



Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Date: Thursday, 13 October 2022

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Council Antechamber, Level 2, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

There will be a private meeting for Committee Members only at 9:30am in Room 2006, 2nd Floor, Town Hall Extension.

Access to the Council Antechamber

Public access to the Council Antechamber is on Level 2 of the Town Hall Extension, using the lift or stairs in the lobby of the Mount Street entrance to the Extension. That lobby can also be reached from the St. Peter's Square entrance and from Library Walk. **There is no public access from the Lloyd Street entrances of the Extension.**

Filming and broadcast of the meeting

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Membership of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Councillors - Shilton Godwin (Chair), Doswell, Holt, Hughes, Ilyas, Jeavons, Lyons, Chohan, Nunney, Razaq and Wright

Agenda

1. Urgent Business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

2. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

3. Interests

To allow Members an opportunity to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they might have in any items which appear on this agenda; and [b] record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears. Members with a personal interest should declare that interest at the start of the item under consideration. If members also have a prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interest they must withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

4. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022.

Page
5 – 12

5. Manchester's Annual Climate Change Report 2022

Report of the Manchester Climate Change Agency

Page
13 – 64

This report provides a summary of Manchester's Annual Climate Change Report for 2022 which is based on the latest emissions data released by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

6. Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan: Quarterly Progress Report, Quarter 2 2022-23 (July - September 2022)

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

Page
65 – 92

This report provides an update on progress in delivering the Council's Climate Change Action Plan during Quarter 2 2022-23 (July - September 2022).

7. Draft Manchester Biodiversity Strategy

Report of the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing

Page
93 – 170

This report provides an overview of the draft Manchester Biodiversity Strategy.

8. **Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Update** Page
Report of the Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods) 171 - 200

This report provides an update on progress in delivering waste, recycling, and street cleansing services. Describing how the activity contributes to the climate change agenda and key priorities for future.

9. **Overview Report** Page
Report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit 201 - 210

This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.

Information about the Committee

Scrutiny Committees represent the interests of local people about important issues that affect them. They look at how the decisions, policies and services of the Council and other key public agencies impact on the city and its residents. Scrutiny Committees do not take decisions but can make recommendations to decision makers about how they are delivering the Manchester Strategy, an agreed vision for a better Manchester that is shared by public agencies across the city.

The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee areas of interest include The Climate Change Strategy, Waste, Carbon Emissions, Neighbourhood Working, Flood Management, Planning policy and related enforcement and Parks and Green Spaces.

The Council wants to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions that affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but may do so if invited by the Chair. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair. Groups of people will usually be asked to nominate a spokesperson. The Council wants its meetings to be as open as possible but occasionally there will be some confidential business. Brief reasons for confidentiality will be shown on the agenda sheet.

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Smoking is not allowed in Council buildings.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
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Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact the Committee Officer:

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This agenda was issued on **Wednesday 5 October 2022** by the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit, Manchester City Council, Level 2, Town Hall Extension (Library Walk Elevation), Manchester M60 2LA

Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2022

Present:

Councillor Shilton Godwin – in the Chair
Councillors Chohan, Doswell, Holt, Hughes, Ilyas, Lyons, Nunney, Razaq, Sheikh and Wright

Apologies: Councillor Jeavons

Also present:

Councillor Rawlins, Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor Foley, Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport
Councillor White, Executive Member for Employment and Development
Samantha Nicholson, Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency

ECCSC/22/27 Urgent Business – Flooding in Pakistan

The Chair introduced an item of urgent business by advising the Committee that she had invited Councillor Razaq to speak on the recent flooding in Pakistan. Noting that this extreme weather event was a result of the climate crisis, the Chair also noted that Bangladesh and Madagascar, amongst many other places, had also experienced disasters as a result of climate change in recent years.

Councillor Razaq spoke on the devastating events that have impacted thousands of citizens in Pakistan. Noting that it was reported that at least 1,136 people had been killed since June and roads, crops, homes and bridges washed away across the country due to the flooding. Officials had estimated that more than 33 million Pakistanis, one in seven people had been affected by the flooding. He encouraged all to donate to the humanitarian response.

The statement was accompanied by a short video submitted by Councillor Razaq's nephew who was currently living in Pakistan.

The Committee and all those present observed a period of silence for all victims of the recent flooding in Pakistan.

Decision

To note the item of urgent business.

ECCSC/22/28 Minutes

Decision

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2022 as a correct record.

ECCSC/22/29 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework

The Committee considered the report of the Manchester Climate Change Agency that described that the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework (2020-25) and presented the findings of the detailed modelling done to identify granular targets for reducing the city's direct emissions by 50%, that would be necessary for the whole city to stay within its carbon budget.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to it being considered by the Executive.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Providing an introduction and background, noting that the Manchester Climate Change Partnership (MCCP) and Agency (MCCA) had been given the responsibility to set the city's strategy for tackling the climate emergency;
- Articulating the purpose and rationale for the 2022 Update;
- Providing an overview of the ongoing work on the Framework's other headline objectives;
- The Update incorporated over 150 recommended actions organised into four categories according to where there was direct control to deliver, affect or influence the required change or outcome;
- Noting that the Council's delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan would make a substantial contribution to the implementation of the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework (2020-25); and
- Key messages and next steps.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Recognising the amount of work that had gone into producing the report and noting that the views of the Committee had been taken into consideration;
- What methodology was used to produce the carbon budget figures reported throughout the report;
- Recognising the scale of funding and resources required to deliver retrofitting and the need to access private sources of funding;
- The complexity of the sources of funding that were made available to support retrofitting activity;
- Planning policy should be developed to ensure all new developments were energy efficient so that they would not require retrofitting in future years;
- Planning policy needed to consider carbon emissions at all stages of a buildings life, including the construction stage;
- The need to promote and encourage sustainable travel policies for staff;
- The need to use this report to communicate to all residents and promote this regionally and nationally;
- The need to consider the use of appropriate language when engaging with residents on the subject of carbon budgets;
- The need to develop the action points with those responsible for delivering them identified so this could be reported on and progress monitored;

- Noting that in future update reports the Committee would seek reports on specific key areas of activity;
- Welcoming consideration being given to introducing a Work Place Levy and Ultra Low Emissions Zones; and
- Recommending that the Climate Change Partnership engage with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund to encourage them to divest from fossil fuels.

In response to the comments and questions from Members, the Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency advised that the SCATTER tool was used to model the scale of action needed for the city to reduce its emissions by 50%. She advised that there was information on this tool available on the Agencies' website.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency further recognised the comment in relation to the need to access private finance to support the scale of retrofit work required. She added that it was an action to track and report progress on this activity. In terms of reporting funding streams, she advised that the financial modelling provided had informed the business case to Government to support this activity. She also advised that analysis of some of the investment into housing retrofit in Manchester should be possible via schemes like the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, Green Home Grant and Your Home Better scheme and therefore could be reported to the Committee in future updates.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency stated that the need to consider all carbon emissions related to the construction industry was understood and conversations with the industry that included all relevant stakeholders across Greater Manchester were ongoing to understand and address barriers to delivering on this.

The Director, Manchester Climate Change Agency acknowledged the comment made regarding the use of the term carbon budget and advised that consideration would be given as to how this message was communicated to residents to ensure it was meaningful. She advised that a targeted communications strategy would be used to promote this Framework.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport commented that the Local Plan was a lever for the Council to drive change across the construction industry, noting that a report on planning policy and climate change was scheduled for the Committee's February 2023 meeting. She further commented that the Council's staff travel policy had been updated and communicated to all staff, adding that it was everyone's responsibility to make informed decisions in relation to their travel choices. She advised that there were a number of positive examples of other organisations developing staff active travel policies that included lease schemes for bikes and subsidised travel passes and she further referenced the recent capping of bus fares.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport further advised that consideration continued to be given to introducing Ultra Low Emissions Zones. She noted the comments regarding the need for appropriate language in all messaging on this important issue and advised that all communications on this would be sense checked with Members to ensure they were appropriate for their residents.

The Chair concluded the item by reiterating the urgency of responding to the climate change crisis, noting this also needed to be considered in the context of the cost-of-living crisis and social justice.

Decision

The Committee

1. Recommend that the Climate Change Partnership engage with the Greater Manchester Pension Fund to encourage them to divest from fossil fuels;
2. Recommend that the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework is circulated to all Members of the Council.

The Committee further endorse the recommendations that the Executive:

1. Formally adopt the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework's aim, vision, objectives, and targets as the definition of what Manchester needs to achieve to 'play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change';
2. On behalf of the city, endorse the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020 – 25) as Manchester's high-level strategy for achieving the aim, vision, objectives, and targets; and
3. Support the delivery of the refreshed 2020-25 Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan to contribute towards the successful implementation of the citywide Framework.

ECCSC/22/30 MCC Climate Change Action Plan: Refreshed Climate Change Action Plan 2020-2025 and Annual Report 2021-22

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer that presented the refreshed action plan for delivery between September 2022 – March 2025 and the latest Annual Report for the year 2021-22 of the Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25.

The Committee had been invited to comment on the report prior to it being considered by the Executive.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- The refreshed Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) set out new actions, building on existing ambitions;
- Key messages of the Action Plan; and
- The Annual Report bringing together the CCAP updates provided over the last 12 months (2021-22) into a single annual report and highlighting the progress which had been made during this time in terms of individual actions within the CCAP.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- Welcoming the introduction and reporting of SMART objectives and milestones;
- More information was sought on the Sustainable Events Guide and calling for Environmental Impact Assessments to be undertaken before and after large events;
- Can carbon data be provided at a ward level data;
- Plant based alternative food options needed to be provided at all Council events where catering was provided;
- How could the Manchester Airport Group's ambitions to reduce aviation emissions reconcile with their ambition to increase passenger numbers;
- An update was sought on the delivery of Carbon Literacy Training, and more granular detail was requested on this activity in future updates;
- The need to promote and enable active travel including walking and public transport;
- The need to consider more nature based solutions;
- The need for relevant departments, such as highways, neighbourhood teams and Arbor to collectively consider tree planting to mitigate the Urban Heat Island effect; and
- The continued call to stop using Glyphosate weed killer.

The Zero Carbon Manager advised that the post of Sustainable Events Lead had recently been recruited and more information on this post and wider activity would be reported to the Committee in future updates. She further directed Members to the online tools that they could use to obtain local data.

The Executive Member for Environment and Transport advised that she would follow up the issue raised regarding plant based alternatives outside of the meeting. She further advised that the issue of local data and how this could be accessed would be included in the report 'Neighbourhood Teams and Community Engagement' scheduled for the December meeting, however prior to this the links to the tools would be circulated following this meeting. She further commented that she would raise the issue of Glyphosate weed killer with Councillor Igbon.

The Head of City Policy advised the Committee that Manchester Airport Group had provided a response to the government's Jet Zero Strategy and this would be circulated to Members following the meeting. He added that a substantive item on Manchester Airport and Aviation Emissions was scheduled to be considered by the Committee at their January 2023 meeting.

In response to a question from a Member regarding Green Skills the Chair advised that the Economy Scrutiny Committee would be considering a report on this item later the same day. She stated that Members of this Committee would be attending and contributing to the meeting. The Chair noted the comments from the Members regarding specific asks to be included in future report and that she would discuss this with the Executive Member for Environment and Transport to agree the scope of the reports scheduled on the Committee's work programme.

Decision

The Committee note the report and endorse the recommendation that the Executive approve the report and accompanying appendices.

ECCSC/22/31 Manchester Retrofit Plan – Emerging Proposals

The Committee considered the report of the Head of Housing Services that described that the Manchester Housing Strategy, launched in June 2022 outlined the commitment to developing a Retrofit Plan for all the housing in the city. This report is the first step towards developing the plan and provides an opportunity for the Scrutiny Committee and Members to consider the emerging proposals and influence the policy in its early stages.

Key points and themes in the report included:

- Why a Retrofit Plan was needed, noting that Manchester was committed to becoming a zero carbon city by 2038;
- Noting that over a fifth of the city's carbon emissions were generated by residential properties;
- Analysis of the housing stock following a modelling exercise undertaken in 2021 by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority;
- Noting that the majority of all Manchester homes will need to be retrofitted in order to decarbonise our housing stock;
- Key issues for developing and delivering a large-scale decarbonisation programme in Manchester;
- Stakeholders who will need to be involved in the development and delivery of the plan; and
- The programme for delivering the plan, recognising that the plan was likely to evolve over time as we learnt from experience and new approaches, funding opportunities and best practice emerging from other areas of the UK.

Some of the key points that arose from the Committee's discussions were: -

- The need to use all tools to improve residents' housing conditions, including the Landlord Licensing schemes;
- Recommend the establishment of a Member and Officer working group, led by the Executive Member for Employment and Development to progress this work, noting that all relevant departments should be included;
- All tools and resources, such as Council Tax and Land Registry records should be utilised to identify all private landlords in Manchester;
- The need to use the data presented within the report to inform the funding ask of government to deliver the scale of retrofit work required;
- Noting that adequate funding was required from government;
- Noting that an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) was not comparable with retrofit standards;
- Noting that those residents who had not benefited from the Building Safety Fund to address the issue of cladding would also incur the additional cost to retrofit their properties; and

- The need to share good practice on measures taken by residents to retrofit their properties, noting that the Your Homes Better GMCA web page contained a lot of useful information.

The Executive Member for Employment and Development made reference to the scale of the challenge to deliver retrofitting, however the report described the progress to date. He stated that the issue of retrofitting was essential both in terms of addressing carbon emissions and as a social justice issue, especially in the context of the cost-of-living crisis. He stated that he would continue to lobby government for appropriate funding for Manchester to deliver this important work.

The Head of Housing Services advised that all available resources would be used to improve energy efficiency and address carbon emissions. He commented that Social Housing Providers had led on this programme, and this was an example of the city leading by example. He commented that this programme also presented an opportunity to support the Work and Skills Strategy. In response to a specific question regarding concerns relating to the PFI schemes he advised that a meeting was scheduled for October with the developer to discuss this further.

The Deputy Executive Member for Environment and Transport stated that education on energy saving was important, noting that there were many charities that could provide advice and guidance on this subject. She advised that information on the Energyworks Green Doctors would be provided to all Members in the next Members' Newsletter.

Decision

The Committee recommend that a Member and Officer working group, led by the Executive Member for Employment and Development be established to progress the Manchester Retrofit Plan, noting that all relevant departments should be included.

ECCSC/22/32 Overview Report

The report of the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit which contained key decisions within the Committee's remit and responses to previous recommendations was submitted for comment. Members were also invited to agree the Committee's future work programme.

The Chair stated that following discussion on the previous agenda items she would discuss and agree the remit of the Active Travel report scheduled for the December 2022 meeting and the detail required within the Embedding Carbon Literacy within the Council report scheduled for November 2022. She further advised that the Retrofit Plan would also be scheduled for consideration before it was submitted to the Executive for approval.

Decision

The Committee notes the report and agrees the work programme, noting the above comments.

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**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee – 13
October 2022

Subject: Manchester’s Annual Climate Change Report 2022

Report of: Manchester Climate Change Agency

Summary

This report provides a summary of Manchester’s Annual Climate Change Report for 2022 which is based on the latest emissions data released by the UK Government’s Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

The Annual Report enables Manchester to track its progress against the carbon reduction targets, carbon budget and zero carbon date of 2038 that are set out in the city’s Climate Change Framework, and its recent 2022 Update.

The Report shows that the city achieved a 12% reduction in emissions in 2020 (the most recent data from BEIS) which, despite being a greater increase than previous years, is still below the original 13% per annum target and was largely driven by reduced activity during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns.

The Report also provides an estimate of emissions for 2021 which predicts an increase of 6% compared to 2020, driven by an increase in activity as we came out of lockdowns.

Finally, the Report provides a high level summary of activity that has been carried out in support of the city’s Framework by Manchester Climate Change Partnership, its Advisory Groups, and Manchester Climate Change Agency in 2022. It does not identify new priorities for next year (as previous Annual Reports did) as these have been captured in granular detail in the 2022 Update to the Framework.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to consider and make comments on the content of the report.

Wards Affected: All

<p>Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city</p>
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<p>This report is based on the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25, the 2022 Update to the Framework, and progress towards its implementation. The Framework is the city’s high-level strategy for tackling climate change. It sets out how Manchester will</p>

'play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change', a commitment in the Our Manchester Strategy 2016-25. The Framework's key aim is for "Manchester to play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change and create a healthy, green, socially just city where everyone can thrive."

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments

A core principle of the Climate Change Framework is to ensure that all of Manchester's residents are protected from the impact of climate change and that actions to help the transition to a zero carbon and climate resilient city do not have a negative impact on the most vulnerable people, ensuring the costs do not fall unevenly on those that are least able to afford them.

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The Climate Change Framework has the core objective: "To ensure that Manchester establishes an inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy where everyone can benefit from playing an active role in decarbonising and adapting the city to the changing climate."
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	The Climate Change Framework notes: "By 2025 Manchester will be a key player in the global zero carbon economy, recognised as one of the best places in the world to innovate, invest and roll-out new solutions to climate change. Manchester businesses will be rewarded for their commitment to climate action by saving money, attracting talented workers and exporting their products and expertise across the UK and internationally."
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	The Climate Change Framework has the core objective: "To ensure that Manchester establishes an inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy where everyone can benefit from playing an active role in decarbonising and adapting the city to the changing climate."
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The Climate Change Framework notes: "By 2025 Manchester residents will have cleaner air, be walking and cycling more, be living in more energy efficient homes, have access to high quality green spaces in their neighbourhoods, and be securing good, well-paid jobs in socially and environmentally responsible Manchester businesses."
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	The Climate Change Framework has the core objective: "To ensure that Manchester establishes an inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy where everyone can benefit from playing an active role in decarbonising and adapting the city to the changing climate"

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

2022 Update of the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25)

<https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update>

Previous Annual Reports from 2013-2021

<https://www.manchesterclimate.com/progress>

Previous Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny papers from 8th September 2022

[Agenda for Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee on Thursday, 8th September, 2022, 10.00 am \(manchester.gov.uk\)](#)

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Our Manchester Strategy sets out the commitment that ‘Manchester will play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change.’
- 1.2 The responsibility for developing and facilitating the delivery of the citywide strategy to fulfil this commitment is devolved to the Manchester Climate Change Partnership (the Partnership, MCCC) and Manchester Climate Change Agency (the Agency, MCCA).
- 1.3 The Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25) is the city's high-level strategy for tackling climate change. It uses a science-based approach to set a carbon budget and a zero carbon date for the city. The Framework's key aim is for “Manchester to play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change and create a healthy, green, socially just city where everyone can thrive”.
- 1.4 Annual Climate Change Reports have been produced for Manchester since 2013, detailing the city's progress against its climate change targets. From 2015, these have been produced by MCCA and the independent advisory groups that support the Partnership (<https://www.manchesterclimate.com/advisory-groups>).
- 1.5 The Annual Reports present the latest emissions data for Manchester as released by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). There is a time lag on this data meaning that the latest emissions data is for ~two years prior to the report date.
- 1.6 The Annual Reports enable Manchester to track its progress against the carbon reduction targets, carbon budget and zero carbon date of 2038 that are set out in the city's Climate Change Framework, and its recent 2022 Update.
- 1.7 They also provide a high level summary of activity that has been carried out in support of the city's Framework by Manchester Climate Change Partnership, its Advisory Groups, and Manchester Climate Change Agency in year.

2.0 Background

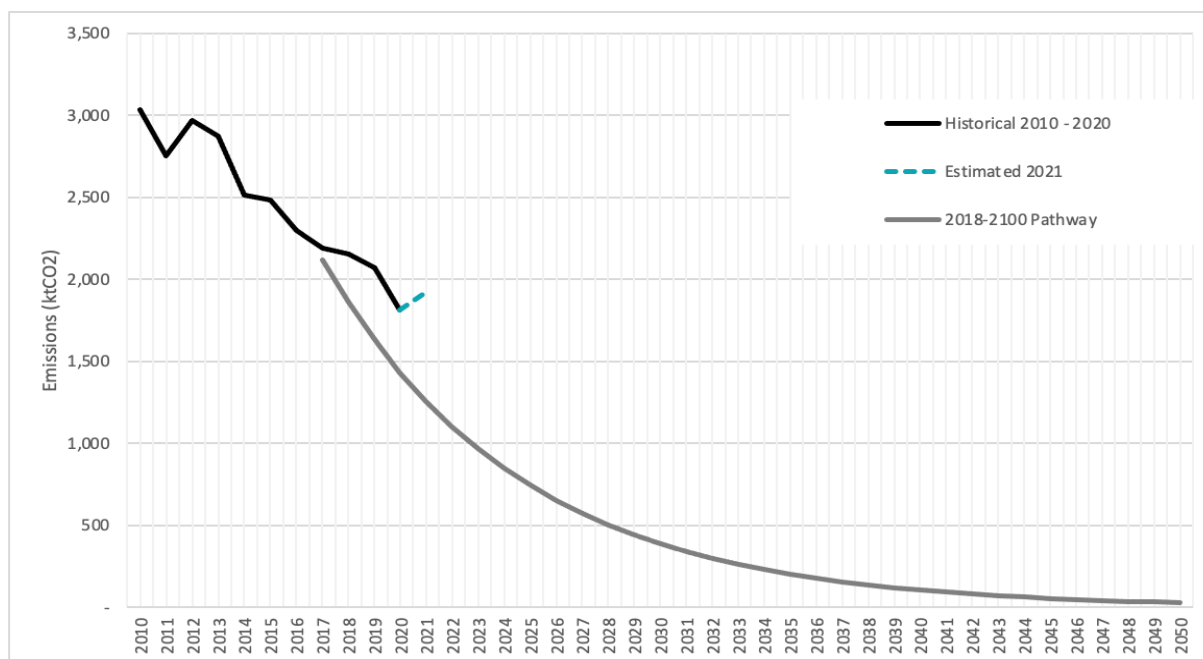
- 2.1 Manchester reduced its direct, energy related carbon emissions by 41% between 2005-2020.
- 2.2 The city's Climate Change Framework (2020-25) sets a carbon budget of 15m tCO₂ for the period 2018-2100, a milestone to halve emissions by 2025, and a target to reach zero carbon by 2038 at the latest.
- 2.3 Meeting these targets required that Manchester reduce its emissions by 13% per annum from 2018 onwards.
- 2.4 The actual level of reductions reported in the city's recent Annual Reports is as follows:
 - 2018 – 2%

- 2019 – 3%

3.0 Key updates on Framework objectives in the Annual Report

Direct Emissions

- 3.1 Direct carbon emissions are those from energy use in buildings, transport and industry.
- 3.2 Manchester's direct energy related emissions were 1.8m tCO₂ for 2020, equivalent to a 12% decrease from 2019.
- 3.3 This reduction was primarily caused by a fall in emissions from the transport sector due to travel restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.4 A provisional estimate for 2021, made by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, suggests that emissions will be around 1.9m tCO₂ which would represent a 6% increase from 2020.
- 3.5 This increase is the projected impact of the lifting of COVID-19 travel restrictions.
- 3.6 The Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25) divides the city's total carbon budget into 5-year 'interim' budgets. The budget for 2018-2022 is 6.9m tCO₂.
- 3.7 The sum of emissions for 2018, 2019 and 2020, plus the estimate for 2021, is 7.9m tCO₂ which means the city has already exceeded the interim budget by 15% with one of the five years still remaining.
- 3.8 The graph below shows Manchester's historic energy related CO₂ emissions, including the latest accurate data for 2020, and the estimated emissions for 2021.



- 3.9 For the city to stay within its carbon budget by 2038, urgent action is needed at scale not seen before.
- 3.10 If the predicted rise in emissions for 2021 proves accurate, an average reduction rate of 21% per year would be required to stay within the budget (based on an even distribution of reductions over time).
- 3.11 The distribution of the carbon budget can be varied in a number of ways and reductions do not need to be evenly distributed, however, slower reduction rates in earlier years must be compensated for by faster reduction rates in the future to keep within the budget.
- 3.12 The 2022 Update of the Framework identifies a number of emissions reduction scenarios to stay within the carbon budget by 2038, with different levels of action over different timelines, but all requiring urgent action at scale.

Consumption-Based/Indirect emissions

- 3.13 A consumption-based approach measures all of the carbon emissions consequent of goods and services consumed within the city, regardless of where they are produced. This contrasts the 'direct' or 'production-based' approach that underpins Manchester's zero-carbon budget, which instead relates to emissions directly occurring within the city and those underpinning the electricity it consumes.
- 3.14 Consumption-based emissions are significant as they can be 60% greater than our direct emissions but are more difficult to assess accurately, particularly at city-scale, and so target-setting and granular monitoring is not yet possible.

- 3.15 Based on research by The Centre for Research into Energy Demand Solutions (CREDS), The Update to the Framework and last year's annual report both set out an estimated consumption-based emissions footprint for the city for 2019. The 2019 data for this has been updated and shows a slight increase in emissions (from 3.14 to 3.24 MtCO₂e).

Aviation

- 3.16 The Covid-19 pandemic had an unprecedented impact on many sectors of the economy, and the aviation industry was no exception. Restrictions on non-essential travel saw passenger numbers at Manchester Airport fall by 94% to 1.8 million in 2020.
- 3.17 In 2021, passenger numbers climbed to 4.8 million, still well below the pre-pandemic level of 29.3 million in 2019. As a result, we estimate that emissions from flights from Manchester Airport increased by 180% from 0.34m tCO₂ in 2020 to 0.94m tCO₂ in 2021. In comparison, UK aviation emissions are projected to have fallen by 16% from 14.3m tCO₂ in 2020 to 12m tCO₂ in 2021.
- 3.18 Emissions from flights taken by Manchester residents from all UK airports also grew, increasing by 240% from 0.018m tCO₂ in 2020 to 0.062m tCO₂ in 2021.
- 3.19 There is a risk that aviation emissions may return to pre-pandemic levels. However, it is still unclear how quickly this will happen, if at all, with high fuel costs and staff shortages acting as a constraint on growth.

Adaptation and Resilience

- 3.20 Climate change creates risks for our communities, buildings, critical infrastructure, wider economy, and natural environment; yet we do not fully understand the impacts we face at local level and so cannot plan and prioritise effective action. Adaptation needs to play an increasing role as we work to stay within our carbon budget.
- 3.21 Over the past year MCCA has developed Manchester Climate Ready: risk, resilience, and adaptation. This provides a vision for a climate resilient Manchester and identifies seven principles to catalyse coherent action. The work has been integrated as part of the 2022 Update to the Framework.

Health and Wellbeing

- 3.22 A newly convened advisory group on health and wellbeing has been established by the Manchester Health & Wellbeing Board, MCCP and MCCA and has fed into the Update regarding the intersection between addressing health inequalities and climate action. A key focus across 2022/23 will be identifying indicators and metrics to aid reporting against the Update of the Framework.

4.0 Commentary on other priorities in the 2021 Annual Report

- 4.1 Appendix 1 provides a detailed progress update against the priorities set out in the 2021 Annual Report. Notable progress is highlighted here.
- 4.2 A key focus in the past year has been the 2022 update of the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25). It sets new granular targets for reducing the city's direct emissions by 50% plus associated actions for all sectors in the city to deliver.
- 4.3 MCCA successfully secured £2.5m from The National Lottery Community Fund - Climate Action Fund to support residents and communities across Manchester play an active role in tackling climate change. This 3-year, citywide programme started in September 2022 and will catalyse action, share tools, techniques and best practice, and measure the impact of resulting activity, whilst building a climate movement in Manchester.
- 4.4 MCCP adopted a new agreement on tackling aviation emissions which is included in the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework. It was co-created by the Aviation sub-group of MCCP's Zero Carbon Advisory Group.
- 4.5 The University of Manchester has continued to support the city in understanding its consumption-based emissions, with the second part of its research on food. Additional work is underway in collaboration with Leeds University.
- 4.6 MCCA secured funding to support a secondment from Manchester Metropolitan University which with support from MCCP's Adaptation and Resilience Advisory Group, has produced a vision for progressive resilience which identifies the key characteristics of such a resilient city, and seven principles to guide both ambition and practical action. These can be found on the new Manchester: Climate Ready website along with examples of adaptation best practice from MCCP members.
- 4.7 MCCA is part of the 3Ci initiative exploring ways to unlock private investment into the transition to zero carbon. MCCA is also part of the Bee Net Zero partnership which brings together business support organisations from across Greater Manchester to collaborate on making this the easiest place in the UK for every business to become a green business.
- 4.8 MCCA is supporting MCCP to develop new programmes of work that will help to accelerate the decarbonisation of member organisations, including via sharing best practice between Manchester organisations and internationally via our involvement in the City Business Climate Alliance initiative (CBCA).
- 4.9 Five new members have joined MCCP: Deloitte, Wates, and THG, The Carbon Literacy Trust and Arup and further connections are being explored through the CBCA initiative.

4.10 MCCA has a new Director and two new Deputy Directors in place, and the Community Interest Company also has five new Directors on its Board.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and make comments on the content of the report.

MANCHESTER CLIMATE CHANGE ANNUAL REPORT

2022



CONTENTS

3 INTRODUCTION

Introduction from there Chair,
Manchester Climate Change
Agency Board of Directors,
Manchester Climate Change
Partnership

5 PART 1

Citywide Progress:

1. Staying within our carbon budgets
2. Adaptation and Resilience to the changing climate
3. Health and wellbeing
4. Inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy
5. How will the energy crisis affect Manchester

31 PART 2

Manchester Climate Change
Agency Action 2021-22

37 PART 3

Next Steps

Foreword

This Annual Report, produced by Manchester Climate Change Agency (MCCA, the Agency), sets out Manchester's progress against its climate change targets.

The message is clear. Manchester is not on track to meet our climate targets and obligations under the Paris Agreement and is predicted to see a rebound in emissions after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Manchester's emissions have reduced consistently since 2005, with average annual falls of around 2.7m tCO₂, driven by progress in decarbonising the power sector. There are also individual organisations within the Manchester Climate Change Partnership (MCCP, the Partnership) who are on track to achieve their zero carbon 2038 targets.

However, to achieve our city's climate goals and mitigate the impacts of climate change, further urgent action needs to be taken now and by everyone at a pace and scale not seen before. Meeting our climate targets is an enormous and urgent undertaking. But Manchester has always been a can-do city and by working together there is a huge amount we can achieve.

This Summer's heatwave and extreme weather globally, most recently the floods in Pakistan, has brought home the reality of the climate emergency. We also understand that after the real challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and the current 'cost of living' crisis, it is essential that climate action supports measures to make our homes warmer, improve our health and wellbeing, and enable a 'just transition' that supports fairness as we move from a high carbon to a zero carbon economy.

To help shape climate action in the city, the Agency has recently produced the 2022 Update of the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25). This sets out the scale of action needed to reduce emissions by 50%, recognising that progress in future will need to cover the whole economy.

The challenge before us is clear, but it is also clear that acting now is the right and responsible thing to do. Priorities for the city remain unchanged - the delivery of the Manchester Climate Change Framework and reaching the city's target of zero carbon by 2038 - to ensure our communities can thrive, our businesses can prosper, and we can continue to draw people and businesses to the city to share in our success.

I would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of this report, and the work of the Manchester Climate Change Agency and Partnership over the past year. There is a huge collective appetite across the city to act on Climate Change, and I am confident that working together we can meet the challenge.

Mike Wilton

Chair, MCCA CIC Board of Directors, Manchester Climate Change Partnership

Introduction

Since 2015, the Manchester Climate Change Agency has been publishing Manchester's Annual Climate Change Report, detailing the city's progress against its climate change targets and strategies.

This report includes:

- An update on the city's carbon budget using emissions data for 2020
- An update against the headline objectives set out in the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25¹ and,
- An update on Agency progress against the priorities set out in the 2021 Annual Report²

There are references throughout this document to the 2022 Update of the Manchester Climate Change Framework (2020-25) This can be viewed [here](#).

¹ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/framework-2020-25>

² <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/progress>

Part 1 Citywide Progress

This section of the annual report aims to provide a brief update of activity over the past year against the headline objective set out in the Framework 2020-25:

- Staying within our carbon budgets
- Climate adaptation and resilience
- Health and wellbeing
- Inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy

The Partnership and its Independent Advisory Groups have supported the development and provided content for this report, using the most up to date data available.

The Partnership and Agency believe this approach is important to ensure the city has an honest and transparent view of progress against its commitments. As a result, it will enable the city to celebrate and encourage more activity in the areas where good progress is being made, at the same time as focusing attention on areas where progress is not yet good enough and new interventions are required.

STAYING WITHIN OUR CARBON BUDGETS

OBJECTIVE FOR 2020-25:

To ensure that Manchester plays its full part in helping to meet the Paris Agreement objectives by keeping our direct CO₂ emissions within a limited carbon budget, taking commensurate action on aviation CO₂ emissions and addressing our indirect / consumption-based CO₂ emissions.

This section has been produced in collaboration with the Manchester Climate Change Partnership Zero Carbon Independent Advisory Group:

Dr Ali Abbas,

Joint-coordinator, Manchester Friends of the Earth

Dr Joe Blakey,

Lecturer, University of Manchester

Prof Paul Hooper,

Head of Enterprise Development, Centre for Aviation, Transport and the Environment, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr Christopher Jones,

Knowledge Exchange Fellow, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of Manchester

Matt Rooney,

Principal Consultant, Anthesis

This section covers progress against our three sub-objectives for:

- Direct CO₂ emissions
- Consumption-based emissions
- Aviation emissions

Direct Emissions

This section contains a review and progress from the data for direct energy related emissions data (commonly referred to as scope 1 and 2 or territorial emissions). These are defined by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research as carbon dioxide emissions from our energy system, i.e., the gas, electricity and liquid fuels used to power and heat our homes and businesses and to transport us around the city.

Manchester's overall emissions have reduced consistently over recent decades. Since 2005, the average annual fall has been around 2.7m tCO₂. This is despite the city's population growing by approximately 22% between 2005 and 2020.

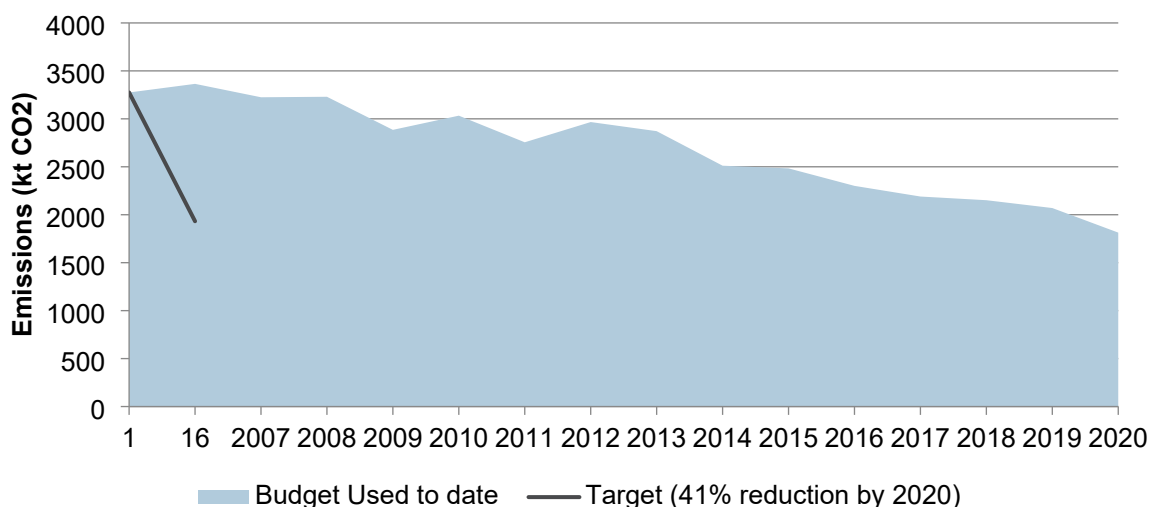
Data is collected at a national level by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and predictions for the city are made by the Tyndall Centre.

BEIS carbon emissions data is calculated each year for local authorities. There is always an 18-month lag in the publication of each year's data e.g. the most up to date in this report is 2020 (2021 verified BEIS data will not be published until June 2023).

2020 progress against our Carbon budget

Historic city commitments

Before setting a science based target, Manchester has had a long-standing commitment to reduce carbon emissions in the city. As predicted in the 2021 Annual Report³ - Manchester has met its very first commitment, to reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions by 41% against a 2005 baseline by 2020. Graph 1 below shows Manchester met its 2020 endpoint goal, with emissions in 2020 45% lower than in 2005, however the budget for the period was exceeded (by 1.4m tCO₂) due to higher than target emissions for many of the years prior to 2014.



Graph 1: Progress Against Manchester's 2005 to 2020 Target.

³ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/progress>

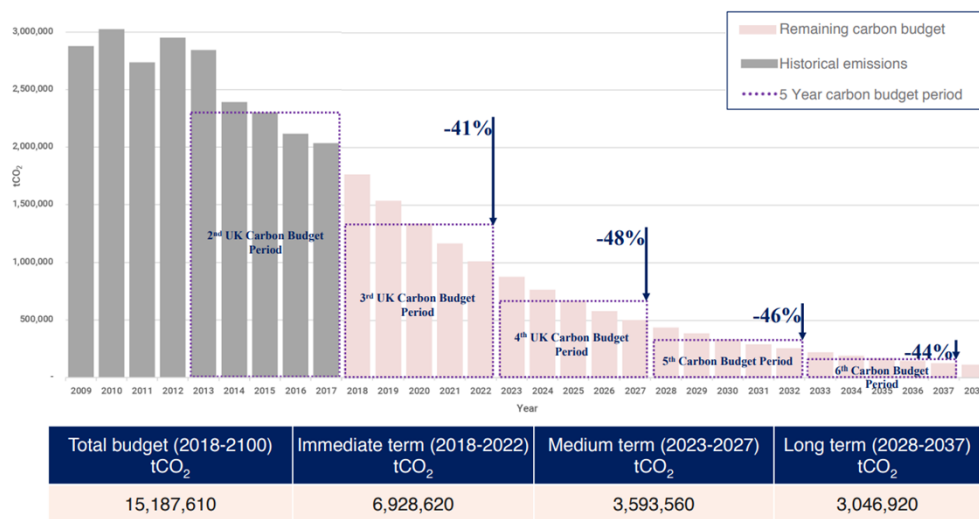
Science-based carbon budget

In 2018, Manchester used a science-based targets approach to set a zero carbon date of 2038 and a carbon budget for direct emissions of 15m tCO₂ for the period 2018-2100 for the city.

The definition of zero carbon used in the Framework is based on the Tyndall Centre's recommendation and is the point beyond which Manchester's average annual carbon emissions are 97% lower than 1990 levels⁴.

The budget is broken into five-year periods to reflect the nationally legislated Carbon Budget periods under the UK Climate Change Act (2008)⁵.

Graph 2 shows Manchester's original carbon budget and target reduction within 5-year periods. Reduction % estimates represent the average (mean) emissions of each 5-year Carbon Budget period compared against previous 5-year Carbon Budget period average. The first interim budget (2018-2022) is 6.9m tCO₂



Graph 2 Manchester's original carbon budget.

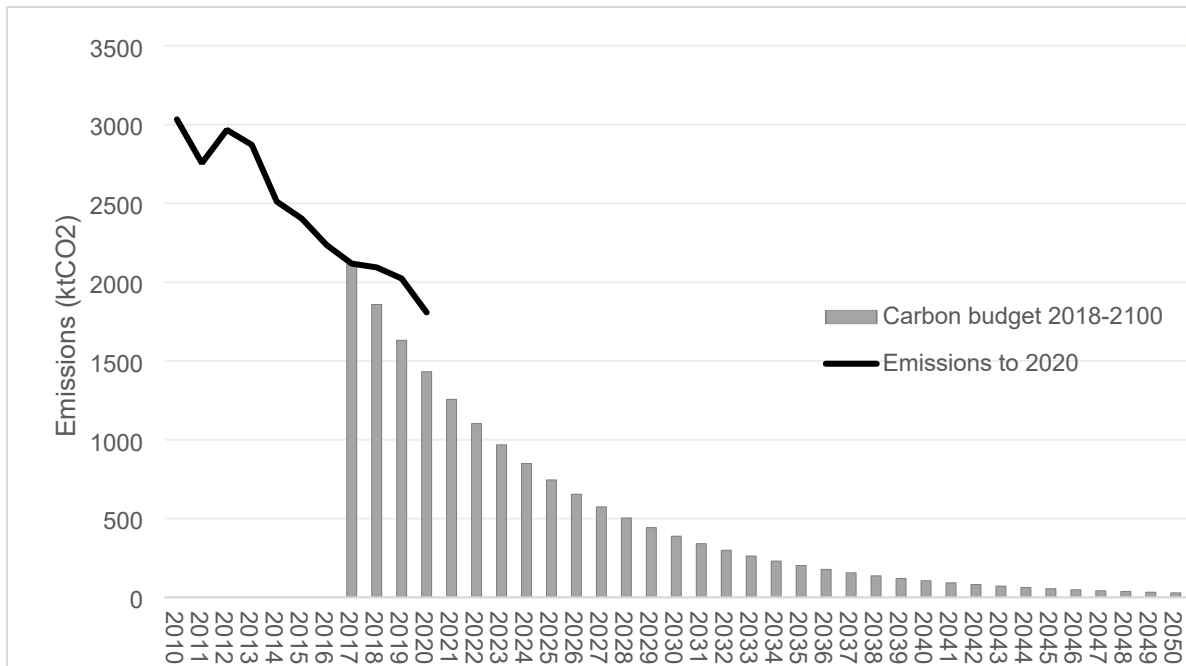
Manchester Climate Change Partnership, in recognition that urgent action was needed to reduce emissions rapidly, committed in the Framework 2020-2025 the city's first milestone - to **reduce emissions by at least 50% by 2020-25**. This target originally required a 13% annual carbon emissions reduction⁶.

Since the publication of the 2020-2025 Framework, BEIS have made adjustments to their data sets. This means the baseline and the budget has been updated to be more robust. The adjusted data has increased the historic emissions and the starting point. This now means in 2020 we estimate that emissions are 1.8m tCO₂ and not 1.3m tCO₂ as originally estimated.

