# **Chris Thomas**

Armed Forces Covenant Programme Lead Public Service Reform Team Greater Manchester Combined Authority





# The GM Landscape

- Disco Leadership
- Rock / Prog Leadership
- Indie Leadership
- Dance Leadership
- Britpop Leadership



# The GM Landscape

- Political Leadership
- CEX Leadership
- Locality Leadership
- Public Sector Leadership
- VCSFE Leadership



# What is GMCA?

- Formally created in 2011 following almost 30 years of AGMA
- Compromises the 10 x LAs plus the CA 'HQ' function
- Numerous Directorates to support strategic coherence and devolved powers/authority
  - PCC function and FRS oversight
  - Statutory responsibility v coherence
- New for 2024 the group structure
- Key meetings:
  - The GMCA 11 x political leaders
  - Leaders' Strategy 11 x political leaders
  - WLT 11 x CEXs
  - DCEX Monthly Mtg 11 x DCEXs
  - Public Service Reform Board
  - Reform Delivery Executive



GMCA

COMBINED

AUTHORITY

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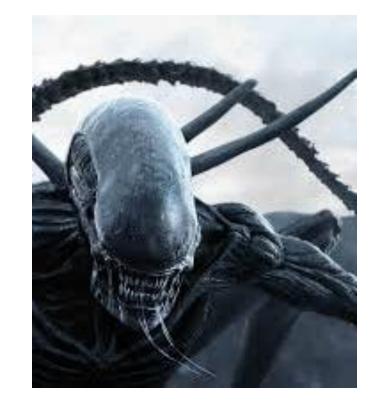
GMCA GREATER MANCHESTE

COMBINED

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## The Covenant in GMCA

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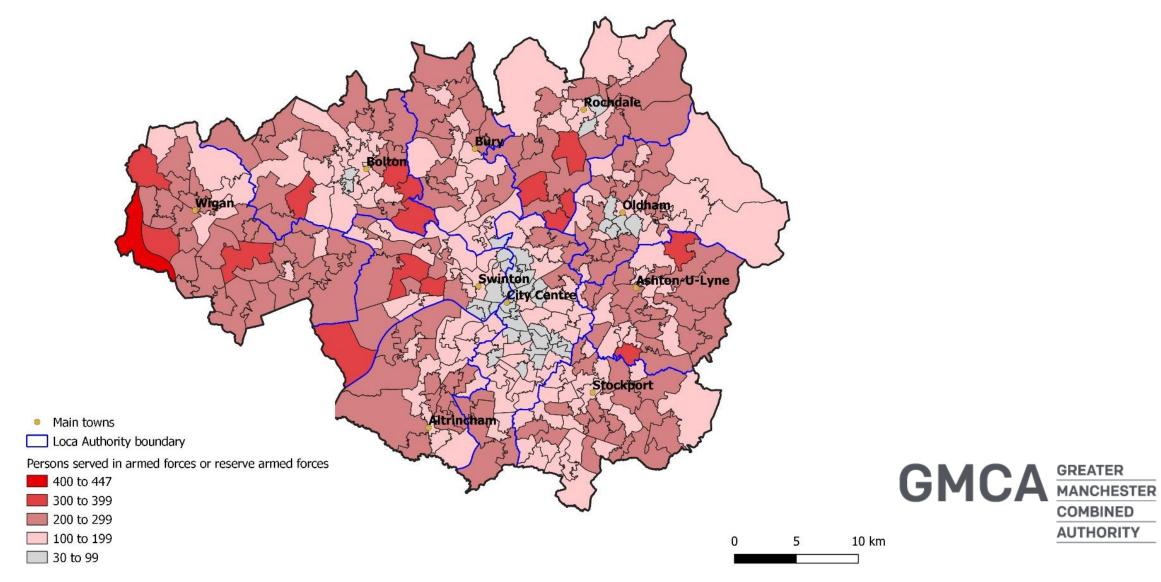
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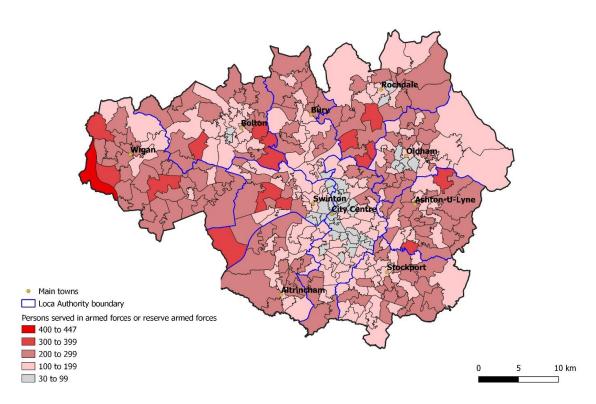
COMBINED

