

Introduction

This report sets out the latest progress against delivery of Manchester City 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 case April to June 2021. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to lags in billing and data monitoring, in this instance that quarter falls into the previous reporting year (Q4 2020-2021, January to March 2021).

CO₂ Emissions

The 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 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 CO₂ 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 CO₂ – Emissions Budget 2020-21

25,429 tonnes CO₂ – Emissions released 2020-21*

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

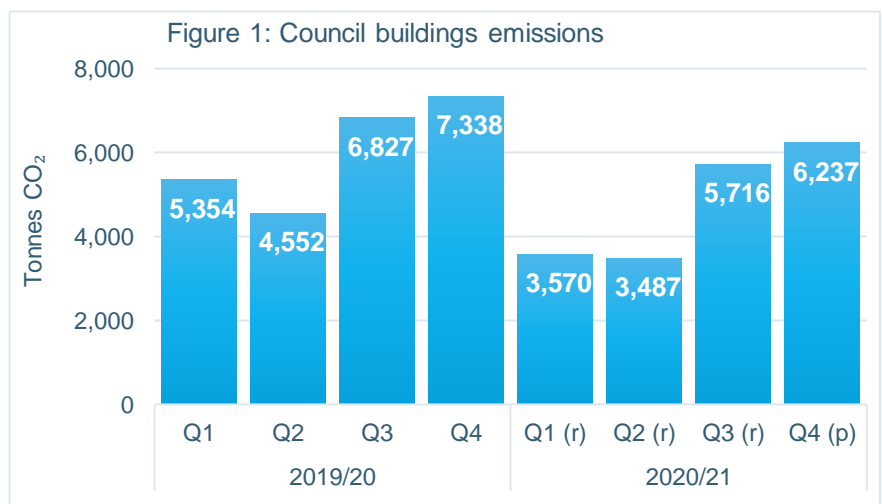
The Council has emitted 25,429 tonnes of CO₂ between April 2020 and March 2021 – these are the most recent estimates for the year – which is 82% of the available budget. Final emissions for the year 2020-21 will be available in August 2021 once all data has been verified. These emissions are associated with Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet and staff travel.

The charts below show a quarter-by-quarter view of emissions back to Q1 2019-20 (April to June 2019) for the different Council activities responsible for direct CO₂ emissions. They show both seasonal differences, e.g. energy consumption and emissions peak in winter, as well as overall trends.

Note: where emissions data for the latest quarter has to include some element of a best estimate, for example where more accurate billing or monitoring data will become available in future periods, such figures are marked as (p) for provisional; where emissions data for the past quarter is revised, on the basis of more accurate data becoming available, figures are marked as (r) for revised. As data is being verified for the whole year at the time of writing this report, figures are marked as (r) for multiple quarters.

Figure 1 shows that emissions from energy use in Council buildings in Q4 2020-21 are 15% lower than Q4 in the previous year (2019-20).

This reduction is driven by the installation of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy generation capacity, the decarbonisation of the national grid and changes to building use due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



