

**DRAFT**

**DECISIONS OF A MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER (GM) LOW  
CARBON HUB BOARD HELD ON FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER 2016 AT 10.00 AM  
MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:**

City Mayor Paul Dennett	Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Portfolio Lead for Low Carbon, Waste and Environment (Chair)
Councillor Cherryl Brock	Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority (GMWDA) Representative (Oldham Council)
Councillor Assam Rashid	Deputy Portfolio Lead (Rochdale Council)
Louise Blythe	British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)
Steve Johnson	M&G Group
Nigel Mellors	University of Salford
Roger Milburn	Arup
Steve Rumbelow	GMCA Lead Chief Executive (CEX) Environment (Rochdale Council)
Anne Selby	Lancashire & Greater Manchester Wildlife Trust
Gordon Whittaker	Environment Agency (EA)
Ian McAulay	Scottish Climate Change Committee

Also In Attendance

Mark Atherton	Greater Manchester Director of Environment
Amy Beasley	Low Carbon Delivery Unit
Adam Booth	EA
Susan Ford	Greater Manchester Integrated Support Team (GMIST)
Andrew Haslett	Energy Technology Institute
Richard Halsey	Energy Systems Catapult
Jenny Hollamby	GMIST
Phil Korbel	Carbon Literacy Project
Anne Morgan	Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)
Helen Smith	Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)

**LCH16/17 INTRODUCTION**

The Chair opened the meeting and introductions took place. Councillor Aasim Rashid (Rochdale) and Councillor Lynn Travis (Tameside – not present) were welcomed. It was explained that they had been appointed to the Board as Deputy Portfolio Leads and would assist the Chair in his role as the Portfolio Lead for Low Carbon, Waste and Environment.

It was reported that the Paul Maher, Divisional Managing Director had retired from his role at Siemens and would be replaced on the Board by Siemen's Finance Director, Robin

Philips. The Board thanked Paul for his long service to the Board, particularly for his energetic Chairing on the Sector Growth Task Group.

## **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Patrick Allcorn (Department for Business Energy Industrial Strategy (DBEIS)), John Bland (GMWDA), Robin Lawler (Northwards Housing), Julian Packer (GMCA Core Investment Team) and Councillor Lynn Travis (Deputy Portfolio Lead (Tameside Council)).

## **LCH16/18 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Low Carbon Hub Board, held on 15 July 2016, were considered.

In terms of minute LC16/12, it was reported that the GMCA's Green deal Communities Programme had won the National Energy Efficiency and Retrofit award in the large project category, in September 2016. A video about the project would be made available at the end of the meeting and a link to the video would be e-mailed to the Board.

### **Resolved/-**

- 1) The Board approved the Minutes of the Low Carbon Hub Board, held on 15 July 2016, as a correct record.
- 2) A link to the video detailing the award would be circulated to the Board following the meeting.

## **LCH16/19 PERFORMANCE REPORT (Q2)**

Consideration was given to the report of the Lead CEX Environment that provided an update on progress of the Low Carbon Hub in the last quarter, the priorities for the forthcoming quarter and identified risks and emerging issues. The report also requested the Board to comment upon progress and agree the next steps.

It was explained that the report provided a progress update on delivery of the recently approved Climate Change and Low Emissions Implementation Plan (2016-20). It was noted that for each of the actions contained within the Plan, an annual Action had been added and progress against those actions within the last quarter had been reported with an associated Red, Amber, Green (RAG) status.

It was reported that progress remained good for the last quarter. Only one item remained highlighted as Red and this reflected the lack of any resource to engage with the private sector on commercial building retrofit. It was explained that the Building Sub Group had considered options to support delivery of this action, including the potential to sponsor an award e.g. for best retrofit low carbon commercial building.

Key points, questions and comments raised during discussion included:

The identified risk to the proposed Carbon Reduction service had been mitigated through the Chancellors' recent announcement that all ERDF projects contracted before the UK left the EU would be honoured.

