

30 JULY

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election

Election Booklet

Information from the Combined Authority Returning Officer
and Candidate Election Addresses



YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



INTRODUCTION

On **Thursday 30 July 2026** the **Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) Mayoral Election** will take place across all 10 council areas of Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan to elect the Mayor of Greater Manchester.

You must be registered to vote as a local government elector in one of the 10 Greater Manchester council areas shown above and be 18 or over on Thursday 30 July 2026 to take part in this election.

THE ELECTION BOOKLET

The Combined Authority Returning Officer (CARO), Andrew Lightfoot, 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 the Supplementary Voting system which will be used in this election
- 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 by visiting www.gmelects.org.uk

CANDIDATE ELECTION ADDRESSES

All candidates in the Mayoral Election have been 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 Election Booklet's production costs.

An Election Address is a campaign statement that a candidate makes to the electorate to persuade electors to vote for them. Candidate Election Addresses of those candidates who are included can be found after page **11**.

2 The content of each Election Address 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.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

There are **SEVEN** candidates standing in the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election.

They will be listed alphabetically by surname on the ballot paper as follows:

ASTLEY, Sian Niamh
Reform UK

COGGINS, Geraldine
The Green Party

CRAIG, Bev
Labour and Co-operative Party

ECKERSLEY, Phil
The Conservative Party Candidate

FARMER, Marcus Jonathan *
Independent

KILPATRICK, Richard Martin
Liberal Democrats

WEST, Marlon Scott
Restore Britain

*Did not submit an Election Address

WHAT DOES THE MAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER DO?

The Mayor is a major figure in the political life of the city region, with unique powers and responsibilities. This includes setting budgets and priorities for a number of Greater Manchester's public services including transport, housing and planning, as well as the fire and rescue service. The Mayor also serves as the Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater Manchester Police, and acts as an ambassador for the city region, working alongside Greater Manchester's 10 councils.

WHAT IS THE GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY?

GMCA is the legal body created by Parliament at the request of the 10 councils of Greater Manchester to provide a formal administrative structure for the city region, with a primary focus on economic development.

Since its formation in 2011 it has continued to increase its decision making powers by negotiating and agreeing successive devolution deals to devolve power from central government to the region.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election

HOW IS THE MAYOR ELECTED?

Electors across Greater Manchester will have the opportunity to vote for a Mayor on 30 July 2026. The Mayor is elected using the Supplementary Voting system. This is the voting system used in the GMCA Mayoral Elections in 2017 and 2021, but different to the system of 'First Past the Post' used in the GMCA Mayoral Election in 2024 and in the recent local elections in Greater Manchester. The Supplementary Voting system is being used for this election following recent changes in legislation.

Using Supplementary Voting means that electors have the opportunity to choose their first- and second-choice candidates.

- If any candidate gets more than 50% of the first-choice votes, then they will be elected as the Mayor of Greater Manchester
- If no candidate receives more than 50% of the first-choice votes, the contest will move to a second round between the two candidates who received the most first-choice votes
- Any remaining candidates are eliminated and these ballot papers are counted again. Any second-choice votes cast for the two remaining candidates are then added to their first-choice totals
- The candidate who has the highest overall total of first- and second-choice votes will be declared the Mayor of Greater Manchester.

COMPLETING YOUR BALLOT PAPER

Please take time to read the instructions below which provide more information on how to complete your ballot paper:

- You have the opportunity to cast your vote for your first- and second-choice candidates
- Vote by putting a cross [X] in the box in column A next to your FIRST-CHOICE candidate
- Vote by putting a cross [X] in the box in column B next to your SECOND-CHOICE candidate
- Your first and second choices should be different
- You must mark a first choice in column A or your vote will not be counted
- You do not have to mark a second choice.

An example ballot paper

Election of the Mayor for
Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Vote once [X] in column A
for your first choice, and

Vote once [X] in column B
for your second choice

Key Dates



BEFORE MIDNIGHT: DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE

The deadline to register to vote in this election has likely passed by the time you have received this booklet.

If you have not received a poll card by **Wednesday 22 July 2026** but believe you should have done, please contact your council's Elections Office.



POSTAL PACKS START TO ARRIVE

Registered postal voters will start to receive their postal voting pack from **Friday 17 July 2026**. If you haven't received your pack by **Friday 24 July 2026** please contact your council's Elections Office.

Remember to return your postal vote pack as soon as possible.



