

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee - 12 January 2023

Subject: Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan: Quarterly Progress Report, Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 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.

The CCAP 2020-25, was endorsed by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Council's Executive Committee in September 2022. This report provides an update and overview of progress made in delivering the Council's refreshed CCAP during Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022) (Appendix 1 – CCAP Q3 Quarterly Progress Report, October-December 2022).

Recommendations

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 refreshed CCAP 2020-25 during the last three months (October – December 2022).

The quarterly progress reports are published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

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 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 Updated 2022

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to provide a progress update on Manchester City Council's delivery of its Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-2025 for Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022). The refreshed CCAP was endorsed by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Council's Executive Committee in September 2022. The format of this report has been refreshed from previous versions to align with the refreshed CCAP.
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. All activity described in this report relates to the period in which the report is issued, in this instance October to December 2022. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to billing and data monitoring being quarterly in arrears i.e., July to September 2022.
- 1.4. This report highlights the positive action the Council is taking to reduce emissions from staff business travel and how the Council's lead role within the European funded GrowGreen project has supported international partners as well as Manchester partners to consider the use of Nature Based Solutions within projects across the city. It also highlights the work underway to engage and communicate with residents and communities on this important agenda.
- 1.5. The Quarter 3 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. Background

- 2.1 A five-year Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25 went live following approval at Executive Committee 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

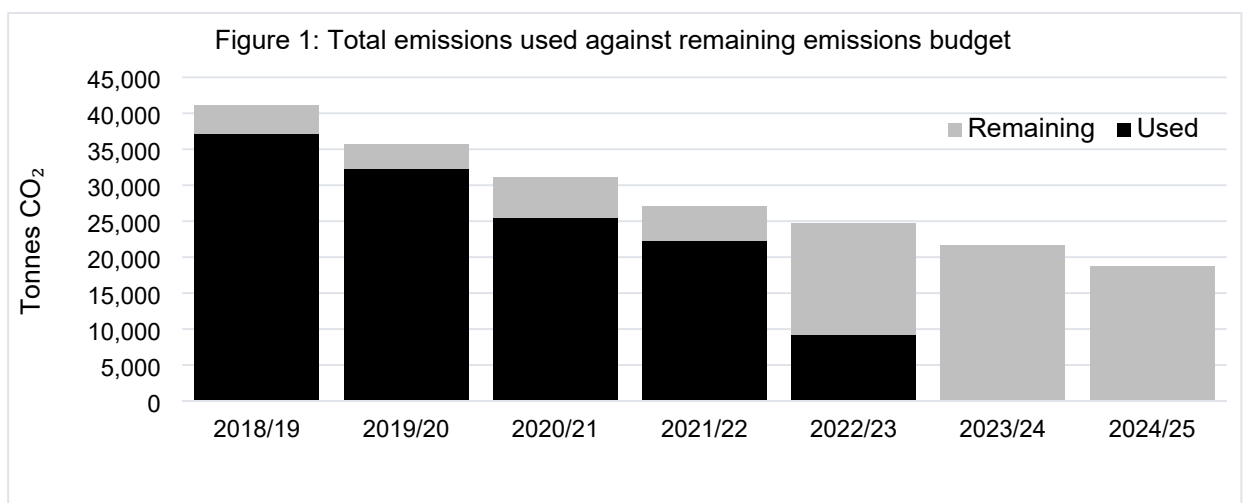
5. Influencing behaviour and being a catalyst for change.
- 2.4 Following the establishment of the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee, regular updates on delivery of the CCAP have been provided via the Quarterly Progress Reports, which have also been scheduled into the Committee's future work programme. Previous quarterly progress reports are available on the Council's website.
- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 The actions within the refreshed CCAP are being implemented across all workstreams from Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022) and progress is reflected in the Quarterly reports from this Quarter 3 report onwards.