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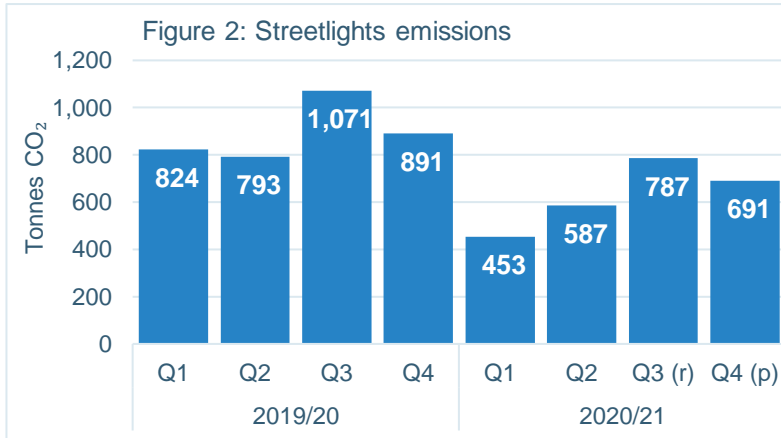
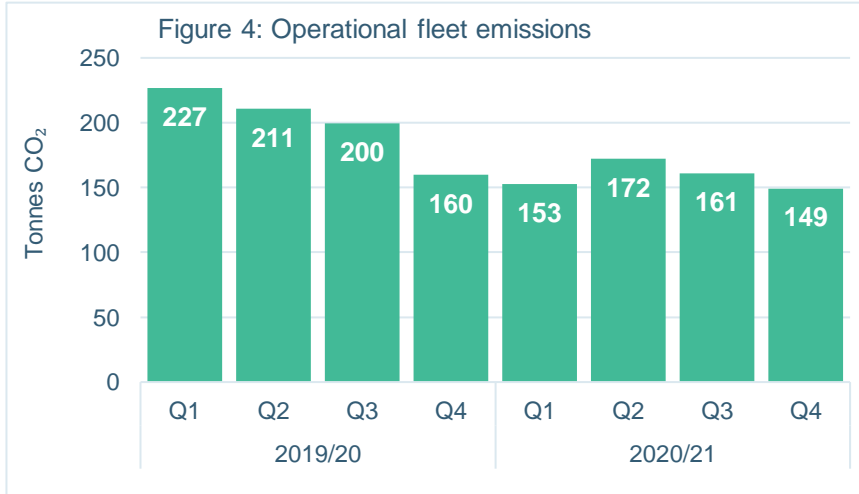
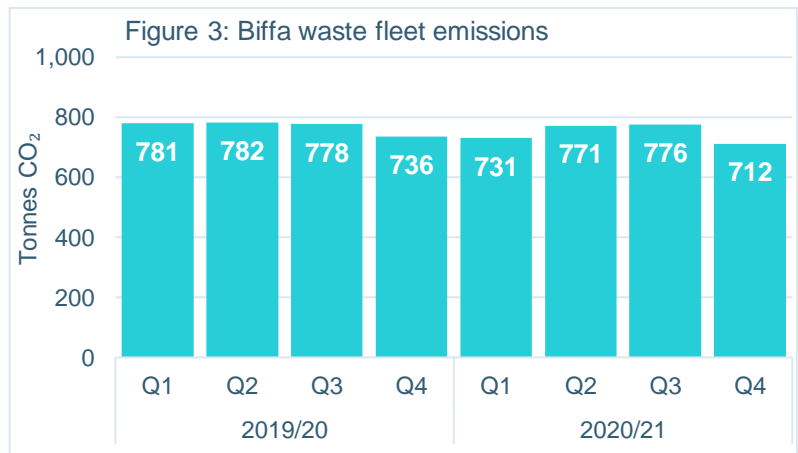


Figure 2 shows that emissions from streetlights are on a downward trend, despite seasonal variation, due to the large-scale retrofitting of LEDs over the last few years.

Q4 2020-21 emissions are 22% lower than Q4 in the previous year (2019-20).

The streetlights replacement programme is now complete, and the full impact of this work will be seen in 2021-22.

Figure 3 shows emissions from the waste fleet have remained relatively consistent over the past eight quarters; however, this is due to change in 2021-22 as the Council's £9.8m investment in new electric refuse collection vehicles (eRCVs) converts 50% of the fleet to electric vehicles.



Emissions from the Council's operational fleet have reduced due to switching around 13% of vehicles to electric (as part of a rolling replacement programme) and because the Covid-19 pandemic has restricted certain activities normally involving the use of diesel vehicles.

Figure 4 shows Q4 emissions are 7% lower than the same period the year before.

Emissions from business travel by council officers and elected members reduced significantly throughout 2020-21 due to Covid-19 and the changes it created to working patterns, for example, shifting to video conferencing.

Figure 5 shows that Q4 emissions are 57% lower than the same period last year. Within this, the miles travelled by car (i.e. staff mileage in their own vehicles, taxi and car club) reduced 41% and miles travelled by rail and air were down by 90% and 98% respectively compared to the same period the year before. All air travel was undertaken by Social Services in relation to client work.

