

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY
HELD FRIDAY 24 JULY 2020 AT 10.00AM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS LIVE VIRTUAL MEETING**

PRESENT:

Councillor Andrew Western	GMCA Environment Portfolio & Chair (Trafford Council)
Councillor Alan Quinn	Waste & Recycling Committee (Bury Council)
Councillor Angeliki Stogia	Transport Committee (Manchester City Council)
Councillor Derek Antrobus	Planning & Housing Commission (Salford City Council)
Alison Mckenzie-Folan	Lead Chief Executive, GMCA
Louise Blythe	BBC Academy (Chair Communications & Engagement)
Paul Auckland	Electricity North West (Substitute for Peter Emery, Chair Energy Innovation)
Robin Lawler	Northwards Housing (Chair Low Carbon Buildings)
Carly McLachlan	University of Manchester (Chair 5YEP Forum)
Anne Selby	Wildlife Trust (Chair Natural Capital)
Phil Korbel	Cooler Projects (Vice-Chair Communications & Engagement)
Stuart Easterbrook	Candent Gas (Vice-Chair Energy Innovation)
Angela Needle	Candent Gas
Will Swan	Salford University (Vice-Chair Low Carbon Buildings)
Mark Easedale	Environment Agency
Hisham Elkadi	Salford University
Andy Gibson	University of Manchester
Sarah Price	Health & Social Care Partnership
Darryl Quantz	Health & Social Care Partnership
Carl Moore	Homes England

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Shewan	Parity Projects
Helen Telfer	Environment Agency

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Atherton	GMCA
Matt Berry	GMCA
Megan Black	TfGM
Jenny Hollamby	GMCA
Sarah Mellor	GMCA
Hayley James	GMCA
Sean Owen	GMCA
Megan Rogers	GMCA
Lee Teasdale	GMCA

BOLTON
BURY

MANCHESTER
OLDHAM

ROCHDALE
SALFORD

STOCKPORT
TAMESIDE

TRAFFORD
WIGAN

GMGCRP/21/20 INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everybody present. It was explained that the meeting was being held virtually and was being livestreamed to the public in accordance with new Local Government (LA) regulations allowing virtual meetings to take place during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Chair also brought the Partnership's attention to the virtual meeting etiquette guide, which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from Patrick Allcorn (Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), Hayley Crane (Northwards Housing), Peter Emery (ENW, substitute Paul Auckland), Bernard Magee (Siemens), Simon Nokes (GMCA), Kristina Poole (Public Health England), Chris Oglesby (Bruntswood), Councillor Oliver Ryan (Tameside), Lee Rawlinson (Environment Agency, substitute Mark Easedale), Nalin Thakkar (Manchester University) and Simon Warburton (Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)).

The Chair welcomed Alison Mckenzie-Folan to her first meeting of the Partnership as the new Green City Region Portfolio Lead Chief Executive, taking over from Eamonn Boylan.

GMGCRP/22/20 TO NOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND AGREE PARTNERSHIP TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR 2020/21

A report was introduced that set out the proposed governance arrangements for the Green City Region Portfolio for 2020/21.

It was proposed that the existing structure was largely maintained, as it appeared to be working well. The main change from last year (paragraph 2 of the report) was that it was intended to move ahead with establishing a Green City Region Board for Portfolio Lead Elected Members from the ten Districts to focus on LA items and support their recent climate emergency declarations.

The terms of reference for the Partnership were unchanged and the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Challenge Groups were proposed to be maintained.

It was agreed that Carly McLachlan, the Chair of the 5 Year Environmental Plan (5YEP) Forum from the University of Manchester be added to the proposed Green City Region Partnership for the 2020/21 Municipal Year and her name spelt correctly on the governance diagram.

Resolved/-

- a) That the appointment of the Chair, Councillor Andrew Western, Trafford, of the Green City Region Partnership for the 2020/21 Municipal Year be noted.
- b) That the Partnership approved the revised terms of reference for the Partnership for the 2020/21 Municipal Year (Annex 01) and Governance Structure (Annex 01a).

