

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Environment & Climate Change Scrutiny Committee - 21 July 2022

Subject: MCC Climate Change Action Plan: Quarterly Progress Report, Quarter 1 April – June 2022

Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

Summary

The Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019 and developed a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25, which was approved by Executive in March 2020. Quarterly updates and an Annual Report covering year one (2020-21) of the CCAP are available online at www.manchester.gov.uk/zerocarbon.

This report provides an update on progress in delivery of the Council's CCAP in Quarter 1 2022-23 (April – June 2022)

Recommendations

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

Wards Affected: All

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

The Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 sets out the actions that will be delivered to ensure that the Council plays its full part in delivering the city's Climate Change Framework 2020-25

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - the impact of the issues addressed in this report in meeting our Public Sector Equality Duty and broader equality commitments
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Actions set out in the Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 recognise the need for just and equal delivery of the climate action across the city, focusing on the areas such as community engagement, accessible transport, access to green spaces and tackling fuel poverty.

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

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

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

Financial Consequences – Capital

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

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

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

1.0 Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on Manchester City Council's delivery of its CCAP 2020-2025 for Quarter 1 2022-23 (April – June 2022), to update on the Council's specific actions it has committed to, in order to achieve zero carbon ambitions by 2038 at the latest as well as track progress of the Council's actions at a citywide level to lead by example and influence and encourage other stakeholders to take action.
- 1.2 All activity described in this report relates to the period in which the report is issued, in this instance April to June 2022, and specifically focuses on the Council's own direct CO2 emissions as well as its city-wide leadership role. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to billing and data monitoring being quarterly in arrears i.e. January to March 2022.
- 1.3 This Quarter 1 progress report has been shared with the City Council's Zero Carbon Coordination Group and Strategic Management Team to ensure its accuracy and transparency and will be published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

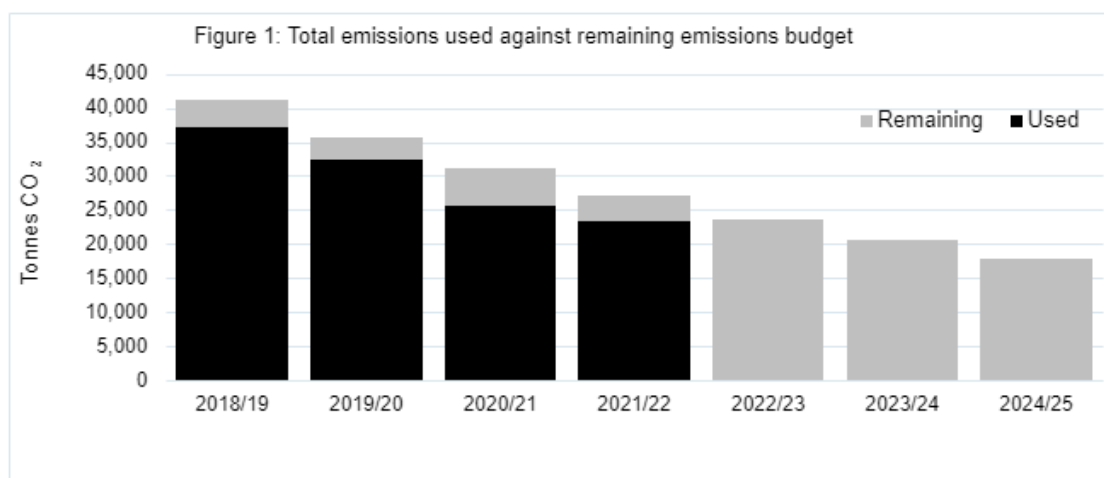
2.0 Background

- 2.1 A five-year CCAP 2020-25 went live following approval at Executive in March 2020.
- 2.2 This plan was considered by Strategic Management Team and the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee throughout the CCAP's first year, with a detailed progress presented to the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 10 February 2021. [Here](#) is a link to the meeting papers.
- 2.3 Following the establishment of the new Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee, regular updates on delivery of the CCAP have been provided via the Quarterly Progress Reports, which have been scheduled into the Committee's work programme. Previous quarterly progress reports are also available on the Council's website and can be found [here](#).
- 2.4 The MCC CCAP 2020-2025 is currently being refreshed and will be shared with the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and Executive in September 2022. Whilst we continue working to reduce MCC's own direct CO2 emissions, there will be a strong focus on our city-wide leadership role and work across Greater Manchester in support of wider climate change objectives.

3.0 Quarter 1 Progress Report April to June 2022

- 3.1 The Council is making good progress in meeting its target to reduce its direct CO2 emissions by 50% by 2025. Since 2020, the Council has exceeded its annual reductions targets and the Quarter 1 report attached shows continued progress is being made with the Council on track to meet its 2025 target.