- a) Roger Milburn offered support on engaging the sector on commercial building retrofit. The Lead CEX Environment accepted the offer.
- b) In terms of the suggested award for best retrofit low carbon commercial building, Board Members were supportive of the proposal subject to appropriate resources being available. Ideally, the award should be sponsored by a creditable company in the field.
- c) It was noted that the Greater Manchester (GM) guided busway had carried 500k passengers after four months of operation, which was 12 months in advance of the expected target date. The TfGMC representative advised that a report was being produced, detailing the number of reduced car journeys into Manchester as a result of the busway, lowering the carbon footprint. The Chair explained that public perception had been that the proposal would not work, however it had been a huge success and more buses were scheduled for January 2017.
- d) In terms of the low carbon skills agenda, it was reported that there had been little progress and work would be undertaken in the next quarter with skills colleagues to address this. The Chair enquired who would take this forward and it was reported that New Economy should produce a report and the Chief Executive would drive this forward.
- e) In addition, there would soon be a refresh of the Greater Manchester Strategy and there would be an opportunity to make sure the low carbon agenda was embedded into that.
- f) The Chair reported that GM had submitted an Autumn statement influencing paper. It was explained that the Board had contributed to try and shape Government policy around low carbon and environment.
- g) Louise Blythe invited the Board to attend the Carbon Literacy Employers Breakfast Briefing on 25 October 2016, which the Chair would open. Furthermore, there would be an awards event for carbon literate organisations, which would be held at the Coronation Street studio in November 2016. The representative asked and the Board agreed, to support the event at a cost of £2k for logistics.

#### **Resolved/-**

- 1) That the Board noted the updates from across the Low Carbon Hub's accountable bodies, attached at Annex 1 of the report.

- 2) The Lead CEX Environment would take up Arup's offer for support on the commercial building retrofit.
- 3) The Board endorsed the proposal for a best low carbon retrofit commercial building award, given the appropriate resources were available.
- 4) The Lead CEX Environment would work with New Economy to assess how the skills agenda can be driven forward.
- 5) The invite to the Carbon Literacy Employers Breakfast Briefing on 25 October 2016 would be circulated to the Board. The Board agreed to support the event by way of a £2k grant for logistics.

**LCH16/20 PROPOSAL FOR GM TO BE DESIGNATED A DEPARTMENT  
FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOOD & RURAL AFFAIRS (DEFRA)  
PIONEER CITY REGION**

The Board considered the report of the GM Director of Environment. It was explained that Defra would publish a 25 Year Plan in 2017 and a preceding National Framework Document in November 2016. It was reported that within the Framework Document, Defra had identified GM as one of four national Pioneer areas. The report provided an outline of the scope of the Pioneer initiative and proposals for GM to be designated as an Urban Pioneer City Region within the Defra Plan. The report also sought the Board's agreement to the next steps, including production of the finalised Urban Pioneer scoping document and governance arrangements.

The Board received a presentation, which paid particular attention to the following areas: GM Pioneer scope; vision; approach; governance, projects and timeline for delivery.

Key points, questions and comments raised during discussion included:

- a) The Chair thanked officers for their informative presentation. He advised that there may be a Ministerial visit to Manchester to launch the Urban Pioneer venture in November 2016.
- b) The EA advised that they were scoping ideas and would welcome discussions with Board Members and representatives. There were many opportunities linked to wider issues such as planning and health. Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) were very enthusiastic.
- c) The Wildlife Trust reported that they were about to submit a proposal 'Our Dream' to Heritage Lottery fund which aimed to engaged with the public to show how people were making a difference to their City's environment.
- d) Steve Johnson commended the presentation and asked about the projects that fitted into the plan, new data and reporting requirements. It was explained, that the EA would work closely with leads and existing governance structures. They wanted to provide support and add value.

