

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Climate Change Sub Group – 22 October 2019

Subject: MCC Climate Change Action Plan Update

Report of: The Strategic Lead Policy and Partnerships

Summary

The Council's existing Climate Change Action Plan 2016-20 sets out the actions that are required to deliver a 41% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020 from a 2009/10 baseline. The latest data shows that the Council's direct emissions have reduced by 48.1% from a 2009/10 baseline. The latest annual action plan update is attached as an appendix and was reviewed by the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee in July 2019. The qualitative action plan update and direct emissions data are updated annually at present as some of the actions do not progress significantly on a quarterly basis and much of the data is lagged and fluctuates seasonally. Some of the priorities within the existing action plan are still being delivered and won't be completed until 2020 or later including the Civic Quarter Heat Network which is currently in the construction phase and the £10 million Carbon Reduction Programme to improve energy efficiency in 13 Council buildings which received capital expenditure approval on 10 October 2019.

In November 2018, the Council's Executive agreed to the establishment of science-based carbon reduction targets for Manchester which required the city to become net zero carbon by 2038. As such, the Manchester Climate Change Board (MCCB), along with the city council and several other organisations in the city committed to developed a zero carbon action plan to be approved by the Council in March 2020

The Council is now working on the production of a new 5 year plan which will replace the existing 2016-2020 plan and will reflect the more ambitious target and recent Climate Emergency Motion. This report provides an update on the process that will be followed to produce a new plan.

Recommendations

The Sub Group are asked to note the progress and approach to developing a new 5 year action plan for the city.

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 new Climate Change Action Plan will set out the Council's actions over the next 5 years to progress towards a zero carbon city.

Manchester Strategy outcomes	Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS
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 Manchester's emerging Local Industrial Strategy.
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Manchester is one 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 may 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 and improved air quality.
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	Becoming a zero carbon city can 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.

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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 Climate Change Annual Report 2019
Playing Our Full Part: How Manchester's Residents and Businesses can benefit from Ambitious Action on Climate Change 2018
Manchester Climate Change Strategy 2017-50

Manchester Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan 2017-22

Manchester: A Certain Future Annual Report 2018

Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2016-20

Manchester Zero Carbon 2038, Manchester City Council's Commitment, March 2019

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This paper summarises the approach that is being taken to deliver a new Climate Change Action Plan for the Council. The plan will include the actions required to support the Council and the city to reach the first milestones on the path to zero carbon. The plan will cover the period 2020-25 which will coincide with the end of the current Our Manchester Strategy.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In November 2018, the city worked with the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of Manchester to develop carbon emission reduction targets to ensure that we played our full part in reaching the UKs commitment to the Paris Agreement. As such, the city and the Council adopted a science-based carbon budget and committed the city to becoming zero carbon by 2038 at the latest.
- 2.2 In March 2019, the Council endorsed the draft Manchester Zero Carbon Framework as the city's overarching approach to meeting its science-based climate change targets to 2038, as part of the wider Our Manchester policy framework. This report also included draft action plans from a range of organisations who are members of the Manchester Climate Change Board and are collectively responsible for 20% of the city's emissions. These organisations, including the Council, have committed to become zero carbon by 2038 and will be producing final action plans for approval by Executive in March 2020.
- 2.3 In July 2019 Manchester City Council declared a climate emergency. This declaration recognised the need for the city to do more to reduce its carbon emissions and mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. A separate report on the progress to deliver the motion is also being considered by the Sub Group.

3.0 Carbon Reduction Target for 5 year plan

- 3.1 A significant amount of local and national coverage of climate emergencies has focussed on the commitments to become zero carbon by a specific end date. As mentioned above, Manchester has a clearly defined science based approach to establishing a carbon budget for the city which requires urgent action. The new action plan is an opportunity to reemphasise the need for urgent action.
- 3.2 The new action plan will establish a shorter term target for the Council which will replace the existing target from the previous action plan. This target is currently being determined and will also be informed by the refreshed Tyndall Centre analysis. The new target will be ambitious and is likely to require a halving of the Council's direct CO² emissions within the next 4-5 years. The challenge of delivering this saving should not be underestimated and there needs to be a substantial programme of investment and delivery across the Council's operational estate.

4.0 Scope of plan

- 4.1 The new action plan will recognise the dual role the Council has which encompasses reducing the Council's own direct CO² emissions but also influencing the city's emissions through all available policy levers.
- 4.2 The plan is still in its early stages of development but is likely to broadly follow the structure that has been established by the Zero Carbon Coordination Group (ZCCG). The 4 themes that are being focused on are: Decision making, policies and standards; Investment and delivery; Catalyst for change; and External influence.

5.0 Process for developing the plan and key milestones

- 5.1 The ZCCG will oversee the development of the action plan with input from Strategic Management Team and officers from across the organisation. Input from a range of workshops will also be incorporated including the workshops which were held at the 14 October Leadership Summit.
- 5.2 Best practice from other partners in the city is also being included in the development of the action plan and external inspiration and challenge is now a standing item at the ZCCG. Northwards and Southways have been approached to present their draft action plans and discussions have taken place with Bruntwood and Manchester Metropolitan University about sharing their learning in relation to their operational estates.
- 5.3 Clearly, input from the Climate Change Sub Group will also help to inform the development of the action plan. At present a draft of the action plan is scheduled for discussion at the February 2020 Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee but this may be reviewed following the establishment of the Sub Group.
- 5.4 The final version of the action plan will be approved by the Council's Executive in March 2020 and will then become part of the final citywide framework which will include action plans from organisations responsible for approximately 20% of the city's emissions.
- 5.5 A high level process map showing the key phases of development, implementation and monitoring is set out in figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Climate Change Action Plan Draft Timeline



6.0 Recommendations

6.1 The Sub Group are asked to note the progress and approach to developing a new 5 year action plan for the city.