



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Green City Region Partnership
Held Virtually on Tuesday 17 October 2024 at 10.00 am

PRESENT:

Councillor Tom Ross (TR)	GMCA Green City Portfolio Lead (Chair)
Councillor Mike McCusker (MM)	Housing and Planning Commission and Bee Committee Representative (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Steve Adshead (SA)	Waste and Recycling Committee Representative
Councillor Alan Quinn (AQ)	Bury Council
Patrick Allcorn (PA)	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
Andy Barrow (AB)	Trust Renewables
Louise Blythe (LB)	BBC (Chair Green Communications Challenge Group)
Richard Halsey (RH)	Catapult (Chair of Low Carbon Challenge Group)
Holly Harrow (HH)	(for Carl Moore) Homes England
Michaela Howell (MH)	Groundwork
Paul Killilea (PK)	Electricity Northwest (ENWL)
Phil Korbel (PK)	The Carbon Literacy Project
Louise Marix Evans (LME)	Quantum (Vice-Chair 5 Year Environmental Plan (5YEP) Forum Challenge Group)
Grace Riddler (GR)	NHS Greater Manchester (NHS GM)
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
Rachel Berman (RA)	Principal Researcher (Environment), GMCA
Megan Black (MB)	Head of Logistics & Environment, TfGM
Mia Crowther (MC)	Senior Transport Strategy Officer, TfGM
Sam Evans (SE)	Head of Natural Environment, GMCA
Dan Griffiths (DG)	Head of Low Carbon Policy, GMCA
Jenny Hollamby (JH)	Governance & Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Michelle Lynch (ML)	Lead Programmes Manager Sustainable Consumption & Production (SCP), GMCA

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Garry Parker (GP)	Assistant Director - Environment and Regulatory Services, Bolton Council
Megan Roberts (MR)	Business Support, GMCA
Robyn Smith (RS)	Project Manager Environment and Low Carbon, GMCA

Minute No	Resolutions (Blue = Link to Livestream)	Responsible
GCP/18/24	<p><u>Introduction and Apologies</u></p> <p>a) Apologies were received and noted from Jessica Bowles (Bruntwood), Ian Crewe (Environment Agency), Jon Dyson (Bolton Council), Hisham Elkadi (University of Salford), Sue Johnson (GMCA Green City Portfolio Lead Chief Executive), Martin Lax (TfGM), Bernard Magee (Siemens), Carly McLaughlin (The University of Manchester (Chair 5YEP Challenge Group), Carl Moore (Homes England), Councillor Jack Naylor (Tameside), Liz Price (Manchester Metropolitan University), Ian Rutherford (Greater Manchester Faith Communities), and Mike Taylor (ENWL).</p>	Noted
GCP/19/24	<p><u>Chair's Announcements and Urgent Business</u></p> <p>a) Whilst there were no announcements or urgent business introduced, the Partnership noted the updates provided by the Chair about the £1.1m grant awarded to Manchester Metropolitan Universities to boost sustainable living, the extension to the largest waste and recycling contract in the UK and Europe to invest in a materials recovery facility (MRF), that it was Recycling Week and how some GM residents could now recycle household plastics like pots, tubs and trays in their mixed recycling bin.</p>	Noted

GCP/20/24	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>a) Councillor Alan Quinn declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Draft 5 Year Environment Plan (5YEP) by virtue of him being a City of Trees Interim Board Member.</p>	Noted/JH
GCP/21/24	<p><u>To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting 16.7.24</u></p> <p>a) That the minutes of the last meeting dated 16.7.24 be approved as a correct record.</p> <p>b) GCP/08/24/B – IR to share the Terms of Reference for the Food Programme Board.</p> <p>c) GCP/10/24/B – Retailers continuing to provide single-use carrier bags in violation of regulations had been raised with the Single-use Plastics Group.</p> <p>d) GCP/10/24/D – Electric Mobility and the Local Transport Plan to be discussed today.</p> <p>e) GCP/11/24/B – The need for a business behaviour insights study approach was being considered.</p> <p>f) GCP/12/24/C – Officers were consulting with the National Local Net-Zero Accelerator knowledge transfer partner on the requirements for stakeholder engagement before sharing with the Partnership.</p> <p>g) GCP/13/24/D – While a resolute 5YEP engagement session for the VCFSE sector had not taken place, relevant organisations were involved through Challenge Groups, other engagement events, and the draft 5YEP had been shared for feedback.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>IR</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>MA</p> <p>MA</p> <p>Complete</p>
GCP/22/24	<p><u>Quarter 2 Progress Report – 5 Year Environment Plan (5YEP)</u></p> <p>a) That the Partnership noted the progress outlined in the report and latest position set out in the dashboard attached at Annex 01 of the report and available online at: Five Year Environment Plan (2019-24) Progress (gmdashboard).</p> <p>b) That the solar and community energy viability studies be considered in the new year.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>MA</p>