# The GM Context



# The GM Context

- No regular military basing
  - 1100 children of regular service pers
  - Moderate reservist presence
- 68 000+ Veterans
  - NW has 29.7% of Veterans in England
  - GM has 3.9% of Veterans in England
- 10 local authority leads
- Different demands and structures in each locality
  - Networks in LAs growing
  - SAFCO / TASC / AFHQ
- Strong pan-public sector network underpins the partnership to coordinate, share resource and span the City Region





# Some Veteran Stats....

- 31% are lonely
- 51% of calls to Support orgs refer to debt or finance
- 4% are economically inactive
  - 1.5% unemployed and seeking
- 46% are retired
- 45% are aged 65+
- 13% are aged 80-84
- 4% of prison population are Veterans
  BIG BUT......
- 1 in 400 Veterans are homeless
- 7% of Veterans' children have disabilities
- Estimated 170 Service children in GM with SEN





## But so what...?

- Health
  - Andy Burnham Co-Chairs NHS in GM ICB
  - GM AFC LA Network provides coherent support to PCNs to achieve Veteran Aware accreditation
  - Coordination of coherent activity across 16 NHS Trusts in GM
  - Drive for ICB colleagues to better understand their obligations under legislation
  - Military Veterans Service
- Housing
  - Coherent Housing Allocation Policies across GM......coming soon
  - GM Housing Providers Covenant delivery group
  - Veteran pathway in A Bed Every Night accommodation scheme
  - Homes at Ease (part of RVH programme) linked to all localities



# Local government Covenant partnerships in GM

- Creation and active participation in NW VPPP gave drive and motivation for public sector in GM to:
  - Enhance Governance
  - Aim higher
  - Consult / Co-design / Co-produce better
  - Provide better due diligence re referral pathways
  - Understand outside the military VCSFE
- So.....
  - Created a 5 year rolling Roadmap to capture all plans, projects and policy change
  - Make GM the best place in the UK to live for Veterans and their families
  - Create a GM Veterans' Engagement Network
  - Embed in Thrive Together and RVH Programme 'soft' QA and due diligence is embedded in LAs
  - Work harder to understand the contribution of the wider VCSFE



YEAR

#### **Community and Relationships**

Create effective governance to oversee the Delivery Plan and report to the GMCA

### Employment, Education and Skills

Tackle SEND issues in the AFC and deliver common standards across localities

### Finance and Debt

Understand the quantum of Veterans and Service Families suffering through the Cost of Living Crisis

### **Health and Wellbeing**

Develop NHS in GM Leadership to augment front line activity

### Making a Home in Civilian Society

Assure partners that we have coherency in all housing related policies for the AFC

#### Armed Forces Community and the Law

Embed the AFC in the Reducing Reoffending Management Board as a key priority

### **Community and Relationships**

Create a mobile AFC marketplace to raise awareness in localities

### Employment, Education and Skills

Ensure that school admission policies are aligned with Armed Forces Act Statutory Guidance

### **Finance and Debt**

Create a financial support network in GM that exists to guide advise and directly support the AFC

### Health and Wellbeing Deliver a pan-GM JSNA for the

AFC

### Making a Home in Civilian Society

Embed the AFC in the Housing First model in GM

### Armed Forces Community and the Law

Support the creation of an effective multi-agency network to build on existing work

YEAR

2

## YEAR 3

**Community and Relationships** Scope the value of the 'Veteran in Need' protected characteristic

### Employment, Education and Skills

Deliver the 'Courses for Forces' Initiative

**Finance and Debt** Develop a clear financial support pathway for the AFC

Health and Wellbeing Drive to 100% AFC literacy in GM Health professionals

### Making a Home in Civilian Society

Demonstrate the efficacy of a coherent housing offer in GM and lobby for change

### Armed Forces Community and the Law

Seek to commission research across the GM prison estate applying regional approaches

#### **Community and Relationships**

Review ICT systems and their interoperability to create a marker system

### Employment, Education and Skills

Continue to advocate for guaranteed interviews for the AFC in the Private Sector

Finance and Debt Deliver a fully kitemarked network of advice and support providers

### Health and Wellbeing

Create a Health portal for the AFC that allows effective navigation through the Health system

