



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Green City Region Partnership
Held Virtually on Thursday 23 January 2025 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
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)
Mark Hughes (MH)	The Growth Company
Andy Judd (AJ)	Environment Agency (EA)
Carly McLachlan (CM)	Tyndall Manchester (Chair 5 Year Environment (5YEP) Forum)
Roger Millburn (RM)	Arup
Paul Killilea (PK)	Electricity Northwest (ENWL)
Phil Korbel (PK)	The Carbon Literacy Project
Hayley Lever (HL)	GM Moving
Deborah Murray (DM)	Groundwork
Ian Rutherford (IR)	Greater Manchester Faith Communities
Anne Selby (AS)	Independent (Chair Natural Capital Challenge Group)
Will Swan (SW)	University of Salford (Vice-Chair Low Carbon Challenge Group)
Mike Taylor (MT)	ENWL

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Atherton (MA)	Director of Environment, GMCA
Richard Banks (RB)	Senior Manager – Logistics & Environment, TfGM
Megan Black (MB)	Head of Logistics & Environment, TfGM
Dan Griffiths (DG)	Head of Low Carbon Policy, GMCA

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jenny Hollamby (JH)	Governance and Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Steven Hassall (SH)	Programme Manager, Environment, GMCA
Sarah Mellor (SM)	Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production, GMCA
Garry Parker (GP)	Assistant Director - Environment and Regulatory Services, Bolton Council
Robyn Smith (RS)	Project Manager, Environment and Low Carbon, GMCA

OBSERVERS

Wasundara Doradeniya	Postgraduate, University of Manchester
Paul Scott	Green Summit Attendee

Minute No	Resolutions	Responsible
GCP/31/25	<p><u>Introduction and Apologies</u></p> <p>a) Apologies were received and noted from Sue Johnson (Bolton Council), Councillor Alan Quinn (Bury Council), Jessica Bowles (Bruntwood), Mark Easedale (EA), Claire Igoe (NHS GM), Bernard Magee (Siemens), and Liz Price (MMU).</p>	Noted
GCP/32/25	<p><u>Chair's Announcements and Urgent Business</u></p> <p>a) Whilst there were no announcements or urgent business, the Partnership noted the updates provided by the Chair about the Five Year Environment Plan (5YEP) film available on the Green City Website (5YEP: OUR Journey YOUR Film), and in terms of the Clean Air Plan (CAP) Government had agreed to an investment led plan and motorists would not be charged to enter the city center.</p>	Noted
GCP/33/25	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>a) There were no declarations of interest received.</p>	

<p>GCP/34/25</p>	<p><u>To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting 17.10.24</u></p> <p>a) That the minutes of the last meeting dated 17.10.25 be approved as a correct record.</p> <p><u>Review of Actions</u></p> <p>a) GCP/08/24/B – IR to share the Terms of Reference for the Food Programme Board following its meeting on 3.2.25.</p> <p>b) GCP/11/24B – the existence of research around business behaviour insights conducted by ENWL was acknowledged.</p> <p>c) GCP/12/24/C – this action was complete; the Net Zero Accelerator update would be considered today.</p> <p>d) GCP/22/24/C – MA to investigate if a feedback mechanism could be built into the portal. This action would be explored as part of the portal review.</p> <p>e) GCP/24/24/A – It was reported that the LNRS consultation was launched on 15.11.24 and would close on 31.1.25.</p> <p>f) GCP/27/24/E – that the climate change risk assessments would be added to a future GCR Board agenda.</p> <p>g) GCP/27/24/F – that Pathways 2 Resilience to include a comprehensive engagement plan to involve more Councillors and GM residents in understanding the crisis.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>IR</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>
<p>GCP/35/24</p>	<p><u>Quarter 3 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 (gmltableau).</p>	<p>Noted</p>