BY 5PM: LAST DATE TO REQUEST A PROXY VOTE

If you are a registered elector and cannot get to your 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 this election. They will also need an accepted form of photo ID. You can apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote or fill in a paper form.

BY 5PM: LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR A VOTER AUTHORITY CERTIFICATE

If you require an accepted form of ID but do not have one already, you can apply online at www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate or fill in a paper form.

The deadline for both is 5pm on Wednesday 22 July 2026.



POLLING DAY

You can vote from 7am–10pm in person at your polling station, which is shown on your poll card.

Your Returning Officer must receive your postal vote by **10pm on Thursday 30 July 2026** for it to be counted.



MAYORAL ELECTION COUNT AND DECLARATION OF THE RESULT

The result will be available at www.gmelects.org.uk once it has been declared.

Voter ID requirements

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

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF VOTER ID

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

International travel

- A passport issued by the UK, any of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or a British Overseas Territory
- A passport or passport card issued by a European Economic Area (EEA) state, or a country whose citizens are Commonwealth citizens.

Driving and parking

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

continued >

Local travel

- An Older Person's Bus Pass
- A Disabled Person's Bus Pass
- An Oyster 60+ Card
- A Freedom Pass
- A National Entitlement Card issued by a local authority in Scotland
- A 60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card issued in Wales
- A Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A Registered Blind SmartPass or Blind Person's SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A War Disablement SmartPass or War Disabled SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A 60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland
- A 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
- Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)
- Ministry of Defence Form 100 (HM Armed Forces Veteran Card)
- National Identity Card issued by a European Economic Area (EEA) state
- Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland
- Voter Authority Certificate or a temporary Voter Authority Certificate
- Anonymous Elector's Document.

Digital ID

- Veterans' Card
- eVisas.

If you have any questions or need more information or support, please contact your council's Elections Office.

See contact details on page 11.

The different ways to vote

AT YOUR POLLING STATION

Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on Thursday 30 July 2026 for you to vote.

When you arrive in the polling station, you will be asked for your name and address. You will also need to show an accepted form of photo ID before you can vote. Staff will check you are on the electoral register and that your photo ID is acceptable and then give you your ballot paper. If you have been appointed as a proxy to vote on behalf of someone else, you must show your own accepted form of photo ID.

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

Additional Support at the Polling Station

The Combined Authority Returning Officer together with the Returning Officers in the 10 council areas are working 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 stations that are wheelchair accessible (check your poll card for details)
- Polling station staff who are trained to provide assistance where required
- The option for voters (who declare they are disabled or are unable to read) to take a companion (a trusted person) with them for assistance
- Tactile voting devices to enable voters with visual impairments to vote in person
- Large print and braille versions of the ballot paper.

If you have specific requirements regarding equipment or support, please contact your council's Elections Office 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, Gujarati, Hebrew, Kurdish, Mandarin, Pashto, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Slovak, Somali, Spanish, Tigrinya, Urdu and Yiddish.

VOTING BY POST

You should follow the instructions in your postal voting pack very carefully and leave plenty of time to return your postal vote. If you don't manage to post it in time, you can hand in your postal vote and/or the postal vote of others at your council's Elections Office during office hours to a person authorised to receive postal votes or at any polling station in your council area. You will be provided with a form that you **must** complete for the postal vote(s) you are handing in to be accepted. Please note you can only hand in your own postal vote and postal votes for up to five other voters.

WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION

To get more information or assistance contact your council's Elections Office. See contact details on the next page, or visit www.gmelects.org.uk

CONTACT DETAILS

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

Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 01204 333333

Email: elections@bolton.gov.uk

Website: www.bolton.gov.uk

Salford City Council

Telephone: 0161 793 2500

Email: elections@salford.gov.uk

Website: www.salford.gov.uk

Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 253 5252

Email: electionservices@bury.gov.uk

Website: www.bury.gov.uk

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 217 6026

Email: elections.office@stockport.gov.uk

Website: www.stockport.gov.uk

Manchester City Council

Telephone: 0161 234 1212

Email: esu@manchester.gov.uk

Website: www.manchester.gov.uk

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 342 8355

Email: elections@tameside.gov.uk

Website: www.tameside.gov.uk

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0161 770 4718

Email: election@oldham.gov.uk

Website: www.oldham.gov.uk

Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0800 0234 206

Email: elections@trafford.gov.uk

Website: www.trafford.gov.uk

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 0300 303 0345

Email: elections@rochdale.gov.uk

Website: www.rochdale.gov.uk

Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council

Telephone: 01942 827168

Email: elections@wigan.gov.uk

Website: www.wigan.gov.uk

VOTE **RESTORE BRITAIN** ON **THURSDAY, 30TH JULY**

Your Restore Britain candidate for the **Greater Manchester Mayoral Election**:

MARLON WEST



RUPERT LOWE MP
Leader of Restore Britain

A VOICE FOR THE FORGOTTEN



Marlon West is Greater Manchester born and bred, with more than 30 years of service in the NHS.

