

## Reducing Direct Carbon Emissions

Manchester City Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) has a target to reduce direct emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> by 50% over the five-year period of 2020-25. To achieve this, the Council has a target to reduce its emissions by 13% every year, for five years.

The CCAP also sets a carbon budget of 119,917 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> for the five-year period of 2020-25, calculated using science-based targets. Within this, the carbon budget for 2020-21 is 31,080 tonnes.



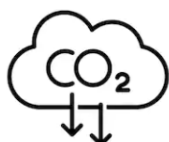
### BUDGET

**31,080 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – Emissions Budget 2020-21**  
**10,346 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – Emissions to September 2020\***

*\*Emissions to date are estimated due to billing timelines; the annual report qualifies actual emissions.*

The Council emitted 10,346 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> between April and September 2020 – these are the most up to date figures for the year 2020-21. These emissions are associated with Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet and staff travel.

In order to stay within the budget for the whole year, the Council needs to reduce its emissions by 1,204 tonnes compared to last year; this can be referred to as an annual savings target. The Council has implemented a range of energy saving measures since April 2020 and will complete additional improvements by March 2021. Collectively, these measures will generate annual savings of 1,031 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> which is 85% of the target.



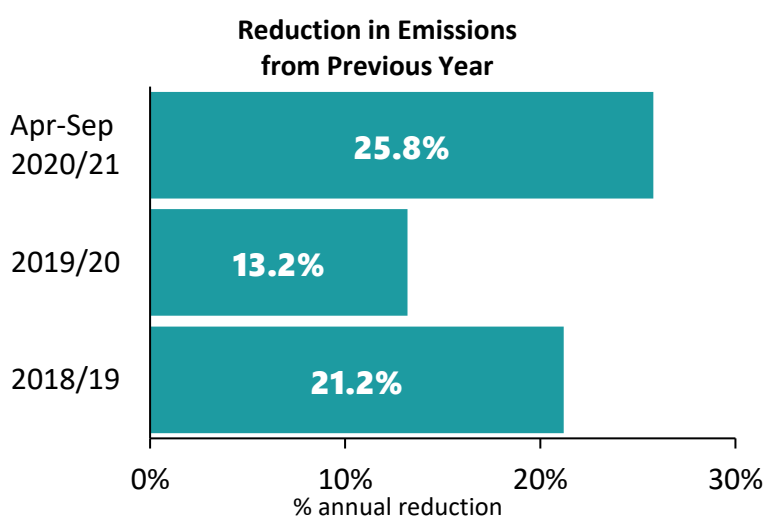
### SAVINGS

**1,204 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – Annual Savings Target 2020-21**  
**1,031 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> – Annual Savings Implemented**

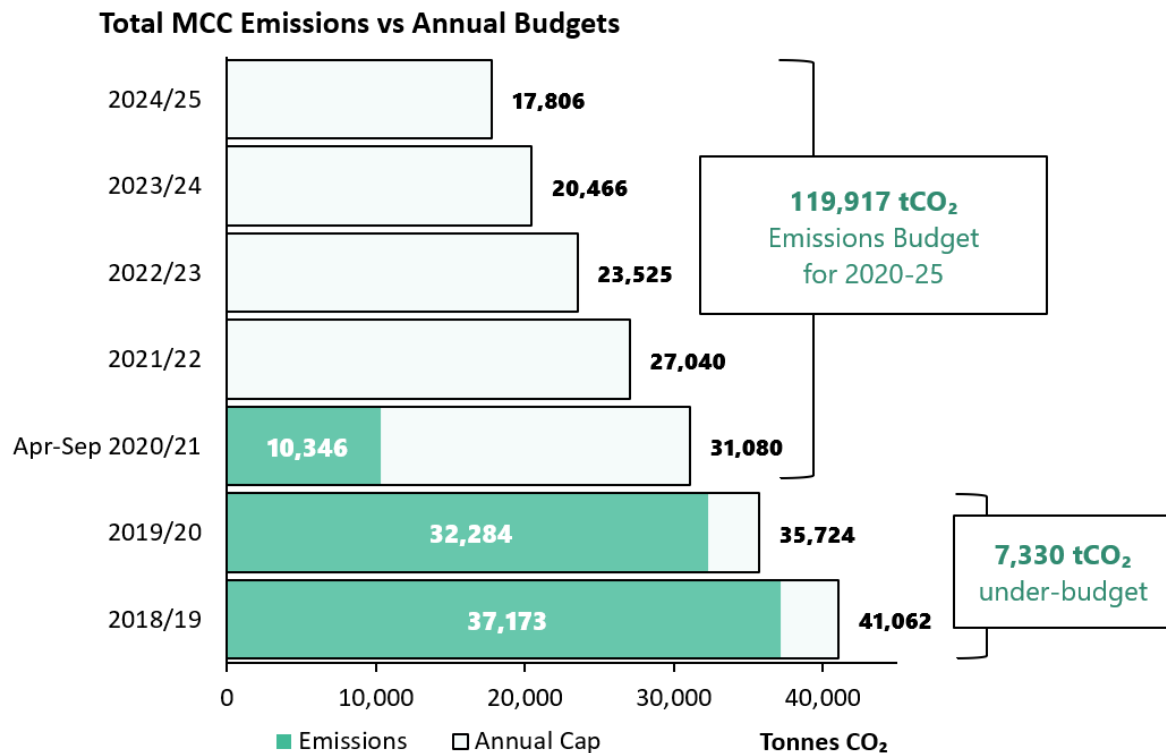
Alongside the savings emanating from these proactive measures, additional savings will be delivered by the decarbonisation of the national grid and, more significantly, by the changes in Council operations brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. These impacts can already be seen in the figures below. The full impact of these changes will be calculated at year end.

The graph to the right shows the Council's emissions in the year to date are 25.8% lower than the same period in the previous year. The target is to reduce emissions by 13% each year.

In 2018-19 the Council reduced its direct emissions by 21.2% compared to the previous year. In 2019-20 the reduction was 13.2% compared to the previous year.

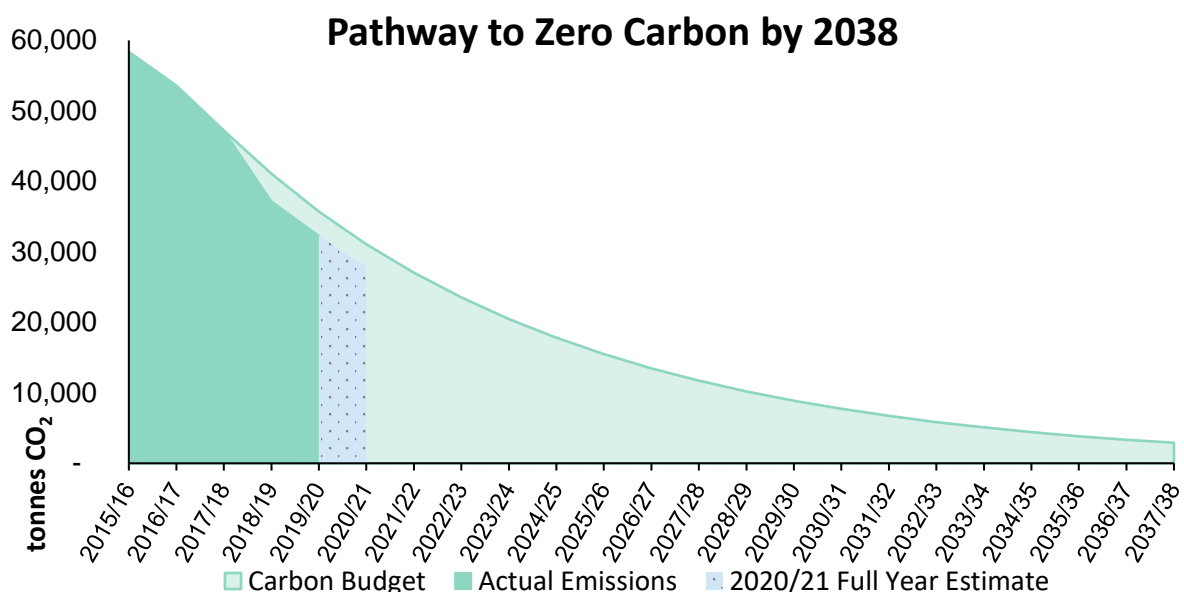


The graph below shows the total and annual carbon budgets for the CCAP 2020-25 and the emissions for April to September 2020; it also shows the budgets and actual emissions for the previous two years, 2018-19 and 2019-20.



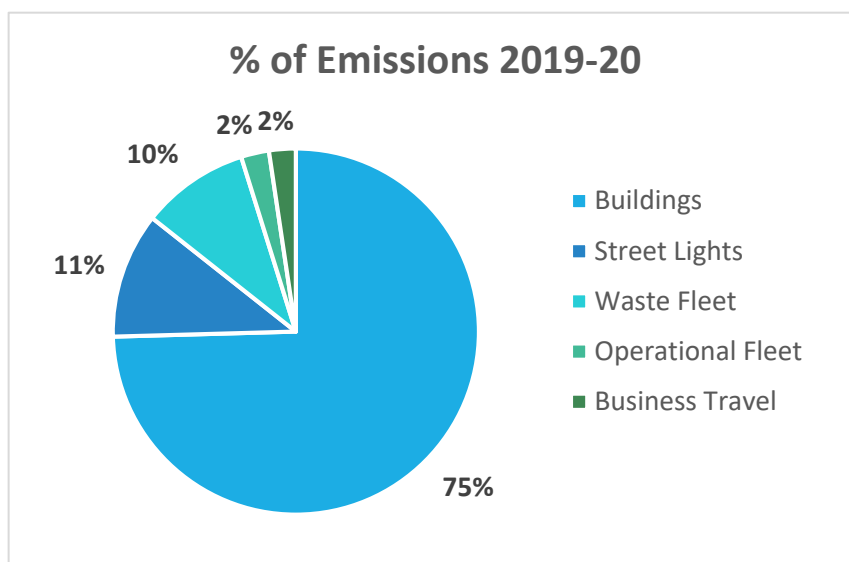
A conservative estimate of total emissions for the full year (April 2020 to March 2021) is **28,000** tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. This assumes that our emissions for October 2020 to March 2021 will be the same as those for the same period in the previous year. As such, we fully expect the Council to stay below this year's carbon emissions budget of 31,080 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

In addition to the targets for 2020-25 set out in this CCAP, the Council has a target to be zero carbon by 2038. The trajectory to this point is shown in the Pathway graph below; the space below the curve is the total carbon budget for the period. Actual emissions for April 2015 to March 2020 are shown alongside the estimate for 2020-21.



A breakdown of the Council's direct emissions is shown in the chart to the right.

The figures used are from 2019-20 to show a 'normal' position unaffected by Covid-19. It should be noted however that analysis of emissions to date in 2020-21 shows minimal change to the distribution of emissions compared to these figures.