- e) A Member enquired about the risks detailed in 3.5 of the report and asked for further clarification. It was advised that the risk was quite low as there was no financial commitment. All four national pioneers would test different mechanisms to natural capital accounting using appropriate approaches and then the successful approaches would be shared with others.
- f) The Chair advised that there was no funding attached to the proposal but the EA was looking to recruit a Project Manager. The Chair asked how that would interlink with the GM Natural Capital Sub Group. It was highlighted that the Project Manager would be integrated, would bring work streams together and work with the GMCA to fit in with GM goals.
- g) Roger Milburn asked the EA to take three things into account namely; Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities, the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) and the GM Infrastructure Advisory Group, part of the latter's remit was thinking about strategy to support infrastructure to support GM. Discussions with the EA would take place outside of the meeting.

#### **Resolved/-**

- 1) That the Board noted the report.
- 2) The Board endorsed the next steps, including production of the finalised Urban Pioneer scoping document and governance arrangements.

#### **LCH 16/21 GM HEAT AND ENERGY EVIDENCE BASE**

Members considered the report of the GM Environment Director that outlined the findings of the GM Heat and Energy Evidence base, which had been undertaken by the Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) as part of GM's involvement in the Smart System and Heat (SSH) project. It was explained that the report had been produced to inform the development of low carbon policies for the GMSF. The report also asked the Board to comment on the presentation and consider how the findings of the evidence base could support the low carbon development/infrastructure in GM.

A presentation on the key findings of the report was provided at the meeting, by the Energy Technology Institute which had funded the work. The presentation focussed on: context; challenge of energy planning in GM; Catapult approach for GM as part of SSH; Scope of study; key findings and what next.

It was advised that the piece of work brought together the GM heat and energy evidence base into one collective narrative. Although the work was undertaken to support GM's input into the GMSF, it had also provided input into the finalisation of the Climate Change Implementation Plan and provided evidence for the Board's focus on heat networks, Photovoltaics and Air Source Heat Pumps as well as energy efficiency in buildings. The

Chair thanked the officer for his informative presentation and expressed his view that that the work undertaken provided an excellent baseline.

Key points, questions and comments raised during discussion included:

- a) A Member asked if there was any data the officer wanted but could not be reached. It was explained that, in terms of the existing study, the data used was that which was readily available from GM or public sources. However, in terms of the more detailed study that would be required for the Energypath model, it would be more difficult to access robust data, especially around domestic buildings. The officer was currently working with the GM Environment Director on the base set of data for this more detailed work.
- b) The officer was asked about how widely the information was being shared. It was clarified that the report was being finalised quickly over the next week. However, a short report was already available and the GM Environment Director agreed to circulate it to the Board.
- c) A discussion took place about the scale of the challenge with respect to demand management. It was reported that, in terms of usage, Jacobs (a professional services company) had advised that a good education programme could potentially reduce a consumers' bill by 5%. However, demand, retrofit, supply and usage, all needed consideration.
- d) Roger Milburn advised that the Infrastructure Group had already mapped some of the data ETi required. It was explained that the more detailed Energypath modelling would begin by bringing together existing detailed datasets.

The GM Environment Director thanked the ETi officer for his presentation, which confirmed the work that the Low Carbon Hub was driving forward. The Director agreed to make the information accessible, disseminate the summary report to the Board and also build it into LCH communications work moving forward.

#### **Resolved/-**

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That the GM Environment Director would circulate the short report as detailed above.

#### **LCH 16/22 GM SPATIAL FRAMEWORK (GMSF) - PRESENTATION**

The Board received a presentation from AGMA's Planning and Housing Team working on the GMSF. The aim of the work was to ensure that there was the right land in the right places to deliver the homes and jobs needed up to 2035.

