

## Manchester City Council Report for Information

**Report to:** Environment, Climate Change & Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee – 20 July 2023

**Subject:** CCAP Quarterly Progress Report: Q1 April – June 2023

**Report of:** 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 the Council's Executive in March 2020.

To remain up to date, the Manchester City Council (MCC) Climate Change Action Plan was refreshed in 2022, endorsed by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and approved by the MCC's Executive Committee in September 2022.

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](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/zerocarbon).

This report provides an update and overview of progress made in delivering the Council's refreshed CCAP during Quarter 1 2023-24 (April – June 2023) (Appendix 1 – CCAP Q1 Quarterly Progress Report, April – June 2023).

### Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to note and comment on the contents of the Quarterly Report for April – June 2023.

---

### Wards Affected: All

|   |
|---|
| <b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> - 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 |
|---|

|  |
|--|
| <b>Equality, Diversity and Inclusion</b> - 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. |
|---|

| <b>Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>   | <b>Summary of how this report aligns to the OMS/Contribution to the Strategy</b>  |
|---|---|
| A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities | Manchester's reputation as a leader in delivering on climate change will help to attract investment and businesses to the city. This will contribute towards helping the transition to a zero carbon city, which in turn will help the city's economy become more sustainable and will generate jobs within the low carbon energy and goods sector.   |
| A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success                   | Work underway in the Council supporting schools and the wider education sector will help develop a future well equipped workforce, whilst work underway within the Green Skills Action Plan is helping support employers to be prepared for the demand that is being created within the zero carbon sector.   |
| A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities    | There is a targeted focus on retrofitting homes across the city to help tackle fuel poverty and the cost-of-living crisis by reducing energy bills and this is a key part of the transition to a zero-carbon city. Health outcomes will also be improved through healthier homes as well as other areas, such as the promotion of more sustainable and active 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                                      | Work underway on Neighbourhood Ward Plans and Green and Blue Infrastructure, Open Spaces and Parks (helping to adapt and increase resilience) are key areas of Manchester becoming a zero carbon city and will help the city to be a more attractive place for people to live, work, visit and study.   |
| A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth                                     | Our investment in active and sustainable travel is helping Manchester to have a fully zero carbon transport system, which will 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**

As part of the 2022/23 budget, £0.8m additional revenue investment was approved to support additional staffing to support delivery of the Council's Climate Change Action Plan. This funding is ongoing and has now been included as part of each service areas mainstream budgets. It is not expected that there will be any further revenue budget consequences arising from the content of this report.

<https://democracy.manchester.gov.uk/documents/s38151/Zero Carbon Budget Report.pdf>

As part of the 2024/25 budget planning, work is ongoing to ensure all revenue consequences arising from the work undertaken as part of the action plan are captured and included as part of the budget process.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

This report looks back over the previous three months. During this period, we were successful in securing £11.15m from the Government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund to help deliver a two-year housing retrofit programme. The Council will be contributing significant match funding towards this programme, which will support the Council's longer-term housing retrofit aims. The contract details are still being worked through.

#### **Contact Officers:**

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

Name: Sarah Henshall  
Position: Zero Carbon Manager  
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 Updated 2022
- Manchester City Council Climate Emergency Declaration July 2019
- Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 Updated 2022
- Neighbourhoods Directorate 2023/24 Budget – Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 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 1 2023-24 (April – June 2023).
- 1.2 The refreshed CCAP was endorsed by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee and approved by the Council's Executive Committee in September 2022.
- 1.3 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 enable other stakeholders to act.
- 1.4 All activity described in this report relates to the period in which the report is issued, in this instance April to June 2023. Emissions data relates to the previous quarter due to billing and data monitoring being quarterly in arrears i.e. January to March 2023.
- 1.5 This report highlights the positive action the Council is taking to embed zero carbon into Council operations, highlighting progress made on carbon literacy training as well as changes made to policies, internal communications, and decision-making processes. It also highlights the Council's city-wide leadership role through delivering sustainable events across the city and the positive changes being made at recent events.
- 1.6 The 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 Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) covering 2020-25 went live following approval at Executive in March 2020.
- 2.2 The Council's CCAP has a science-based target calculated by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research to reduce the Council's direct emissions and remain within the carbon budget of 126,336 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (tCO<sub>2</sub>) over the five-year period of 2020-25. In addition, the Council has committed to be zero carbon by 2038 at the latest, also based on the science-based targets developed by the Tyndall Centre.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 Regular updates on delivery of the CCAP will continue to be provided to this Scrutiny Committee via the Quarterly Reports and an Annual Report. The next

Annual Report 2022-23 will be published in September 2023. Previous progress reports dating back to April 2020 are available on the Council's website and can be found [here](#).

- 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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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 MCC Climate Change Action Plan sets out new actions, building on existing ambitions, for example, looking at ways to accelerate reaching zero carbon sooner than 2038, identifying opportunities to be bolder and avoiding any risk of complacency.
- 2.7 The actions within the refreshed CCAP were adopted across all workstreams from Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022) and progress continues to be reflected in the Quarterly Reports going forwards.
- 2.8 For 2023-24, our carbon budget is 21,562 tCO<sub>2</sub> - this carbon budget is what we measure our direct emissions against – which are made up of:
  1. MCC buildings
  2. Streetlights
  3. Refuse collection vehicles
  4. MCC Operational fleet
  5. Business travel by MCC staff
- 2.9 Our emissions reporting also includes direct (Scope 1 & 2) emissions from our Housing Operation's housing stock (formerly Northwards), which includes emissions from offices and fleet plus some energy use in communal housing areas – they do not include the domestic emissions of tenants.