	<p>c) In response to a Member's query about resident feedback on Energy Company Obligation 4 (ECO4) retrofitted homes, MA agreed to investigate if a mechanism could be built into the portal.</p>	MA
GCP/23/24	<p><u>Draft 5YEP (2025-2030)</u></p> <p>a) That the Partnership provided high level feedback (see Livestream link) which MA took on board for the next iteration of the 5YEP.</p> <p>b) That the Partnership provide the Environment Team with further comments following the meeting.</p> <p>d) That the Partnership endorsed the current draft 5YEP, subject to final amendments, for submission to the GMCA.</p> <p>e) That the Partnership noted the development process and next steps and that a sustainability and equality assessment would be conducted on the final draft document.</p> <p>f) That the Partnership agreed to continue the mission-based approach in terms of the Governance Section and additional ways to engage with people would be explored. This aspect would be considered at the next meeting on 23.1.25.</p> <p>g) That MA provide the Partnership with a summary of the recent budget announcements as they pertained to environment.</p>	<p>RS/MA</p> <p>All</p> <p>RS/MA</p> <p>Noted RS/MA</p> <p>MA/RS</p> <p>MA/Completed</p>
GCP/24/24	<p><u>Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Consultation</u></p> <p>a) That the Partnership endorsed the GM LNRS (draft for consultation) to proceed to public consultation.</p> <p>b) That the Partnership noted the LRNS contents, including the vision, aims, targets, priorities and actions to help respond locally to the biodiversity emergency.</p>	<p>SE</p> <p>Noted</p>

	c) That the Partnership noted that the GM Mayor (as Responsible Authority) had delegated to Councillor Tom Ross to approve any minor changes to be made to the LRNS prior to the public consultation.	Noted/SE/TR
	d) That the Partnership suggested that an aspiration should be that significant resources be invested in a dedicated Climate Change Team for GM.	Noted
GCP/25/24	<u>Engagement on the Drafting of the Local Transport Plan</u> a) That the presented be received and noted. b) That further comments on the plan following the meeting be sent to MC and MB.	Noted All/MC/MB
GCP/26/24	<u>Electromobility: Zero Emissions Travel (TfGM Paper Considered by the GMCA in September 2024)</u> a) That the Partnership received and noted the report. b) That a deep dive be undertaken at the next meeting on 23.1.25.	Noted MB/MA
GCP/27/24	<u>Greater Manchester Climate Change Risk Assessment</u> a) That the Partnership noted and commented on (see Livestream Link above) the GM Climate Change Risk Assessment. b) That the Partnership endorsed the assessment for publication alongside the forthcoming 5YEP. c) That the Partnership noted the next steps in producing a GM Climate Adaptation Strategy and Implementation Plan. d) That the Partnership agreed to provide further thoughts following the meeting. e) That further detail be provided at a later date and considered by the Green City Region Board. SE also agreed to organise a webinar. f) That comprehensive engagement be implemented to involve more Councillors and GM residents in understanding the crisis.	SE SE Noted All SE SE

GCP/28/24	<p><u>Green Summit 2024</u></p> <p>a) That the update be received, and it was noted that 800 people had registered so far for the event.</p>	Noted
GCP/29/24	<p><u>Green Spaces Evaluation Report</u></p> <p>a) That the report be received and noted.</p>	Noted
GCP/30/23	<p><u>The GM Ringway</u></p> <p>a) Attention was drawn to the GM Ringway, <u>GM's walking trail</u>. The Partnership was encouraged to give it a go.</p>	All
GCP/31/24	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>a) 23.1.25 at 10.00 am via Teams.</p>	All