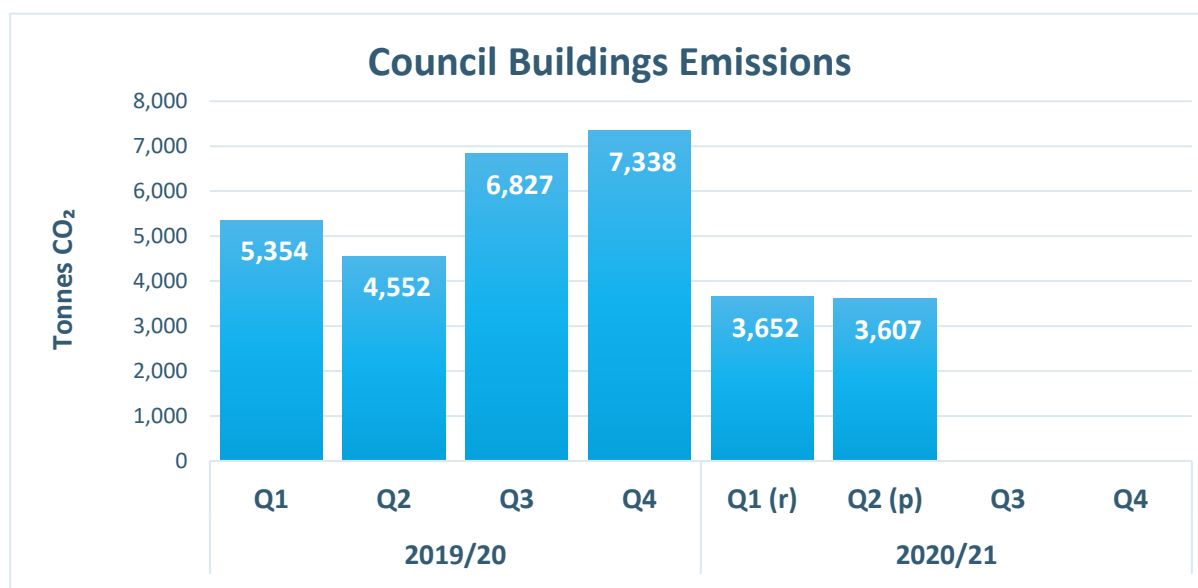
Buildings are the most significant contributor of direct emissions, closely followed by streetlights and our waste fleet, all of which have been targeted for proactive change to reduce the Council's energy consumption and carbon footprint (see later sections of this report for more details).

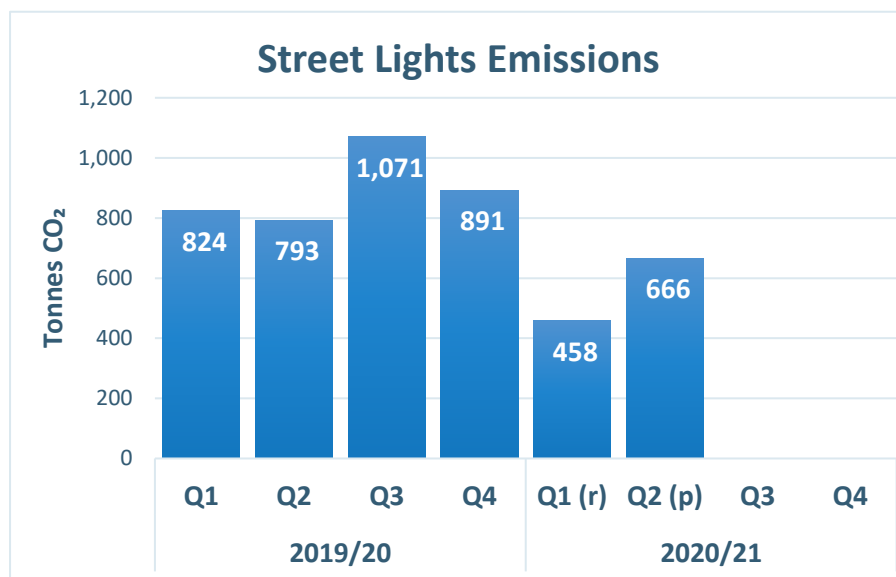
The following charts address each of these items separately, showing a quarter-by-quarter view of emissions going back six quarters to April 2019 which shows both seasonal differences (e.g. energy consumption and emissions peak in winter) and the overall trend.

*Some figures for Q1 2020-21 have been revised in Q2 as accurate billing has become available and are marked as ( r ) for revised; some figures for Q2 are best estimates based on available data at the time of reporting and are marked as ( p ) for provisional. All figures will be finalised after year-end when a full twelve months of bills become available.*

Emissions from energy use in Council buildings have reduced this year compared to the same period last year; this has been driven by the installation of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation capacity, and further affected by the decarbonisation of the national grid and the changes to building use caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

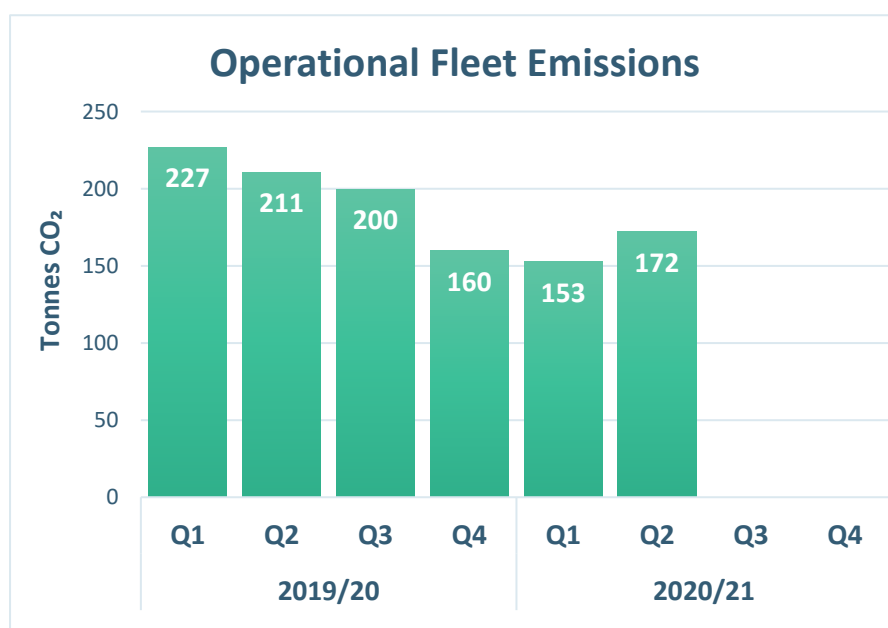
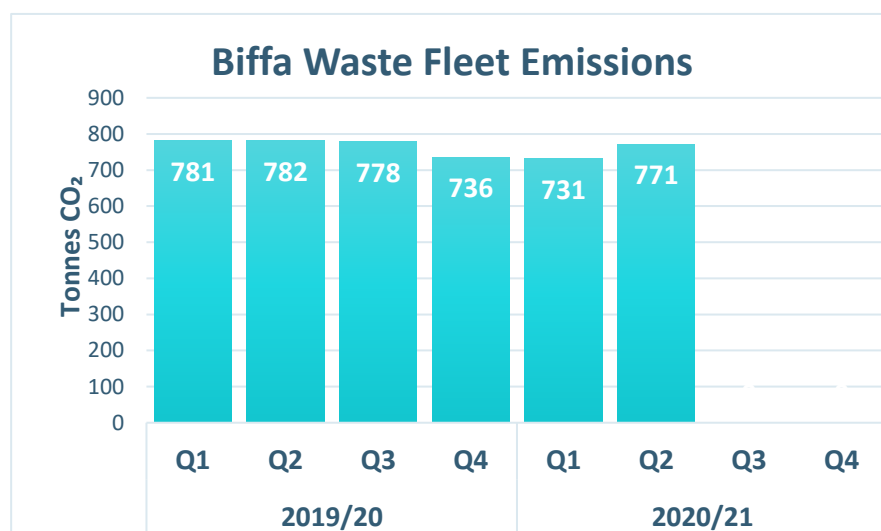
Quarter one emissions are 32% lower than last year and quarter two emissions are 21% below the year before.





Emissions from streetlights have been reduced by the large-scale retrofitting of LEDs (see later sections of the report for more details). Quarter one emissions are 44% lower than last year and quarter two emissions are 16% lower, showing the significant impact of the Council's investment in this LED programme.

Emissions from the waste fleet have remained relatively consistent but will reduce in the coming quarters as half the fleet switches to electric vehicles (see later sections of this report for further details).

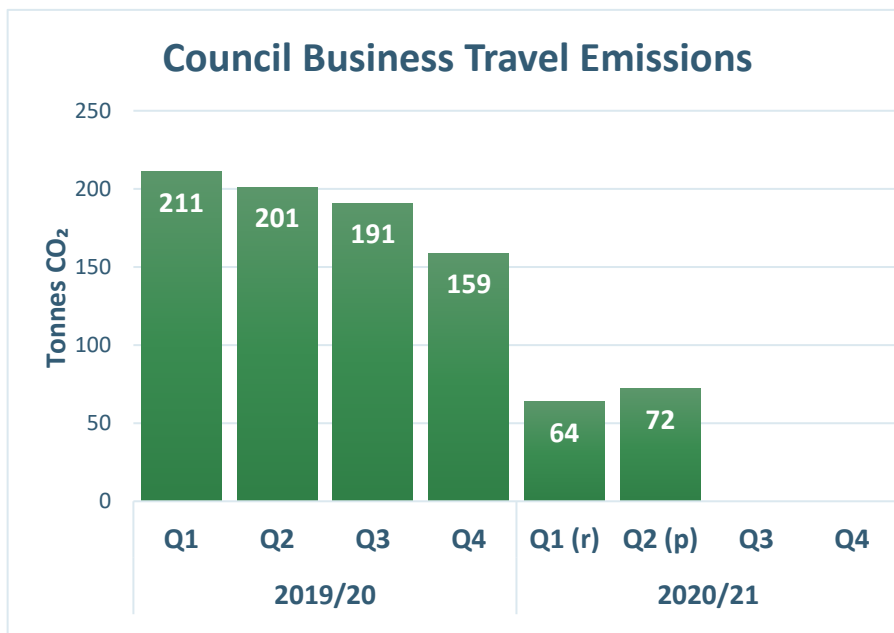


Emissions from the Council's operational fleet have reduced via switching to electric vehicles (see later sections of this report for more details).

Quarter one emissions are 33% lower than last year and quarter two emissions are 18% below the same period the year before.

Emissions from business travel by Council Officers and Elected Members has reduced significantly this year largely due to the Covid-19 pandemic changing the way we work, for example with large shifts to video conferencing.

