of AGMA pays a contribution to the costs of AGMA which is agreed unanimously or in default is proportionate to the population. Contribution arrangements will need to be revised.
- 2.5 At present there is mutual indemnification of the ten authorities in relation to their own personnel property and consequential losses. The applicability of this indemnity arrangement to the GMCA will need to be considered.

### **3.0 VOTING RIGHTS AND GMCA**

- 3.1 Under section 85(4) of the Local Transport Act 2008 and the GMCA Order (as amended 2015), the Interim Mayor (who is not an elected councillor or elected mayor) has no automatic right to vote on any issue before the GMCA.
- 3.2 Pursuant to section 104(2) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and section 85 (5) of the Local Transport Act 2008, the GMCA has resolved that the provisions of section 85 (4) of the LTA 2008 and para 3(7) of Schedule 1 to the GMCA Order 2011, as amended, should not apply in relation to the Interim Mayor, and that the Interim Mayor should be entitled to vote on all questions coming or arising before the GMCA.

### **4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Council is asked to agree to GMCA becoming a full member of AGMA in its own right.
- 4.2 Council is also asked to note that further consequential amendments to the AGMA constitution may be agreed by AGMA as a result of the admission of an eleventh member of AGMA.

- 4.3 Finally Council is asked to note that Tony Lloyd, Interim Mayor of the GMCA will be enabled to vote at GMCA meetings.

**COUNCILLOR MIKE CONNOLLY  
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

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**Background documents:**

There are none

**For further information on the details of this report, please contact:**

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