⁴ https://www.manchesterclimate.com/sites/default/files/POFP%20Proposal%20to%20MCC%2016.10.2018_0.pdf

⁵ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/about/our-expertise/advice-on-reducing-the-uks-emissions/>

⁶ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/targets-2020>



Graph 3: Manchester's actual emissions compared to Manchester's carbon budget

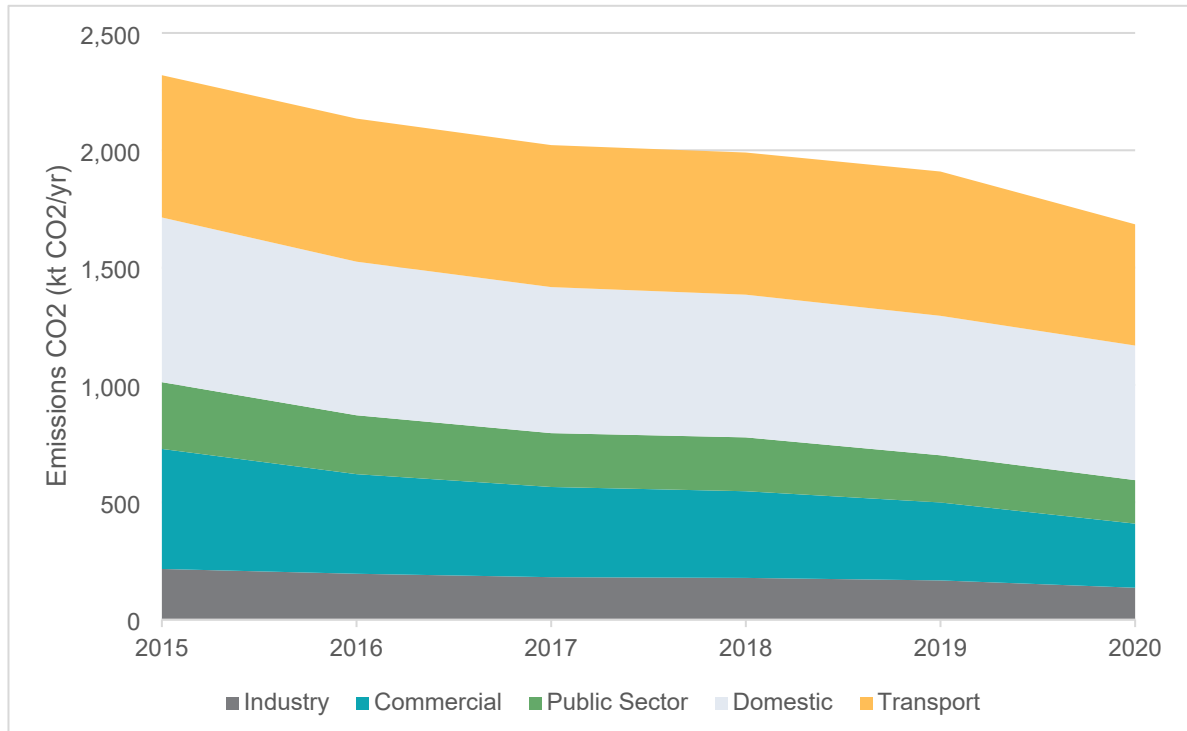
Graph 3 shows Manchester's carbon budget (vertical bars) and our actual emissions to 2020 (descending line). The gap between the line and the bars indicates we are not on track to hit our first milestone.

The table below looks at the annual progress from 2018 to 2020 in further detail.

Year	M tCO2	Annual Progress	Target Reduction per annum*	Explanation
2018	2.15	↓ 2%	13%	Primarily due to the decarbonisation of the national grid.
2019	2.07	↓ 4%	14.5%	Over 2018 and 2019, 58% of the 2018 to 2022 interim carbon budget has been used. Manchester's Climate Change Framework was published recommending urgent action for buildings, transport and renewable energy.
2020	1.81	↓ 12%	15%	Direct energy related emissions fell by 12% in 2020. This is the city's greatest annual reduction in recent years. Transport was the area seeing the greatest reduction in CO ₂ , but these changes are not long lasting as government travelling restrictions due to Covid-19 were temporary.
Cumulative total Emissions	6.03m tCO2 the total budget for the 5 year period and the first three years have used up 87 percent of the total Overall, we have reduced the city's emissions by 17% (2017 baseline of 2.19m tCO2)			

* these numbers represent what would need to happen to the 13% per annum target reduction in order to recover the slippage from the previous year or years as recorded in previous annual reports

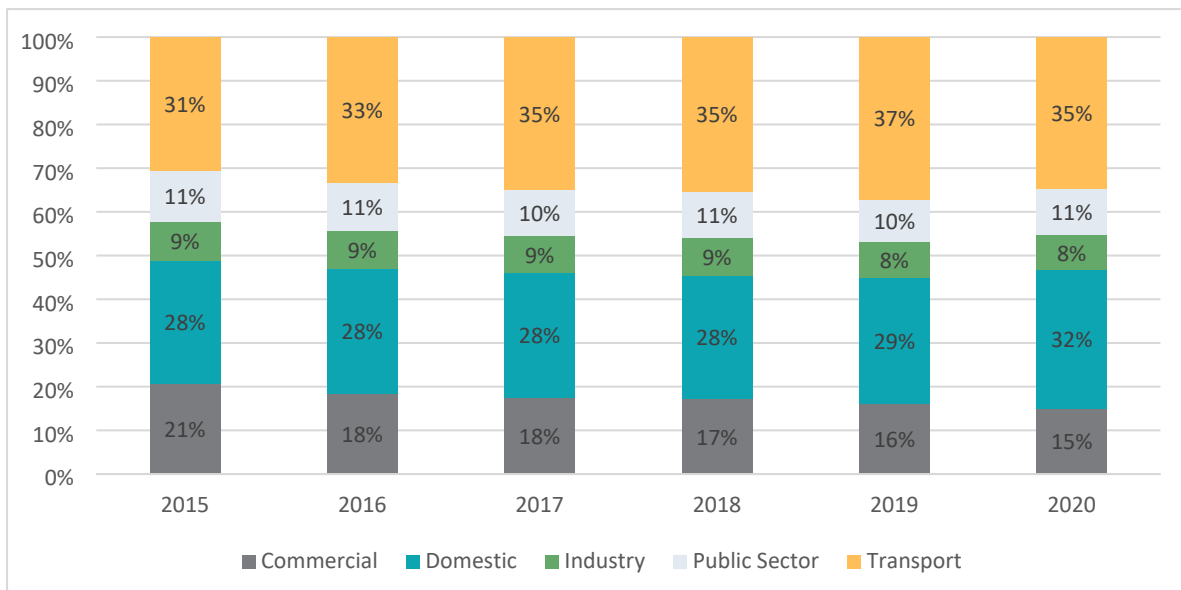
Emissions reduction progress so far has been dominated by the power sector. The CCC report⁷ outlines the scale of emissions reduction both nationally and locally in decarbonising the UK electricity supply. Nationally, emissions decreased by 65% over the period 2009-2019, while the carbon intensity of the grid fell from nearly 500g CO₂/kWh in 2009 to 200g CO₂/kWh in 2019. Generation from renewable sources grew at the largest rate ever – they now generate 29% of total electricity, up from 27% in 2019 (with the total low-carbon generation share now at 39%).



Graph 4: Manchester Direct Energy CO2 Emissions by Sector 2015 to 2020- the greatest reductions from decarbonising the grid

The scale of reduction in the electricity sector has not been matched by transport or buildings as can be seen in graph 4.

⁷ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Progress-in-reducing-emissions-2022-Report-to-Parliament.pdf>



Graph 5: Percentage split of emissions in buildings (commercial, domestic, industry and public sector) and transport between 2015-2020

Buildings: Graph 5 shows the built environment (commercial, domestic, industry and public sector) is responsible for 65% of Manchester's direct emissions in 2020, of which the majority (32%) came from homes. Burning oil and gas to provide heating and hot water in homes is the biggest source of buildings emissions in Manchester. Pre-pandemic data shows very little overall change in energy use in buildings - they account for over a third of Manchester's emissions. Household and commercial natural gas use have been largely unchanged since 2015. Highlighting that these energy forms are an ongoing barrier to seeing greater overall reductions in energy CO₂ emissions.

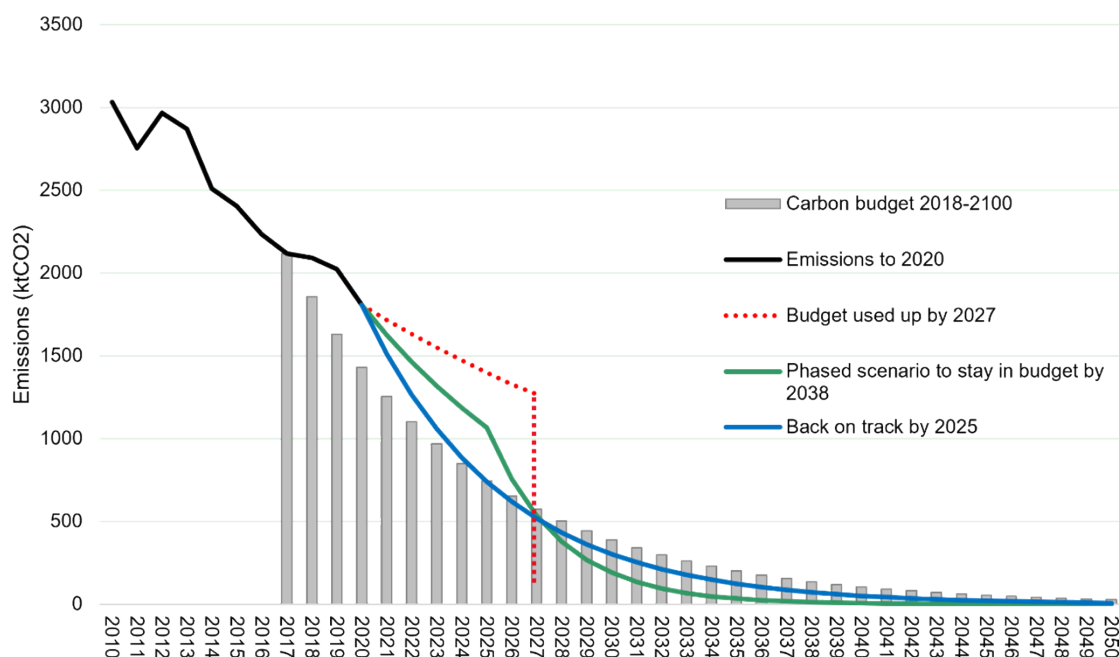
Transport: Graph 5 shows that transport makes up 35% of Manchester's direct emissions in 2020, the majority from on-road vehicles: cars, buses, vans, and motorbikes, predominantly running on petrol and diesel. During the Covid-19 pandemic emission from travel by public transport decreased as more people were working from home. Graph 5 shows prior to the pandemic emissions from transport had started to increase slightly after being largely flat for the previous four years.

Scenarios for staying within our carbon budget

Manchester has not been reducing its direct emissions by the targeted 13% per year, so **we are not currently on track to stay within our carbon budget** and are at risk of missing our first milestone: to reduce the city's direct emissions by 50% by 2025.

Based on the 2020 BEIS data, the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework shows that the distribution of the carbon budget can be varied in a number of ways, although slower annual reduction rates must be compensated for by faster reduction rates in the future to keep within the budget. The 2022 Update to the Framework, sets out two scenarios for the city to remain within its carbon budget based on our annual emissions reduction up to 2020 (graph 6). Neither the Framework Update or this report is advocating for the city to adopt either trajectory, it is highlighting the risk to the carbon budget if we continue to decarbonise at our current average rate and illustrating that there are multiple ways for the city to remain within its carbon budget to 2038.

There is not preferred scenario identified, rather, it illustrates the urgency with which we need to act, and the scale of action needed to stay within our carbon budget between now and 2038. It also illustrates what happens to our carbon budget if we fail to take urgent action at scale.



Graph 6: Emissions reduction scenarios for Manchester to stay within its carbon budget

The smoothly descending **blue line** gets the city back on track to meet the 50% reduction target for direct emissions by 2025.

It requires immediate, large-scale action and investment to deliver a 16% per annum (pa) reduction in direct emissions every year until 2038.

The staggered **green line** ensures the city stays within its carbon budget to 2038 via a phased approach to emissions reductions.

It recognises the challenges associated with immediately and retroactively upscaling action to the high level required in the blue line scenario, and so identifies a first phase to 2025 that requires a 10% pa reduction in direct emissions - still a high expectation compared to pre-pandemic averages - to provide time for the city to intensify its efforts to develop the projects, financial investment and delivery systems needed in phase two. Phase two requires a much steeper reduction in direct emissions of 29% pa, every year to 2038.

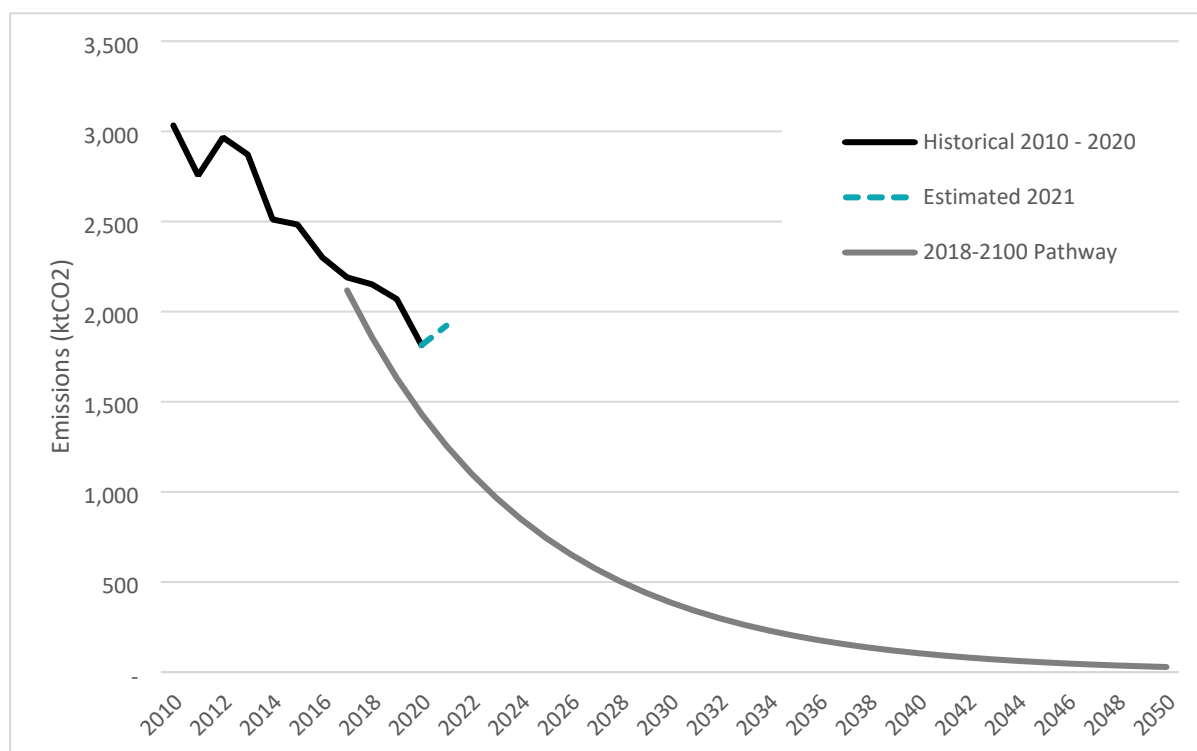
The dotted **red line** shows we will use up our carbon budget by 2027 if we continue to reduce our direct emissions at just above the average rate the city was achieving pre pandemic (5% pa).

2021 emissions forecast

The pandemic happened between 2020-2021 and resulting restrictions have caused sharp falls in economic activity, energy demand and emissions in 2020.

Manchester's emissions and output will almost certainly increase in 2021 as lockdown restrictions were lifted. Due to the lag in nationally produced BEIS data, the Tyndall centre makes an annual prediction for the city. This estimates that emissions **will rise 6% in 2021 compared with those in 2020** as the economy begins to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, but overall will remain lower than 2019.

This means that an average reduction rate of **21% per year** would now be required to stay within the budget based on an even distribution of the budget.



Graph 7: Manchester's historic emissions and estimated emissions for 2021

Impact on 5 year budget 2018-2022

The total emissions from 2018 to 2020 plus the estimate for 2021 is 7.9m tCO₂ which means the city has already exceeded its first interim 5-year carbon budget (6.9m tCO₂) by 15% with one year remaining. As the 2021 data shows an uplift in emissions, it negatively affects the cumulative position. At the end of 2020 we saw a 17% overall decrease in emissions, we are now only projecting a 12% reduction over the 4 years. This means staying within our carbon budget to 2038 is at even further risk than set out in the 2022 Update.

Scale of action as set out in the 2022 Update

This calls for even more urgency to deliver the recommended actions set out in the 2022 Update to deliver the scale of action needed to reduce our direct emissions from buildings and transport by 50%, and the scale of increase in renewable energy generation needed to support this, using an evidence base provided by the Anthesis SCATTER model.

Buildings: There has been no sustained reduction in emissions from buildings in the last decade reflecting low levels of annual home energy efficiency improvements.

The 2022 Update to the Framework sets out the following priority areas

- We need to **retrofit existing buildings** – our homes, institutions, industrial and commercial premises – to make them more energy efficient; they need to be better insulated, rely less on gas for heating, and use more efficient appliances and equipment.
- We need to construct **new buildings** to high and rising standards of low carbon performance, covering operational and embodied energy, which ensures we do not add to the future cost of decarbonisation.

Transport: During the Covid-19 pandemic emissions from travel by public transport decreased as more people were working from home. The increased in travel patterns as lockdown restrictions eased are predicted to increase emissions compared to 2020⁸.

The 2022 Update to the Framework sets out the following priority areas:

- We need to **travel less** and **change the way we travel**, ensuring we chose the right mix of transport for each journey, prioritising active travel (walking / wheeling⁹ and cycling) and public transport, particularly for short trips.
- We also need to rapidly reduce our dependency on fossil fuels and **deploy electric vehicles** at scale for both public and private transport.
- The relative success of reducing emissions in the electricity sector to date has not been matched in transport, buildings, or industry. Only a few sectors have strong plans to adapt to the current and future climate, leaving key risks to Manchester's infrastructure and natural environment.

⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/uk-local-authority-and-regional-greenhouse-gas-emissions-national-statistics>

⁹ [Campaigning for inclusive cycling, Wheels for Wellbeing](#)

Renewable Energy: Reducing emissions from electricity generation and then using low-carbon electricity to power the economy is a central part of reaching Zero Carbon by 2038. Sector emissions have fallen rapidly over the last decade, and the Government has made a strong commitment to fully decarbonise the sector by 2035.

Manchester is largely dependant upon the national grids' decarbonisation, the CCC¹⁰ report:

- Electricity supply represents 11% of UK emissions. Sector emissions increased by 10% in 2021 but have fallen by over 75% since 1990.
- Electricity demand rose 2% in 2021 compared to 2020, largely driven by rebounding industrial demand following Covid-19 restrictions.
- Low carbon generation fell by 9% in 2021 compared to 2020, largely driven by low wind speeds and nuclear outages
- The increase in emissions in 2021 means there is a large gap to achieving the Government's Net Zero Strategy pathway.

Manchester generates only 1% of the UK's renewable energy. Large scale deployment of small scale solar is required to contribute towards the city's zero carbon targets.

The 2022 Update to the Framework sets out the following priority areas

- We need to see a **rapid shift away from fossil fuels to electricity** for heating, transport, and industry. To support this, we need to **increase renewable energy generation**, both locally and at national level.
- This needs to be coupled with a **step change in energy efficiency** across all sectors, and increased adoption of **smart grid** technologies and **local storage** to balance energy supply and demand for maximum efficiency.

Prepared in collaboration with by Dr Chris Jones (University of Manchester)

¹⁰ <https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Progress-in-reducing-emissions-2022-Report-to-Parliament.pdf>

Consumption-Based Emissions

Our consumption-based emissions are sometimes called indirect emissions. They occur from the services we use and the goods that we buy and ultimately dispose of.

They are significant as they can be 60% greater¹¹ than our direct emissions but are more difficult to assess accurately, particularly at city-scale, and so target-setting and granular monitoring is not yet possible.

The Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 committed to better understanding the broader climate change impact of the city's consumption of goods and services and to take action to develop more sustainable consumption practices for the city's residents and organisations.

Since publication of the Framework, MCCA and the members of the Zero Carbon Advisory Group have collaborated with city partners on research and initiatives, all of which are summarised in the 2022 Update and have fed into the recommended actions. The key areas the 2022 Update identified to achieve zero carbon are:

- We need to **half the city's consumption-based emissions by 2030**, before halving once again by 2036.
- We need to **produce goods and services more sustainably**, moving to a circular economy, alongside becoming more **sustainable consumers**.
- We need to **reduce waste** production, including unnecessary **food waste**, and manage unavoidable waste as sustainably as possible, maximising reuse and recycling.

2022 Progress

The Update to the Framework and last year's Annual Report both set out an estimated consumption-based emissions footprint for the city. The data for this has been updated and shows a slight increase in emissions (3.14 – 3.24m t CO₂e), as data improves we assume the city's footprint will continue to grow. The impact of Covid-19 is as yet unknown however there is a study in Italy¹² that has shown consumption-based emissions fell by around 20% during lockdown, but more work needs to be done to understand the impact on UK cities.

During 2022 we are collaborating with the Place-Based Climate Action Network (PCAN) to support a project entitled 'Enabling place-based climate action to address consumption-based emissions'. The outcome of this project will be a more localised breakdown of the UK's consumption-based emissions account reported annually by the UK Government department DEFRA for the period 2001-2019 (the latest year for data). This will give us an overview of the major areas of consumption including energy, public and private transport, food, consumables and services. It will also allow us to compare average consumption accounts by household income decile specific to the North West region.

¹¹[2270_C40_CBE_MainReport_250719.original.pdf](#)

¹²<https://doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.scitotenv.2020.139806>

2021 Actions	2022 Progress
The Consumption-Based Emissions Sub-Group, will work to expand our understanding of Manchester’s consumption-based emissions, enabling the city to better monitor and manage them.	An update contained within the 2022 Annual Report and 2022 Update to the Framework.
We will continue to work towards tackling these hotspots, whilst also improving our understanding of Manchester’s overall consumption-based footprint and working to track changes year-on-year	Dr Josephine Mylan and Usman Aziz published the second part of their ‘deep dive’ study on the role of food in CBE and made a series of recommendations for actions on food -related emissions in the Covid-19 recovery ¹³ . More detail and recommended actions are set out in the 2022 Update of the Framework (2020-25).

Produced in collaboration with the Manchester Zero Carbon Advisory Group – Consumption-Based Emissions Sub-group:

Dr Joe Blakey, Lecturer,
The University of Manchester

Dr Josephine Mylan,
Lecturer, The University of Manchester

Dr Jana Wendler,
Playfuel Games/ The University of Manchester

Usman Aziz,
Research Assistant, The University of Manchester

¹³ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/incorporating-food-manchester%E2%80%99s-climate-change-response>

Aviation Emissions

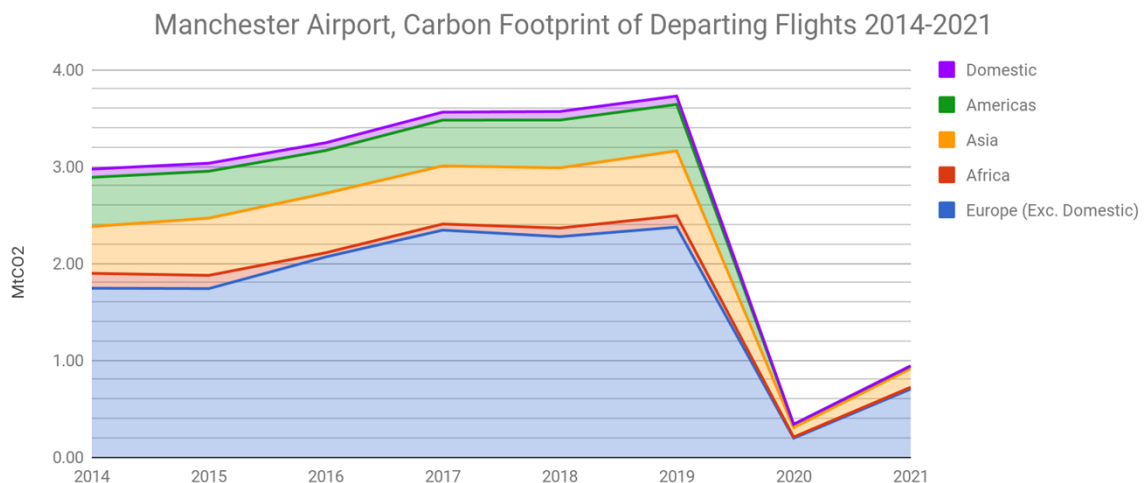
Our aviation emissions can be defined as the CO₂ emissions from flights taken by Manchester residents and organisations, from Manchester and other UK airports.

2022 Progress

The Covid-19 pandemic had an unprecedented impact on many sectors of the economy, and the aviation industry was no exception.

Restrictions on non-essential travel saw passenger numbers at Manchester Airport fall by 94% to 1.8 million in 2020. In 2021, passenger numbers climbed to 4.8 million, still well below the pre-pandemic level of 29.3 million in 2019.

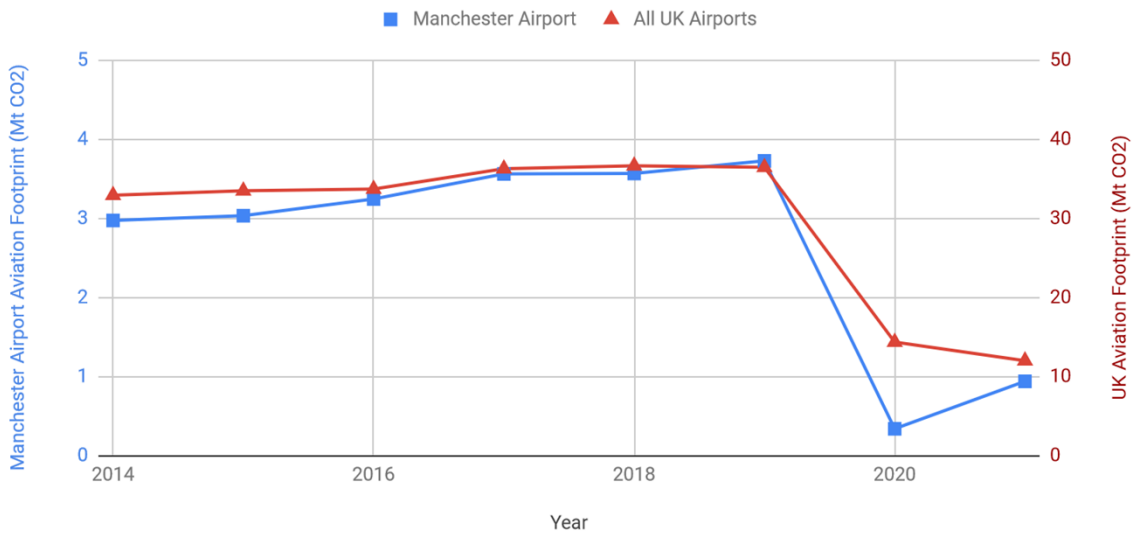
As a result, we estimate that emissions from flights from Manchester Airport increased by 180% from 0.34m tCO₂ in 2020 to 0.94m tCO₂ in 2021.



Graph 8: Carbon footprint of departing flights from Manchester Airport (2014-2021)

In comparison, UK aviation emissions are projected to have fallen by 16% from 14.3m tCO₂ in 2020 to 12m tCO₂ in 2021.

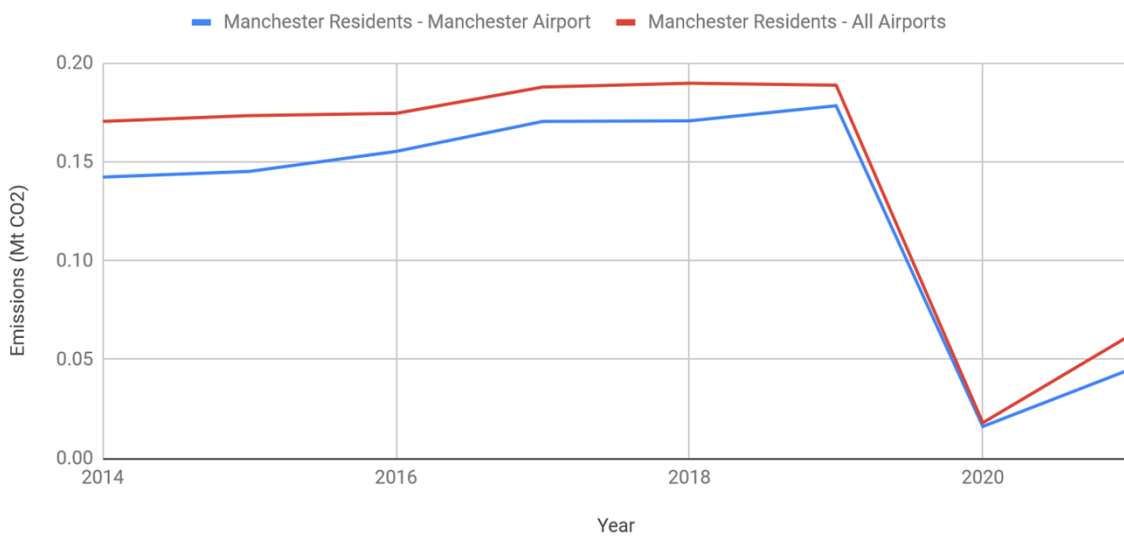
UK Aviation Footprint, Manchester Airport Aviation Footprint



Graph 9: UK Aviation footprint compared to Manchester Airport aviation footprint.

Emissions from flights taken by Manchester residents from all UK airports also grew, increasing by 240% from 0.018m tCO₂ in 2020 to 0.062m tCO₂ in 2021.

Emissions from Manchester Citizen Flights



Graph 10: Emissions from Manchester citizen flights

It is still unclear how quickly, if at all, aviation will return to pre-pandemic levels, with high fuel costs and staff shortages acting as a constraint on growth.

Manchester recognises that we have a responsibility to work with UK Government, UK airports and others to ensure that emissions from all flights from Manchester Airport are in line with the Paris Agreement.

2021 Action	2022 Progress
<p>The aviation sub-group will continue to monitor aviation emissions, and work with the Partnership to help members play their part in keeping to a pathway aligned with the Tyndall carbon budget and the recommendations of the Climate Change Committee.</p>	<p>The 2022 Update to the Framework, presents a new agreement reached by members of Manchester’s Climate Change Partnership (MCCP), with support from its Zero Carbon Advisory Group, which notes the importance of tackling aviation emissions through national policy to avoid displacement of emissions from one UK airport to another, and of international industrial collaboration to deliver the technologies and processes needed for zero emission flights.</p>

Produced in collaboration with the Manchester Zero Carbon Advisory Group – Aviation Sub-group:

Dr Ali Abbas,
Joint Coordinator, Manchester Friends of the Earth

Dr Joe Blakey,
Lecturer, University of Manchester

Prof Paul Hooper,
Head of Enterprise Development, Centre for Aviation, Transport and the Environment, Manchester Metropolitan University

Dr Jaise Kuriakose,
Lecturer, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, University of Manchester

Dr Christopher Pailing,
Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University

ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

HEADLINE OBJECTIVE 2020-25:

To adapt the city's buildings, infrastructure, and natural environment to the changing climate and to increase the climate resilience of our residents and organisations

This section has been produced in collaboration with the Manchester Climate Change Partnership Adaptation and Resilience Independent Advisory Group (ARAG):

Dr Jeremy Carter,
Senior Lecturer, University of Manchester

Matt Ellis,
Climate Resilience Lead, The Environment Agency

Sharon Miller,
Senior Policy Advisor, Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Dr Paul O'Hare,
Senior Lecturer, Manchester Metropolitan University

Climate change creates risks for our communities, buildings, critical infrastructure, wider economy, and natural environment; yet we do not fully understand the impacts we face at local level and so cannot plan and prioritise effective action. Adaptation needs to play an increasing role as we work to stay within our carbon budget.

In order to adapt

We need to **understand our exposure to climate change risk** and make detailed plans that support all our residents, all parts of our city, its economy and natural environment to adapt.

This includes prioritising action to ensure our **critical infrastructure is resilient** to climate change and ensuring our most **vulnerable communities are protected**.

We need to ensure all the investments we make are resilient to climate change and we need to develop innovative models to **unlock new private investment** for adaptation.

2022 Progress

2021 Actions	2022 Progress
<p>Refine the emerging vision for realising greater climate resilience and adaptation. This will include the development of a series of objectives for resilience, and associated actions for strategic stakeholders, business, and communities.</p>	<p>ARAG have led the development of Manchester Climate Ready: risk, resilience, and adaptation¹⁴. This provides a vision for a climate resilient Manchester and identifies seven principles to catalyse coherent action. The work has been integrated as part of the 2022 Update to the Framework.</p>
<p>Support research and planning that assesses climate risk and develops associated adaptation and resilience responses.</p>	<p>Updates on the research and planning have been included in the 2022 Update to the Framework. Work is underway with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Met Office on a City Pack¹⁵ to provide climate projections and highlight the importance of addressing climate risk. And a heat mapping tool to give the city a better understanding of its exposure and vulnerability to heat over time. - The University of Exeter on a Local Climate Adaptation Tool¹⁶ (LCAT) that is intended to recommend adaptation action that will support

¹⁴ <https://www.manchesterclimateready.com/what-is-adaptation-and-resilience>

¹⁵ https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/research/spf/manchester-city-pack_august-2022.pdf

¹⁶ <https://thentrythis.org/projects/climate-and-health-tool/>

	improvements in health and wellbeing.
Include adaptation and resilience in the engagement, education and support activities delivered by Manchester Climate Change Agency, and across the wider Partnership. This will include giving specific attention to climate resilience and adaptation in the Framework Update and associated consultations.	Manchester Climate Ready website ¹⁷ has been published to share information and best practice examples for adaptation and resilience collated from members of the MCCP and wider partners across Manchester.
Continue to deliver the ‘Green Infrastructure and Nature-based Solutions’ action in the Climate Change Framework. Support will also be given to the refresh of the citywide Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy currently underway.	The Advisory Group supported the refresh of Manchester’s Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy Implementation Plan 2021-25 ¹⁸ and strong links are drawn to the 2022 Update of the Framework. Continued support has also been given to the GrowGreen ¹⁹ and IGNITION ²⁰ projects.
Provide constructive support and input to the refresh of the Manchester Local Plan which will provide an opportunity to update the statutory planning framework for the city to ensure it is supportive of efforts to increase the pace of adaptation and aspiration to build a more resilient city. Issues for consideration will include, the approach to flood risk, dealing with heat stress in new buildings and delivering sustainable drainage systems.	Work is ongoing as the MCC Local Plan is developing and early conversations have been had to give planning teams an overview of adaptation and resilience.

¹⁷ <https://www.manchesterclimateready.com>

¹⁸ https://www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/7456/2022_green_and_blue_infrastructure_refresh

¹⁹ <https://growgreenproject.eu/>

²⁰ <https://gmgreencity.com/projects-and-campaigns/ignition/>

HEALTH & WELLBEING

HEADLINE OBJECTIVE 2020-25:

To improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in Manchester through actions that also contribute to our objectives for CO₂ reduction and adaption and resilience, with particular focus on those most in need.

This section has been produced in collaboration with the Manchester Climate Change Partnership Health and Wellbeing Independent Advisory Group

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The Climate Change Framework states that the actions we need to take to reduce our CO₂ emissions and adapt the city to climate change also have the potential to improve the health and wellbeing of Manchester's residents. Equally, actions that improve our health and wellbeing can also help to tackle the climate crisis.

The Framework calls for new strategic initiatives to accelerate action and remove barriers that are limiting further action, and notes they need to be focused on the people and communities where climate action has most potential to improve health and wellbeing.

The UK's Climate Change Committee (CCC) echoes this in its 2020 report Sustainable Health Equity: Achieving Net Zero UK²¹ which gives evidence to show that climate change will lead to more unpredictable systemic shocks that will impact population health.

The effects of climate change on health and wellbeing will be cumulative, becoming more severe and unpredictable over time if left unaddressed, and they will commonly impact our most vulnerable communities first and worst. Impacts will be both direct and indirect.

Direct impacts are created by our changing climate increasing exposure to heat and cold, UV radiation, air pollution, pollen, emerging infections, and extreme weather events such as flooding and its associated water-borne diseases.

- Poor air quality kills 28,000 to 36,000 people in the UK each year²².
- Heatwaves cause an average 8% increase in emergency hospital admissions on the top 5% of hottest days in the UK. For every 1°C increase in temperature over 20°C, ambulance callouts for the NHS increase by 1%²³.
- Whilst flood water poses a relatively small risk of drowning, people who are unable to relocate after a flood are at risk of ill health from living in damp homes and the experience of flooding can also generate severe mental health impacts that may outlast the immediate impacts of the flood itself.

Indirect impacts of climate change on population health and health inequalities are much more complex and systemic but are increasingly being recognised in global reports²⁴ and include: under-nutrition related to food insecurity, increases in the price of food, water and domestic energy, and increased poverty, unemployment and anxiety; respiratory illnesses from cold damp homes and rising levels of obesity due to lack of physical activity and provision of good quality green space or active transport infrastructure.

2022 Progress

This year we have formed the new MCCP Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group and Manchester's Marmot Taskforce to better understand the link between health inequalities and climate change, including creation of a tailored action plan, and the

²¹ <https://www.instituteoftheequity.org/resources-reports/sustainable-health-equity-achieving-a-net-zero-uk/main-report.pdf>

²² <https://airqualitynews.com/2018/08/22/comeap-updates-estimates-on-uk-air-pollution-deaths/>

²³ <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/articles/climaterelatedmortalityandhospitaladmissionsenglandandwales/2001to2020/previous/v1>

²⁴ [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(17\)32464-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(17)32464-9)

need for indicators to track climate and health. The work of these two groups is summarised below:

2021 Actions	2022 Update
<p>In summary, these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support a just energy transition that minimises air pollution from all sources; - Design and retrofit homes to be energy efficient, climate resilient and healthy; - Build a sustainable, resilient and healthy food system; and - Develop a transport system that promotes active travel and road safety which minimises pollution; <p>The UK Health Expert Advisory Group also advocated a move towards a sustainable economic model that values health & wellbeing.</p> <p>All of these actions form part of the Partnership’s priorities for activity in 2021/22.</p> <p>As well as considering the suitability of those ‘beacon indicators’ (Marmot BBF) the Partnership’s intention is to adopt the recommendation of the UK Health Expert Advisory Group that health equity impact assessments be carried out on a sector-by-sector basis for the City’s carbon budget that includes both mitigation and adaptation. In that way, it is intended that Health & Wellbeing becomes a cross-cutting theme with a requirement that all sectors reflect on their impact.</p>	<p>Manchester’s Marmot Health Inequalities Task Group:</p> <p>The Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership commissioned the Institute of Health Equity to deliver: ‘Build Back Fairer in Greater Manchester: Health Equity and Dignified Lives’²⁵, which was published in June 2021.</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group:</p> <p>The Group has fed into the 2022 Update, and the Manchester Marmot Health Inequalities Task Group, and agreed to focus its efforts on developing a set of indicators to track the impact of climate change on health inequalities in Manchester, bringing together existing metrics to add new insights wherever possible.</p>

²⁵ <https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/about-our-work/latest-updates-from-the-institute/greater-manchester-a-marmot-city-region>

INCLUSIVE, ZERO CARBON AND CLIMATE RESILIENT ECONOMY

HEADLINE OBJECTIVE 2020-25:

To ensure that Manchester establishes an inclusive, zero carbon and climate resilient economy where everyone can benefit from playing an active role in decarbonising and adapting the city to the changing climate.

Meeting our goals on climate action can also help Manchester to establish a more inclusive economy where everyone can benefit from playing an active role in decarbonising and adapting the city to the changing climate.

As there were no actions set out in the 2021 Annual Report we have provided an overview of activity underway to build demand for, and increase supply of, green skills into make sure that local businesses and residents can make the most of the new opportunities that the shift to a zero carbon city offers.

2022 Progress

Green skills

Manchester's new Work and Skills Strategy recognises the skills gaps in the low carbon sector and the challenges this presents to achieving our climate change goals. It also notes the opportunities presented for the local workforce, including through upskilling/reskilling. Work has begun on a green skills plan to support businesses and residents with a focus on the skills needed for retrofitting buildings and low carbon transport.

Greater Manchester's Green Economy report explores this further and identifies the biggest opportunities lie where green technologies are approaching mass-adoption stage, such as electric vehicles, low carbon heating, and renewable energy; noting this will bring changes to the volume, make-up, and skill levels of hundreds of different occupations, especially in construction, manufacturing, and logistics.

Across the North West, businesses and universities are collaborating to develop the UK's first regional skills plan to support both younger generations and those already in work into new, green jobs as they emerge, ensuring business and industry have access to the talent they need to successfully transition to a net zero economy.

Green economy

In Greater Manchester the low carbon and environmental goods and services sector includes over 3,100 companies with over 58,000 employees and sales of over £8.6bn. It grew by over 27% (by sales) in the five years between 2015/16 and 2019/20 and represents over 14% of Greater Manchester's business base (by GVA) and over 3% of total employment. This is larger than the Advanced Manufacturing, Digital, Creative, and Science, Research and Development sectors combined and outperforms a host of global cities including Milan, Portland, Copenhagen, Seattle, Stockholm, and Berlin.

The Local Government Association has estimated that by 2030 the UK will need over 690,000 jobs directly in the low carbon and renewable energy economy, with this figure rising to over 1.1m by 2050. Their interactive report: Local green jobs –

accelerating a sustainable economic recovery²⁶ enables analysis of these figures at local authority level with sectoral breakdown.

Bee Net Zero

Business support organisations across the city region have taken a collaborative approach to make Greater Manchester the easiest place in the UK for every business to become a green business.

Bee Net Zero²⁷ provides support and guidance to help organisations make the transition to zero carbon, including setting out ten key steps to achieving net zero, simple actions that can be taken immediately to reduce carbon footprints, and help to find more targeted business support and funding.

The partnership includes the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership, Combined Authority, and Chamber of Commerce, The Growth Company, Business in the Community, Pro Manchester, Transport for Greater Manchester, Electricity North West, the national SME Climate Hub, and Manchester Climate Change Agency.

Latest business growth hub data for 2018-2022 shows that

- 93 SMEs across the city are receiving support to improve resource and energy efficiency.
- 31 SMEs had a grant approved, 27 of which have been received with a grant value of £138k
- Across the city's SMEs, 5,100tCO₂e carbon savings have been made resulting in sales increases of £1.4m and cost savings amounting to £394k
- 24 businesses across the city have been supported primarily through Journey To Net Zero²⁸

City Business Climate Alliance

The Agency and Partnership are working with CDP, C40 Cities, and the World Business Council on Sustainable Development on the City-Business Climate Alliance (CBCA) initiative²⁹.

Manchester is one of eight cohort cities alongside Dallas, Durban, Lisbon, New York, Stockholm, Tel Aviv and Vancouver; and MCCA is helping to draw expertise and insight from across this partnership to support production of this Update and MCCP's activities around net zero new buildings, commercial retrofit, and setting/reporting on science-based targets.

²⁶ <https://www.local.gov.uk/local-green-jobs-accelerating-sustainable-economic-recovery>

²⁷ www.Beenetzero.co.uk

²⁸ <https://www.businessgrowthhub.com/resource-efficiency/journey-to-net-zero#:~:text=Journey%20to%20Net%20Zero%20is%20a%20programme%20specially%20designed%20to,no%20prior%20expertise%20is%20required.>

²⁹ <https://www.city-businessclimatealliance.org/>

HOW WILL THE ENERGY CRISIS AFFECT MANCHESTER?

The energy crisis in 2022 as result of high oil and gas prices, has the potential to impact future CO2 emissions. Energy use may reduce in 2022, but not as a result of measures to increase energy efficiency, but rather due to increased levels of fuel poverty.

The decarbonisation of the grid has required a small number of actors supported by local supply chains in specific places, however, many of the urgent changes and decisions which are needed now to reduce our emissions and adapt to climate change have a strong local dimension. Decarbonising buildings, transport, and industry, and building our resilience to climate risk all need delivery at a local scale.

