

GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 20/08/2025

Subject: GMCA Integrated Settlement

Report of: Andy Burnham, GM Mayor and John Wrathmell, Group Strategy Director.

Purpose of Report

To provide the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee with an update on GMCA's Integrated Settlement.

Recommendations:

That the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee note the update on the integrated settlement and agree that an update should follow in the Autumn prior to the Outcomes Framework being agreed when we are more advanced stage.

Contact Officers

- John Wrathmell, Interim Senior Director - Strategy Economy and Research
- Phoebe Brown, Head of Devolution Strategy

Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

N/A

Risk Management

N/A

Legal Considerations

N/A

Financial Consequences – Revenue

The Revenue considerations are set out in the report.

<u>BOLTON</u>	<u>MANCHESTER</u>	<u>ROCHDALE</u>	<u>STOCKPORT</u>	<u>TRAFFORD</u>
<u>BURY</u>	<u>OLDHAM</u>	<u>SALFORD</u>	<u>TAMESIDE</u>	<u>WIGAN</u>

Financial Consequences – Capital

The capital considerations are set out in the report.

Number of attachments to the report:

None.

Background Papers

[Integrated Settlement: policy document - GOV.UK](#)

[Greater Manchester Combined Authority – Integrated Settlement Outcomes Framework 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

[Annex A- Greater Manchester Integrated Settlement final table 2025-26 FINAL Apr 25 .pdf](#)

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

No.

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency?

No.

GM Transport Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

20 August 2025

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1. The Integrated Settlement (IS) was agreed between Government and Greater Manchester in the 2023 Trailblazer Devolution Deal. The integrated settlement is a new, more flexible, way of getting our funding from the government. The flexibility allows us to join up between programmes or policy areas in a way that we have not been able to do so in the past.
- 1.2. If the government gives funding to a department that falls within a “functional area of responsibility” (Economic development and regeneration, Transport and local infrastructure, Adult skills & Employment support, Housing and strategic planning, Environment and climate change, Health, wellbeing and public service reform) then a portion of that funding will come automatically to GMCA through the IS via a formula.
- 1.3. GMCA is held to account for the Integrated Settlement through the **Outcomes Framework** (OF). GM must deliver the targets agreed through the OF.
- 1.4. The Government Programme Board for the Settlement will meet six-monthly and will hold us to account for agreed targets against agreed outcomes (as opposed to tracking how funding is being used).
- 1.5. We are already underway with delivering the first year of the Integrated Settlement which was agreed earlier this year and came into effect on 1 April 2025. This settlement covers a one-year period to April 2026 and includes around £630m of existing annual funding.
- 1.6. As a reminder, the outcomes we agreed to deliver for the first year are as follows:

Theme	Outcome
Local growth and place	1. Improve business productivity to support local growth
	2. Deliver the infrastructure needed to support place-based growth
Transport	3. Improved public transport, especially bus services, in the GMCA area
	4. Healthier and greener transport in the GMCA area
	5. Maintaining and enhancing and delivering transport infrastructure in the GMCA area.
Adult Skills	6. More residents with the skills and learning they need for life, further learning, and good work
Housing and Regeneration	7. Increased supply of the infrastructure and quality housing needed by communities.
Retrofit	8. Reduction in direct carbon emissions from domestic buildings, with reduced fuel poverty gaps for treated households in, or at risk of, fuel poverty
	9. Reduction in direct carbon emissions from public sector buildings
Employment Support	10. Disabled residents, residents with long-term health conditions, and other agreed disadvantaged groups with complex barriers are supported to sustain work through delivery of supported employment.
Cross-cutting	11. More residents moving towards, into and progressing within, good work

2. Next steps

Formula and scope

2.1 GMCA officers are currently in discussions with MHCLG over the funds in scope of the integrated settlement from 26/27, with a focus on expanding the scope of the Integrated Settlement. Once the broad funds in scope have been determined, discussions around formulae (which will determine the allocation mechanism for the various funding lines) can commence. Once the formulae are agreed, we will receive confirmation of our allocation for the multi-year Integrated Settlement. Potential delays to the confirmation of our final quantum due to internal Government planning processes could have an impact on our budgeting planning and delivery plans.

Outcomes framework

2.2 GMCA officers are now beginning introductory conversations with Government on our priorities for the multi-year Integrated settlement.

2.3 This outcomes framework will cover a multi-year period (minimum of 2 years, maximum of 3).

2.4 Our core proposed principles for negotiating the Outcomes Framework are:

- Aligning the Integrated Settlement Outcomes Framework to the Greater Manchester Strategy and the Delivery Plan – to ensure the outcomes are in line with GM's priorities, as well as supporting national priorities.
- Focus on outcomes not outputs, to ensure flexibility around delivery approach
- Minimum number of indicators to assure delivery while maintaining flexibility

- Devolution rather than delegation of national programmes
- Cross-cutting outcomes where appropriate to promote integration and break down silos

- 2.4 It will be important to ensure that the outcomes agreed provide government with the assurance that the GMCA are utilising the settlement to support national priorities, whilst providing the flexibility to join up policy areas, tailor approaches to local needs and innovate.
- 2.5 It is important to note that the outcomes framework is designed to provide a form of accountability to Government on the funds in scope of the Integrated Settlement and therefore is not a tool to demonstrate progress against the GMS as a whole.
- 2.6 Over the coming months, we will undertake detailed negotiations with Government in line with priorities outlined above. We will provide a further report to Overview & Scrutiny to report on progress when the framework is further developed.