After years fighting the rape gangs and the institutions that failed victims - including his daughter, a rape gang survivor - he is standing to clean up Greater Manchester.

Marlon's ten priorities for Greater Manchester

1. Open a full inquiry into the rape gangs across Greater Manchester, including Rochdale and Oldham.
2. Put visible policing back on our streets and crack down on anti-social behaviour.
3. Review housing targets and put infrastructure first.
4. Launch a High Street Crime Taskforce to tackle dodgy shops and criminal fronts.
5. Stop obsessing over central Manchester and start focusing on places like Wigan, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Tameside, Stockport, Wythenshawe, Sale and Altrincham.
6. Back pubs and the night-time economy by tackling crime, red tape and business rates.
7. Clear out Piccadilly Gardens and make it safe for families again.
8. Hold a women's safety summit in every area of Greater Manchester.
9. Support new businesses across every borough and create more career opportunities for young people.
10. Set up GMCA community hubs in every borough to hear local concerns and keep residents informed.

Prepared by Liam Billington of 28 Millers Wharf, Corn Mill Lane, Stalybridge, SK15 2EA, agent for Marlon Scott West, address in the district of Tameside

GREATER MANCHESTER DESERVES BETTER.



Rupert Lowe MP, Leader of Restore Britain

Marlon West: Taking on the institutions

Marlon has spent years fighting the institutions that failed Greater Manchester.

As one of the country's most prominent campaigners against the rape gangs, he understands the scale of that failure better than most. His own daughter was a victim.

Now he is asking Greater Manchester for the chance to take on those same institutions from the inside - to force accountability and make them serve the people they were meant to protect.

Vote with your heart in this election

This election uses the Supplementary Vote system, which means you can choose the candidate you truly believe in as your first choice, and use your second choice as a backup.

WHY BOTH CHOICES MATTER

Your first choice is counted first. If no candidate wins outright, the race continues between the top two. Your second choice may still help decide who becomes Greater Manchester Mayor.

GREATER MANCHESTER BORN AND BRED. FIGHTING FOR YOU.

MARLON WEST



Your Restore Britain candidate for the **Greater Manchester Mayoral Election**:



VOTE **RESTORE BRITAIN** ON **THURSDAY, 30TH JULY**

GREATER MANCHESTER COULD BE SO MUCH GREATER

I've lived here for 35 years. I started with nothing but have built up a successful property and design business.

I've also always fought for our area. I fought against Withington Baths closing and won. I stopped domestic violence survivors being made homeless. I'm now a councillor in Wythenshawe.

Manchester city centre might be doing alright, but too many people and places here are struggling.

With some commonsense leadership, we can do so much better.

I'll cut waste so I can cut your taxes.
I'll fight against any more illegal migrants being dumped here.

I'll deliver safer streets, invest in our towns and fix our battered roads. I'll protect our green spaces.

And I'll make Greater Manchester the best place to set up a business. We will create good jobs all across our region.



**SIAN
ASTLEY**

REFORM UK CANDIDATE
FOR MAYOR OF GREATER
MANCHESTER

**GREATER MANCHESTER NEEDS SIAN ASTLEY.
VOTE REFORMUK ON 30TH JULY**

Prepared by Adam Wordsworth of 18 Beecham Court, Wigan, WN3 6PR,
agent for Sian Niamh Astley, address in the district of Manchester.

SIAN ASTLEY'S PRIORITIES

- 1 CUT WASTE AND REVERSE
THE INCREASE IN MAYOR'S TAX**
- 2 NO MORE ILLEGAL MIGRANTS
DUMPED IN OUR TOWNS**
- 3 BUILD THE TOUGHEST POLICE
FORCE IN BRITAIN**
- 4 STOP PENALISING DRIVERS,
SCRAP CAZ AND FIX POTHOLE**
- 5 INVEST IN TOWN CENTRES
AND PROTECT OUR GREENBELT**
- 6 OPEN THE GROOMING GANG
FILES AND THE LUXURY
DEVELOPER CONTRACTS**



I never thought I'd go into politics. But I love Greater Manchester.