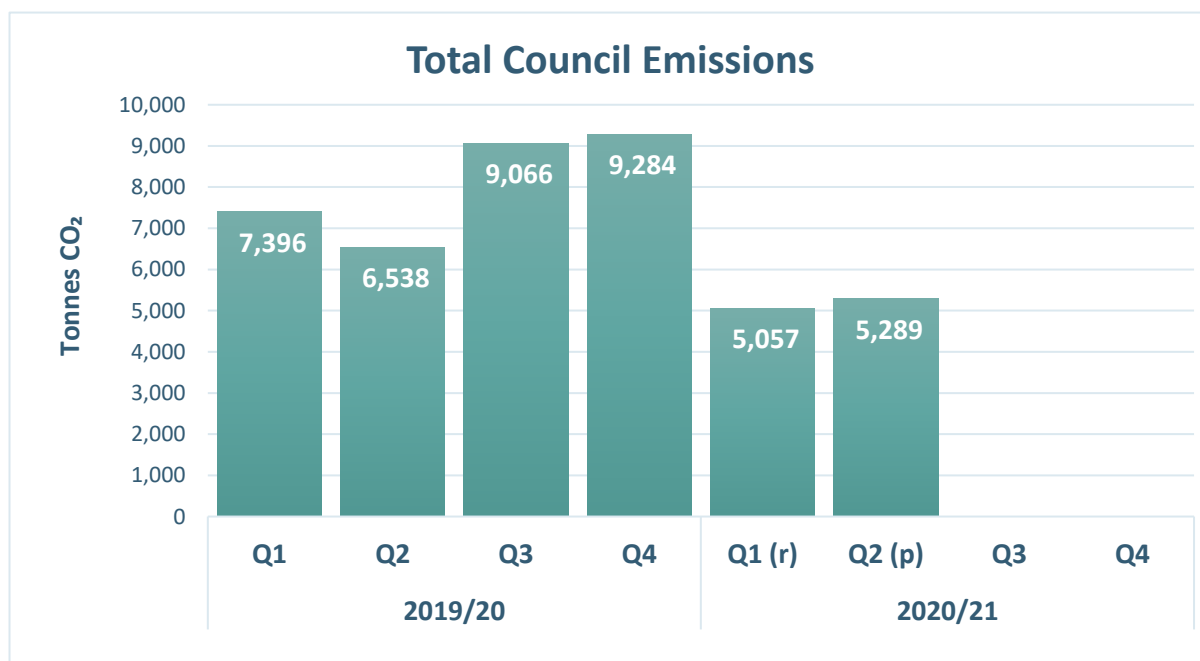
Quarter one emissions are 70% lower than last year and quarter two emissions are 64% below the same period the year before.



Within this, car miles have reduced 60% and 53% for quarters one and two respectively when compared to the same periods last year. Covid-19 has also changed the Council's use of other forms of transport this year, with rail travel falling by over 95% in both quarters and air travel reducing by 100% in quarter one and by 91% in quarter two.

Collectively, the Council's total emissions reflect these downward trends, although it is fully expected that figures for quarters three and four will show a relative increase due to energy demands being higher in winter.

Quarter one total emissions are 32% lower than quarter one last year and quarter two emissions are 19% below the same period in the year before.



## Progress Update on All Actions in CCAP 2020-25

### Workstream 1: Buildings and Energy

#### Action 1.1 Carbon Reduction in Council Estate

Phase 1 of a large-scale programme of energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy installations has been implemented and the work is due to complete in March 2021. This covers eleven buildings within the Council's estate (NB work on The Sharp Project will complete in quarter one of the next financial year).

**£6.3m** capital investment.

**£700k** savings each year  
via reduced operating costs.

**9-year** payback period.

**2.5MW** of renewable  
energy generating capacity  
installed.

**9,000** LED light fittings.

**1,326** tCO<sub>2</sub> savings pa.

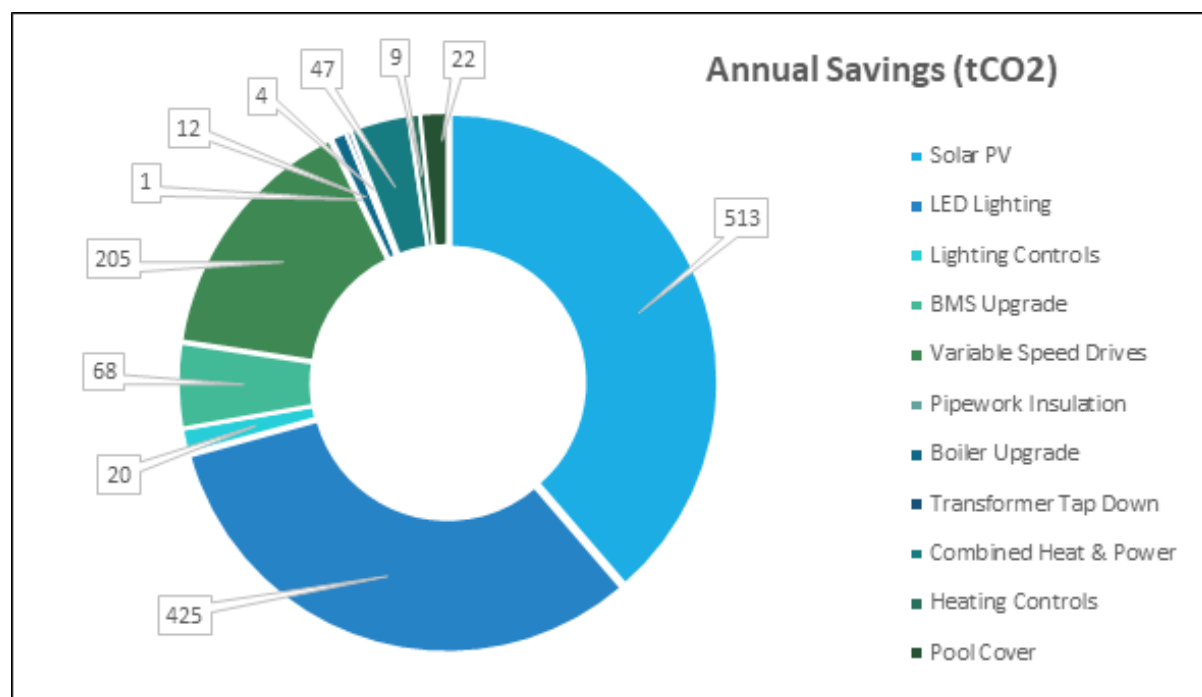
Building	Annual Savings (tCO <sub>2</sub> )
Wythenshawe Forum	297
Town Hall Extension	169
East Manchester Leisure Centre	101
The Sharp Project	295
Space Project	112
Hough End Leisure Centre	74
Arcadia Sports Centre	59
Moss Side Leisure Centre	23
North City Family and Fitness Centre	50
Belle Vue Sport Centre	123
Manchester Tennis and Football Centre	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>1326</b>



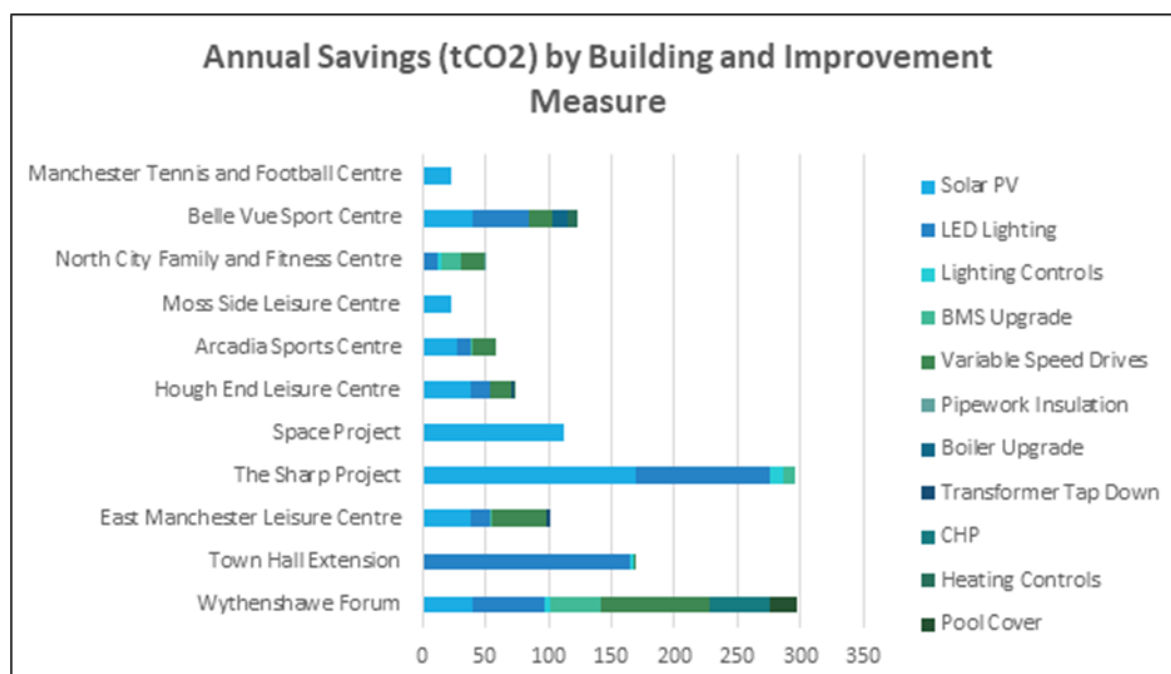
A range of different measures have been installed across these buildings, based on the findings of detailed energy audits. They include LED light fittings, building management systems, pipework insulation and a pool cover. Nine buildings have also had renewable energy generation capacity installed via solar panels, known as photovoltaics (PV), on their roofs.



This graph below shows the tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> each type of improvement measure installed (or being installed) across the Council estate will generate each year. Solar PV and LED lighting are responsible for around two-thirds of the total annual carbon savings.



This graph below shows the distribution of energy saving technologies and their associated carbon savings across the eleven buildings.



In addition to these measures, work continues on the delivery of longer-term projects and also on seeking additional funding where possible to support an increase in activity.



In a new opportunity, the Council is piloting novel heating and hot water technology with HydroZero, a UK company.

Traditional approaches to reducing or removing gas can be costly, requiring significant changes to a building's fabric and heat distribution system.

This pilot uses hydrogen and plasma to produce heat via an electrochemical reaction and has significant potential to provide a viable alternative to gas going forwards.

HydroZero are currently installing a boiler at Gorton Library - at no cost to the Council - which will be complete in February 2021; at which point detailed monitoring of cost and carbon savings will commence.



In the Old Town Hall, a **40%** energy reduction, and up to **25%** carbon saving (against 2009 usage), is being delivered as part of the refurbishment programme. Re-occupation is due 2024. The measures being implemented include:

- Insulating the roof and all heating pipework
- Removing and repairing windows to reduce air leakage
- Connecting to the CQHN and replacing the heating system
- Using natural ventilation to reduce cooling requirements
- Fitting LEDs throughout including heritage luminaires and external lighting
- Installing a new building management system with zone controls

**415 tCO<sub>2</sub>** additional annual savings will be generated as part of the new £5m European Regional Development Fund project, Unlocking Clean Energy in Greater Manchester. This will fund solar roofs, solar car ports and battery storage at the National Cycling Centre (in 2021-22) and Hammerstone Road depot (in 2022-23). The works are part of a wider GM project which includes the Energy Systems Catapult developing innovative business models to support greater rollout of renewable energy in future.

Further carbon savings will also be created should the bid to the UK government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme be successful. These funds will support additional energy efficiency and renewable energy installations in up to 13 Council buildings, potentially including the Aquatics Centre, with a focus on decarbonising heat. This is part of a Greater Manchester consortium bid. The outcome should be known in the coming weeks.



