

**GREATER MANCHESTER INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**

**REPORT FOR RESOLUTION**

**DATE:** 22 FEBRUARY, 2010

**SUBJECT:** CITY REGION PILOT AND GOVERNANCE

**REPORT OF:** CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

At its last meeting, the Authority considered the Draft Scheme of governance which had been approved by the AGMA Executive Board in December as part of a review of governance under the Local Transport Act 2008 and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and as a basis for consultation with district councils, GMITA and other stakeholders. The Authority identified a number of issues which it asked to be taken into account by the Executive Board when it considers the Final Draft Scheme and otherwise agreed to consider the outcome of the review and the Final Draft Scheme at a further meeting to be held prior to the Executive Board meeting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Authority is invited to consider and comment on the outcome of the review and the Final Draft Scheme of governance to be submitted to the AGMA Executive Board on 26 February 2010 (see Appendix B).

**CONTACT OFFICERS:**

Terry Bowers [t.bowers@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:t.bowers@manchester.gov.uk) 0161 234 3302

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS (AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION):**

Previous reports to the Authority in August and December, 2009 and February 2010

AGMA Executive Board reports and associated papers

Local Transport Act, 2008

Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act, 2009

## CONTEXT AND PROCESS

- 1 At its meeting on 12 February 2010, the Authority considered a report (Appendix A) describing the Draft Scheme of governance which had been approved by the AGMA Executive Board in December 2009 for consultation purposes as part of the review of governance arrangements.
- 2 The Authority noted that work had been commissioned by AGMA from KPMG to produce a business case examining the relative benefits of a Combined Authority compared to alternative options.
- 3 The Authority requested that the following issues should be taken into account by the AGMA Executive Board when it considers the outcome of the consultation and of further work undertaken in relation to the proposals including the business case work
  - The extent to which any new arrangements, if implemented, could be changed; the extent to which the position of the TfGMC can be protected; and what process needs to be undertaken to change the Order in relation to the setting up of the CA.
  - Whether it would be possible to merge the delivery body with the Joint Committee
  - Clarification of the specific arrangements enabling members of the Joint Committee to receive allowances.
  - Clarification on the participation of the Joint Committee on behalf of the CA within the LGA and associated interest groups.
  - Whether there should be certain elected members from constituent councils allowed to have attendance and speaking rights at meetings of the CA.
- 4 The Authority expressed regret at the potential loss of its authority status but welcomed the retention of its membership structure and many of its functions as a Joint Committee of the Combined Authority as part of the City Region Pilot.
- 5 The Authority also agreed that it would welcome additional funding and public transport functions and a Transport for London type of operation and the need for these functions to be clearly defined and agreed by Government.
- 6 It was agreed that a further meeting of the Authority would be held on 22 February 2010 to consider the outcome of the review and the Final Draft Scheme to be considered by the AGMA Executive Board in February.

- 7 The outcomes of the consultation and of further work undertaken in relation to the proposals (including the business case prepared by KPMG) are set out at Appendix B in the attached review document alongside the detail of the Final Draft Scheme (see Appendix 4 to the review document). These will be considered by the AGMA Scrutiny Pool on 25 February and by the Executive Board on 26 February. Responses to the issues raised by the Authority are set out at paragraphs 71 to 74 of the review document with the final issue (the issue of speaking rights at meetings of the CA) covered in paragraph 65. As far as the Authority's recommendations in relation to the Transport for London type of operation are concerned, progress on the development of rail and highways protocols and the agreed study on the Greater Manchester bus network is recorded in paragraph 28 of the review document. As indicated, the protocols are now awaiting formal endorsement by Ministers and, as soon as this is secured, the protocols will be circulated to GMITA and AGMA Leaders.

### **NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE**

- 8 Subject to the Executive Board agreeing to progress the scheme, all districts will need to agree to consent to the inclusion of their area in the Final Scheme and these meetings are likely to take in the week commencing 1 March. Officers will then prepare all necessary documentation for submission to the Secretaries of State at CLG and DfT in the following week.
- 9 Thereafter, the process as discussed with CLG and DfT officials will involve a draft order being prepared by the Secretaries of State which is then the subject of a consultation starting around the end of March. The Secretaries of State will be obliged to consult all 10 district councils, GMITA and such other persons as they consider appropriate on the proposed order before the draft order is laid before both Houses of Parliament. The timescale after this will be dependant on the Parliamentary timetable. The Final Draft Scheme proposes an implementation date of 1 April, 2011.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10 The Authority is invited to determine the views on the review and the Final Draft Scheme which it would wish to submit to the Executive Board.

**SIR HOWARD BERNSTEIN  
CLERK, GMITA**