For Manchester residents, we recognise that:

- High inflation is likely to reduce disposable incomes and spending power.
- More residents may be pushed into poverty, and residents already in poverty may find it significantly harder to recover.
- Residents on the fringes of eligibility for support may be amongst the worst affected.
- Nearly 20% of households are now fuel poor.
- Over 12% of United Utilities customers are accessing financial support.
- Over 11% of households are struggling with food insecurity and the number of food providers has almost doubled since 2017.

For Manchester business, we recognise that:

- Inflation has caused upwards pressure on wages, the cost of raw materials and energy, and is increasing business costs. Supply chain disruption is also contributing to price inflation.
- Decreased consumer confidence and squeezed household budgets are leading to fewer sales, particularly impacting the retail, hospitality, culture, and leisure sectors.
- A potential Real Living Wage increase is a positive ambition for the city but may put pressure on some business sectors to make that commitment and meet other inflationary pressures.

For the public and voluntary/charitable sectors in Manchester we recognise that:

- Price inflation is affecting budgets (especially relating to fixed costs like energy) and project viability, as well as lowering the relative value of funding awards provided.
- Uncertain funding reduces the ability of organisations to plan ahead and deliver services to support residents, communities and business.

The recommended actions outlined in the 2022 Update reflect the latest understanding of how we can tackle both climate change and wider socioeconomic

challenges, including the rising cost of living, together; ensuring we deliver multiple benefits. For example:

- Insulating properties creates warmer, healthier homes that are cheaper to heat and that create fewer greenhouse gas emissions.
- Improving the efficiency of product design and manufacturing processes reduces the cost of material and energy inputs to industry.
- Transitioning to a zero carbon, climate resilient city creates opportunities for innovation, diversification and growth for business, and opportunities for new jobs and skills for local people.

Part 2 Manchester Climate Change Agency Action 2021-22

This section of the report sets out the actions taken against the priorities established in the 2021 Annual Report. It describes activities undertaken by the Agency from October 2021 until September 2022.

Progress against the priorities in the 2021 report:

Priority 1: Helping our city to set the right objectives and targets, in line with the Paris Agreement and the latest science

1. Adopt mitigation actions and indicators presented in the refresh of the Climate Change Framework 2020-25 across all headline objectives

The 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework was published in September 2022. It sets new granular targets for reducing the city's direct emissions by 50% plus associated actions for all sectors in the city to deliver.

2. Living within our Carbon budget

a. Direct Emissions: Continue to monitor progress against the direct carbon budget and investigate methods to improve accuracy of emissions local reporting

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework identifies 115 actions for reducing our direct energy-related emissions (44 for building, 38 for transport, and 33 for renewable energy generation) for delivery at local, Greater Manchester, and national level by the public and private sectors, and communities across the city.

b. Aviation Emissions: Work with partners and other UK cities to establish a target for aviation emissions

MCCP adopted a new agreement on tackling aviation emissions which is included in the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework. It was co-created by the Aviation sub-group of MCCP's Zero Carbon Advisory Group.

c. Consumption-Based Emissions: develop a more detailed understanding of our consumption-based emissions to enable us to target action and establish performance indicators to monitor progress

The University of Manchester has continued to support the city in understanding its consumption-based emissions, with the second part of its research on food³⁰. Additional work is underway in collaboration with Leeds University.

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework identifies 27 actions relating to Consumption-based Emissions for delivery at local, GM, and national level by the public and private sectors, and communities across the city.

³⁰ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/incorporating-food-manchester%E2%80%99s-climate-change-response>

3. Climate Adaptation and Resilience: Better understand the extent of risk and vulnerability faced by our residents and businesses to focus effort on the key risks and locations most in need. Further work will establish a vision for resilience, a framework to guide further action on adaptation and to scope possible performance indicators to measure progress.

MCCA secured funding to support a secondment from Manchester Metropolitan University which with support from MCCP's Adaptation and Resilience Advisory Group, has produced a vision for progressive resilience which identifies the key characteristics of such a resilient city, and seven principles to guide both ambition and practical action. These can be found on the new Manchester: Climate Ready website³¹ along with examples of adaptation best practice from MCCP members. In addition, work is underway with the Met Office on production of a City Pack to forecast climate projections at local level and a heat mapping tool to help the city better understand its exposure to extreme heat over time³². MCCA are also working with the University of Exeter on a Local Climate Adaptation Tool³³ that is intended to recommend adaptation action that will support improvements in health and wellbeing.

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework identifies 24 actions relating to Adaptation and Resilience for delivery at local, GM, and national level by the public and private sectors, and communities across the city.

4. Health and Wellbeing: Explore local partnerships and the need for advisory groups. Establish performance indicators

MCCA has worked with the Manchester Health and Wellbeing Board to establish an independent Advisory Group³⁴ to support the work of MCCP, including production of the 2022 Update to the Climate Change Framework and the provision of support to the Manchester Marmot Health Inequalities Taskforce.

5. Inclusive, Zero Carbon & Climate Resilient Economy: Assist the City in the delivery of the Economic Recovery plan including supporting the case for the necessary investment. Explore local partnerships and the need for advisory groups. Establish performance indicators

MCCA is part of the 3Ci initiative exploring ways to unlock private investment into the transition to zero carbon³⁵. MCCA is also part of the Bee Net Zero³⁶ partnership which brings together business support organisations from across Greater Manchester to collaborate on making this the easiest place in the UK for every business to become a green business.

³¹ <https://www.manchesterclimateready.com/what-is-adaptation-and-resilience>

³² https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegovuk/pdf/research/spf/manchester-city-pack_august-2022.pdf

³³ <https://thentrythis.org/projects/climate-and-health-tool/>

³⁴ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/manchester-health-and-wellbeing-advisory-group>

³⁵ <https://cp.catapult.org.uk/project/uk-cities-climate-investment-commission/>

³⁶ <https://beenetzero.co.uk/>

The 2022 Update to the Climate Change Framework includes data on the scale and economic impact of the local low carbon sector, along with growth projections for future need and an update on the policies and strategies supporting skills development to enable us to capture the opportunities presented by the transition to zero carbon for our local workforce.

The 2022 Update identifies six actions relating to an Inclusive, Zero Carbon and Climate Resilient Economy for delivery at local, GM, and national level by the public and private sectors, and communities across the city.

Priority 2: Helping our city to take action

6. Engaging and empowering businesses and organisations: work with partners to establish new/refreshed climate change action plans for all Partnership members, to ensure that they can all benefit from and contribute to the city's Economic Recovery and Investment Plan and implement the actions developed in Framework V2.0.

MCCA is supporting MCCP to develop new programmes of work that will help to accelerate the decarbonisation of member organisations, including via sharing best practice between Manchester organisations and internationally via our involvement in the City Business Climate Alliance initiative³⁷ and Bee Net Zero initiatives.

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework includes development of an expanded list of actions for business³⁸.

7. Engaging and empowering residents and communities: continue to work with partners to further develop and roll out the In Our Nature climate action programme across the city and develop new programmes that engage and support Manchester's residents and communities to play an active role in tackling climate change.

MCCA successfully secured £2.5m from The National Lottery Community Fund - Climate Action Fund to support residents and communities across Manchester play an active role in tackling climate change³⁹. This 3-year, citywide programme started in September 2022 and will catalyse action, share tools, techniques and best practice, and measure the impact of resulting activity, whilst building a climate movement in Manchester.

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework includes development of an expanded list of actions for residents⁴⁰.

8. Engaging and empowering young people: continue to support the delivery of the Youth Board's manifesto. Establish the formation of manifesto priority working

³⁷ <https://www.city-businessclimatealliance.org>

³⁸ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update>

³⁹ <http://inournaturemcr.co.uk/>

⁴⁰ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update>

groups and establish a monitoring framework to record progress and increase awareness and the citywide impact of the Youth Board through establishing a rolling outreach programme for the Youth Board and create and embed neighbourhood level youth climate action groups.

MCCA has supported the Youth Board to develop a work programme aligned to Manifesto priorities and develop plans for a youth-focused event to be held in Autumn 2022 and a recruitment drive. It has also worked with youth groups in Newton Heath on urban greening activities as part of the In Our Nature (ION) programme.

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework drew in elements of the Youth Board's Manifesto⁴¹ to ensure that the Framework Update aligned with the views of Manchester's young people.

9. Participate in the EU-funded GrowGreen project to support the roll-out of nature-based solutions citywide, building on the demonstration project in West Gorton.

The Agency has supported Manchester City Council (as the project lead) with the delivery of the GrowGreen project. Disseminating learning through the ION programme.

Actions around green infrastructure and nature-based solutions are captured with the Adaptation and Resilience chapter of the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework

Priority 3: Helping our city to understand its progress, strive for best practice and learn from others

10. Annual reports: produce the Manchester report to CDP / Global Covenant of Mayors 2022 (July 2022); produce the Manchester Climate Change Annual Report 2022 (September 2022).

The CDP Cities Report was submitted on 28th July 2022⁴² and the Annual Report published in October 2022

11. Continue to develop the Partnership and Agency-wide communications to communicate key messages and collaboration opportunities across the city and conurbation. Specific engagement and communication strategies will be developed for each programme – Communities, Business and Young People

MCCA is working with MCCP members and partners involved in delivery of MCCA programmes to communicate key messages and to explore innovative ways to bring more resource into this activity, including via virtual teams and external funding bids.

⁴¹ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/youth-board>

⁴² <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/gcom-cdp-reports>

12. To work with other partners in Greater Manchester (GM) and nationally to seek to influence Government and other key institutions to provide more powers and resources to unblock barriers to local action. To also work collaboratively nationally and internationally by sharing learning and best practice, e.g. at the GM Green Summit 2021 and through the Zero Carbon Cities programme and the CBCA Cohort Cities network.

The Agency has worked collaboratively on a local and national level via GM Mission-based Approach working groups, the UK Core Cities Low Carbon Group and 3Ci (formerly UKCCIC) initiative with Core Cities and London Councils. We have continued to work collaboratively and share best practice on a local and international level through participation in City Business Climate Alliance and the Zero Carbon Cities and GrowGreen projects.

MCCA has engaged extensively with partners across GM in the development of the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework.

Priority 4: Helping our city ensure climate action initiatives are inclusive, informed and driven by seldom heard voices

13. Removing barriers: Work with partners to remove barriers of participation for all outreach and consultation work and engage with established groups and organisations to build relationships with traditionally considered 'difficult to reach communities'.
14. Diversity: Ensure the range of our work reflects the racially and culturally diverse geographical communities of Manchester.
15. Adopting best practice: Work with partners to establish regular training on engaging with seldom heard groups and adopt and formally integrate best practice in our work.
16. Embedding participatory ethos: Work with partners to embed the ladder of participation in our work to ensuring communities always feel that their contributions are respected
- A) MCCA's work to support MCCP includes ensuring diverse communities are engaged and active in the Partnership, e.g. Youth Board, Age-Friendly Manchester, Our Faith Our Planet.
- B) MCCA's In Our Nature community engagement pilot programme was built around engaging culturally and geographically diverse communities in Manchester where there are often barriers to engagement, particularly on climate change. The pilot was delivered by a partnership of organisations who have embedded the participatory ethos and community capacity building into the programme to ensure communities have led the design and delivery of climate actions in their local areas. The partnership has worked extensively to assess its activities and integrate best practice into the future programme.
- C) MCCA has consulted widely on the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework to ensure it reflects best practice and is responsive to local needs and wider socioeconomic priorities; this includes climate

assembly workshops with residents, surveys of business, and multiple detailed engagements with policy makers and decision makers in the public, private and voluntary sector across the city.

Priority 5: Helping our city to establish the strategy, governance and partnerships needed to meet the targets

17. Develop the Agency's capacity, securing the resources to recruit to the approved structure

MCCA has a new Director and two new Deputy Directors in place, and the Community Interest Company also has five new Directors on its Board.

18. Embed the priorities of the Climate Change Framework V2.0 across key citywide policy frameworks, including the Local Plan.

The 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework includes multiple detailed recommended actions to embed climate goals into local and national policy and strategy, including the Local Plan.

19. Develop and publish the Manchester Climate Change Framework V2.0 by July 2022 as part of the EU-funded Zero Carbon Cities project

The main body of the 2022 Update to the Manchester Climate Change Framework was completed in July and circulated to all MCCP members and wider stakeholders for comment, including publication within E&CC Scrutiny Committee papers which are publicly available. At the same time, MCCA launched a 'conversation' to share headline messages from the Update and to capture insights on climate change from residents⁴³. The survey is still open. Feedback from the July publication informed the final publication in September 2022.

20. Further develop the membership of the Partnership, including through Manchester's participation in the 'City-Business Climate Alliance' project with seven other global cities, the C40, CDP and World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

Five new members have joined MCCP: Deloitte, Wates, and THG, The Carbon Literacy Trust and Arup and further connections are being explored through the CBCA initiative.

⁴³ <https://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/mcca-framework-conversation>

Part 3 Next Steps

Manchester Climate Change Agency Action 2022/23

As set out in the 2022 Update of the Manchester Climate Change Framework, throughout 2022-23, Manchester Climate Change Partnership and Manchester Climate Change Agency will work together to:

- Promote the 2022 Update of the Framework to raise awareness of the scale and urgency of action needed if Manchester is to meet its climate change goals.
- Champion action that supports delivery of the targets and recommendations contained in this Update.
- Include a wider diversity of voices and perspectives in Manchester's climate conversation and positive action.
- Expand engagement in climate action through convening and supporting new programmes and initiatives.
- Work with partners outside the city to ensure Manchester has access to the latest best practice in climate finance, policy, technology, and practical delivery.
- Position Manchester as a leader on climate action in the UK and internationally.

In addition, MCCP has asked MCCA to:

- Assess the relative impact of the recommendations in the Update, with specific focus on those over which Manchester has direct control. Whilst the targets relating to direct emissions give a clear indication of priority action, it has been identified that additional insights into the level of impact, cost, ease of implementation and timeframe needed would help to catalyse action and prioritise often limited resources.
- Explore options for tracking progress against the targets and recommendations made in the Update. Whilst acknowledging that data is not available for all measures, and that when it is available it is often time-lagged, incomplete and incompatible with other data, a more granular monitoring of progress would help to trigger corrective action as well as amplify success.
- Enhance the city's reporting of climate action, building on the existing Annual Reports⁴⁴ and the targets and recommendations in this Update, to more regularly and in more granular detail, highlight the progress being made towards the city's goals for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Members of the Partnership and its independent Advisory Groups will support these actions.

⁴⁴ [How are we doing? | Manchester Climate Change](#)

15 Actions for Every Resident and Organisation

Every individual and organisation in the city needs to play their part in helping the city to meet its targets, and, at the same time, realising the wider financial, health and wellbeing benefits that will also come as a result. The Agency has developed a list of 15 suggested Actions for every individual and organisation in the city to take:

<http://www.manchesterclimate.com/15-actions>

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THANK YOU

Manchester Climate Change Agency wishes to thank all those involved in the production of this report:

Members of the Zero Carbon Advisory Group and Sub-groups

Members of the Adaptation and Resilience Advisory Group

Members of the Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group

And finally, thank you for reading. If you have any feedback or questions please contact Manchester Climate Change Agency at info@manchesterclimate.com



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Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Committee – 13 October 2022

Subject: Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan: Quarterly Progress Report, Quarter 2 2022-23 (July – Sept 2022)

Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

Summary

The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and developed a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25, which was approved by Executive in March 2020. Quarterly updates and Annual Reports covering the first two years (2020/21 and 2021/22) of the CCAP are available online at:

www.manchester.gov.uk/zerocarbon.

This report provides an update on progress in delivering the Council's CCAP during Quarter 2 2022-23 (July - September 2022).

A refresh of the CCAP 2020-25 was approved by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and Executive in September 2022, however the updated CCAP will not be reported on until Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022) to allow for the implementation of the updated CCAP across all workstreams and within the reporting structure.

Recommendations

1. The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment on the contents of the report and the progress that has been made in delivering the CCAP 2020-25 during the last three months (July - September 2022).

Wards Affected: All

<p>Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city</p>
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<p>The Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 sets out the actions that will be delivered to ensure that the Council plays its full part in delivering the city's Climate Change Framework 2020-25</p>
--

<p>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments</p>

<p>Actions set out in the Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 recognise the need for just and equal delivery of climate action across the city, focusing on the areas such as</p>
--

community engagement, accessible transport, access to green spaces and tackling fuel poverty.

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The transition to a zero carbon city will help the city's economy become more sustainable and will generate jobs within the low carbon energy and goods sector. This will support the implementation of the Our Manchester Industrial Strategy and Manchester Economic Recovery and Investment Plan
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Manchester is one of a small number of UK cities that have agreed a science-based target and is leading the way in transitioning to a zero carbon city. It is envisaged that this will give the city opportunities in the green technology and services sector.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Transitioning to a zero-carbon city can help to tackle fuel poverty by reducing energy bills. Health outcomes will also be improved through the promotion of more sustainable modes of transport, improved air quality and easy access to green spaces.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Becoming a zero carbon city will help to make the city a more attractive place for people to live, work, visit and study.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	A zero carbon transport system would create a world class business environment to drive sustainable economic growth.

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

It is not expected that there will be any financial consequences to the Revenue budget that should arise from the content of this report.

Financial Consequences – Capital

It is not expected that there will be any financial consequences to the Capital budget that should arise from the content of this report.

Contact Officers:

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
Manchester City Council Climate Emergency Declaration July 2019
Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 Updated 2022

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on Manchester City Council's (MCC) delivery of its Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-2025 for Quarter 2 2022-23 (July – September 2022). The report provides updates on the Council's actions to achieve its zero carbon ambitions by 2038 at the latest, and tracks progress of the Council's actions at a citywide level to lead by example, influence and encourage other stakeholders to act.
- 1.2 All activity described in this report relates to the period in which the report is issued, in this instance July to September 2022. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to billing and data monitoring being quarterly in arrears i.e., April to June 2022.
- 1.3 The Quarter 2 progress report has been shared with the City Council's Zero Carbon Coordination Group and Strategic Management Team to ensure its accuracy and transparency and will be published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 A five-year Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25 went live following approval at Executive in March 2020.
- 2.2 The MCC CCAP sets a target for the Council to reduce its direct CO₂ emissions by 50% between 2020 and 2025 based on a 13% year on year reduction trajectory to reach zero carbon by 2038. The CCAP also recognises the Council's unique leadership role in supporting and influencing the city to reduce its emissions and in ensuring that the city's residents are protected from the impacts of climate change.
- 2.3 The actions are structured across five workstreams as follows:
 1. Buildings and energy
 2. Transport and travel
 3. Reducing consumption based emissions and influencing suppliers
 4. Climate adaptation, carbon storage and carbon sequestration
 5. Influencing behaviour and being a catalyst for change.
- 2.1 Following the establishment of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee, regular updates on delivery of the CCAP have been provided via the Quarterly Progress Reports, which have also been scheduled into the Committee's future work programme. Previous quarterly progress reports are available on [the Council's website](#).
- 2.2 A refreshed Manchester City Council CCAP 2020-25 was reviewed by the Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Council's Executive Committee in September 2022. The refreshed CCAP sets out the City Council's commitment to continue working to reduce MCC's own direct CO₂ emissions alongside a strong focus on our city-wide leadership role

and work across Greater Manchester in support of wider climate change objectives.

- 2.3 The refreshed Climate Change Action Plan sets out new actions, building on existing ambitions, for example, looking at ways to accelerate reaching net zero carbon even sooner than 2038; identifying opportunities to be bolder and avoiding any risk of complacency.
- 2.4 The refreshed CCAP will be implemented across all workstreams from Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022).

3.0 Key Messages from Quarter 2 Progress Report

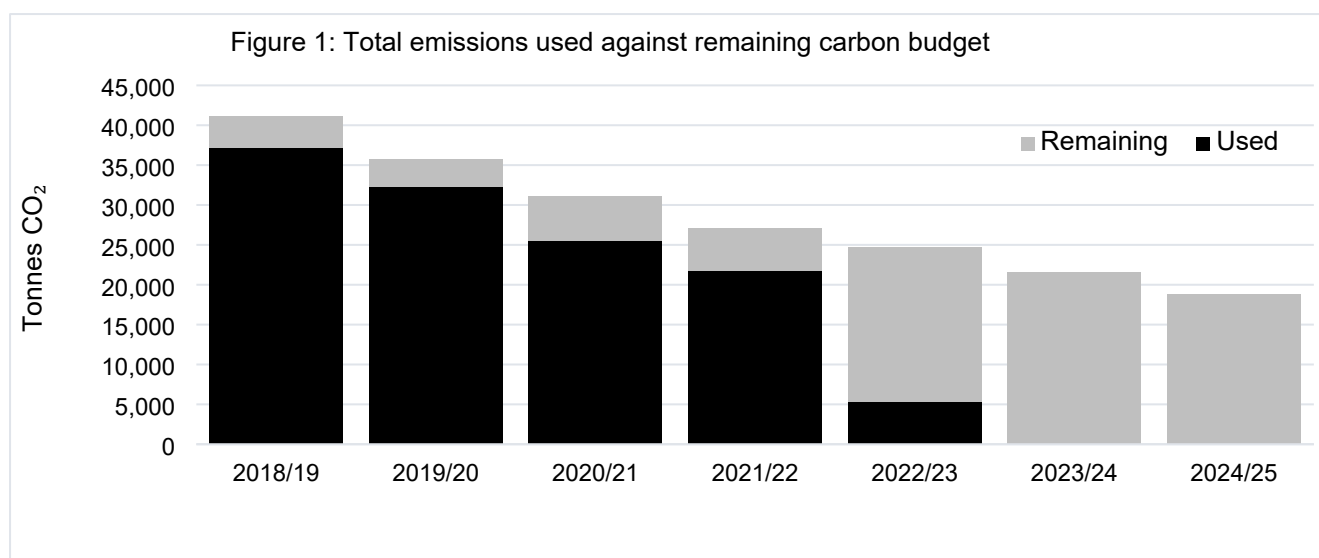
- 3.1 The Council is making good progress in meeting its target to reduce its direct CO₂ emissions by 50% by 2025.
- 3.2 Since 2020, the Council has exceeded its annual CO₂ emission reduction targets and the Quarter 2 report (Appendix 1) shows continued progress is being made with the Council on track to meet its 2025 target.
- 3.3 Manchester City Council's maximum permitted CO₂ emissions for 2022-23 is 24,784 tonnes – this is referred to as our Carbon Budget. In Q1 (April – June 2022), MCC used 22% of the annual CO₂ allowance, 9% lower than the CO₂ emissions emitted for the same period in the previous year.

4.0 CO₂ Emissions

- 4.1 The report shows the Council has emitted 5,366 tonnes of CO₂ between April and June 2022, which is 22% of the maximum CO₂ we are permitted to emit for the year - these are the most up to date figures for the year 2022-23. The emissions relate to Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet, and business travel.
- 4.2 In July 2021, Northwards Housing formally re-joined Manchester City Council. As a result, carbon emissions generated by Northwards Housing, now designated as Housing Operations within MCC, will be brought under the umbrella of MCC's carbon emissions reporting.
- 4.3 The direct CO₂ emissions from Housing Operations, which are now the responsibility of MCC (energy supply to offices, and communal areas within residential properties, sheltered housing, staff and fleet travel) have been quantified and will be included in the quarterly reports going forward. Emissions from residents' home energy consumption is not included within this data, as it is the responsibility of those occupiers as bill-payers and not the City Council.
- 4.4 In order to accurately reflect the inclusion of Housing Operations' emissions, the carbon budget for MCC has also been recalculated up to 2038 in line with the original science-based targets model used by the Tyndall Centre for

Climate Change Research. This recalculation has been reviewed by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research.

- 4.5 The new carbon budget for the five-year period of 2020-25 has increased to 126,336 tonnes of CO₂ from the previous budget of 119,988 tonnes of CO₂. The need to reduce MCC direct emissions by 13% each year to deliver a 50% reduction in emissions between 2020-25 remains unchanged.
- 4.6 Figure 1 shows the CO₂ emissions from the baseline year, 2018-19, and highlights the year-on-year reductions in CO₂ emissions. The graph shows that since 2018-19, the Council has remained under the maximum CO₂ emissions level permitted within the science-based Carbon Budget set by the Tyndell Centre.



- 4.7 The progress report shows that the Council's CO₂ emissions reflect a continued overall downwards trend. The total carbon emissions in Q1 2022-23 are 9% lower than Q1 in the previous year.
- 4.8 There has been a slight increase in emissions from business travel due to an increase in physical meetings and events following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.
- 4.9 Attendance at two international events required flights to be taken during Q1 2022-23. These flights were approved in line with the Council's Staff Travel policy:
- Attendance at a 4-day United Nations nuclear disarmament conference in Vienna (20-23 June 2022), including three meetings related to Mayors for Peace and a presentation at the United Nations in Vienna. As Manchester is a Vice Presidential and Executive City of Mayors for Peace it is our duty to provide officer and political representation. This was an in-person event with no opportunity to engage remotely. Return flights were taken from Manchester to Vienna (via Zurich one-way) resulting in six flights being taken in total for this trip. Flights were chosen as the most appropriate

mode of transport for this trip due to time constraints making rail travel unviable.

- In January 2022, the Council joined Eurocities 'Future Mentors Programme', a reverse mentoring programme, which allowed young people to work closely with the Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People and culminated in a debate at the Eurocities Annual Conference in Finland in June 2022. A representative of the group (who is also a member of the Manchester Youth Council) was chosen to attend the Eurocities conference to feedback on the views raised by the young people, along with the lead officer for MCC's Our Year programme. The Eurocities conference was in-person only and took place in Espoo, Finland meaning that train travel was not possible, resulting in return flights from Manchester for two people – four flights in total.

4.10 A new sustainable travel project officer within the Human Resources & Organisational Development team (HROD) is now in post and will support the rollout of sustainable travel across the organisation focusing on workforce engagement to raise the profile of the Council's new Sustainable Travel Policy and to promote sustainable travel incentive schemes.

4.11 The report highlights progress made across the five workstreams contained within the Council's CCAP and focuses on actions outlined in the CCAP Work Plan for 2022-23. The actions covered include delivery of the low carbon housing development, additional resources to support the CCAP, progress on reducing single use plastic across the services, latest progress on tree planting and delivery of the Bee Green education summit.

5.0 Key Achievements

5.1 The City Council's [Executive Committee](#) approved a refresh of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 at its meeting on the 14 September 2022. The refreshed action plan expands the definitions of some of the original actions by including key milestones, action timescales have been updated where required and new actions have been added.

5.2 Three new posts created as part of additional resources to support delivery of the CCAP have been filled, including the Zero Carbon Workforce Development Manager, leading on the delivery, and embedding of Carbon Literacy across the Council. A report on this work is due to come to Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee in November 2022.

5.3 Manchester Climate Change Agency has secured £2.5m from the National Lottery Fund, to deliver the next phase of #InOurNature for a further 3 years. The funding will provide four additional posts for the Agency, to support wider community engagement and delivery of the programme across the city.

5.4 Bee Green Education Summit held on 30 June 2022 was successfully delivered. It was the first event of this kind organised for some time by MCC for Manchester education settings.

- 5.5 A new Housing Strategy was launched, which sets out the ambitious low carbon plans for housing retrofit and new homes across the city.
- 5.6 Silk Street's low carbon homes development in East Manchester has been visited by the local nursery and school children, who learned about the importance of the development for the area and the environment. This engagement was part of the contractor's social value commitment
- 5.7 A ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Mayfield Park was held on the 22 September 2022, with the Leader of the Council, Cllr Bev Craig cutting the ribbon. This 'oasis in the city' is the first park built in the city centre for over 100 years and it embeds sustainable nature-based solutions design principles throughout.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment on the contents of the report and the progress that has been made in delivering the CCAP 2020-25 during the last three months (July - September 2022).

7.0 Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - CCAP Q2 Quarterly Progress Report July - September 2022.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

Introduction

This report is focused on Manchester City Council's (MCC) journey to being zero carbon by 2038 at the latest and sets out the recent progress of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25. All activity described in this report relates to the period in which the report is issued, in this instance July to September 2022, and specifically focuses on Manchester City Council's own direct CO₂ emissions as well as its city-wide leadership role. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to the delay in billing and data monitoring, i.e., April to June 2022.

Key Messages

Since 2018-19, Manchester City Council has remained within its carbon budget and is on track towards the 50% emissions reduction goal by 2025.

Following Northwards Housing formally re-joining Manchester City Council, its carbon emissions are now being incorporated into the Council's emissions going forward. As such, the overall budget for the duration of the CCAP 2020-25 has increased slightly. Further details are in the CO₂ emissions section.

Manchester City Council's carbon budget for 2022-23 is 24,784 tonnes. In Q1, MCC used 22% of the annual CO₂ allowance, which is 9% lower than the previous year.

Three new posts created to provide additional capacity to deliver the CCAP priorities, have been filled.

Manchester Climate Change Agency has successfully secured £2.5m from the National Lottery Fund to continue to deliver the #InOurNature programme for a further 3 years.

CO₂ Emissions

The Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) has a target to reduce direct emissions of CO₂ by 50% over the five-year period of 2020-25. To achieve this, the Council needs to reduce its emissions by 13% each year.

In July 2021, Northwards Housing formally re-joined Manchester City Council. As a result, carbon emissions generated by Northwards Housing, now designated as Housing Operations within MCC, will be brought under the umbrella of MCC's carbon emissions reporting.

The direct CO₂ emissions from Housing Operations, which are now the responsibility of MCC (energy supply to offices, and communal areas within residential properties, sheltered housing, staff and fleet travel) have been quantified and will be included in the quarterly reports going forward. Emissions from residents' home energy consumption is not included within this data, as it is the responsibility of those occupiers as bill-payers and not the City Council.

In order to accurately reflect the inclusion of Housing Operations' emissions, the carbon budget for MCC has also been recalculated up to 2038 in line with the original science-based targets model used by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. This recalculation has been reviewed by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research.

The new carbon budget for the five-year period of 2020-25 has increased to 126,336 tonnes of CO₂ from the previous budget of 119,988 tonnes of CO₂. The need to reduce MCC direct emissions by 13% each year to deliver a 50% reduction in emissions between 2020-25 remains unchanged.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
 Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

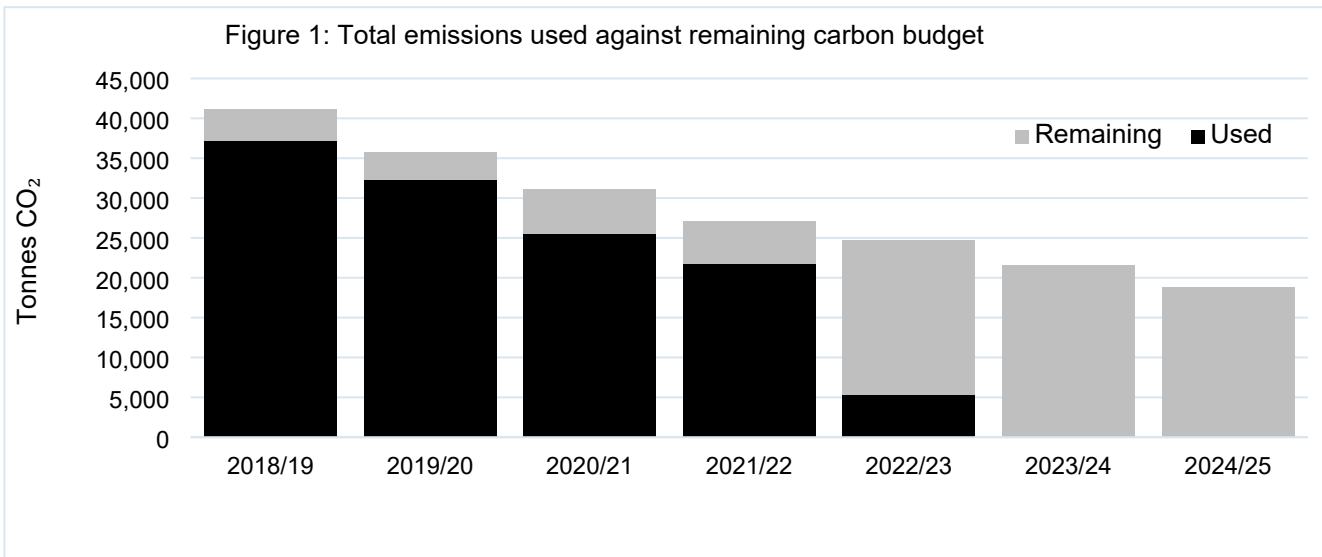


Figure 1 shows the CO₂ emissions for each year of the CCAP 2020-25, against the annual carbon budget. The graph commences with the baseline year, 2018-19 to highlight the year-on-year budget reduction and shows that since 2018-19, the Council has remained within the carbon budget. The annual budget for 2022-23 onwards has been updated in line with the inclusion of Housing Operations’ emissions.

The new carbon budget for 2022-23 is 24,784 tonnes.



BUDGET

24,784 tonnes CO₂ – Emissions Budget 2022-23

5,366 tonnes CO₂ – Emissions released to date 2022-23*

*Emissions to date include best estimates due to billing timelines; the annual report qualifies actual emissions.

The most up to date figures for the year show that the Council has emitted 5,366 tonnes of CO₂ between April and June 2022, which amounts to 22% of the available budget for the year. The emissions relate to Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet, and Council business travel.

The graphs below show a quarter-by-quarter view of these emissions, starting from April 2021. Seasonal differences are accounted for, such as higher energy consumption in the winter months due to heating buildings, and higher operational fleet emissions in the summer months due to increased maintenance of green space.

Note: figures are marked with a (p) for provisional, where emissions data for the latest quarter includes some element of a best estimate due to accurate billing or monitoring data not being available, as more accurate information becomes available the figures are revised and marked as (r).

Figure 2 shows the Council’s total emissions, and reflects the overall downward trend seen in Figures 3-7 below, alongside expected seasonal variations. Total emissions in Q1 2022-23 are 9% lower than Q1 in the previous year.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
 Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

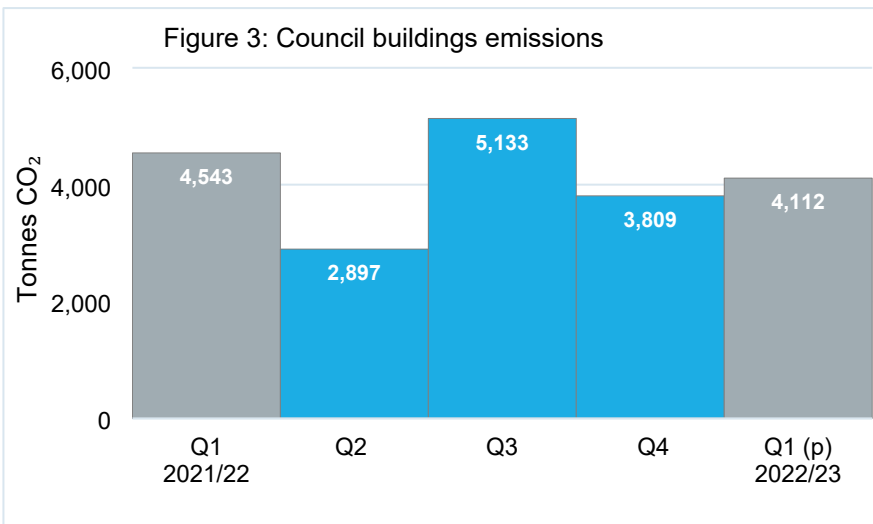
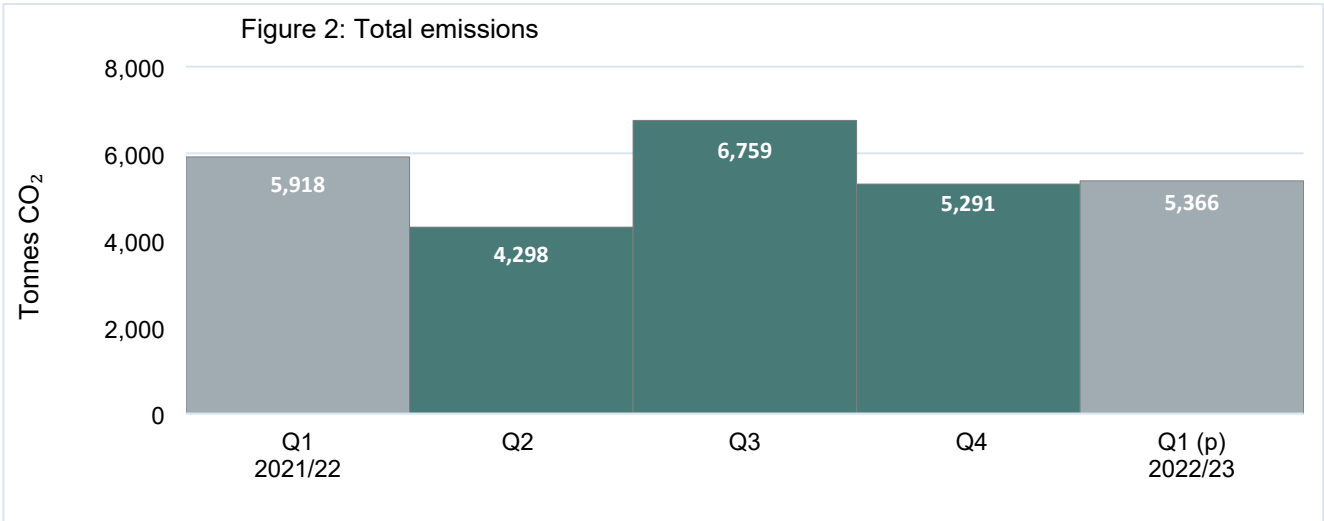


Figure 3 shows emissions from energy usage across Council buildings (including Housing Operations) in Q1 2022-23 is 10% lower than Q1 in the previous year.

This reduction has been driven by the ongoing installation of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy technology (e.g., LED lighting, heat pumps, solar PV) across the Council estate, and by the decarbonisation of the national grid.

Figure 4 shows that emissions from streetlights are on a downward trend as a result of LED installations. Emissions from Q1 2022-23 are almost half of the emissions in the previous quarter and 9% lower than Q1 2021-22.

As the LED replacement programme completed in December 2021, we will continue to monitor the emissions but expect only seasonal change going forward.

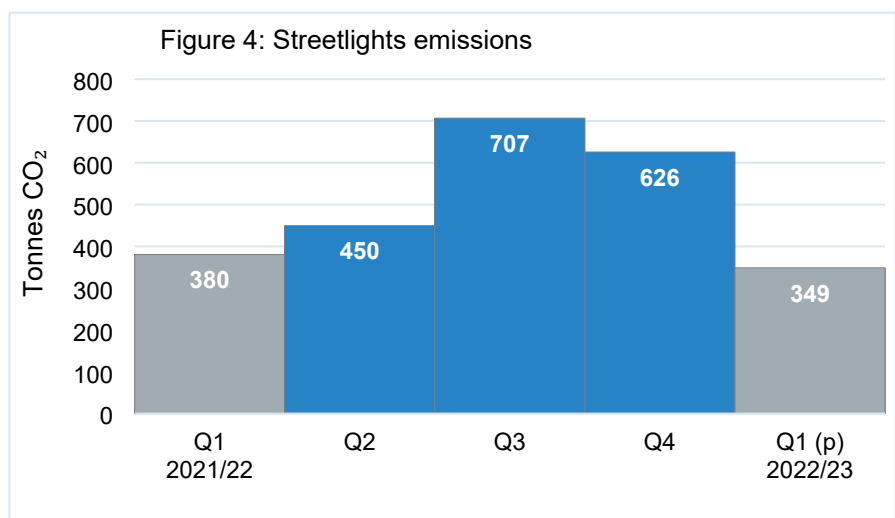
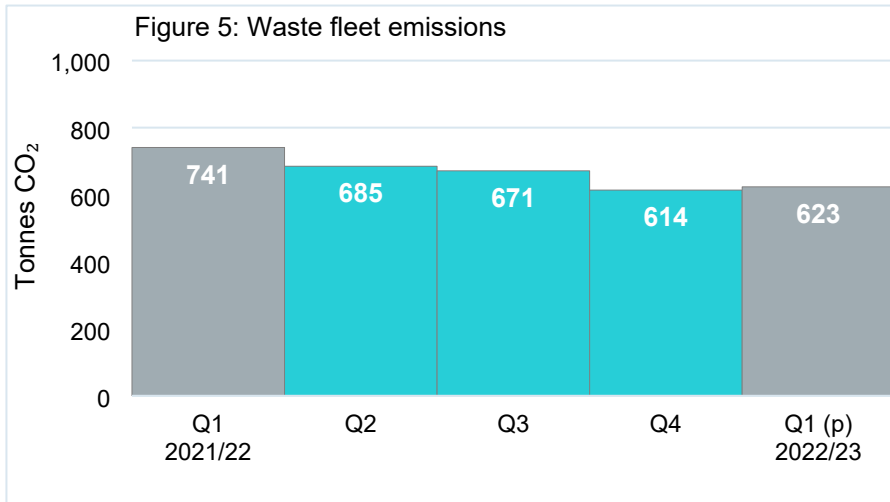


Figure 5 shows that as the Council's 27 electric refuse collection vehicles have become operational and emissions from fuel used by the remaining diesel waste fleet has fallen.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
 Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

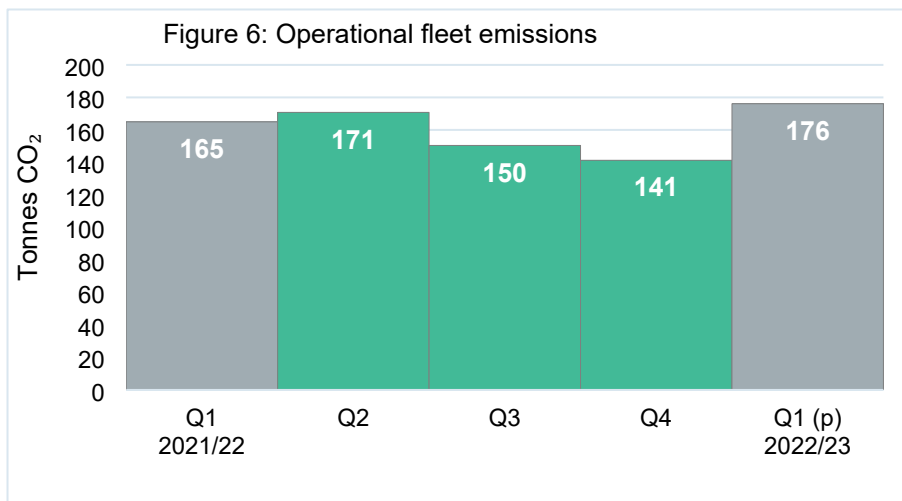


Q1 2022-23 emissions are 16% lower than the emissions from the same period the previous year.

Although the estimated figure for Q1 2022-23 emissions shows a slight increase when compared to the previous quarter, we expect the emissions from the remaining diesel vehicles will remain relatively stable across the coming year.

Figure 6 shows emissions from the Council's operational fleet during Q1 2022-23 are at their highest when compared to the quarterly data for the previous year.

There are a number of factors causing this increase; returning to 'business as usual' following the pandemic; seasonal change impacts on the grounds maintenance requirements of parks and green space and the return of public events creating more work for the street cleaning teams.



The fleet rolling replacement programme of diesel and petrol vehicles to electric is now moving to the next stage

now all immediately suitable vehicles have been replaced, the remaining vehicles in the fleet either have no alternative low emissions option yet or further preparations are required, such as to accommodate fast charging.

