

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: 27 March 2026

Subject: Review of the GMCA Constitution

Report of: Gillian Duckworth, Group Solicitor & Monitoring Officer

Purpose of Report

To report on the first part of the Monitoring Officer's review of the GMCA's Constitution and recommend amendments

Recommendations:

The GMCA is requested to:

Adopt the revised Part 5 of the Constitution accompanying this report as Part 5 of the Constitution of the GMCA

Contact Officers

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Report authors must identify which paragraph relating to the following issues:

Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

No implications arising directly from this report

Risk Management

No implications arising directly from this report

Legal Considerations

The GMCA must monitor and evaluate the operation of the Constitution as set out in Article 13. This Report is presented in accordance with that Article.

Financial Consequences – Revenue

No implications arising directly from this report

Financial Consequences – Capital

No implications arising directly from this report

Number of attachments to the report: 1

Comments/recommendations from Overview & Scrutiny Committee -

N/A

Background Papers

None

Tracking/ Process

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution -

No

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? - No

Bee Network Committee

N/A

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

N/A

1. Introduction/Background

- 1.1. The Monitoring Officer is required to monitor and review the operation of the GMCA's Constitution and, where appropriate, to propose changes to the Constitution to the GMCA for approval.
- 1.2. The review for 2025/26 has primarily focussed on changes that will aid the efficient delivery of the new Greater Manchester Strategy in 2026 and beyond, that the Monitoring Officer intends to present to the Mayor and the GMCA at the AGM in June. There will also be changes necessitated by the Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill which is expected to become law around the same time.
- 1.3. In advance of that report, this report has been prepared to bring forward some comparatively administrative amendments identified during the review that are simply to ensure that the GMCA's procedure rules continue to be clear and to reflect current practice.
- 1.4. The attached version [Microsoft Word - 6A GMCA Constitution March 2026.docx](#) of Part 5 of the GMCA Constitution reflects the proposed amendments and is recommended for approval. Amendments appear in tracked changes in the revised version.

2. Collective and Collaborative Decision Making

- 2.1. New paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 propose the introduction of paragraphs confirming the underlying principles that the GMCA already operates to putting these at the forefront of the Procedure Rules.

3. Assistant Portfolio Holders

- 3.1. The GMCA has not appointed Assistant Portfolio Holders for a considerable number of years and so it is recommended the provision for them is removed to avoid confusion.

4. Meeting Agendas

- 4.1. The section of the Procedure Rules dealing with the construction of meeting agendas has been updated to reflect the fact that reports are generally brought forward by officers and that the content of the agenda is produced in collaboration between the Chief Executive and the Chair.

5. Rules of Debate

Amendments are proposed to set out in more detail the way that meetings are currently conducted, to make it clear that motions must either be procedural or related to an item already on the agenda and to introduce an opportunity for Members to bring a meeting to a close if the meeting has continued for a period of 3 hours.

6. Other Amendments

- 6.1. Provisions have been proposed for removal where they duplicate information elsewhere in the Procedure Rules. A number of re-ordering suggestions have also been made to aid understanding.