

Investing in Greater Manchester transport 2013/2014



GMCA

GREATER MANCHESTER
COMBINED AUTHORITY

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Transport investment and funding

This year, GMCA will receive an average of £73.77 per person in Greater Manchester from the transport levy. The amount received by GMCA is 3.6% more than last year. This reflects the following changes:

- There is an increase of 3% in the funding for the Greater Manchester Transport Fund.
- The remaining 0.6% is to primarily fund the budgeted increase in concessionary support costs.

Efficiency savings

GMCA and the TfGM Committee have continued to focus on keeping costs down, even while delivering the largest transport network expansion programme outside London. Getting full value for money in delivering these complex schemes and maintaining Greater Manchester's transport network is a key priority.

The total expenditure on transport activities overseen by GMCA is budgeted to be £282.3 million to the end of the financial year 2012/2013 and £305.1 million in 2013/2014. The majority of this spending is undertaken by TfGM on behalf of GMCA. The tables below provide a breakdown of expenditure and income, and further explanation is provided in this leaflet.

	2012/2013 (£ million)	2013/2014 (£ million)
Concessionary fares – all modes	67.0	68.2
Supported bus services	34.6	34.6
Accessible transport	5.7	5.4
Passenger services and facilities	39.7	39.0
Grant funded costs	2.2	8.9
Rail support	62.5	64.3
Finance costs	70.6	84.7
Total	282.3	305.1

GMCA/TfGM receive the following funding to provide for this expenditure budget.

	2012/2013 (£ million)	2013/2014 (£ million)
Levy on district councils (council tax)	191.2	198.1
Funding from reserves/third parties	24.9	32.2
Rail grant (DfT)	64.0	65.9
Other grants (DfT)	2.2	8.9
Total	282.3	305.1

Spending on transport

GMCA funds the following transport services:

Concessionary fares

The current range of concessionary fares includes:

- Free off-peak bus, local rail and Metrolink travel for older people
- Under 16s – half fare at all times on bus and Metrolink when using an iGo pass
- Over 16s still in full-time education – half fare on bus, rail and Metrolink between home and school/college
- Free off-peak travel for disabled people on bus, rail and Metrolink and half fare on bus, rail and Metrolink before 9.30am
- Free travel for Concession Plus pass holders on bus, rail and Metrolink at all times

Supported bus services

Most of Greater Manchester's bus services are operated on a commercial basis by private companies. TfGM subsidises some bus services (around 20% of the total network) that are socially necessary, but which bus companies are unwilling to operate on a commercial basis. TfGM also provides:

- Yellow and standard school bus services
- Local Link services
- Free Metroshuttle bus services in Bolton, Manchester, Oldham and Stockport, with the support of district authorities

Accessible transport

GMCA funds Ring and Ride services which operate across Greater Manchester. Ring and Ride is a door-to-door accessible minibus service for people of all ages who find it difficult to use ordinary public transport.

GMCA also funds Travel Vouchers for people with serious walking difficulties or who are registered blind and who are unable to use conventional public transport.

Passenger services and facilities

As the main transport body in Greater Manchester, TfGM has a central role in planning, investing in, co-ordinating and managing transport services and infrastructure schemes across Greater Manchester.

TfGM operates and maintains 22 bus stations, alongside a series of interchanges, Travelshops and new Cycle Hubs across Greater Manchester. TfGM is also responsible for over 12,000 bus stops and 4,400 bus shelters and is a key provider of public transport information.

Rail support

TfGM passes on Department for Transport funding for rail to Northern Rail. It also provides direct funding for certain rail services in Greater Manchester.

Finance costs

This is the cost of investment, including the cost of borrowing, repayments and interest, in major transport capital programmes for Greater Manchester. This includes the costs of funding historic infrastructure developments, in particular the original Metrolink network, as well as schemes funded through the Greater Manchester Transport Fund including Metrolink network expansion and fleet renewal, investment into Altrincham and Bolton Interchanges, bus priority schemes, and Park and Ride schemes amongst others.

The current level of transport investment across Greater Manchester is unprecedented, and represents the largest public transport investment programme outside London.

Investing in transport

TfGM receives funding from several sources to provide for the transport expenditure outlined above. The largest part of funding comes from a levy on each of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities via the council tax. In total, this accounts for £198.1 million in 2013/2014.