The presentation covered: The GMSF timetable and milestones; the importance of place-shaping; what is being planned for; the draft GMSF Plan; thematic policies; delivering a

successful GM; Green infrastructure network; build in resilience – adaptation; low carbon implications; existing land supply; site allocations; evidence base and supporting information. The Chair thanked the officer for a very detailed and comprehensive presentation. The Board was asked to consider and comment on the carbon targets within the presentation with a view to bringing a further report back to the Board.

Key points, questions and comments raised during discussion included:

- a) Roger Milburn commented that it was a complicated piece of work that was being delivered by a small team. The real challenge was about balancing land, infrastructure and politics.
- b) Louise Blythe asked about the policy areas and what weighting the officer would give them. In response, it was explained that all policies should have equal weighting. There was no intention to give one policy more importance than another.
- c) Anne Selby, on behalf of the Natural Capital Group, thanked the officer for her work in this area and for including them in the dialogue.
- d) The Chair advised that Salford Members and Planning Committees had expressed concerns about infrastructure. It was suggested that the GMSF would only be successful if the real infrastructure concerns in GM were resolved.
- e) The Chair also drew the Board's attention to the affordable housing detailed in the presentation and expressed that if targets were going to be achieved, then affordable housing must be considered. It was reported that modelling work had taken place in Salford and concerns were raised about where the space was in GM for affordable housing. How affordable housing was tackled was of real concern. It was suggested that a strategic approach was required if GM was committed to meeting the needs of the population. In response, the officer advised that infrastructure, transport and schools were all of concern.

#### **Resolved/-**

- 1) That the Board noted the report.
- 2) That a further GMSF report be considered at a future meeting.

#### **LCH 16/23 SMART SYSTEMS AND HEAT PROGRAMME**

The Board considered the report of the GM Environment Director. It was explained that at the last meeting, the Board received a presentation on the Salford Energy House and requested a report to outline how the development of Energy House 2.0 could fit into GM's wider plans for a Smart Systems and Heat demonstrator. The purpose of the report was to fulfil this request, provide an update on the Smart Systems and Heat (SSH) Programme, identify the next steps required to complete Phase 1 of the programme and proposed a model for wider Phase 2 activity.

**Resolved/-**

- 1) That the Board noted the report and next steps for Phase 1 - Energy path.
- 2) That the Board endorsed GM's proposed approach towards Phase 2 activity.

**LCH15/24 HEAT NETWORK UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report of the Low Carbon Investment Director that provided a brief update on the heat network programme development in GM led by the GM Low Carbon Project Delivery Unit (LCPDU). It was reported that much of the work detailed in the report had received funding from the Heat Network Development Unit (HNDU) of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (DBEIS).

**Resolved/-**

That the Board noted the report.

**LCH16/25 POTENTIAL EUROPEAN UNION (EU) FUNDING BIDS**

The Board considered the report of the GM Environment Director, which outlined the GM Environment Team's proposed approach to bidding for EU funding in 2016/17. The report provided a brief update on the existing EU funded programmes and potential future EU funding bids.

**Resolved/-**

That the report be noted.

**LCH16/26 CLIMATE CHANGE LOW EMISSIONS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND AIR QUALITY ACTION PLAN**

**Resolved/-**

That the Board note the completion of both Plans.

**LCH16/27 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – FORWARD LOOK**

As previously reported, the GMCA's Green deal Communities Programme won the National Energy Efficiency and Retrofit award in the large project category in September 2016. A video on fuel poverty and how the programme had changed people's lives was made available for the Board. The Chair congratulated everybody involved.

A City of Trees brochure was circulated at the meeting. It was explained that the City of Trees was an innovative and exciting movement set to re-invigorate Greater Manchester's



landscape by transforming underused, unloved woodland and planting a tree for every man, woman and child who lived there, within a generation. Members were encouraged to take the brochure away and read it.

#### **LCH16/28 FUTURE MEETING DATES**

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on Friday 20 January 2017 at 10.00 am to 12 noon, Scrutiny Room, Manchester Town Hall.