

GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY

DECISIONS MADE BY THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 14th DECEMBER 2012 AT BURY TOWN HALL

**Decisions published on 19th December 2012 and will come into force from
4:00pm on the 28th December 2012, subject to call-in,
except for any urgent decisions.**

The process for call in of decisions is set out as an Appendix to this note, extracted from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Constitution. The address for the purposes of the schedule is that of the GMCA Secretary, c/o Manchester City Council, P.O. Box 532, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 2LA; or by contacting r.fawcett@manchester.gov.uk and k.bond@agma.gov.uk

The reports detailed in this note can be accessed at the AGMA website via the following link: - <http://www.agma.gov.uk/calendar/index.html>. Any report not available on the web site will be available for Scrutiny Pool members from the GMCA Secretary on request, on a private and confidential basis.

1. LOCALISM ACT 2011 - NEW GMCA CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS AND ARRANGEMENTS TO DEAL WITH COMPLAINTS (agenda item 5)

The Combined Authority received a report from Susan Orrell, GMCA Monitoring Officer recommending the appointment of:

1. two "Independent Persons" (as defined by the Localism Act 2011) to assist the GMCA's Monitoring Officer and Hearing Panel in dealing with allegations that Members of the GMCA have acted in breach of the GMCA's Code of Conduct; and
2. one Co-Opted Independent Member of the GMCA's Standards Committee, who the Monitoring Officer recommends should be appointed as the Chair of the GMCA's Standards Committee.

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to appoint Elizabeth Carmichael and Naseem Malick to act as Independent Persons for a term of office of four years; and
2. to appoint Amanda Isles to act as an Independent Co-opted Member and the Chair of the GMCA's Standards Committee for a term of office of four years.

2. GREATER MANCHESTER CITY DEAL - SKILLS (agenda item 6)

The Combined Authority received a report from Mike Emmerich, Chief Executive New Economy outlining the Greater Manchester Skills Priorities, recommended by the GM Skills and Employment Partnership.

The Combined Authority AGREED to:

1. endorse the GM Skills Priorities agreed by the Skills and Employment Partnership at its November meeting; and
2. note progress made to-date in the implementation of the City Deal for skills.

3. CITY DEAL - BUSINESS GROWTH (agenda item 6a)

The Combined Authority received a report from Barbara Spicer, Chief Executive Salford CC updating members on the AGMA forecast revenue outturn position 2012/13, including resource requirements for Greater Manchester priorities and AGREED:

1. to allocate £4.4m RGF2 funding that has been previously agreed with government as part of the City Deal to support the continued delivery and development of the business Growth Hub, and to provide a match for the ERDF delivery that has successfully been secured following DCLG procurement exercises;
2. that in the first instance the RGF allocation will be managed on behalf of the Combined Authority by Manchester Solutions on an interim basis, prior to the entirety of the Business Growth Hub resources and activity being passed to new CA owned business group;
3. to delegate to the Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, the best mechanisms to achieve this flow of resources to Manchester Solutions and on to the new company (including assessing whether the CA should pass on monies to MS only to cover the interim period of delivery and retain the remainder in the CA to directly fund the new entity), and;
4. to receive a further report from the new 'Business Growth' Board for agreement of the expected outcomes for this funding within the context of an overall business plan.

4. MANCHESTER SOLUTIONS/BUSINESS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (agenda item 7)

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to approve Ian Stewart, Kieran Quinn and Jim McMahon as the Combined Authority's nominees on the new Board of the Business Centre of Excellence;
2. to note the arrangements being proposed by Manchester Solutions in relation to the directors whose terms of appointment expire on 15 December 2013 including the extension of the current terms of those directors who wish to continue until 31 March 2013;
3. that the Combined Authority nominees on the panel established to oversee the recruitment process and interview potential candidates for the role of Chief Executive of the Business Centre of Excellence be delegated with the authority to make the appointment and authorise the Head of the Paid Service following consultation with the Chief Executive of the Greater Manchester Chamber to effect the appointment and to finalise the terms and conditions of the appointed candidate including the identification of an appropriate employer.

5. METROLINK DIRECTOR TfGM (agenda item 8)

The Combined Authority received a report of David Leather, Chief Executive TfGM seeking ratification for the appointment of a new Metrolink Director in early 2013.

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to note the conclusion of the recruitment process for the appointment of the Metrolink Director, which involved a panel consisting of the Chair and two Vice Chairs of TfGMC and the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group of TfGMC; and
2. the appointment of Peter Cushing as the Metrolink Director and the proposed remuneration package.

6. APPOINTMENT OF TfGM NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (agenda item 9)

The Combined Authority received a report of Penny Boothman, Deputy Clerk TfGMC and Head of GMIST seeking approval to the appointment of Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, as a non-Executive Director of Transport for Greater Manchester.

