

**NOTICE OF DECISIONS AGREED AT THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY HELD ON FRIDAY, 22 MARCH, 2024**

PRESENT:

GM Mayor	Andy Burnham (in the Chair)
GM Deputy Mayor	Kate Green
Bolton	Councillor Nicholas Peel
Bury	Councillor Eamonn O'Brien
Manchester	Councillor Bev Craig
Oldham	Councillor Arooj Shah
Rochdale	Councillor Neil Emmott
Salford	City Mayor Paul Dennett
Stockport	Councillor Mark Hunter
Tameside	Councillor Ged Cooney
Trafford	Councillor Tom Ross
Wigan	Councillor David Molyneux

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair of GMCA Overview & Scrutiny	Councillor Nadim Muslim
Co-Chair Faith Network 4 Manchester	Rabbi Warren Elf
Rochdale	Councillor Janet Emsley

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM	Eamonn Boylan
GMCA Deputy Chief Executive	Andrew Lightfoot
GMCA Monitoring Officer	Gillian Duckworth
GMCA Treasurer	Steve Wilson
Bolton	Lee Fallows
Bury	Lynne Ridsdale
Manchester	James Binks
Oldham	Harry Catherall
Rochdale	Steve Rumbelow
Salford	John Searle
Stockport	Caroline Simpson

Tameside	Sandra Stewart
Trafford	Sara Todd
Wigan	Alison McKenzie-Folan
Office of the GM Mayor	Kevin Lee
TfGM	Martin Lax
TfGM	Anne Marie Purcell
TfGM	Steve Warrener
GMCA	Sylvia Welsh
GMCA	Lee Teasdale

1. APOLOGIES

That apologies be received and noted from Sue Johnson (Bolton) (represented by Lee Fallows), Joanne Roney (Manchester) (represented by James Binks) and Tom Stannard (Salford) (represented by John Searle).

2. CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

1. That the GMCA welcomes the confirmed adoption of Places for Everyone, recognising the contributions of each of the constituent districts in bringing it to this point.
2. That infrastructure reports on supporting growth locations be submitted to a future GMCA meeting.

3. BEE NETWORK PERFORMANCE UPDATE

1. That the launch of Tranche 2 of the Bee Network on Sunday 24th March 2024 be noted.
2. That the successful launch of Stockport Interchange on Sunday 17th March 2024 be noted.
3. That it be ensured that residents were made fully aware of the compensation scheme when moving from individual bus operator fares products to the Bee Network fare structure.

4. That the Mayor reaffirms his commitment to the introduction of TravelSafe Live Chat as soon as possible.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

5. GMCA MINUTES - 23 FEBRUARY 2024

That the minutes of the GMCA meeting held on 23 February 2024 be approved as a correct record.

6. GMCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MINUTES - 21 FEBRUARY 2024

That the proceeding of the meeting of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 21 February 2024 be noted.

7. BEE NETWORK COMMITTEE MINUTES - 22 FEBRUARY 2024

That the proceedings of the meeting of the Bee Network Committee held on 22 February 2024 be noted.

8. GMCA AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES - 13 MARCH 2024

That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Audit Committee held on 13 March 2024 be noted.

9. GMCA WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE MINUTES - 13 MARCH 2024

That the proceedings of the meeting of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee held on 13 March 2024 be noted.

10. APPOINTMENT OF GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE GMCA, FIRE & TFGM

1. That the recruitment process undertaken be noted.
2. That the appointment of Caroline Simpson to the role of Group Chief Executive Officer for the GMCA, Fire & TFGM at a salary of £240k per annum, based on the role description attached to this report be approved.

3. That Caroline Simpson (as the Chief Executive Officer of the GMCA) be designated as the statutory Head of Paid Service for the GMCA in accordance with s4 Local Government & Housing Act 1989.
4. That Caroline Simpson (as the Chief Executive Officer of the GMCA) be appointed as the Combined Authority Returning Officer for any Combined Authority election taking place after the commencement of her appointment.
5. That Caroline Simpson be appointed as the Group Chief Executive Officer of TfGM (the Transport Executive) and GMCA (the Transport Authority) as the Director General of TfGM in accordance with the provisions of the Transport Act 1968.
6. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Deputy Chief Executive & GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to finalise the terms of the contract and the start date.

