

**JOINT GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
& AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

Date: 19 December 2014

Subject: Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board Meeting

Report of: Julie Connor, Head of GM Integrated Support Team

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At their meeting on 24 June 2011, the GMCA agreed procedures for developing a Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the Authority, in line with the requirements of the GMCA's constitution. The latest such plan is attached as the Appendix to this report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 GMCA and AGMA Executive Board members are invited to note, comment and suggest any changes they would wish to make on the latest Forward Plan of Strategic Decisions for the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board; attached to this report.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL BACKGROUND AND ARRANGEMENTS AGREED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD ON 24 JUNE 2011

3.1 Under AGMA's constitution – as revised by the Operating Agreement which set up the GMCA – there is the following requirement:-

13. Forward Plan

13.1 The Board will produce a forward plan in accordance with the requirements of section 22 of the Local Government Act 2000.

3.2 The requirements of section 22 of the 2000 Act were set out in regulations made by the Secretary of State in 2001. In summary they require

- preparation of a plan covering 4 months, starting on the first day of the month
- a monthly revision of the plan
- publication of the plan fourteen days before it would come in to effect
- the plan to state
 - (i) the issue on which a major strategic decision is to be made;
 - (ii) the date on which, or the period within which, the major strategic decision will be taken;
 - (iii) arrangements for any consultation to be made before the decision is taken
 - (iv) how anyone can make representations on the matter and the date by which any such representations must be made; and
 - (v) a list of the documents to be submitted when the matter is considered

4 FORWARD PLAN: CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 In summary the Secretary of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board meeting is required to:-

- prepare a plan covering 4 months, starting on the first day of the month
- to refresh this plan monthly
- to publish the plan fourteen days before it would come in to effect
- state in the plan
 - (i) the issue on which a major strategic decision is to be made;
 - (ii) the date on which, or the period within which, the major strategic decision will be taken;
 - (iii) how anyone can make representations on the matter and the date by which any such representations must be made; and
 - (iv) a list of the documents to be submitted when the matter is considered

4.2 Key decisions are defined as being those which are likely:-

- a. to result in the local authority incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the local authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- b. to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the local authority.

In further guidance issued by the Secretary of State local authorities are required to

"agree as a full council limits above which items are significant. The agreed limits should be published."

4.3 The constitution is also quite specific about the matters which would need to be included within the Forward Plan:-

- any matter likely to result in the GMCA and AGMA Executive Board incurring significant expenditure (over £1 million), or the making of significant savings; or
- any matter likely to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in the area of the Combined Authority.

plus the following more specific requirements:-

1. a sustainable community strategy;
2. a local transport plan;
3. approval of the capital programme of the GMCA and TfGM and approving new transport schemes to be funded by the Greater Manchester Transport Fund;
4. other plans and strategies that the GMCA may wish to develop;
5. the preparation of a local economic assessment

6. the development or revision of a multi-area agreement,
 7. the approval of the budget of the GMCA;
 8. the approval of borrowing limits, the treasury management strategy and the investment strategy;
 9. the setting of a transport levy;
 10. arrangements to delegate the functions or budgets of any person to the GMCA;
 11. the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the GMCA;
 12. any proposals in relation to road user charging
- 4.3 All the matters at 1-12 above require 7 members of the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board to vote in favour, except those on road user charging, which require a unanimous vote in favour
- 4.5 The attached plan therefore includes all those items currently proposed to be submitted to the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board over the next 4 months which fit in with these criteria. Members should be aware that:-
- Only those items considered to fit in with the above criteria are included. It is not a complete list of all items which will be included on the Joint GMCA and AGMA Executive Board agendas
 - Items listed may move dependent on the amount of preparatory work recorded and external factors such as where matters are dependent on Government decisions; and

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**FORWARD PLAN OF STRATEGIC DECISIONS
1 DECEMBER 2014 – 31 MARCH 2015**

The Plan contains details of Key Decisions currently planned to be taken by the Joint Meeting of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and AGMA Executive Board; or Chief Officers (as defined in the GMCA and AGMA constitution) in the period between 1 December 2014 and 31 March 2015.

Please note: Dates shown are the earliest anticipated and decisions may be later if circumstances change.

If you wish to make representations in connection with any decisions please contact the contact officer shown; or the offices of the Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team (at Manchester City Council, P.O. Box 532, Town Hall, Manchester, M60 2LA, 0161-234 3124; info@agma.gov.uk) before the date of the decision.

KEY DECISION /CONTACT OFFICER/CONSULTATION DETAILS	ANTICIPATED DATE OF DECISION & DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	DECISION TAKER
S48 Grants Programme Wider Leadership Team Chief Executive - Howard Bernstein Contact Officer: Julie Connor	19 December 2014	GMCA& AGMA Executive Board
GMCA & AGMA Budgets Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer - Richard Paver Contact Officer: Richard Paver	30 January 2015	GMCA& AGMA Executive Board
Business Rates Pooling Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer - Richard Paver Contact Officer: Richard Paver	30 January 2015	GMCA& AGMA Executive Board

KEY DECISION /CONTACT OFFICER/CONSULTATION DETAILS	ANTICIPATED DATE OF DECISION & DOCUMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	DECISION TAKER
<p>Greater Manchester Spatial Framework – Proposed Timetable</p> <p>Wider Leadership Team Lead Officer – Eamonn Boylan</p> <p>Contact Officer: Chris Findley</p>	TBC	GMCA& AGMA Executive Board