### Action 1.2 Manchester Low Carbon Build Standard

A new Manchester Build Standard has been developed to reduce the carbon impact of new-build developments and retrofit projects delivered by the Council. It is aligned to best practice guidance from the Building Research Establishment and the Royal Institute of British Architects and was endorsed by the Manchester Climate Change Partnership in December 2020.

The new standard has been rolled out across Capital Programmes and metrics have been agreed for inclusion within future capital business cases in early 2021 once the standard has been formally approved by the Executive (date tbc). A process is being developed to keep the Standard up to date and a programme of training for internal staff has begun. The Standard has been shared with external partners with an interest in driving sustainable construction including the North West Construction Hub Board and the National Association of Construction Frameworks.

### Action 1.3 Building and Energy Strategy

The Building and Energy Strategy sets out the Council's approach to reducing carbon emissions across the operational estate, including the procurement of green energy, the generation of renewable energy, and infrastructure to support the wider take-up of electric vehicles; it informs the ongoing retrofit of the Council's estate to reduce carbon emissions. A final version of the report will be scheduled for approval in the coming months.

### Action 1.4 Large Scale Renewable Energy Generation

A feasibility study on the potential for large-scale renewable energy generation schemes, including solar PV, onshore or offshore wind, to support the Council's transition to zero carbon began in October 2020. The objective of the study is to identify options to save:

**7,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year by 2025.**

The study assesses options to deploy renewables at scale on Council buildings and land, on assets owned by third parties and via different business models. The key findings are likely to set out two options: either invest directly in a large-scale solar generation scheme or enter into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with an energy provider to purchase the energy directly from such a scheme. Each has different financial, risk and carbon impacts which will be considered in detail as options are taken forward for further analysis. The full findings will be presented to the Council's Zero Carbon Coordination Group in February 2021.

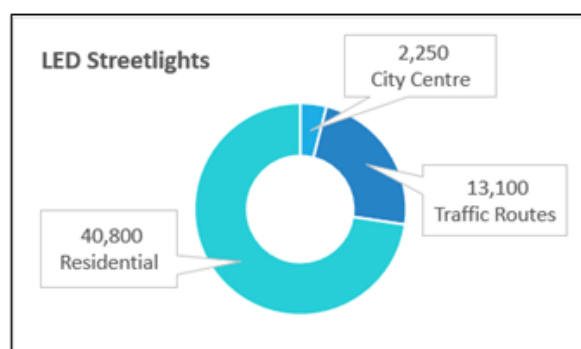
### 1.5 LED Streetlights

In September 2020 a three-year programme to retrofit Manchester's streetlights with LEDs was completed.

**56,000** lamps replaced

**70%** less energy consumed

**5,000** tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> saved



### Action 1.6 Civic Quarter Heat Network

The Civic Quarter Heat Network will initially serve seven city centre buildings with the potential to connect more in the future.

**£24m** project containing a 3.3MW Combined Heat & Power (CHP) unit which will initially run on gas, a proportion of which will be 'green gas' and has the potential to introduce hydrogen into the mix in future to further reduce its carbon footprint.

**2km** of district heating transmission network has been installed (pipes, power and communication cables). The network has an expected operational life in excess of 50 years.

The Tower of Light is complete and in-building final connections for heat and power are in progress and will go live in February / March.

Commissioning of the energy centre (the centralised boiler plant) is in progress and energy generation will start in February. There have been some delays caused by Covid-19 including the transformation of the Manchester Convention Centre into the Nightingale Centre. The Town Hall is due to have equipment installed by September 2021 with power supply commencing in June 2022 and heat supply in November 2022.



### Action 1.7 Housing Stock Condition Survey

Using the Northwards Housing Zero Carbon Study Report, published by Savills, an estimate has been calculated for the average cost of low carbon retrofits to social housing (£25,600 per dwelling). These figures were extrapolated to estimate the cost of retrofitting owner-occupier and private-rented sector housing; this figure is estimated between £16,000 and £39,000 per dwelling.

In addition, GMCA have been carrying out a detailed study of housing stock condition across Greater Manchester which is due to complete early in 2021; these findings will be fed into future planning.

### Action 1.8 Energy Efficient Housing

A significant amount of funding has been secured to improve the energy efficiency of Manchester's housing stock, and more funding applications are in the pipeline.

**£500k** funding has been secured from the Green Homes Grant (round 1a) will improve **42** dwellings with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D or below by March 2021.

**£250k** bid submitted to the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery (round 1b) to improve **21** homes. Options are being discussed with landlords who provide homelessness temporary accommodation for the Council as one-third match funding is required.

**£7.8m** funding secured from the Social Housing Demonstrator Fund and One Manchester to retrofit approximately **156** hard-to-treat concrete construction homes at Grey Mare Lane, Beswick. **96** dwellings in the social-rented sector will receive a full retrofit and around **60** private dwellings will receive a partial retrofit to deliver consistent "kerb appeal".

**2** new-build schemes are also in negotiation with developers: **77** dwellings at Russell Road (the site of Spire Hospital) in Whalley Range will be BREEAM 'very good' as a minimum, and **68** dwellings at Silk Street in Newton Heath will include measures such as ground source heat pumps, air source heat pumps, green roofs, green walls and electrical vehicle charging.

### Action 1.9 Energy Efficiency in Commercial and Non-Domestic Buildings

One of the ways in which the Council is using its direct influence to support external partner organisations is by ensuring that the benefits of transitioning to zero carbon are clearly outlined in the provision of loan funding and the commissioning of services.

For example, the Council has supported the LTE Group and Manchester College with loan support towards the delivery of their estate strategies. Several design features have been included to reduce carbon emissions including the application of BREEAM standards to achieve an 'Excellent' rating, an EPC rating of A and the reduction of operational costs through sustainable design.

Similarly, where senior Council leaders have roles as directors on various boards and partnerships, influence is used to ensure that investment decisions and development of strategies are aligned to the Council's Climate Change Action Plan and/or the Manchester Climate Change Framework.

### Action 1.10 A Local Energy Plan for Manchester

The Greater Manchester Local Energy Plan project is a 2-year project designed to develop Local Area Energy Master Plans to help optimise current and future energy assets and to support energy innovation.

**£6m** Innovate UK grant, led by GMCA with specialist expertise from the Energy Systems Catapult.

Manchester City Council is one of 11 partners and work is expected to commence on our Area Plan in early 2021.



**GREATER  
MANCHESTER  
LOCAL ENERGY  
MARKET**  
DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

### Action 1.11 Leasing or Disposing of Council Land and Buildings

Work has started in the Council's Development Team to review the processes and governance arrangements required to ensure the Council's zero carbon commitments are reflected when Council buildings or land are disposed of or leased to a third party.

### **Action 1.12 A New Manchester Local Plan**

The consultation on key issues in the new Local Plan for Manchester took place in 2020 and included the target to achieve a zero carbon Manchester by 2038. Feedback from the consultation confirmed that zero carbon was a key issue across the range of responses from individuals, businesses and other organisations.

The next stage will be to develop a first draft and to include key policy options with a preferred policy approach identified. The current Core Strategy (Manchester's adopted Local Plan) includes a suite of policies (EN4 to EN8) that guide development towards zero carbon:

- Policy EN4 - Reducing CO2 Emissions by Enabling Low and Zero Carbon Development
- Policy EN5 - Strategic Areas for low and zero carbon decentralised energy infrastructure
- Policy EN6 - Target Framework for CO2 reductions from low or zero carbon energy supplies
- Policy EN7 - Energy Infrastructure opportunities
- Policy EN8 - Adaptation to Climate Change

The task ahead is to consider where these policies need to be revised in the light of new evidence and understanding about the pace of change required to meet the CCAP targets.

### **Action 1.13 Partnership Work with Experts on Buildings**

Several activities have been taking place to develop partnership working with local and national experts. In October 2020 a 'partnership mapping' exercise took place within the Council's City Policy and Corporate Estates teams to develop a structured approach.

The Council has continued to contribute to, and drawn expertise from, the North West Construction Hub, the National Association of Construction Frameworks and the Cambridge Centre for Smart Innovation and Construction, along with Highways England and the Environment Agency.

Capital Programmes are also working with Wilmot Dixon to identify key performance indicators which can be rolled out to all framework contractors as a national trial. The Manchester Low Carbon Build Standard has been shared with the Core Cities Low Carbon group and further discussions are planned to support development of a Greater Manchester Carbon Standard for buildings.

There will be further meetings with City Policy to progress discussions on the Local Plan and with the Manchester development community to identify opportunities for collaboration.



## Workstream 2: Travel and Transport

### Action 2.1 Decarbonise Waste Collection

The Council has made a **£9.8m** investment into decarbonising waste collection and improving air quality by purchasing:

**27** Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles to **replace 50%** of the fleet.

The manufacturer of the vehicles is based in the North West and delivery is planned in phases between new year and March 2021.



Electrical charging infrastructure has been installed at Hooper Street and Longley Lane depots in readiness for the new vehicles; charging infrastructure works are nearing completion at Hammerstone Road depot.

Once operational these vehicles will save **900 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** per year.

### Action 2.2 Decarbonise Operational Fleet

The Council's operational fleet comprises around 220 vehicles (numbers fluctuate over time as leases expire and are renewed) and work began several years ago to move away from traditional fuels.

To date, 16 diesel vans have been replaced with 16 fully electric vans and four cars have been replaced with 1 fully electric and 3 hybrid cars.

In June 2020, charging infrastructure was installed at Hooper Street depot for use by the Council's facilities teams and security contractors Engie and Mitie.



Further analysis is underway to assess the potential for extending charging infrastructure to enable a greater number of electric vehicles to be deployed within the operational fleet.

### Action 2.3 Sustainable Travel Policy

The Council's new Staff Travel Plan has been delayed as a result of staff in HROD being required to support the response to Covid-19 but is now being prioritised with the support of an external specialist.

The Plan represents an opportunity to build on some of the positive changes to behaviour which have emerged during 2020 including promoting cycling, walking and public transport, and reducing the need to travel through the use of technology such as video conferencing.

### Action 2.4 Walking and Cycling

**£13.4m** investment from the Greater Manchester Mayor's Challenge Fund supported delivery of the Chorlton to Manchester City Centre cycling route which includes the UK's first 'Cycle Optimised Protected Signals' or **CYCLOPS** junction at Royce Road in Hulme which was opened on 3 July 2020 and which won a Vision Zero Leaders Award:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQOVwUzJoto&feature=youtu.be>



**£5.5m** of funding from the Government Active Travel Fund will be invested into two projects which promote sustainable forms of transport and prioritise walking, wheelchair access and all forms of cycling.

£4m of which will fund the **City Centre Triangle** which will see improved cycling and walking links between the city centre's three major train stations - Deansgate, Piccadilly and Victoria.

And £1.5m will fund cycling and walking improvements between **Wythenshawe** town centre, Wythenshawe Hospital and the city centre.



**£11.5m** of additional investment from the Greater Manchester Mayors Challenge Fund has been secured to support the **Northern Quarter Cycleway**, which will encompass all routes from the Northern Quarter, Piccadilly and Victoria.