11 A BED EVERY NIGHT BUDGET AND UPDATE 2024/25

1. That the A Bed Every Night budget for 2024/25 (£5,600,000) be approved.
2. That the intended direction of travel for the ABEN budget for 2025/26 be noted.
3. That following the last year of the programme there be a review of the year, considering how the activity could be continually built upon.
4. That the Mayor will raise the importance of changing funding mechanisms to ensure a fair flow to districts with additional burdens when he meets with the Home Secretary.

12 GREATER MANCHESTER CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PROGRAMME UPDATE

1. That the positive early signs in relation to compliance with the 'Greater Manchester Pledge' as part of an ambition to tackle the issue of high costs and reliance on agency social workers be noted.

2. That the positive progress towards the establishment of the Greater Manchester Fostering Hub, to be hosted by Rochdale Council, as part of the national Fostering pathfinder, supported by the announcement of a further allocation of funding from DfE to support communications activity over the next 12 months, be noted.
3. That funding of up to £5m be allocated to acquire properties to be used for Project Skyline. The selection of properties will be determined by the Skyline Board and recommended to the GMCA for acquisition.
4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review and agree the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the acquisitions, to sign off any conditions, issue final approvals and complete any documentation in respect of the property acquisitions on behalf of the GMCA, as recommended by the Skyline Board.
5. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review, agree the content, and sign the Partnership Agreement on behalf of GMCA, noting that GMCA's role is one of convener, funder, owner and landlord of the properties acquired.
6. That approval be given for the GMCA to take the lead role in procuring the contract on behalf of the 10 districts but that one of the 10 LAs is named in the contract as the lead Authority and is provided as part of the partnership arrangements with resources to manage the contract on an ongoing basis on behalf of the 10. That it be noted that contract management will have resource implications which will need to be shared across Local Authorities.
7. That the current consultation process underway with Locality Boards across Greater Manchester in relation to the development of the 'Giving every child and young person the best start in life' part of the GM Integrated Care Partnership Joint Forward Plan, be noted.

13 #BEEWELL SURVEY HEADLINES

1. That the key findings of the 2023 #BeeWell survey results be noted.
2. That approval be given for members to act on what the data was telling and support the #BeeWell mission to make young people's wellbeing everybody's business and that those examples provided in the report to suggest connections to local priorities, ensuring young people's voices were leading the response be utilised.

3. That the examples shared where #BeeWell, and the voices of young people, has had impact, locally be received.
4. That the GMCA record its thanks to Councillor Mark Hunter and the Childrens Board for their work in bringing the survey together.
5. That approval be given for the valuable ward breakdown data to be made available to individual districts.

14 COST OF LIVING & ECONOMIC RESILIENCE UPDATE

1. That the latest assessment and emerging response and views on the next steps in that response be noted.
2. That the GMCA record its continued concerns around the uncertainty of ongoing Household Support Funding.
3. That the Deputy Mayors campaign in collaboration with the Co-Operative Group to make violence against retail workers a specific offence be noted.
4. That Transport for Greater Manchester be requested to remind residents through communications channels of the significant savings that could be made through combined travel mode ticket offers.

15 GREATER MANCHESTER FAITH, BELIEF AND INTERFAITH COVENANT

1. That the Covenant and the commitments within it be endorsed.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to Rabbi Warren Elf for his continued contribution.
3. That the GMCA record its thanks to Sara Todd as the Chief Executive Lead for the work undertaken on the Covenant.

16 GREATER MANCHESTER DEVOLVED ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET (AEB) AND FREE COURSES FOR JOBS (FCFJ) UPDATE

1. That the achievements and performance of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) for the 2022/2023 academic year, set out in Section 2 be noted.
2. That the developments and progress of Greater Manchester's devolved Adult

Education Budget (AEB) for the current 2023/2024 academic year, set out in Section 3, be noted.