- c) That it was agreed to maintain existing Chair and Vice-Chair arrangements for the Challenge Groups: Natural Capital, Low Carbon Buildings, Energy Innovation, 5YEP Forum and Communications/Behaviour Change, subject to their agreement and review at their next meetings.
- d) That the Partnership agreed that the terms of reference for the Challenge Groups for the 2020/21 Municipal Year would be reviewed at their next meeting and finalised with the Director for Environment, GMCA and the Portfolio Lead Chief Executive. An example of the Challenge Group terms of reference were attached at Annex 02 of the report.
- e) It was noted that a new Chair and Vice-Chair would need to be found for the Sustainable Consumption and Production Challenge Group and it was agreed that Suez would be approached in the first instance.
- f) The intention to establish in parallel a Green City Region Board for the ten District Portfolio Leads was noted.
- g) That Carly McLachlan, the Chair of the 5YEP Forum from the University of Manchester be added to the proposed Green City Region Partnership for the 2020/21 Municipal Year and her name spelt correctly on the governance diagram.

GMGCRP/23/20 CHAIRS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

Whilst there was no urgent business, the Chair advised that the Area Director for the Environment Agency, Lee Rawlinson, was moving role. The Partnership thanked Lee for his valuable work with the Green City Region Partnership and the work with the Environment Agency to support the Partnership's ambitions. It was agreed that the Partnership would send Lee a letter thanking him for his work.

The Chair reported that the Defra Secretary of State, George Eustice, had this week written to MPs advising them that Greater Manchester would be one of the five pilot areas to trial Local Nature Recovery Strategies. It was explained that the strategies were one of the new flagship measures in the Environment Bill. They would combine local knowledge with expert information and advice to plan for more co-ordinated, practical and focussed action to support nature recovery and the nature recovery network across the country. Government would be investing over £1m this year in five Local Natural Recovery Strategy areas to prepare for future implementation nationwide. It was noted that Greater Manchester would receive about £140k to support this work, which needed to be completed by March 2021.

Resolved/-

That the Environment Agency's Area Director be sent a letter of thanks from the Partnership.

GMGCRP/24/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations received in relation to any item on the agenda.

GMGCRP/25/20 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 18 MAY 2020

Resolved/-

That the minutes of the last meeting dated 18 May 2020 be approved as a correct record.

1. Arising from minute GMGCRP/13/20, it was reported that the Green Summit 2020 would take place on 24 September 2020 with online activities on the three days preceding.
2. Arising from minute GMGCRP/17/20, it was noted that the Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) key messages for the Green City Region Portfolio were to be discussed later on the agenda.
3. Arising from minute GMGCRP/19/20, it was explained that positive feedback had been received from the launch of the 5YEP Annual Report.

GMGCRP/26/20 GREATER MANCHESTER COVID19 RECOVERY PLAN - ENVIRONMENT THEME

The Chair raised the broader Recovery Plan and wanted to ensure the Partnership's objectives and ambitions as a Green City Region were reflected across the plan. It was envisaged that a report would be considered at a future meeting once timescales were known.

Consideration was given to a report that provided an update on the development of the Greater Manchester COVID19 Recovery Plan (Environment Theme) and next steps. Attached to the report at Annex 01 was the Greater Manchester COVID19 Recovery Plan: Environment. It was noted that the current draft was a work in progress and comments on the plan were welcomed.

It was explained that a sub-group comprising of the Chair and a number of Challenge Group Chairs met following the last Partnership meeting to provide feedback on the emerging Recovery Plan.

The Partnership's comments were noted as:

- A Member highlighted the next steps and skills development and asked if this was embedded across the board? It was reported that work was taking place with the GMCA skills team and there was an emerging action plan for green skills, which would be shared at a later date. It was a priority to encourage people who might fall out of work because of the pandemic to return to work quickly but it also looked longer term at the sort of jobs, opportunities and apprenticeships that might be made available through emerging programmes that potentially could be funded through the fiscal packages that Government had announced. It was a broader look at skills across the board. The Director of Environment, GMCA would compare the Skills Theme with the Environment Theme to identify overlaps.

- The Chair of the 5YEP Challenge Group from the University of Manchester enquired about delivery of the COVID19 Recovery Plan and asked what was the difference to give it impetus to happen such as political buy in and resource. It was explained that this was about fiscal stimulus. The political buy in was already in place but work was needed across the sectors to ensure that businesses and people were prompted to think about their behaviour and to take advantage of the changes that were presented to them.

