

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREEN CITY REGION PARTNERSHIP
HELD FRIDAY 12 MARCH 2021 AT 10.00 AM VIA LIVE TEAMS VIRTUAL MEETING**

PRESENT:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Councillor Oliver Ryan | GMCA Deputy Environment Portfolio & Chair (Tameside Council) |
| Councillor Alan Quinn | Waste & Recycling Committee (Bury Council) |
| Councillor Mike McCluster | Salford City Council |
| Alison Mckenzie-Folan | GMCA Lead Chief Executive (Wigan Council) |
| Louise Blythe | BBC Academy (Chair Communications & Engagement) |
| Phil Korbel | Cooler Projects (Vice-Chair Communications & Engagement) |
| Peter Emery | Electricity North West (Chair Energy Innovation) |
| Helen Boyle | Cadent Gas (Vice-Chair Energy Innovation) |
| Anne Selby | Wildlife Trust (Chair Natural Capital) |
| Carly McLachlan | University of Manchester (Chair 5 YEP Implementation Forum) |
| Will Swan | Salford University (Chair Low Carbon Buildings) |
| John Alker | UKGBC (Vice-Chair Low Carbon Buildings) |
| Paul Bircham | Electricity North West |
| Jessica Bowles | Bruntwood |
| Hisham Elkadi | University of Salford |
| Steph Everett | Homes England |
| Amer Gaffer | Manchester Metropolitan University |
| Andy Gibson | University of Manchester |
| Bernard Magee | Siemens |
| Sheona Southern | Marketing Manchester |
| David Shewan | Parity Projects |
| Lesley Worswick | Environment Agency |

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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| Mark Atherton | GMCA |
| Jenny Hollamby | GMCA |
| Matthew Roberts | Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) |
| Michelle Whitfield | GMCA |

GMGCRP/01/21 INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Andrew Western, Megan Black, Mark Easedale, Neil Hind, Chris Oglesby, Sarah Price and Simon Warburton.

Will Swan (Salford University) was thanked for stepping into the Building Challenge Group Chair role, following Robin Lawler's retirement. John Alker (UKGBC) was welcomed to his first meeting as Vice-Chair of the Building Challenge Group. Sheona Southern (Marketing Manchester) was also welcomed to her first meeting.

BOLTON
BURY

MANCHESTER
OLDHAM

ROCHDALE
SALFORD

STOCKPORT
TAMESIDE

TRAFFORD
WIGAN

GMGCRP/02/21 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

The Greater Manchester bid to the public sector decarbonisation fund for £80.7m, which was discussed at the last meeting was successful. Section 31 grants had been received and work was underway to begin reducing emissions from over 150 public buildings between now and the end of the year.

GMGCRP/03/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the meeting.

GMGCRP/04/21 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING DATED 10 DECEMBER 2020

The minutes of the previous meeting dated 10 December 2020 were presented for approval.

Arising from minute GMGCRP/56/20, following the presentation to the last meeting from UCL on the mission based approach, GMCA Officers were working with Challenge Group Chairs to assess what changes might be required to optimise delivery. Proposals for any changes would be brought to the Partnership as part of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 16 July 2021.

Resolved/-

That the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 December 2020 were approved as an accurate record.

GMGCRP/05/21 PROGRESS REPORT 5 YEAR ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN (5 YEP)

The Partnership considered a report that provided the usual update on progress of delivering the 5 YEP and the work of the Green City Region Partnership for the second quarter of 2020/21.

The main points referred:

1. That a presentation on Bury's Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) be considered at a future meeting.
2. A concern was raised about extreme weather, flood, storm damage and the Bellwin fund. It was agreed that the Environment Agency (EA) would present at a future meeting.
3. The GMCA's Director of Environment agreed to provide further information about the Big Clean Switch renewable energy traffic offers (green washing) for the 5 YEP Implementation Forum Chair.
4. A point was made about cumulative emissions and making sure the target aligned with the Paris agreement. The GMCA's Director of Environment agreed to clarify the position.

5. That the Chair of the Sustainable Consumption & Production Challenge Group, provide the Chair with more details and background information about Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) re-use shops.

Resolved/-

The Partnership noted the progress outlined in the report and the latest position set out in the dashboards attached to the report at Annex 1 – Environment Performance Overview and Annex 2 – 5 YEP Plan Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

GMGCRP/06/21 CHALLENGE GROUP UPDATES

The report was introduced by the GMCA's Director of Environment, which outlined progress made by the 5YEP Challenge Groups in developing their key priorities through Task and Finish Action Groups.

The report was accompanied by a presentation by the Challenge Group Chairs that provided an updated overview of the Challenge Group priorities and how these were being delivered through Task and Finish Groups.