**£774k** of funds, also from the GM Mayors Challenge Fund, has been secured to support active travel schemes in **Levenshulme** and **North Burnage**.

Following public consultation, a 6-month trial began in January 2021 to allow a temporary version of the Levenshulme and Burnage Active Neighbourhood scheme to be tested. A key target of the approach is to reduce the number of vehicle journeys and improve air quality. Filters, such as planters, have been placed at a series of locations where they will help to reduce levels of rat-running traffic through residential streets, while maintaining essential access and encouraging more people to consider walking and cycling for their local journeys. The trial allows the scheme to be seen in action, tested and analysed so it can be refined and amended where required.

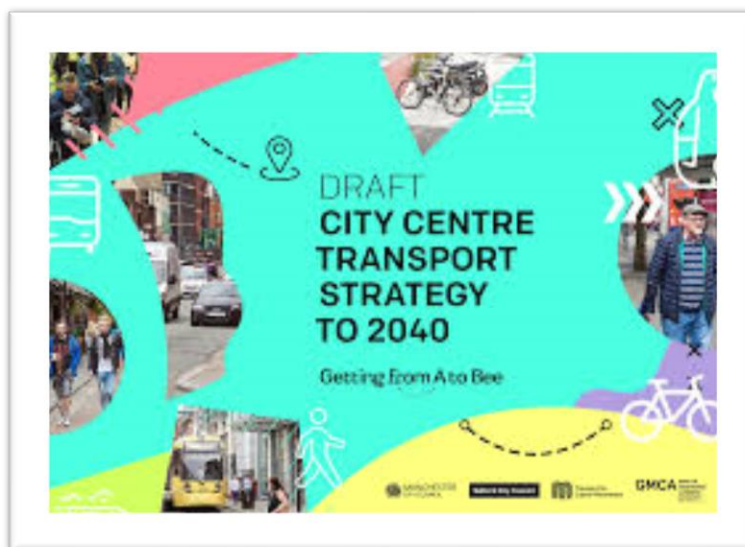
In **Harpurhey**, proposals have been brought forward for 11 new or improved road crossings to make active travel into the centre of Harpurhey by bike or on foot safer and more convenient. A consultation was carried out in October 2020 to ensure local residents had the opportunity to give their views.

## Action 2.5 Strategic Transport Infrastructure

A Draft City Centre Transport Strategy for 2040 has been developed in partnership with TfGM and Salford City Council.

It outlines plans for future City Centre Transport and builds on input from residents, commuters, businesses, visitors, transport operators and other stakeholders to ensure it reflects both existing transport challenges and future aspirations for the city centre of those that use it each day.

It seeks to bring together the ambitious plans to make the city centre a more attractive place to live, work and visit; the medium and long-term plans for continued growth in the number of jobs and homes; the demands that the transport system needs to meet; and the short-term measures that have been needed to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.



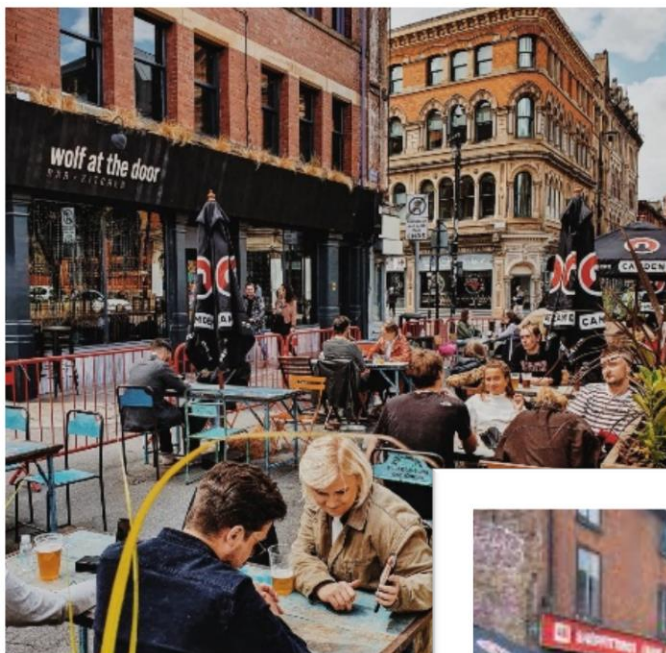
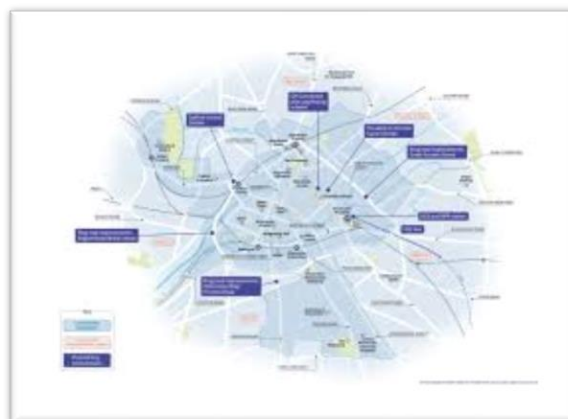
## Action 2.6 City Centre Transport Strategy

A public consultation on the City Centre Transport Strategy was held between September and November 2020.

**2450** responses were received.

The strategy includes ambitious plans for the city centre to improve air quality, increase the amount of quality public space and prioritise walking, cycling and public transport to further reduce dependence on private cars.

The strategy envisions a well-connected, zero-carbon centre at the heart of the North, offering residents, workers and visitors a great place to live, work and play, and getting the right balance between the different ways of travelling. The headline target is for 90% of morning peak trips to the city centre to be made by public transport and active travel by 2040.



The Strategy sets out these principles in seven ambitions and presents committed interventions and future proposals to achieve the ambitions.

The proposals are grouped thematically around Our Bus, Our Metrolink, Our Rail, Our Streets and Our Integrated Network.

The strategy includes a commitment to build on the successful street closures during Covid-19 including bringing forward detailed proposals for Deansgate and other city centre streets.

This is all part of an overall strategy to ensure the city centre can lead a strong, sustainable, healthy and inclusive recovery, and balance the competing demands for city-centre space.



### **Action 2.7 Aviation Emissions**

Manchester Airport Group have joined Manchester Climate Change Partnership as a formal partner. There will be 6-monthly senior-level meetings to progress the aviation actions in the Framework. Manchester Airport Group are also a member of UK Government Jet Zero Council, a partnership between industry and government to drive the ambitious delivery of new technologies and innovative ways to cut aviation emissions.

### **Action 2.8 Sustainable Travel Incentives**

Travelling to work has been significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic for many Council officers, however, increasing the number of staff that travel to work by sustainable modes of transport remains a priority and is being reviewed in conjunction with development of a Sustainable Travel Policy for business travel (see action 2.3).

A range of incentives and support will be considered including salary sacrifice schemes for bus, tram and rail tickets. Positive behaviour changes that have come about due to Covid-19, such as reducing the need to travel by using technology such as video conferencing, will also be considered. Between January and December 2020, the Council have received 169 applications for the cycle to work scheme.

## Workstream 3: Reducing Consumption-Based Emissions and Influencing Suppliers

### Action 3.1 Sustainable Procurement

The Council's approach to Social Value in procurement has been reviewed in the context of the Climate Emergency Declaration and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2020, the Council trialled inclusion of an additional **10% environmental weighting** within procurement to help reduce the carbon footprint of our consumption-based emissions.

Manchester City Council is the first Local Authority to do this.

Five procurement exercises covering highways and external advertising were included in the trial (some of these were for framework contracts involving multiple suppliers).

**£22m** is the estimated total annual value of these contracts.

Examples of the positive environmental behaviours elicited by the additional 10% weighting include successful bidders:

- Having carbon reduction targets for their organisation, including one who is working to be net zero carbon by 2030.
- Monitoring the specific carbon emissions related to delivery of the contracted service, utilising credible tools like the Carbon Trust's SME emissions tool.
- Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from highways surface treatment by 10% per year between 2020-22.

Work is now underway to update the Council's social value policy, which will go to Scrutiny and Executive for approval (date currently being confirmed). Recommendations will include an option to move on a pathway to a 10% environmental weighting across all tender opportunities and commissioning activity.

### Action 3.2 Tyndall Centre Report

Within the existing Social Value protocols that guide procurement, the environmental questions have been updated to reflect the findings of the Tyndall Centre report on consumption-based emissions.

The work outlined above in action 3.1 will support an extension of this activity to reduce the Council's indirect emissions and work is currently underway to estimate the carbon impact of different categories of procurement to support a prioritised approach to updating specifications, evaluation questions and monitoring.

The Carbon Literacy training, which draws on the Tyndall Centre and related research, has been delivered to the Council's Integrated Commissioning and Procurement team to help them implement improvements to drive down indirect emissions.

### Action 3.3. Single Use Plastics

The Council has committed to be **Single Use Plastic free by 2024** in line with the Plastic Free Greater Manchester Pledge. In support of this, Operational Estates have implemented the following changes across our estate including the cafes in City and Central Libraries:

- Issuing paper straws rather than plastic
- Issuing corn starch cutlery instead of plastic
- Using biodegradable card serving boxes for food
- Ensuring all cleaning chemicals are cradle to grave sustainable products
- Refilling workstation cleaning sprays from concentrate
- Avoiding plastic wrapping on products from cleaning material suppliers



**Contract cleaners** have pledged to eradicate non-essential Single Use Plastics by the end of 2020.

A range of **Sustainable Events Guides** have been produced in partnership with Julie's Bicycle, these guides will be used for Council-run events as well as events organised by third parties that are held on Council land.

Two Council events were delivered in line with the new guide in 2019, prior to publication and before Covid-19 restrictions halted all event activity in March 2020.

- The Manchester Day in 2019 featured a unique parade where everything was pushed, pulled, cycled or wheeled (except for a GM Fire & Rescue vehicle) and a large proportion of content was made from recycled and up-cycled materials. This event gained 4 stars in the externally verified Creative Green certification.
- The Festival of Manchester in 2019, held in Platt Fields Park, made water available to attendees via mains and a bowser to help reduce the sale of plastic water bottles and 15 food traders committed to using single-use plastic free cutlery and containers.

Learnings from these events are to be shared across event partners as part of rolling out of the Sustainable Event Guides - now expected in 2021 subject to Covid-19 restrictions.

**£7K** of funding has recently been made available through the URBACT C-Change Project (EU funded) to support the Council's Events team to quantify the positive environmental impacts of measures to eliminate Single Use Plastics and to identify further potential to expand this good practice in future activities.

**Manchester Markets** have improved efficiencies around refuse collection across the city centre sites to increase recycling rates and reduce general waste. Options are now being explored to see what energy efficiency measures can be considered to improve the efficiencies of the pop-up market chalets used in the city centre.

Additional positive environmental impacts have been delivered via procurement of the **new Christmas decorations**.

Bidders were specifically asked in the invitation to tender to describe how they would contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

The winning bidder stated it had reduced its carbon footprint by 40% in the prior 5 years. Their lights are LEDs and their motifs used in street decorations are 100% recyclable, derived from sugar cane and recycled aluminium. At the end of their usable life these motifs are returned to the manufacturing plant where 70% is composted and 30% recycled.