I'm fed up with both our area and our country being let down by career politicians. We can do so much better.

If I become your Mayor, I will fight for you every single day.

Sian Astley

VOTE REFORMUK ON 30TH JULY

REPLACE LABOUR STAND UP TO REFORM VOTE GREEN PARTY

GERALDINE COGGINS



Has the skills and experience to deliver



Will always put you and your family first



The best choice for Mayor

I'm Geraldine Coggins, and I love Greater Manchester. I moved here from Dublin to raise my family, following family roots in Bolton, Salford, Bury, and Whalley Range. I've spent years working tirelessly for our communities.

As the Green Group Leader in Trafford, a former educator, and one of Greater Manchester's first Green councillors, I know how to get things done.

For the last eight years, I've been invited to speak with city leaders and I've stood up against unfair council cuts. People here are fed up and ready for real change.

It's time for a Greater Manchester that works for everyone.

Geraldine Coggins



Geraldine COGGINS
Vote Green on Thursday 30th July



MY PLAN FOR GREATER MANCHESTER



GENUINELY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I pledge 20,000 publicly owned, energy efficient homes by restoring empty properties and a public developer to build rental homes.



VIBRANT HIGH STREETS & TRANSPORT

I will spread opportunity and revive high streets by bringing empty shops back into use and linking everyone to a world-class transport system.



A HEALTHIER GREATER MANCHESTER

I will put climate and nature at the heart of every decision to protect our green spaces and create cleaner, safer neighbourhoods.



STANDING AGAINST GAZA GENOCIDE

While Labour continue to arm the genocide in Gaza, I will always stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our communities to demand peace and justice.



Read my full
Manifesto for a
Greater Manchester
that works for
everyone

www.greatermanchester.greenparty.org.uk



Let's make hope normal again.

Prepared by Helen Heathfield of Redgate Lane, Manchester, M12 4RX,
agent for Geraldine Coggins, address in the district of Trafford.



Green Party

RICHARD KILPATRICK



- ✓ **Fighting to strengthen our economy with closer ties to Europe**
- ✓ **Determined to make life more affordable across our communities**
- ✓ **Protecting our region from the impact of climate change**

My plan to make Greater Manchester affordable again:

Cut the cost of childcare:



As our mayor I will increase childcare places and explore a regional early years provider with capped fees.

This will help parents stay in work and make raising a family affordable.

Build homes for the region:



I will deliver social and cooperative homes built across Greater Manchester.

I will also push for national reforms to end the housing crisis and regenerate our high streets.

Improve our social care:



Having cared for my mum through her Alzheimer's, I will improve access to affordable social care.

I will invest in workforce training and fight for fairer pay for our care workers.



"I love living here in Greater Manchester. Like so many, I've made this great part of the country my home. Over the last 10 years I've dedicated myself to supporting the community."

I'm proud of my record as a local councillor, from opening emergency flood relief spaces to holding my council accountable on public spending. But I know trust in politics is low. Politics needs vision. I'm campaigning for closer ties with Europe to boost our region's economy and for more investment in social care. As our mayor, I'll deliver an energy guarantee to cut bills, stronger community policing and action on climate change.

We have a real opportunity to make living in Greater Manchester more affordable – by tackling the cost of living crisis and repairing the damage Brexit has done to Greater Manchester."

Richard Kilpatrick

Liberal Democrat candidate for Mayor of Greater Manchester

Richard Kilpatrick



First choice



Second choice



Join Richard's team here:



BEV CRAIG

FOR GREATER MANCHESTER MAYOR

BEV'S PLAN

- 1 Freeze fares on the Bee Network** and give every 11-18 year old a free bus pass
- 2 Improve local town centres** with a new High Streets Fund paid for by growth from the city centre
- 3 Tackle the housing crisis** by building 50,000 council and affordable homes
- 4 Expand neighbourhood policing teams** and target anti-social behaviour hotspots
- 5 Give every young person the chance to get into work** with my Greater Manchester Youth Promise

VOTE BEV FOR US
 **Labour**

TELL ME YOUR PRIORITIES →



Prepared by Anthony Lavelle of Greatledge, Malaga House, Pink Bank Lane, M12 5GH.
agent for Bev Craig, address in the district of Manchester.



