



**GREATER MANCHESTER SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION  
GROUP  
TERMS OF REFERENCE July 2022**

**1. Introduction**

The Greater Manchester Sustainable Consumption and Production Challenge Group aims to support delivery of the actions as set out in the GM 5 Year Environment Plan. Greater Manchester aims to become a testbed for new innovative technologies, services and investment mechanisms, supporting the implementation and delivery of the GM 5yr Environment Plan.

**2. Purpose/promise**

Our purpose is to shift that waste and resources to more sustainable models supporting;

- The long term vision for the environment.
- Value to communities across Greater Manchester.

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Challenge Group Members will through their commitment and participation, act as conduits to their wider organisations/business units.

As a Challenge Group Member, all parties will achieve the long term vision for the environment and provide value to communities by supporting a whole system approach across a spectrum of activities. These may include but are not restricted to;

- Assess barriers and opportunities and put forward measures to overcome them and communicating these to Challenge Groups/Green City Region Partnership as appropriate.
- Assign individual tasks to Task and Finish Groups and monitor progress on the tasks.
- Produce reports, publications and policy recommendations as required;
- Raise funding, engage contractors and commission work on the ground to accelerate delivery.
- Support delivery through your own organisations and networks.
- Take full account of existing work and seek to join up where possible and desirable.
- Support lobbying asks to national government where appropriate.
- Support GM role in contributing to local, national and international climate action, governance and networks.

**3. Long term vision for the environment**

We want Greater Manchester to be a clean, carbon neutral, climate resilient city-region with a thriving natural environment and circular, zero-waste economy where:

Our infrastructure will be smart and fit for the future: we will have an integrated, clean and affordable public transport system, resource efficient buildings, greater local community renewable energy, cleaner air, water and greenspace for all.

All citizens will have access to green space in every community, more trees including in urban areas, active travel networks, environmental education and healthy and locally-produced food.

Citizens and businesses will adopt sustainable living and businesses practices, focusing on local solutions to deliver a prosperous economy.

#### **4. Priorities**

By 2024 we aim to:

- Produce goods and services more sustainably, moving to a circular economy
- Become more responsible consumers.
- Managing our waste as sustainably as possible.
- Reducing unnecessary food waste.

#### **5. Key performance indicators**

The group is currently assessing it's KPIs

#### **6. Delivery**

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Group will define a Business Plan each year and agree this with the Chair of the Green City Region Partnership. Key actions and activities will be informed by the Greater Manchester 5 Year Environment Plan (see Appendix A): <https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/>

The Group will make decisions within the scope of the agreed business Plan. Decisions outside of the scope of the business plan and recommendations to the Combined Authority will be referred to the Green City Region (GCR) Partnership.

The Group is charged with obtaining additional resources and funds to carry out the activities identified in the Business Plan.

Priority outputs required from the GCR Partnership will be provided by the Group and drawn from the 5 Year Environment Plan and Sustainable Consumption and Production Business Plan.

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Group does not have a legal identity, any works commissioned by member/s will be commissioned in the name of the said member/s, using their bank account/s and requiring the member/s to take on legal liability.

#### **7. Membership**

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Group will comprise a Chair and Vice Chair plus appropriate members from the public/private/voluntary sectors of GM. The number of members will be deemed as appropriate by the Chair and Vice Chair. Group members may be asked, at the discretion of the Chair, to assume

responsibility for certain portfolios or tasks covering specific aspects of the waste sector, geographical locations, projects or initiatives, or oversight of Partnership resources.

The Chair will be appointed by the Chair of the GCR Partnership on behalf of the Combined Authority.

Chair: Neil Hind, NHS (temporary)

## **8. Operating Principles**

### **a. Governance**

No business will be transacted unless four Sustainable Consumption and Production Group members are present. Decisions will largely be reached by consensus, by 2/3 majority vote or where appropriate under Chair's authority.

### **b. Meeting frequency**

The Group will meet quarterly for 2-3 hours, with meeting dates arranged for a full financial year to align with the GCR Partnership meeting dates.

Where-ever practical, papers will be issued five working days before meetings, and the meeting note will be issued within two weeks of the meeting date.

At the discretion of the Group, more frequent Task and Finish meetings may be held if required.

### **c. Support arrangements**

The Group will be assigned a lead officer from the Greater Manchester Environment Team to provide co-ordination and facilitation for the meetings.

### **d. Roles and responsibilities**

#### **Chair/Vice Chair**

- Agree agenda and papers and Chair meetings.
- Report back to the Green City Region (GCR) Partnership and represent the views of the Group at Green City Region Partnership meetings.
- Champion the role and views of the Group to external audience.

#### **Members**

- Regularly attend and contribute to meetings.
- Thoroughly review and inform the work of the Group.
- Individually lead specific responsibilities and work programme activities.
- Report progress against priorities they are responsible for.

#### **GM Environment Team**

- Arrange secretariat support to the meetings.
- Co-ordinate and facilitate the development and implementation of the work programme.
- Review and contribute to proposed papers.
- Provide the operational interface between the other GCR themes.
- Work with the Group members to support the implementation of actions.

## **9. Competition licensing law**

Members will work together in a manner that is not anti-competitive and all members will not share information that could be seen to provide a competitive advantage to any party or inhibit the working of competitive markets.

## **10. Relationships with other groups**

The Sustainable Consumption and Production Group is a sub-group of the GCR Partnership. The Group will establish relationships and a working protocol with other topic groups on the following principles:

- The Chair of the Sustainable Consumption Group is a Green City Region Partnership member and the Vice Chair will deputise in their absence.
- The Group will report back to the 5YEP Forum and take on board feedback from the members.
- The Group will collaborate with other Challenge Groups on crosscutting issues and identify areas that it needs support from the Communications and Behaviour Change Challenge Group.

SUMMARY OF OUR ACTIONS –SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION:

**Residents**

- Reduce the amount of waste you produce and use reusable products
- Cut down the amount of plastics you use.
- Buy sustainable products
- Look at alternatives to purchasing large items such as lease agreements or take-back schemes.
- Recycle as much as you can
- Reduce the amount of food you waste
- Support local food growing and redistribution initiatives and organisations

**Local Authorities**

- Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Organisations – continue to work with partners across these areas, particularly on the development of our food strategy.

**Businesses and other organisations**

- Review your processes to look where you can make efficiencies in design and production.
- Make sure sustainability is part of your procurement policy
- Take action to reduce the amount of food your organisation wastes
- Support local food growing and redistribution initiatives and organisations

**Local Authorities**

- Embed environmental sustainability criteria in social value procurement mechanisms
- Provide Carbon Literacy for all staff involved in procuring activities
- Aim to eradicate avoidable single use plastic on the public estate.

**Lead policy**

- Collaborate with the GM Sustainable Business Partnership, including a focus on resource efficiency
- Explore ways to support innovation that will help us transition to a circular economy.
- Continue to develop the Plastic Free GM campaign, including launching a roadmap and Plastic Pact for the public sector
- Develop and consult on a Zero Waste Strategy to set out our approach to becoming a zero waste city region.
- Produce a roadmap and future food strategy, which will set out a pathway and priorities for our food system.

**What we need from government policy**

- Further powers and incentives in increase reuse and recycling for both residents and businesses.

**Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership**

- Work with partner organisations to support the development of waste management action plans across Trusts
- Take an approach towards a continual reduction in levels of waste, relative to the size of the organisation
- Have a system/process in place that identifies suitable opportunities to convert "waste" into a resource for community groups or charities
- Support staff on how to reduce food wastage to reduce the environmental impact