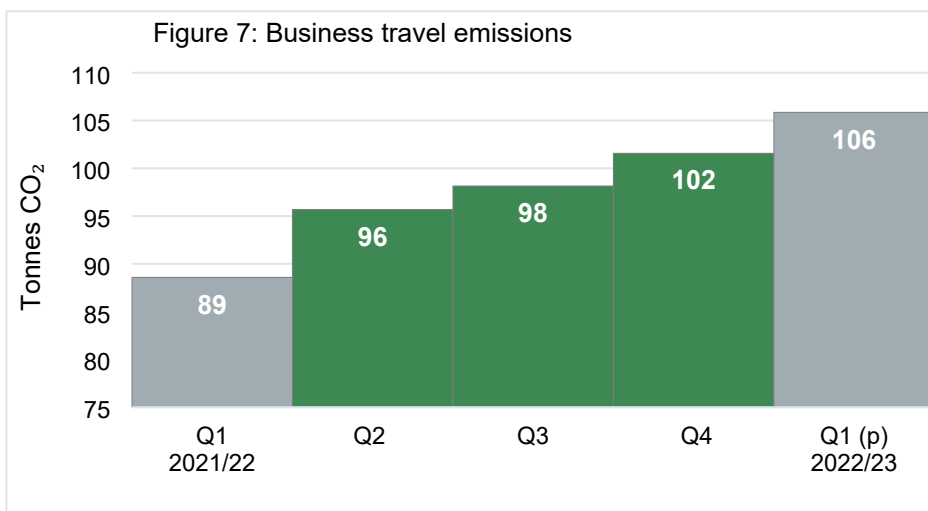


Figure 7 continues to show an increase in emissions from business travel, with Q1 2022-23 being 4% higher than the previous quarter. As travel restrictions have eased, there has been an increase in the number of meetings and events requiring in-person attendance.

Compared to the previous quarter, there has been little change in the use of Car Club, travel by car (grey fleet) increased slightly,

whilst business travel by rail reduced by 31%.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

Attendance at two international events required flights to be taken during Q1 2022-23. These flights were approved in line with the Council's Sustainable Travel Policy:

- Attendance at a 4-day United Nations nuclear disarmament conference in Vienna (20-23 June 2022), including three meetings related to Mayors for Peace and a presentation at the United Nations in Vienna. As Manchester is a Vice Presidential and Executive City of Mayors for Peace it is our duty to provide officer and political representation. This was an in-person event with no opportunity to engage remotely. Return flights were taken from Manchester to Vienna (via Zurich one-way) resulting in six flights being taken in total for this trip. Flights were chosen as the most appropriate mode of transport for this trip due to time constraints making rail travel unviable.
- In January 2022, the Council joined Eurocities 'Future Mentors Programme', a reverse mentoring programme, which allowed young people to work closely with the Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People and culminated in a debate at the Eurocities Annual Conference in Finland in June 2022. A representative of the group (who is also a member of the Manchester Youth Council) was chosen to attend the Eurocities conference to feedback on the views raised by the young people, along with the lead officer for MCC's Our Year programme. The Eurocities conference was in-person only and took place in Espoo, Finland meaning that train travel was not possible, resulting in return flights from Manchester for two people – four flights in total.

Information under Action 2.3 in Appendix 1 provides further detail on the plans to embed the new Sustainable Travel Policy across the organisation.

Key Performance Indicator Spotlight

Manchester Day 2022 was the most sustainable yet. Commissioned by Manchester City Council and produced by outdoor arts company Walk the Plank. Since the beginning, Manchester Day has always had sustainability at its core, including the parade floats all being pushed, pulled, walked, and cycled through the city's streets. Each year the organisers have incorporated more sustainable measures into the event.

Manchester Day 2022 achieved:

- **0** fossil-fuel powered generators used saving estimated **0.5 tonnes** of CO₂e saved* (based on usage for last event in 2019)
- **Six** parade pieces centred around climate emergency and action to engage the audience
- **No single use plastics** used in the food and drinks hubs
- **100** businesses engaged as part of the 'Refill' campaign to encourage the use of refillable water bottles to reduce plastic waste
- **76%** reduction in print including printed leaflets and programmes (68,000 print items reduced to 16,000)

* CO₂e = a unit of measurement that is used to standardise the climate effects of various greenhouse gases



Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

Headlines

Key Achievements:

- [Executive Committee](#) approved the refresh of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 at its meeting on the 14 September. The refreshed action plan expands the definitions of some of the original actions by including key milestones, action timescales have been updated where required and new actions have been added. The refreshed action plan also considers wider co-benefits of actions and reinforces the Council's leadership role to support the city to decarbonise.
- Additional capacity is being created to support delivery of the CCAP and wider climate action;
 - HROD - Zero Carbon Workforce Development Manager started in August to focus on the delivery and embedding of the Carbon Literacy training programme across the Council. Project Officer post have also been filled and will focus on engagement and embedding Sustainable Travel Policy.
 - Housing – Zero Carbon Programme Manager and Zero Carbon Project Manager have been appointed too, with start dates during Q3. These roles will focus on developing and delivery of a housing retrofit programme across the city.
 - Highways - Environmental Sustainability Lead started in September to focus on embedding zero carbon ambitions into the planning and maintenance of highways.
- The newly established Zero Carbon Finance and Investment Sub-Group has continued meeting monthly to focus on funding and financing opportunities to support delivery of the CCAP.
- A new Housing Strategy was launched, which sets out the ambitious low carbon plans for housing retrofit and new homes across the city.
- Silk Street's low carbon homes development in East Manchester has been visited by the local nursery and school children, who learned about the importance of the development for the area and the environment. This engagement was part of the contractor's social value commitment.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Mayfield Park was held on the 22 September, with the Leader of the Council, Cllr Bev Craig cutting the ribbon. This 'oasis in the city' is the first park built in the city centre for over 100 years.
- Bee Green Education Summit held on 30 June was successfully delivered. It was the first event of this kind organised for some time by MCC for Manchester education settings.
- Manchester Climate Change Agency has secured £2.5m from the National Lottery Fund, to deliver the next phase of #InOurNature for a further 3 years. The funding will provide four additional posts for the Agency, to support wider community engagement and delivery of the programme across the city.

New Risks and Issues:

- Limited funding available for both social housing and private housing retrofit remains the biggest risk to delivery of the retrofit plan.
- Rising inflation and increasing costs of materials required for infrastructure schemes is putting delivery within allocated budgets at risk.

Seeing is Believing - Schools Engagement

On the 30 June 2022 Manchester City Council supported by Connell Co-op College, hosted the first BEE GREEN Education Summit, which was attended by over 120 school leaders, business managers and governors from more than 80 education providers as well as several Councillors and Council officers who support the education sector.

The aim of the summit was to:

- Understand the climate crisis challenges and opportunities facing the education sector

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

- Provide practical ideas and resources to support change
- Provide access to expert advice and tools to enable climate action planning



The summit opened with keynote speakers from the Department for Education, Connell Co-op College, Councillor Bridges, the Executive Member for Early Years, Children and Young People and a number of young people who passionately shared their concerns about climate change.

The event was structured around a selection of workshops on topics, such as improving building energy efficiencies, waste reduction and recycling, sustainable procurement and influencing behavioural changes.

There was also a marketplace with stalls offering advice and resources to education providers. Stall holders included The Wildlife Trust, The Carbon Literacy Project and Ameresco; a provider of clean, green, sustainable solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In line with the ambition to lead by example, the venue – Connell Co-op College – was specially selected for its high sustainability credentials, including a renewable energy source and great links to public transport making it accessible for attendees. The canteen even provided a fully vegetarian, locally sourced lunch for all attendees. The organisers went to great lengths to ensure minimal rubbish was created by reusing materials from previous events, marketing the event virtually and ensuring all materials used on the day were sustainably sourced.

Alongside the BEE GREEN Summit ran a GREEN BEE Student Assembly. This was a three-day event attended by 66 students from across Manchester taking part in a range of activities, from a podcast camp and workshops on campaigning to placard making and engaging with decision makers. On the final day of the Student Assembly, all 66 students gathered to share their thoughts and ideas with Councillors including the Executive member for Environment and Transport and the Executive member for Early Years, Children and Young People.



Overall feedback across both events was overwhelmingly positive. Participants appreciated the practical advice that was shared and enjoyed the opportunity to speak to colleagues in the education sector about the climate agenda. Feedback from both sessions was gathered by the Education Services team and will inform the development of a Climate Change Strategic Action Plan, to help support the education sector in reducing their emissions to develop sustainable learning environments.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

RAG Rating at a glance

The actions in the following tables, that will deliver reductions in the Council's direct energy-related emissions have a specific Annual tCO₂ Savings Target. These actions are set to reduce emissions by 50% by 2025 (i.e., delivering a total annual reduction of over 15,000 tonnes) which is a headline commitment of the Action Plan. Detailed progress on emissions reductions is shown at the start of this report.

Key:

Working to target (Green)	Work in progress (Amber)	Not started / missed critical milestones (Red)	Complete
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Workstream 1: Buildings & Energy

Action Number	RAG Rating	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ Saving Target
Council				
1.1	Green	MCC Estates carbon reduction programme	March 2025	4,800
1.2	Complete	Manchester Build Standard	December 2020	
1.3	Complete	Buildings and Energy Strategy	April 2020	
1.4	Green	Large scale renewable energy generation	December 2020	7,000
1.5	Complete	LED street lighting	December 2020	220
1.6	Green	Civic Quarter Heat Network	2021	1,600
City				
1.7	Complete	Housing stock condition survey	2021	
1.8	Amber	Northwards Housing (Housing Operations)	Tbc	
1.9	Amber	Commercial and non-domestic buildings	Ongoing	
1.10	Complete	Local Energy Plan for Manchester	April 2020	
1.11	Amber	Leasing and disposing of Council buildings	April 2020	
1.12	Amber	Manchester Local Plan	2023	
1.13	Green	Partnerships e.g., UKGBC	Ongoing	

Workstream 2: Travel & Transport

Action Number	RAG Rating	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ Saving Target
Council				
2.1	Green	Electric refuse collection vehicles	March 2021	900
2.2	Amber	Replace operational fleet with EVs	Ongoing	400
2.3	Amber	Travel policy for staff and members	April 2020	100
City				
2.4	Amber	Cycling and walking networks	Ongoing	
2.5	Amber	Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040	Ongoing	

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

2.6	Green	City Centre Transport Strategy	2020	
2.7	Amber	Aviation emissions and Manchester airport	Ongoing	
2.8	Amber	Sustainable travel incentives	Ongoing	

Workstream 3: Sustainable Consumption

Action Number	RAG Rating	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ Saving Target
Council				
3.1	Green	10% environmental weighting in procurement	April 2020	
3.2	Complete	Tyndall Centre findings on consumption emissions	December 2020	
3.3.	Green	Eliminate single use plastics in estates and markets	2024	
City				
3.4	Amber	Supplier toolkit	December 2020	
3.5	Amber	Single use plastics in licensed activities	December 2020	
3.6	Amber	Manchester Food Board priorities	Ongoing	

Workstream 4: Adaptation & Sequestration

Action Number	RAG Rating	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ Saving Target
Council				
4.1	Green	Plant 1,000 trees 1,000 hedge trees 4 orchards pa	Ongoing	
4.2	Green	West Gorton 'sponge park'	Ongoing	
City				
4.3	Green	Tree opportunity mapping assessment	December 2020	
4.4	Green	Funding for beacon trees	March 2021	

Workstream 5: Catalysing Change

Action Number	RAG Rating	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual CO ₂ Saving Target
Council				
5.1	Green	Carbon literacy	2025	
5.2	Green	10% environmental weighting in procurement	April 2020	
5.3	Amber	Carbon accounting in decision making	Ongoing	
City				
5.4	Green	Community engagement and ward plans	April 2020	
5.5	Green	Citywide communications strategy	April 2020	

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

5.6	Green	Fund Manchester Climate Change Agency	April 2020	
5.7	Green	Support Manchester Climate Change Partnership	December 2020	
5.8	Green	Large scale event with schools	June 2020	
5.9	Amber	Influence GM stakeholders to decarbonise	Ongoing	
5.10	Complete	Play a part in COP26	November 2020	
5.11	Green	International networks and projects	Ongoing	
5.12	Amber	Green Skills Plan	September 2020	
				15,020

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

Appendices**Appendix 1 - Progress Report by Workstream (by exception)****Buildings and Energy (Workstream 1)**

1.1 The Estates Programme works at the Sharp Project are now complete, and final LED lighting is being installed at Space. The business case for the Tennis & Football Centre is being revised due to delays caused by the site being used as a vaccination centre. Providing the revised business case is suitable, this project should progress by March 2023.

Work at Hammerstone Road Depot and the National Cycling Centre, funded by European Regional Development Fund are ongoing, however inflation and supplier delays are affecting delivery of the schemes. As a result, additional funding may be required to complete the schemes in full as originally planned.

Equans has been appointed as a delivery partner on the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 3 project and a project team is in place. Development of the detailed design and delivery plans for individual properties is now underway.

1.6 Work is ongoing to explore further decarbonisation options for the Civic Quarter Heat Network.

1.7 GMCA have developed a retrofit accelerator scheme to assist “willing to pay” homeowners who want advice on how to retrofit their homes. It can be found at www.yourhomebetter.co.uk

1.8 A number of proposals regarding Manchester's social housing were taken to the Housing Board in August 2022 and a report detailing a roadmap for retrofitting all homes across Manchester was presented to Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee in September. The report outlines the path to retrofit but does not identify the resources required. Funding for both the social housing and private housing remains the biggest risk to delivering the retrofit plan.

A Zero Carbon Programme Manager and Project Manager to support this work have been appointed and are expected to start in post during October 2022.

1.12 An updated timetable for the development of the Local Plan has been published in the latest Local Development Scheme with the following key dates:

- Draft (Reg 18) Plan - Summer 2023
- Publication Plan (Reg 19) - Winter 2023
- Examination of Draft Plan - Summer 2024
- Adoption of Plan - Winter 2024

Development of the Local Plan is dependent on continued progress of the GM Places for Everyone Plan.

Travel and Transport (Workstream 2)

2.1 All 27 eRCVs are fully operational. A new business case for the replacement of the remaining diesel waste fleet is being developed to be complete by 2023.

2.3 The new Project Officer is now in post to support the rollout of sustainable travel across the organisation focusing on workforce engagement to raise the profile of the Sustainable Travel Policy and incentive schemes.

Analysis of business travel data is underway to understand usage and need, to identify where reductions in travel related emissions can be made.

2.4 There are several Mayors Challenge Fund, Bee Network schemes underway. Early works starting in January 2022 at Victoria Northern Eastern Gateway are almost complete. The next phase of work has been retendered and submissions are being evaluated. Most of the Manchester to Chorlton Cycleway is complete, works started on the Brooks Bar section in August 2022 and we are awaiting the outcome of a tender process for the final phase. Works on the final section of the Manchester to Chorlton Cycleway will commence early 2023. Work is currently underway to change

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

temporary cycle filter measures previously installed to permanent measures across some sites. The Fallowfield Loop/Manchester Cycleway project has been deprioritised and communications are underway to ensure all parties are informed of this. Communications and engagement with businesses has been ongoing for the Northern Quarter scheme and Stevenson Square has progressed to the detailed design stage.

The Active Travel Fund projects also continue to progress, however due to only £4m of the £7m required being approved for the City Centre Triangle scheme, delivery plans have been scaled back until further funding is sourced. Following the award of £3.95m from ATF round 3, in May 2022, plans are being developed for Alan Turing Way and Fountain Street/High Street active travel schemes, in preparation for the undertaking of feasibility studies.

A £50m Greater Manchester (GM) Transportation Levelling Up Fund bid was submitted in August 2022. This comprised of a package of transport based projects from across GM. Manchester's project would enable a further phase of the Northern Quarter Active Travel Scheme, which has a value of £3.5m, the outcome of that bid is expected to be published towards the end of 2022.

2.6 Work is continuing to deliver key schemes from the City Centre Transport Strategy, using funding from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS). Desktop work continues on the Deansgate concept design, the Bus Corridor study and Victoria North Streets for All design works, which are all expected to complete by the end of 2022 and inform the investment planning. Discussions are ongoing to develop a delivery plan up to 2040 for the city centre, with a 'vision' of what the city will look like in 5 years, 10 years and beyond.

2.7 Government published their Jet Zero Strategy in July 2022 setting out how the Aviation industry can achieve net zero by 2050. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jet-zero-strategy-delivering-net-zero-aviation-by-2050> Manchester Airport Group (MAG) have been a member of the Jet Zero Council since its inception and contributed to the development of the Strategy. MAG have also supported the development of the refreshed Climate Change Framework 2022, which includes an updated aviation section.

2.8 Campaign around Love to Ride - Cycle September will increase prior to the event, with the aim to encourage more staff to travel by bike. TfGM has been approached to further explore opportunities for corporate discount for GM Bike Hire Schemes, as well as various public transport ticketing and discounts. Development of an Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle (ULEV) scheme for staff has made significant progress with an estimated implementation date planned for Autumn 2022.

Reducing Consumption-based Emissions (Workstream 3)

3.1 Evaluation guidance for commissioner specific to the environmental questions within the procurement documentation is being finalised. Options to refine both tender documentation and questions are being considered to ensure both are accessible to small businesses.

3.4 Manchester Local Care Organisation (MLCO) are currently refreshing their Commissioning Plan and the City Council is supporting them with this, particularly the Social Value guidance for the market, which includes zero carbon ambition.

Commissioning and Procurement have shortlisted applicants for new roles within the team, which will support the Zero Carbon work programme. Interviews to be held during September.

3.5 Work in relation to the reduction of Single Use Plastics (SUP) has consisted of:

Events - A Reusable Cup Pilot is underway to engage small to medium event organisers in the Manchester cups scheme. Manchester has also provided data to City to Sea (an environmental organisation working to reduce plastic pollution) for a Reusable Cups Guide for small / community events which is due to launch September 2022.

SUP across Manchester City Council – the Integrated Commissioning & Procurement team and Zero Carbon team are working together to baseline SUPs to plan how further reductions can be made as well as quantify progress to date.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

Community Events Fund - Training was delivered to five community events on smart power, waste and carbon foot printing. A Greener Festival assessment is underway for 3 community events to highlight good practice and recommendations along with assessing carbon footprint of the events.

Manchester Day 2022 – The most sustainable event to date, with a carbon footprint assessment underway. Some key achievements from this year's event include the replacement of diesel generators with mains / battery power, sustainable catering provider, electric sweeper, promotion of refill scheme, reduced print and reusable cups on the bar.

3.6 FoodSync presented to the Workstream 3 officer group on the strategic priorities of the Manchester Food Board and some of the projects FoodSync are delivering. The aim of the session was to better understand how MCC can support the priorities of the Manchester Food Board.

Climate Change Adaptation and Carbon Sequestration (Workstream 4)

4.1 Work has begun appraising the existing Tree Action Plan for a refresh in 2023, using appropriate findings from the Tree Opportunity Mapping commission.

4.2 In July 2022, twelve members of the GM Resilience Hub visited West Gorton Sponge Park, learnings from the Nature Based Solutions implemented in the park are supporting the delivery of the Our Rivers Our City driven Resilient River Valleys Programme.

4.3 Capacity mapping is nearing completion and awaiting final sign off by the Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing. Work has begun to identify opportunities for using this work in neighbourhood planning.

4.4 A new bid to Government's Urban Tree Challenge Fund has been submitted by City of Trees on behalf of the council. Results will be announced in Autumn 2022.

Catalysing Change (Workstream 5)

5.1 Zero Carbon Workforce Development Manager has been in post since August 2022. The work plan for this role focuses on developing an approach to the delivery of Carbon Literacy training to achieve Gold accreditation, embedding Carbon Literacy into our ways of working and implementing processes to monitor the benefit of the training. A key target to achieve by the end of 2022 is for 100% of Senior Leadership Group and Councillors to be Carbon Literacy certified. Carbon Literacy training is now part of the newly formed New Starter Induction process, which will be launched by Human Resources and Organisational Development (HROD) in September 2022.

1700 certified members of staff are now certified in Carbon Literacy, which amounts to nearly 25% of the total workforce, with the aim to achieve 30% by January 2023. A new booking app for staff is being launched in September 2022, which will enable easy access for staff to book training and access Carbon Literacy resources.

5.3 Developing a proposal for a forum that would allow earlier stage discussion of climate change and other strategic priorities for MCC, related to decision making on proposals of strategic importance and proposals with complex issues.

A Finance & Investment Subgroup has been established, holding its first meeting on 30 June 2022. The group is focusing on building a project pipeline in line with the Council's zero carbon ambitions and exploring investment opportunities to support the delivery of the pipeline.

5.4 Engagement has continued across the city with a strong focus on young people, particularly in school settings, support with organising the BEE GREEN Summit and climate change engagement as part of active streets and play day events.

Neighbourhoods team and Education team have been working on the launch of the Education Climate Change Model, which coincides with World Car Free Day. As part of the launch, Neighbourhood officers will deliver BEE GREEN Education posters to all education settings, to raise the profile of the Zero Carbon 2038 target and request that the settings pledge to work with the Council on tackling climate change.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

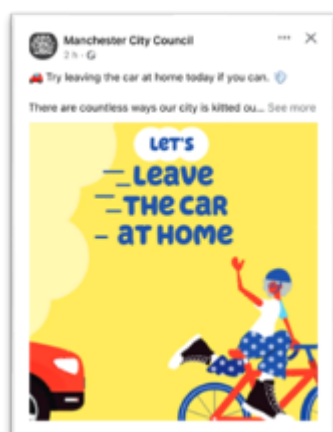
Ward level Climate Change Action Plans are developing further with a focus on the following 6 themes:

- Community Engagement and Awareness Raising
- Children and Young People (Our Year 2022)
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Active Travel, Clean Air and Transport
- Nature Based Solutions and Green & Blue Infrastructure
- Energy (specifically awareness raising around energy efficiency)

Guidance workshops with Neighbourhood Officers are being arranged during September to strengthen the quality, impact and monitoring of the Plans. Six community groups continue to receive support to implement practical improvements in their areas.

The Neighbourhood team supported the Manchester Climate Change Agency with a successful bid to the National Lottery Funding, securing £2.5m to continue the delivery of the 'In Our Nature' programme to August 2025. This funding will allow the creation of four new roles within the Agency to support the delivery of this programme.

5.5 Resident facing behaviour change campaign went live across the city on 05 August 2022. Advertising is in place along key local bus networks, digital screens within the city centre, social media, and lamppost banners in ten wards with low levels of previous climate change



engagement. A new Z-card has been produced as a resource for Ward Councillors and Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers to distribute at a local level. The Z-cards will also be available to pick up from public buildings across the city, such as libraries.

A Zero Carbon dashboard showing engagement activities (past and upcoming) is regularly issued to Members, with the most recent one being sent in August 2022.

MCC took part in a podcast, themed on Sustainability and Net Zero, organised by iNTheLoop, a series dedicated to the challenges faced in the public sector <https://i-network.org.uk/in-the-loop/>.



5.7 The 2022 refresh of the Manchester Climate Change Framework has been produced and approved by Executive Committee on 14 September 2022. The refreshed Framework sets out recommended actions at a local, regional and national level and identifies where Manchester stakeholders are expected to deliver the local actions.

5.8 BEE GREEN Education Summit was successfully delivered on the 30 June 2022. The Education team collected data and feedback from the settings in attendance and plan to use this to develop a 2 year Education Climate Action Plan. The Plan will be monitored and reviewed by a newly established BEE GREEN Governance Board. A new Strategic Lead within Education has also been appointed and a business case for the recruitment of a Project Manager has been developed, both of these roles will oversee the implementation and delivery of the Education Climate Action Plan.

5.9 There has been several engagement opportunities between MCC and the GMCA. The Council has made real progress delivering against the GM Single Use Plastic Free pledge. The learning has been shared with the GMCA and other Greater Manchester authorities to support them in taking similar action. The newly established MCC Finance & Investment Subgroup met with senior GMCA officers to join up the work and influence of GM investment approaches. A meeting has also taken place about the Trailblazer Devolution deal and the opportunities to include Manchester's climate change asks of Government.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022











5.12 A Green Skills Action Plan has been developed to sit alongside the Council's Work & Skills Strategy. A stakeholder event was held on 21 August 2022, where partners across the city were consulted on the plan. The event was well attended and feedback from session informed the further development of the Plan.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022














Appendix 2 - Press Coverage July – September 2022

Topic	Date	Link
Ancoats Regeneration	July 2022	Greener Greater Manchester, funding secured to put green space and active travel at the heart of the Ancoats regeneration project
		Insider, Funding secured for final phase of Ancoats regeneration project
		Business Manchester, Funding secured for final phase of Ancoats regeneration project
		Place North West, Manchester passes on with £33m Ancoats package
		New Start magazine, Funding secured for final phase of 20-year Ancoats regeneration project
Manchester Housing Strategy	July 2022	I Love Manchester, New Manchester housing strategy to boost social and affordable homes
Wythenshawe Low-Cost Homes	July 2022	Manchester Evening News, Former pub site offered to developer in discount deal for 40 low-cost homes
Wythenshawe Levelling Up	July 2022	Manchester Evening News, Council submits £20m bid to boost Wythenshawe town centre regeneration
		About Manchester, £20m levelling up fund bid for Wythenshawe

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
 Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

		<p>Manchester World, New £20m bid to transform centre of Wythenshawe</p> <p>The Manc, New 'culture hub' could be coming to Wythenshawe in £20m regeneration bid</p>	 
Climate Change Framework Update	August 2022	<p>Manchester Evening News, temperatures are soaring, and Manchester is still failing to act fast enough</p>	
Cyclops in Whalley Range	August 2022	<p>Manchester Evening News, New cyclops junction to be built in Whalley Range</p>	
Pedestrianisation of Cutting Room Square	August 2022	<p>Manchester Evening News, Cutting Room Square in Ancoats to close to cars for 6 months – and it could be permanent</p>	
		<p>Manchester World, Cutting Room Square closed to traffic for six months in new city centre trial</p>	
		<p>The Manc, Busiest part of Ancoats to be pedestrianised from this week</p>	
		<p>New Start magazine, Manchester to trial pedestrianisation of Ancoats' Cutting Room Square</p>	
Protecting Playgrounds	August 2022	<p>Earth.com, Plants on playgrounds help protect children from air pollution</p> <p>About Manchester, New evidence shows planting around schools protects children from air pollution</p>	 

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
 Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

This City new housing scheme	September 2022	The Manc, 128 new homes planned for Ancoats as part of the council's first This City housing development	
		Business Insider, Green light for first This City housing scheme	
		The Business Desk, approval for £30m scheme by council's own housing vehicle	
		Manchester World, First new council housing development in Ancoats to be built	
		Place North West, Manchester's This City off the mark with Ancoats approval	
		Manchester Evening News, First new council housing development in Ancoats gets the green light	
CCAP Refresh	September '22	Manchester is set to blow its carbon budget for this century by 2027 - Manchester Evening News	
Mayfield Park Opening	September '22	The Guardian, Manchester opens first new park in 100 years, complete with 'scary' slides	
		MEN, Manchester welcomes its first new park in a century as Mayfield Park opens its gates	
		ManchesterWorld, Mayfield Park in Manchester: a first look inside the new city centre park ManchesterWorld	
		Place North West, Manchester's Mayfield Park opens Thursday - Place North West	
		ilovemcr, Manchester city centre's first new public park in 100 years officially opens	
		Manchester opens its first new park in 100 years, setting a new blueprint for	

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25
Progress Update Q2 July - September 2022

		<p>sustainable development - About Manchester</p> <p>City Centre 'oasis' Mayfield Park is set to finally open on Thu 22 Sep (manchesterwire.co.uk)</p> 
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**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee - 13
October 2022
Executive - 19 October 2022

Subject: Draft Manchester Biodiversity Strategy

Report of: Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing

Summary

To provide Members with an overview of the draft Manchester Biodiversity Strategy prior to reporting the matter to the Executive.

Recommendations

1. The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the report and endorse its progress to Executive.
2. The Executive is recommended to approve and endorse the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

Ecosystems, such as Manchester's woodlands, helps to capture and store carbon, as do effectively managed meadows, while rivers and canals provide a cooling effect during times of heat stress. Access to nature encourages walking and cycling and improves health and well being, reducing reliance on cars with a consequent reduction in carbon emissions.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments

Actions set out in the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy 2022-30 relate to the need for addressing environmental inequalities across Manchester. This includes areas such as increased community engagement with diverse audiences, improving local biodiversity and improved access to nature which are referenced in the Action Plan.

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Thriving biodiversity increases the attractiveness of Manchester as a place in which to work and invest. Jobs are created in the environmental sector through the need to plant and manage the local green and blue infrastructure resource. Specialist jobs are also created such as Forest Schools leaders, ecologists and wildlife related engagement officer roles.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Manchester competes on a world stage to attract skilled people. A high quality, attractive natural environment makes an important contribution to this.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	A more biodiverse environment should be accessible to all communities within Manchester, offering the potential to gain health benefits through improved access to nature for relaxation and exercise and learning new skills through volunteering opportunities.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The city's natural environment, its woodlands, rivers and meadows play a valuable role in storing carbon and creating a liveable city.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Improved connectivity between wildlife friendly sites increases and improves species abundance and movement, while at the same time improving local public access to nature, reducing the need to travel.

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

None

Financial Consequences – Capital

None

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

- Draft Manchester Biodiversity Strategy – 2022-2030
- Manchester’s Great Outdoors: A Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy for Manchester: July 2015
- Manchester’s Great Outdoors: A Green and Blue Implementation Plan Refresh – March 2022
- Our Manchester Strategy - Forward to 2025
- Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The new Manchester Biodiversity Strategy focuses on the need to conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity in the City for current and future generations. This is set within the strategic context of delivering economic growth, new jobs and new homes that are essential to a prosperous, modern city.
- 1.2 It is the third Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan to be developed in the City, a refresh of new ideas, practical action and policy changes. It provides a comprehensive, multi- agency 10-year Action Plan of activity and commitments which will support positive citywide biodiversity impact. As well as the Council, Partners involved directly in strategy development include Natural England, The Environment Agency, The Wildlife Trust for Greater Manchester, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, City of Trees, Canal and River Trust, The Conservation Volunteers, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester Museum and the University of Manchester
- 1.3 In 2017 a new approach to strategy development was established, with the Council looking at a more collaborative “Our Manchester” way of delivering an inclusive, innovative Biodiversity Strategy for the City, with much more active partner involvement – a strategy made for the City by the City.
- 1.4 In 2017/18 The Wildlife Trust for Greater Manchester worked over many months, linking in with potential funders the Esmee Fairburn Foundation and with the Council to shape a funding bid that would satisfy both the Council’s ambition but also that of the Wildlife Trust and Esmee Fairburn Foundation. This would extend the impact of the project further by including creative, effective stakeholder engagement and practical action as well as strategy development and delivery.
- 1.5 This approach and bid was supported by the Council and its internal Green Infrastructure Board. A bid was submitted to the Esmee Fairburn Foundation by the Wildlife Trust for nearly £250,000, with overall project costs being £320,000, including £20,000 support from MCC. After lots more time and effort by the Wildlife Trust and MCC officers over the following months, The My Wild City Project bid was successfully approved in September 2018. The My Wild City project began in earnest in late 2018, with the appointment of two new officers to work directly on the project for four years.
- 1.6 The new Biodiversity Strategy is a legacy of all the hard work that has gone into developing and delivering the My Wild City four-year programme from the outset. It has led to the My Wild City project shaping and developing a comprehensive and challenging Strategy that will benefit biodiversity in the City for many years to come.
- 1.7 This document outlines how the City of Manchester is going to progress biodiversity conservation locally. It recognises that we are a significantly urban area, with a range of complex challenges, and that the City will still need to grow economically as well as environmentally. This does not mean that we are

devoid of nature, or that our industrial past is preventing biodiversity from thriving – quite the opposite. The City’s nature recovery network is all encompassing, from our extensive parks, river valleys and canals, to our gardens, greenspaces, ponds, allotments and verges.

- 1.8 Attached in Appendix 1 is the final draft version of the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy. Two extensive reports on citizen engagement which underpins the Action Plan are provided in Appendices 2 and 3. Appendix 4 provides biodiversity and community focussed case studies.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In Manchester as with other urban cities, economic growth, new jobs and new homes are essential to a prosperous, modern city. Biodiversity will have a strong role to play in the growth of our city; it is even more important that we understand how both to protect and enhance biodiversity, finding creative ways to develop new partnerships. to integrate biodiversity across other key themes, including Climate resilience, health, education, transport and education.
- 2.2 Manchester has a diverse, dynamic, ever-changing landscape. It is dissected by a network of river valleys which act as wildlife corridors, and has some of the oldest formal parkland in the country. Topographically the landscape changes from the flat floodplains of the Mersey belt to the higher ground and acid grasslands of north Manchester. There are old and valuable woodlands, rivers, canals, meadows, plus gardens and greenspaces that act as vital wildlife stepping stones. Moreover, there is a wide and varied flora and fauna in the City, including the Black Redstart (a small bird rarer than a golden eagle) living and breeding in the City Centre; Barn Owls nesting in Manchester for the first time in over 75 years; and Otters have been sighted in Manchester rivers – a good sign of improving water quality.
- 2.3 These species and habitats make up a rich and valuable diversity, an important nature network that we will aim to protect and manage so they can be enjoyed by all, both now, and in the future.

3.0 Biodiversity – background concepts

- 3.1 The word Biodiversity comes from the phrase ‘biological diversity’. In its simplest term biodiversity means the whole variety of life on Earth. It includes all plants and animals, their habitats and the factors that link them to each other and their surroundings. It is not restricted to rare or threatened species and habitats but includes the whole of the natural world from the commonplace to the critically endangered.
- 3.2 We all have a part to play in safeguarding our biodiversity. Action needs to be taken, at a local, national and global level, in order to make a difference. In our city, this responsibility falls to all of us – the Council, partner organisations and importantly its citizens.

3.3 In October 2021 Manchester was the first major City in England to sign the Edinburgh Declaration – a global pledge registering our concern about Biodiversity loss and signalling our commitment to tackling the twin challenges of biodiversity and climate crises.

3.4 The benefits of biodiversity include:

- Plants, animals and habitats enrich our everyday lives. They produce the necessary ingredients for all life to exist.
- The United Nations Human Rights Council has declared that having a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is a human right.
- Delivering biodiversity benefits adds to improved climate resilience.
- Learning about and enjoying the wildlife of Manchester can make an important contribution to our quality of life, health and spiritual well being.
- Without conserving biodiversity, we will pass to our successors a planet that is markedly poorer than the one we were privileged to inherit. Therefore we have a duty and a role of play to ensure that the earth and its environment are protected for generations to come.
- Conserving biodiversity locally creates new employment from park wardens and engagement officers to ecologists, land managers and habitat surveyors.
- Increased biodiversity, encouraging nature and wildlife friendly activity can improve environmental quality, raise environmental awareness and lead to positive behaviour change.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

3.5 As a key output of the new Environment Act, biodiversity net gain (BNG) will provide a legal requirement that any impact on biodiversity resulting from new development, where it cannot be avoided, will have to demonstrate a 10% biodiversity net gain – a legal commitment to improve biodiversity on development initiatives. BNG needs to be deliverable and measurable in Manchester, so that the City always benefits positively from any effects on biodiversity. This will require consideration of on-site and off-site improvements, or a combination of both, when considering development for new housing or employment opportunities.

Nature Recovery Networks (NRN)

3.6 The NRN is another priority of the Environment Act, and is a major commitment in the government's 25 Year Environment Plan and part of the forthcoming national Nature Strategy. The NRN will be a national network of wildlife-rich places. Government's aim is to expand, improve and connect these places across our towns, cities and countryside. The new Manchester Biodiversity Strategy will provide a City-focussed response to this, and link in with the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Network.

4.0 Biodiversity Strategy Development

- 4.1 The Biodiversity Strategy is the third iteration in a process that goes back to 2005. The key stages of development are set out below.
- 2005-2009 First Manchester Biodiversity Strategy Approved
 - 2012-2016 Refreshed Biodiversity Action Plan
 - 2018/19 My Wild City Project Established by the Wildlife Trust for Greater Manchester to produce a new independent Biodiversity strategy, supported by the Council and other partners.
 - 2020 Extensive public consultation was undertaken pre – covid in late 2019/20 with over 2000 people taking part in the Survey about the importance of nature in Manchester. A further survey was undertaken during the first lockdown in Spring 2020.
 - 2021 Manchester became the first major City in England to sign the Edinburgh Declaration, an International commitment that registers our concerns about global biodiversity loss.
 - 2022 New Manchester Biodiversity Strategy developed.
- 4.2 A crucial partnership which My Wild City has helped to establish and co-ordinate is the new Manchester Biodiversity Action Group. This partnership, including representation from the City Council, local universities, environmental NGOs and public sector partners contributed to the development of the new Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Manchester. This partnership is now regularly meeting to explore opportunities to work collaboratively to deliver against the new biodiversity action plan.
- 4.3 The new approach to engagement and collaboration has helped identify new opportunities and partnerships in the City, and has provided a significant mandate to shape the new Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The City Council are an active partner in the Strategy's development and implementation.
- 4.4 The Wildlife Trust are championing the City's biodiversity agenda, co-ordinating and leading new biodiversity policy formation with a broad range of stakeholders. The robust engagement and knowledge sharing approach has received National recognition and was Highly Commended in 2021 by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) as part of their 'Best Practice – Knowledge Sharing Award'.
- 4.5 A suite of new species and habitat action plans will be developed supporting the ambition set out in the new Environment Act to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain and establish Local Nature Recovery networks.
- 4.6 The Strategy will assist our understanding of how BNG can be achieved. It will look to provide guidance and action as to where priority interventions are needed to address environmental inequalities and deliver effective

Biodiversity enhancement in the City. BNG will be embedded within the context of a City which has clear economic ambition and opportunities, which in turn have the potential to positively enhance biodiversity in the City over the years to come.

5.0 Biodiversity Strategy Overview

Aims and Objectives

- 5.1 Manchester's priorities for biodiversity will reach beyond Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Sites of Biological Importance, and Local Nature Reserves and include common habitats and species as well as those that are rare. The Strategy will help address environmental inequalities, and deliver meaningful, practical biodiversity focussed benefits citywide. The Strategy aims to:-

Conserve, protect and enhance biodiversity in the City for current and future generations

- 5.2 Clearly defined objectives with supporting actions have been established which will allow everyone to find a way to contribute:

Objective 1 - Managing and understanding biodiversity

Key priorities:

- Greater Manchester Nature Recovery Network Strategy, contextualised for the urban character of Manchester, guides the focus of habitat management work.
- All priority wildlife sites to be in active management by 2030.
- Key species action plans will be developed which will guide management work across the recovery network as well as indicator species recording to measure change.

Objective 2 - Involving people

Key priorities:

- Creatively involving more people in the city to encourage action to help the nature recovery network in Manchester.
- Manchester Biodiversity Action Group (MBAG) acting and supporting communities.
- Increase knowledge and skills amongst land managers and practitioners in the city to protect, enhance and restore biodiversity.

Objective 3 – Planning, policy and partnerships

Key priorities:

- Biodiversity embedded and mainstreamed into refreshed City Council policies to help protect and enhance nature.

- Cross thematic links established with partners delivering against challenges including climate change, health and wellbeing and air quality to ensure new effective collaboration in the City.
- Realise funding opportunities for recovery of nature, particularly through the planning and development process.

6.0 The Council's Role

- 6.1 The council is committed to support the new biodiversity strategy. The recognition of biodiversity in all work undertaken by the Council is a key component of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. Section 40 of the NERC Act places a duty to conserve biodiversity on public authorities in England. It requires Local Authorities to have regard to the purposes of conserving biodiversity in a manner that is consistent with the exercise of their normal functions such as policy and decision-making. 'Conserving biodiversity' may include enhancing, restoring or protecting a population or a habitat. Having a plan or strategy for Biodiversity contributes to realising NERC act objectives.
- 6.2 A suite of exciting new species and habitat action plans will be developed supporting the ambition set out in Government's new Environment Act to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain and establish Local Nature Recovery Networks. The Strategy will also help shape Biodiversity related policies in the City's new Local Plan.
- 6.3 This will be supported by the Council declaring two official new Local Nature Reserves at executive over the coming months, at Broadhurst Clough in Moston and at Kenworthy Woods in Northenden.
- 6.4 This is a key strategy for the City, which will play an important role in developing our future plans and policies. We recognise that there are significant cross overs, linkages and opportunities, to embed and integrate biodiversity into wider City priorities and challenges, to inform our strategic thinking and decision making.
- 6.5 Key thematic links for biodiversity will include influencing post-Covid recovery, improving the health and wellbeing of our communities, supporting Climate resilience, improved place making, better sustainable transport connectivity, reducing flood risk and improving air quality.
- 6.6 The strategy will help to provide a platform for guidance on the conservation of biodiversity and the safeguarding of species. It will help identify the potential ecological impacts of development and highlight possible mitigation opportunities.
- 6.7 Along with other detailed key commissions around trees, woodlands and our river valleys, the Biodiversity Strategy will help establish priorities for investment and provide important evidence to shape biodiversity-related policy within the Local Plan which is currently in development. It will also act as a

catalyst for investment, creating new jobs and skills and providing numerous volunteer opportunities across the City.

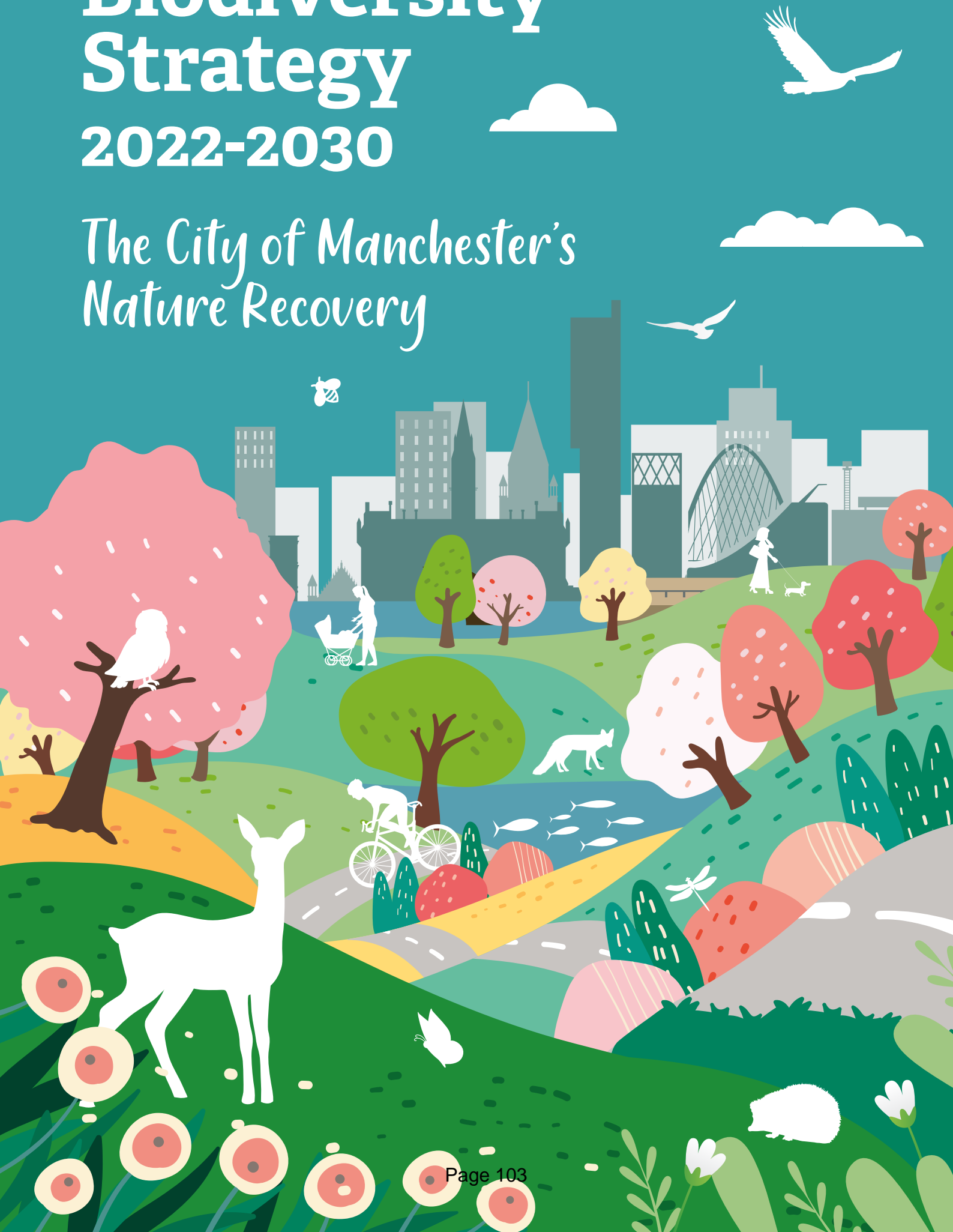
- 6.8 An example of this can be found in the Resilient River Valley Valleys Initiative, a £1.2 million, government funded 2 year programme delivered by three environmental charities – The Groundwork Trust, City of Trees and Mersey Rivers Trust, to positively enhance the City's natural environment while at the same time providing effective training and developing transferable skills.