- 3.2 The Quarterly Progress Report highlights the progress that has been made against individual actions within the CCAP during the first quarter of 2022-23, with the Council's direct carbon emissions data covering the previous quarter, in this case, January – March 2022, due to the availability of billing and data monitoring which is drawn from billing information from the previous quarter.
- 3.3 The report shows the Council has emitted 23,410 tonnes of CO₂ between April 2021 and March 2022, which is 13% below the available budget (27,056 tonnes of CO₂) – these are the most up to date figures for the year 2021-22. These emissions relate to Council buildings and energy, streetlights, waste collection and operational fleet, and MCC business travel.
- 3.4 Figure 1 shows the Council's emissions from 2018/19 to end of 2021/22:



- 3.5 The progress report shows that the Council's CO₂ emissions reflect a continued overall downwards trend. The total carbon emissions in Q4 2021-22 are 20% lower than Q4 in the previous year and 31% lower than Q4 in 2019-20 (pre COVID-19).
- 3.6 There has been a slight increase in emissions from business travel due to an increase in physical meetings and events following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, however, Q4 2021-22 emissions are still 57 tonnes lower than Q4 2019-20.
- 3.7 The report highlights progress made across the five workstreams contained within the Council's CCAP and focuses on actions outlined in the CCAP Work Plan for 2022-23. The actions covered include delivery of the Estate Decarbonisation Programme, development and delivery of the active travel schemes across the city, delivering events more sustainably, such as Manchester Day, latest progress on tree planting and city-wide community engagement activities.

4.0 Key Achievements

- 4.1 The Council's Corporate Estates Team have been making good progress with delivering the Estates Carbon Reduction Programme. Wythenshawe Forum

was one of the highest carbon emitting Council buildings. Following works by the Council, there is now a forecast 49% reduction in CO2 emissions from energy consumption per year. Decarbonisation measures included LED lighting, a combined heat and power engine, solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, a solar PV battery, an air source heat pump and a new Building Management System.

- 4.2 The Council has worked with the UK Cities Climate Investment Commission (UK CCIC) as part of a research study focusing on enabling local authorities to identify potential new funding sources which are needed to deliver net zero projects. This work also included the Manchester Climate Change Agency and the GMCA.
- 4.3 The Culture and Events team are the first team within the Council to undertake a bespoke Carbon Literacy training programme, delivered by Julie's Bicycle, a not-for-profit organisation, mobilising the arts and culture to take action on the climate and ecological crisis. This additional training equips the Culture and Events staff with further carbon literacy skills and knowledge specific to their sector and enable them to support the organisations they work with to become more sustainable and to reduce their emissions. This training was really well received, and staff are now looking to apply their learnings with the organisations they work with across the city.
- 4.4 Six community groups, established through the In Our Nature programme, delivered a range of successful activities, workshops and knowledge sharing in their local communities, focusing on areas such as recycling, growing food and planting, rewilding, and hosting community training and workshops.
- 4.5 The City Council is building additional Zero Carbon capacity into key services across the Council including our Housing teams. A new Strategic Housing Service Project Manager is now in post. The recruitment for Zero Carbon Programme Manager is underway with interviews taking place in July. Development of the work programme for these posts is underway and will focus on leading on housing retrofit and zero carbon housing.
- 4.6 Manchester City Council, working with City of Trees, has planted 1,288 trees, bringing a total number to 4,401 trees planted by the Council and partners during this latest planting season. Additional funding from the UK Government's Urban Tree Challenge Fund was secured to support further planting across the city. A further 2,620 hedgerow trees and 8 additional community orchards have also been planted this season
- 4.7 The Environment Agency visited West Gorton Sponge Park to look at different ways the Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) have been implemented throughout the park. The Executive Member for Environment also went on a tour around the park, guided by the GrowGreen team. Gorton Park Friends Group is now fully established and active.
- 4.8 The Bee Green Education Summit took place on 30 June at Connell Co-op College, aiming to support school leaders, business managers and governors

with practical ideas and resources to support change and receive advice from experts. The day was a success and further details will be captured and reported in the Quarter 2 report.

5.0 Next Steps

- 5.1 Officers are conducting a refresh of the Council's 2020-25 CCAP to keep the Plan up to date. This refresh will capture any new projects and activities taking place between 2020-25 and to ensure that the existing actions included in the Plan remain relevant and ambitious. In the refreshed Plan, there will be greater focus on our city-wide leadership role and our work across GM in support of wider climate change objectives. The refreshed CCAP will be presented to the Committee in September 2022.
- 5.2 Officers leading on delivery of the CCAP 2020-25 will continue to focus on the actions outlined in the Work Plan 2022-23 and will present a progress report for Quarter 2 to the Committee in October 2022.
- 5.3 Emissions data for 2021-22 is being collated to include year-end billing data and the updated figures will be included in the Council's CCAP Annual Report, which will be presented to the Committee in September 2022.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note the contents of the report and the progress that has been made in delivering the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25 during the last three months (April – June 2022).

Appendices

Appendix 1 - CCAP Q1 Quarterly Progress Report April – June 2022