3. That the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations and 'Level 3 Single Pot' for grant funded and indicative devolved AEB allocations for procured providers for skills provision be approved and that authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to agree any minor changes that arise during discussions between each institution and GMCA.
4. That the Level 3 Single Pot commissioning approach be noted and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM, GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital to take forward this commissioning, to contract award.
5. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead and Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for Education, Skills, Work, Apprenticeships and Digital, to make decisions relating to the procurement of skills & work delivery utilising any devolved AEB underspend.
6. That approval be given for support to be continued for the administration and management costs for the 2024/2025 academic year.
7. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the proposed indicative devolved AEB allocations, 'Level 3 Single Pot' and subsequent expenditure for the GM grant-funded local authorities, and to grant delegated authority to the GMCA Treasurer to approve any minor changes that arise in the course of discussions between each local authority and GMCA.
8. That the Mayor of Greater Manchester approved the continuation of the AEB LA Grant Programme to each of the ten local authorities, including varying where necessary levels of funding per local authority.
9. That the GMCA record its thanks the GMCA Education, Work & Skills Team.

17. GREATER MANCHESTER SMART DECARBONISATION NETWORK

1.

1. That the development of the Greater Manchester Smart Decarbonisation Network (GM-SDN) in line with the Memorandum of Agreement between GMCA and DSIT be endorsed.

2. That support be given to work between local authorities to share learning and where possible identify opportunities to scale the Smart Decarbonisation Network (SDN) and associated outcomes.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Digital City Region, to approve the allocation of funding for partner organisations and any required variations to funding allocations subsequently required to meet the overall project objectives within the defined parameters of the project.

18 RETAINED BUSINESS RATES UPDATE

1. That the comments of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.
2. That the GMCA record its thanks to the GMCA Finance Team.
3. That the forecast, as at the end of quarter 3, for 2023/24 business rates income be noted.
4. That the planned income for 2024/25 be noted.
5. That the proposed 2024/25 Greater Manchester use of the 2023/24 business rates income be approved.
6. That the position in respect of the future developments in relation to retained business rates be noted, including
 - Trailblazer Devolution (TDD) 10-year business rates retention scheme.
 - TDD Growth Zones enhanced business rates areas.
 - Investment Zone enhanced business rates areas.
 - GM partial reset

Future approach to GM investment

19 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

That the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy be approved.

20 2024/25 GMCA CAPITAL STRATEGY

That the Capital Strategy for 2024/25 be approved.

21. PROGRESS IN TACKLING THE BIODIVERSITY EMERGENCY IN GREATER MANCHESTER

1. That the publication of a State of Nature Report be noted.
2. That the progress in developing the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy be noted.
3. That the delivery of the Green Spaces Fund be noted.
4. That the compliance with the Biodiversity Duty be noted.

22. BIOWASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PROCUREMENT

1. That the commencement of the procurement process for biowaste treatment contracts for the period June 2026 to March 2034 be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Head of Paid Service in consultation with the GMCA Treasurer and the Portfolio Lead for Green City Region, to approve the award of contracts under the biowaste framework.
3. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to complete all necessary legal agreements for the Biowaste treatment contracts.
4. That approval be given to the market testing exercise as set out in the biowaste strategy at section 4.0.

23. FUTURE WASTE SERVICE PROVISION

1. That the extension of the WRMS and HWRCMS contracts for waste disposal between the parties set out in section 1 of the report from 2026 to 2034 be approved.
2. That the completion of contract documentation be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, in consultation with to the Executive Director, Waste and Resources.
3. That the concerns raised about the landfill site at Pilsworth South be noted and

that the resolution of the issue be considered a highest level priority due to ongoing health concerns raised by residents.

24 GMCA TOOTAL BUILDINGS LEASE RENEWAL

1. That the Lease renewal for accommodation within the Tootal Buildings to be occupied by the GMCA on a 10-year term with 5-year break option as per the terms set out in the corresponding Part B report be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer and GMCA Treasurer to finalise the terms and complete the lease and any related documents required to give effect to this decision.

