

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election

Election Booklet

Information from the Combined Authority Returning Officer
and Candidate Election Addresses

Introduction

On **Thursday 2 May 2024** there are three elections taking place in Greater Manchester:

- **Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Mayoral Election** – taking place across all 10 districts, to elect the Mayor of Greater Manchester,
- **Local elections** – taking place in each district, to elect local councillors,
- **Salford City Mayor Election** – taking place in Salford only, to elect the City Mayor.

You must be registered to vote in Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford or Wigan, and be 18 or over on Thursday 2 May 2024, to take part in these elections.

The Election Booklet

The Combined Authority Returning Officer oversees the delivery of the GMCA Mayoral Election. He is required by law to send this Election Booklet to every registered elector in Greater Manchester. It contains the following information about the Mayoral Election:

- a list of every candidate standing in the election, in alphabetical order,
- information about the Mayor of Greater Manchester and how the Mayor is elected,
- information on how you can vote, how to complete your ballot paper, voter ID requirements and what to expect at your polling station,
- an Election Address for each of the candidates who has chosen to be included in the Election Booklet.

You can also find out more about the GMCA Mayoral Election, by visiting www.gmelects.org.uk

Candidate information

There are six candidates standing in the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election. They will be listed alphabetically on the ballot paper as follows:

AUSTIN, Jake

Liberal Democrats

BARKER, Dan

Reform UK

BUCKLEY, Nick

Independent

BURNHAM, Andy

Labour and Co-operative Party

EVANS, Laura

The Conservative Party Candidate

SPENCER, Hannah Kathrine

Green Party

All candidates submitted an Election Address.

Candidate Election Addresses can be found after page 11.

Candidate Election Addresses

Every candidate was given the opportunity to include an Election Address in this Election Booklet. Candidates who have included an Election Address were required to pay £5,000 each towards the Booklet's production costs. The content of each Election Address included in this Booklet has been provided by the candidate. The views expressed are theirs alone. The order of the Election Addresses in the Booklet was decided by drawing lots.

GMCA Mayoral Election

What does the Mayor of Greater Manchester do?

The Mayor of Greater Manchester is an important figure in the political life of the city region.

Greater Manchester's first Mayoral Election took place in 2017, following devolution deals between the GMCA and central government. The GMCA was formed in 2011, by the 10 councils in Greater Manchester (Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan).

Each of the city region's councils has one seat on the GMCA, held by the council leader or, in the case of Salford, the elected City Mayor. The Mayor of Greater Manchester is the chair and eleventh member. The Mayor has responsibility for:

- setting budgets and priorities for Greater Manchester's public services including transport, policing and the fire and rescue service,
- fulfilling the role of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC),
- acting as an ambassador for the city region.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester has important powers over housing, planning and transport within the region.

How are decisions made?

The nine council leaders, Salford's City Mayor, and the Mayor of Greater Manchester together take decisions as the GMCA.

The Mayor is able to make some decisions independently while others require consultation with, and the approval of, the GMCA.

Decisions are subject to scrutiny by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee made up of local councillors. Decisions related to the Mayor's PCC role and the fire and rescue functions are scrutinised by the Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

How is the Mayor elected?

The Mayor is elected using the First Past the Post electoral system, where the candidate with the most votes wins. First Past the Post has replaced the Supplementary Voting system, which was used in previous Mayoral Elections.

By default, registering to vote enables you to vote in a polling station. You can apply to vote by post or proxy instead.

Applying to vote by post

Anyone who is registered to vote can apply to vote by post. You can apply online to vote by post. Alternatively, you can complete a paper postal vote application form.

The deadline to apply for a postal vote in these elections is **5pm on Wednesday 17 April 2024**.

By the time you receive this Election Booklet the postal vote application deadline is likely to have already passed. However, there should still be time to appoint someone you trust to vote on your behalf as a proxy voter.

Voting by proxy

If you know that you cannot get to the polling station on polling day, you can ask someone you trust to cast your vote on your behalf. This person is called a proxy voter. A proxy voter must be registered to vote and be allowed to vote in these elections. They will also need valid photo ID.

The person voting on your behalf can either go to your polling station to cast your vote, or they can apply to vote on your behalf by post, if the deadline has not already passed. You can apply online for a proxy vote or you can fill in a paper form.

The deadline to apply for a proxy vote in these elections is **5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024**

Voter ID requirements

It is now a legal requirement to show valid photo ID when voting in a polling station. You only need to show one form of photo ID. It needs to be the original version and not a photocopy. It can be out of date, however the name on your ID should be the same name you used to register to vote and it must still look like you.