### Action 3.4 Citywide Supplier Toolkit

The Council are updating existing toolkits for suppliers to support the adoption of an additional 10% environmental weighting in procurement (see action 3.1). These toolkits will include guidance for suppliers on improving their environmental performance to help drive positive action through supply chains and will feed into the rest of the work described here.

As a member of the Manchester Climate Change Partnership (MCCP), the Council is working with key local stakeholders to develop a shared approach to procurement and commissioning across the city that focuses on tackling climate change.

Manchester Metropolitan University and the University of Manchester have been asked by MCCP to work on the evidence base for a shared citywide Supplier Toolkit to help drive

reductions in the carbon footprint of supply chains via sustainable procurement and commissioning. There is an agreement that any toolkit needs to be usable by SME's as well as large organisations, therefore the Manchester Climate Change Agency has agreed to approach around 60 companies across a range of sectors to recruit volunteers for an initial pilot and consultation.

### Action 3.5 Single Use Plastics

In partnership with Julie's Bicycle, the Council has produced a range of **Sustainable Events Guides** for event organisers, suppliers, service providers and venues which include commitments to reduce and eliminate the use of Single Use Plastics.

The guides were launched as part of an EU-funded URBACT C-Change project on tackling climate change within the culture sector. The event was attended by Manchester Climate Change Partnership, Manchester Arts & Sustainability Team (MAST) and international project partners from Mantova, Sibenik, Wroclaw, Agueda and Gelsenkirchen - the guides have since been translated into two languages (Italian & Croatian) by these partners.

Across **Manchester Markets**, changes have been introduced to influence traders.

**74 traders** across the Arndale and Church Street Markets, as well as the additional traders at our Specialist and Pop-up Markets have committed to use consumables that are 100% recyclable, 100% compostable, 100% biodegradable & disposable.

The Council's Markets team have also made changes to the trader application process by adding an environmental section which includes sourcing of supplies, food miles and the trader recycling policy. This data is included as part of the application scoring system. The Markets team are now working through the challenges of policing contracts and supporting traders to live up to these commitments.

**21 caterers** operating across the City's parks have also committed to reduce and eliminate single use plastics as part of their licensing agreements. As with markets, work is underway to monitor these commitments and challenges are being identified but the ambition is there, for example, Heaton Park is aiming to be single use plastic free by January 2021.

### Action 3.6 A Sustainable Food System

The Manchester Food Board have drafted a Food Policy Statement and Manchester Food Recovery Action Plan to support the creation of a resilient food system.

One of the Recovery Objectives is to: **Reduce environmental impacts throughout the food system with a focus on food waste and a shift to more ecological practices.**

Legacy work is underway which builds on the food response during Covid-19. Safe food donations information is now live on the Council's website.



## Workstream 4: Climate adaptation, carbon storage and carbon sequestration

### Action 4.1 The Manchester Tree Action Plan

Based on the successful tree planting work over the last thirteen years where over 100,000 have been planted, a new

**£1m** 3-year programme of city-wide tree planting has been launched, with planting season now underway over winter 2020-21.

In December 2020, an avenue of mature trees was planted to help create Great Ancoats Boulevard; with 62 trees planted in total.

In the same month, 33 cherry trees were planted to create a feature avenue in Old Moat; this was done on the back of a consultation and with the support of local residents, a nearby primary school and ward councillors.

The city is on track to meet this year's targets but, as the tree-planting season runs from November to March, the full and accurate figures are not yet available.

The projected spend for this year is £250k. As the programme is rolled out, the target is to plant 1,000 new trees, including a mix of street trees, beacon trees, avenues, hedgerow planting and community orchards within parks.



### Action 4.2 Embedding Nature Based Solutions

Work to embed nature-based solutions (NBS) for flood resilience in open spaces, highways and new developments across the city has continued in 2020. Examples include:

**GrowGreen** is an EU-funded Horizon 2020 project which has delivered NBS demonstration projects in Manchester, Valencia and Wroclaw. Alongside these practical schemes, Universities in the three cities are developing KPIs to monitor the physical and social benefits which the demonstrators bring. In Manchester, the University of Manchester have begun monitoring the impact of the West Gorton Community Park.

**The West Gorton Community Park** is a £1.4m, 14,000 sq. metre "sponge" park funded by GrowGreen which opened in July 2020. This is a new, accessible, multi-functional neighbourhood green space designed to help the climate resilience of the local area. It follows "sponge principles", incorporating sustainable urban drainage (SuDS) to allow rainwater run-off from nearby roads to be channelled and filtered through natural drainage systems, slowing and reducing the flow into the normal drainage system.

The development of the community park included working and consulting with the local community in West Gorton to ensure local ideas could be incorporated into the final design. It has also provided a real-life experience of the procurement and installation process of

such a NBS feature and provides a showcase location which can demonstrate NBS's in use and the potential wider business cases for future financing of such developments.

Video link: [Seeing Is Believing: West Gorton Community Park - YouTube](#)

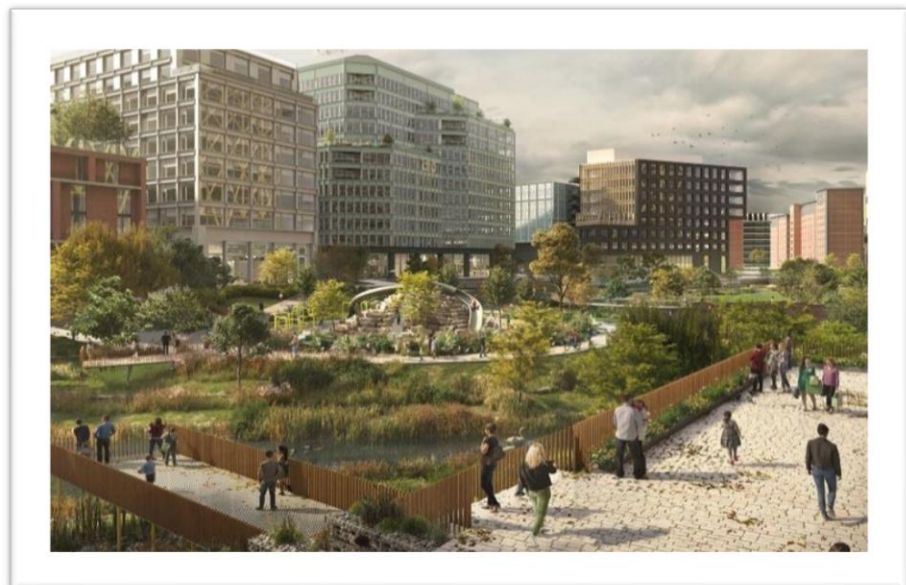


**Manchester River Valley Strategy** – procured from our EU Horizon 2020 funded GrowGreen project, The Environment Partnership (TEP) are developing a River Valley Strategy for the city's three main rivers (Irk, Mersey, Medlock). This will provide further evidence to the main Green & Blue Infrastructure Strategy, on the value of the city's rivers and their tributaries to the city (both as a flood resilience asset, but also the many co-benefits), and consider how best they could be retained or improved.

**Mayfield Park** – will be the city's first new park in over 100 years. Consent for phase one of the scheme was granted in February 2020 for the creation of the 6.5-acre park.

In August 2020 Mayfield secured £23 million in grant funding from the Government's 'Getting Building' Fund which will allow construction to commence soon.

Mayfield is a 24-acre brownfield site with the River Medlock and green infrastructure improvements central to its delivery; it is designed as a 'floodable park', bringing citizens closer to the river.



**Northern Gateway** – In partnership with FEC, the Council have set the ambition for world class green spaces throughout the development, including seven 'new' green spaces including a City River Park and a viaduct development. Challenges exist around capital and

ongoing maintenance finance and governance models. With assistance from GMCA, around £30k of technical assistance has been secured to look at different business models for ongoing governance and maintenance models.

**GMCA Ignition Project** – this is a £4.4m collaboration project led by GMCA bringing together 12 GM-based partners including Manchester City Council, United Utilities and the Environment Agency. Activities of the project include mapping the 'baseline' of Green Infrastructure in Greater Manchester; mapping the overlay of historic flood events with the Council's capital and highways programmes and the capital programmes of United Utilities and Environment Agency; and exploring potential business models for parks including partial disconnection from mains drainage. Within this project, the Council has secured an additional allocation of £15k to provide further detail around a business case for installing exemplar Sustainable Urban Drainage on Deansgate.

#### **Action 4.3 Tree Opportunity Mapping**

In August 2020, the Council committed £50k and commissioned City of Trees and TEP to deliver a piece of work 'Managing Manchester's Trees' (MMT) which will help provide a better understanding of the city's tree resource and identify further opportunities for planting and management.

The 'i-Trees' assessment of our tree stock aims to demonstrate the value of our existing 1.2 million trees to carbon storage, sequestration, climate resilience air quality and many other benefits. The tree mapping will conclude in March 2021 and will focus on the following:

- A retrospective look back at the composition, change and evolution of the City's treescape over the last 100 years.
- A sustainable and innovative plan for managing the City's existing tree resource.
- Ward specific opportunity maps indicating priorities for new tree planting, including species suitability options.
- The means to identify ward specific location for new Beacon Trees (mature) tree planting.

This work will provide the context within which opportunities for tree planting can be assessed going forward, allowing reasoned decisions to be made regarding appropriate places to plant individual trees and woodland. It will be used to inform the ongoing active tree planting programme. To support this, the Council have committed £45k to create a 2-year part-time post to manage this internally.

#### **Action 4.4 Maximising Council Contribution to City of Trees**

The aforementioned £1 million programme, delivering significant levels of tree planting on Council owned land, represents the Council's contribution to the citywide effort by City of Trees to increase the number of trees in Manchester.

The aim is to plant trees in the right location and of the right species to achieve maximum benefits for climate adaptation, carbon storage, sequestration. The key consideration is to find sites capable of accommodating larger trees that will create long lasting impact, provide local benefits and will be capable of surviving into old age. By the end of the full programme all wards will have received additional tree planting where appropriate.



## Workstream 5: Influencing Behaviours and being a Catalyst for Change

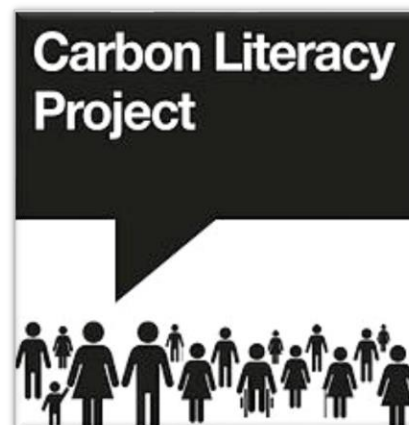
### Action 5.1 Carbon Literacy

Carbon Literacy training was paused in spring 2020 as Covid-19 restrictions prevented the face-to-face element of the course from taking place.

An online version was developed and accredited to enable training to continue throughout the pandemic; all places on the remaining training courses are fully booked until the end of February 2021.

We are currently a Carbon Literate Organisation at

**Bronze** level and expect to achieve Silver when the annual awards are made, hopefully in Spring or Summer 2021.



### Action 5.2 Environmental Weighting in Procurement

This action is to roll out the additional 10% environmental weighting - see action 3.1.