7.0 Recommendations

- 7.1 The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the report and endorse its progress to Executive.
- 7.2 The Executive is recommended to approve and endorse the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy.

Biodiversity Strategy 2022-2030

The City of Manchester's Nature Recovery



Manchester was the first city in England to sign the Edinburgh Declaration – a global pledge registering our concern about biodiversity loss and signalling our commitment to tackling the twin challenges of the biodiversity and climate crises.



Contents

Section 1

The nature of Manchester	04
What does nature do for us?	08
The climate and ecological emergency	12
Our ambition	13
People and partnership powered nature recovery	16
The spaces in between	19

Section 2

Policies, strategies and drivers	22
----------------------------------	----

Section 3

Objectives and priorities	24
---------------------------	----

Section 4

Action Plan	26
-------------	----

The 'Biodiversity Strategy 2022 - 2030: The City of Manchester's Nature Recovery' was co-produced by The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside and Manchester City Council with the support of the Manchester Biodiversity Action Group. It was endorsed by Manchester City Council in Autumn 2022.



The Wildlife Trust for
Lancashire
Manchester &
North Merseyside



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL

Section 1: The Nature of Manchester



Manchester was the world's first industrial city.

From its towering mills, bustling warehouses and crowded streets came new ways to live, work and think, transforming lives in Manchester and across the world. But from the smoke of this new age rose an entirely new problem – **our natural world was suffering.**



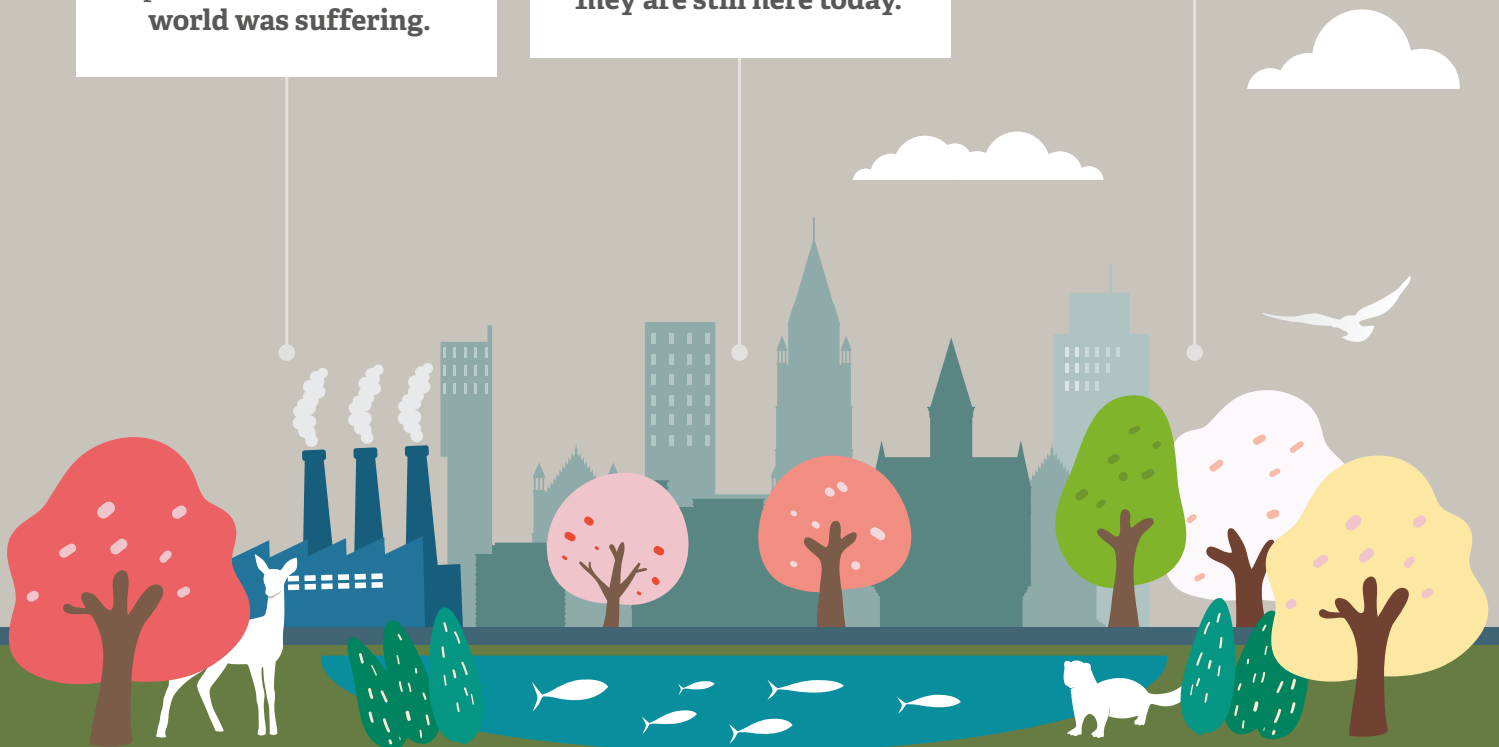
Nature, of course, has been here all along; watching, listening, waiting.

Our oldest trees in Wythenshawe Park felt the first wisps of smoke from the industrial revolution. Heard the hum of bombers in wartime. Heard the cheers of people at football matches. **They are still here today.**



As are new residents

Roe deer in our parks and woodlands; salmon and trout day-trippers, passing through our ever-improving river valleys. The fleeting glimpse of an otter? **Maybe one day, soon.**



As the epicentre for the Industrial Revolution, and as a city within one of the most nature-depleted countries anywhere in the world^{1,2}, Manchester has the fantastic opportunity and responsibility to lead us into the new 'green revolution'.

One which can demonstrate how an economically rich, industrialised city can continue to bring nature back and give people the opportunity to enjoy wildlife every day.

The UK has a long history of love for, and fascination with, its natural heritage.

Manchester's residents share a national joy and appreciation of nature - with over 2,000 people telling us that Manchester's wildlife was important to them in 2019³.

The COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the full lockdown in 2020, heightened awareness about the importance of wildlife and greenspace where we live and work. A poll conducted by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) in 2020 evidenced that people reported the value of connection with nature on wellbeing and happiness⁴.

Similarly, as part of a report conducted by The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside, over 99% of Mancunians surveyed stated that being able to connect with nature during restrictions was 'Very Important' or 'Important' to them⁵.

Mancunians want a healthy and thriving natural world. If Manchester is to be nature-rich, we need nature-friendly policies and action that benefits people and wildlife alike.



Sahar is a teaching assistant in a primary school in Manchester. Not only does she use nature in her teaching to inspire children, she also enjoys Manchester's parks and greenspaces in her personal time, unwinding and re-connecting to the world around her.

"The park is just the perfect place for you to unwind and really think about things and I realise I've always got something to be happy about.

I think that when children are in nature, they are the happiest, so I've got to encourage them to do that and I feel really proud when they are doing that.

I think it's great that people across different backgrounds access public spaces in Manchester. It would really make me happy if I saw more ethnic minorities going into the parks with their families, their loved ones and enjoying the spaces they have."

Nature is changing. Adapting.

That's what it does. If we give nature a chance, nature will take advantage. Recover. Restore.

Manchester has a long history of acting to protect nature. The city hosts some of the oldest public parks in the country; Philips Park and Queens Park, opened by the Victorians in the 1840s.

Manchester was also the home of Emily Williamson, a Victorian environmental activist and one of the founding mothers of the largest conservation charity in the UK, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, which now has over 1 million members.

Our city's river valley restoration projects in the 1970s and '80s transformed large swathes of habitat along the Rivers Irk, Medlock and Mersey, important arteries of blue and green spaces for nature.

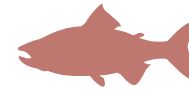
Nature is always there, working around us. We have seen huge peaks of people living in our city, (750,000 in 1930) dipping to below 450,000 in the 1980s. Now our city's population is rising again, with over 550,000 people living in a fast-moving, ever-changing environment.

Alongside our evolving communities, our landscape is changing - our treescape maturing, our rivers improving.

And nature can, and will adapt to change – if we give it a chance.



Barn owls are back in Manchester for the first time in 75 years.



Salmon and Brown trout are returning to once heavily polluted rivers.



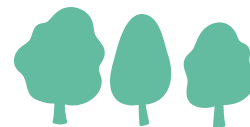
The fastest animal on the planet breeds in our city centre – the Peregrine falcon, which can reach over 200mph during its characteristic diving stoop.



“Green deserts” are becoming wildflower-rich habitats.



We don't shy away from the fact that we are urban; we celebrate it.



But urban doesn't mean we are devoid of nature. We have eight designated Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and 37 Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs); alongside a network of 160 parks.



Our city's river valleys and canals, once the powerhouses of Manchester's industry, are changing to become networks for wildlife to connect, move and thrive.

What does nature do for us?

We know that many people living and working in the city have limited connection with nature or perceive it to be something which is only found in the countryside.

Whether we are connected with nature or not, it is beneficial to us all. Some benefits are fundamentally obvious – the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat are all ultimately reliant upon a healthy natural environment.



Other benefits are less obvious but just as important - there is an increasing and compelling evidence base to show that exposure to the natural environment positively affects physical health and mental wellbeing⁶.

Access to green space across Manchester reflects the diverse character and history of our different neighbourhoods⁷. More attention is needed to ensure improved access to green space across the city.

Research by Friends of the Earth evidenced that individuals from Black and Asian backgrounds are more than twice as likely to live in a neighbourhood deprived of green space than those from White backgrounds. We need to work creatively to address this trend and ensure benefits from nature are equally available to all communities⁸.

To help nature recover in Manchester we will need more people to take greater action to protect it. This will also lead to the improved health and wellbeing of those involved. The growing focus on social prescribing provides an effective approach, linking individuals suffering from poor mental health to practical volunteering opportunities in the natural environment (eight out of 10 GPs are now issuing social prescriptions⁹).

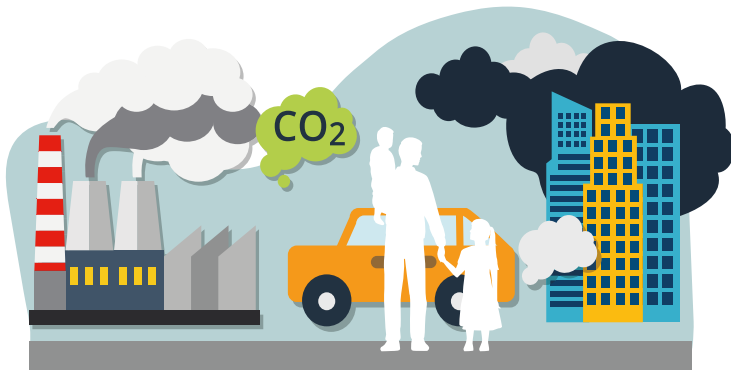


Alongside benefits for health and wellbeing, **nature is a critical component in creating thriving spaces where people want to live.** Sites that have a high value for nature bring people together from different communities and this can address barriers and reduce loneliness.

Greener neighbourhoods have also been shown to give rise to stronger neighbourhood ties¹⁰. Evidence shows that house prices are intrinsically linked to the aesthetic value and “greenness” of an area.

It is critical that these vibrant natural spaces are equitable and available to residents living throughout the city – reinforcing the need for a recovery plan which improves the quality of ‘the spaces in between’ as well as flagship sites.

Similarly, wildlife can be a catalyst for a sense of identity at a street, neighbourhood or even city level. The ‘Manchester Bee’ is the most compelling example of this, but consultation has evidenced that many residents living in Manchester want to act for nature as part of a bigger movement, even if that action is in their own garden³.



Toxic air affects everyone¹¹. Air pollution also has a significant adverse effect on biodiversity, so much so it has been evidenced to be one of the five leading causes of the biodiversity crisis¹².

Nitrogen build-up in soils leads to enrichment meaning that species such as nettles and brambles thrive over more sensitive wildflowers. Air pollution has also been evidenced to impact the strength and longevity of floral scents, reducing the ability of pollinators to forage successfully¹³.

Green infrastructure, particularly trees, can improve air quality by removing pollutants from the air. Research by City of Trees estimates that air pollution removal by green infrastructure across Greater Manchester is 847 tonnes per year – the combined annual emissions from 2,000 cars¹⁴.

Research emphasises that green infrastructure, notably trees, can and will aid the dispersal of air pollution; particularly when sited in the areas of greatest need, such as those with poor air quality or where vulnerable individuals live or work¹⁴.

More complex and structurally diverse greenspace throughout Manchester, particularly in our most built-up areas, will not just help nature recover in the city; it will also have other health and wellbeing benefits.



The impacts of flooding on residents, communities and commercial businesses are wide-ranging; from the obvious physical damage and associated costs, and significant disruption to lives and businesses, to the less well-recognised impacts on psychological health and emotional wellbeing of those affected or at risk¹⁵.

Flash-flooding, from both rivers and surface water, is expected to become more frequent in future years. Alongside flood-risk management strategies by public bodies, actions associated with the recovery of nature in Manchester can deliver added benefits to help address flooding.

Changing the management regime of some of our urban green spaces can reduce the impact of flooding while also delivering positive outcomes for nature's recovery.

Similarly, actions by residents in their gardens – particularly a reduction in the area of impermeable surfaces – will minimise flood-risk¹⁶ and support nature's recovery. Alongside flooding, climate change is also increasing drought risk which poses environmental risks to our water bodies and wetlands, as well as wider threats to our terrestrial habitats.

I am a bird,
I fly between concrete cliffs.
Between platinum petals,
In a sepia sky.

I am a bird,
I nest in trees,
That rise up from the stone,
And are blown in the breeze.

I am a bird,
My wings a sonnet to the air,
I accompany the melody of the city,
The harmony in this square.

I am a bird,
A stroke of colour to the moody sky,
Leaving a fresh canvas,
After I fly by.

I am a bird,
I see my reflection,
In glaring windows,
Of perplexion.

I am a bird,
I see flowers, I see grass,
Little pockets of wild spaces,
Growing among rocks and outlasts.

I am a bird,
I hop with springs in my feet,
Cos I live in this place,
Nature and the city meet.

Poem written by Finty Royle, as part of the Wild Spaces workshop at Manchester Literature Festival, 2021





The climate and ecological emergency

Despite the well-evidenced benefits of nature for people, we are facing 'a climate and ecological emergency'. Year-on-year, we're seeing growing evidence of the disruption it's causing.

98% of people told us that they were concerned about the loss of wildlife in Manchester².

Biodiversity and climate change are interconnected. Habitats and species are affected by climate change; some are being degraded or extinguished as a result. But nature also plays a vital role in climate change mitigation and adaptation through the ecosystem services it supports - as recently evidenced by the Greater Manchester IGNITION project - most notably by reducing air temperatures and improving air quality⁷.

Consequently, conserving and sustainably managing biodiversity is crucial to addressing climate change.

It's no longer good enough to just think about trying to slow down the loss of the natural world and protect what little is left¹⁸. We need to halt and reverse these declines and put nature into recovery – both for the sake of nature itself and also to address climate change in Manchester.

We recognise we have challenges that we need to overcome.

Manchester residents told us they were most concerned about the loss of wildlife and nature because...



“Future generations won't experience any wildlife”

“Neighbourhoods with wildlife are better for everyone to live in”

“Being near nature makes people feel happier”

Scientific research has provided compelling evidence that we need to rapidly change the scale and pace of our work. Of equal importance are the voices of those living and working in Manchester. They have told us, either as part of consultation exercises or through protests including Fridays for Future, that nature is important to them and they are concerned about its loss.



Our ambition

Our ambition is to improve places for nature in Manchester. We will:

- Increase the scale of practical action to protect and recover habitats throughout the city.
- Make smarter, evidence-based decisions on practical and policy actions to protect and recover nature in Manchester.
- Increase our understanding of the ecology and species diversity in our city.

As citizens, we will work together to:

- Increase the understanding, connection and love for nature throughout our communities.
- Encourage all individuals, businesses, schools, community groups and neighbourhoods to recognise their role in Manchester’s nature recovery and take action.

We will champion the role that nature plays in addressing many of the challenges which wildlife and our residents face; including climate change, poor health and wellbeing, pandemics and air quality.



© Philip Schofield



© Fay Metcalfe



© Constanze Craddock



© Sam Sykes



© Sam Sykes

How will we achieve this ambition?

No single individual or organisation can deliver the changes needed in Manchester to achieve our ambition for wildlife and nature. We need to mobilise. Collaborate. Work together.

Change will only come through action by all across our city from Blackley to Baguley, from Whalley Range to Clayton; not just the leafy suburbs. Residents – whether children or adults, retired individuals, workers or students – need to act alongside our schools, places of worship, businesses, community groups, environmental charities, housing associations and public agencies, notably Manchester City Council.

This will only happen if local communities are supported and empowered to become the agents of change. The recovery of nature mustn't be something that is done to people; it must be done by people. If long-lasting change is going to happen at the scale and pace required, it must be inclusive, welcoming and diverse, and nurture local communities.

We need a 'People and Partnership Powered Nature Recovery', embracing the Our Manchester approach of working together and recognising the strengths of individuals and communities.

Resources

In addition to people power, we will only deliver our ambition for nature's recovery with the appropriate policy context, the political will, strong partnerships and sufficient resources. Resources, particularly financial, are needed to create and deliver new programmes of work, including those identified in our Action Plan (see section 4); as well as to sustain the benefits which are derived from those projects.

Securing investment for biodiversity work has classically been through public funding streams and philanthropy. Whilst there have been successes in our city, stakeholders working independently and collaboratively have not been able to secure sufficient resources, which is one reason why progress on reversing nature's decline has been halting and insufficient.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on public finances are likely to squeeze the availability of public funding streams further. It is critical that different investment avenues are explored and secured if we are to meet our ambitions – scaling the level of private sector investment, maximising investment driven through new approaches such as Biodiversity Net Gain, and having the expertise and evidence to secure other investments associated with the public goods delivered through nature recovery work.

Is the challenge worth it?

We spoke with members of The Wildlife Trust's Youth Council and Wilder Youth group, the individuals who will inherit our city, to get their thoughts on why greater action for biodiversity is critical for the future of Manchester and UK.

“If we have another pandemic, a city which is rich in wildlife will benefit people greatly by giving them more green spaces to go to close to home.

Being in a green space is just healthy. It would impact me and other young people by creating safe spaces to go to improve our physical, emotional, and mental wellbeing. As well as creating more jobs in greener spaces.

Children need to know why we need to look after nature. They need to be given the opportunity to learn about and experience flowers, birds, and butterflies otherwise, all they might know are pavements.” *Katie*

What have we got to look forward to?

Our next generation of young people will spend their Saturdays canoeing through clouds of banded demoiselles on our cities rivers and canals, catching the silver flash of salmon swimming past Manchester Cathedral.

Both children and adults will benefit from wildflower-rich meadows, mixed canopy woodlands, wildlife-rich rivers, and ponds; places that allow for escape, connection with nature, cultural awareness and development as well as bringing together individuals from our different communities and backgrounds.

Manchester's natural environment will inspire a new generation of artists, innovators, and leaders; ensuring that Manchester is a place where people want to live, work and visit.

“A wildlife-rich city has the means to encourage and inspire the future generation of ecologists and scientists as well as give youth a compelling and tangible reason to protect our planet.” *Sofi*

“I think Mancunians would be happier and feel better about themselves if the city was greener. It would provide outdoor spaces for people to be in nature which in turn could massively aid people's recovery and mental and physical health.

Future generations would be more caring to wildlife and understand nature better, resulting in less stress caused by the climate crises and biodiversity loss.” *Lauren*

“We need more knowledge and respect for wildlife. Everyone should be doing the best they can even if at the moment it's not the most cost or time effective choice, in the long run, it will lead to more sustainability and a greener city” *Patti*

People and partnership powered nature recovery

A key driver in species decline in Manchester, and the UK as a whole, is the loss and fragmentation of habitats. If wildlife is to recover, it needs habitats which support its every need, larger habitats to enable populations to increase, and connections between habitats to allow species to move in response to changing conditions and to enable dispersal and spread¹⁹.

A Nature Recovery Network is a defined area where efforts for improving and expanding habitats can be prioritised.

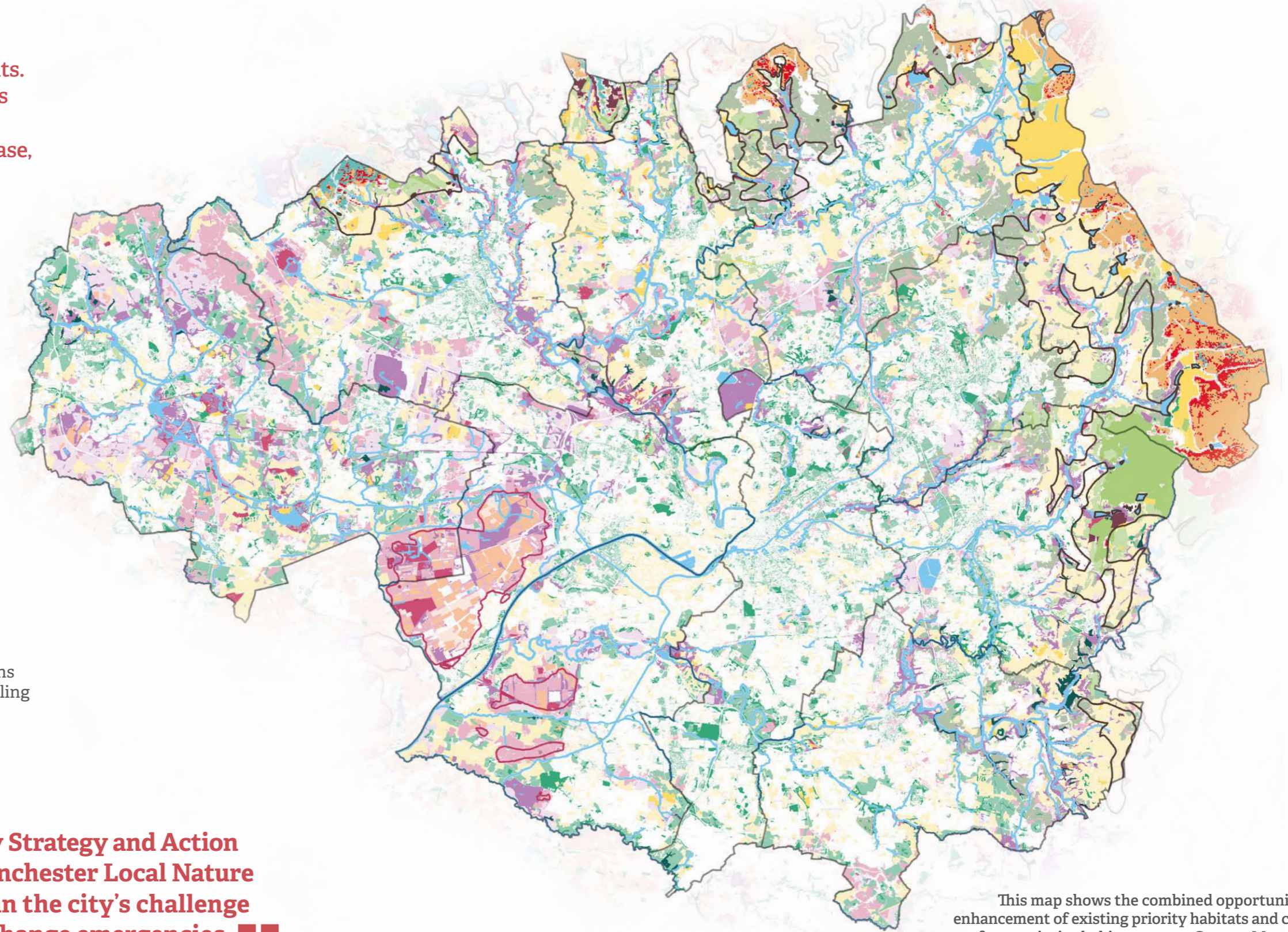
The Environment Act contains a series of new duties and tools to drive improvement for nature nationally. Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are a key foundation for Nature Recovery Networks and Greater Manchester published its Greater Manchester LNRS in 2021²⁰.

Manchester is crucial to the Nature Recovery Network in Greater Manchester. The city of Manchester has an administrative boundary district with seven of the Greater Manchester districts, more than any other.

Our central location in the wider city region means that our city needs to be porous for wildlife, enabling species to move, spread and thrive from north to south and from east to west.

“ This Manchester Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, linked up to the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy, is a key step in the city’s challenge to the biodiversity and climate change emergencies. ”

Dr Amanda Wright, Senior Advisor Biodiversity at Natural England.



This map shows the combined opportunities for enhancement of existing priority habitats and creation of new priority habitats across Greater Manchester. This map was produced by Greater Manchester Combined Authority in 2021 as part of the Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy Pilot²⁰.

Manchester is a thriving city, home to a growing population of over half a million people. The industrial heritage of our city means that no areas of unmodified natural habitats remain. The development of networks for nature will therefore be challenging but not impossible, because we share our city with hundreds of different species.

These species are found throughout our eight designated Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), 37 Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs), our river valleys and canals, as well as through our network of 160 parks. They are also found in our cemeteries, allotments, school grounds and domestic gardens.



The Spaces in Between

Although published as long ago as 2010, Professor Lawton's landmark 'Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network' report¹⁹ remains hugely relevant to the development of Nature Recovery Networks.

Lawton said that the essence of what needs to be done to enhance the resilience and coherence of England's ecological network can be summarised in four words: **more, bigger, better and joined.**

There are five key approaches which encompass these principles, and also take account of the land around the 'core' ecological network.

In order to build a Nature Recovery Network, we need to:

1. **Improve the quality of current sites by better habitat management.**
2. **Increase the size of current wildlife sites.**
3. **Enhance and restore connections between, or join up, sites, either through physical corridors or through stepping stones'.**
4. **Create new sites.**
5. **Reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment.**



Nature network map

This map acts as an example of how a Nature Recovery Network can work at a local scale. It was produced in 2021 as part of the Lancashire Wildlife Trust's North Manchester Nature Network project, funded by Cadent Foundation. The project aimed to deliver a neighbourhood nature network which would increase wild species numbers whilst connecting local people to wild plants and animals.

INCREASED WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

A strong connection to nature creates improved wellbeing and mental health. Feel better, live longer, perform better and be happier by increasing your connection to nature. Spending just an hour in nature can make you less stressed for the rest of the day.



ORANGE TIP BUTTERFLY

INCREASED PHYSICAL HEALTH

When environments are high in nature, more people are keen to use them. Increased nature also means better air quality, perfect for helping outdoors exercise in the city.

INCREASED EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Residents can learn how to utilise nature to benefit their health, learn new practical skills to safeguard local wildlife and new career skills that can increase employment possibilities.

KEY

- Nature Hotspots
- Nature Network Project Area
- Owned by Lancashire Wildlife Trust
- Car Park
- St John Bosco Primary School
- Moston Fields Primary School
- Camberwell Park School
- St Mary's Primary School
- Co-op Academy Broadhurst



TAWNY OWL

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY

Increased nature benefits all in the community and can connect isolated and lonely people to their neighbours. For old, young and for generations to come.

INCREASED SPORTING BUZZ

Connecting with nature doesn't have to be something we only do in nature reserves, it can be something that happens every time a goal is scored or your 100m sprint begins. The air can be alive with both human and nature sporting excitement with chirping crickets.



GOLDCREST



HELP WILDLIFE AVOID THE ROADS

One of the biggest dangers to wildlife in the cities are the roads. A small CD-sized hole in each fence allows hedgehogs, frogs and newts to search for food safely.



BATS

PROTECT YOUR HOME-GROWN VEG!

Using chemicals to control pests can also wipe out hundreds of innocent invertebrates. Having a simple 'bug hotel' of bricks, tiles and dead wood is the perfect home for pest predators such as ladybirds, lacewings, frogs and toads.



BIRD'S FOOT TREFOIL



GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

INCREASED NATURE MOVEMENT

Wild animals and plants can struggle to move past roads and houses. If each garden, playground and park provided something for nature, these spaces could become stepping stones for birds, butterflies and even flowers to access new parts of the city.

SEE MORE WILDLIFE AT HOME

During 2020 and 2021, nature at home became a huge part of daily life. When we can access high biodiversity, we get a sense of awe from nature. This emotion gives some of the biggest health benefits both mentally and physically. The more species the better!



FLY AGARIC



KESTREL

FIELD GRASSHOPPER

If we all did one thing to help nature, the dramatic effect would benefit our physical health, mental health and overall wellbeing for decades to come.

There is not land between all Sites of Biological Importance that could be defined as conventional corridors or stepping-stones for nature, the illustration of the North Manchester Nature Network (pages 20 - 21) highlights the presence and significance of suburban gardens, school grounds, roadside verges, allotments and church grounds. The Greater Manchester Local Nature Recovery Strategy identified the importance of these urban greenspaces as the space for delivering nature's recovery in the city region²⁰.

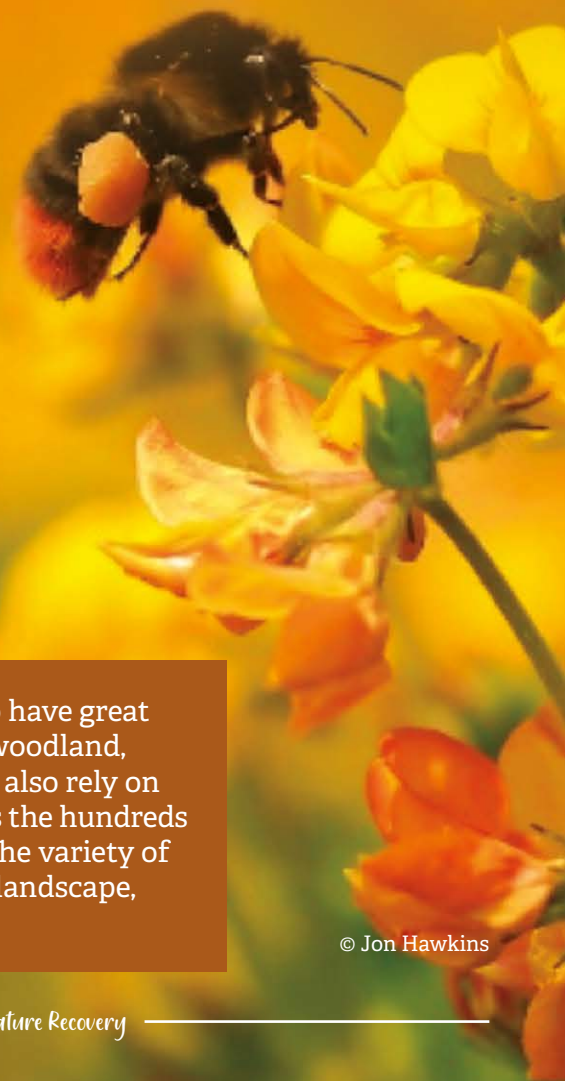
Domestic gardens are one of the most significant priorities for biodiversity in Manchester and contribute to a range of other key priorities associated with our Biodiversity Strategy.

Whilst individually, a domestic garden may appear insignificant, collectively, domestic gardens cover one fifth of Manchester's land area²¹. Research has highlighted that domestic gardens in cities can provide the space and diversity that wildlife species need to thrive²². Additionally, the mosaic of domestic gardens can assist the movement of species through the urban landscape, particularly when located in proximity to parks, nature reserves and other greenspaces.

However, the value of gardens for a Nature Recovery Network in Manchester is threatened by a reduction in the amount of green and blue spaces within domestic gardens. Research led by Manchester Metropolitan University in 2017 evidenced that only 50% of space within domestic gardens remained 'green'²³.

One of the critical priorities to support the broader recovery of nature in Manchester is greater empowerment and involvement of people living and working in the city. One of the key routes to taking practical action for wildlife is increased enjoyment, value and connection with nature. Research has evidenced that it is within gardens where many individuals develop a personal relationship with nature²⁴ and so they are critical spaces to increase the number of people who feel empowered and involved in efforts to help nature recovery in the city; whether that be in their garden or in their street, neighbourhood or local park.

*A variety of flowers
and vegetables
in gardens can
support around
8,000
insect species²².*



Similarly, spaces such as school grounds and cemeteries can and do have great value for wildlife in Manchester. Birds and mammals that use the woodland, grassland and other habitats in a site like Boggart Hole Clough will also rely on school grounds, allotments and cemeteries backing onto it; as well as the hundreds of local gardens where people put food out or provide nest boxes. The variety of flowers and vegetables found in gardens creates complexity in the landscape, which research shows can support around 8,000 insect species²².

© Jon Hawkins



“To be as inclusive as possible, a Nature Recovery Network in the city must include the ‘spaces in between’ in the wider environment which models in rural or suburban landscapes may otherwise exclude.”

Derek Richardson, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit.

In Manchester, some of Lawton’s underlying principles involved in creating a Nature Recovery Network may be challenging to achieve. The difficult (but not impossible) things to do would be to:

- Increase the size of current wildlife sites.
- Enhance and restore connections between, or join up, sites, either through physical corridors or through ‘stepping stones’.
- Explore opportunities to create new sites.

The remaining principles become more important as things which can be done more easily. The following measures should be prioritised:

- Improving the quality of current sites by better habitat management.
- Reducing the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment

In fact, Lawton said in his report that:
“The first priority is to enhance the quality of remaining wildlife habitats.”

It is these key principles which have shaped the objectives and priorities for Manchester’s Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

If we are to act effectively, we must come back to the critical importance of people power.

Over the next 10 years, if we are to achieve our ambition for wildlife and nature in Manchester, we need to follow the three key principles of:

- **Involving people in actions** – People Powered Nature Recovery
- **Improving the quality of current sites** by better habitat management
- **Reducing the pressures on wildlife** by improving the wider environment running through our streets, neighbourhoods and city. [gardens, school grounds, roadside verges, business premises, parks, etc.]



Section 2: Policies, strategies and drivers

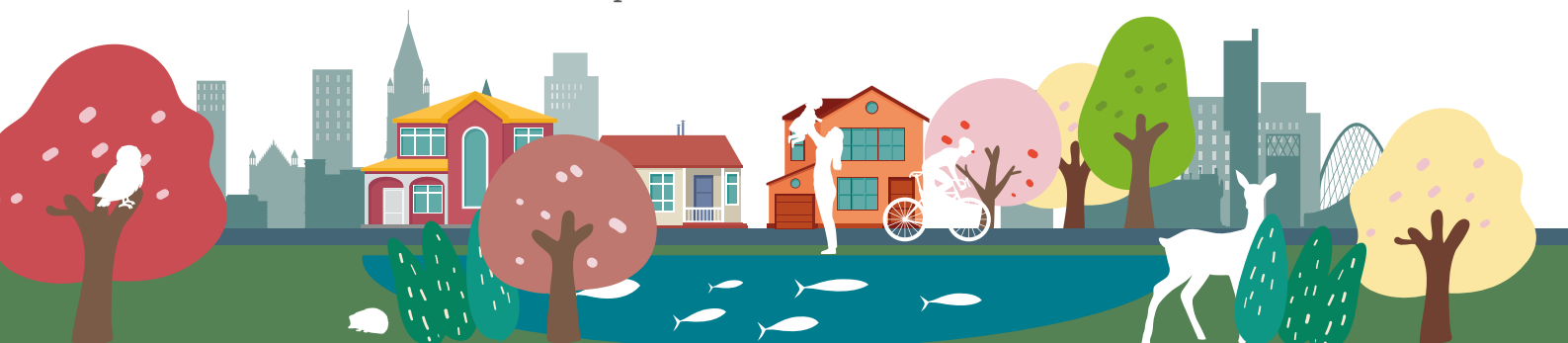
It is important to see the bigger picture strategically when planning for biodiversity. There is a strong nested policy hierarchy that provides support and guidance for enhancing biodiversity in the city, from global campaigns and national legislation and standards, to local planning policy.

Legislation is the Law. Local Plan policies are requirements that apply the legislation within a local context. Strategies provide the mandate for targeted action in order to deliver the policy.

Acting locally, thinking globally is more important now than ever.

This new strategy recognises that a wide range of international, national, regional and local legislation, policy and guidance has a bearing on biodiversity conservation, including (but not limited to):

- Post 2020 Global Framework
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended (WCA)
- The Natural and Communities Act 2006 (NERC) defines national priority habitats and species in England
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW)
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 as amended (Habitats Directive)
- The EU Water Framework Directive 2000
- Making Space for Nature: A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network 2010
- England's Wildlife and Ecosystems Services Strategy 2011
- National Pollinator Strategy 2014
- A Green Future' 25 Year Environmental Plan 2018 (DEFRA 2018)
- The National Planning Policy Framework 2019 (NPPF)
- The Environment Act 2021/22 in Biodiversity Net Gain and National Nature Recovery Networks
- Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services
- (DEFRA 2011) concentrates instead on landscape scale conservation, with an overall target of halting biodiversity loss by 2020
- State of Nature 2019
- Greater Manchester Strategy – Our People Our Place (2021)
- Places for Everyone, Joint Development Plan Document (Publication Stage) August 2021
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) 5 Year Environment Plan (2019–2024)
- All Our Trees - Greater Manchester Tree and Woodland Strategy (2020)
- Our Manchester Strategy (2015-2025)
- Manchester Local Plan (2012 -27)
- Manchester Climate Change Action Plan
- Manchester's Great Outdoors – A Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy for Manchester (2015-25)
- Manchester Tree Action Plan (2015-20)
- Manchester's Park Strategy 2017–2027



The Environment Act

The new Environment Act is genuinely a once-in-a-generation opportunity to protect our environment and set a course for nature recovery in the UK. It means that the UK government will be directly responsible for environmental law and policy for the first time in decades.

In the face of a climate and ecological emergency, it is hoped the new Act will provide a robust framework for improving our natural environment.

Two key elements of the Environment Act include:

National Nature Recovery Network

This will identify and reconnect wildlife-rich places across our towns, cities, and countryside.

Establishing the Nature Recovery Networks will:

- Enhance sites designated for nature conservation and other wildlife-rich places - newly created and restored wildlife-rich habitats, corridors and stepping stones will help wildlife populations to grow and move.
- Improve the landscape's resilience to climate change, providing natural solutions to reduce carbon and manage flood risk, and sustaining vital ecosystems such as improved soil, clean water and clean air.
- Reinforce the natural and cultural diversity of our landscapes, and protect our historic natural environment.
- Enable us to enjoy and connect with nature where we live, work and play - benefitting our health and wellbeing.

Biodiversity Net Gain

This will provide a legal requirement that any impact on biodiversity caused by development initiatives, where it cannot be avoided, will not only be compensated but will have to demonstrate a 10% biodiversity net gain.

An overview is provided in Appendix A.



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Section 3: Objectives and Priorities

We want clearly defined objectives with supporting actions – so everyone can find a way to contribute.

The Action Plan in Section 4 provides details on the current programme of actions which partners have identified as critical for the recovery of nature in Manchester. The three objectives under which actions are themed are identified below, along with a small number of key priority actions that provide examples of those included in the wider action plan.

Objective 1 - *Managing and understanding biodiversity*

KEY PRIORITIES

- A Nature Recovery Network Strategy, which is contextualised for the urban character of Manchester, must be developed for Greater Manchester. This should guide the focus of all future habitat management work.
- All priority wildlife sites must be in active management by 2030.
- Key indicator species must be identified and action plans for each key indicator species written. These action plans should sit alongside the Nature Recovery Network Strategy to guide any habitat management work across the Recovery Network. Key indicator species will also need to be recorded regularly to measure our impact.

Objective 2 - *Involving people*

KEY PRIORITIES

- We must find creative ways to connect and involve new audiences with nature and the natural environment in Manchester.
- The Manchester Biodiversity Action Group (MBAG) must support and empower local communities to take meaningful action for nature in the city.
- Land managers and practitioners in the city must be provided with the necessary knowledge and skills to protect and recover biodiversity.

Objective 3 – *Planning, policy and partnerships*

KEY PRIORITIES

- Biodiversity should be embedded into Manchester City Council's policies to help protect and enhance nature.
- Strong working relationships must be established with partners delivering against climate change, health and wellbeing, and air quality to ensure new and effective collaboration in the city.
- Long-term funding opportunities for the recovery of nature in Manchester must be identified, particularly through the planning and development process.

Implementation of our objectives and priorities

The development of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan has been largely influenced both by public consultations (Reconnecting Manchester with urban wildlife: next steps³ and Valuing Nearby Nature⁵) and discussions with stakeholders and partners – notably Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit.

Around a dozen external organisations have been consulted and have provided in-depth comments (Appendix B) which have influenced the key objectives to deliver nature's recovery in Manchester. These organisations form the core of the Manchester Biodiversity Action Group, which is overseeing the delivery of the Action Plan.

Through consultation with stakeholders in Manchester we have sought, as a partnership, to identify lead delivery agencies for strands of work within the Action Plan.

Despite identifying lead delivery agencies, timescales, and measures, we recognise that we will face complex challenges. There will be actions important to the recovery of nature in Manchester that are not present. Financial resources to support the delivery of actions are not secured so there is a risk that lead agencies may not be able to deliver actions within proposed timescales, or at all. Similarly, we know that priorities associated with biodiversity in the city may change – often rapidly.

To address these risks, we will need to adapt and change our Action Plan based upon scientific data, species observations, reflections from our residents, and learning. This can only be achieved through building new and long-term collaborations and networks, so we established a new Manchester Biodiversity Action Group which brings together key delivery agencies, major landowners and organisations that have a key reach into and representation within communities throughout our city.

We recognise that a new Manchester Biodiversity Action Group will not and cannot address the challenges associated with nature's recovery in Manchester on its own. Nature's recovery will only be achieved with active involvement and empowerment of residents, schools, places of worship, and businesses across all communities in the city which is why our **Involving people** objective is as important as our **Managing and understanding biodiversity** objective.

