

## **CORPORATE STRATEGY AND FINANCE POLICY DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

MEETING, 19TH MARCH, 2008

Present – Councillors Morris (Chairman), P.Brierley, Kay (as deputy for Councillor Adia) Hayes, Rushton, Sherrington, Spencer (as deputy for Councillor Chadwick) J. Walsh and D.A Wilkinson.

### Also in Attendance

|                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Mr. S. Harriss  | - | Chief Executive                           |
| Mr. A. Eastwood | - | Director of Legal and Democratic Services |
| Mr. A. Jennings | - | Democratic Services Manager               |

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Adia and Chadwick.

Councillor Morris in the Chair.

### **14. MINUTES**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Policy Development Group held on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 were submitted and signed as a correct record.

### **15. AGMA NEW GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services submitted a report that outlined the proposed governance arrangements for the AGMA Executive and its commissions.

Members were reminded of the principles agreed by the Leaders of the AGMA councils relating to the future operation of city region governance in Greater Manchester.

It was explained that the functions and responsibility exercised at the sub-regional level would be the responsibility of a new Sub –

Regional Executive Board which would comprise the 10 Leaders .

Members were informed that a draft constitution had now been formulated and that the arrangements for city region governance would operate via a joint committee appointed by the AGMA authorities under sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972 to be known as the Executive Board.

The report set out the salient points of the draft constitution and the operating arrangements and emphasised that they would be required to be approved by this Council's Executive and Council ;it was hoped that the new arrangements would be in place by July, 2008.

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services explained particular aspects of the draft constitution and requested members views in order that they could be incorporated in the final version. The following views were expressed with respect to the paragraphs highlighted;

- (a) Members reiterated the view that the aim was not to create a separate local authority;
- (b) that decisions/proposals/actions should be reported to members of the Council;
- (c) that the Executive Board should be named the AGMA Executive Board;
- (d) that there should be provision for a recorded vote;
- (e) that the annual review of the agreement should be subject to a resolution of two thirds of the Board and also approved by two thirds of the Parties;
- (f) that scrutiny panels should be politically balanced;and
- (g) that with respect to joint scrutiny arrangements both sexes should, as far as practicable, be represented.

Once approved by the AGMA Councils further work would be undertaken with partners across the city region and within Bolton.

The Policy Development Group noted the report and that any further comments/suggestions be forwarded to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services.