Acceptable forms of Voter ID:

You can use any of the following forms of Voter ID when voting at a polling station.

International travel

- Passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, a British Overseas Territory, an EEA state or a Commonwealth country (including an Irish Passport Card)

Driving and parking

- Driving licence issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, or an EEA state (this includes a provisional driving licence)
- A Blue Badge

Local travel

- Older Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government
- Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government
- Oyster 60+ Card funded by the UK Government
- Freedom Pass
- Scottish National Entitlement Card issued for the purpose of concessionary travel (including a 60+, disabled or under 22s bus pass)
- 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card
- Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- War Disablement SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Proof of age

- Identity card bearing the Proof of Age Standards Scheme hologram (a PASS card)

Other government issued documents

- Biometric immigration document
- Defence Identity Card (Ministry of Defence Form 90)
- National identity card issued by an EEA state
- Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland
- Voter Authority Certificate
- Anonymous Elector's Document.

If you do not have an accepted form of ID you can apply for free Voter ID, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. You can apply online or you can fill in a paper form. The deadline for applying for a Voter Authority Certificate is **5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024**.

You can find out more about Voter ID on the Electoral Commission's website.

If you have any questions or need more information or support, please contact the Elections Office at your local Council. See contact details on page 11.

The different ways to vote

At your polling station

If you are voting in person, your poll card will include the name and address of your polling station. You can only vote at the polling station stated on this card. You do not need to take the poll card with you in order to vote, but it may save time if you do.

Polling stations will be open between **7am and 10pm on Thursday 2 May 2024** for you to cast your vote.

When you arrive in the polling station, you will be asked for your name and address. You will also need to show valid Voter ID before you can vote. Staff will check you are on the electoral register and that your Voter ID is acceptable, and then give you ballot papers for the elections taking place in your area. If you have been appointed as a proxy to vote on behalf of someone else, you must show your Photo ID.

Privacy screens will be available for anyone that requires them. If you would like your photo ID checked in private, just ask the polling station staff.

Completing your ballot paper

Vote in the Mayoral Election using your yellow ballot paper. You must vote for only one candidate, by putting a cross in the box next to the candidate of your choice. Put no other mark on the ballot paper or your vote may not count.

The ballot paper for the Local elections will be green, and for relevant electors the Salford City Mayor ballot paper will be lilac.

Additional support at the polling station

The Combined Authority Returning Officer together with the Returning Officers in the 10 local authority areas are committed to trying to ensure that everyone who wants to vote can do so. Additional support and equipment provided at polling stations, includes (but is not limited to):

- Polling booths that are wheelchair accessible,
- Polling station staff trained to provide assistance where required,
- The option for voters to take a companion (a trusted person) with them for assistance if required,
- Tactile voting devices to enable voters with visual impairments to vote in person,
- Large-print versions of ballot papers.

If you have specific requirements regarding equipment or support, please contact the Elections Office at your local Council, as early as possible before the election, to request what you need. They will consider your request, and let you know if this can be provided.

Information on other languages at the polling station

All voting material in polling stations is in English. Translations of key information will be available in Arabic, Bengali, Bulgarian, Cantonese, Czech, Farsi, French, Hebrew, Gujarati, Kurdish, Mandarin, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Slovak, Somali, Spanish, Tigrinya, Urdu and Yiddish.

Voting by post

Once you have a postal vote in place you will be sent your postal voting pack containing your ballot papers, for all elections taking place in your area on Thursday 2 May 2024.

Your postal vote will arrive from Friday 19 April 2024. If you have not received your postal voting pack by Friday 26 April 2024, please contact your Elections Office at your local Council.

You should follow the instructions in the postal voting pack very carefully. You should leave plenty of time to return your postal vote. If you don't manage to post it in time you can return it by hand before 10pm on Thursday 2 May 2024 to the Elections Office at your local Council or a polling station in the electoral area. You will be provided with a form which you must complete for the postal votes you are handing in to be accepted. Please note you can only hand in your own postal votes and postal votes for up to 5 other voters.

Where to get more information

To get more help or assistance contact your Elections Office in the Council where you live.

To download paper application forms, go to <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voting-and-elections> or contact your Elections Office.

Paper application forms must be returned to your Elections Office in the Council where you live by the relevant deadline.

Contact details

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority area is made up of 10 districts, each with its own Elections Office who look after electoral registration and elections. Please see below for contact details.

Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 01204 333333
elections@bolton.gov.uk
www.bolton.gov.uk

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 253 5252
electionservices@bury.gov.uk
www.bury.gov.uk

Manchester City Council

Telephone: 0161 234 1212
esu@manchester.gov.uk
www.manchester.gov.uk

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 770 4718
elections@oldham.gov.uk
www.oldham.gov.uk

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0300 303 0345
elections@rochdale.gov.uk
www.rochdale.gov.uk

Salford City Council

Telephone: 0161 793 2500
elections@salford.gov.uk
www.salford.gov.uk

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 217 6026
elections.office@stockport.gov.uk
www.stockport.gov.uk

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 342 8355
elections@tameside.gov.uk
www.tameside.gov.uk

Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0800 0234 206
elections@trafford.gov.uk
www.trafford.gov.uk

Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 01942 827168
elections@wigan.gov.uk
www.wigan.gov.uk

JAKE AUSTIN

Liberal Democrats



JAKE AUSTIN

Liberal Democrat Candidate for Mayor of Greater Manchester

Dear neighbour,

Greater Manchester deserves real leadership.

Being born and raised in Wigan, to parents who have spent their lives working in the public sector, I know first-hand how our communities have been left behind.

However, across our region, Liberal Democrats are standing up and fighting for our residents.

Whether it's building sustainable homes, protecting our green belt, or fighting to protect our rivers from sewage – it is Liberal Democrats that are delivering on the priorities of local people.

As a councillor in Stockport, I have seen the difference change can make to our communities.

This May will be our chance to bring change to every corner of Greater Manchester.

Jake Austin



Jake at home with his husband, Andy, and their Corgi, Ritchie.

Building the right homes in the right places

Fighting to protect our green spaces

Tackling the sewage dumping crisis in our rivers

www.Jake4GM.com | Jake@Jake4GM.com | [@jakelibdem](https://twitter.com/jakelibdem)



Jake has a plan to restore local bus routes and reconnect the suburbs of Greater Manchester, leaving no community behind.



Jake & the Lib Dems have fought against closures to local fire services and have pledged to protect them if elected.



Across our country, minorities are being targeted. As Mayor, Jake will fight to protect everyone in our region against harassment.

Map contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Prepared by Mark Anthony Jones of 47 Church Road, Gatley, Cheadle SK8 4NG, agent for Jake Austin of 83 Commercial Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport, SK7 4BP.

VOTE ANDY TO KEEP GREATER MANCHESTER POWERING FORWARD

GREATER MANCHESTER LEADING THE WAY

At a time when the country has gone backwards, Greater Manchester has been leading the way.

Our economy has been growing faster than the UK economy and are predicted to continue do so in the coming years.

We were the first to bring in a £2 cap on bus fares and put buses back under public control after four decades of disastrous Tory deregulation.

Now, at this Mayoral election, I am putting forward new ideas to ensure Greater Manchester stays ahead of the rest. I will:

- **bring rail into the Bee Network by integrating eight commuter lines by the end of the next Mayoral term in 2028**
- **give young people in GM an equal alternative to the university route through a new technical path called the MBacc**

ANDY BURNHAM THURSDAY 2nd MAY



MY COMMITMENT TO YOU

I know that, at the first two Mayoral elections, people who usually vote for other parties were prepared to lend me their support.

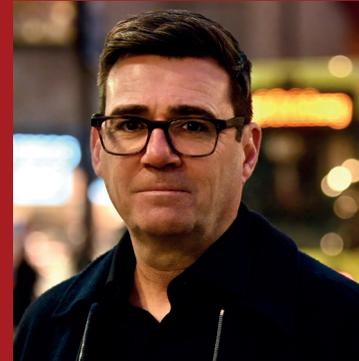
Out of respect to them, I have always taken a "place-first" rather than "party-first" approach as Mayor - working with my opponents and challenging my own

IF RE-ELECTED, I WILL:

Introduce a new GM Good Landlord Charter ✓

Give residents in rented homes the right to request a property check ✓

Build a new generation of net zero council homes in every borough ✓



side when necessary.

If re-elected for a third term, I will continue to pioneer a new way of making politics work better for people.

Create a safe space for young people in every community ✓

Make the £2 single a "Hopper" fare valid on any bus for an hour ✓

Introduce half-price monthly passes for 18 to 21 year-olds ✓

Create a new Bee Network Carer's Pass ✓

GMP: THE UK'S MOST-IMPROVED FORCE

At the last Mayoral election, Andy pledged to turn GMP around – and he has.

Between 2010 and 2017, GMP suffered severe cuts to front-line policing with 2,000 officers lost.

When he took office in 2017, Andy stopped the rot. He restarted recruitment and, seven years on, over 1,600 officers have been replaced.