25 GREATER MANCHESTER LAND COMMISSION - UPDATE

That the report be noted.

26 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING DELIVERY PLAN

That the Greater Manchester Housing Delivery Plan, as set out in this document and the Implementation Plan as set out in Annex 1, be approved.

27 LONG TERM INVESTMENT INTO HOUSING DELIVERY

1. That approval be given for a £5m loan into a newly created Greater Manchester Key Worker Fund, to be managed by Places for People's investment arm – Thriving Investments Limited.
2. That the use of £2m to refinance the Greater Manchester Housing Investment Fund investment from Hive Homes (Greater Manchester) LLP be approved.
3. That the proposed £0.5m equity investment to Step Places for the third phase of the Bolton Moor Lane development be approved.
4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer, to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.

28 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT LOANS FUND AND BROWNFIELD HOUSING FUND

1. That the GMHILF loans, detailed in the table below, be approved, as detailed further in this and the accompanying Part B report. The recommendation is to approve as a cap on lending, with the Combined Authority committing to provide £120m across the two schemes and having the option to provide a further £20m if there was surplus funding available.

BORROWER	SCHEME	DISTRICT	LOAN
Trinity Developments (Manchester) Ltd	Tower D1, Trinity Island	Manchester	£70.8m
New Jackson (Contour) Investments Ltd	Contour	Manchester	£69.2m

2. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer to change the funding source of GMHILF loans into the Brownfield Housing Fund in advance of 31 March 2024.
3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer GMCA & TfGM, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Housing, to approve funding and urgent variations to existing funding for GMHILF, City Deal Receipts and/or the Brownfield Housing Fund funding in the period 22 March 2024 to 31 May 2024.
4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to prepare and effect the necessary legal agreements.
5. That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

29 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK, CONDITIONAL PROJECT APPROVAL

1. That the proposed follow-on equity investment of up to £300k to The Modular Analytics Company Limited be approved.
2. That the capital loan of up to £2.6m to Glenbrook Industrial Limited be approved.
3. That amendments to the £650k loan in place with FM Outsource Limited be

approved.

4. That authority be delegated to the GMCA Treasurer and GMCA Solicitor & Monitoring Officer to review the due diligence information in respect of the above investments, and, subject to their satisfactory review and agreement of the due diligence information and the overall detailed commercial terms of the investments, to sign off any outstanding conditions, issue final approvals and complete any necessary related documentation in respect of the investments noted above.
5. That authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, GMCA & TfGM and the GMCA Treasurer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Investment and Resources, to approve projects for funding and agree urgent variations to the terms of funding in the period 22 March 2024 to 30 May 2024.
6. That it be noted that any recommendations approved under the delegation will be reported to the next available meeting of the GMCA.

30 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.

PART B

31 FUTURE WASTE SERVICE PROVISION

That the report be noted.

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 22 above refers).

32 GMCA TOOTAL BUILDINGS LEASE RENEWAL

That the report be noted.

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the

agenda (Item 23 above refers).

33 LONG TERM INVESTMENT INTO HOUSING DELIVERY

That the report be noted.

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 26 above refers).

34 GREATER MANCHESTER HOUSING INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be noted.

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 27 above refers).

35 GREATER MANCHESTER INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

That the report be noted.

Clerk's Note: This item was considered in support of the report considered in Part A of the agenda (Item 28 above refers).

A link to the full agenda and papers can be found here: [Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk)

This decision notice was issued 25th March 2024 on behalf of Julie Connor, Secretary to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Broadhurst House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU. The deadline for call in of the attached decisions is 4.00pm on 3rd April 2023.

Call-In Process

In accordance with the scrutiny procedure rules, these decisions would come into effect five days after the publication of this notice unless before that time any three members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee decides to call-in a decision.

Members must give notice in writing to the Chief Executive that they wish to call-in a decision, stating their reason(s) why the decision should be scrutinised. The period between the publication of this decision notice and the time a decision may be implemented is the 'call-in' period.

Decisions which have already been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and where the GMCA's decision agrees with the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may not be called in.