PRESENT:

Councillor Peter Robinson        Bolton
Councillor Noel Bayley            Bury
Councillor John Leech             Manchester
Councillor Phil Burke             Rochdale
Councillor Patricia Sullivan      Rochdale
Councillor Robin Garrido          Salford
Councillor Roger Jones            Salford (Chair)
Councillor Annette Finnie         Stockport
Councillor Mark Aldred            Wigan

IN ATTENDANCE:

Alison Chew                      Interim Head of Bus Services, TfGM
Mike Evans                       Management Accountant, TfGM
Jenny Hollamby                   Governance & Scrutiny, GMCA
Nick Roberts                     Head of Service & Commercial Development, TfGM
Martin Shier                     Bus Partnership Development Manager, TfGM

ALSO PRESENT:

Alistair Nuttall                 Arriva
Bob Dunn                         Diamond
Ian Humphreys                    First Manchester
Adam Clark                       Stagecoach
Matt Kitchen                     Stagecoach
Brendan O'Reilly                 Transdev (Ross)
Nigel McKinney                   MCT
BN/18/74 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Adshead, David Chadwick and Barry Warner.

BN/18/75 URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed Members and representatives from bus operators.

There was no urgent business introduced.

Following a governance review, decisions were imminent around the role of TfGMC moving forward. The Chair invited bus operators to meet with him via appointment at TfGMC. Members congratulated the Chair on his appointment and also Councillor Mark Aldred on his appointment as Chair of TfGMC.

BN/18/76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the meeting.

BN/18/77 MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE 2018/19

Members noted the following Membership of the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee (13 Members) 9 Lab, 3 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat and their substitutes. *Cllr Steve Adshead (Trafford, Labour) had been nominated to Labour vacancy on the Committee and *Cllrs Valerie Leach (Oldham, Labour) and *Neil Emmott (Rochdale, Labour) had been nominated as substitutes for formal approval at the TfGMC meeting scheduled to take place on 13 July 2018.

Cllr Roger Jones (Chair)  Labour Salford
Cllr Noel Bayley  Labour Bury
Cllr Phil Burke  Labour Rochdale
Cllr David Chadwick  Labour Bolton
Cllr Peter Robinson  Labour Tameside
Cllr Naeem Hassan  Labour Manchester

Cllr Barry Warner (Deputy)  Labour Salford
*Cllr Steve Adshead  Labour Trafford
Cllr Mark Aldred  Labour Wigan
Cllr Annette Finnie  Conservative Stockport
Cllr Robin Garrido  Conservative Salford
Cllr Patricia Sullivan  Conservative Rochdale
Cllr John Leech  Liberal Democrat Manchester

Substitutes

Cllr Cllr Dzidra Noor  Labour Manchester
Resolved/-

That Membership of the Sub-Committee be noted.

BN/18/78 TERMS OF REFERENCE

At its meeting on 15 June 2018, TfGMC agreed the following Terms of Reference for the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee:

The Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub Committee, in accordance with the Committee’s policies for integrated public transport:

1. Considers all matters relating to the operation and service performance of the bus network in Greater Manchester, including commercially registered and subsidised services; bus stations and bus stops; passenger information services; contract monitoring; vehicle standards; and passenger safety for the subsidised bus network.

2. Considers the operation, performance and development of the TfGMC accessible transport provision.

3. Monitors:
   - the detailed performance of the tendered bus network;
   - the detailed operation and performance of the accessible transport services provided by the Committee and GMCA;
   - commercial bus services which make use of TfGM facilities such as bus stations, concessionary fares and Section 106 (1) grants to bus operators;

4. Under delegated authority, reviews closely and approves all proposed changes to the subsidised bus network and ensures that the cost of the subsidised general services is kept within the appropriate budget or any cash limit set by GMCA.

5. Under delegated authority, approves any operational proposals relating to the Executive’s provision of bus station, stop/shelter and passenger information services.

6. Discharges the above within GMCA’s capital and revenue budgets, set by GMCA.

Resolved/-
That Members noted the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee Terms of Reference.

BN/18/79 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

At TfGMC at its meeting on 15 June 2018, agreed the following dates for a programme of meetings for the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee for 2018/19:

Meetings to commence at 10.30 am unless otherwise indicated.

- Friday 6 July 2018.

The next provisional date, subject to agreement at the TfGMC Committee, was 24 August 2018.

Resolved/-

That the dates be noted.

BN/18/80 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2018

The minutes of the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee meeting held on 27 April 2018 were submitted.

Resolved/-

That the minutes of the Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee, held on 27 April 2018, be agreed as a correct record.

BN/18/81 FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO THE BUS NETWORK

The Chair advised that due to a technical issue, the resolution contained within the report could not be taken today. However, it could be agreed in principle and would need to be ratified the by TfGMC on Friday 13 July 2018.

Councillor Burke asked whether the 467 service could be extended by 500m. The Operators agreed to discuss this further with Members and TfGM outside of the meeting.

Councillor Bayley made representations about the 484 night service. The Operator and TfGM agreed to carry out further investigations about the service.