In its recent inspection, GMP was judged to be the fastest-improving force by His Majesty's Inspectorate.

Between 2022 and 2024:

- **residential burglary is down by 24%**
- **knife crime is down by 12.5%**
- **overall crime is down by 6%**

Andy Burnham said:

"I pledge to keep GMP improving by building up the named, dedicated neighbourhood policing teams in every ward."

HANNAH SPENCER

GREEN PARTY

Housing: Climate action through warmer homes

Every day, I see the mess our housing system is in. People paying for heat they know will leak straight back out.

A mass home insulation scheme will pay for itself overall, in saved costs. Ending for many the inhumane “choice” between heating and eating while cutting carbon emissions. We need to help local firms create a diverse new workforce to do this. I will fight for the government to force landlords to make their housing match up.

Transport: Do much more, much faster

Improvement to our transport is happening at a snail’s pace. We need rapid change. We need plans that future governments will buy into.

A quarter of households in Greater Manchester have no car. But we all suffer from air pollution, damaging health and shortening lives. I spend a big part of my working day stuck in queues, in my work van. So I see the need for change. Enabling walking and cycling on a mass scale will release untapped demand. This is how we can really reduce road congestion.

Bus improvements are welcome. I want London-style control over local and suburban rail too. We also need to think long-term. I’ll draw up plans for underground links, transforming tram and train lines into a Crossrail-type network. Plans that a future government, one serious about the north, will be eager to build.

Women and girls: Tackling gender-based violence

We’ve had three years of the current mayor’s strategy to reduce gender-based violence. How many more women and girls have to suffer serious harm before change happens? I will immediately reinstate the Serious Sexual Offences Unit, axed in 2017.

Prepared by Brian Arthur Candeland of 13 Devonshire Road, Manchester, M21 8XB, agent for Hannah Kathrine Spencer, address in the district of Trafford.



 @HaleGreensHan

 hannah4gm.org.uk

VOTE HANNAH

People lack trust in our police. They fear how the police deal with domestic violence, and allegations against serving officers. I will put in place an independent commissioner, focusing on complaints about officers, and on levels of domestic abuse and sexual violence. I will ensure openness and honesty about existing cases involving the police.

For all of GM: No one and nowhere left behind

I grew up in Bolton and spent over half of my life there. I saw the town I called home get left further and further behind. 14 years of austerity has damaged our towns. It’s been devastating for young people and future generations.

I will create an Independent Commissioner for Future Generations. They will make sure the mayor’s actions balance the needs of the present with the needs of future generations.

Photo: Matt Priestley



“That’s the kind of person we need as Mayor. Someone who says what they mean and when they make a promise they deliver.”

Conservative Candidate Laura Evans has the backing of your neighbours. That’s because she has a plan to help every part of Greater Manchester turn the corner and be even greater.

The Mayor of Greater Manchester is a big job. And it can make a real difference to people’s lives.

The Mayor is responsible for running the police force and taking on criminal gangs.

Improving public transport with Metrolink expansion and better bus services.

Ending rough sleeping and the causes of homelessness.

Building the homes we need, while protecting green spaces.

And creating more good jobs so people don’t have to move away for work.

It’s a big job, with big responsibilities. So we need a mayor who says what they mean, and when they make a promise they deliver.

A few years ago Laura led the fight against the Clean Air Zone, and got it stopped.

She shined a spotlight on policing. They’re finally out of special measures.

That’s the kind of Mayor we need.

On May 2nd you can help all of Greater Manchester turn the corner. Use your vote for the Conservative Candidate Laura Evans.

Laura Evans has 5 priorities for Greater Manchester

1 Stop criminal gangs

The Mayor is responsible for policing. So **we’ll take on the criminal gangs** who burgle homes, steal cars, and groom young people.

2 End rough-sleeping

Tackling the causes – mental health, unemployment, and broken homes – through **a new ‘Homes for Life’ programme**. Getting people off the streets for more than just a night.

3 Metrolink to every borough

Transport should be for the whole of Greater Manchester. **Every borough will get a Metrolink**. And we’ll improve bus connections to hard-to-reach towns.

4 A new ‘Silicon Valley’

Creating over 30,000 jobs through an ‘Investment Zone’ for Greater Manchester – supporting advanced manufacturing, science, and industry.

5 No more green space building

Bulldozing parks and green spaces will be a thing of the past. **We’ll build thousands of new affordable homes** on derelict and disused sites instead.