#### Making a Home in Civilian Society

Drive to 100% AFC literacy in GM Housing and Homelessness professionals

Armed Forces Community and the Law

Create case for change for Veterans Wings in each HMP

YEAR

4

### YEAR

### **Community and Relationships**

5

Fully embed the AFC as a Community of Interest in Devolution in GM

### Employment, Education and Skills

Have a fully functional AFC employment and skills hub **Finance and Debt** 

Continue to deliver a fully kitemarked network of advice and support providers

### Health and Wellbeing

Ensure that all staff working in Health are aware of the AFC in their patient cohorts

### Making a Home in Civilian Society

Deliver a package of housing offers that are specifically for the AFC and effectively market

### Armed Forces Community and the Law

Deliver a replicable support package for victims and perpetrators of crime



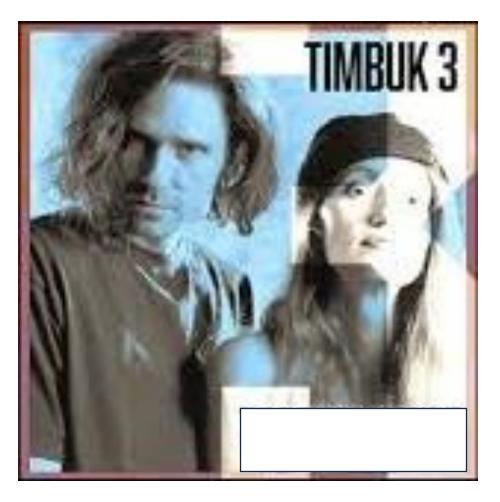
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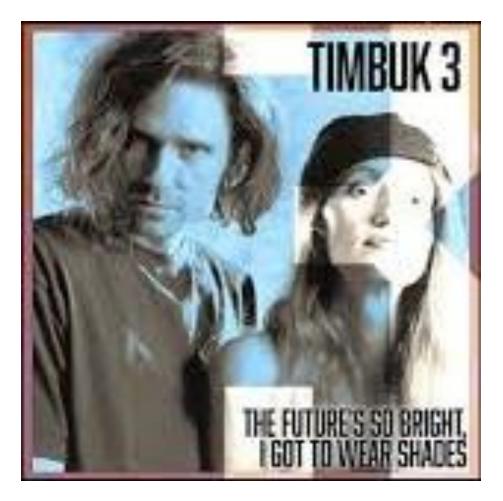
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## LIVE WELL !!



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## Definition



# What do we mean by GM Live Well...

Our joint commitment to ensure everyday support is available in every neighbourhood across Greater Manchester - to help people manage the pressures of life, live as well as they can and find purpose through good work.

GM Live Well will provide a framework to further develop existing neighbourhood and prevention approaches across Greater Manchester. It will bring about a radical shift in how we collaborate with people and communities to reduce health, social and economic inequalities.

A core component of GM Live Well will be the creation of Live Well centres and spaces in each locality. Live Well centres will offer holistic, personcentred support from VCFSE organisations and relevant public services based on the needs of local people. This will ensure that a local, personcentred, preventative system of social support, stability and security is available for all wherever they live.



## **Outcomes and Impact**



The change we're seeking through GM Live Well...

GM Live Well will **enable good growth for people** which in turn will lead to good growth for places and for local economies. It will result in:

- More adults in good work, less in crisis, less inactive and less with poor health.
- Less children living in poverty, families being supported to be safe, happy, healthy and successful.
- Stronger, thriving communities supported by a resilient VCFSE sector.
- **People living as healthy and happy as they can** meaning reduced demand on the NHS and Local Authorities, the right support will be in and with the community.
- A pivot to prevention which in time will see a reduction in complex and costly demand.
- **Reduced pressure on public sector finances** through greater efficiency across services, meaning more capacity to tackle the root causes of inequality.



## Added Value through GM



Our combined approach supports localities

Through a joint approach we will:

- Use the integrated settlement to **bring funding together** using a 'Total Place' approach to further support local integration.
- Galvanise **all GM partners** through Live Well including Health & Care, Police, Fire, Probation, Housing Providers and GM VCFSE Leaders.
- Provide greater support and insights through a **joined-up approach to digital** solutions and information sharing.
- Continue to provide workforce development opportunities across sectors.
- Enable continuous improvement through the **identification of learning**, what works and why so this can spread and scale.



## VALOUR



### VALOUR



## Any Questions?

