

**TRANSPORT FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COMMITTEE
REPORT FOR RESOLUTION**

Date: 17 July 2015
Subject: Political Engagement 2015 - 16
Report of: Chief Executive Officer in consultation with TfGMC Lead
Members

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To set out a proposed approach and programme of political engagement to advance Greater Manchester's transport priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 1) note or comment as appropriate on the approach to political engagement as set out in the report;
- 2) delegate responsibility to Leading Members to finalise the detailed political engagement programme; and
- 3) agree that the attendance of invited Members at such political engagement events should rank as an approved duty for Members' travelling and subsistence allowances purposes.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Policy Priorities 2015 – 16, TfGMC, 17 July 2015

Political Engagement update, 16 January 2015

GM Strategy, GMCA / GM LEP, 2013

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1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 As members will be aware, TfGMC plays an important role in highlighting Greater Manchester's transport policy priorities to Government and other key stakeholders.
- 1.2 A report was submitted to the Committee on 16 January which updated the Committee on the political engagement activity to date.
- 1.3 The report also presented a budget of £41,700 (the same amount as in the previous year) to support the programme of engagement going forward, which was approved by the Committee.
- 1.4 It is proposed that TfGMC continue to develop and refine its approach to political engagement, and this report sets out a programme of activity which draws on previous experience. The report also highlights out how this approach will be supported by wider co-ordinated activity by TfGM across a wide range of stakeholders.

2. Objectives of Political Engagement

- 2.1 In light of the GM Agreement, the emerging 2040 Vision and the developing Northern Powerhouse / Transport for the North agenda, it is proposed that the Committee focus on the following themes, which draws on previous work as well as the Committee's Policy Priorities in advancing Greater Manchester's transport objectives:
 - Supporting the processes that will bring about fulfilment of devolution of additional transport powers and functions to Greater Manchester to enable us to deliver a fully integrated transport network for GM;
 - Present Greater Manchester as one of UK's leading city regions, at the heart of the North, best able to deliver sustainable economic growth and contribute to national priorities; and
 - Make the case for long term, predictable investment in Greater Manchester transport that can enable the wider city region to develop a transport investment programme.

3. Programme of events

- 3.1 In relation to political engagement by TfGMC, the following specific activities are recommended:
 - attendance at the Autumn conferences of the main political parties, with a programme of activity and supporting materials being developed

by officers to maximise the opportunities to promote key GM transport messages at each;

- this will include for example, arranging private meetings with appropriate Ministers and shadow ministers, and supporting TfGMC members in contributing to transport fringe meetings;
- hosting a fringe meeting at the Labour Party conference in Brighton;
- hosting a fringe meeting at the Conservative Party conference in Manchester; and
- arranging a Parliamentary Reception to brief Greater Manchester MPs and Peers, Ministers, key partners and stakeholders.

4. Other engagement activity

4.1 In addition, officers will continue to develop TfGM/C's approach to wider stakeholder engagement. This will include continuing to refine the most effective methods to articulate and advance priorities and GM transport messages to key decision-makers and audiences, ensuring this aligns with and complements GMCA and other Greater Manchester activity outside of the transport agenda.

4.2 This work includes a diverse array of activity all aimed at ensuring that each and every opportunity is maximised to promote key GM transport messages. For example, officers have:

- developed a core set of GM transport messages, for use and adoption by TfGM officers as they attend external events and meet key stakeholders;
- developed a forward look of events, external meetings, conferences attended by the GMCA, GM Local Enterprise Partnership, TfGM/C members and officers to better enable effective briefing, co-ordination and presentation of key messages;
- Continued to develop productive working relationships with key partners (such as PTEG and others) to help advance a common, forward looking transport agenda for city regions;
- Developing relationships with European and international transport networks, in collaboration with GM local authorities and PTEG, including POLIS, Eurocities and the UITP (International Association of Public Transport); and
- Ongoing production of the Momentum stakeholder newsletter every two months.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Recommendations can be found on the front page of this report.

Dr Jon Lamonte

Chief Executive, TfGM