

## **ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MANCHESTER AUTHORITIES**

### **DECISIONS MADE BY THE AGMA EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS MEETING ON 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2010 AT STOCKPORT TOWN HALL**

#### **Decisions published on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and will come into force from 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010 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 AGMA's constitution. The address for the purposes of the schedule is that of the AGMA Secretary, c/o Wigan Investment Centre, Waterside Drive, Wigan, WN3 5BA; or by contacting: [j.gaskell@agma.gov.uk](mailto:j.gaskell@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/executive\\_board/executive\\_board\\_meeting\\_papers/index.html](http://www.agma.gov.uk/executive_board/executive_board_meeting_papers/index.html)

#### **1. GREATER MANCHESTER STRATEGY DELIVERY PLAN: UPDATES (Agenda Item 5)**

The Board AGREED:

1. The five headline indicators set out in section 4.1 of the report as the basis for summarising Greater Manchester's overall progress in delivering the priorities of the GMS.
2. To note that the complete suite of Headline and Strategic Priority indicators are due to be finalised and baselined by the end of March 2011.

#### **2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY **(Agenda Item 6)****

The Board AGREED:

1. To welcome the announcement by Ministers regarding the Combined Authority including the statement of their intentions to lay an Order before Parliament;
2. To note the indicative timetable set out in the report and authorised officers to take whatever action is necessary to ensure compliance with this timetable to enable the new arrangements to come into operation by 1 April, 2011.
3. To note that further reports will be submitted to the Executive Board, GMITA and the district councils in accordance with the indicative timetable

and to urge districts in particular to make appropriate arrangements for meetings.

4. The indicative timetable agreed by the Executive Board is set out below:-

January	AGMA to consider the draft Operating Agreement, the amendments to the AGMA Constitution, the detailed protocols relating to the CA's economic development and transport functions and the schemes for the transfer of property, rights and liabilities
February	GMITA to consider the draft Operating Agreement and the detailed transport protocols
February	District Executives/Cabinets then full Councils to consider all the documentation as considered by AGMA plus agree the appointment of members and substitute members of the CA and TfGMC.
February	Shadow CA to consider draft constitution and Standing Orders and Shadow TfGMC to consider final operating agreement and sub-committee structure
1 April	CA and TfGMC meet to adopt constitutional documentation and, in the case of TfGMC, to elect Chair/Vice Chair, appoint committees etc

3. **NORTH WEST REGIONAL TRANSITION (Agenda Item 7)**

The Board AGREED:

1. To note that a further meeting of the Regional Transition Team has been arranged for the 29<sup>th</sup> November, and outcomes will be reported to the Regional Leaders Board at their meeting on 10 December.
2. To note progress with this work and endorse the emerging principles from each of the project work streams.

4. **ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE SPENDING REVIEW ON GREATER MANCHESTER (Agenda Item 8)**

The Board AGREED:

To note the contents of an interim report submitted which assessed the effects of the Spending Review and the broader current economic climate on the GM's growth prospects.

5. **REGIONAL GROWTH FUND – ROUND ONE SUBMISSION (Agenda Item 9)**

The Board AGREED:

1. That the Wider Leadership Team in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair be authorised to develop the detailed Round One RGF bid submission.
2. That AGMA Leaders consider the detailed nature of the Greater Manchester bid at their meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> December.

6. PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM: DELIVERY OF AGMA's IMPROVEMENT & EFFICIENCY AGENDA (Agenda Item 10)

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. To note the activity undertaken since the last report on 29th October and the identification of planned savings in 2011/12 that can be attributed to collaborative activity
2. To review and approve the recommended high level opportunities arising from the work on each of the Priority Theme areas.
3. To endorse the approach to the next stage in the process outlined in the report, leading to proposals and action plans being presented for approval by the end of March 2011 for implementation to commence during 2011/12.
4. That a further progress update report be provided to AGMA Executive Board in January 2011.

7. MINIMUM UNIT PRICE FOR ALCOHOL (Agenda Item 11)

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. To endorse the proposal that further work be carried out by the Task and Finish Group to reflect the changing national legislative context for consideration of the minimum unit pricing for alcohol and for the potential deployment of a bylaw, and agreed for the submission of a final report at a later date.
2. To recognise that in ensuring the bylaw proposal is practicable and enforceable as an element of the campaign towards national legislation on minimum unit pricing, further work is required to understand and balance the enforcement implications against the benefits of the proposal
3. To endorse that the GM Task and Finish Group to seek support from other areas regionally and nationally, e.g. Cheshire & Merseyside, to form a broader based coalition of support
4. To continue the commitment to the position adopted previously to strongly advocate nationally and locally for a minimum unit price for alcohol given the scale of health and societal harm caused by alcohol misuse in all parts of Greater Manchester.

Separately, in discussions on this item the Executive Board agreed to consider a report at their next meeting on the level of attendance at all Commission meetings since May 2010.

8. NATIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMME: GREATER MANCHESTER RING-FENCED FUNDS (Agenda Item 12)

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. To welcome the progress made in partnership with districts, HCA and both housing association and private developers;
2. To approve the seven remaining projects from the original £30 million programme which remain viable and clearly deliverable within the time constraints at a total cost of £3.86m :-

Hale Methodists, Trafford  
Wastwater Street, Oldham  
Acorn Mill, Oldham  
Hare & Hounds, Bolton  
Brookfield, Manchester  
Elisabeth Mill, Stockport  
Byland Avenue, Oldham

3. To extend the delegation of approval of funding for further schemes from the Greater Manchester ring-fenced pot to include additional schemes identified and supported by districts, either from the existing reserve list or in addition to those. This delegation to be to the Chair of the Planning & Housing Commission, in consultation with Roger Ellis as lead Chief Executive for the Commission and advised by the AGMA/HCA Joint Officer Group, subject to evidence of deliverability and value for money being secured to the satisfaction of HCA and the Joint Officer Group;
4. That the Joint Officer Group should monitor the progress being made on the schemes approved, and to delegate in similar terms to (3) above decisions to remove and replace any project from the programme where progress is unsatisfactory and delivery therefore at risk; and
5. That the Joint Officer Group should provide monthly reports to Executive Board members on progress, to be circulated electronically.

9. GM TRANSPORT FUND SCHEMES: GMTF ASHTON NORTHERN BYPASS STAGE 2 (Agenda Item 13)

The Executive Board endorsed the recommendation for full approval of the remaining highway works for Ashton Northern Bypass stage 2.

10. **REVIEW OF SCRUTINY ARRANGEMENTS (Agenda Item 14)**

The Executive Board AGREED that officers should now consider the recommendations in the report in light of the announcement on the Combined Authority and design an appropriate system for implementation on 2011/12.

11. **REVIEW OF AGMA BUDGETS 2011/12 - INITIAL PROPOSALS (Agenda Item 17)**

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. The initial savings of £297.4k set out in the report for reinvestment,
2. To endorse a series of actions proposed by the Wider Leadership Team as regards financial management of the AGMA Units,
3. To receive a further report at their meeting on 17 December setting out the areas proposed for this reinvestment and a redesign of AGMA budgets,
4. To receive a report from the Scrutiny Pool based on opportunities for further potential savings from AGMA Unit budgets in 2011/12; and
5. That as the Scrutiny Pool will not be meeting until Friday 10 December; that their report on this matter can be circulated as a late item, as soon as possible on the week beginning Monday 12 December.
6. That budget reports on Joint Authorities and the AGMA family be submitted to the Executive Board together with budget proposals for the redesign of the Manchester Family of Economic functions (MIDAS, Marketing Manchester, Commission for the New Economy and Manchester Solutions).

12. **SECTION 48 GRANTS REVIEW (Agenda Item 18)**

The Executive Board AGREED:

1. That the recommended criteria for the review of the Section 48 Grants Scheme as outlined in section 4 of the report be approved.
2. That as a result of the recommendations made at the Statutory Functions Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2010 that the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Committee should continue to be consulted during the review.
3. That the 3 month cash limit set by the Board for current revenue clients in 2011/12 should not apply to the Arts Council North West given that this is a Partnership Arrangement with the Council, not a grant.

4. That the consultant John Knell, Intelligence Agency, be appointed to undertake the review, as an extension to his existing commission in relation to the GM Arts Vision.
5. That the Chair and Vice Chairs be authorised to oversee the review to be managed by the Chair of the Wider Leadership Team, Chair of the Business Management Group and the AGMA Secretary, with a substantive report being made on the outcome of the Review in February 2011.

13. **MARKETING MANCHESTER BUDGET PROPOSALS 2011/12 (Agenda Item 19)**

The Executive Board considered a report which outlined the activity Marketing Manchester had undertaken with the support of AGMA financial intervention during 2010/11 but AGREED :

1. To consider the proposals in conjunction with the review of the economic functions; and
2. That more detailed scrutiny be given to the Manchester Conference Partnership

14. **GM METROPOLITAN DEBT ADMINISTRATION FUND (Agenda Item 20)**

The Executive Board considered a report which presented the Fund's estimated rates of interest for 2010/11 and 2011/12 together with the borrowing strategy to be employed.

The Board requested a report at its next meeting which will explore the potential for rescheduling the outstanding debt which was £189m at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010.

**EXTRACT FROM SCHEDULE 4 OF NEW AGMA CONSTITUTION**

- 5.1 Members of the scrutiny pool appointed under these arrangements will have the power to call in any decision of the Board.
- 5.2 When a decision is made by the Board the decision shall be published, including where possible by electronic means, and shall be available from the address specified in Paragraph 24.1 of this operating agreement 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 pool within the same timescale.
- 5.3 That notice will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days after the publication of the decision, unless 5 members the scrutiny pool object to it and call it in.
- 5.4 During that period, the Secretary shall call-in a decision for scrutiny by a joint meeting of pool members if so requested by any five members from the pool, and shall then notify members of the Board of the call-in. The Secretary shall call a joint meeting of pool members on such date as he/she may determine, where possible after consultation with the Chair of the pool, and in any case within 15 working days of the decision to call-in.
- 5.5 If, having considered the decision, the joint meeting of pool members is still concerned about it, then it may refer it back to the Board for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns. If referred to the Board they shall then reconsider within a further 15 working days, amending the decision or not, before adopting a final decision.
- 5.6 The call-in procedure set out above shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Board is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Board's or the public's or an individual's interests. The record of the decision, and notice by which it is made public shall state whether in the opinion of the decision making person or body, the decision is an urgent one, and therefore not subject to call-in. The Board must agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.

