



**Minutes of the Green City Region Partnership**  
**Held Virtually on Thursday 25 January 2024 at 9.30 am**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Tom Ross (TR)	Portfolio Leader for the Green City Region
Councillor Mike McCusker (MK)	Transport Committee and Planning & Housing Commission Representative (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Steve Adshead (SA)	Waste Committee Representative
Councillor Alan Quinn (AQ)	Bury Council
Sue Johnson (SJ)	GMCA Chief Executive Lead for the Green City Region
Ivan Bolotkov (IB)	Electricity North West (ENWL) (for Item 9)
Louise Blythe (LB)	BBC (Chair of Communications and Marketing Challenge Group)
Alex Edwards (AE)	Bruntwood (for Item 10)
Holly Howard (HH)	(for Carl Moore/Steph Everett) Homes England
Paul Hooper (PH)	Manchester Metropolitan University (Chair Sustainable Consumption & Production Challenge Group)
Claire Igoe (CI)	Greater Manchester NHS Integrated Care
Michael Keddy (MK)	ENWL (for Item 9)
Phil Korbel (PK)	Cooler Projects
Carly McLachlan (MC)	University of Manchester (Chair 5 Year Environment Plan (5YEP) Challenge Group)
Roger Milburn (RM)	Arup
Liz Price (LP)	(for Andy Gibson) Manchester Metropolitan University
Ian Rutherford (IR)	Greater Manchester Faith Communities
Jonny Sadler (JS)	(for Steve Cox) ENWL
Anne Selby (AS)	Independent (Chair Natural Capital Challenge Group)
Will Swan (SW)	University of Salford (Vice-Chair Low Carbon Challenge Group)

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mark Atherton (MA)	Director of Environment, GMCA
Megan Black (MB)	Head of Logistics & Environment, TfGM
Sam Evans (SE)	Head of Natural Environment, GMCA
John Gregory (JG)	Head of Service for Environmental Assets, Bolton Council
Jenny Hollamby (JH)	Governance & Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Sarah Mellor (SM)	Head of Sustainable Consumption & Production, GMCA
Sean Owen (SO)	Head of Low Carbon Policy, GMCA
Garry Parker (GP)	Assistant Director, Environment and Regulatory Services, Bolton Council
Robyn Smith (RS)	Project Manager Environment and Low Carbon, GMCA

Minute No	Resolutions	Responsible
	<b>Blue Links = Link to Livestream (available for 6 month)</b>	
<b>GCP/27/23</b>	<p><a href="#"><u>Apologies for Absence</u></a></p> <p>1. Apologies were received and noted from Jessica Bowles (Bruntwood), Steve Connor (Creative Concern), Ian Crewe and Mark Easedale (EA), Hisham Elkadi, (University of Salford), Andy Gibson (Manchester Metropolitan University), Richard Halsey (Energy Catapult), Martin Lax (TfGM), Bernard McGee (Siemens), Simon Nokes (GMCA), and Nalin Thakker (University of Manchester).</p> <p>2. That Sue Johnson be welcomed to the Partnership as the new GMCA Chief Executive Lead for the Green City Region replacing Harry Catherall. The Partnership thanked Harry for his valued contribution.</p> <p>3. That the Partnership was asked to consider its Membership before the Annual Meeting in July 2024. Suggestions to be sent to MA.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>ALL/MA</p>