Resolved/-

- a) That a report on the broader Recovery Plan and the green skills elements in particular, would be considered at a future meeting.
- b) That the progress made in developing the draft Greater Manchester COVID19 Recovery Plan (Environment Theme) be noted.
- c) That the Partnership noted the expected next steps.

GMGCRP/28/20 COMMUNICATIONS GREEN CITY STRATEGIC NARRATIVE

The Assistant Director of Communications, GMCA, led Members through the work that had been undertaken to develop a Strategic Communications Narrative and key messages for the Green City Region Portfolio of the GMS. It was described as an off the shelf product that could be used as a starting point and provide consistent messaging. Sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the report provided some very positive messages to take forward.

The Chair of the Communications Challenge Group from the BBC, who had been involved with this work reminded the Partnership about the journey and conversations about key messages on working together, being able to speak on each other's behalf and how this was articulated. There had been an amalgamation of the separate work so that the Partnership could be confident that the work presented today encompassed all aspects of the Green City Region's ambitions.

It was reported that Manchester City Council had approved the use of the Manchester Bee as a green bee, which was an excellent logo for the Green City Region Partnership.

The Chair thanked the Challenge Group and the Assistant Director of Communications, GMCA for their work and commented that the overarching narrative Today, Tomorrow and Together was a very powerful message.

Resolved/-

- a) The Partnership agreed the Green City Region Strategic Narrative provided at Section 5 of the report.
- b) That the proposed next steps be noted.

GMGCRP/28/20 PROGRESS REPORT - 5YEP REPORT

The report of the Director of Environment, GMCA provided the usual update on progress of delivery the 5YEP and the work of the Green City Region Partnership for the first quarter of 2020/21.

Furthermore, the report set out initial plans for the proposed Greater Manchester Green Summit to be held on 24 September 2020. A discussion took place about Member's appetite for engagement in and sponsoring the event. Challenge Group Chairs were requested to produce a ten minute pre-recorded introduction to their theme.

The main points referred:

- After a delay to the start, a grant offer letter for the Local Energy Market project was anticipated imminently.
- ENWL and Candent had produced a draft Energy Masterplan as part of their contribution to the Partnership's work. The document would be presented to the Buildings and Energy Challenge Group in August 2020 and then brought to the Partnership's October 2020 meeting for consideration.
- The University of Manchester had recently secured funding to support the development of a carbon assessment tool to support financial decision making.
- Work had commenced on a new Green City Region website, which would be completed in advance of the Green Summit.
- Work had been progressed through the pandemic largely unchanged. Some of the physical projects such as rooftop photovoltaic (PV) and helping people to insulate their homes had paused but most of the Challenge Group work had continued. Attendance at the Challenge Groups had almost doubled since moving to virtual meetings and online meetings would continue moving forward.
- TfGM was continuing work on the Clean Air Plan. Further work was being carried out on walking and cycling investment, building up the bee network, zero emission vehicles to support Districts to update their fleets and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The timescales for consulting would be considered by the GMCA at its next meeting.
- It was noted that a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Challenge Group were needed and a review of the Group was taking place. Although well attended, more organisations were needed around the table to make change happen. The SCP action plan would be produced within the next three months.
- In terms of the natural environment, it was reported that the Environment Fund had been awarded to Lancashire Wildlife Trust. Biodiversity net gain plans had been updated to governance and guidance that could fit into the Nature Recovery Network and also supported the GMSF.

- The merging thoughts about the Green Summit 2020 were contained in the report. The Summit would be held virtually, over four days from 20 to 24 September 2020. The first three days would be online activity and events, broken down by theme and the fourth day would be the main live event. There was a role for the Challenge Group Chairs and for all partners around the table; people who wanted to be more involved on a personal or organisational level, were asked to contact the Director of Environment, GMCA. The Partnership was looking for sponsors, key programmes and projects in Greater Manchester that exemplified the work of the Partnership. Members were asked to express their interests.

Resolved/-

- a) That the Partnership noted the progress outlined in the report and latest position set out in the dashboards attached at:
 - Annex 01 (Environment Team Performance Overview)
 - Annex 02 (5 Year Environment Plan Performance)
- b) That the emerging Plans for the Greater Manchester Green Summit 2020, Appendix 1 be noted.