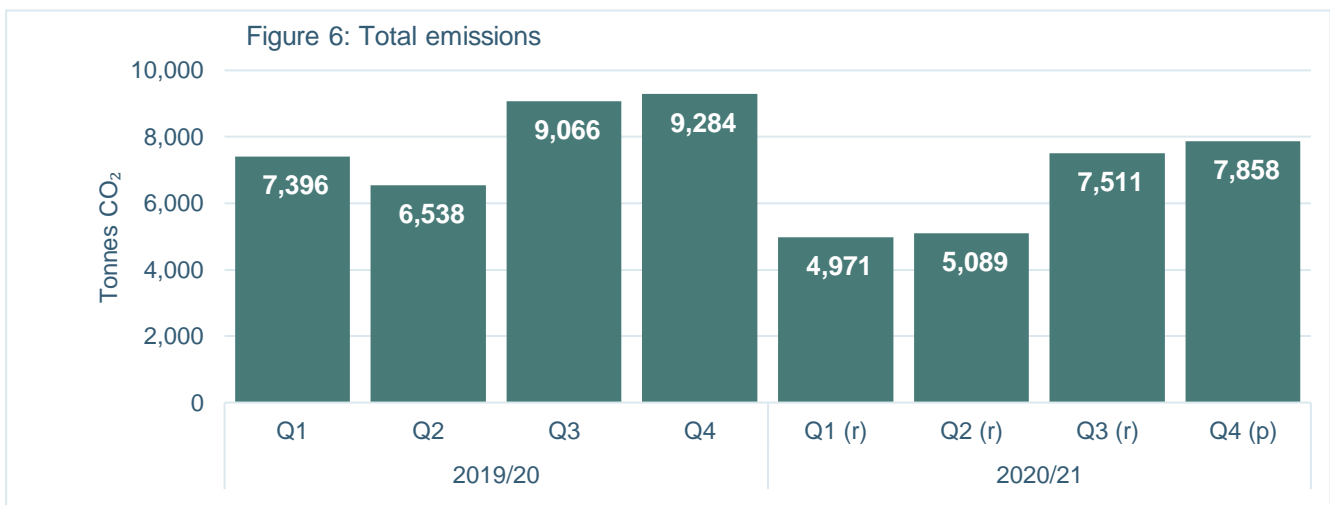
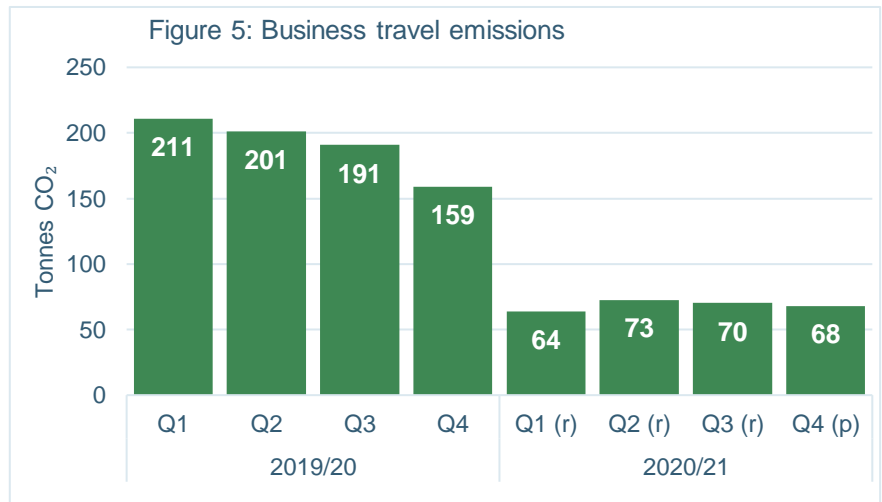
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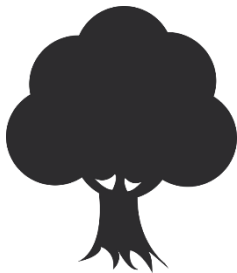
Following a review of data management systems for travel, minor revisions have been made to air travel (Q2) and rail travel (Q1-Q3), resulting in an increase of 1 tonne CO₂ being reported.

