



CAMPAIGN FOR BUSINESS 2017



Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce CAMPAIGN FOR BUSINESS 2017

- the Greater Manchester Mayoral Election

This year registered voters in Greater Manchester will get the chance to vote for their first ever elected mayor.

This is a powerful political position and the decisions made by the mayor that also will have a big impact on the Greater Manchester economy and all those who live and work here.

This factsheet contains all the need-to-know information about the mayor and their responsibilities in office.

The mayor will have a series of statutory executive responsibilities and Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce has identified the 5 key themes outlining these. In addition to setting out and explaining what the mayor will do these themes also structure the Chamber's campaign work ahead of the election - representing business views on what they expect of the candidates.

WHEN IS IT?

- The election takes place on 4th May 2017

WHO CAN VOTE?

- To vote in the election you must live in Greater Manchester and have registered to vote by 13 April 2017.
- Register Online at: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

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WHAT POWERS WILL THE MAYOR HAVE?

1. BUSINESS SUPPORT, ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICES

- o Chair of Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- GM Strategy
- GM Spatial Framework
- Business Support
- Local skills commissioning
- Devolved Heath & Social Care budget - £6bn
- o Deliver role of Police & Crime Commissioner
- o Responsible for GM Fire and Rescue service



2. SKILLS

- o Responsible for the local commissioning of skills provision through the Greater Manchester Combined Authority including the newly devolved adult skills budget.
- Devolution of the 19+ Adult Skills budget will be phased in, with full devolution by 2018/19.



3. INFRASTRUCTURE

- o Responsible for effective delivery of the devolved transport budget, including:
- A new franchised bus service (subject to consultation)
- Implementation of smart ticketing
- Devolution of rail stations across GM.



4. PLANNING

- o Power over strategic planning including a new Community Infrastructure Levy
- o Chair, jointly with the housing minister, the Greater Manchester Land Commission
- o Responsible for the Mayoral Development Corporation



5. TRADE

- o Whilst having no statutory duties for trade the Chamber and its members believe the mayor will have a crucial role to play on the international stage post-Brexit in ensuring that overseas trade and inward investment continue to develop and in maximising the growth of the airport and other international access points.



WHO ARE THE CANDIDATES?

- o Andy Burnham - Labour
 - Labour holds 9 of the region's 10 councils, and 22 of its constituencies, making him the clear favourite.
 - Elected as a Greater Manchester MP in 2001
 - Early focus on transport, critical of spatial framework and use of greenbelt
 - o Sean Anstee - Conservative
 - Became leader of Trafford council in 2014 aged 26 - the youngest council leader in Britain.
 - Early focus on skills - including "Greater Manchester Gap Year" - a combo of work experience and volunteering for local 18 year olds, supportive of GM Spatial Framework
 - o Jane Brophy - Liberal Democrats
 - Early focus on opposing Spatial Framework and use of greenbelt, as well as taking an openly anti-Brexit stance.
 - o Shneur Odze - UKIP
 - o Will Paterson - Wigan & Leigh Green Party
 - o Peter Clifford - Communist League
 - o Stephen Morris - English Democrats
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ISSUES TO WATCH:

Infrastructure and Planning - huge attention in the early stages of campaigning on the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) - GM needs 227,000 more homes by 2035 to support 3m new residents. More than 25% of proposed developments in the GMSF is on current green belt land.

Infrastructure needs also need prioritising if the scale of development in GMSF is to be achieved - not just transport but digital and social infrastructure too - new schools, hospitals and civic amenities.

Transport is already a hot topic with links made to air quality and no immediate solutions to what many see as an increasing problem for the city region. TfGM estimate that congestion in GM already costs £1.3billion each year.

Skills - GMCA calculate that worklessness and low pay costs £2bn per year already and many businesses want to see a more employer led skills system that matches economic needs.

Business Rates and local Finance - the mayor will have a range of tools at their disposal to utilise local financial mechanisms including the pilot to retain all GM business rates - how can businesses ensure that this money gets used effectively to assist and preserve economic growth and development?

Keep track of the election and campaign on www.gmchamber.co.uk and on our social media channel.

If you want to take part in any discussion on Twitter use #GMMayor and tag us @gmchamber Or e-mail: Chris.fletcher@gmchamber.co.uk

STATS

- **Business rates and local finance**
 - o The 10 authorities within GM have a total rateable value of almost £2.75bn, generating around £1.35bn each year.
- **Skills**
 - o In 2010, 1 in 10 GM residents had no qualifications
- **Infrastructure and planning**
 - o More than 25% of proposed developments in the GMSF are on current greenbelt land, which covers 47% of GM.
- **Transport**
 - o 31% of GM households do not have a car
 - o GMCA predicts 600,000 more trips on GM transport networks everyday by 2035

that affect productivity and growth across Greater Manchester. Use of tools such as the GMCC pipeline analysis to ensure there is adequate provision of current requirements and future provision is effectively planned for, targeted and delivered.

WHAT MEMBERS WANT

- **Business support**
 - o Have sustained, meaningful and effective engagement with the business community throughout the whole of Greater Manchester.
- **Skills**
 - o Look actively for ways to address gaps in skills

- **Infrastructure**
 - o Focus on the means and ability to move high volumes of commuters and freight more effectively as an immediate priority before looking at other transport schemes.
 - o Work effectively and constructively with other local administrations, elected mayors and combined authorities across the north of England to deliver the "Northern Powerhouse".

- **Planning**
 - o Co-ordinate effectively the various overlapping strategies being produced on infrastructure delivery, development and growth.

- **Trade**
 - o Establish a pro-investment campaign that continues to attract overseas investment using the opportunity of the Chamber's expertise and experience in developing access to overseas markets and hosting inward trade delegations.