



**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Green City Region Board and
5 Year Environment Plan (5YEP) Partnership and Combined
Annual Meeting Held Virtually on Friday 18 July April 2025 at 10.00 am**

GREEN CITY REGION PORTFOLIO LEADS:

Councillor Tom Ross (TR)	GMCA Green City Portfolio Lead (Chair)
Sue Johnson (SJ)	GMCA Green City Portfolio Lead Chief Executive

GREEN CITY REGION BOARD MEMBERS:

Councillor Richard Sylvester (RS)	Bolton Council
Councillor Abdul Jabbar (AJ)	Oldham Council
Councillor Tracey Rawlins (TR)	Manchester City Council
Councillor Jake Austin (JA)	Stockport Council

5YEP PARTNERSHIP:

Councillor Steve Adshead (SA)	Waste and Recycling Committee Representative
Councillor Alan Quinn (AQ)	Bury Council
Louise Blythe (LB)	BBC (Chair Communications Challenge Group)
Steve Connor (SC)	Creative Concern (Chair Bee Net Zero Challenge Group)
Andy Judd (AJ)	Environment Agency
Carly McLachlan	Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (Chair 5YEP Forum)
Deborah Murray (DM)	Groundwork
Grace Rider (GR)	NHS Greater Manchester
Ian Rutherford (IR)	Greater Manchester Faith Communities
Louise Robbins (LR)	GM Moving
Will Swan (WS)	University of Salford (Vice-Chair Low Carbon Challenge Group)
Mike Taylor (MT)	Electricity Northwest (ENWL)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Atherton (MA)	Director of Environment, GMCA
Megan Black (MB)	Head of Logistics & Environment, TfGM

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Duncan (MD)	Strategic Lead - Resources & Programmes, Manchester City Council
Sam Evans (SE)	Head of Natural Environment, GMCA
Dan Griffiths (DG)	Head of Low Carbon Policy, GMCA
Duncan Hatfield (DH)	Lead Analyst (Environment), GMCA
Jenny Hollamby (JH)	Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer, GMCA
Yasmin Khan (KH)	Senior Policy and Programmes Officer, GMCA
Michael King (MK)	Lead Analyst (Environment), GMCA
Nick Leslie (NL)	Head of Climate Action Now, Stockport Council
Garry Parker (GP)	Assistant Director - Environment and Regulatory Services, Bolton Council
James Shuttleworth (JS)	Head of Planning, Salford City Council
Robyn Smith (RS)	Project Manager, Environment and Low Carbon, GMCA
Steven Westcott (SW)	Environment Programme Manager, GMCA

Minute No	Resolutions (Blue = Link to Livestream)	Responsible
GC/57/25	Appointment of Chair for the 2025/26 Municipal Year To note the appointment of Councillor Tom Ross, Portfolio Leader as Chair and Sue Johnson as Portfolio Lead Chief Executive for the Green City Region Partnership and Board.	Noted
GC/58/25	Appointment of Vice-Chair for the 2025/26 Municipal Year That Councillor Mike McCusker, Salford City Council be appointed as Vice-Chair for the Green City Region Partnership and Board.	Appointed
GC/59/25	Terms of Reference and Schedule of Meetings for the Green City Region Board a) That the Board's Terms of Reference and governance structure be approved and adopted. b) Councillor Jake Austin (Stockport) was welcomed, replacing Councillor Mark Roberts, who was thanked for his contributions.	Approved

GC/60/25	<u>Terms of Reference and Schedule of Meetings for the Green City Region Partnership</u> a) That the name of the Green City Region Partnership be changed to the Greater Manchester 5YEP Partnership. b) That the revised Terms of Reference and governance structure of the GM 5YEP Partnership for the 2025/26 municipal year including the Chair and Vice-Chair arrangements for the Challenge Groups (Annex 01) to approved. c) That the appointment of Pete Emery to the Partnership and note that further appointments (political and private sector) were likely to be made to represent the new Challenge Group Structure be approved. d) That it be clarified how wider stakeholders could input into transport work and this be reflected in the governance structure. e) That thought be given to a direct, two-way relationship between Key Influencer groups and the 5YEP Partnership by ensuring regular updates, shared annual plans, and standing agenda items (Green City Region Stakeholder Briefing) to support integration and mutual challenge. f) That consideration be given to Mayoral Development Corporations role within the 5YEP governance structure and if mapping work was required. g) That stakeholder mapping be undertaken to identify gaps, and consideration be given to effective approaches for reaching out to those stakeholders via the Communications Challenge Group.	Approved Approved Approved RS RS MA/LM RS/LB
GC/61/25	<u>Introductions, Welcome and Apologies</u> Apologies for absence were received and noted from Jessica Bowles, Ian Crewe, Mark Easdale, Richard Halsey, Claire Igoe, Paul Killilea, Phil Korbel, Hayley Lever, Chris Matthews, Councillor Mike McCusker, Liz Price and Anne Selby.	Noted