GMGCRP/29/20 CHALLENGE GROUP UPDATES (CHALLENGE GROUP CHAIRS)

The Chair advised that the deep dive theme for this meeting was Low Carbon Buildings.

The purpose of the report was to outline the progress made by the 5YEP Challenge Groups in developing their key priorities through Task and Finish Action Groups.

The presentation that accompanied the report provided an updated overview of the Challenge Group priorities and how these were being delivered.

- **Energy and Innovation Challenge Group**

The Director of Environment, GMCA provided an update, the main points referred:

- The Innovation Agency, which was part of the Energy Transition Region Programme being led by the universities had been established into a group. The three universities in Manchester were working together to develop a proposal, which could be submitted as a bid for funding into some of the emerging innovation rounds coming forward. The Energy Innovation Agency's key aim was to accelerate the deployment and adoption of next generation or cutting edge technologies that would help achieve the 5YEP; it was about closing the innovation gap.
- Work with UK100 and other organisations was underway about innovative finance mechanisms, this was about upscaling the programmes in place and how to find suitable finance models that would allow the acceleration of decarbonisation of buildings and more energy generation locally.

- The Go Neutral Programme would continue and was finding opportunities for putting PV on unused or meanwhile land, such as car parks.
- Attention was drawn to the Greater Manchester wide solar PV offer, the pandemic had reduced the ability to install PV cells onto people's roofs and some people who had signed up had dropped out due to financial pressures. Not as much would be achieved as previously reported but it was reasonably substantial; nearly 1 megawatt of PV.

- **Sustainable Consumption and Production Challenge Group**

The Partnership received an update, which was noted as:

- SPC Circular Economy report would be brought to a future meeting.
- Research was being undertaken and more bids had been submitted by University partners to look at how best circular economy models could be adopted.
- There was a concern that whilst there was a lot of research being undertaken there was less in the delivery space.
- Behaviour change campaigns would consider what messages would be most attractive to different people and businesses. The Communications Challenge Group would utilise intelligence to add value to these behaviour change campaigns.
- Natural England had completed the Wetland Restoration Pilot on behalf of Defra. The Tree and Woodland Strategy had been completed by the City of Trees. It was envisaged this would attract Government funding. The Natural Course project was progressing well. Work was taking place with Bury Council to look at invasive weed removal from riverbanks, which would be considered at a future meeting.

- **Communications and Behavioural Change Challenge Group**

The Chair of the Communications and Behaviour Change Challenge Group provided the following up date:

- During lockdown, the Group and considered a number of proposals particularly updating key messages to work with Coronavirus. Members were thanked for their help getting the right people around the table, which had pushed the dynamic and grown the depth of the work the Group was able undertake. Communications leads from partner organisations were encouraged to continue to engage to provide expertise and share best practice. To ensure carbon neutrality, partnership working was paramount.

- **Transport Update**

TfGM's Head of Logistics and Environment, provided the following highlights:

- In March 2020, Government published its Decarbonising Transport Setting the Challenge document. A draft Greater Manchester response had been prepared and was set out as an Appendix to the report that would be considered on 31 July 2020 by the GMCA.
- The Government had put out a call for ideas about a plan to decarbonise transport; the consultation was open to 31 July 2020. Members were encouraged to express their views.
- In terms of the roadmap to deliver a zero emission bus fleet, it had previously been reported that TfGM and some of the Greater Manchester bus operators had secured funding for ultra-low emission busses. Within the Clean Air Plan there was a need to replace approximately 500 buses that could not be upgraded to clean emissions standards. Greater Manchester was looking to secure £5m funding for buses and cycling as announced in the March 2020 budget. Discussions were underway with the Department for Transport.
- Amey was the new provider for the Greater Manchester Electrical Vehicle (GMEV) infrastructure under the brand B.EV. The first phase of work would start to upgrade the existing 120 fast chargers and the installation of 24 new rapid chargers. There was more information available on the TfGM website.

- **5YEP Implementation Plan Forum**

The Chair of the 5YEP Implementation Plan Forum reported:

- The Forum had considered the following key areas; COVID Recovery Plan, received a presentation from the Energy and Innovation Agency, the Greater Manchester Environment Fund and the structure and format of the Green Summit.
- The following would be taken forward; the links of the different domains of the COVID Recovery Plan and offsetting reporting in terms of the Greater Manchester Environment Fund.