Figure 6 shows the Council’s total emissions and reflects the overall downward trend seen in Figures 1-5, alongside seasonal variation.

Total emissions in Q4 are 15% lower than for the same period in the previous year.



Key Performance Indicator Spotlight:



Tree Planting (October 20 – May 21 Planting Season):

- 1007** Trees planted
- 1175** Small Hedge trees planted
- 4** Community Orchards planted
- 128** Residents engaged within the planting programme

Progress Report Headlines:

Key Achievements:

- The streetlight replacement programme is now complete (closing action 1.5) with around 56,000 LEDs installed. The full impact on emissions will follow a full operational year (2021-22).
- Large volumes of geo-spatial and energy consumption data were collated to drive benefit for Manchester and the Council from multiple GM projects (Go Neutral, Local Area Energy Plan, Building Energy Decarbonisation Plans).
- Seven of the 27 new electric refuse collection vehicles (eRCVs) are operational. The remaining vehicles will arrive in phases over the rest of the year.

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- Nine electric vans will be deployed by the end of the quarter to replace diesel vehicles in the Council's fleet. The recent re-procurement of the vehicle leasing contract will allow more to be switched to electric throughout the year.
- Three Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers are now in post to support delivery of the climate actions in ward plans.
- The "In Our Nature" programme has been launched by the Manchester Climate Change Agency and delivery partner Hubbub, to support residents and communities to create healthy, green, zero carbon neighbourhoods across the city.

New Risks and Issues:

- An extension to the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) from September 2021 to March 2022 reduces risk in multiple projects, the works at the National Cycling Centre are part of a wider, complex refurbishment programme whose timeline goes beyond the PSDS. Delivery schedules are being reviewed regularly by the Capital Programmes team to manage the risk of slippage.
- The Civic Quarter Heat Network gas connection (due to complete in June) is delayed and the associated carbon savings need to be revised. The situation is under constant review.
- It has not been possible to secure an extension for the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme Phase 1a. There have been significant challenges in delivery i.e. securing contractors, owner occupiers' willingness to consider new technologies, access to homes due to COVID. Therefore, the programme has been closed and the £500k funding returned.
- The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) fund had an initial short delivery timescale (Dec 2021). This presented risk and an extension to June 2022 has been requested.
- The eRCVs are arriving around 9-months later than originally planned and the associated carbon savings need to be reviewed to assess impact on annual emission reduction targets and the overall carbon budget.
- The Intra-City Transport Fund may be insufficient to deliver all the schemes identified under the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy. A process of investment prioritisation is in discussion with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to ensure Manchester's schemes are appropriately prioritised in line with the role of the regional centre, including those with potential for substantial carbon reductions through a shift to low emission modes of transport.
- There have been challenges in recruiting suitable candidates for vacancies within Manchester Climate Change Agency.
- Clarity is awaited on the format of COP26. It is likely to be a hybrid event, with priority of a physical event to the nation cities (Blue Zone) and the rest held virtually (Green Zone). Most of MCC's activity will be in the Green Zone meaning it is likely to attract less PR, profile and senior level exposure.

Seeing is Believing:

Between October 2020 and May 2021, the planting of new trees and hedgerows got underway within cemeteries and parks and lining some streets. Over 1,000 trees were planted along with 1,175 hedge trees.

Following engagement events with residents, four community orchards were planted in Delamere Park, Openshaw; Kenworthy Wood, Northenden; Mersey Bank Fields, Chorlton Park and Platt Fields Park in Rusholme. Feedback from residents has been positive.

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Solar panel installations were completed at Belle Vue Leisure Centres (left) and the Manchester Tennis Centre (right).



Progress Report by Workstream: (by exception)

Buildings and Energy (Workstream 1):

1.1 Detailed design work for all PSDS works are underway and the project has been extended until March 2022. Issues relating to timelines for refurbishment at the National Cycling Centre are being monitored closely.

1.2 The Manchester Low Carbon Build Standard is being used by Capital Programmes. The Strategic Capital Board Peer Review Group (PRG) is reviewing and refining the draft carbon metrics to be included within the Strategic Capital Board business cases.