Councillor Leech raised the matter of feedback received from the general public when services were being changed, and asked whether it was possible to have sight of these. Officers reassured Members that representations from the public were made at the committee by ward Councillors. TfGM also highlighted the tight timetable when Operators...
proposed changes with a period of 50 days for comment. However, it was noted that this had now changed to 70 days.

Councillor Finnie raised concerns about the changes to the Trans Peak service. It was confirmed that changes were being picked up by the 199 service.

Councillor Bayley had received representations about the 479 and asked what the rationale for the change had been and how this would be communicated to local residents. TfGM agreed to clarify the position and stated that communications would be through the standard routes.

Councillor Robinson made representations about the 353 and 354 and asked officers to carry out further investigations. Concerns were raised about the length of walk to bus services. It was suggested the Local Link would be appropriate in this case.

Councillor Burke was concerned about the reduction of the number 12 service to every 40 minutes, from 20 minutes 18 months ago. The Operator stated this was in relation to recovery time and they could show the GSP data to demonstrate variability.

Councillor Burke noted concerns about the increase of 10 minutes, to a 40 minute service, for the 129 service.

Councillor Burke was concerned about the 412 being extended to a 90 minute service. TfGM noted that they would review this following feedback from the Operator.

Discussions about improving punctuality took place which included congestion, resources, additional costs and recovery time and the robustness of services. Members also requested further information about how many routes had had their timetables affected by punctuality and by how much.

Councillor Finnie raised the 381 service and suggested that more work could be done relating to services reaching supermarkets. TfGM officers explained that the 381, 303 and 305 were all interlinked and that this was a complex change. Officers agreed to review this again.

Councillor Leech had received representations from Councillor Smart regarding the 380 and 381 and the fact that there was a campaign underway to reverse this decision. The Member was advised to speak to Officers about an amendment to the recommendation at the full meeting of TfGMC on 13th July 2018.

Councillor Garrido requested that consideration be given to the report being written in plain English and including usage figures so that the reasons for changes were more transparent. Concerns were also expressed that the public would use bus services less and return to alternative modes of transport, such as cars, due to changes to the bus network. Members supported the need for information to be available in an easy to read format.

Members highlighted the need for an integrated transport system and a joined up approach across GM to the transport network. TfGM agreed to discuss these issues further with relevant Members outside of the meeting.
Councillor Leech requested more information regarding the reasoning behind the 270 and 299 services being rerouted. TfGM advised that there was a facility in place to reduce the impact on punctuality.

Resolved/-

That Members agreed the report in principle (to be ratified at the full TfGM Committee on 13 July 2018) subject to the suggested amendment to the resolution being resolved.

BN/18/82 BUS NETWORK PERFORMANCE FOR 2017/18

A report was presented that informed Members of the observed operational performance of the Greater Manchester bus network during 2017/18 and compared it against the level achieved in the previous financial year 2016/17.

Resolved/-

That Members noted the report.

BN/18/83 SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES PERFORMANCE 2017/18

Consideration was given to a report that informed Members of the performance of subsidised bus network during the 2017/18 financial year, drawing comparisons with the levels achieved in the previous period (2016/17).

Resolved/-

1. That it be noted that the subsidised bus network patronage for the 2017/18 financial year had slightly decreased to 20.27 million. However, average patronage loadings had increased due to the disproportionately larger fall in journey departures.

2. That the high operational performance and environmental standards of the subsidised bus network, compared to equivalent network wide performance levels be noted.

3. That the declared lost mileage performance (0.39%) is consistently within the industry minimum standard (0.5%) be noted.

BN/18/84 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved/-

That in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 2971, the public and press be excluded from the meeting at this juncture for the following business on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule of 12A of the Act.

It would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose this information to the public and press.
BN/18/85 FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO THE BUS NETWORK

The Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee was inquorate and therefore the Chair and Members agreed that this report would be considered at the meeting of the full Transport for Greater Manchester Committee on 13th July 2018.

RESOLVED:

That the report be considered at the meeting of the full Transport for Greater Manchester Committee on 13th July 2018.

BN/18/86 SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES PERFORMANCE

Consideration was given to the part B report that informed Members of the performance of subsidised bus network during the 2017/18 financial year, drawing comparisons with the levels achieved in the previous period (2016/17).

RESOLVED:

1. That it be noted that the subsidised bus network patronage for the 2017/18 financial year had slightly decreased to 20.27million, however average patronage loadings had increased due the disproportionally larger fall in journey departures.

2. That the high operational performance and environmental standards of the subsidised bus network, compared to equivalent network wide performance levels be noted.

3. That the declared lost mileage performance (0.39%) is consistently within the industry minimum standard (0.5%) be noted.

BN/18/87 REVIEW OF SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES BUDGET

The Bus Network and TfGM Services Sub-Committee was inquorate and therefore the Chair and Members agreed that this report would be considered at the meeting of the full Transport for Greater Manchester Committee on 13th July 2018.

RESOLVED:

That the report be considered at the meeting of the full Transport for Greater Manchester Committee on 13th July 2018.