- **Low Carbon Buildings Challenge Group**

The Vice-Chair of the Low Carbon Building Challenge Group provided the following update:

- It was reported that the retrofit accelerator was being fed in to proposals at a national level. The accelerator was presented to the Clean Growth Minister as a direction of travel. Work was also taking place with the UK Green Building Council on their Accelerator Cities Project.
- The skills work led by GMCA, supported by the Growth Company and CITB, pathways were being considered in terms of upskilling, reskilling and education to deliver a substantive programme.

- Regarding public sector retrofits, there was an ongoing piece of work with the public non-domestic stock. TfGM had already done some work on each of their buildings.

- **Natural Environment Challenge Group**

- The report contained within the agenda pack was noted.

Members raised the following questions:

- A Member suggested that clean air would only be achieved if an integrated public transport system was adopted like London's Oyster system. TfGM noted the Member's comments.
- A question was raised about the active travel temporary measures and when they would become permanent. The Chair explained that some funding had been received for the temporary measures. However, the latest funding was for more robust changes. All Districts were considering this individually; working with the Cycling and Walking Team to understand what changes could be made permanent. A number of different initiatives would be introduced by Districts over the coming months. A fuller update would be provided at the next meeting.

Resolved/-

That the Partnership noted the progress in developing the Mission Based Approach and the associated Challenge Groups and Task and Finish Group activity.

GMGCRP/30/20 ACHIEVING NET ZERO CARBON IN NEW DEVELOPMENT REPORT AND PRESENTATION

The Environment Agency provided a short summary and presentation of the research undertaken by Currie & Brown/Centre for Sustainable Energy in support of the draft GMSF Policy for all new developments to achieve net zero carbon by 2028.

The Partnership was asked to provide comments. The main points referred:

- A Member enquired about the link to the UK Green Building Council and the link to the Policy Play Book contained within the report and asked if houses were being built on LA land, building contractors must achieve the 19% baseline for net zero carbon. Bury was looking to build 500 to 600 houses and the Member suggested that these should go above and beyond the 19% and embrace new ways of building. Modular homes were recommended as the way forward in Greater Manchester, which could also provide job opportunities. In response, there was already a number of local plans that exceeded building regulations; the GMSF would set the overall approach and bring consistency across Greater Manchester.
- The Chair thanked the Environment Agency for the useful presentation.

Resolved/-

That report be noted.

GMGCRP/31/20 PUBLIC BUILDINGS ASSESSMENT AND MARKET TESTING REPORT AND PRESENTATION

As the Twelvetrees Consulting representative had submitted apologies for the meeting, the GMCA's Regional Energy Lead provided a short summary of the project work that was underway to support the decarbonisation of the public estate across the Greater Manchester City Region.

Comments were sought from the Partnership, the main points referred:

- The Chair thanked the Officer for a helpful presentation and the amount of work that had been undertaken to get the Partnership to this stage.
- A Member asked how this work would be translated into action. It was also asked if this work would create an opportunity for Greater Manchester to share part of the £1b Public Estates Decarbonisation Fund that was announced in the Chancellors Statement and if there was any news on how this would be allocated. Discussions with BEIS had suggested there would be a competitive process for funding in early autumn. Ambitious proposals were being sought for programmes to invest in rather than individual buildings.
- Regarding the pie diagram, contained within the presentation, a question was raised about schools not being heavily represented and how this was being handled. It was explained that schools did form around 50% of the public estate and a second programme would be developed to take across schools. Main stream schools would be the focus at first; this could then be broadened out to academies to ensure all areas were captured. Funding had been announced for upgrading schools and a programme would be provided in autumn.

Resolved/-

That report be noted.

GMGCRP/32/20 DOMESTIC RETROFIT FOR A CARBON NEUTRAL FUTURE - ANALYSIS

The report, introduced by Parity Projects, provided a short summary of the project work currently underway to identify realistic pathways to net zero carbon housing by 2038.