GCP/28/23	<p><b><u>Chair’s Announcements and Urgent Business</u></b></p> <p>1. That the Partnership share the Green City Region Newsletter with their networks to increase coverage and sign up.</p>	ALL
GCP/29/23	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interest</u></b></p> <p>1. Councillor Alan Quinn declared a personal interest in Item 6 - Work Programme by virtue of him being a City of Trees Interim Board Member.</p>	Noted
GCP/30/23	<p><b><u>To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting</u></b></p> <p>1. That the minutes of the last meeting dated 19.10.23 be approved as a correct record.</p> <p>2. That IR provide the Partnership with an update on the Food Programme Board at the next meeting on 4.4.24.</p> <p>3. That CM provide the Partnership with a Green Wash Free City update at the next meeting on 4.4.24.</p> <p>4. That the Active Travel Commissioner be invited to the next meeting on 4.4.24 to speak about Active Travel.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>IR</p> <p>CM</p> <p>MA/JH</p>
GCP/31/23	<p><b><u>Quarter 3 Progress Report – 5 Year Environment Plan (5YEP)</u></b></p> <p>1. That the progress outlined in the report and latest position set out in the dashboard attached at Annex 01 of the report be noted.</p> <p>2. That MA provide SA with further information about the School’s Eco Refill Pilot and potential expansion following the meeting and that the information be shared with the wider Partnership.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>MA/SA</p>
GCP/32/23	<p><b><u>Work Programme 2023/24 &amp; Challenge Group Updates</u></b></p> <p>1. That the progress in developing the Mission Based Approach and the associated Challenge Groups be noted.</p> <p>2. That the Greater Manchester Retrofit Taskforce proposal to drive domestic retrofit be circulated to the Partnership.</p> <p>3. That the Partnership was recommended to read The State of Nature Research report by AS.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>WS/MA</p> <p>All</p>

	<p>4. That LB circulate the Take Charge initiative to the Group to amplify the work across the Partnership and that the approach be endorsed.</p> <p>5. That the lobbying and asks document that highlighted barriers to local action be updated and revisited at a future meeting with a view to sharing the Greater Manchester opinion more widely.</p> <p>6. That LB keep the Partnership updated about the Vice-Chair of the Communications and Marketing Challenge Group.</p>	<p>LB/JH</p> <p>MA/Chair</p> <p>LB</p>
<b>GCP/33/23</b>	<p><b><u>Behaviour Insights Research</u></b></p> <p>1. That the presentation be received and noted.</p> <p>2. That to influence change a public campaign be considered about what services were available locally.</p> <p>3. That further understanding of the life segments be discussed with the Chair following the meeting.</p> <p>4. That the life segments and next steps be considered at a future meeting.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>SM/MA</p> <p>SM/TR</p>
<b>GCP/34/23</b>	<p><b><u>Greater Manchester Environment Fund and Green Spaces Fund</u></b></p> <p>1. That the Partnership noted the progress in the establishment, development and growth of the Greater Manchester Environment Fund to date.</p> <p>2. That work takes place to address the challenges of decarbonising estates, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), carbon offsetting and green washing.</p> <p>3. That the element of social value be incorporated into all contracts.</p> <p>4. That land for tree planting be considered by the Green City Region Board and lessons learned be considered to accelerate the programme.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>SE</p> <p>SE</p> <p>SE</p>
<b>GCP/35/23</b>	<p><b><u>Regional Energy Systems Planning (RESP)</u></b></p> <p>1. That the Partnership noted Ofgem's recently announced Regional Energy Strategic Planners' proposals and the detailed design phase.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	2. That the Partnership suggested that the North RESP was too big given the advanced stages of the Local Area Network Plans (LANP).	JS
<b>GCP/36/23</b>	<p><b><u>Retrofit of Commercial Buildings in Greater Manchester</u></b></p> <p>1. That the Partnership noted the draft report.</p> <p>2. That to evaluate the appetite of Local Authorities to accept those recommendations which would require an update to Local Plans and Local Planning Powers conversations would be progressed.</p> <p>3. That Members of the Partnership wanting to feedback further were asked to contact AE.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>AE</p> <p>All</p>
<b>GCP/37/23</b>	<p><b><u>Greater Manchester Trade Misson to Japan and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Signings</u></b></p> <p>1. That the Partnership noted the report and progress arising from the recent mission to Japan.</p> <p>2. That the potential for further closer ties through the opportunity that the Osaka World Expo in 2025 provided be noted.</p> <p>3. That the Partnership noted the scale and innovation potential of the collective signatories of the MoUs, which had the potential to accelerate Greater Manchester's low carbon transition.</p> <p>4. That the Partnership thanked the Head of Low Carbon Policy, GMCA for his valuable work and wished him well in his new role outside the Combined Authority. The position would be advertised in the near future and the Partnership was asked to share the advert.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>All</p>
<b>GCP/38/23</b>	<p><b><u>Dates and Times of Future Meetings</u></b></p> <p>That the next meeting take place on 4.4.24 at 10.30 am.</p>	Noted