### Action 5.3 Embedding Carbon in Decision-Making

Zero carbon has been recognised as a council priority and is being embedded into the Our Manchester Strategy reset and the council's Corporate Plan.

The **Capital Gateway** business case criteria is kept under review so that it can be altered and adapted as the Council's priorities develop. The business cases requesting capital investment are now required to include a carbon measure, both for during the project progression stage and the ongoing lifecycle post-completion. The intention is that the carbon footprint of a scheme is considered as part of the decision-making process. This work is ongoing and will reflect the decisions taken by the Council on how it will meet the future carbon reduction targets in order to become carbon neutral by 2038.

A **Manchester Build Standard** (see action 1.2) will be applied to all new build and refurbishment projects to reduce carbon emissions. This standard is intended to enable colleagues to draw out several metrics for inclusion within business cases and therefore seek to ensure that the carbon impact of capital decisions are transparent and fully understood. Work is ongoing to draw out the benefits committed within individual project business cases, commencing with projects which have achieved approval to spend since 1st April 2018 and which were procured through the North West Construction Hub.

The Council has worked with partners including the Manchester Climate Change Partnership to develop an **Economic Recovery and Investment Plan** in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The plan sets out Manchester's commitment to a green, zero-carbon and climate-resilient recovery.

It proposes a programme of **£289.4m** that will support our zero carbon ambition.

The Council continues to embed the city's zero carbon objectives into **Strategic Regeneration Frameworks** for those areas of the city which are being redeveloped.

Examples include:

- Wythenshawe Hospital Campus Strategic Regeneration Framework March 2020
- St Mary's Parsonage - Strategic Regeneration Framework July 2020
- NOMA Strategic Regeneration Framework Update 2020
- Refresh of the Ancoats and New Islington Neighbourhood Development Framework – Poland Street Zone July 2020
- First Street Development Framework Addendum 2020 July 2020
- Draft North Manchester Health Campus Strategic Regeneration Framework November 2020.

Discussions around including climate change into the **grants for Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and Cultural organisations** have begun well in advance of the next funding round so that appropriate and tailored solutions can be developed.

Meetings with key environmental stakeholders in the culture sector have been facilitated by the EU-funded URBACT C-Change project and a range of tools and training courses are being developed to support culture organisations of all sizes, with £33,750 dedicated budget for capacity building.

## Action 5.4 Community Engagement

The Council's Neighbourhoods team have been working with residents across all

**32 Wards** to embed climate action into Ward Plans. Where possible, public events have been held to engage with residents and local stakeholders.

Over **300 residents**

have attended these, with others participating online. Many more residents have become involved with action-focused events such as tree planting or consultations on specific issues of concern.

Examples of these actions include developing local campaigns to encourage change including improved walking routes, increase recycling, reduce illegal parking, more biodiversity and meat free days.

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly impacted on the progress of the climate plans, Government restrictions have prevented communities meeting in groups and most volunteering opportunities have reduced. Effective engagement during the pandemic is a challenge, which is recognised across many wards.

Three new Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers are currently being recruited (one for each of the three area teams) to provide additional capacity on this agenda and to work closely with other colleagues in the teams.



Despite these challenges **£52,000** of Neighbourhood Investment Fund has been directed towards

**41 climate action projects** as part of 2020-21 programme. Examples of these include:

- Friends of Fletcher Moss and Parsonage Gardens planting a "green screen" outside Beaver Road School and Barlow Medical Centre on Wilmslow Road to combat pollutants caused by traffic.
- Two advanced compost stations installed on both sides of Ladybarn Park to create better recycling and composting facilities. Sessions with local schools held to teach children the importance of composting.
- Gardening Group funding for Harpurhey to increase food growing by developing a garden to benefit health, encourage greening, combat climate change and initiate enterprise. Sow the City helped the gardening group to build raised beds and compost bays on site and provided growing and composting workshops. The produce will be used at the onsite Community Grocer and Community Café.



The Neighbourhood teams have also worked with local partners and residents to organise Clean Air activities and continue to work with schools on the Junior Police Community Support Officers and anti-idling campaigns.

Reducing the amount of traffic, particularly for short journeys and drop-offs at school, remains a major concern in all wards.



In January 2020 the Council organised the second **Youth Climate Change Action Summit**, which was held at Manchester Central Convention Complex.

It gave pupils aged 9-14 years the chance to explore what they can do to help the City to meet its ambitious, science-based target to become zero-carbon by 2038 at the latest. ru





348 attendees

49 schools participated

65% of primary schools and

35% secondary schools sent delegates

Over the Summer of 2020 the **Manchester Youth Council** (MYC) trialled the Kloodle app which includes a section on the environment to embed it into young people's learning and achievement online record.

20 young people used the app and 50 young people trialled the MYC Climate Wheel and Skills to Save the Planet during 2020.

In September 2020, Manchester Youth Council won the North West Youth Focus - Most Committed to Saving the Planet Award.

In November 2020, a Youth Climate Summit was organised by teachers across the UK and facilitated by Transform Our World; it was timed to coincide with the time when our world leaders were due to meet to discuss climate change and the ecological crisis at COP26. This collaborative youth summit brought together young people from schools, organisations and youth groups to show that climate change is not dropping down our agenda.

Engagement in the run up to the event consisted of a logo competition and an open invite to help shape the programme and volunteer. Manchester Youth Council presented a 20-minute film to promote their Climate Wheel and Climate Charter.

The **MYC Climate Wheel and Charter** will be launched in April 2021. Packs will be sent to schools as educational resources to encourage them to create climate champions across Manchester with monthly competitions for the best Climate Wheel. MYC members will choose the monthly winner.

A former **Manchester Youth Parliament** member has been selected by the BBC to become a climate reporter for Manchester, posting positive messages to encourage young people to tackle climate change.

As the key funder of the **Manchester Climate Change Agency** (MCCA), and a member of the Manchester Climate Change Partnership, the Council is also supporting the



establishment of a citywide programme of community engagement activities to build local capacity to take positive climate action.

The Council, MCCA, Hubbub, Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, Amity and the University of Manchester have successfully collaborated on a development bid to the National Lottery Climate Action Fund. The Zero Carbon and Resilient Communities

Programme has been awarded **£206k** of funding and will focus on several of the city's communities, building on the work which has already been undertaken by the Council's Neighbourhoods teams and working with the three new Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers.

An additional **£480k** has been secured from a range of funders to support the communications and campaign element of this programme which will work with a number of the communities on specific projects and be run by Hubbub.

**£417k** of funding has also been secured from the Arts & Humanities Research Council for a project on climate resilience using arts in partnership with the University of Manchester and is being developed alongside the Council's Neighbourhood's team in Miles Platting and Newton Heath. This 2-year project will work with the local communities to better understand how local policies and action plans can increase and support climate resilience and enable people to act on climate change.



Manchester was amongst the first cohort of participating cities signing up to the **City Business Climate Alliance**. All these cities have a mayoral mandate to develop local city-business collaboration platforms with the aim to convene, set joint commitments, co-create and eventually implement projects that help cities deliver on their Climate Action Plans in line with the Paris Agreement.

### Action 5.5 Citywide Communications Campaign

During August and September 2019, research was conducted by the Council's Communications team to explore the attitudes, perceptions and behaviours of Manchester residents on climate change.

Phase 1 was face-to-face quantitative research with more than 1,100 residents representing a balance of age, gender, ethnicity and geography. Phase 2 was more qualitative research gathered from 3 focus groups, each attended by approximately 50 people.

Together, these sessions helped to deliver insights on the views of Manchester residents towards climate change and what messaging would work to promote greater uptake of positive climate action across the City.

These insights were fed into the development of the "Leaving Carbon Behind Campaign" which launched in July 2020.

Its aim is to raise awareness of the climate emergency and promote positive behaviour change amongst Manchester's residents, workers, businesses and visitors.

**Social media** has been a key channel for the campaign as well as **advertising channels** including:

- Manchester Evening News, print and digital advertising.
- Outdoor digital screens.
- Outdoor adverts in local areas (wards were selected based on demographic makeup).
- Bus advertising (external bus adverts on the rear and side panels of buses) on key routes across the city.

A new webpage has also been developed:

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



### Action 5.6 Funding Manchester Climate Change Agency

Additional capacity for the Manchester Climate Change Agency is being put in place and the new structure and posts have been approved by the Council's Personnel Committee. A new Director will be in place in early 2021 and the other posts will also be filled including the crowd-funded Youth Champion role. A task-and-finish sub-group has been convened to ensure the new organisational and governance structures are fit for purpose.

A priority for the new Director will be to ensure that the organisation can become financially sustainable over the next 2 years and to expand the Partnership to include a wider range of stakeholders who can collectively contribute towards the climate change objectives and targets for the city.

The overarching aim is for the Agency and Partnership to be the key drivers in making Manchester one of the first zero carbon, climate resilient cities in the world; providing a healthy, green and socially-just city where everyone can thrive.

### Action 5.7 Influencing Manchester Stakeholders

The Council supported the Manchester Climate Change Agency to become a City Business Climate Alliance and the Oxford Road Corridor to establish a Zero Carbon sub-group chaired by Chris Oglesby and with a bid to ICLEI to fund a multi-system energy model. The Council also supported Corridor partners with the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme bid as outlined in Workstream 1.

Meetings have taken place with the GMCA Director of Place, CADENT, Electricity North West and Stockport Council about the GM Decarbonisation Pathway and the opportunities to accelerate action and, as a member of the Manchester Climate Change Partnership, has supported discussions on "Green Recovery" to contribute to the Our Manchester Strategy reset.

### Action 5.8 Supporting Schools with Climate Change

The planned events with Manchester's schools to support them to decarbonise have had to be delayed due to Covid-19, however, these plans are now being revisited and webinars will be considered as an alternative option.

### Action 5.9 Influencing Greater Manchester Stakeholders

The Council continues to influence Greater Manchester partners and stakeholders through its membership on the following groups:

- Climate Emergency / 5yr Environment Plan
- Decarbonising Public Estate
- Green City Region Board & Partnership
- Wider Leadership Team & Chief Executives
- Challenge Groups including Energy, Buildings and Communications

The Council submitted letters to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF) in July and September 2020 urging them to set out actions to divest from investment in fossil fuels but, as yet, there has not been a formal response.

Cllr Stogia, Executive Member for Environment, Planning and Transport has now written to her counterparts in other Greater Manchester local authorities to request a meeting about this issue and how they can work together to exert further pressure on the Fund.

The issue has also been raised at the last two Green City Region Board meetings and, as a result, GMPF have been invited to attend the March 2021 meeting.

In addition, a progress report has been requested on the decarbonisation of transport to be received before the end of the municipal year by the GM Transport Committee.

### Action 5.10 COP26 in Glasgow 2021

COP26 was due to take place in Glasgow in November 2020 but was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A new date has been agreed for November 2021 and a proposal is being developed to consider the options for the Council's involvement which includes work with Core Cities, Greater Manchester and our local and international partners.

### Action 5.11 International Networks

Learning from other cities and positioning Manchester as a key player on climate change continues to be a driver for the Council, through its involvement in recognised networks and leading European partnership projects.