Achieving a '**People Powered Nature Recovery**' will be incredibly challenging. It will take decades. We will face significant obstacles. However, we need to be bold with our passion and commitment to reverse biodiversity loss while also recognising that inviting new individuals and communities into this challenge is both necessary and the right thing to do for the wellbeing of future generations, and the cultural diversity of our great city.



Section 4: Action Plan

The Action Plan is a catalyst for activity, an opportunity to develop and implement meaningful projects which bring to life the ambition set out.

The Manchester Biodiversity Action Group will be a key mechanism to deliver this work; whilst recognising that wider partnership work is needed beyond the scope of this group.

This Action Plan is not static. We aim to evaluate, report and refresh the Action Plan on a regular basis to reflect changes in the way that we need to respond to the biodiversity crisis at a city level; as well as take advantage of new knowledge, technology, legislation, and policy.



MANAGING BIODIVERSITY

ACTION	LEAD + PARTNERS	MEASURE	DEADLINE
FOCUS ON: UNDERSTANDING			
Comprehensive assessment of the city's biodiversity resource	Manchester City Council, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and All	Delivery of Greater Manchester Ecology Unit baseline and species action plans	2022-30
		Development of ongoing monitoring programme	2022-30
Increased knowledge and understanding through research including research of local innovative actions, and through Citizen Science	Manchester City Council, Universities	Number of supported research studies undertaken	2022-30
		Increased use of LNRN mapping to improve habitat management across all sites	2022-30

FOCUS ON: LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY NETWORK			
Establishing a well-managed, ecologically coherent LNRN, aligning the Greater Manchester LNRS and in the context of the Environment Act to improve habitat management across all sites	All	Ha of land improved	2022-30
		Km of waterway improved	
		Number of species records	
		% of SBIs in active conservation management	
Promote the LNRN and engage the public and stakeholders with LNRN, including through the use of key indicator species	Manchester City Council, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and All	Communications plan	2022
		Number of species records	Ongoing as updated
		Social reach, press articles, etc.	Annual review
Delivery of practical conservation activity throughout Manchester	All	Number of biodiversity projects	Annual review
		Number of sites improved	
		Ha of sites improved	
		Number of species recorded	
		Number of people involved	

ACTION	LEAD + PARTNERS	MEASURE	DEADLINE
FOCUS ON: PRIORITY WILDLIFE SITES			
Develop habitat management planning for designated sites: SBIs, SSSIs and LNRs	Manchester City Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Universities, City of Trees, Canal and River Trust	Number of habitat management work plans delivered	Annual review
Increase the number and area of SBIs in active management	Manchester City Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Universities, City of Trees	Number of SBIs in active management	Annual review
		Ha of SBIs in Active Conservation Management	Annual review
		Number of volunteer days across SBIs	Annual review
		All SBIs in parks in active management	2030
Increase the number and area of LNRs	Manchester City Council	Number of LNRs	Annual review
		Ha of LNR	



FOCUS ON: SPECIES			
Identification of key indicator species for Manchester's Local Nature Recovery Network	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	Selection of indicator species (minimum 50)	2022
		Baseline mapping of the indicators species for Manchester	2022 - 2024
Development of species action plans to guide habitat management work across Manchester's Local Nature Recovery Network	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Lancashire Wildlife Trust and partners	Minimum of 25 species action plans covering habitats and land use typology developed	2022 - 2024
	Manchester City Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust	Species action plans disseminated to site managers and operatives	As produced
Development of Local Pollinator and Insect Strategy	Manchester City Council, Landowners	Delivery of Pollinator and Insect Strategy	2022 - 2026
		Increase in pollinator records	
		Ha of land improved for pollinators	
Increase number of species records from priority wildlife sites year on year - targeted at key LNRN indicator species	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, all	Number of species records from priority sites on iNaturalist and to Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	Annual review
Increase species records associated with woodland habitats - targeted at 17 indicators including Tawny Owl, Nuthatch, Wood Anemone, Fly agaric and Purple hairstreak	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, City of Trees, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, All	Number of records	Annual review
Increase species records associated with grassland habitats - targeted at 16 indicators including Birds-foot-trefoil, Small heath, Reed bunting, Red-tailed bumblebee and Grasshopper warbler	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, All	Number of records	Annual review
Increase species records associated with rivers, canals and pond habitats - targeted at 29 indicators including Marsh marigold, Dipper, Daubenton's bat, Riverflies and Toad	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, All	Number of records	Annual review
Increase species records associated with parks, gardens, school grounds and allotments - targeted at 13 indicators including House sparrow, Hedgehog, Dandelion, Manchester poplar and Holly blue	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, All	Number of records	Annual review
Development of Invasive Non-Native Species Action Plan for Manchester to prioritise effects to control and eradicate	Environment Agency, Irwell Catchment Partnership, Mersey and Upper Mersey Catchment Partnerships, Mersey Rivers Trust, Canal and Rivers Trust, Manchester City Council	Delivery of Invasive Non-Native Species Action	2022 - 2024

ACTION	LEAD + PARTNERS	MEASURE	DEADLINE
FOCUS ON: PRIORITY WILDLIFE SITES			
WOODLANDS AND TREES including hedgerows and scrub			
Improve woodland management for biodiversity, with an emphasis on planning to transform plantations into SBI grade woodlands	Manchester City Council, City of Trees	Delivery of Managing Manchester Trees study	Annual review
		Ha of woodland in active management	Annual review
		Increase in % canopy cover	Annual review
Plant new trees and woodlands, including wet woodlands, for biodiversity in line with a Development Plan	Manchester City Council, City of Trees, Northern Forest	Number of trees planted	Annual review
		Ha of woodland created and or extended	Annual review
		M of hedgerow planted	Annual review

LOWLAND GRASSLANDS including roadside verges, incidental spaces, parks and golf courses			
Manage existing species-rich grassland prioritising SBIs, LNRs and river valley grasslands	Manchester City Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust	Grassland Plan developed	2023 - 2025
		Ha of species-rich grassland managed for biodiversity	Annual review
Develop new areas of species-rich grassland in line with a Development Plan	Manchester City Council, Lancashire Wildlife Trust	Grassland Plan developed	2023 - 2025
		Ha of species-rich grassland improved	Annual review

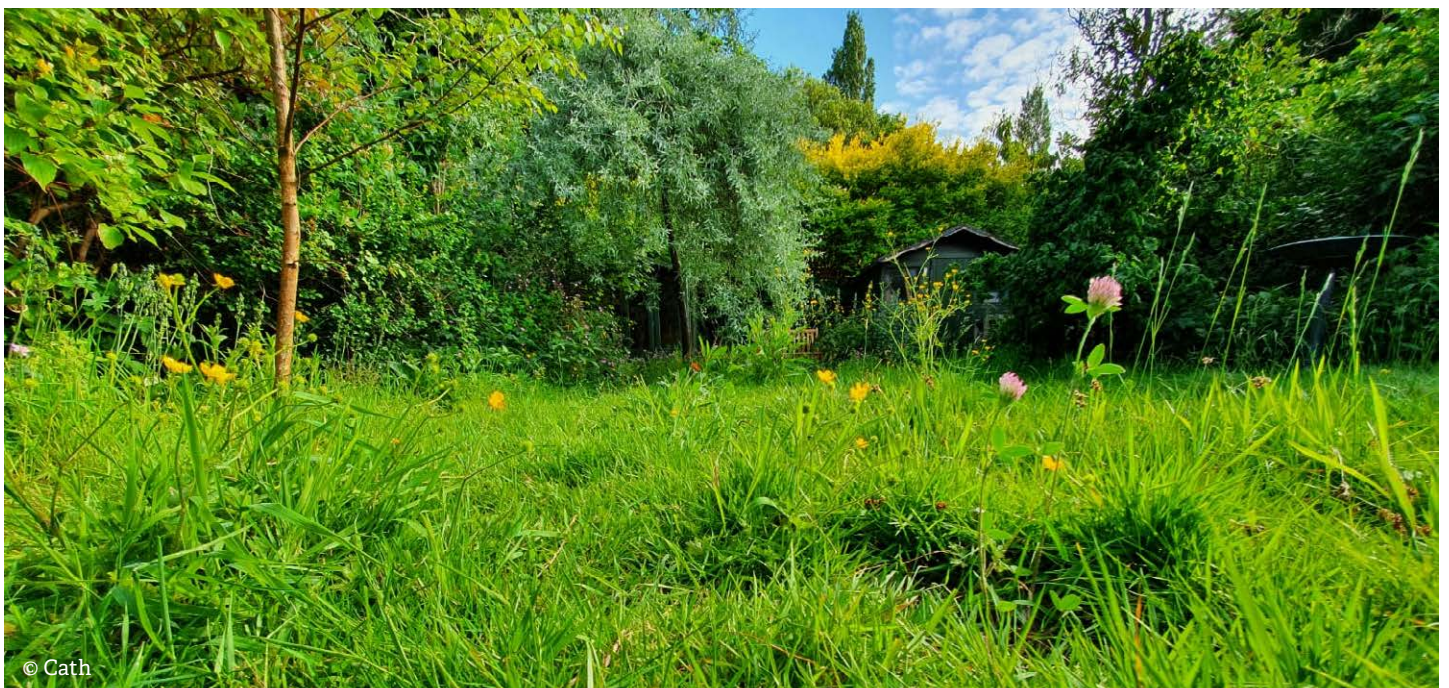
RIVERS, CANALS, WETLANDS AND PONDS			
Improve management of existing rivers, canals, wetlands and ponds for biodiversity - including assessment and support of river restoration and corridor enhancement within Manchester and in the upper / lower reaches of catchment outside of the district.	The Landowner, Environment Agency, United Utilities, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Catchment Partnerships, Mersey Rivers Trust	Delivery of Our Rivers Our City Strategy, and Water Framework Directive	2022 - 2030
	Canal and River Trust	Canal Development Plan	TBC
	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council	Manchester Wetland Plan	2025
Create new opportunities for ponds and wetlands linking in to flooding agenda where practical, and in line with a Development Plan	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Manchester City Council	Number of ponds and wetlands created	Annual review
		M ² of wetland created	
Assess and implement adoption of multifunctional Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDs) and remediate poor landfills and contaminated sites to improve ecological quality of water bodies and wetlands.	Environment Agency, Catchment Partnerships	Number of Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes created	Annual review
		Number of contaminated sites with remediated works	Annual review

FOCUS ON: NEIGHBOURHOODS (PARKS, GARDENS, SCHOOL GROUNDS, CEMETERIES AND ALLOTMENTS)

Improve wildlife value of parks, school grounds, cemeteries, allotments, and other neighbourhood spaces	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council and All	Review Park Plan format to include biodiversity in all park plans	Ongoing transitional target
		Ha of land improved	Annual review
		Number of species recorded	Annual review
		Review management of allotments to include biodiversity	2024 - 2025
		Review cemetery management regimes	2024 - 2025
		Number of case studies	Annual review
Improve wildlife value of domestic gardens	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council, housing associations, Royal Horticultural Society	Campaigns and promotion delivered	Annual review

FOCUS ON: CITY AND DISTRICT CENTRES

Encourage wildlife-friendly development and regeneration schemes integrating nature-based solutions	Manchester City Council, Universities, Registered social landlords, Hospitals and public health teams	Ha of land improved	Annual review
		Number of key projects integrating nature-based solutions	
		Number of street trees planted	
Develop case studies to promote biodiversity interventions in commercial premises, new developments and transport corridors, e.g. rail, road, Metrolink and cycleways.	Greater Manchester Passenger Travel Execution, Manchester City Council, Network Rail, National Highways, Lancashire Wildlife Trust	Number of case studies	Annual review



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INVOLVING PEOPLE

ACTION	LEAD + PARTNERS	MEASURE	DEADLINE
FOCUS ON: ENGAGING PEOPLE - TO ENABLE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION			
Deliver public events (face-to-face, self-guided and online as appropriate) aimed at engaging diverse audiences with the natural environment and wildlife	Manchester Nature Consortium partners	Number of events	Annual review
Aim to organise an annual Manchester Festival of Nature	Manchester Nature Consortium	Number of partners involved	Annual review
		Number of people attending	
		Social reach / press coverage	
Deliver biodiversity themed exhibitions	Manchester Museum, others	Number of exhibitions	Annual review

FOCUS ON: ENGAGING PEOPLE - TO ENABLE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION			
Support groups and individuals to take biodiversity action in their neighbourhoods, schools, workplaces, streets, places of worship etc linking through to the LNRN	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council	My Wild Garden sign-ups	Annual review
	All	Develop and support Manchester-wide network of wildlife champions	Ongoing
		Number of groups supported	Annual review
		Number of events / activities run	
		Number of people engaged	
Encourage and promote wildlife-friendly gardening	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Royal Horticultural Society	Number of My Wild Garden sign-ups	Annual review
		Number of people/engaged	
		Number of groups supported	
		Feedback from participants	
Delivery of practical conservation activity throughout Manchester	All	Number of sessions	Annual review
		Number of volunteers	

FOCUS ON: PROMOTION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Promote and support LNRN focussing on habitats, species, gardens, parks etc as appropriate	Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Manchester City Council, other partners	Communications plan	Annual review
		Number of species records	
Training and advice for land managers to increase knowledge, skills and support for management regimes to improve biodiversity	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, Eden Project, City of Trees, Canal and River Trust, The Conservation Volunteers	Number of training workshops	Annual review
		Number of site managers / operatives attending	
Disseminate learning and celebrate achievement through publications, conferences, workshops etc	All	Number of publications / case studies produced	Annual review
		Number of workshops hosted / networks supported	
		Number of conference / workshop participants attending	
		Number of articles published	
		Number of Awards won	



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PLANNING, POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS

ACTION	LEAD + PARTNERS	MEASURE	DEADLINE
Embed and mainstream biodiversity into refreshed Manchester City Council policies and strategies referring to the Greater Manchester LNRS and Environment Act	Manchester City Council	New Manchester City Council policies should reflect / reference / integrate the Biodiversity Strategy and LNRN objectives	Annual review
Protection and enhancement of biodiversity and nature-based solutions through the planning and development process	Manchester City Council	Integrate Biodiversity into Green Infrastructure Action Plan / Tree and Woodland Strategy / Climate Change Action Plan	Annual review
		Develop appropriate nature-based solutions, guidance and evidence base	
		Integration of Biodiversity Net Gain	
To establish key cross thematic linkages e.g. with climate change, health and wellbeing, sustainable transport, air quality	All	Number of organisations involved in delivering biodiversity action	Annual review
To support the delivery of collaborative practical projects	All	Number of key partnership projects involved in delivering biodiversity action	Annual review
		Establishment of Manchester Biodiversity Action Group	2022
To realise funding opportunities for biodiversity benefit	All	£ investment in biodiversity related projects	Annual review
		Number of jobs created	
		Number of key biodiversity project bids developed	
		Number of businesses supported	
Identification of potential sites for Biodiversity Net Gain offsetting in Manchester – using the Greater Manchester LNRS and NRN work by Greater Manchester Ecology Unit in Manchester to target priorities	Manchester City Council, All	Number of sites identified Ha of land identified	2023
Identify mechanism and organisation(s) to undertake Biodiversity Net Gain assessments on identified sites and develop management plans and costings for identified sites	Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, Manchester City Council, Greater Manchester Combined Authority	Lead organisation identified / selected	2023
		Number of net gain assessments completed on identified offset sites / Ha	Annual review
		Management plans developed for Biodiversity Net Gain work	Annual review
Monitoring system for delivery of net gain agreements on offset sites in Manchester defined	DEFRA, Greater Manchester Ecology Unit	Monitoring framework established for Biodiversity Net Gain sites	2023
		Lead organisation(s) identified / selected	



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Appendix A

Biodiversity Policy and Legislative Context

International

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

In 2010 at the Convention of Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan over 190 countries including the UK agreed an ambitious plan to protect global biodiversity, and to ensure that by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and widely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

In 2021/2, a new **Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)** will be produced which reinforces the importance of Governments to act and address Biodiversity loss. Manchester is one of many cities across the World that has signed the Edinburgh Declaration, a commitment by sub national, regional and local government's to register their concern about biodiversity loss and support the production of the new GBF.

Cities with Nature Network

Manchester is a signatory of this, a shared global platform for cities and their partners to engage and connect, working with shared commitment towards a more sustainable urban world. It has been developed to share best practice approaches with founding partners Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and IUCN, along with supporting bodies such as the CBD and other international partners.

Water Framework Directive

The European Water Framework Directive (WFD) came into force in December 2000 and became part of UK law in December 2003. It provides an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment, focussing on ecology.

Successful implementation of the WFD will help protect all elements of the water cycle. It provides an opportunity to plan and deliver a better water environment through river basin management planning, and help protect and enhance the quality of surface freshwater (including lakes, streams and rivers), groundwaters, groundwater dependant ecosystems, estuaries and coastal waters.

National

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2019)

The revised National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

Specifically in relation to Biodiversity:

Ch.15 (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment), including Biodiversity net gain requirement (paragraph 175a) Town and Country Planning Act (2017) Environmental Impact Assessment including (para 4 (b) Process; Schedule 3.1 (d) Screening development; Schedule 3.2 (1) (b) Location of development; Schedule 4.1 (c) Information in Environmental Statements National Planning Practice Guidance Natural Environment (para 10 – 35) responsibilities include protected and priority species and habitats; 'proportionate' information and assessment required on biodiversity impacts at all stages of development; local ecology networks and nature recovery networks; application of mitigation hierarchy, net gain metrics, and promotion of woodlands

Conservation of Habitats and Species

Regulations 2012 (HM Government, 2017) The Directive lays down rules for the protection, management and exploitation of such habitats and species. The Habitats Regulations 2017 transpose the Habitats Directive and elements of the Birds Directive in England, Wales and, to a limited extent, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is the primary legislation which protects animals, plants and habitats in the UK.

Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)

The Act states that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.

National Pollinator Strategy (2014)

The Government is committed to taking action to improve the state of our bees and other pollinating insects and to build up our understanding of current populations and of the causes of decline. The actions outlined in this Strategy build on existing policies and initiatives in Government and in many other organisations. We want to draw on the skills, experience and enthusiasm that already exist among organisations and individuals across the country to put in place a united effort to make positive changes for our pollinators.

The overarching vision is to see pollinators thrive, so they can carry out their essential service to people of pollinating flowers and crops, while providing other benefits for our native plants, the wider environment, food production and all of us.

The Environment Bill

(Draft) Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill (2019/2020) (England and Wales) will create a new governance framework for the environment, and act as an enabler for priorities set out in Defra's 25 year Environment Plan.

25 Year Environment Plan

The plan is the mechanism to deliver the ambitions set out in the Environment bill.

Objective headings will include prioritising action supporting:

1. Clean air
2. Clean and plentiful water
3. Thriving plants and wildlife
4. Reducing the risks of harm from environmental hazards
5. Using resources from nature more sustainably and efficiently
6. Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment
7. Mitigating and adapting to climate change
8. Minimising waste
9. Managing exposure to chemicals
10. Enhancing biosecurity

Biodiversity Net Gain

A key output of the Environment Bill, Biodiversity Net Gain will provide a legal requirement that any impact on biodiversity, where it cannot be avoided, will not only be compensated, but will have to demonstrate a 10% biodiversity net gain – a legal commitment to improve biodiversity on development.

Net Gain will be measured using an agreed metric. This way of measuring the biodiversity baseline is fundamental to the whole process. It will involve grading habitats present on a particular development or project and providing it with a unit figure, measuring the area of habitat present, allowing an indication of the habitat which will be improved.

Conservation covenants between landowners and responsible bodies (possibly effective environmental managers) will be established, to provide sustainable and effective management of the intervention for a minimum of thirty years.

England's Nature Recovery Network

The NRN will be a national network of wildlife-rich places. Defra's aim is to expand, improve and connect these places across our towns, cities and countryside.

The NRN is a major commitment in the government's 25 Year Environment Plan.

Biodiversity 2020 A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services

This is the national strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services; it was published in summer 2011. It sets out the government's ambition to halt overall loss of England's biodiversity by 2020, support healthy well functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.

A follow up document **Conservation 21: Natural England's conservation strategy for the 21st century** was published on 14th October 2016. This strategy sets out Natural England's thinking about what needs to be done differently in order to improve our natural environment. It post-dates Biodiversity 2020.

State of Nature 2019

The 2019 State of Nature report is an independently produced health check on how the UK's wildlife is faring, and a response to Biodiversity 2020. It looks back over nearly 50 years of monitoring to see how nature has changed in the UK, its Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories.

This report has been produced by a partnership of more than 70 organisations involved in the recording, researching and conservation of nature in the UK and its Overseas Territories.

Over the long term, some 13 per cent of species are at risk of extinction from the UK. Pressures upon wildlife come from many sources, including agricultural management, urbanisation, pollution, hydrological change, woodland management and invasive non-native species. Climate change is driving widespread changes in the abundance, distribution and ecology of England's wildlife, and will continue to do so for decades or even centuries to come.

Regional

GM Strategy – Our Peoples Our Place

The overarching vision is to make Greater Manchester one of the best places in the world to grow up, get on and grow old.

The plan explains ambitions for the future of the city region and the 2.8 million people who live in the towns, cities, communities and neighbourhoods that make up Greater Manchester. It covers health, wellbeing, work and jobs, housing, transport, skills, training and economic growth.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) 5 Year Environment Plan (2019–2024)

The plan sets out our long-term environmental vision – to be carbon neutral by 2038 – and the urgent actions we all need to take in the next 4 years to help achieve this.

All Our Trees - GM Tree and Woodland Strategy (2020)

All Our Trees is Greater Manchester's tree and woodland strategy and shows the incredible value of the city region's 11.3 million trees – demonstrating why we should protect them, and outlines where to plant more trees.

Produced by charity City of Trees and endorsed by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA), the strategy sets out clear objectives on how we can maximise the benefits of our trees and woods in relation to tackling carbon, air pollution and flooding.

Places for Everyone

Publication draft with expected adoption in 2023. Once adopted it will form the Local Plan for all nine districts involved and provide the policy framework for biodiversity in advance of Biodiversity Net Gain becoming mandatory via the Environment Act in November 2023. When the Manchester Local Plan (Core Strategy) is reviewed it will need to be compatible with Places for Everyone.

Local

Our Manchester Strategy (2015-2025)

The Our Manchester Strategy sets a long-term vision for Manchester's future to be a world class City by 2025 and describes how we will achieve it. It provides a framework for actions by our partners working across Manchester – public sector organisations, businesses, the voluntary sector and our communities.

Manchester Local Plan (2012 -27)

The Manchester Local Plan guides development within Manchester. It was previously known as the Local Development Framework.

It establishes a Vision for Manchester in 2027 and outlines Strategic Objectives. It also includes a range of policies under each objective that the Council feels will ultimately deliver the Vision.

Manchester's Core Strategy was adopted on the 11 July 2012 and is the key document in the Manchester Local Plan.

The local plan will be reviewed in 2022, with all Biodiversity related policies appraised.

Manchester Climate Change Action Plan

In July 2019 Manchester declared a climate emergency. As one of the first councils in the UK to do so, this action was built upon a decade of work that had seen the City's direct carbon emissions reduced by more than half between 2009/10 and 2019/20. The Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 translates that declaration into clear and measurable actions. The challenging target is to reduce direct carbon emissions by a further 50% by 2025.

Manchester's Great Outdoors – A Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy for Manchester (2015-25)

Attractive and multi-functional green and blue infrastructure has a vital role to play in creating a high quality, healthy and biodiverse environment with accessible opportunities for recreation and exercise.

The GI strategy has been recognised as a UK best practice exemplar by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), winning the National Award for Knowledge Sharing in 2018.

Tree Action Plan (2015-20)

The tree action plan forms part of the green and blue infrastructure strategy. The vision is to secure a long-term future for our trees and woodlands for generations to come, providing the right management and strong protection, ensuring their positive contribution to a growing, world class city, recognised for its dynamic and sustainable economy and high quality of life.

MANCHESTER'S PARK STRATEGY 2017–2027

This Park Strategy has been prepared to guide the investment and upkeep of Manchester's parks over the next ten years. It sets out the vision, key themes and actions that are needed to ensure parks and green spaces can continue to serve the needs of communities across the city, providing popular and attractive open spaces for play, sport and informal recreation.

Appendix B

Organisations involved in the Manchester Biodiversity Action Group.

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit

Natural England

Manchester City Council

University of Manchester

Manchester Metropolitan University

The Conservation Volunteers

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

**The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire,
Manchester and North Merseyside**

City of Trees

Canal and Rivers Trust

Environment Agency

Manchester Museum





Lancashire,
Manchester &
N Merseyside

RECONNECTING MANCHESTER WITH URBAN WILDLIFE: NEXT STEPS

Page 145

Image by Jon Hawkins

Appendix 2



www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity



my wild city

RECONNECTING PEOPLE WITH URBAN WILDLIFE

My Wild City is a four-year collaboration between The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside and Manchester City Council which was launched at the beginning of 2019.

Funded by the Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation, My Wild City aims to reconnect people with the urban wildlife living right on their doorstep. We will inspire and motivate Manchester's residents to help transform Manchester into a wildlife-rich city which can be enjoyed by people and wildlife for generations to come.

My Wild City has provided the catalyst for a renewed focus on biodiversity within Manchester City Council, with the project aiming to produce a new Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan to sit alongside 'Manchester's great outdoors - a green and blue infrastructure and action plan for Manchester 2015 - 2025'.

This document has been written by the Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside, with special thanks to our partner, Manchester City Council and our funder, Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation.

We would also like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to everyone who has helped us to distribute this survey, including Manchester Museum, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Manchester, City of Trees, The Conservation Volunteers, RSPB, Whitworth Art Gallery and Action for Conservation.



a bigger, better, MORE JOINED UP APPROACH TO NATURE



“More than 2,000 people responded to the recent My Wild City survey and many of you told us your favourite space for wildlife in Manchester was your own garden, which shows just how precious and beneficial for both people and wildlife these vital green spaces can be.”

A greener city which supports a more diverse abundance of wildlife is one of the important benefits we will gain by working towards our ambition to make Manchester a zero-carbon city by 2038 at the latest.”

Manchester City Council’s Executive Member for the Environment, Councillor Angeliki Stogia



More than
2000
people responded to the recent My Wild City survey

Image by Bertie Gregory/2020VISION

“At the Wildlife Trusts we know wildlife is not just something that is pleasant to be around, it is absolutely fundamental to every aspect of our lives, from our health and wellbeing to ecosystem services - like food, drink and the air we breathe.

Nature can provide us with therapies, relieving pressure on our National Health Service, provide carbon storage solutions and boost our economy. It is essential to our future and we must work together in our communities, our businesses and our leadership to help put nature into recovery.

Receiving such a positive response to this consultation highlights that even in our most urbanised spaces, people still look to the natural world for inspiration and relaxation and demonstrates a huge mandate for more projects like My Wild City.

Certainly for us at The Wildlife Trust, it is a huge encouragement to keep fighting to bring nature to the forefront of everything we do and to keep it on every agenda. To hold onto those vital green spaces and to not only improve, but create a bigger, better, more joined up approach to nature conservation. Creating a Wilder Future and Nature Recovery Network which can be enjoyed by all.”

The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside Chief Executive, Anne Selby



the consultation

The first year of funding was allocated to building partnerships, piloting activity with communities and strategically setting out the ambitions, target areas and key aspects of work for My Wild City over the subsequent three years of the project. The details of which are outlined further in this report and a full summary of these can be found at the back.



Films available to watch at www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity



how we did it



Page 148

The consultation was developed alongside Manchester City Council's Research and Intelligence team to provide My Wild City with a combination of definitive answers and statistics, whilst also providing space for participants to express their own views and opinions.

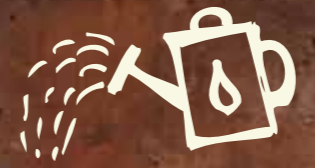
After an initial pilot at the 2019 Manchester Green Summit, the consultation was launched in April using online survey development software, SurveyMonkey, with hard copies being distributed at public events and venues across Manchester to reach offline audiences. Following the Our Manchester approach, the consultation set out to enable people from diverse communities, areas and age groups to participate.

As well as sharing the consultation online using The Wildlife Trust and City Council's platforms, we also reached out to a large number of other organisations, including City of Trees, Whitworth Art Gallery and RSPB to share amongst their wider networks. The consultation was also promoted and distributed through a series of professional short films, articles in the Manchester Evening News, features in The Wildlife Trust's membership magazine, and emails (both to internal and external contacts).

THE CONSULTATION WAS ACTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF SIX-MONTHS BETWEEN APRIL AND OCTOBER 2019, WITH A TOTAL OF 2,195 INDIVIDUALS TAKING PART

97% of respondents said that Manchester's wildlife was important to them

81% of respondents consider Manchester's wildlife extremely important to them



How important is Manchester's wildlife to you?

This hugely positive response gives a resounding mandate from the public for urban wildlife projects like My Wild City. It is also of importance to politicians and other decision makers.

The question asked specifically about Manchester's wildlife, so the results show that people are thinking about their local city wildlife, as well as the more traditional wildlife-rich but not so local National Parks or National Nature Reserves.

"Most people's experiences with nature are close to home, with people making more use of nature on their doorstep. The number of visits to urban greenspaces almost doubled in the last 10 years."

People's engagement with nature, Natural England.



my wildlife



SAHAR

Teaching Assistant in a primary school in Manchester

Sahar is a teaching assistant in a primary school in Manchester. Not only does she use nature in her teaching to inspire children, she also enjoys Manchester's parks and greenspaces in her personal time to unwind and re-connect to the world around her.

"The park is just the perfect place for you to unwind and really think about things and I realise I've always got something to be happy about."

"I love having time to myself as well so I will bring a book and a packed lunch and just find a secret spot where I can sit for a few hours, read a book and just enjoy that time with myself."



"Forest School, taking children out to local spaces, natural spaces, bonding with nature, playing with nature, appreciating nature, the animals, the leaves, the trees, everything around them. I think that when children are in nature they are the happiest, so I've got to encourage them to do that and I feel really proud when they are doing that."

"I think it's great that people across different backgrounds access public spaces in Manchester. It would really make me happy if I saw more ethnic minorities going into the parks with their families, their loved ones and enjoying the spaces they have."



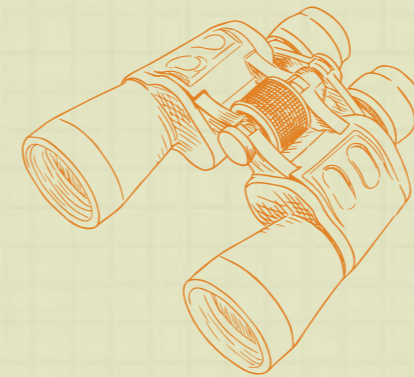
JOEL

Student living in manchester

Joel is a student and keen bird-watcher based in Manchester. For him, wildlife is not only a way to de-stress between exams but also a career ambition as he aspires to work in wildlife film-making.

"I feel relaxed when I'm out, I feel kind of excited, there's always that feeling that you might see something a bit unusual. I don't think I could be fully fulfilled without bird and wildlife photography."

"I'm coming up to my exams and its quite intense how much I'm having to study. I know that if I don't get good grades I probably won't be able to do bird-watching for a job but any little spot I can, I'll use that to get out and do some bird-watching."



"There's a lot of wildlife currently living in the city-centre, especially in the little green pockets. Most importantly are the birds which migrate through which actually use these little green pockets as stop offs. Waxwings will come and use the city centre over the countryside and they're quite nice to see. I've seen them in Hulme a couple of times, they like to feed on the berries there and the apples."

"I think attitudes are definitely changing towards bird watching, it seems like since these amazing documentaries have come out, it's become more trendy and taken over mainstream. I just say get out and about, go to your local green spot, maybe get a bird book or even just use the internet, see what you see with your naked eye or if you can find a cheap pair of binoculars use them. You'll be surprised what you can see in whatever area is green near you."



Are you **concerned** about the loss of wildlife in Manchester?

An overwhelming majority, 98%, of respondents said that they were concerned about the loss of wildlife in Manchester. This response undoubtedly reflects international and national as well as local issues.

The response could be seen as a sign of the times, with mass movements like Friday's for Future and demonstrations by Extinction Rebellion in 2019 bringing climate change and the ecological crises to the forefront of people's minds.

Individuals already interested in nature, which many of the respondents were, would almost certainly have been aware of the increasing urgency in biodiversity and climate messages. The response could also be a reflection of very local issues, with plans to build on both Green Belt and brownfield land in Greater Manchester specified in the draft Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, and also reduced Local Authority budgets.

An ambitious and practical long-term Biodiversity Strategy produced collaboratively between The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside and Manchester City Council and other key stakeholders, will address some of the issues outlined above. Key biodiversity targets will be identified and outlined, ensuring that wildlife in Manchester is not only protected but restored and enhanced.

We know that Manchester's Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) need good habitat management in order to preserve and enhance their ecological value. Where these SBIs are within Manchester's parks, My Wild City, Friends groups and Manchester City Council Officers will work together to ensure they are well managed, and that local people are aware of them. Where gaps remain the Wildlife Trust will work with Manchester City Council and other stakeholders to seek additional resources to secure the long-term future of Manchester's SBIs.



98% of respondents said that they were **concerned** about the loss of wildlife in Manchester



Image by Fergus Gill/2020VISION

What are your **main concerns** or priorities?

"Future generations won't experience any wildlife"

Wildlife Trust initiatives in Manchester, like Forest School, Nature Tots and My Wild City events will create more opportunities for children and their families to experience wildlife every day. My Wild Libraries – our initiative to get a copy of The Lost Words book into every library in Manchester and our Lost Words competitions in schools will also help children in Manchester form a deeper connection with nature.



"Neighbourhoods with wildlife are better for everyone to live in"

People have started talking about how to improve their own streets and local neighbourhoods for wildlife. My Wild City aims to support, encourage and enable these groups to take positive action, not just in their own backyards and gardens but in their neighbours' gardens and local areas – grass verges, schools and church grounds, local business properties and Housing Association sites can all provide excellent homes for urban wildlife. My Wild City can help link groups across Manchester with each other and help with training. By documenting the development of an existing group, My Wild City aims to build up a detailed case study to inspire people in neighbourhoods across Manchester, Greater Manchester and beyond.

"Being near nature makes me feel happier"

The Wildlife Trust has successfully been delivering Myplace, an ecotherapy project in partnership with Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust since 2016. The results of this report support The Trust's plans to expand Myplace into our urban communities to benefit even more people.

"According to the Wildlife Trust's 'Every Child Wild' report, fewer than 10% of children play in natural areas"



What **actions** do you take to look after nature in Manchester?

82%
said that they have a
“nature-friendly garden”

82% of respondents said they have a “nature-friendly garden”, taking actions such as feeding the birds to help look after nature in Manchester.

In 2016, Manchester Metropolitan University led a two-year research project entitled ‘My Back Yard’ and found that one third of the green space in Manchester was people’s gardens, making them key spaces for wildlife living in the city, particularly as stepping stones in a Nature Recovery Network to allow wildlife to extend through Manchester and beyond. The research also demonstrated that gardens are not completely green infrastructure as originally assumed. This affects the total estimate (previously 58%) of green and blue space cover across Manchester, which is now estimated at 49%.

My Wild Garden; a key strand of the My Wild City project, will build upon existing action amongst Mancunians to reach more residents and champion greater positive action people can take to improve their gardens, back yards, allotments or balconies for wildlife. Free garden packs, e-newsletters, blogs, articles and a creative online gardens campaign are all ways in which My Wild City hopes to encourage over 5,000 people to make the most of their gardens for nature.

29% of respondents said they took part in wildlife recording. This is of particular significance as wildlife is under-recorded in the city and currently there are no adequate measures of species numbers across Manchester. My Wild City will be encouraging more people to get involved with citizen science over the next three years through events, blogs and social media, helping to build a better picture of the wildlife living in Manchester.

The creation of wildlife recording apps, like iNaturalist, and growing interest in wildlife recording create a platform for My Wild City to ignite a discussion around wildlife recording in the city. My Wild City has already encouraged people to do this through City Nature Challenge – an annual, international, biological recording competition which in 2019 saw 138 people collecting 5,098 observations of 792 different species for Greater Manchester in just four days. We are hoping to further improve on these figures over the next three years.

My Wild City will also re-establish Manchester’s Biodiversity Hotspot Award and create a ‘My Wild Champions’ initiative which will celebrate small local actions for wildlife already taking place and provide a ‘Thank You’ to the people involved.



Image by Tom Marshall

Appendix 2, Item 7

What is your favourite place for wildlife in Manchester?

People gave a huge variety of answers in response to this question, from their own gardens to local parks and nature reserves. Below are just some of the things people said about their favourite place for wildlife in Manchester, highlighting the importance and value of such spaces for peoples' day to day lives.

“Boggart Hole Clough is a place to visit nearby. Myself and family actually need the open fresh air and green space to enjoy, we teach our grandchildren about nature, it's so enjoyable for them and so important. They absolutely love being out in parks, learning something new.”

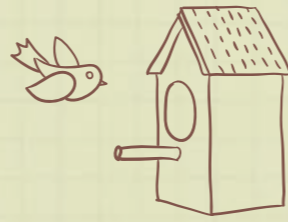
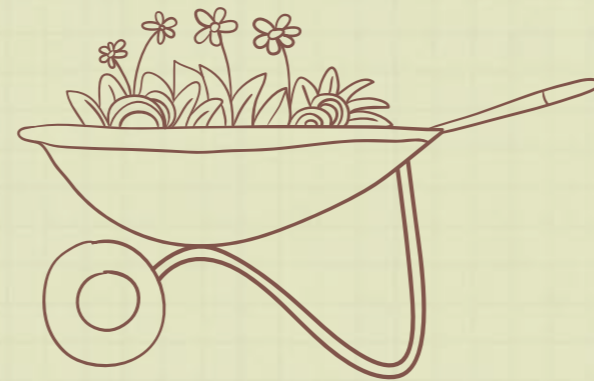
“I can relax in my garden and know we are likely to get bird and insect visitors and though only a small garden it is surrounded by others and fairly peaceful.”



“Chorlton Ees is a large, open wild space within the city - home to a huge range of wildlife and open to all.”

“Although Platt Fields Park is in a very urban environment, I love the avenue of trees, the lake that is teeming with life and spotting herons on the little island in the middle. I also love that it has the veg growing area and more natural areas.”

“Nutsford Vale is a wonderful wild urban woodland where there are many species of insect, wild flowers and birds. There are squirrels and urban foxes.”



Heaton Park by John Mounney



Fletcher Moss by Hidden World Productions



Albert Square by Dave Burrows



Heaton Park by John Mounney

What would **encourage** you to do more to help nature in Manchester?

61% of respondents stated that having 'accessible nearby wildlife places to visit' would encourage them to do more to help nature in Manchester. To quote Sir David Attenborough "No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced". A lack of regular wildlife experiences means people will feel less connected with nature and their surroundings and subsequently will be less inclined to take action to protect it.

So many people named their local park as the place where they experience Manchester's wildlife. My Wild City needs to work closely with the Manchester Parks team and associated Friends of Parks community groups both at a strategic and operational level. Manchester Parks Strategy 2016 has a vision of Manchester's Parks being "the soul, lungs and heart of Manchester by providing the conditions for our people, our environment and our city to flourish" with supporting "a diverse range of wildlife" a key element of that strategy.

My Wild City will support the introduction of a series of nature-based family events in parks across Manchester, run by Friends groups and Parks staff. Staff and volunteers will receive informal training, support with resources, and help with promotion and publicity. Parks staff and My Wild City will collaborate to host activities at Manchester Festival of Nature, and My Wild City will be the theme for I Love Parks Week in 2020. Biodiversity will be incorporated into the new Park Plans and My Wild City will work with Parks staff to enhance their parks for wildlife. We will aim to create good examples of wildlife-friendly areas of Parks, and produce case studies of actions which can then be replicated across the city.

61% of respondents also stated that 'being part of a big movement to help Manchester's wildlife' would encourage them to do more. Feeling part of a big movement is a motivating factor for people as it will help them feel valued and validated for their contributions.

61% of respondents also stated that 'being part of a big movement to help Manchester's wildlife' would encourage them to do more to help nature in Manchester



Encouraging and enabling people to volunteer for nature flexibly, contributing when and how they want to, helps to make their actions sustainable, and enables activity for nature to grow massively as everyone can play a part.

Through an effective communications campaign including press releases, blogs, videos, case studies, photos, radio and television appearances, e-newsletters and social media, My Wild City will help to highlight Manchester's wildlife and wild places, encouraging local residents to explore the wildlife on their doorsteps.

Image by Charlotte Varela

Why do you think nature in Manchester is **not important** to you?

What do you think would make you **more interested** in Manchester's wildlife?

People were only directed to these questions if they responded 'No' to the question 'Are you concerned about the loss of wildlife in Manchester?'

The responses to this question highlight not so much a specific disinterest in wildlife, but more so a lack of information about urban wildlife and opportunities to get involved.

In the follow-up question respondents largely expressed that they did not feel they had enough information about opportunities to interact with urban wildlife. This could be specific wildlife groups, educational events or volunteering opportunities, or more general information about urban wildlife and places to enjoy nature in the city.

Working collaboratively with other conservation organisations and groups over the next three-years will help to create bigger and better opportunities for Manchester's residents, such as the Manchester Festival of Nature.

The My Wild City team play a key role in the Manchester Biodiversity Action Group, Manchester Nature Consortium and City Nature Challenge, bringing key players together and creating a culture of shared learning.

A more general My Wild City campaign and resources, such as the garden pack, bi-monthly e-newsletter, digital map and regular events will also provide valuable information and celebration of urban wildlife and opportunities to reconnect with wildlife and wild places in the city.



Action Plan 2020-2022



Key Outcome	Progress Indicators
1. Greater awareness, engagement and active involvement of people with nature and greenspaces in Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media campaign to raise the profile of nature in Manchester and encourage residents to become and feel part of a big movement • Collaborative events programme with Manchester Parks Team and others to inspire and engage families about urban wildlife • An annual Festival of Nature which engages the public • Active involvement of people in practical conservation on priority sites for nature (100 practical days) • Active involvement of local people and improved wildlife value of gardens (5,000 individuals involved) • Local people actively involved in species recording (200 new recorders) • 1,500 school children engaged in activities in their grounds • Collaboration with an artist(s) to explore and showcase the importance of nature in Manchester in a radical and creative approach alongside residents
2. Greater partnership working to connect more people with nature and deliver more co-ordinated work to improve spaces for nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline and identify key biodiversity targets for the city through a new Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan • Collaboration with artists and the culture team at Manchester City Council to increase activity focused on urban nature in Manchester • Facilitate collaborative work amongst partners to grow species records and recording amongst the public, particularly through City Nature Challenge • Training, support and partnership work with Manchester Parks and 'Friends of' Groups to protect and enhance key priority sites in Manchester • Collaborative Festival of Nature to raise awareness and celebrate partner activity • Learning from a collaborative neighbourhood wildlife project captured and showcased with communities throughout Manchester to inspire and support action • Conference to recognise and celebrate achievements of volunteers, residents and community groups involved in improving nature • Collaboration with health partners to recognise and promote the importance of nature for residents as establishing new ecotherapy projects
3. Improved quality of spaces and corridors for nature in Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of key nature recovery network(s) within Manchester and action plans to help protect and enhance their value for nature • Increased records for wildlife species across the city (over 200 new recorders) • 100 practical volunteer sessions, focused on priority sites for nature (SBIs) • 5,000 gardens improved for wildlife by local people • 25 schools engaged / supported to improve their grounds for wildlife • Support, encourage and enable residents to work together to deliver positive action for wildlife within their neighbourhood • Biodiversity hot-spot awards re-established to encourage, showcase and celebrate community action

Page 154



Image by Andy Jones

Appendix 2, Item 7



my wild city

CONSULTATION DATA

98% are concerned about the loss of wildlife in Manchester

Q1 How important is Manchester's wildlife to you?