	<p>b) That MA include a promotion message in the next edition of the Green City Newsletter about the highest monthly patronage figure on Metrolink and buses in the Bee Networks' history and Active Travel.</p> <p>c) That MA provides SA with further information around LNRS consultation efforts and Trafford Council.</p> <p>d) That the Integrated Water Management Plan Annual Business Plan 2025-26 be considered at the next meeting on 3.4.25.</p>	<p>MA</p> <p>MA</p> <p>MA</p>
<p>GCP/36/24</p>	<p><u>Future Mission Based Approach and Challenge Group Updates</u></p> <p>a) It was agreed that Partnership meetings would be held quarterly, with feedback from Challenge Chair's and metrics reporting (the 5YEP dashboard) every six months. Additionally, two meetings would be reserved for in-depth discussions (deep dives).</p> <p>b) That the Partnership agreed the revised structure for the Mission Based Approach, the new delivery structure and reporting frequency (Annex 6a of the report).</p> <p>c) That the Partnership's comments around the importance of deep dives, the focus on priority areas, connectivity across the different groups, the importance of cross cutting themes, maintaining awareness of broader issues, risk to the economy from the natural environment, a process for escalating issues to the Partnership, and how to use the Partnership as a platform to effect change be considered as refinements in the delivery structure.</p> <p>d) That MA discuss with PA the role(s) for National Government to support the new approach.</p> <p>e) That RS obtain contact details for the Digital Infrastructure Advisory Group and GM Strategic Infrastructure Board from RM.</p>	<p>Agreed</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>RS</p> <p>MA/PA</p> <p>RS</p>

<p>GCP/37/25</p>	<p><u>Electromobility Deep Dive</u></p> <p>a) That the presentation be received and noted.</p> <p>b) That interventions to reduce the theft of hire bikes were ongoing and the number of missing bikes had reduced to 118 on 11.10.24 be noted.</p> <p>c) That further thought be given to public engagement strategies that effectively communicated cost savings and other advantages, encouraging greater EV adoptionn be considered.</p> <p>d) That RB keep the Group updated about EV programmes.</p> <p>e) That RB track hybrid vehicle adoption to guide policy and decision making.</p> <p>f) That RB provide a comprehensive view around the provision of e-scooters, e-bikes and e-cargo bikes.</p> <p>g) That MB explore planning policy around home charging and PV across GM and report back.</p> <p>h) That further thought be given to providing Bee Network customers with carbon saving information when using the app.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>RB</p> <p>RB</p> <p>RB</p> <p>RB</p> <p>MB</p> <p>MB</p>
<p>GCP/38/25</p>	<p><u>Solar Schools and Community Energy</u></p> <p>a) That the presentation be received and noted.</p> <p>b) Schools Offer Promotion – Phase 2 to commence in summer targeting 50 schools or more. The Partnership agreed to promote the offer to maintained and non-maintained schools alike.</p> <p>Community Energy</p> <p>c) Data – private business activity (selling power directly to large energy site) was seen as a key area. The Partnership agreed to provide data on businesses and energy consumption. That Bee Net Zero and ENWL to share data to satisfy business data need.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Agreed</p> <p>SH/MA/PK</p>

	<p>d) That the Partnership agreed to provide local activity knowledge about community energy in the GM area or related activity in similar not-for-profit groups.</p> <p>e) That further thought be given to the wider opportunities beyond generation.</p> <p>f) That SH look at the Wildlife Trust for Lancashire's site in Wigan with planning permission for a large solar site.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>MA/PA/SH</p> <p>SH</p>
GCP/39/25	<p><u>Net Zero Accelerator and Devolution Deal Update</u></p> <p>a) That the presentation be received and noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
GCP/40/25	<p><u>Review of the Green Summit</u></p> <p>a) That the Partnership noted the review.</p> <p>b) That the Partnership as feedback suggested that the format be mixed up to include more networking and more exhibition space and what more could be done to engage more with schools and young people be considered.</p> <p>c) That potential date for the next Green Summit was noted as March 2026.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>SM</p> <p>Noted</p>
GCP/41/25	<p><u>Final 5YEP 2025-30</u></p> <p>a) That the Partnership noted the new 5YEP (2025-30).</p> <p>b) That the Partnership provide final feedback to potentially inform the developing Executive Summary to MA.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>All/MA</p>
GCP/42/25	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>a) 23.4.25 at 10.00 am via Teams.</p>	<p>Noted</p>