1.3 MCC Energy and Buildings Strategy action is being combined with the wider outcomes for Action 1.4.

1.4 The LSREG feasibility study is scheduled to be presented at SMT in June. The report will then be presented to the Leader and Executive Members for Finance and Environment.

1.5 The streetlight replacement programme is now complete (closing action 1.5) with around 56,000 LEDs installed. The full impact on emissions will follow a full operational year (2021-22).

1.6 Following an external assurance review, Executive approved the Manchester Heat Network Business Plan on 3rd June. Construction work is almost complete and commissioning the next step. The power supply changeover to the connected buildings are scheduled for July to August to

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complete in September. The gas connection, due in June is currently delayed and under ongoing review. The CQHN private wire connection to the Town Hall Extension is now complete,

1.7 Estimated cost of achieving as near to zero as possible for 13,000 council properties managed by Northwards leaves a £200m gap. MCC also owns ~3000 other homes (mainly PFI-funded contracts) which require works and not currently included any long-term contracts. Work is ongoing to identify how contracts can be amended to include and fund zero carbon works. The intention is to prepare a detailed funding submission for the Strategic Capital Board before the end of 2021-22. A planning meeting was held in May for the proposed housing summit.

1.8 The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) funding agreement assumed work would complete Dec 2021. A change request has been submitted to amend this to June 2022. Progress has been made with the planning department who have agreed that the external treatment does not require planning applications.

1.10 Large volumes of geo-spatial and energy consumption data have been collated for Manchester and the Council for multiple GM projects (Go Neutral, Local Area Energy Plan, Building Energy Decarbonisation Plans).

1.11 A briefing report has been drafted and awaits Head of Development approval prior to implementing recommendations to relevant transaction processes and project governance.

1.12 Capital programmes are working with a task and finish group (Manchester Zero Carbon New Building Task Group) to look at potential new standards and targets for zero carbon new build for residential and commercial buildings.

1.13 A draft has been produced with the Cambridge Centre for Smart Infrastructure and Construction and National Association of Construction Frameworks (NACF) supporting metrics for the delivery of the national Achieving Net Zero Carbon Code. This will be launched at COP26 and used by construction contractors. This includes a requirement for all NACF contractors to develop a “Achieving Net Zero Carbon Plan”, with details of their absolute emissions and a proposed reduction target monitored by NWCH.

Travel and Transport (Workstream 2):

2.1 There are seven electric refuse collection vehicles now operational. The delivery schedule for the remaining vehicles has been delayed due manufacturing delays as a result of Covid-19.

2.2 The re-procurement of vehicle leasing contract completed in April 2021 and will allow work to decarbonise operational fleet. Nine new fully electric vehicles have been deployed this quarter across Bereavement Services, Highways, Trading Standards and Facilities Management all replacing diesel vehicles.

2.3 A Senior Project Manager (six-month secondment) leading on Sustainable Travel was appointed in April 2021 to lead on this action and 2.8.

2.4 Two online consultations were completed for the Wythenshawe Active Travel and two for the City Centre Active Travel scheme. Both have now closed.

2.5 Manchester City Council is working closely with TfGM to develop a 5-year pipeline of transport infrastructure investment to deliver priorities under the Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040. This pipeline will form the basis of a negotiated funding settlement with government as part of the £4.2bn Intra-city Transport Fund. TfGM are leading negotiations with government, with MCC and other Greater Manchester Local Authorities feeding in.

2.7 Manchester Climate Change Partnership met on 20th May 2021 and a report on aviation was discussed. The report included progress against the aviation commitments in the Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and key points for inclusion in the new Framework 2.0 document, to be completed by March 2022.

Reducing Consumption-based Emissions (Workstream 3):

3.1 Proposals for the roll out of the 10% environmental weighting were approved by Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee and Executive. Work has commenced on the redesign of the social value and environmental questions to include in tenders. A pipeline of upcoming contracts is being evaluated to identify contracts with maximum potential.