Manchester is one of 10,434 city signatories to the **Covenant of Mayors** which brings together local governments that are voluntarily committed to implementing EU climate and energy objectives. It draws in worldwide multi-stakeholder networks with technical and methodological support.



The Council is also a long-standing member of **Eurocities**, the leading network of major European cities, and was represented by the Manchester Climate Change Agency (MCCA) at their Strategic Climate Roundtable in June 2020.

The Council is participating in two European Commission funded URBACT projects:

**Zero Carbon Cities** is a **£688k** project leading six European cities to adopt science-based targets to support their transition to zero carbon. The 3-year project is supporting MCCA to refresh the Manchester Climate Change Framework as well as delivering master classes for officers across the partnership. Manchester's share of the budget is £330k.



**C-Change** is a **£650k** project working with five European cities to drive positive climate action through the culture sector.

It is providing capacity building for Manchester Arts Sustainability Team (MAST) as well as for the wider arts sector in the city by offering tailored carbon literacy training. Consultancy from Julie's Bicycle has enabled a review of the arts funding programme to introduce climate measures (see also action 5.3).

Due to Covid-19 the project has been extended by 6 months to June 2021. Manchester's share of the budget is £263k.

**GrowGreen** (see also action 4.2) is working with Valencia (Spain) and Wroclaw (Poland) to develop demonstration projects for nature-based solutions. The three cities are collaborating to learn from the different processes followed and to identify solutions to common challenges. In December 2020, the project hosted a webinar to introduce a range of resources developed by the GrowGreen and Ignition projects which can be used to support decision-makers, planners, businesses, and others in comparing green and grey options to choose the right solution for the challenge. Tools are also being developed to help other cities outside of the project to develop a Nature Based Solutions Strategy. **Wuhan** is also a non-funded partner on the Grow Green project working on the "sponge cities concept".

The **Race to Zero** is an international campaign to mobilise support for cities and businesses to make the transition to zero carbon by 2050 in line with the Paris Agreement on climate change. Manchester has joined the Race to Zero – alongside 454 other cities – and Sir Richard Leese signed a pledge on behalf of the City that outlines the actions Manchester will take to meet its environmental targets.

### Action 5.12 Green Skills

A 'Skills for a Zero Carbon Economy' group was established and met in March 2020, however, this work has not been progressed due to the major capacity issues resulting from the Council's response to Covid-19 including working on the food response and business grants programme. This work will be revisited as soon as possible in 2021 and will form an important part of the City's Economic Recovery and Investment Plan.



## RAG Rating at a Glance:

### Workstream 1: Buildings & Energy – MCC direct actions

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
1.1	MCC Estates carbon reduction programme	March 2025	4,800
1.2	Manchester Build Standard	December 2020	-
1.3	Buildings and Energy Strategy	April 2020	-
1.4	Large scale renewable energy generation	December 2020	7,000
1.5	LED street lighting	December 2020	220
1.6	Civic Quarter Heat Network	2021	1,600

### Workstream 1: Buildings & Energy – Influencing actions

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
1.7	Housing stock condition survey	2021	-
1.8	Northwards Housing	Tbc	Tbc
1.9	Commercial and non-domestic buildings	Ongoing	Tbc
1.10	Local Energy Plan for Manchester	April 2020	-
1.11	Leasing and disposing of Council buildings	April 2020	-
1.12	Manchester Local Plan	2023	-
1.13	Partnerships e.g., UKGBC	Ongoing	-

### Workstream 2: Travel & Transport – MCC direct actions

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
2.1	Electric refuse collection vehicles	March 2021	900
2.2	Replace operational fleet with EVs	Ongoing	400
2.3	Travel policy for staff and members	April 2020	100

### Workstream 2: Travel & Transport – Influencing actions

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
2.4	Cycling and walking networks	Ongoing	
2.5	Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040	Ongoing	
2.6	City Centre Transport Strategy	2020	
2.7	Aviation emissions and Manchester airport	Ongoing	Tbc
2.8	Sustainable travel incentives	Ongoing	

### Workstream 3: Sustainable Consumption – MCC direct actions

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
3.1	10% environmental weighting in procurement	April 2020	
3.2	Tyndall Centre findings on consumption emissions	December 2020	Tbc
3.3	Eliminate single use plastics in estates and markets	2024	



**Workstream 3: Sustainable Consumptions – Influencing actions**

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
3.4	Supplier toolkit	December 2020	
3.5	Single use plastics in licensed activities	December 2020	
3.6	Manchester Food Board priorities	Ongoing	

**Workstream 4: Adaptation & Sequestration – MCC direct actions**

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
4.1	Plant 1,000 trees 1,000 hedge trees 4 orchards pa	Ongoing	
4.2	West Gorton 'sponge park'	Ongoing	
4.3	Tree opportunity mapping assessment	December 2020	

**Workstream 4: Adaptation & Sequestration – Influencing actions**

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
4.4	Funding for beacon trees	March 2021	

**Workstream 5: Catalysing Change – MCC direct actions**

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual CO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
5.1	Carbon literacy	2025	
5.2	10% environmental weighting in procurement	April 2020	
5.3	Carbon accounting in decision making	Ongoing	

**Workstream 5: Catalysing Change – Influencing actions**

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual CO <sub>2</sub> Saving Target
5.4	Community engagement and ward plans	April 2020	
5.5	Citywide communications strategy	April 2020	
5.6	Fund Manchester Climate Change Agency	April 2020	
5.7	Support Manchester Climate Change Partnership	December 2020	
5.8	Large scale event with schools	June 2020	
5.9	Influence GM stakeholders to decarbonise	Ongoing	
5.10	Play a part in COP26	November 2020	
5.11	International networks and projects	Ongoing	
5.12	Green Skills Plan	September 2020	
			<b>15,020</b>

## Press coverage since January 2020:

### Climate change action plan

2 March 2020

Manchester Evening News: Manchester Council unveils all the ways it will halve its greenhouse gas emissions by 2025  
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/manchester-council-unveils-ways-halve-17845310>



3 March 2020

Smart Cities World: Manchester unveils five-year climate action plan  
<https://www.smartcitiesworld.net/news/news/manchester-unveils-five-year-climate-action-plan-5080>



3 March 2020

Edie.net: Manchester City Council spells out five-year action plan to halve emissions  
<https://www.edie.net/news/9/Manchester-City-Council-spells-out-five-year-action-plan-to-halve-emissions/>



11 March 2020

BBC website: Manchester adopts plan to halve CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2025  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-51832494>



### West Gorton 'sponge' park

9 March 2020

Manchester Evening News: How a £1.3m new park will help prevent flooding in one corner of Manchester  
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/how-groundbreaking-new-13-million-17887953>



14 August 2020

Manchester Evening News: New £1.3m park designed to reduce flooding risk opens in West Gorton  
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/new-13m-sponge-park-designed-18727605>



### Electric refuse collection vehicles

4 June 2020

Electrify.com: Manchester orders electric refuse trucks  
<https://www.electrify.com/2020/06/04/manchester-orders-electric-refuse-trucks/>



Green Bee website:

'Cleaner' bin lorries in Manchester

<https://thegreenbee.co.uk/waste-management/cleaner-bin-lorries-in-manchester/>

14 July 2020

Zap Map: Manchester to replace half its bin lorries with electric vehicles

<https://www.zap-map.com/manchester-to-replace-half-its-bin-lorries-with-electric-vehicles/>



## Estates carbon reduction programme

8 January 2021

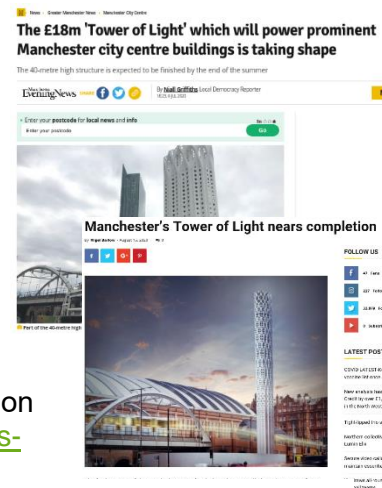
BBC Radio Manchester (bulletins): Wythenshawe Forum is powered by solar energy as part of the Council's £25 carbon reduction programme.

## Civic Quarter Heat Network

6 July 2020

Manchester Evening News The £18m 'Tower of Light' which will power prominent Manchester city centre buildings is taking shape

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/18m-tower-light-power-prominent-18549526>



15 August 2020

About Manchester: Manchester's Tower of Light nears completion

<https://aboutmanchester.co.uk/manchesters-tower-of-light-nears-completion/>

17 August 2020

Smart Cities World: Manchester's Civic Heat Network project passes significant milestone

<https://www.smartcitiesworld.net/news/news/manchesters-civic-heat-network-project-passes-significant-milestone-5574>

### Manchester's civic heat network project passes significant milestone

News 17 Aug 2020 by SmartCitiesWorld news team

The final sections of the UK city installed, which will act as a

Architects' Journal

24 August 2020

Architects Journal: Wraps taken off sculptural Tower of Light in Manchester

<https://www.architectsjournal.co.uk/news/tonkin-liu-wins-approval-for-tower-of-light-scheme-in-manchester-2>

### Wraps taken off Tonkin Liu's sculptural Tower of Light in Manchester

24 AUGUST 2020 BY PAUL WILKINS



The final sections of Tonkin Liu's 40m-tall biomimetic 'Tower of Light' for

## Climate Change Youth Action Summit

27 January 2020

Manchester Evening News: Hundreds of schoolchildren gather to discuss climate change at Manchester Central eco-summit. (Event also covered by BBC Radio Manchester, Hits Radio and BBC North West Tonight).

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/in-your-area/hundreds-schoolchildren-gather-discuss-climate-17623869>

### Hundreds of schoolchildren gather to discuss climate change at eco summit at Manchester Central

The Youth Climate Action Summit gave pupils the chance to explore how the city can meet its target of becoming net zero by 2038.

By 2038

Manchester Evening News

Manchester Central

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## Tree Planting

4 December 2020

I Love Manchester: Million pound project to plant thousands of trees across Manchester begins

<https://ilovemanchester.com/project-plant-trees-manchester-begins>

Secret Manchester: A million-pound project to plant thousands of trees is to begin in Manchester next week

<https://secretmanchester.com/tree-action-mcr/>

6 December 2020

About Manchester: Million-pound tree planting project for Manchester gets underway

<https://aboutmanchester.co.uk/million-pound-tree-planting-project-for-manchester-gets-underway/>

### Million pound project to plant thousands of trees across Manchester begins

The first phase will include Ancoats and Didsbury, Ardwick, Chorlton, Clayton and Openshaw, Gorton and Abbey Hey, Moss Side and more



### A Million Pound Project To Plant Thousands Of Trees Will Begin In Manchester Next Week



### Million pound tree planting project for Manchester gets underway



## Community Engagement

9 December 2020

In Your Area: Manchester communities to lead the way on climate change thanks to funding boost

<https://www.inyourarea.co.uk/news/manchester-communities-to-lead-the-way-on-climate-change-thanks-to-funding-boost/>