- Extremely important – 81%
- Important – 16%
- No opinion – 1%
- Slightly important – 1%
- Not important at all – 0%
- Don't know – 0%

Q2 Are you concerned about the loss of wildlife in Manchester?

- Yes – 98%
- No – 2%

Q3 What are your main concerns/priorities?

- *Ranked from highest (top) to lowest (bottom)
- Future generations won't experience any wildlife
 - Neighbourhoods with wildlife are better for everyone to live in
 - Being near nature makes me feel happier
 - Being near nature makes me feel healthier
 - There are fewer wildlife places to visit
 - Experiencing nature is important for creativity and the arts

Q4 Do you do any of the following to look after nature in Manchester?

- I have a wildlife-friendly garden – 83%
- I let other people know about nature in Manchester – 47%
- I am a member of a community group which supports greenspace/nature – 37%
- I record my wildlife sightings – 29%
- I volunteer to help look after a greenspace in Manchester – 21%
- Other – 14%

Q5 What is your favourite place for nature/wildlife in Manchester?

- *Open question.
Top 5 most popular responses
- Water park
 - My local park
 - Fletcher Moss
 - My garden
 - Chorlton water park

83% have a wildlife-friendly garden

Q6 Why is it your favourite place?

- *Open question.
Top 5 most popular responses
- Wildlife
 - Birds
 - See
 - Space
 - Lots

Q7 What would encourage you to do more to help nature in Manchester?

- Accessible, nearby wildlife places to visit – 61%
- Knowing I'm part of a big movement to help Manchester's wildlife – 61%
- Being able to join in a range of activities for people on their own as well as other families – 46%
- Having more information about the value of nature and how to support it – 38%
- Having a local community group to join in with – 38%
- Other – 13%

Q8 Why do you think wildlife in Manchester is not important to you?

- *Open question.
- "I don't understand why wildlife is important in cities"
 - "I don't have enough information about the value of nature and how to support it"
 - "I would be more concerned about a loss in the countryside"

Q9 What would encourage you to become more interested in Manchester's wildlife?

- *Open question.
- "More extensive promotion of all the projects that are being carried out and updates on the current situation"
 - "I'd like to have more information about what is Manchester's wildlife, what their relationship is with the city, and what that means for those of us living in the city centre."

81% think Manchester's wildlife is extremely important



my wild city

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

76%
of the
respondents
live in
Manchester

Which best describes you?

- I live in Manchester – 76%
- I work in Manchester – 49%
- I study in Manchester – 11%
- I visit Manchester – 19%
- I volunteer in Manchester – 19%
- Other – 5%

What is your age?

- Under 16 – 5%
- 16 – 25 years – 8%
- 26 – 39 – 26%
- 40 – 49 – 17%
- 50 – 64 – 28%
- 65 – 74 – 12%
- 75+ – 2%

Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?

- Yes – 9%
- No – 87%
- Prefer not to say – 4%

I describe my ethnic origin as

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| White British/English/Northern Irish/Scottish/Welsh – 81% | Kashmiri – 0% |
| White Irish – 3% | Other Asian – 1% |
| White Gypsy or Irish Traveller – 0% | Caribbean – 0% |
| Other White – 5% | African – 1% |
| White and Black Caribbean – 1% | Somali – 0% |
| White and Black African – 0% | Other Black – 0% |
| White and Asian – 0% | Prefer not to say – 2% |
| Other Mixed – 1% | Other – 1% |
| Indian – 1% | |
| Pakistani – 1% | |
| Bangladeshi – 0% | |
| Chinese – 1% | |



summary and further reading

Years 2020-2022 of My Wild City will be crucial in helping to transform Manchester into a green city which can be enjoyed by both people and wildlife for many years to come. It will also be key in helping Manchester to reach its ambition of being zero-carbon by 2038 at the latest.

Nature plays such an important role in our lives and everyone who lives, works, studies or volunteers in Manchester has the power to protect it. Whilst the My Wild City project is limited to four-years of funding, sustainability and replicability will be paramount throughout – delivering training to parks staff, producing clear and detailed case studies and action plans and creating a systematic change in the way we view and appreciate urban wildlife. This will have impacts far beyond the project and will help to re-imagine the way Manchester views urban wildlife and green spaces for years to come.

- The State of Nature 2019 available to download at www.wildlifetrusts.org/about-us/publications
- The Wildlife Trusts 'Every Child Wild' 2015 report available to download at www.wildlifetrusts.org/about-us/publications
- Manchester Metropolitan University's 'My Back Yard' report, overview and key findings available to download at www.mmu.ac.uk
- People's engagement with nature, Natural England. Available at www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitor-of-engagement-with-the-natural-environment-survey-purpose-and-results
- Manchester's great outdoors - a green and blue infrastructure and action plan for Manchester 2015 - 2025 available to download at www.manchester.gov.uk/downloads/download/6314/manchester_green_and_blue_strategy
- 'The Lost Words' by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris

My Wild City videos available to watch at www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity

Our Manchester

Manchester City Council has adopted a set of principles called the 'Our Manchester Principles', which is a long-term and ambitious attempt to change the way the council and its partners carry out their work:

- Principle 1**
Better Lives (it's about people)
- Principle 2**
Listening (we listen, learn and respond)
- Principle 3**
Recognising Strengths of Individuals and Communities (we start from strengths)
- Principle 4**
Working Together (we build relationships and create conversations)





Lancashire,
Manchester &
N Merseyside

**The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire,
Manchester and North Merseyside**

The Barn, Berkeley Drive, Bamber Bridge,
Preston, Lancashire, PR5 6BY.

Tel: 01772 324129 Registered charity no. 229325

www.lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity

mywildcity@lancswt.org.uk

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Lancashire,
Manchester &
N Merseyside



Valuing Nearby Nature

How local nature helped the people of Manchester and beyond get through the Coronavirus Lockdown



Cyclists enjoy a walk through the park by Nick Rodd

Nearby Nature: everyday urban nature close to home, such as flowers, trees, birds and other creatures in yards and gardens, parks and streets.

Introduction

During the full Coronavirus Lockdown, we saw many comments on social media and in the press about people taking notice of nearby nature: bird songs were louder, leaves greener and spring more noticeable.

Did residents in and around the city of Manchester feel this too? How was nature benefitting their locked down lives?

More than 1,200 people responded and told us just how important contact with nature was for them.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped us to share this survey. Thank you to Manchester City Council and Konstantinos Tzoulas, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Connecting with nature

“In a time of huge uncertainty and stress for everyone, people wanted access to nature.”

99%

said being able to **connect** with nature during the restrictions was Very Important or Important.



67%

valued nearby nature Much More or More now, compared with before restrictions. People really needed nature.



Image by Joseph Palframan

67%

had **visited** nearby nature Much More or More often over the last week, compared with a usual week before restrictions.



Image by Charlotte Varela

I realised I needed to get out more. Even before lockdown I stayed in a bit too much. Now I've changed that.



Nature, health and wellbeing

People spoke candidly about the effect of nature on their mental health and wellbeing with comments ranging from **“it lifts the spirits”** to **“it helps to ease my wife’s dementia symptoms”**.

Nearby nature helped people connect during an isolated time, providing a positive topic of conversation. Parks and greenspaces could be safe places to socially distance with others, and to see people enjoying themselves.

Page 161

“It is saving my life.”

Image by Charlotte Varela

The Wildlife Trust knows how valuable nature is, not just in its own right, but also as a lifeline to all of us during moments of need. We are committed to supporting health and wellbeing, through connection to nature and the outdoors. The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside is working with local NHS Foundation Trusts to offer free ecotherapy support to individuals. Visit lancswt.org.uk/myplace



Sahar enjoying nature at Fletcher Moss by Nick Rodd

Enjoying nearby nature

“The sense that no matter how awful the situation is, nature continues to be beautiful.”

Respondents mentioned buds on the tree outside their house, while others spoke of “freedom”, “beauty” and “fresh air”. They mentioned how much louder and clearer bird song seemed, and thought there were more plants, birds, and animals around than usual.

“I am not allowed out so looking out of my window and watching the birds, bees, butterflies and watching the trees blow in the wind is fantastic.”

“The highlight of the day is getting out of the house into nature, keeping us sane.”

“I don’t feel as lonely when I’m out in the park.”



Wildflower sabbath colour to the park by Nick Rodd



Image by Shirley Freeman

Appendix 3 Item 7





Long lawns are great for wildlife by Cath in Manchester

55%

of people were regularly visiting their local green spaces, and nature reserves.

How can you help?

The responses to this survey prove how vital nature and greenspace has been to support people and communities through a national crisis, but the 2019 State of Nature report says wildlife is still in rapid decline. Here are details of what you can do to help.

Take action for nature in your garden

Sign up to our My Wild Garden campaign and take steps to improve the value of your garden for wildlife. If you are already involved, champion wildlife gardening amongst your friends, family and colleagues. Visit lancswt.org.uk/mywildcity.

Anyone aged 16 - 24 in your household?

As a Trust we have an active Youth Council whom help shape the services which the Wildlife Trust delivers now and in the future as well as being involved in campaigning with the public and MPs. Find out more by emailing ebartlet@lancswt.org.uk

Support us to realise nature-friendly building

We are committed to work proactively with planners and developers to realise nature-friendly development and want to recruit and train a series of volunteers to support us with this work. If you are interested in this voluntary role, please sign-up to become a volunteer at lancswt.org.uk/support-us/volunteer

Become a member

We are a membership charity, we can't protect wildlife without you - our members share our love of nature and care about protecting wildlife. Support us by visiting lancswt.org.uk/support-us

How will we follow up this response as an organisation?

At a regional level...

Work with key partners to support the development of a Local Nature Recovery Network for Greater Manchester and beyond. This is our vision for a joined-up natural world; giving nature room to thrive and enabling more people to experience the wonders of our natural world. Discover our Wilder Future campaign at lancswt.org.uk/wilder-future-campaign.

We will work with planners and developers for a more proactive approach to nature-friendly development, sensitive to location and context, that cares about long-term maintenance and management.

At a neighbourhood level...

We will work with partners and the public, guided by the new Local Nature Recovery Network, within an urban neighbourhood in Manchester. This will include safe Nearby Nature events for the family, and work to improve and connect parks, yards, gardens and green spaces so nature can thrive.

Encouraging action amongst the public

Support members of the public to collect species records for Greater Manchester, particularly through City Nature Challenge. To find out more about the City Nature Challenge, visit citynaturechallenge.org/

“Public Parks have come into their own and saved the Nation.”

Image by Nick Rodd



67%

said they spent time in their own garden. Most with a garden or yard were able to enjoy it and told us how vital it was for physical and mental wellbeing.



Image by Tom Marshall

39%

visited a local park and felt living near a park improved their quality of life.

Image by Tom Marshall



“I was quite afraid of walking alone in my local nature park but having been forced to do so by circumstance, I now feel safer doing it.”



Image by Austin William Humphries-Walker

“Noticing what an amazing array of nature is on my doorstep (and I don't even have a garden!).”



The Wildlife Trust is keen to discuss and support local authorities, businesses, housing associations and others to take positive action to maintain and enhance the quality of their land for nature and people.

Get in touch...



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MANCHESTER'S GREAT OUTDOORS

A Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy for Manchester

Manchester Festival of Nature

“It is about getting people to recognise and appreciate the wildlife we have in and around Manchester. Getting out into wild places (and there are many in and around the city) is a great way to learn about the nature on our doorstep and benefit our health and well-being” – Alan Wright (The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and Northern Merseyside)

Background

2019 marked Manchester’s first ever Festival of Nature (MFoN); a month-long celebration of all things wild in Manchester ending with a huge Festival of Nature, set in the beautiful Heaton Park. Bringing together over 20 different partners, MFoN and the associated Manchester Nature Consortium creates a united approach to the conservation of nature in Manchester and offers local residents the opportunity to explore, discover, protect and fall in love with the wildlife and wild places right on their doorstep. Plans are already underway for MFoN 2020 as this incredible celebration continues to evolve and grow.



Heaton Park, Manchester

KEY BENEFITS



Health & Wellbeing



Environmental Education



Biodiversity



Tourism

Project

The aim of Manchester Festival of Nature was to create a united approach to the conservation of nature and to inspire the people of Manchester to fight to save the cities wildlife.

The types of activities that people got involved in through #MFoN are:

- Bat outing
- Butterfly and bird watching
- Surveys
- Volunteering opportunities
- The Lost Words Production

COST



TIMESCALE



MANCHESTER'S GREAT OUTDOORS

A Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy for Manchester

Rose Hill Wood

Eco-improvements

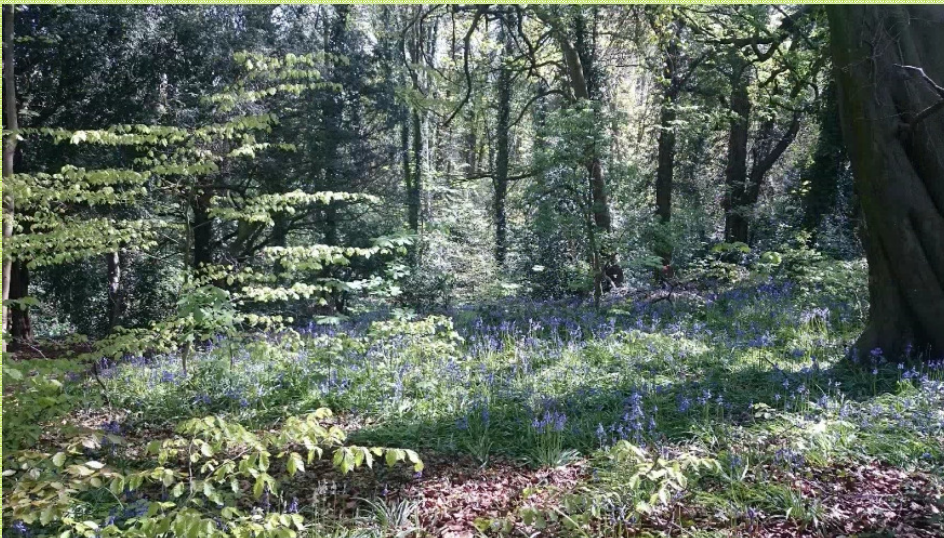
“The grants from the Lottery Fund and the Council have been a great boost for us as local volunteers. Increased visits by children and adults show that a lost ‘jewel’ is being recognised and enjoyed by the community as a real local asset”. Geoff Scargill, Chair of Friends of Rose Hill

Background

Rose Hill Wood in Northenden is situated by Rose Hill, a grade II* listed building with a fascinating history: The building was a former family mansion that was later developed into a convalescent home for wounded soldiers before the Manchester Corporation bought it and used it as an orphanage. After 1992 it was left disused, until being fully restored to its former glory in 2006. Today, it houses nine luxury apartments.

The mature woods, a site of biological importance owned by Manchester City Council, had become underused, neglected and inaccessible in parts.

In 2015, Friends of Rose Hill came together to organise clean ups in the wood and host local history talks about Rose Hill House and the Watkin family who lived there.

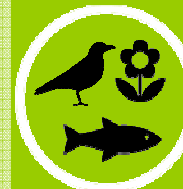


Project

The Friends successfully applied for council funding grants and a Heritage Lottery bid of £27,000 which helped them realise their aims to improve the wood and make it safer and more accessible for public use and to promote the history of the Watkins family who were pioneers in the development of Manchester in the 19th century.

**Sharston,
Manchester**

BENEFITS



**Land &
Biodiversity**



**Health &
Wellbeing**



**Recreation
& Leisure**

COST



TIMESCALE



Outcomes

The Friends of Rose Hill is a group that formed in July 2015 to help preserve the habitat. When they formed their main aims were:

1. To publicise the fascinating history of the Watkins Family who were the former residents of Rose Hill House;
2. To ensure that Rose Hill Wood survives for public use.

The Friends organized a 'Bioblitz', an ecological survey, that led to the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit considering upgrading the site's status as a Site of Biological Importance. The community were invited to help identify species, trained to give guided walks and joined a Bat Walk. With the help of volunteers, they enthusiastically carry out 'Balsam Bashing' twice a year to remove the invasive Himalayan Balsam plant which, once widespread within the woods, is now vastly reduced.

The group give educational talks across the city and lead projects with local schools to produce reports, drawings and poetry, covering a range of curriculum subjects. School visits to the woods have resulted in children returning to show family members around, and funding was made available for new paths and information lecterns. The 'Watkin Walk' leaflet guide was produced, and the unique Watkin Memorial within the woods is now visible and accessible for visitors. Today, the woods are on a maintenance schedule, which includes regular community clean-up events, that will ensure sustainable and sensitive environmental management in future years. The Friends group are also supporting a bid by 'Life for a Life' Memorial Forests who would like to manage the wood.



Learning

The Friends of Rose Hill have been instrumental in transforming this community asset, working in partnership with a range of council services, schools and community groups to bring the project to life.

Future

Further improvements to the woodland are planned, and bird and bat boxes will be installed. Incidentally, Edward Watkins established the first public parks in Manchester which will now be recognized, thanks to the Friends' enthusiasm and continuous work. Wider public engagement in the project is planned along with events in Manchester parks and libraries.

For further information

Visit: <http://friendsofrosehill.org/>

Outcomes

Over 7,000 people joined Manchester Festival of Nature on the day with the help of more than 120 officers and volunteers which included:

The first #MFoN was a partnership between The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside, the Cheshire Wildlife Trust, the RSPB, City of Trees, the National Trust, Manchester City Council, Manchester Metropolitan University, The Conservation Volunteers, Action for Conservation, RHS Bridgewater, Chester Zoo, Moors for the Future Partnership, Manchester Museum, the University of Manchester, Friends of the Earth, The Carbon Landscape, Myplace, The Tree Station, Friends of Chat Moss, British Cycling, Heaton Park Beekeepers, Treetop Trek and the Canal and River Trust. It was supported by Nectar Creative, the Casey Companies, VokkerStevin and Niche Event Hire.

All these partners made sure there were plenty of interesting activities in the main Market of Nature. There were performances by author and musician Margit van der Zwan, environmental discussions involving young people and performances based on the children's book, the Lost Words. The MFoN team were thrilled with how the event went and can't wait for Manchester Festival of Nature to become a summer highlight for Manchester's residents for many years to come.



Learning

The residents of Manchester that took part the activities during the month long event or that of the main festival on the 29th of June, discovered the rich array of wildlife living right alongside them. The festival engaged people, both young and old, in the fight to save our wildlife, resulting in more people being educated about wildlife in the city.

Future

The hope is that the Manchester's Festival of Nature (MFoN) can become a yearly event that people can look forward to annually. The aim is to start to involve other charities and organizations to spread the word of nature further afield and create an even bigger turnout in next years festival.

For further information

See the website at <https://www.lancswt.org.uk/events/manchester-festival-of-nature>

or email Alan Wright on awright@lancswt.org.uk or visit the Twitter page @MancNature

Appendix 5 – Consultation Process

1. My Wild City is a four-year collaboration between The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside and Manchester City Council which was launched at the beginning of 2019. The first phase of the process involved engagement and practical delivery; the second phase was around strategy development using the mandate provided by the extensive consultation undertaken. A new Biodiversity Action Group made up of leading academics, statutory bodies and key partner organisations was set up to shape the strategy and its key objectives.
2. In 2019, the My Wild City team undertook a comprehensive consultation exercise to listen and understand Mancunian's thoughts and ambitions for nature in the City. Developed alongside the City Council, the consultation was active for a period of six-months between April and October 2019, with a total of 2,195 individuals taking part. Results demonstrated that 98% of respondents were concerned about wildlife loss, with 81% of respondents stating that Nature in Manchester was extremely important to them.
3. One of the key aims of My Wild City was to lead more active conservation activity on key wildlife sites in Manchester as well as supporting residents to work together to deliver more positive action for nature in their community. Despite the massive disruption caused by COVID-19 to our practical delivery activities, to date the project has delivered 85 volunteer sessions across 11 priority wildlife sites in Manchester.
4. In response to the COVID-19 lockdowns, the My Wild City team led a further consultation exercise with Manchester residents to understand how nature was benefitting their lives during lockdown. Over 1,200 Mancunians responded with the overwhelming narrative being how important nature and local greenspace had become for residents and their health and wellbeing.
5. The project has been working closely with the Council's parks department, and has developed new action plans for 12 priority wildlife sites in Manchester to help support Parks staff and Friends of Groups to have a better understanding of how to manage their sites for biodiversity. In addition to the new action plans, the My Wild City team have worked alongside and supported 8 Friends of Groups in the City to try and increase their skills, resilience and connection with other groups and stakeholders.
6. Alongside supporting and encouraging residents to take action for nature within their neighbourhood and local greenspace, the project team also launched My Wild Garden as a campaign to encourage action by residents at home. Over 2,100 households have signed up to the campaign with a further 1,000 households receiving My Wild Garden resources as part of targeted neighbourhood interventions.
7. Since launching over 200,000 people have engaged with communication content around gardening for nature with various creative content produced including a

video with the City Centre Cloud Gardener shown [here](#), and a film about the connection between communities in North Manchester and Nature [here](#).

8. Organised by the Wildlife Trust with partners as a way to engage people positively about urban Nature, in 2022 over 4000 people attended the Manchester festival of Nature at Heaton Park in June. The event was also used as a further opportunity to engage with the public about the development of the new Biodiversity Strategy.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee – 13 October 2022

Subject: Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Update

Report of: Strategic Director (Neighbourhoods)

Summary

This report provides an update on progress in delivering waste, recycling, and street cleansing services. Describing how the activity contributes to the climate change agenda and key priorities for future.

Recommendations

The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to consider and make comments on the content of the report.

Wards Affected: All

Environmental Impact Assessment - the impact of the issues addressed in this report on achieving the zero-carbon target for the city

The Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 is the city's high-level strategy for tackling climate change. It sets out how Manchester will 'play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change', a commitment in the Our Manchester Strategy 2016-25. The Framework's key aims are to be: 'a cleaner, litter-free city, which recycles more' and '...play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change and create a healthy, green, socially just city where everyone can thrive.'

In 2021/22, 27 end-of-life diesel refuse collection vehicles collection vehicles were replaced with electric alternatives. This represents just under half the fleet and will reduce greenhouse emissions by 900 tonnes and NOx by 2,836 kg per annum.

The approach to communications and engagement aims to promote the waste hierarchy by encouraging Manchester residents to reduce their own carbon impact by reducing the waste they produce, re-using what they can and recycling the right items in the right bin.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments

Actions set out in the report recognise the need for just and equal delivery of waste and recycling collections and street cleansing services across the city, focusing on areas such as communications, engagement, education, access to recycling facilities and cleaner neighbourhoods.

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	Supporting residents and businesses to dispose of their waste responsibly and compliantly will support the progress towards becoming a sustainable city.
A highly skilled city: world class and home-grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	The Eco Schools programme inspires young people supported development of green skills for the future.
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Working closely with both residents and businesses to support them in improving the neighbourhoods in which they live, work and socialise.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Increasing recycling rates across the city will reduce Manchester's carbon footprint. Reducing litter will make the city cleaner.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Increasing recycling rates across the city will reduce Manchester's carbon footprint. Reducing litter will make the city cleaner.

Full details are in the body of the report, along with any implications for:

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

Not applicable

Financial Consequences – Capital

Not applicable

Contact Officers:

Name: Heather Coates

Position: Strategic Lead – Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing

Telephone: 07717704444

E-mail: Heather.Coates@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents

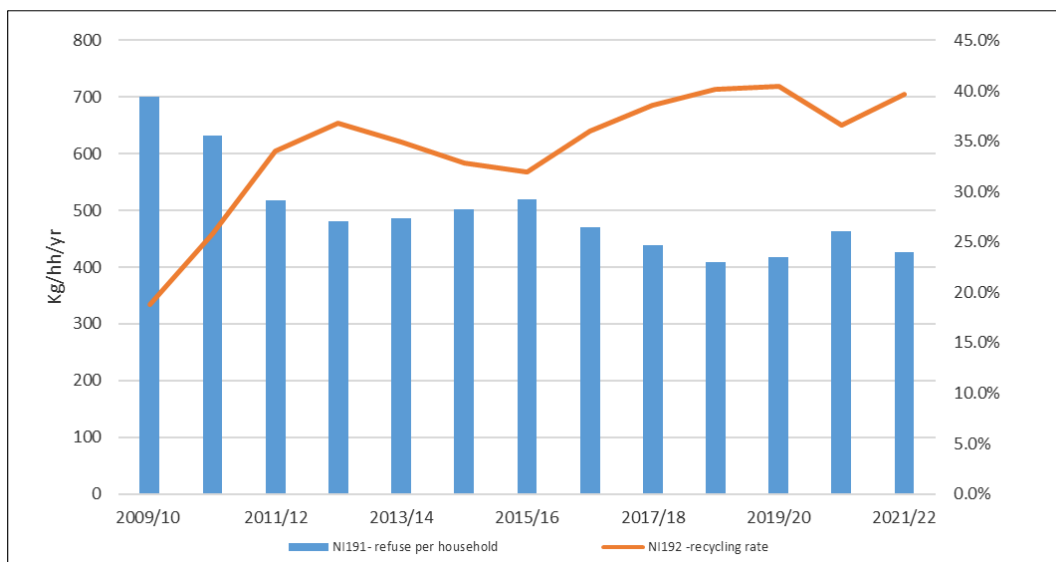
are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

'Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England' (2018), DEFRA The Litter Strategy for England, (2017), DEFRA

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress in delivering waste, recycling, and street cleansing services; describing how the activity contributes to the climate change agenda, protecting the environment and key priorities for the future.
- 1.2 Over the last 12 months the city has started to recover from the impact of the pandemic which negatively affected recycling performance and increased the number of fly-tipping incidents. Behavioural changes during the pandemic led to increases in household waste in the city, which was reflected at a national level and recycling rates reduced on average by 3.5% (Defra, 2021). In 2021/22 the refuse rates reduced, and recycling rate increased to 40% as shown in the graph below.

Graph 1 showing Kg of refuse per household and recycling rate (%)



- 1.3 There is increasing awareness of the connection between the things we buy and throw away; and that by recycling more and wasting less everyone can contribute towards achieving our target to become zero-carbon by 2038. The Our Year (2022) consultation showed how passionate young people are about environmental issues, and their desire for society to do all it can to protect their future and reduce the impact of climate change. Young people are key to eliminating litter and reducing waste for now and future generations. Working together to achieve a cleaner city is vitally important to protecting the local environment. There remains significant opportunity to divert more recycling and food waste from refuse bins.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Team sits within the wider Operations and Commissioning Service and is responsible for managing the waste and street cleansing collection contract, overseeing, and influencing domestic waste disposal arrangements, service improvement projects and co-

ordination of the 'Keep Manchester Tidy' project. The team works together with the wider neighbourhood services, in particular Neighbourhood Teams and Neighbourhood Compliance Teams to deliver priorities for neighbourhoods. The Keep Manchester Tidy project provides opportunities to connect people within neighbourhoods and promote civic pride.

- 2.2 Becoming a cleaner, litter-free city, which recycles more is a key objective for the City and forms a fundamental part of several of our major strategies, policies, and action plans for the city. This includes Our Manchester; the Climate Change Action Plan; and the Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications & Engagement Behavioural Change Delivery Plan 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 amongst others.
- 2.3 The contract for waste collection and street cleansing expires in 2038 but has two extension periods (2023 and 2031). As part of the commissioning cycle, in 2021/22 the Council reviewed the priorities for the next period and considered which delivery model could achieve these and Best Value. On 10th March 2022 a report detailing this process was presented to the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee (ECCSC). The continuation of the contract with Biffa was assessed as the most effective way of continuing to deliver the current waste collection and street cleansing requirements.
- 2.4 The waste disposal and recycling arrangements for Manchester and other Greater Manchester Authorities (except Wigan) are managed by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). The operating contract for the disposal and recycling facilities, together with Household Waste Recycling Centre's (HWRCs) is delivered by Suez.
- 2.5 The Waste & Recycling Team work closely with the Communications Team and Recycle for Greater Manchester (R4GM) to develop communications and approaches to engagement to support the delivery of services and behaviour adaptation. Our communications strategy is based on:
- Using insight, market research from sector experts (e.g., Waste Resources Action Programme (WRAP) and Keep Britain Tidy (KBT)), and surveys, as well as results from previous campaigns to develop a targeted approach.
 - Using consistent language and providing accessible material ensuring that this is used across all communication channels, recognising that many residents in Manchester are digitally excluded.
- 2.6 The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and Brexit has had numerous and continuing impacts on the management of waste collection and cleansing services for all Local Authorities (LAs) in the UK. The cost-of-living (COL) crisis and the energy crisis is creating further uncertainty for residents, businesses, and other organisations. Like many sectors, the availability of staff to provide essential services has been reduced and this has been further impacted by inflationary pressures and COL. These issues also impact the supply chain and commodity prices affecting the availability of vehicles, parts, and bin supplies. These issues combined with a recent change in Prime Minister and new Ministerial portfolios have led to further delays in the

implementation of the National Resources and Waste strategy (2018) and will have a direct impact on the direction of waste policy in England. The government's priority in the short-term will be in responding to the cost of living and the energy crisis.

- 2.7 The Waste Strategy (2018) includes the proposed introduction of separate weekly food waste collections, improving the consistency of recycling collections with the introduction of plastic pots, tubs and trays, a deposit return scheme and extended producer responsibility where the producers of packaging are responsible for financially supporting the collection, treatment, recycling, and disposal of their products from both households and businesses. Further details provided about the aims of the Waste Strategy (2018) in the report to the Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Committee, on 14th October 2021.

3.0 Waste Strategy

- 3.1 Despite the ongoing delays with the implementation of the English Waste Strategy (2018), there remains significant opportunity for Manchester to recycle more and waste less. Whilst environmental concerns are increasing, and more residents are aware of climate change, the link between waste, recycling and climate change is not generally understood. In terms of household recycling, 18 million tonnes of CO₂ are saved a year by recycling, the same environmental impact as taking 12 million cars off the road. (Source: WRAP Recycle Week 2021). Recycling and reducing fly-tipping and littering plays a crucial role in protecting our environment and preserving our finite natural resources such as oil, sand, aluminium, iron ore and trees. This section provides an overview of the key areas for focus.

Recycling Contamination

- 3.2 The results of the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) tracker 2021 show that contamination is still an issue across all recycling streams; over 85% of UK households put one or more items in the kerbside recycling that is not accepted in their kerbside recycling collection (Source: WRAP Recycling Tracker 2021). There is also an urgent need to address contamination, 80% of UK households put items in the recycling that are not collected. The impact of this means that once it enters the recycling system, it can potentially contaminate clean recycling thereby reducing the overall recycling rate and increasing the demand on raw materials. Contamination of blue bins (paper and card) remains a challenge in parts of the city and leads to additional annual costs (£0.5m).

Food Waste

- 3.3 Globally, the production of food accounts for up to 37% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and requires significant resources including land, energy, and water. However, up to 40% is wasted (WRAP). In the UK, 70% of UK food waste comes from households, equivalent to a value of over £14 billion a year and 20 million tonnes of GHG emissions. Waste compositional analysis

undertaken in 2019 showed that an average household in Manchester throws away 2.4kg of food in their grey bin (every fortnight). This is the equivalent in weight to approximately three loaves of bread. Supporting households to reduce food waste and recycle what is wasted will support carbon reductions and help residents to save money.

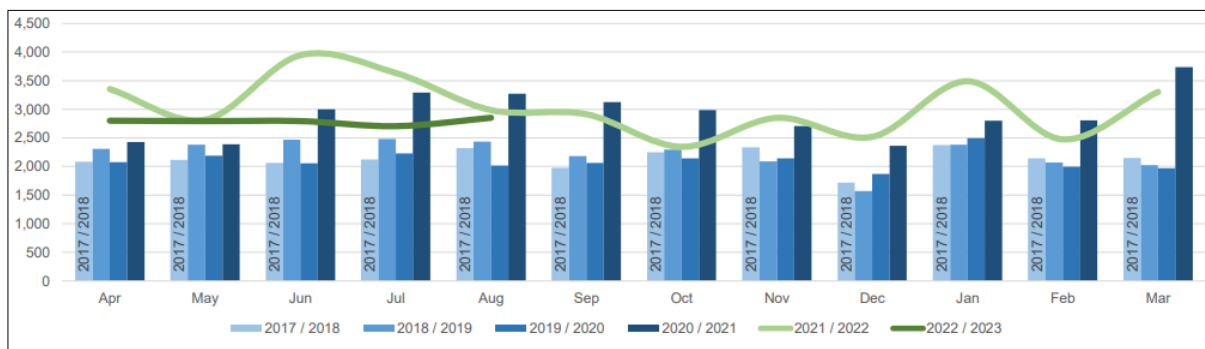
Textiles

- 3.4 Changes to the way the UK supplies, uses and disposes of clothing could reduce the carbon, water, and waste footprints of clothing consumption by 10-20% each (WRAP). The waste compositional analysis showed that in Manchester many textiles are found in the general waste or recycling bins. The amount of clothing consumed is increasing mainly due to the increase in fast fashion and because many clothes are not as durable as they used to be. Clothing and textiles found in the bins cause a problem during the processing of the waste often causing damage to shredding machinery. All textiles even damaged clothing can go in the textiles bank at the HWRCs as they can be used for a variety of different uses depending on the material they are made from. For example, cotton is made into industrial wiping rags, wool can be made into housing insulation panels and cotton/polyester blended textiles can be made into carpet underlay and mattress stuffing. During the apartment recycling project in 2019/20 Building Managers were linked with charities offering free textile recycling banks to encourage residents to divert more textiles from general waste containers. Opportunities will be explored to see how the Council can influence more Building Managers to adopt this approach – where space allows.

Reducing incidents of fly-tipping

- 3.5 Fly-tipping costs more than £2m per annum. In 2021/22 a series of internal fly-tipping deep dive sessions were undertaken with Biffa, PRI, and Neighbourhood Services. The process identified that around two-thirds of waste reported as fly-tipping in Manchester is household waste. Several factors were identified in areas most affected by the issue: transience, high proportion of private or social landlord properties, high population and housing density, bottom 10-20% of the most deprived LSOAs in England, flats above shops. This remains a key issue for Neighbourhood Services to work collaboratively with partners to tackle the underlying issues, reduce the number of incidents and encourage residents to use legitimate routes to dispose of waste.

Graph 2 showing citywide fly-tipping rates (number of incidents by financial year)



4.0 Recycle for Greater Manchester (R4GM) – Key Updates

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs)

- 4.1 A core part of R4GMs communications plan is to promote the household waste recycling centres to residents and encourage them to separate their waste to maximise recycling. 20 sites are available for residents in Greater Manchester, 3 of which are in Manchester. The sites are open 7 days a week and accept more than 40 different types of household items for recycling. No appointments are required to use these facilities, but residents visiting in a van or with a twin axel trailer must apply for a permit before they visit. Research is being carried out to provide insight to help develop the communications and understand why some residents don't use the facility. Communications will also focus on explaining what happens to the recycling, much of it being recycled locally in the North-West.

Redevelopment of Reliance St HWRC (Miles Platting & Newton Heath)

- 4.2 The redevelopment of the Reliance St household waste recycling centre in Newton Heath, Manchester is due to start in Spring 2023. This project will modernise the facility and increase opportunities to recycle. A communications and stakeholder engagement plan will be implemented well in advance of works commencing. The plan will include providing regular updates to the established client liaison group managed by SUEZ and attended by residents living closer to the site as well as information events in the local library. Local Members have recently provided feedback to the GMCA about areas for improvement which is being incorporated into plans.

Renew Hub

- 4.3 The Renew Hub in Trafford Park is a key part of SUEZ UK's social value commitments and is the largest re-use operation of its kind in the country. Items suitable for re-use can be placed in dedicated containers at the HWRC's. These items are then processed centrally at the Renew Hub which contains repair pods for repairing, upcycling or repurposing items, for example cycle repair, white goods checking and repair, upholstery, and painting. The Hub creates training and employment opportunities for the local community and as it develops will create partnerships with businesses, charities, and

other organisations. Items are then re-sold at Renew Shops located at three of the HWRCs.

Renew Shops

- 4.4 Renew Shops are located at household waste recycling centres in Oldham, Salford, and Trafford. The shops sell pre-loved household items at affordable prices. A fourth shop is planned on the Reliance Street HWRC as part of the redevelopment. A Click and Collect eBay shop will be launched by the end of 2022/23.

R4GM Community Fund

- 4.5 Up to £220,000 is available every year for community groups, schools, and voluntary groups to apply for. The money is raised from donated household items sold at the Renew Shops and the new online eBay store. The fund is open every year for applications from 1st April to 31st May. Over the last 2 years, it has funded 47 different projects including those focused on reducing food waste and providing free healthy food to those in need, such as the Manchester Urban Diggers project. Humans MCR are using the funds to break the cycle of food poverty by providing clients with the tools and resources to sustain themselves without relying on emergency foodbanks as a regular measure.

Education Centres and Outreach

- 4.6 The education centre at the Materials Recovery Facility (Longley Lane, Sharston) is a key part of the R4GM education service. The classroom has recently been refitted and brought up to date with new interactive iPads and digital screens. From March 2022, the education team resumed in-person tours. They also offer tours at the solar farm in Bolton and at the Renew Hub in Trafford Park. Throughout 2022, the virtual tour has been offered as an outreach session with local communities and schools. From 1 April 2021 to mid-February 2022, 21 education sessions were delivered to Manchester residents to 1,299 participants. In 2022/23 R4GM Officers supported the Bee Green Education Summit in June 2022, and regularly support community events across the city.

5.0 Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Contract – Key Updates

Biffa Performance Update

- 5.1 Biffa are responsible for providing domestic residual and recycling waste collection services, planned and reactive street cleansing services for defined land types. The contractor is required to provide services to an agreed standard and within a set service level agreement, which varies dependent on land type and waste type. The Grounds Maintenance Team are responsible for litter removal in the parks, except for the City Centre. There are some land types, which form part of the corporate estate and open green space network which are not included in the proactive street cleansing contract with Biffa.

These are managed by other service areas and are not included in scope of this report. This differential approach to land management has been identified as problematic and will be reviewed in 2022/23.

- 5.2 A breakdown of Biffa's performance for the last 12 months is provided in Appendix 1. The key points are:
- Missed collections have significantly reduced following disruption caused by the pandemic and HGV driver shortage in 2021/22.
 - The number of fly-tip incidents remains higher compared to the period pre-pandemic, but Biffa are maintaining the 5-day SLA for removal.
 - Challenges continue to exist with the volume of waste presented in some passageway locations, which impacts Biffa's ability to complete collections to schedule.
 - Street cleansing standards have improved on arterial routes and in the City Centre. Further work is required to sustain this performance and secure further improvements. District Centres have been identified as an area for further improvement.
 - The passageway clearance programme continues to be completed to the required standard.
- 5.3 In 2021/22, 27 end-of-life diesel refuse collection vehicles collection vehicles were replaced with electric alternatives. This represents just under half the fleet and will reduce greenhouse emissions by 900 tonnes and NOx by 2,836 kg per annum. The next tranche of RCVs will need to be replaced in 2026. A workstream has been established to review the replacement programme for the waste and street cleansing fleet.
- 5.4 The contract allows for deductions to be made via the Price Performance Model (PPM). Members have previously received the detail of this model and how it is applied. In 2020/21 application of the PPM resulted in £20,000 of deductions. The annual performance analysis is provided in Appendix 1. Further detail regarding delivery of the contract, service specification and approach to contract monitoring can be found in section 3 of the service update report to Neighbourhood & Environment Scrutiny Committee (NESC) in October 2019.

Social Value

- 5.5 The contract provides a highly regarded social value contribution which includes:
- An engagement and education offer for schools, Adult Education settings and community groups.
 - Supporting community clean up events.
 - Supporting work and skills initiatives working with young people in Colleges and Higher Education facilities.
 - Supporting the University volunteer scheme.
 - Apprenticeships and upskilling of the work force.
 - Working with communities to increase recycling and reduce fly-tipping.

- Staff volunteer days in Manchester.

Investment in Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Services

5.6 On 10th March 2022 a report detailing the priorities for the next phase of the Biffa contract was presented to Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee. Investment of £700k was agreed to fund waste collection and street cleansing services for 2022/23. This included:

- Enhancement to the client-side function which equates to 5 new posts. This includes expansion of the Keep Manchester Tidy (KMT) work, increasing from 1 FTE to 3 FTE. An additional 1 FTE contract monitoring officer to ensure Biffa are meeting the standards within the contract (City Centre focus), a communications officer and a business analyst (which will support Resident and Business Digital Experience Programme (RBDxP)).
- Additional large mechanical sweeper for arterial routes and district centres.
- Improvement to passageways – options under review with Biffa.
- Increased flexibility and provision of (200) litter bins and pilot options to address issues with flats above shops.
- Additional street washing – including district centres.
- Trial of new sweepers, including electric, to inform procurement of replacements required from July 2023.

5.7 Following this agreement there has been a sharp and continued rise in inflation that has led to increase pay demands from staff across all sectors and an exponential increase in energy costs. The time required for mobilisation has enabled surplus funds to offset the in-year inflationary pressures given the overall budget pressures. The Service Improvement Innovation Group leads a programme for continuous service improvements. SIIG takes a partnership approach (the Council and Biffa), to tackling both short and long-term performance issues with the aim of bringing sustainable and measurable improvements. The priorities identified for improvement in the next phase form workstreams within this programme. An update on improvement measures introduced in 2022/23 is detailed below:

- **District Centre** cleansing approach has been reviewed and an adjusted model is to be implemented to increase the number of place based ped-orderlies. It is expected that detailed cleansing will improve and provide a visible presence in District Centre's. Biffa are currently recruiting to these roles.
- **Arterial Routes** cleansing model has been reviewed to bring together manual cleansing, sweeping, cycle lane cleansing and weed management on arterial roads. Bringing this together with a dedicated team and schedule is expected to bring about an increased standard of cleansing. Part of the improvements here will be seen through changes to Biffa's fleet with the utilisation of more Large Mechanical Sweepers and smaller sized sweepers that can access segregated cycle lanes.

- **City Centre** cleansing model is currently being reviewed by Biffa and changes being made to how resources are deployed. More operatives being dedicated to detailed cleansing (implemented since August 2022). A comprehensive review and overhaul of the litter bin infrastructure and bag collection points is currently underway. Furthermore, recognition that washing both streets and bins needs more of a focus and reviewing Biffa's current machinery around this area is ongoing. The aim being a clear and transparent City Centre cleansing model that delivers the expected contractual cleansing standards. Local Members have suggested a working group be established to consider factors impacting staining of the paving to see what else can be done to reduce this issue. This will be established in Quarter 3 2022/23. In 2022/23 a graffiti working group has been established with City Co, GMP, and other Neighbourhood Services in response to increases in graffiti across the city.
- **Litter bin infrastructure** will be upgraded with 200 new litter bins and a review being undertaken of the City's litter bin infrastructure. In the City Centre some of the new bins will replace infrastructure with larger capacity bins. In 2023/24 the litter bin collection rounds outside of the City Centre will be enhanced to provide more capacity so that additional bins can be placed in wards. Requests for new locations are being reviewed.
- **Flats above shops** – baseline study completed.
- **Passageway** - baseline study in progress.