3.3 Following Covid-19 restriction easing, Markets reopened. Officers have been promoting a Single Use Plastic ban relating to straws, cotton buds and drinks stirrers across all Retail and Wholesale Markets as introduced by Government in new legislation announced in October 2020. It is the Traders duty to comply with the legislation, however the Markets team wrote to all Traders early June to remind them of the legislation and their responsibilities.

3.4 A draft Supplier Toolkit was considered by the Social Value, Contracts and Commissioning Leads Group in May. Feedback was positive and the toolkit will now be used as a live document.

3.5 Work is currently focused on two key areas in events: a) Single Use Plastic reduction across Food and Drink Trader cups, and b) Power supply for events. An internal report on events, highlighting key achievements, future recommendations and the guidance produced for event organisers, is undergoing peer review. A submission has been made to the EU City Facility Fund to support a feasibility study into the upgrade of mains power at event sites across Manchester.

3.6 Manchester Food Board has produced an action plan which includes the Our Manchester Food Partnership objectives. It has been agreed that the Food Response Team will lead on the delivery.

Climate Change Adaptation and Carbon Sequestration (Workstream 4):

4.1 This season (October 2020 – May 2021) 4286 trees, including 275m of new hedgerows and 5 orchards have been planted across Manchester by MCC and partners.

4.2 Groundwork have been procured to develop a Friends of Group for West Gorton park and to deliver other community engagement activities to raise awareness of the nature-based solutions within the park. Site visits are being held every Wednesday afternoon for council staff and members, partners and residents.

4.3 A final draft of the 'Evolution of Treescape' report has been shared with the Green & Blue Infrastructure Board for comment. Results from the tree management questionnaire are being collated, and outline tree opportunity maps being developed. The Beacon Tree community mapping tool has been finalised and will soon be available for trial.

4.4 As part of Tree Action MCR, officers have worked alongside friend's groups, resident's, housing providers and land managers to engage with 128 residents, who were directly involved with the orchard planting in Delamere Park, Openshaw; Kenworthy Wood, Northenden; Mersey Bank Fields, Chorlton Park and Platt Fields Park in Rusholme. In total, 1007 mature standard trees were planted, including 5 Covid Beacon trees in all Manchester cemeteries, plus 1175 small hedge trees and 4 orchards.

Catalysing Change (Workstream 5):

5.1 The Carbon Literacy trainer's contract has been extended till March 2022, to support the continued delivery of the training programme. A review of data was undertaken to exclude Council leavers from the numbers reported to the Carbon Literacy Project, resulting in the unique certified figure reducing by 163. However, records show MCC stills meets silver accreditation with 1075 unique certified people. The data will be reviewed again in September.

5.3 Building this action into the core workstream of Future Shape of the Council, under how we improve our decision making. Scope of this work will be developed by the end of June with actions over the next 2 years. Planning for the next Culture and VCSE funding programmes has commenced, contact made with procurement to consider how environmental consideration can be embedded into funding applications and grant agreements.

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5.4 Three Neighbourhood Climate Change Officers are now in post to support climate change work on ward plans. A Zero Carbon Communities programme 'In Our Nature' launched in May with activity underway to recruit residents to be part of the group driving local climate activity across 6 neighbourhoods selected to be part of this programme. The programme is a partnership between Manchester Climate Change Agency and Partnership, Manchester City Council, Hubbub, Amity, the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research and Commonplace.

5.6 Interviews for the new Director have taken place but no appointment has yet been made. Recruitment for other posts will take place next quarter, interim staff are in place.

5.7 The new Chair of the Manchester Climate Change Partnership is progressing discussions ahead of a drive for new partnership members. In May, a report to the new Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Committee included updates on progress from Manchester Climate Change Partners.

5.9 Lobbying of Greater Manchester Pension Fund has continued via the Executive Member and at officer level. A council representative continues to attend Greater Manchester meetings, including Green City Region Partnership.

5.10 Decisions on the format of COP26 and the outcome of expressions of interest are still to be provided. Work of Core Cities and London with Connected Places Catapult has progressed, and a consultant has been appointed to develop green investment propositions.