3. Key Messages from Quarter 3 Progress Report

- 3.1 Manchester City Council's maximum permitted CO₂ emissions for 2022-23 is 24,784 tonnes (tCO₂)– this is referred to as our Carbon Budget. The Council has used 37.4% of the 2022-23 budget so far. This means the Council has emitted a total of 9,264 tCO₂ between April and September 2022, which is 9.3% lower than the same period in the previous year.
- 3.2 During Q2 (July – September 2022), MCC used 16.8% of the annual CO₂ allowance, 2.6% lower than the CO₂ emissions emitted for the same period in the previous year.
- 3.3 Since 2020, the Council has remained within its carbon budget each year and the Quarter 3 report (Appendix 1) shows continued progress is being made with the Council on track to meet its 2025 target.
- 3.4 Key achievements in this quarter include the Council receiving a Public Finance Award for Sustainability and Social Value, for actions within the CCAP, securing additional funding for a range of Nature Based Solutions, introducing sustainable power into the Council's Christmas events, and the implementation of active travel measures in Wythenshawe.

1. CO₂ Emissions

- 4.1 Emissions reported as part of the Quarter 3 report cover the previous quarter, in this case July to September 2022 due to energy billing being quarterly in arrears.
- 4.2 The report shows the Council has emitted 9,264 tonnes of CO₂ between April and September 2022, which is 37.4% of the maximum CO₂ we are permitted to emit for the year. The emissions relate to Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet, and business travel.
- 4.3 The total carbon emissions in Q2 2022-23 are 2.6% lower than Q2 in the previous year. This is a lower rate of CO₂ reduction than previous quarters, which could be due to factors, such as weather conditions, returning to 'normal' business following the pandemic and having delivered some 'quick win' CCAP actions in the earlier years. More detailed analysis will be done to understand this further in order to identify and undertake potential actions.
- 4.4 Figure 1 shows the CO₂ emissions from the baseline year, 2018-19, and highlights the year-on-year reductions in CO₂ emissions. The table shows that since 2018-19, the Council has remained within its budget of permitted carbon emissions each year, and therefore remained within its science-based Carbon Budget set by the Tyndall Centre.



2. Key Achievements

- 5.1 The Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 (CCAP) was announced as winner of the Sustainability and Social Value Award at this year's Public Finance Awards.
- 5.2 Manchester's Our Rivers Our City Strategy was a finalist in the Landscape Institute Awards 2022.
- 5.3 MCC have secured £125,00 through the City of Trees Urban Tree Challenge Fund bid, for 300 new street trees to be planted during the coming planting season (October 2022 – May 2023). The funding also supports maintenance

and watering of the trees for three years. The Manchester Tree Strategy was invaluable in preparing for this bid and planting will be carried out in line with this Strategy.

- 5.4 A MCC Nature Based Solutions project, GrowGreen (funded by European Commission funded Horizon 2020), hosted its final event in November 2022 in partner city Brest, France. The event provided an opportunity to share the achievements of the project across all European partner cities. A final report for the project was submitted to the European Commission on 30th November 2022.
- 5.5 Cathedral Gardens Ice Rink has reduced diesel generator use by accessing mains power (from the National Football Museum on a green tariff) for the first time. The Council's new Sustainability Project Manager has undertaken significant stakeholder management across several Council services and partners to enable this reduction in fossil fuel usage, which will deliver carbon savings for partners.
- 5.6 The new Wythenshawe Cycling Hub officially opened on 24 September 2022. The Hub was developed as part of a £1.55m revamp of Wythenshawe Park, funded by MCC and Sport England Places 2 Ride. It includes cycling facilities and bookable cycling lessons and will provide a safe, traffic free cycling environment for residents.
- 5.7 Kenworthy Woods, an 89 hectre former tip in South Manchester near Sale Water Park, has been declared a local nature reserve. This will help protect the wildlife habitat and open up funding for long-term maintenance.

3. 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 (October – December 2022).
- 6.2 The quarterly progress reports are published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - CCAP Q3 Quarterly Progress Report October – December 2022