The main points referred:

- A question was raised about PV and solar panels. It was suggested there could be a shortage as they were built in China; could they be procured elsewhere. In terms of PV, it was asked if the apex of a house had been considered for battery storage. It was also asked when onshore wind would become part of the equation as Government had relaxed its ban. In response, it was explained that the global shortages could become issues in the

future, but not immediately. It was difficult to predict future prices under current circumstance. It was suggested that, over the next ten years, different PV solutions could become radically cheaper such as thin film technologies. Batteries were expensive at the moment however it would be interesting to see how systems to support the use of the intelligent batteries to large stocks of housing to protect the energy grid would happen. More clarity would be provided in time. Actions to be taken in the next five years to build Greater Manchester's position could include hydrogen into the gas grid. In the short term the grid could be used to manage excess electricity. New buildings needed to be developed being mindful of research trials and low regret actions that would put Greater Manchester in a better position over the next five years.

- A Member asked if hydrogen plants would need to be built across the country. There was insufficient steer from the Government to know what the future would look like. Research suggested that electrification was likely to be a little cheaper but it was hard to predict. However, there was a need to move away from gas. This was an opportunity for Greater Manchester to lead the way and demand the steer needed from Government.
- The Cadent representative added that without electrification or hydrogen ingress, zero carbon could not be achieved. Ellesmere Port was the first location being considered for a methane reformation plant that would create hydrogen at scale for industrial decarbonisation. There was a proposal emerging to build a hydrogen pipeline that would take hydrogen to nearby industrial customers and enable it to be blended into the current gas distribution network for Liverpool and Manchester. The plan so far, considering the safety and technical work being undertaken, suggested that the current gas distribution network could take hydrogen for domestic use; blends up to 20% without changing any appliances could be achieved. Government was being lobbied about a hydrogen ready boiler mandate.

Resolved/-

That report be noted.

GMGCRP/33/20 RETROFIT ACCELERATOR PROPOSAL UPDATE PRESENTATION

The University of Salford provided a presentation on the retrofit accelerator.

The main point referred:

- A Member enquired about laser scanning for insulation and if this could be used for retrofit. It was explained that there were solutions available to provide a digital model, which would engineer internal or external wall insulation. Nationally, there would be huge amount of investment in retrofit on both the research and delivery side. However, there was a concern about the funding being underutilised in Greater Manchester. There were many different ways of retrofitting and technical solutions were available; it was envisaged that future investment would be steered in the right direction.

Resolved/-

That report be noted.

GMGCRP/34/20 IMPACT OF THE URBAN PIONEER

The Partnership received a presentation about the review of the outcomes from the 3 Year Urban Pioneer Project and next steps.

The main points referred:

- The Chair intended to share the information with Leaders to make them aware.
- The Environment Agency was thanked for their leadership, it had put Greater Manchester at the forefront of work on natural capital nationally and it was the testament of the hard work by the Environment Agency working in partnership with the Natural Capital Group to deliver.

Resolved/-

- a) That the Partnership noted the progress and impact of the GM Urban Pioneer.
- b) That the Urban Pioneer Evaluation Report and Annex be noted.
- c) That the Partnership considered and noted the next steps for the legacy assets and recommendations of the work.
- d) That the Partnership would raise awareness of the summary report and key programme highlights with GMCA Executive.

GMGCRP/35/20 GREATER MANCHESTER ENVIRONMENT FUND

The report and presentation provided by the Director of Environment, GMCA provided an update on the development of the Greater Manchester Environment Fund and next steps.

The main point referred:

- A Member asked if there would be a pitch to Government in the Comprehensive Spending Review. It was explained that a number of opportunities were being considered, which could support the development of the fund. The Heritage Lottery, who had initially helped develop the fund, had to step back as they anticipated Greater Manchester would be bidding to them. The Green Recovery Fund with £40m of funding available on a competitive basis to support environmental projects was also being considered. The GMCA's Director of Environment was happy to consider the development of the fund with Comprehensive Spending Review. However, other more suitable mechanism might be available.

Resolved/-

- a) The Partnership noted the progress made in developing the Greater Manchester Environment Fund.

- b) The Greater Manchester Environment Fund overview presentation provided at the meeting and as an Annex to the report be noted.

GMGCRP/36/20 DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

That all meetings would be held virtually unless otherwise stated on:

- Friday 16 October 2020 at 9.00 am
- Monday 25 January 2020 at 10.00 am
- Friday 12 March 2020 at 10.00 am

It was agreed that the 25 January 2020 meeting be moved forward to late December 2020 in light of the upcoming purdah period.

Resolved/-

That the meeting on 25 January 2020 be reorganised for December 2020.