5.11 The European funded URBACT C-Change project hosted a successful final networking event in April, with over 120 people sharing the projects achievements and learnings over a 3-year duration. The six network partners were involved in the virtual event along with partners from each city. The EU Zero Carbon Cities project, held a virtual masterclass in May for the seven partner cities, focussing city delivery models for zero carbon. The session included presentations from Manchester and Oslo.

5.12 A working group of green skills partners met to revise the scope and priorities for green skills and develop actions relating to the priorities, retrofit is universally the main theme. Awareness raising campaigns within schools to promote green skills, jobs and opportunities are being supported.

Press Coverage April - June 2021:

Green and Blue Infrastructure

15 April

Horizon Magazine: Sponge parks and vertical gardens – how cities are using nature to overcome extreme weather

[Sponge parks and vertical gardens – how cities are using nature to overcome extreme weather | Horizon: the EU Research & Innovation magazine | European Commission \(horizon-magazine.eu\)](https://horizon-magazine.eu)



City Centre and Wythenshawe Active Travel consultations

10 May

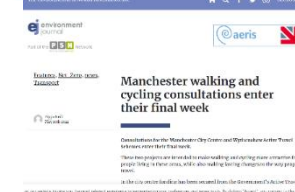
Sixtypluscycling.com: Manchester Walking and Cycling Consultations enter their final week

<https://sixtypluscycling.com/manchester-walking-and-cycling-consultations-enter-their-final-week/>



Environmental Journal: Manchester walking and cycling consultations enter their final week

<https://environmentjournal.online/articles/manchester-walking-and-cycling-consultations-enter-their-final-week/>



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Manchester Live: Have your say on £1.5m scheme for better walking and cycling routes in Wythenshawe.

[Have Your Say On £1.5m Scheme For Better Walking And Cycling Routes In Wythenshawe](#)



Manchester Local TV: Walking and cycling: consultations are still ongoing on the future of the city centre and Wythenshawe Active Travel schemes.

[Manchester TV | Consultations ongoing on the future of two Active Travel Schemes \(manchesterlocal.tv\)](#)



Mayfield Park

12 May

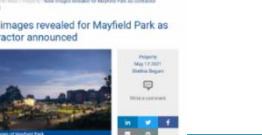
Manchester Evening News: New images show one of Manchester's founding rivers will be brought back to life at Mayfield Park.

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/new-images-show-how-one-20581259>



The Business Desk: New images revealed for Mayfield Park as contractor announced.

[New images revealed for Mayfield Park as contractor announced | TheBusinessDesk.com](#)



13 May

Business Insider: New Mayfield Park images revealed

[New Mayfield Park images revealed | Insider Media](#)



The Manc: new images released of Mayfield Park in Manchester city centre

[New images released of Mayfield Park in Manchester city centre | The Manc](#)



Secret Manchester: New images have been released of Manchester's first new city centre park in over 100 years

<https://secretmanchester.com/manchester-mayfield-park/>



PCB Today: Manchester contractor appointed to Mayfield Park scheme

<https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/planning-construction-news/manchester-mayfield-park/93314/>



Social Housing

14 June

Place North West: Manchester tables Newton Heath proposals

[Place North West | Manchester tables Newton Heath proposals](#)



Manchester Evening News: A new estate of affordable homes is being planned for Newton Heath - this is what they will look like

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/>

RAG Rating at a Glance:

Workstream 1: Buildings & Energy

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ 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

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1.5	LED street lighting	December 2020	220
1.6	Civic Quarter Heat Network	2021	1,600
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

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

Workstream 3: Sustainable Consumption

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ Saving Target
3.1	10% environmental weighting in procurement	September 2021	
3.2	Tyndall Centre findings on consumption emissions	December 2020	Tbc
3.3	Eliminate single use plastics in estates and markets	2024	
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

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual tCO ₂ 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	
4.4	Funding for beacon trees	March 2021	

Workstream 5: Catalysing Change

RAG	Action Summary	Deadline	Annual CO ₂ Saving Target
5.1	Carbon literacy	2025	
5.2	10% environmental weighting in procurement (see 3.1)	April 2020	
5.3	Carbon accounting in decision making	Ongoing	
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	
			15,020