ANDY BACKS BEV

"Bev and I have worked closely together on developing the Bee Network and keeping fares low and supporting our young people. I know her well and I can't think of anyone better than Bev to hand over the reins to. She gets things done, and she'll be a mayor for us."



Dear Neighbour,

I grew up here. It's where my daughter was born. It's where I set up and run my business. It's home.

And I've got a plan to get our area back on track.

Because the truth is, our boroughs have been left behind by Labour. Roads going unrepaired for months, sometimes even years. Housing sandwiched onto the little green space we have left. And Council Tax climbing ever higher – putting even more strain onto stretched families. All while more funding is poured into Manchester city centre.

Our boroughs deserve better. **We don't need another Mayor for Manchester city centre.**

We need a fair deal for ALL our boroughs.

That's what I'm standing for.

Phil Eckersley

Phil Eckersley
Conservative Candidate for Mayor

 **Vote Conservative**

Prepared by Matthew Littler of 26A Carrington Road, Flixton, M41 6HX, agent for Phil Eckersley, address in the district of Trafford.



PHIL'S FAIR DEAL FOR ALL OUR BOROUGHS



More homes, in the right place.

Young people and families are being priced out of the communities they grew up in. We need more homes people can afford, closer to schools, GPs and work. **But that means bringing brownfield and run-down sites back into use first — not sacrificing the green spaces our communities rely on.**



Backing public transport and motorists.

Painting buses yellow is not enough. Services need to be reliable, affordable and go where people actually need them — without forcing everyone to travel into Manchester first. **Motorists need support too.** I will oppose any new road charging scheme, just as I opposed Labour's charging Clean Air Zone.



Freezing the Mayor's share of Council Tax.

Families are already under pressure. Conservative Mayors like Andy Street and Ben Houchen showed that ambitious regional leadership does not have to mean constantly asking residents to pay more. **I will freeze the Mayor's share of Council Tax and make sure residents can see where every pound is going.**

Your two votes will decide what happens next here...

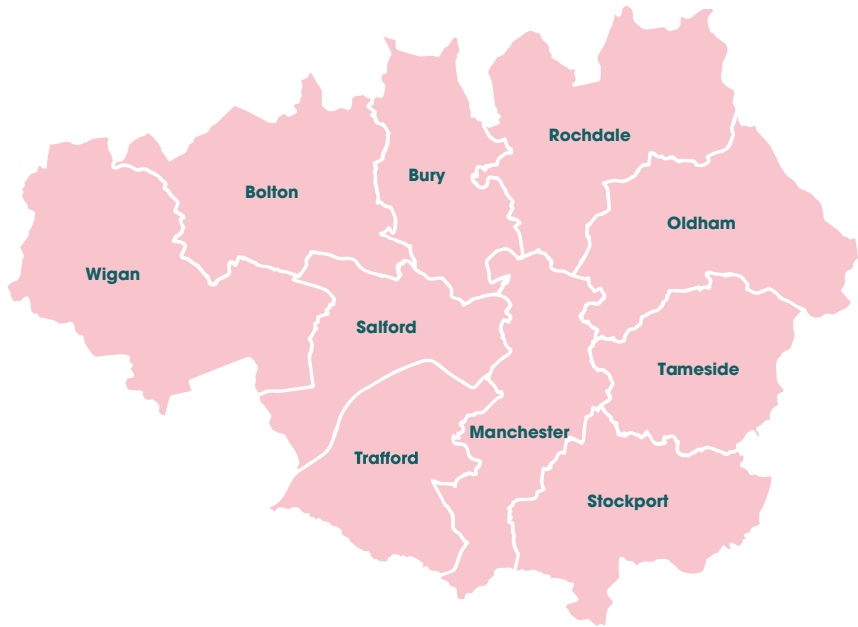


Use your first vote to send a message that we need a fair deal for ALL our boroughs.

Your second vote can still stop another Labour Mayor for Manchester City Centre.



Greater Manchester Combined Authority Mayoral Election Thursday 30 July 2026



A PDF copy of this booklet is available at www.gmelects.org.uk. There is 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 Andrew Lightfoot. The Office for the CARO can be contacted using the following details: GMMayoralElections@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk

This Election Booklet has been published by Andrew Lightfoot, 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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