The main points referred:

1. A Member was concerned about the decarbonisation bid and suggested that the timescales were unrealistic.
2. The Chair asked for more information about market making on the Green Homes Grant, being a good corporate citizen and city business. It was explained that the retrofit accelerator work would address market making including skills, supply chain and demand. In terms of being a good corporate citizen, alignment would be made with existing corporate initiatives and the GMCA and partners would be used for their campaigning strength. It was also suggested that a forum be established with the corporate sector.
3. An Officer asked about the decarbonisation grants/schemes and how they could be made more appropriate. It was suggested that the Partnership lobby for policy stability around buildings, market making and the consumer retrofit offer. Creative ways must be found to move forward on commercial retrofit.
4. A concern was raised regarding the public sector decarbonisation fund and delivery. A question was asked about how this could be resolved in the future. It was explained that delivery must be carried out in a co-ordinated way and Local Authority (LA) resources issues must be addressed. There was also a need to focus lobbying as a group.
5. It was agreed that hogweed and river erosion would be considered at a future meeting.
6. The Chair of the Communications Group asked that all partners use the green bee on relevant material. The Partnership was asked for good news stories from a people perspective to make them more relatable.
7. The sustainable consumption and production plan would be considered at the next meeting on 16 July 2021.

8. The Chair of the Energy Innovation Group commented on the 5 YEP and suggested from the decarbonisation pathway work with Cadent, policy gaps preventing the GMCA reaching its 2038 targets should be identified working with other city regions facing the same challenges. It was agreed that a report outlining the barriers and scale of challenge be considered at the next meeting on 16 July 2021.
9. The Chair of the 5 YEP Implementation Forum asked other Challenge Group's Chairs how the Forum could be useful to them. The Forum wanted to provide constructive challenge and pathways to deliver.

Resolved/-

The Partnership noted the progress in the Challenge Groups and Task and Finish Groups activity.

GMGCRP/07/21 PATHWAYS TO HEALTHY NET ZERO HOUSING

The Partnership considered a presentation that summarised the report contained in the agenda pack on pathways to healthy net zero housing. This was an important piece of work as it gave Greater Manchester far better data sets and analysis of the total housing stock than was available in any other UK city.

In addition to this work, the GMCA had also undertaken a retrofit market segmentation analysis which sat alongside it. The retrofit report highlighted 31% of Greater Manchester homeowners were willing to undertake some form of retrofit activity. It also identified possible key messaging to influence this group to do more faster and what messaging would resonate with the other 69%. Taking these two pieces of work together provided the evidence base for the retrofit accelerator described in the 5 YEP.

The Chair suggested and the Partnership agreed that the retrofit accelerator be considered at the next meeting on 16 July 2021.

Resolved/-

That the presentation be received and noted.

GMGCRP/08/21 GREATER MANCHESTER HYDROGEN STRATEGY

The Partnership was provided with a presentation about the Greater Manchester Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Strategy 2021-25. The report was produced in time for the last Green Summit. However, partners did not have the opportunity to consider it at that time.

The Chair of the 5 YEP Implementation Forum suggested that cumulative emissions be built into the specification of all strategies and plans. This was agreed in principle, further discussions would take place outside of the meeting.

Resolved/-

That the Partnership noted the presentation.

GMGCRP/09/21 COP26 PREPARATIONS

The GMCA's Director of Environment and Marketing Manchester provided the Partnership with a presentation that gave an overview of the opportunity for Greater Manchester presented by COP26 United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 1 to 12 November 2021. The report outlined how, working in partnership, Greater Manchester hoped to utilise COP26 to exemplify Greater Manchester as a premier green city.

The main points referred:

1. UKGBC would discuss the virtual pavilion with the GMCA's Director of Environment outside of the meeting.
2. Should the expressions of interest be successful, further discussions would take place with the Partnership to understand contributions.

Resolved/-

That the Partnership noted and commented on the report and accompanying presentation, which was presented to raise awareness of activity to date and the current collaboration and potential partnership opportunities that were being explored.

GMGCRP/10/21 CLEAN AIR PLAN

The Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan was presented to the Partnership for information. The consultation had concluded and TfGM was reviewing the responses. The plan was to bring that plan to decision makers as soon as possible; by the summer at the latest.

Resolved/-

That the report be noted.

GMGCRP/11/21 COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN DASHBOARD

The Partnership considered a report that provided an update on progress made against the Communications and Engagement Strategy supporting the Greater Manchester 5 YEP. Specifically, to share progress from each of the live green city region communication campaigns.

Resolved/-

That the Partnership noted the progress of the communication campaigns and the dashboard (annex).

**GMGRP/12/21 CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION – SIX MONTH
PROGRESS UPDATE**

The GMCA declared a climate emergency at its meeting on 26 July 2019 and required that progress reports be reviewed every six months. The report outlined the actions undertaken since the last progress report to the GMCA in June 2020.

Resolved/-

1. That the Partnership noted the report and the progress against the GMCA Climate Emergency declaration (Figure 1).
2. That the Partnership noted the Greater Manchester green city region briefing on delivery against the Greater Manchester 5 YEP for September – December 2021 (Annex).

GMGCRP/13/21 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved/-

It was noted that the next meeting would take place virtually on 16 July 2021 at 11.00 am.