

Manchester City Council Report for Information

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

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

Report of: The Deputy Chief Executive and City Treasurer

Summary

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

www.manchester.gov.uk/zerocarbon.

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

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

Recommendations

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

Wards Affected: All

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
--

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

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

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

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management
- Legal Considerations

Financial Consequences – Revenue

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

Financial Consequences – Capital

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

Contact Officers:

Name: Mark Duncan
Position: Strategic Lead – Resources & Programmes
Telephone: 07983 441715
Email: mark.duncan@manchester.gov.uk

Name: Sarah Henshall
Position: Zero Carbon Manager
Telephone: 07929 823389
E-mail: sarah.henshall@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection):

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

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

1.0 Purpose of the report

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

2.0 Background

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

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

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

3.0 Key Messages from Quarter 2 Progress Report

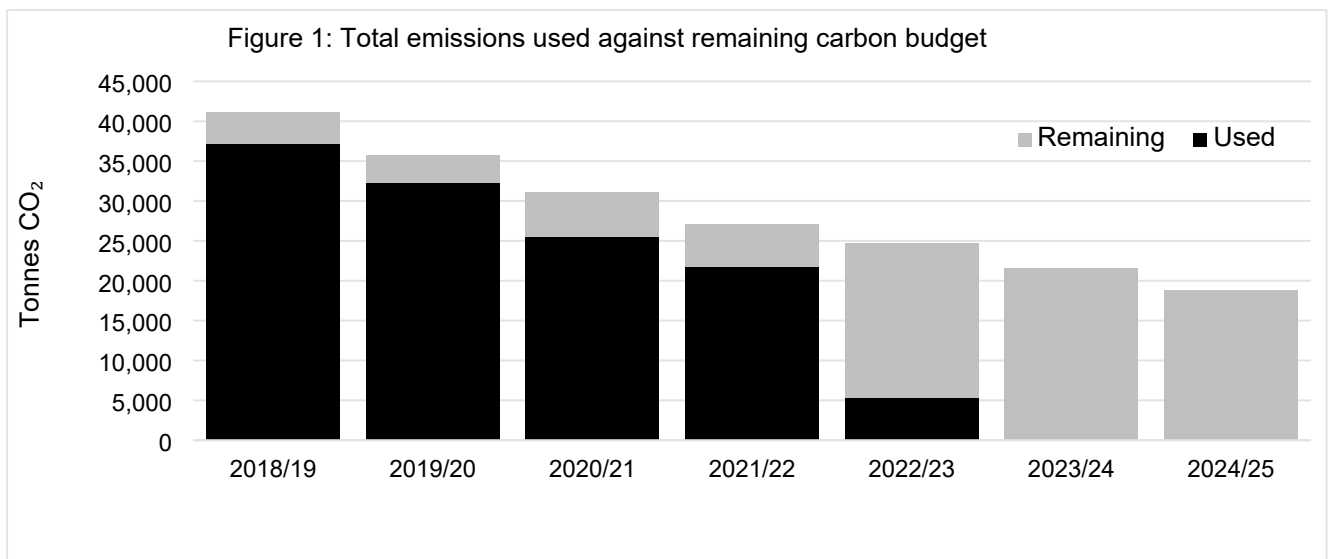
- 3.1 The Council is making good progress in meeting its target to reduce its direct CO₂ emissions by 50% by 2025.
- 3.2 Since 2020, the Council has exceeded its annual CO₂ emission reduction targets and the Quarter 2 report (Appendix 1) shows continued progress is being made with the Council on track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

4.0 CO₂ Emissions

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

5.0 Key Achievements

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

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

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

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

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

6.0 Recommendations

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

7.0 Appendices

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