In addition, financial reserves and contributions from third parties will provide a further £32.2 million which is used to support further transport investment through the Greater Manchester Transport Fund.

The Department for Transport provides a rail grant to TfGM, amounting to £65.9 million in 2013/2014, the majority of which is passed on to Northern Rail.

TfGM has also been successful in securing funding to deliver additional schemes from the national Better Bus Area Fund and Local Sustainable Transport Fund. £8.9 million of this is budgeted to be spent in 2013/2014.

Progress in 2012

- Metrolink services to Oldham began in June, and to Shaw and Crompton in December 2012. Good progress has been made on the construction of extensions to Rochdale, East Didsbury, Manchester Airport and Ashton-under-Lyne. More new Metrolink trams have also entered service.
- Funding has been secured for the Northern Hub rail scheme, scheduled for construction over the next five years. With the electrification of several key rail routes, this will boost capacity and improve rail travel across the local and regional rail network.
- After a successful funding bid, commuter Cycle Hubs have opened in Manchester city centre and at Bury Interchange, encouraging people to cycle to work by providing secure bike storage and other cycle facilities. More facilities and services are planned across Greater Manchester.
- Consultations and preparatory work have begun on the bus priority programme, which will enable fast, frequent and reliable bus travel between Leigh, Salford and Manchester city centre as well as cross-city bus services.

- TfGM continues to work with bus operators to drive up the quality and reliability of bus services and deliver improvements for passengers. More affordable bus fares, long called for by the TfGM Committee and local authorities, have been announced by the major bus operator in the north of Greater Manchester.
- Work has begun on a new transport interchange in Rochdale to provide a high quality facility connecting bus, Metrolink and rail travel. The new Rochdale Interchange, a cornerstone of the town centre's regeneration, will have a green energy source in the form of a hydroelectric turbine.
- A Greater Manchester-wide scheme to reduce traffic delays and disruption by improving the way roadworks are co-ordinated, communicated and managed has been approved, the first of its kind in England.

Priorities for 2013/2014

We will continue to focus on promoting more integrated, low carbon and sustainable transport. This will help to support economic prosperity and provide better access to employment, education, training, and public services. We will continue to invest in new, much-needed transport infrastructure and will work to secure the maximum value from existing transport infrastructure and services.

Key priorities include:

- Further efforts to improve bus services throughout Greater Manchester
- Continuing the safe and successful operation of Metrolink, and opening of additional sections of the future network
- Working with partners to secure major rail schemes, such as High Speed 2, and to increase regional influence over local rail networks
- Working with partners to make the highway network more efficient

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) comprises the leaders of the ten local authorities in Greater Manchester. It co-ordinates economic development, regeneration and transport to support Greater Manchester's economic performance.

GMCA receives most of its funding for transport from a levy on the local authorities, which is collected through your council tax. GMCA also funds other Greater Manchester-wide functions, including business support, tourism and marketing.

Transport for Greater Manchester Committee

A joint committee of GMCA and the ten local authorities, Transport for Greater Manchester Committee comprises 33 councillors from across Greater Manchester. It advises GMCA on transport policy and funding, and scrutinises the work of TfGM and operators which provide public transport services.

Transport for Greater Manchester

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) carries out the transport policies of GMCA and the TfGM Committee and is accountable to those bodies. TfGM owns the Metrolink tram network, which is operated on TfGM's behalf by MRDL, part of the RATP Group.

TfGM works with bus and rail companies and with Greater Manchester's local authorities to improve the transport network. TfGM is also responsible for managing traffic signals, provides traffic and road safety information, and is working towards a more co-ordinated strategic highway network.

TfGM helps to connect people to places by providing them with the information and choices they have to make their journeys, from public transport, to walking, and to cycling.

Further information

GMCA and the TfGM Committee meet regularly in public – with agendas, reports and minutes of meetings available at:

www.agma.gov.uk
www.tfgmc.gov.uk

Further information on the work of TfGM, and comprehensive local travel information, can be found at:

www.tfgm.com

Alternatively, for any additional information, please write to:

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For information on public transport or to request the information in this leaflet in another format, such as Braille, Large Print, audio CD or in other languages, please phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33**.

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