6.0 Waste & Recycling Campaigns and Initiatives – Key Updates Approach to Increasing Recycling and Reducing Contamination

6.1 Bin collection services are split into three categories:

- **Four-bin households:** Households with enough space have their own general rubbish bin and three recycling bins. This service is provided to 157,000 or 70% of households.
- **Communal:** Households with limited space to store their own bins (terraced streets) share communal collection containers which are in the alleyways. This service is provided to 16,000 or 7% of households.
- **Apartments:** Residents living in apartments have shared communal rubbish and recycling facilities. Depending on the size of the buildings they either have containers or wheelie bins. This service is provided to 52,000 or 23% of households.

6.2 Research has shown that residents demonstrate several different attitudes and behaviours towards waste and recycling. Broadly, they can be split into the following categories.

- *Committed Recyclers* - residents who recycle consistently.
- *Unreliable Recyclers* - residents who do recycle sometimes but are not committed.

- *Non-Recyclers* - Residents who are not recycling and not willing to engage with us. They will need compliance or service change to force them to change their behaviour.
- *'Aware but undermined Recyclers'* - Residents who are engaged (or want to be engaged) but are undermined by neighbours through communal facilities where recycling isn't used correctly. This covers some residents within container areas and apartments.

6.3 In Manchester, WRAP have previously advised there are a mix of all four categories, but there is a higher prevalence of the *'Unreliable Recyclers'* and *'Aware but Undermined'* due mainly to the property stock type and tenure. This is similar to other Core Cities, but less comparable to most GM Authorities. This is reflected in the differences in recycling rates across the conurbation.

6.4 The WRAP tracker is an annual survey of UK citizens that gathers evidence and insight on recycling attitudes, knowledge, and behaviour. The main findings of the report are:

- Recycling is a normalised behaviour - 85% of UK citizens regularly recycle.
- Over half (57%) miss opportunities to recycle items from home.
- 64% recall receiving recycling information from their local council (leaflet/calendar).
- Almost nine in ten (87%) dispose of an item in the recycling that is not accepted.
- Contamination has increased since the pandemic.
- The survey identified that a council leaflet is the main source of information about what can and can't be recycled (cited by 29% of UK households), followed by recycling labels on product packaging (22%).
- There is a national misunderstanding about what the labels indicate

6.5 The Councils bin web pages provide key service information and are the second most visited area of the website with 615,952 visits over the last 12 months. Translated 'how to recycle' videos developed with Biffa and the communications team are hosted on the site and provide a valuable engagement tool. Annual recycling calendars and service leaflets are delivered to all 4 bin-households (157,000) and communal passageway households (16,000). Digital service leaflets are regularly provided to Building Managers and Registered Providers for apartment collections (52,000). Our relationships with partners have helped to get messages to our varying audiences but often this is when there is mutual need, rather than partners being proactive advocates of the service. This is an area that has been identified for further development.

Blue Bin Contamination Campaign (Paper & Cardboard)

6.6 Paper and cardboard contamination across GM has been an issue for several years now. Recycle for Greater Manchester has been exploring ways to support GM Authorities tackle this issue and recruit officers to carry out intense periods of monitoring and door knocking to engage with residents who

are contaminating the paper and card bin. Areas in GM with the worst levels of contamination are being targeted as a priority. In October 2022, the campaign began in Manchester, targeting 2,000 households where contamination issues are regularly reported. This approach will be monitored, and impact measured, if successful this will be targeted towards other problematic rounds in 2023.

Food Waste

- 6.7 This year's service leaflet focused on how to recycle food waste which led to an increase in requests for kitchen food recycling caddies and caddy liners. R4GM's Buy, Keep, Eat, repeat campaign (GM wide) has provided further focus in this area and aims to educate residents on how to reduce food waste by only buying what you need, storing food correctly and using up leftovers. The campaign will continue into next year but will focus more on how to correctly recycle unavoidable food waste using the council food waste service. The Council will support the National Food Waste Action week.

Bin Alerts

- 6.8 In July 2021 a new email reminder service was launched for bin collection days. Residents can sign up to receive an email the day before their bins are due for collection to remind them to put the correct bins out in time. The most visited page on the Manchester City Council website is the bin collection day checker. Email bin alerts will deliver this information directly to resident's inbox in a timely manner. In time, it will provide another communication channel to provide very targeted communication to improve recycling performance, share information about service changes and reassure residents in the event of disruption (such as spells of inclement weather). Sign up to this service is now available via the online bin collection day checker.

Fly-Tipping

- 6.9 Following work undertaken in Manchester to understand the factors affecting fly-tipping (see section 3.7), a GM Fly-tipping Working Group was established including the GMCA, Environment Agency and other GM Authorities (Quarter 3 & 4, 2021/22). The purpose of the group was to understand the scale of the challenge across the conurbation and approaches being used to tackle the issue. One area highlighted for joint working was development of a GM campaign. A fly-tipping workshop was organised by GMCA and facilitated by Keep Britain Tidy. The workshop held on 16th August 2022, attended by council officers from each of the 9 councils heard the results of 5 years of research into fly-tipping behaviour which has been published in a report called 'Beyond the Tipping Point: Insights to Tackle Householder Fly-tipping'. The GMCA has agreed to develop communication assets to raise awareness of householders' duty of care and the impact of using rogue traders who often advertise on social media to remove household waste for a small fee, the waste is then often fly-tipped. The assets will be localised by the Councils communications team to use on our channels. Communications around a householders' duty of care and rogue traders will continue into 2023/24.

Tackling Rogue Traders (Private Domestic Waste Removal)

- 6.10 A further development, intended to tackle the scourge of rogue waste collection providers is a new platform which Trading Standards has recently signed up to: 'Buy with Confidence'. This will allow the Council to signpost residents to use legitimate waste removal businesses who have undertaken a comprehensive vetting process. This represents a significant step forward for the Council and will help householders to make more informed decisions about which private waste removal companies they use. Work has commenced on this project (September 2022) – timescale for launch to be confirmed.



Fly-Tipping Intervention Investment

- 6.11 In 2019-20 an extra £0.5m was committed by the city to tackle fly-tipping through additional compliance officers, CCTV and 'target hardening' projects. Regular updates have previously been provided to Members about this investment. This update focuses on 'target hardening', which is the process of installing physical deterrents that make a fly-tipping target harder to access or less desirable (such as bollards, barriers, and beautification). So far, 50 fly tip intervention projects have been completed and 10 further projects are in progress.
- 6.12 Table 1 provides a progress update for communications and engagement to increase and improve the quality of recycling and reduce waste (2022/23)

Action	Audience	When
Annual recycling calendar and service leaflet (Hard copy posted)	157,000 households	June – August 2022
Annual recycling calendar and service leaflet (Hard copy posted)	16,000 households	August – September 2022
Recycling service leaflet (digital and hard copy)	Building Managers / Registered Providers as needed	Ongoing
BINFO – email alert system	4,469 subscribers	Ongoing
Bin pages on Council web pages	615,952 visits	July 2021 – August 2022
Translated 'how to recycle' videos created in top 10 most widely spoken languages. A collaboration between Biffa and the Communications Team.	3,500 visits (Most popular language is English, followed by Cantonese).	July 2021 – August 2022
Targeted campaign to reduce contamination in blue bin. (Letter drop, door knocking and engagement with community groups)	2,000 households	Commenced in October 2022
Student end-of-year campaign. Led by South Neighbourhood Team working	500 Landlords	May – June 2022

together with W & R, the Universities and Manchester Student Homes (Letter to Landlords, letter drop to students, door knocking and engagement with community groups, social media campaign)	5,000 student households 69,356 impressions (Instagram) 10,920 impressions (Facebook)	
Student start-of-year campaign (Hard copy posted and door knocking)	5,000 student households	October 2022
National Recycle Week Citywide Digital campaigns and outdoor advertising.	Not available	17 – 23 October 2022
National Food Recycle Week Citywide Digital campaigns and outdoor advertising.	Not available	6-12 March 2023

6.13 Table 2 provides a visual overview of some of the recycling campaigns delivered in the last 12 months

 <p>GIVE IT DON'T BIN IT</p> <p>Donate your clothes, books, electricals and large items to charity to help those in need</p> <p>DO YOUR BIT AND RECYCLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE</p> <p>www.giveitdontbin.it.co.uk</p>	 <p>MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL manchester.gov.uk/recycling</p> <p>Do your bit</p> <p>Working on what you value</p> <p>Landlord responsibilities regarding end-of-year student clear-out</p> <p>Dear Landlord,</p> <p>The end of the student year generates an excessive amount of waste from properties occupied by students.</p> <p>Much of this is left in gardens or on the street, requiring a costly clean-up by the Council. This behaviour is unacceptable, highly detrimental to the area, and generates a large number of complaints from local residents.</p> <p>As a landlord you have responsibilities, within the terms of your HMO licence, for the proper disposal of waste and recycling by your tenants. Please ensure that your tenants responsibly dispose of their waste and donate their unwanted goods. Attached is a leaflet promoting the Give it Don't Bin it' campaign, which encourages the donation of goods, and minimising waste left on streets, in gardens and in and next to communal bin areas.</p> <p>You may also be undertaking property refurbishments. Though most building waste is disposed of responsibly, there are cases of illegal dumping of waste in the neighbourhood. This causes major environmental problems, complaints from residents, and is very costly to remove.</p> <p>If work is being undertaken on your property, please ensure that your contractor has a Waste Carrier Licence and that the waste is properly disposed of. Whoever is removing your waste should be able to give you their Waste Carrier Licence number. You can check its legitimacy on the Environment Agency website: environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers</p> <p>If you give your waste to someone who doesn't have a licence, you can receive a large fixed fine or be subject to prosecution, which carries an unlimited fine on conviction. I thank you in anticipation of your co-operation in these matters.</p> <p>Our Manchester</p> <p>Working together to recycle more</p>
<p>Student Leaflet (end-of-year)</p>	<p>Student Landlord Letter (end-of-year)</p>



6.14 Priorities for 2023/24

- Support annual global communications to residents inc. annual calendar, service reminder and student campaign.
- Increasing the number of subscribers to BINFO.
- Reducing contamination and increasing capture of recycling through more engagement with residents, linking activity to climate change zero carbon plan.
- Reducing fly-tipping of household waste and supporting residents to use legitimate routes for excess household waste and bulky items. Seeking to prioritise re-use and recycling options first.
- Signposting residents who need to use a private waste removal contractor to 'Buy with Confidence' through awareness raising activity.
- Work with Registered Providers and Landlords to amplify recycling messages and support residents to reduce incidents of household fly-tipping.
- Support development of a communications plan for the implementation of the English Waste Strategy (2018) – subject to Government direction.

7.0 Keep Manchester Tidy – Key Updates and Progress to date

Keep Manchester Tidy (KMT) Update

- 7.1 In 2018, Manchester City Council set up a partnership with environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy with the aim of developing more creative ways to tackle litter and fly-tipping. The Keep Manchester Tidy partnership has since

evolved to become a partnership of residents, schools, businesses, community groups and organisations, all working together to help achieve a clean and green city. The partnership is staffed by one full time Project Manager and one full time Neighbourhood Officer (Officer post funded by the £700k investment).

Volunteer Support

- 7.2 Manchester benefits from a huge number of residents who freely give up their time to litter pick their local area. Keep Manchester Tidy support these residents to carry out litter picking safely and provide equipment, guidance, and any practical support that is required. Where residents are litter picking regularly, they may keep the equipment. For groups and events, equipment is usually loaned. Following a litter pick, volunteers can contact Keep Manchester Tidy who will then arrange for the bags of litter to be picked up. Volunteers have said that having this direct link with Keep Manchester Tidy makes it easier for them to get involved and they value having a direct contact for issues to do with litter and volunteering.

Volunteer Achievements

- 7.3 Over the last 5 months, 2,950 bags of volunteer picked litter have been collected. This does not include bags that are reported to Biffa or the city council via other routes, of which we know there are many. On average it takes 15 minutes to fill a bag and therefore it can be estimated that more than 730 hours of volunteer time have gone into helping keep Manchester tidy in recent months. Keep Manchester Tidy links in with volunteers through a Facebook Page which now has over 2000 members. A membership scheme has also been set up which will be promoted in 2023. It is anticipated that the membership scheme will help to formalise the support given to volunteers and improve communication links. In addition, a new campaign that highlights the work of volunteer litter pickers has been produced and is now available for volunteers to use after their litter picks.

Eco Schools

- 7.4 Last year, Keep Britain Tidy relaunched Eco schools making it easier for schools to participate in the programme. KMT began promoting Eco Schools by providing a direct offer of practical and/or financial support for schools and early years establishments. Keep Manchester Tidy also worked with the MEEN (Manchester Environmental Education Network) to support schools. A total of 106 schools and early years settings registered to take part in Eco schools in October last year. Once a school has completed the 7 steps of the programme, they can apply for a green flag award during the application window which is opened annually in June. 26 Schools and early years settings achieved their green flag award this year.

7.5 Neighbourhood Teams, Education, and Climate Change

Scientists are beginning to understand the link between litter and climate change, particularly the impact of litter entering our waterways and seas. KMT is keen to focus on this link and stress that tackling litter is an achievable part of any climate change measures. KMT is working with the Neighbourhood Teams to support their climate change events where residents are asked to make changes in their daily living to reduce carbon. KMT has also been part of the Love Your River Irk project which has brought partners together from other local authority areas. Through the project, KMT supported volunteers to focus on removing litter before it enters our waterways. As part of work within education, KMT identified significant gaps in the approach to litter and waste management planning within schools. A workshop was delivered as part of the Green Bees Education Summit to help strengthen understanding in this area

Campaigns

7.6 Keep Manchester Tidy uses a variety of research led campaigns that have been developed by, or with, Keep Britain Tidy.

7.7 Table 4 provides an overview of KMT campaigns and events delivered in 2022/23

Campaign / Event /	Aim
Great British Spring Clean	Keep Britain Tidy's annual national clean-up campaign. Bringing together residents, businesses, community groups and schools – to get rubbish off the ground, safely collected and recycled.
The Keep Manchester Tidy Platinum Picks	To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, Keep Manchester Target set an ambitious challenge to host or support 70 'Platinum' litter picks.
Love Parks Week	Love Parks Week is set up to celebrate and support the efforts of volunteers and workers up and down the country to maintain and protect our green spaces.
City Centre Litter Campaigns	Focused on litter caused by cigarettes, chewing gum and on the go food packaging. Campaign saw us target mobile phones in litter dropping hotspots, with messages that people can be fined for littering.
Bin the Butt	KBT campaign which educates smokers about the environmental impact of discarded cigarette litter.
Corporate Volunteers	KMT support corporate volunteers to participate in litter picking and greening events.
Clean & Green	Long term interventions working with partners on place-based projects to address environmental issues & increase community pride.
Dog Fouling interventions	KBT campaigns utilised including 'Do it for your dog' and 'We're watching you'.

Manchester Day Parade	Celebration event for litter picking volunteers and an opportunity to shine a light on their cause: to Keep Manchester Tidy.
Volunteer Campaign	Campaign to highlight work of litter picking volunteers cleaning up in their local area – to increase civic pride and reduce littering behaviors.

7.8 Table 5 provides a visual overview of some of the litter and fly-tip reduction campaigns delivered in the last 12 months



City Centre Litter reduction campaign

Great British Spring Clean 2022



Shared Container Areas Leaflet

Litter picking volunteer campaign

7.9 Case studies of KMT campaigns

Case Study 1: Community Clean and Green Projects – Narbuth Drive, Cheetham

This project started with the installation of the Crime not Care campaign and was backed up with regular visits, bulb planting and litter picking. It did not take long for residents to become curious about the presence of Keep Manchester Tidy on the streets which then led to conversations. To continue those conversations and inspire action, Keep Manchester Tidy hosted 3 litter picking fun day events which were well attended. The work has been supported by the Housing Operations, the neighbourhood officer, and the local school. During these longer-term projects, Keep Manchester Tidy also works with compliance teams and the Biffa Fly-tipping investigation team and has located evidence to identify offenders on 6 occasions in the last 5 months.

Case Study 2: St Chad's RC Primary School's Eco Journey

St Chad's were one of the first schools to respond to Keep Manchester Tidy's offer of support with the Eco-School programme. Having been provided with some compost bins, the school then worked with MEEN to explore ways of reducing their waste. They worked on auditing their waste and immediately set up schemes to recycle paper and compost fruit waste. They also improved biodiversity and air quality by planting hedges and trees in the school grounds which they fertilised using a solution made from the nettles that they had cleared.

KMT helped the school to take part in the Great Big School clean by setting up a GB Spring Clean litter picking station outside the school. Residents and the Cheetham

Ward Councillors were invited to join in too and they collectively gathered 55 bags of litter. KMT were delighted that St Chad's Eco Committee agreed to be part of the Manchester Day Parade. The children helped make the props for the event and delighted the crowd with their litter related chants and choreography.

The school completed the 7 steps of the Eco School programme in record time and were able to apply for a green flag award in July 2022. Having demonstrated outstanding effort and achievement, St Chads were awarded a green flag with distinction. Head Teacher Stacey Brackenridge was keen to stress how involvement in Eco Schools has opened many doors for St Chads and that the children have experienced opportunities that they would otherwise never have had. This has helped to build a positive reputation for St Chads as a thriving primary school that focuses on faith, the local community, and the environment.

In addition, KMT paired St Chads with Pell Frischmann, a corporate volunteer firm. As part of their social value contribution, Pell Frischmann paid the school's green flag application fee.

7.10 Table 6 provides an overview of participation in KMT campaigns during 2022/23 (April-Aug)

Campaign	Measure
Litter pickers loaned	544
Litter pickers donated to active groups	124
Requests for bag collections following community litter picks	276
Number of bags of community picked litter collected	2,950
Volunteer time supporting community litter picks (assumes 15 mins per bag of litter).	730 hours
Keep Manchester Tidy Facebook group members	2,000+
Corporate volunteer events	20+
Great British Spring Clean – Keep Manchester Tidy hosted events across the city	13
Queens Jubilee Celebrations – Platinum Litter Picks completed or scheduled for completion by December 2022.	70*
Smokers engaged as part of the 'Bin the Butt' campaign to encourage disposal of cigarette litter in the bin.	120
Dog fouling campaigns	9 areas targeted
Manchester Day Parade – KMT float	70 volunteers
Eco Schools – number of Manchester schools and early years settings registered onto the programme in Autumn 2021/22	106
Eco Schools – number of green flags awarded to Manchester schools in July 2022	26
City Centre litter campaign *How many times the adverts appeared on people's screens	511,338 impressions* 2,506 clicks
Long term – place-based 'Clean and Green' projects	5

7.11 **Priorities for 2023/24**

Keep Manchester has previously defined its priorities as responding to littering behaviours, focusing on fly-tipping, building stakeholder engagement, and becoming a 'Tidy City'. Much work remains to be done across these four areas and there is a need for more active partnerships to be able to deliver lasting results. In addition, having declared a climate emergency in Manchester, it is imperative that environmental activity is approached within a framework for carbon reduction. Keep Manchester Tidy will therefore review its progress and direction before producing a new strategy document in 2023. This document will guide the next phase of our tidy journey which will support Manchester's journey to becoming a cleaner and greener city by 2025.

8.0 **Recommendations**

The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note, comment upon, and support the content of the report and the appendices

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Waste Collection and Street Cleansing Contract Performance

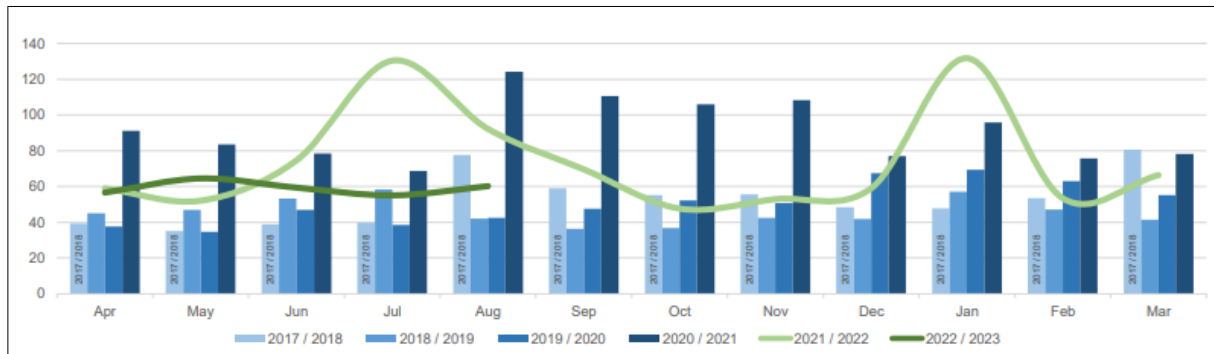
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Appendix 1 – Bin Collection and Street Cleansing Contract Performance

1.0 Bin Collection Performance

1.1 Graph 1 shows the number of residents reported missed bins for collections via the Contact Centre and on-line. Following service interruption during the pandemic and subsequent issues in 2021 with HGV driver shortages, the number of missed bins has significantly reduced. Over one million bins are successfully emptied each month. However, it's understood that the impact of even one missed bin for a resident is frustrating and inconvenient. This area is closely monitored to reduce recurring issues and Biffa work with the Council to identify other issues outside of their control which impact their ability to service bins.

Graph 1 showing the number of missed bins per 100,000



1.2 Improving crew bin returns and reducing spillage from bins during the collection process was highlighted as a priority by members through contract review process in 2021/22 and is a workstream as part of the Service Improvement and Innovation Group (SIIG).

1.3 Table 1 shows the results of inspections by Officers checking shared bin collections in passageways. This area remains a priority for improvement and is a workstream as part of the SIIG.

Table 1 showing percentage of passageway bin collections passing checks against collection schedule

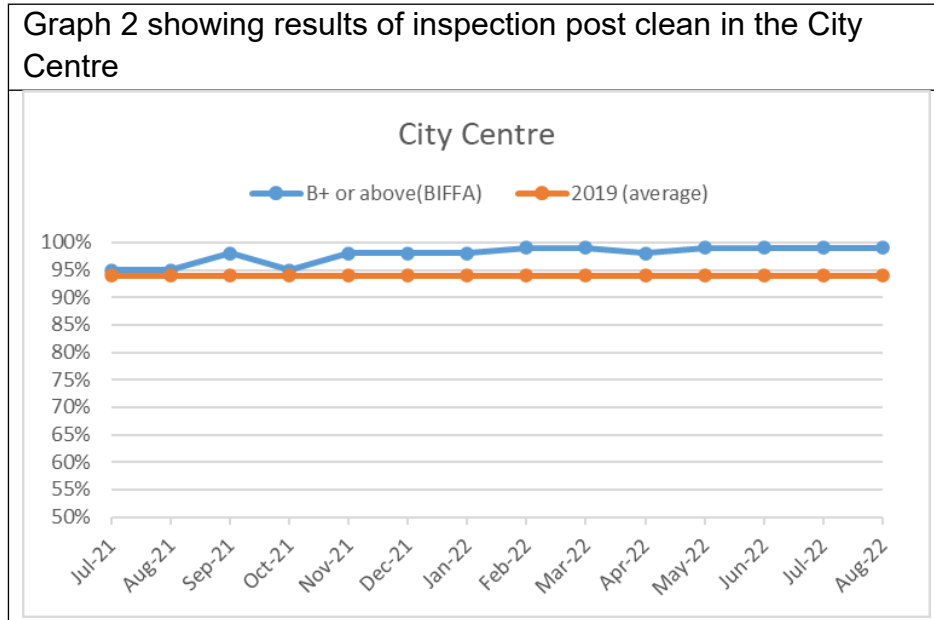
Year	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pass rate	80%	93%	93%	85%

Passageways (Quarterly clearance)

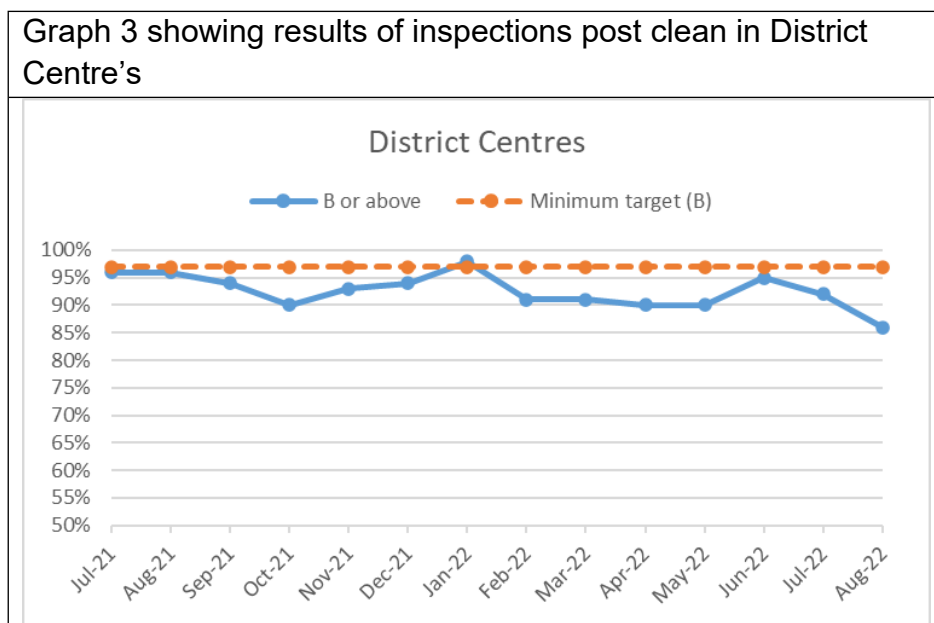
1.4 Biffa have been successfully maintaining the programme in line with the agreed schedule. Officers provide evidenced quarterly updates to ward members.

2.0 Street Cleansing & Fly-tip Removal Performance

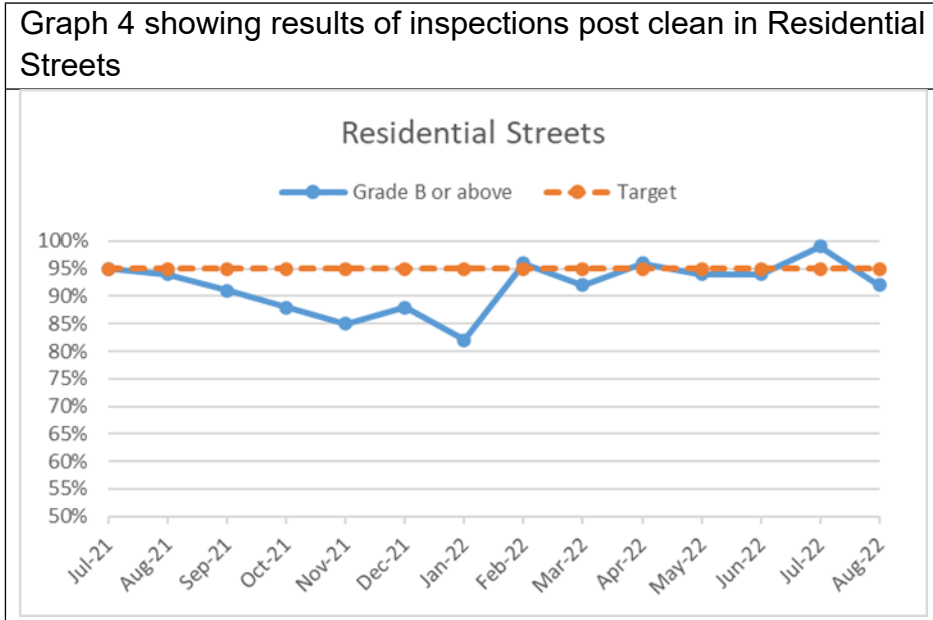
2.1 Graph 2 shows the results of inspections post cleanse in the City Centre which shows that the required standards are being achieved.



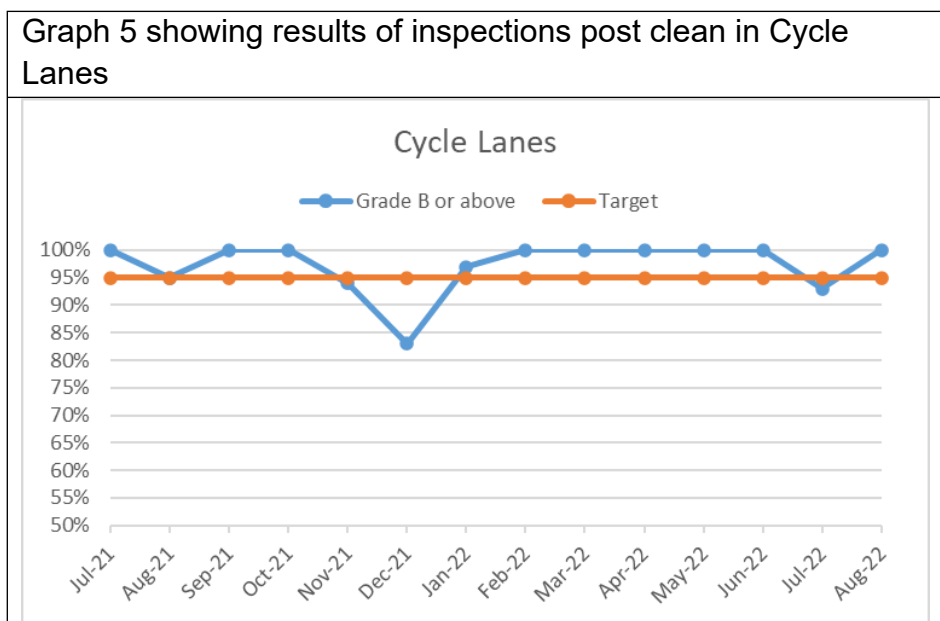
2.2 Graph 3 shows the results of inspection post cleanse in District Centres. This performance needs to improve, surveys shows that detailed cleansing is not always being completed to a high enough standard and this has been highlighted for improvement as detailed in section 5.0 of the main report.



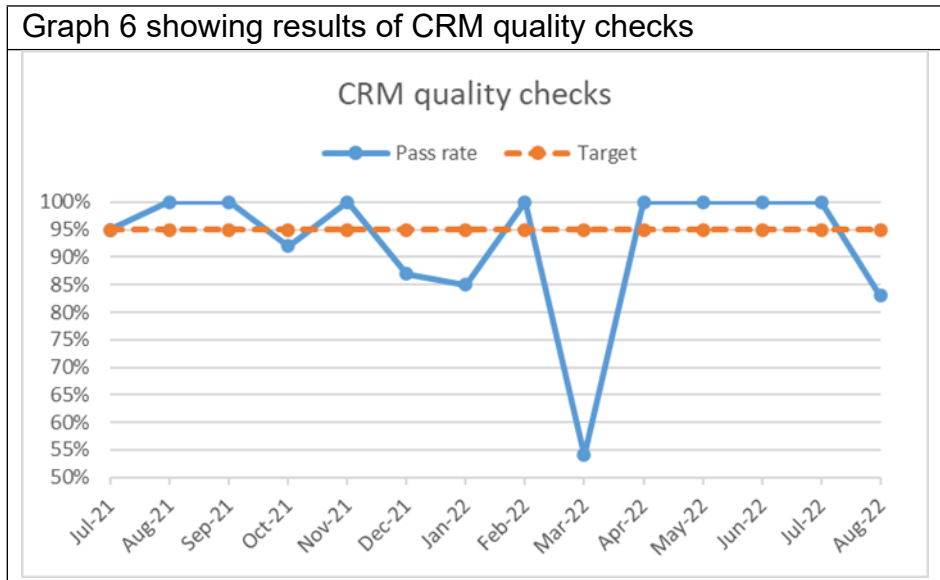
2.3 Graph 4 shows results of inspection post cleanse in residential streets. Whilst improvements have been observed over the last 6-months, further work is required by Biffa to ensure a more intelligent approach is adopted to deploying resource to improve standards.



2.4 Graph 5 shows results of inspection post cleanse in Cycle Lanes. Biffa understand it is a key priority for the city to promote active travel and ensuring cycle lanes are clean is important to sustain and increase uptake. In recent years the cycle lane network has increased, a work stream has been established to improve the cleansing methodology which will require new machinery. Trials are being undertaken in 2022/23 to be implemented in 2023/24.



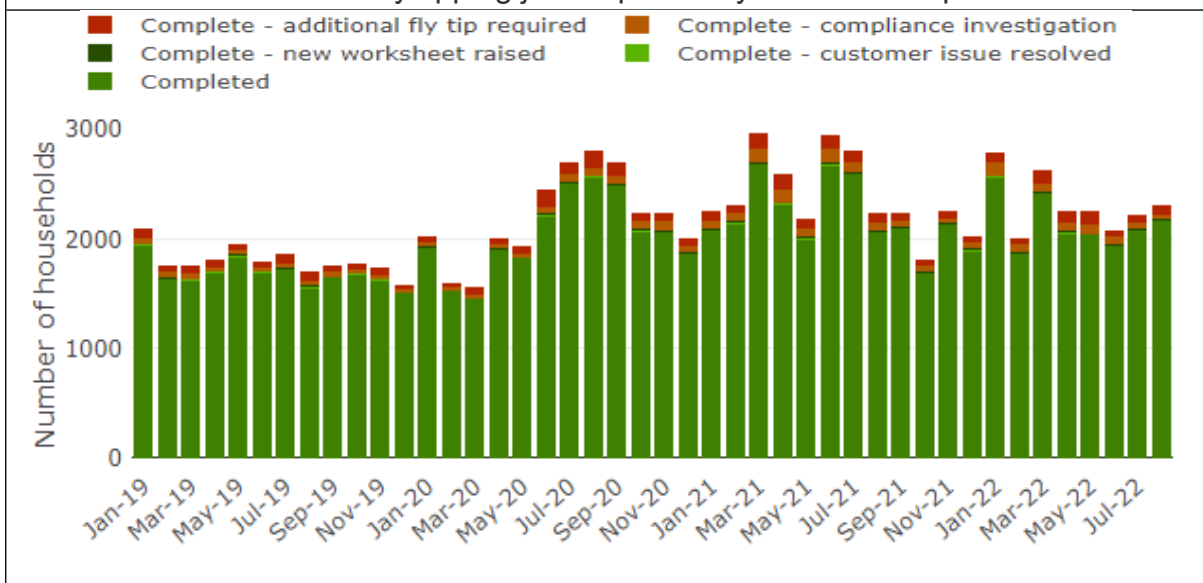
2.5 Graph 6 shows results of checks undertaken of CRM jobs to ensure jobs are being processed and closed correctly. Most CRM tickets are handled correctly. Improvements have been identified to improve workflow in the current CRM system, which will be reviewed as part of the Resident Business Development Experience Programme (RBDxP). There is also opportunity to make improvements to Biffa’s operating system (Whitespace) to improve workflow and accuracy of job allocation.



Fly-tip Removal Performance

2.6 The Biffa resource allocated to managing fly-tipping has been placed under increased demand since 2019/20 following an increase in the number of fly-tip incidents. Biffa prioritise resource towards removal of fly-tipping to ensure the 5-day removal service level agreement is achieved.

Table 2: Total number of fly tipping jobs reported by Biffa as 'complete'



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**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee – 13 October 2022

Subject: Overview Report

Report of: Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Summary

This report provides the following information:

- Recommendations Monitor
- A summary of key decisions relating to the Committee's remit
- Items for Information
- Work Programme

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to discuss the information provided and agree any changes to the work programme that are necessary.

Wards Affected: All

Contact Officers:

Name: Lee Walker
Position: Governance and Scrutiny Support Officer
Telephone: 0161 234 3376
Email: lee.walker@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection): None

1. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

This section of the report lists recommendations made by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee. Where applicable, responses to each will indicate whether the recommendation will be implemented, and if it will be, how this will be done.

Date	Item	Recommendation	Response	Contact Officer
13 January 2021	NESC/21/06 Monitoring and Compliance – Construction Sites	Recommend that Officers, in consultation with the Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport arrange a briefing session for Members of the Committee that provides an overview of a range of activities that included, but not restricted to planning and related enforcement; roles and responsibilities and Traffic Regulation Orders.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back once received.	Julie Roscoe Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing
22 July 2021	ECCSC/21/11 Climate Change Action Plan Quarterly Progress Report: Q1 April - June 2021	That every school on a main arterial route with high volumes of traffic have a tree planting plan included as part of the tree strategy to promote clean air.	A response to this recommendation has been requested and will be reported back once received.	Julie Roscoe Director of Planning, Building Control and Licensing
9 December 2021	ECCSC/21/33 Aviation and Carbon Emissions	That the Executive Member for the Environment convene a meeting with Members of the Committee to discuss further the issues raised at the meeting.	Executive Member for Environment and Transport is progressing this recommendation.	Cllr Rawlins Executive Member for Environment

2. Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish details of key decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before the decision is due to be taken. Details of key decisions that are due to be taken are published on a monthly basis in the Register of Key Decisions.

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution is an executive decision, which is likely:

- To result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, or
- To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the city.

The Council Constitution defines 'significant' as being expenditure or savings (including the loss of income or capital receipts) in excess of £500k, providing that is not more than 10% of the gross operating expenditure for any budget heading in the in the Council's Revenue Budget Book, and subject to other defined exceptions.

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions, published on **3 October 2022**, containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included overleaf. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and to agree, whether to include in the work programme of the Committee.

Subject / Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due Date	Consultation	Background documents	Officer Contact
Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy (2022/09/12A) The approval of the Draft Strategy and agreement to its publication.	Executive	14 Dec 2022		Report and recommendations	Phil Havenhand, Interim Head of Infrastructure & Environment Phil.Havenhand@manchester.gov.uk
Biodiversity Strategy (2022/09/21A) To endorse the Manchester Biodiversity Strategy.	Executive	19 Oct 2022		Report and recommendations	Duncan McCorquodale duncan.mccorquodale@manchester.gov.uk

**Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme – October 2022**

Thursday 13 October 2022, 10 am (Report deadline Tuesday 4 October 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
MCC Climate Change Action Plan – Quarter 2 Update report	To receive and comment upon the MCC Climate Change Action Plan quarterly update report.	Cllr Rawlins	Mark Duncan Sarah Henshall Gina Twigg	
Manchester Climate Change Agency/ Partnership 2021/22 Annual Report	To receive and comment upon the Manchester Climate Change Agency 2021/22 Annual report.	Cllr Rawlins	Samantha Nicholson	
Biodiversity Strategy	To consider and comment on the Biodiversity Strategy prior to submission to the Executive.	Cllr Rawlins	Julie Roscoe	Executive Report
Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Update	This report provides an update on progress in delivering waste, recycling, and street cleansing services, describing how the activity contributes to the climate change agenda and key priorities for future.	Cllr Igbon	Heather Coates	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Scrutiny Support Officer	

Thursday 10 November 2022, 10 am (Report deadline Tuesday 1 November 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Update on the 2023/24 budget position	To receive a report on the Council's anticipated budget position for 2023/24, the budget process and draft proposals for any services in the remit of this committee.	Cllr Rawlins Cllr Igbon	Carol Culley Paul Hindle	
Embedding Carbon Literacy within the Council	To receive information on the progress being made towards embedding a zero carbon culture within the Council (as part of the Carbon Literacy journey).	Cllr Rawlins	Suzanne Grimshaw	
Neighbourhood Teams and Community Engagement	To receive a report that describes how the Neighbourhood Teams are working with local communities to address climate change.	Cllr Igbon	Shefali Kapoor	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Scrutiny Support Officer	

Thursday 8 December 2022, 10 am (Report deadline Tuesday 29 November 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Local Area Energy Plan	To receive an update on the progress of the Local Area Energy Plan.	Cllr Rawlins	Becca Heron / Pat Bartoli	
Single Use Plastic Free 2024 Progress	To receive a report on the progress being made towards our pledge to be Single Use Plastics Free by	Cllr Rawlins	Mark Duncan	

Report	2024.		Helen Harland	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Scrutiny Support Officer	

Thursday 12 January 2023, 10 am (Report deadline Monday 31 December 2022)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
MCC Climate Change Action Plan – Quarter 3 Update report	To receive and comment upon the MCC Climate Change Action Plan quarterly update report.	Cllr Rawlins	Mark Duncan Sarah Henshall Gina Twigg	
Active Travel Strategy	To receive a report on the Active Travel Strategy The Committee have also requested information on the Staff Active Travel Scheme. The full scope of this report is to be agreed by the Chair in consultation with Cllr Rawlins.	Cllr Rawlins	Rebecca Heron Pat Bartoli Annalie Pearce Amy Powe	
Manchester Airport and Aviation Emissions	To receive a report that discusses the steps taken to reduce emissions that result from the aviation industry.	Cllr Rawlins	David Houliston	
Electric Vehicle Charging	To receive a report that describes the provision and delivery of electrical charging points for motor vehicles.	Cllr Rawlins	Rebecca Heron	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the	-	Scrutiny	

	recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.		Support Officer	
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Thursday 9 February 2023, 10 am (Report deadline Tuesday 31 January 2023)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
2023/24 Budget Report	Consideration of the final 2023/24 budget proposals that will go onto February Budget Executive and Scrutiny and March Council.	Cllr Rawlins Cllr Igbon	Carol Culley Paul Hindle	
Planning Policy and Climate Change	To receive a report that considers how planning policy contributes to addressing climate change. The report will include, but not restricted to carbon standards for new build homes; flooding mitigation and heat island mitigation.	Cllr White	Julie Roscoe	
Zero Carbon Culture Guides	To receive information on the work being delivered in relation to engaging Culture organisations with their zero carbon journeys.	Cllr Rawlins / Cllr Rahman	Sarah Elderkin Louise Lanigan	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Scrutiny Support Officer	

Thursday 10 March 2023, 10 am (Report deadline Tuesday 28 February 2023)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Manchester Green and Blue Strategy and Implementation Plan, including annual update and a report on the Tree Action Plan	<p>To receive the annual update on the delivery of the Green and Blue Implementation Plan together with information on the delivery of the Tree Action Plan.</p> <p>The Committee have requested that this item includes discussion on flood risk management with reference to the Victoria North Development; the role of partners such as the Environment Agency and their response to incident of spillages and pollution in rivers and information on the Our Rivers, Our City Strategy.</p>	Cllr Rawlins	Julie Roscoe	
Parks and Open Spaces	To receive a report that provides information on the approach to open spaces to promote biodiversity and reduce carbon emissions. Members have requested that this includes consideration on the use of pesticides, including its use in allotments, woodland space and the interface between grounds maintenance and street cleansing services.	Cllr Igbon	Kylie Ward Matthew Bennett	
Crematoria and Cemeteries	To receive a report that describes the carbon impact of cremation, including information on the activities to promote biodiversity in cemeteries.	Cllr Igbon	Matthew Bennett	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Scrutiny Support Officer	

Items to be scheduled

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Carbon Reduction Procurement Progress Report	To receive an update report on the steps that have been taken within the council's procurements to support carbon reduction	Cllr Rawlins	Mark Leaver Peter Schofield	Update to the report considered 23 June 2022.
Retrofit Plan	To receive and comment upon the Council's Retrofit Plan.	Cllr White	Becca Heron / Martin Oldfield / David Ashmore	Executive Report

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