GC/62/25	<u>Chair's Announcements and Urgent Business</u> a) The Chair's update around Greater Manchester being named on the Cities A List for climate action, Nature Towns and Cities funding, and the Community Solar Share offer was noted. b) MA to explore the potential to extend the community solar share offer to households and community finance.	Noted MA
GC/63/25	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> Councillor Alan Quinn declared a personal interest in Item 11 – Quarter 1 Progress Report by virtue of him being a City of Trees Interim Board Member and a Member of the North West Rivers Floods and Coastal Committee.	Noted
GCP/64/25	<u>To Approve the Minutes of the last Green City Region Board meeting on 17.4.25</u> That the minutes of the last meeting dated 17.4.25 be updated and circulated to Board Members following the meeting.	Completed
GCP/65/25	<u>To approve the Minutes of the last Green City Partnership meeting held on 3.4.25</u> That the minutes of the last meeting dated 3.4.25 be approved and adopted. Review of Actions: • 37h) a matrix of Planning Policy across the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) on electric vehicle (EV) charging, rooftop solar and a PfE perspective be provided by MB/DD to DG. • 47c) that the renewable energy research studies be considered at the meeting on 10.10.25. • 47d) that the Partnership success videos were available on the <u>Green City website</u>. • 47h) a deliverable in the Live Well master plan was in place around Live Well funding and green social prescribing initiatives	Approved Complete Completed Complete Complete

	• 48d) that the Environment Team consider how green buildings, beavers for flood control and electric buses be made mandatory in local plans to tackle climate change. • 48e) that the GMCA and LAs develop cool spaces as part of the 5YEP. Community engagement had been identified by the 5YEP Forum as an area for further work. • 48g) that updates for the Greater Manchester Green and Blue Spaces Action Network be considered at the meeting on 10.10.25. • 51b) to help Members communicate with politicians and other key decision makers an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) and a communications strategy was being developed. • 51c) that a District map of in the IWMP – Business Plan be shared. • 51d) that the list of IWMP schemes mentioned in the report be shared and the need to raise public awareness be considered. • 51e) the idea of projects for capturing excess rainwater for use during droughts was being promoted by United Utilities (UU), The WINEP Programme Programme was also progressing new opportunities to support rainwater harvesting and storage initiatives.	RS MA/LAs MA/IR/JH MT MT MT Complete
GCP/67/25	5YEP First Year Delivery and Challenge Group Updates a) That the progress in developing the Mission Based Approach and the associated Challenge Groups be noted. b) That MB provide SA with information on how publicly funded buses would be used to improve service in areas of the community that were currently least well served by public transport.	Noted MB

	c) That the details of the new Warm Homes Plan due to be published in October 2025 be shared with the Board and Partnership. d) That commercial fleets (such as HGVs and vans) be picked up as a future priority, by the Bee Net Zero Challenge Group.	WS/RM MA/SC
GCP/68/25	<u>Quarter 1 Progress Report – 5YEP</u> a) That the summary of progress outlined in the report and the more detailed positions set out in: - Detailed Performance Report against each 5YEP Objective/Action (Annex A). The metrics dashboards are available online be noted, b) That improvements to the layout of the Progress Report (Excel table) be provided to MA following the meeting.	Noted ALL
GCP/69/25	<u>5YEP Metrics Dashboard</u> a) That the demonstration of the dashboard at the meeting be received noted. b) That GR and MK connect to explore how the dashboard could be aligned to NHS sustainability reporting.	Noted GR/MA
GCP/70/25	<u>Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) Final Report</u> a) That the Green City Region Board and 5YEP endorsed the LNRS ahead of its anticipated endorsement by the GMCA and approval by the Greater Manchester Mayor in August 2025. b) That further thought be given to developing a GM strategy for dealing with invasive species be developed. c) That SE provide SA with a more detailed paper on tree canopy coverage and what it represented. d) That attendees wanting to be involved in the launch of the LNRS contact SE.	Endorsed SE SE/SA Completed

GCP/72/25	<u>Public Building Retrofit Fund (PBRf)</u> That the proposed PBRf delivery approach be noted.	Noted
GCP/73/25	<u>Spending Review Summary – Greater Manchester Implications</u> a) That the presentation be noted.	Noted
GCP/74/25	<u>Green City Region Stakeholder Briefing</u> a) That the briefing be received and noted. b) That all Members, following the meeting provide feedback on how the Stakeholder Briefing could evolve and be improved including format, content and circulation	Noted ALL
GCP/75/25	<u>Re-introduction of Beavers</u> a) That Board and Partnership Members view the video following the meeting. b) That this topic, along with other nature-based solutions, be revisited at future meetings to review progress and assess how these initiatives were developing.	ALL MA
GCP/78/25	<u>Dates and Times of Next Meetings</u> a) Green City Board – Thursday 25 September 2025 at 10.00 am, venue to be confirmed. b) 5YEP Partnership – Friday 10 October 2025 at 10.00 am via Teams.	Noted Noted