The Combined Authority AGREED to approve the appointment of Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer, as a non-Executive Director of TfGM for a term of 3 years.

7. WORKING CAPITAL LOAN TO THE GREATER MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (agenda item 11)

The Combined Authority received a report of Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer providing progress on the project and seeking approval to make a loan to the Chamber of Commerce, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the report.

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to provide a working capital loan facility of up to £500,000 to the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce commencing before 31 December 2012, to be repaid in full by 30 November 2014;
2. to delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer and the Treasurer to agree the detailed terms and conditions of the loan and to enter into any necessary legal agreements; and
3. that the above decisions are urgent and should be exempt from call-in on the grounds that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in would seriously prejudice the interests of the Councils or the residents/businesses of Greater Manchester.

8. BUSINESS RATES POOLING (agenda item 12)

The Combined Authority received a report of Richard Paver, GMCA Treasurer seeking agreement to the principle of participation in a Business Rates Pool for Greater Manchester Districts and proposing arrangements for a decision to be made as to continued membership once the detail of the Local Government Finance Settlement has been received

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. that the Treasurer of the Combined Authority, in consultation with the Head of Paid Service and the Chair and Vice Chairs, be authorised to determine the future participation of nine of the ten District Councils in a Business Rates Pool;
2. to note that in the event of the Pool being agreed for 2013/14, Manchester City Council will act as host of the Pool and to authorise the Treasurer to make the necessary practical arrangements in consultation with the District Council Treasurers;

3. to note that the individual Districts within the proposed pool will need to make arrangements to confirm, or otherwise, their continued participation during the 28 day period specified by CLG following the draft Funding Settlement; and
4. that the above decisions are urgent and should be exempt from call-in on the grounds that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in would seriously prejudice the interests of the Councils or the residents/businesses of Greater Manchester.

PART B

9. LAND ACQUISITION AT METROLINK STOP AT LADYWELL (agenda item 14)

The Combined Authority received a report of David Leather, Chief Executive TfGM seeking approval to increase the TfGM Capital Programme in relation to the acquisition of a plot of land that is used as a car park at the Metrolink stop at Ladywell.

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to approve the addition of £3.5 million to the 2012/13 TfGM Capital Programme in relation to the acquisition of a plot of land that is used as a car park at the Metrolink stop at Ladywell; and
2. to note that the acquisition will be funded from an existing 'cash backed' property reserve held by TfGM. The funding will be repaid by a reduction in future rental payments resulting from the acquisition.

10. GREATER MANCHESTER DEBT DEAL (agenda item 15)

The Combined Authority received a report of Howard Bernstein, Chief Executive Manchester City Council proposing the management of external long term borrowing in the light of the proposed introduction of new European Accounting Standards in 2014.

The Combined Authority AGREED:

1. to approve the proposals for an arrangement with HM Treasury for the regulation of external long term borrowing by certain Greater Manchester bodies including GMCA, drawing on the now well established deal between HM Treasury the Greater London Authority/Transport Authority for London;
2. to delegate to the Head of Paid Service in consultation with the Combined Authority's Treasurer and Monitoring Officer, the Chair and Vice Chairs and the Project Board to agree the final terms of arrangements with HMT on behalf of the Combined Authority including the borrowing totals;
3. that further discussions should take place with HMT on the establishment of a wider scrutiny regime with Greater Manchester acting as a pilot; and
4. that the above decisions are urgent and should be exempt from call-in on the grounds that any delay likely to be caused by the call-in would seriously prejudice the interests of the Councils or the residents/businesses of Greater Manchester.

EXTRACT FROM THE GMCA CONSTITUTION

PART 5B - SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS FOR GMCA, TFGMC AND TFGM

5. Call in of decisions

5.1 Call in of decisions of GMCA and TfGMC

- (a) Members of the Scrutiny Pool appointed under this Protocol will have the power to call in:-
 - (i) any decision of the GMCA;
 - (ii) any major or strategic decision of the TfGMC which is taken by the TfGMC in accordance with the delegations set out in Part 3 Section B II of this Constitution.

5.2 Publication of Notice of Decisions

- (a) When:-
 - (i) a decision is made by the GMCA; or
 - (ii) a major or strategic decision is made by the TfGMC in accordance with the delegations set out in Part 3, Section B II of this Constitution;

the decision shall be published, including where possible by electronic means, and shall be available normally within 2 days of being made. It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to send electronic copies of the records of all such decisions to all members of the Scrutiny Pool within the same timescale.
- (b) The notices referred to at subparagraph 5.2(a) above will bear the date on which they are published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, as from 4.00 pm on the fifth day after the day on which the decision was published, unless 5 members of the Scrutiny Pool object to it and call it in.