Nick Buckley

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE

FOR MAYOR
of Greater Manchester
2024

www.nickbuckley4mayor.co.uk
Social Media: @NickBuckleyMBE

I'm a fully independent candidate for **Mayor of Greater Manchester** and I'm ready to reclaim our city's future. With unwavering commitment, I'll stand against puppet masters and political manipulation.

On Thursday 2nd May, make your voice heard for true representation. It's time for a leader who answers only to the people, not special interests. **Vote Nick Buckley for Mayor**, and let's build a Greater Manchester we can all be proud of.

“A better tomorrow comes from the decisions you make today. We keep voting for political parties and career politicians and things are not getting any better in Greater Manchester. More of the same is not a sensible option. Vote for change. I can guarantee I will bring change.”



“I have spent most of my adult life improving lives in Greater Manchester and even set up an award winning charity with my redundancy. I want to carry on this work but on a larger scale. I have the experience, knowledge and drive to fix the foundations so tomorrow can be better.”

My 5 Key Pledges:



Fix The Police To Keep Us Safe: Hammer criminals. Increase Stop & Search. Reclaim the streets.



Keep Your Car: I say no to the CAZ, ULEZ, congestion charges, 15 min cities, and pay per mile.



Reduce Your Council Tax Bill: I will reduce the Mayor's part of your bill. Guaranteed.



Referendum on the role of Mayor: I will give you a vote on if we keep this position.



Name & Shame Failing Civil Servants: I will hold responsible those who waste our tax money.



Dan Barker
Mayoral Candidate

“Greater Manchester is my home. It is a fantastic place to live, work and study. But sadly, crime is far too high and many people do not feel safe in their own communities. Outside of the city centre, many people and places have been left behind.

My plan for Greater Manchester is simple: safer streets, a growing economy, better

connectivity, more money in your pocket and building homes for the future. As your Mayor I will ensure that no community or place is left behind.

So, after the Labour Mayor’s 7 years of failure, Greater Manchester deserves better and with your support on May 2, we can make it happen.”

“Reform UK is the only party that stands for real change in Greater Manchester. We are the only party that has credible solutions for the challenges that the country is facing.

We have a clear plan to reduce immigration, cut taxes, grow the economy, to protect freedom of speech and to preserve our incredible cultural heritage.

I hope you will vote for change by voting for Dan”.



Richard Tice
Leader of Reform UK

For reform vote **Reform**. Vote for **Dan Barker**.

If you want more information on my plans for Greater Manchester then see below or scan the QR code:

DanBarker4GM DanBarker4GM



Prepared by John Kelly of 29 Offerton Drive, Offerton, Stockport, SK2 5QS, agent for Dan Barker, address in the district of Trafford



MY PLAN & KEY PLEDGES FOR GREATER MANCHESTER



TAKE BACK OUR STREETS

I will reduce crime and tackle anti-social behaviour with a back-to-basics approach to policing.



GET GM BUILDING

I will accelerate new home delivery with a brownfield first policy to reduce spiralling rents and protect our precious greenbelt.



BETTER CONNECTIVITY FOR EVERYONE

I will continue the rollout of the Bee Network & deliver genuine cross-connectivity by bringing the Metrolink to places like Stockport, Leigh, Heywood, Bolton and Partington.



RESTORE TRUST IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

I will remove the CAZ cameras. I will pause all new cycle lane developments pending a fit-for-purpose review.



A GROWING ECONOMY

I will deliver an economic growth plan for ALL of Greater Manchester, not just the city centre.



ROUGH-SLEEPING

I commit to maintaining and improving the level of support currently provided for rough-sleepers across Greater Manchester.



DEVOLUTION & DEMOCRACY

I commit to provide an independence referendum for those Boroughs currently in the Combined Authority that want one, such as Bolton, to confirm if they want to remain part of ‘Greater Manchester’.

On Thursday 2nd May, Vote

DAN BARKER

for Mayor of
Greater Manchester

Voting at a Polling Station on 2 May?

Registered voters now need to take valid Photo ID to vote in a polling station. If you don't have photo ID, you can apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate. Find out what ID is accepted, and apply for free Voter ID, if you need to, **by 5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024.**

www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

A PDF copy of this booklet is available on www.gmelects.org.uk
There's also an HTML version online that has been adapted to improve compatibility with screen readers and translators.

Braille, large print and audio versions of this booklet are available on request from the email below.

The Combined Authority Returning Officer (CARO) for Greater Manchester is Eamonn Boylan. The Office for the CARO can be contacted using the following details:
GMMayoralElections@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

This Election Booklet has been published by Eamonn Boylan, the Combined Authority Returning Officer for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election, Tootal Buildings, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU.

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