

Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority

Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority (GMITA) comprises 33 elected members who are councillors from the ten Greater Manchester local authorities. Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive (GMPTEx) delivers services and investment schemes on behalf of GMITA.

We are responsible for planning future public transport investment – ranging from improved bus and rail stations to new Metrolink lines - and making the case to central government and other public agencies for the funding to support our plans. In all of our work, GMITA recognises the important role that good public transport can play in making Greater Manchester a better place for people to live and work in.

The past year has been an important one for our future public transport system. Work is under way to expand the Metrolink system along new lines to Oldham and Rochdale, East Manchester and Tameside, and into South Manchester, as well as the spur from the current Eccles line that will be available for commuters to the new MediaCityUK complex from later this year.

In planning for the future, we have also reached an agreement with the Greater Manchester councils and the Government that has established a new £1.5billion Greater Manchester Transport Fund, which will support a further expanded Metrolink network, alongside investment in rail station improvements, park-and-ride, new interchanges and innovative Cross City Bus services. The work to deliver this programme will start in the coming year and we aim to complete the schemes in stages over the next six to seven years.

GMITA is committed to making the most of the funding that is available to us, much of which comes through the local council tax process. This leaflet summarises the key activities on which this funding is used, and also highlights some of the real improvements to public transport that we will deliver this year.

We hope this leaflet is useful and would welcome any comments that you have (see back page for how to comment).



Councillor Keith Whitmore,
Chair of GMITA



Councillor Ian Macdonald,
Vice Chair of GMITA

GMITA's Key Activities for 2010/2011

Providing concessionary travel for those who need it most

GMITA oversees the Greater Manchester concessionary travel scheme, which provides:

- **free travel for local people who are over 60 or have physical disabilities, on buses, trams and trains in Greater Manchester after 9.30am on weekdays and at all times at weekends;** and
- **discounted travel rates for these groups of people before 9.30am through the week and at all times for schoolchildren.**

Securing more public transport services for more of our communities

Most local buses are operated on a commercial basis by private bus companies. However, in some parts of Greater Manchester, particularly in the evenings and at weekends, the bus companies cannot make a profit by running services. In these cases, GMITA funds alternative transport by:

- **subsidising a bus company to run services;**
- **providing a Local Link or shared taxi service;**
- **supporting the development of community transport services;** and
- **funding additional school bus services to help address the daily problems of the school run.**

In addition, GMITA supports the Metroshuttle services operational in Manchester, Bolton and Stockport. Over the coming year, we will drive forward work on Quality Partnerships in association with the district highway authorities and bus operators to deliver bus services that specify minimum service frequencies and provide high levels of punctuality and reliability, on high quality vehicles.

GMITA will also support the new Cross City Bus services which will improve transport connections to three of the region's busiest roads to the north, south and west of Manchester, providing better access to employment, education and health services.

Building and maintaining bus stations, shelters and stops

Across Greater Manchester, GMITA provides:

- **around 12,000 bus stops**
- **over 3,500 bus shelters;** and
- **22 bus stations/interchanges.**

Each year, we spend money on improving facilities at our bus stations, providing more shelters at more bus stops and ensuring that accurate public transport information is available at all locations.

Expanding Metrolink

GMITA owns and oversees the Metrolink tram system. Each year, resources are set aside to provide for the ongoing upkeep of the system.

Last year saw the refurbishment of tram stops and the delivery of eight additional trams in the new Metrolink livery on the Altrincham-Bury line. New ticket machines have also been installed in the city centre and at stops along the Altrincham line.

GMPTEx is continuing work on new Metrolink lines to:

- **MediaCityUK in Salford Quays (operational later this year)**
- **Chorlton-cum-Hardy (Spring 2011)**
- **Oldham (Autumn 2011)**
- **Rochdale (Spring 2012)**
- **Droylsden (Spring 2012)**

Town centre extensions to the Metrolink system at Oldham and Rochdale and extensions to Ashton-under-Lyne, East Didsbury and Manchester Airport as well as a new second line in Manchester city centre will be delivered through the £1.5billion Greater Manchester Transport Fund.

Improving local rail travel

Each year we invest in improving the range of facilities available at Greater Manchester rail stations. Recently, for example, we have improved customer information and CCTV facilities at Burnage, Cheadle Hulme, Greenfield, Guide Bridge, Heaton Chapel, Mauldeth Road, Mossley, Orrell, Romiley and Swinton.

This year, priority is to be given to the provision of additional park and ride schemes to ensure greater capacity for the higher number of passengers using train services across Greater Manchester. Strengthening of the railway stock remains a priority for the GMITA and it will continue to work closely with the Department for Transport and train operators to ensure that Greater Manchester receives the maximum number possible of additional units.

Providing information services that make public transport travel easier to understand

GMPTA provides a range of public transport information services, including:

- published timetables
- Travelshops
- Greater Manchester Traveline (0871 200 22 33)
- a website journey planner at gmpte.com

Throughout the year, we also undertake a range of promotional activities to encourage people to use public transport for commuting and leisure trips around Greater Manchester. A range of consultation events are held to gather people's views on specific schemes and wider policy priorities. More information is available through the contact details at the back of this leaflet.

Spending on public transport

GMITA expects to spend £219.1m through its core budget by the end of this financial year (2009/2010) and £271.9m in 2010/2011. The table below summarises this expenditure:

| | 2009/2010 | 2010/2011 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Concessionary fares – all modes | 70.41m | 75.14m |
| Supported bus services | 32.98m | 33.77m |
| Metrolink | 1.80m | 1.82m |
| Accessible transport | 6.89m | 6.59m |
| Passenger services and facilities | 30.53m | 29.72m |
| Rail support | 39.09m | 78.30m |
| Finance costs | 37.41m | 46.60m |
| Total | 219.11m | 271.94m |

Investing in public transport

GMITA receives the following funding to provide for this expenditure:

| | 2009/2010 | 2010/2011 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Levy on district councils (council tax) | 164.74m | 173.88m |
| Department for Transport (DfT) contribution to concessionary costs | 10.77m | 11.07m |
| Metrolink finance costs funded from reserves | 2.48m | 6.72m |
| Rail grant (DfT) | 40.71m | 79.94m |
| Other grants | 0.41m | 0.33m |
| Total | 219.11m | 271.94m |

A large part of our funding comes from a levy on the council tax you pay to your local council. In 2010/2011 the levy equates to £67.57 per person in Greater Manchester.

Comments and further information

If you have any comments about this leaflet or would like more information about the work of GMITA please write to:

Sir Howard Bernstein
Clerk to the Authority
Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority
PO Box 532
Town Hall
Manchester M60 2LA

Or visit our website at: www.gmita.gov.uk

If you would like any information on bus, train and Metrolink tram services in Greater Manchester call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33.

If you would like this information in other formats such as in Braille, in large print, on audio CD or in other languages, please phone Traveline on **0871 200 22 33**.

Calls to 0871 200 22 33 cost 10p per minute from a BT landline. Mobile and other landline networks may charge an additional tariff. Lines are open 7am to 8pm Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.



Investing in
public transport

2010/2011