### **3.0 Key Messages from Quarter 1 Progress Report**

- 3.1 Manchester City Council's maximum permitted CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for 2022-23 was 24,784 tonnes (tCO<sub>2</sub>) – this is referred to as our Carbon Budget. Provisional data shows that the Council used 88.5% of the 2022-23 budget. This means the Council emitted 21,931 tCO<sub>2</sub> between April 2022 and March 2023, which is 11.5% under budget.
- 3.2 Since 2020, the Council has remained within its carbon budget each year and the Quarter 1 report (Appendix 1) shows continued progress is being made with the Council on track to meet its 2025 target.
- 3.3 Key achievements in this quarter include MCC successfully entering into contract to build a £27m Mobility Hub in Ancoats, which includes innovative design features such as green walls and solar PV panels; the installation of

solar car ports at the National Cycling Centre and £2.4m secured for two active travel projects.

#### 4.0 CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

4.1 Emissions reported as part of the Quarter 1 report cover the previous quarter, in this case January to March 2023 due to energy billing being quarterly in arrears.

4.2 The report shows the Council used 88.5% of its 2022-23 carbon budget during the year (April 2022 – March 2023) and is therefore **on track to remain within its carbon budget for this year**. Emissions relate to Council buildings, streetlights, waste collection, operational fleet, and staff business travel.

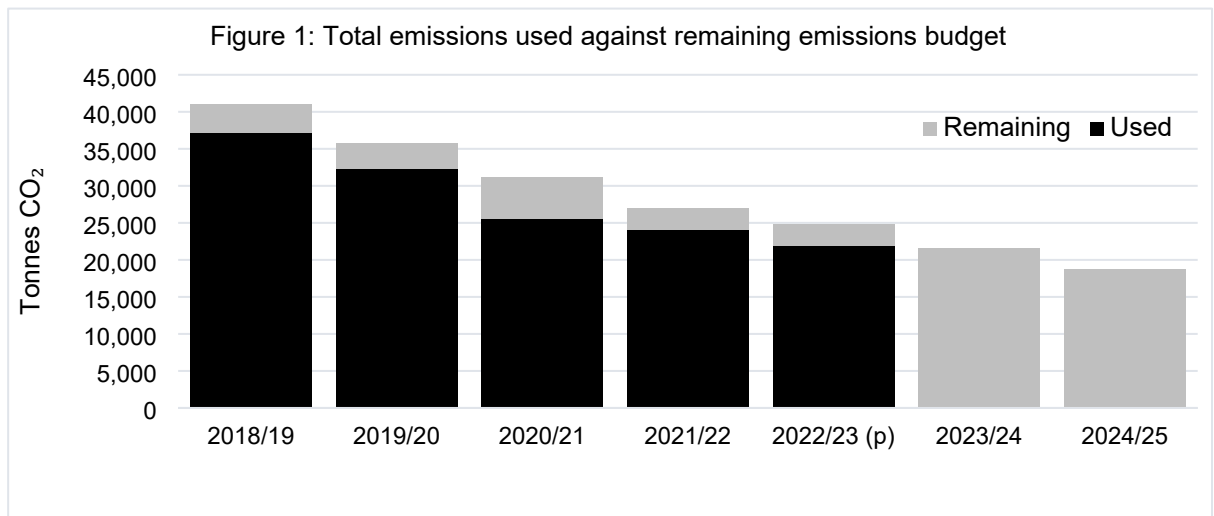
4.3 Provisional data for this quarter shows that total carbon emissions in Q4 2022-23 have increased by 6.3% compared to Q4 the previous year. Reasons for this are:

- Emissions from Council Buildings now include the Civic Quarter Heat Network (CQHN) and Housing Operations (formerly Northwards Housing) in reporting (since Q1 2022-23).
- For the purposes of a direct comparison from Q4 2021-22 and Q4 2022-23, emissions from buildings excluding CQHN and Housing Operations, reduced by 1.5% in Q4 2022-23.
  - As such, although the overall emissions are showing an increase, this is due to accounting for more buildings than the previous year.
  - Despite the additional buildings being included, we remain under our CO<sub>2</sub> science-based budget for the year.
- Staff business travel increased by 13%, compared to Q4 2021-22. However, when comparing staff business travel to the previous quarter (which is more meaningful), there was a 3% increase compared to Q3 2022-23.
  - The Council's Sustainable Travel Officer is working across various services with the aim of reducing business travel or where feasible moving to sustainable modes of transport, and this will continue to be monitored and reported.

4.4 The Council has been making good progress in meeting its science-based targets to reduce its direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. However, we are starting to see lower CO<sub>2</sub> reduction rates, 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 meaning achieving future CO<sub>2</sub> reduction levels will, in some cases, become technically and financially more challenging. We will continue to monitor progress and trends closely to identify and undertake timely actions in future.

4.5 Figure 1 (below) shows the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the baseline year, 2018-19, and highlights the year-on-year reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The graph shows that since 2018-19, the Council has remained within its budget of

permitted carbon emissions each year, and therefore remains within its science-based Carbon Budget set by the Tyndall Centre.<sup>1</sup>



## 5.0 Key Achievements

- 5.1 The Council has successfully entered into contract to build a £27m Mobility hub in Ancoats, which includes innovative design features such as green walls and solar PV panels. This was jointly funded by MCC and Homes England.
- 5.2 The Council has successfully progressed with the National Cycling Centre solar car port installation to the south car park. Expected emissions savings from this installation is up to 36 tCO<sub>2</sub> per annum. (See [Q4 report 'Under the Spotlight'](#) section for more detail).
- 5.3 £2.4m has been secured from [Greater Manchester's Active Travel Fund](#), awarded by Active Travel England. The funding will support a CYCLOPS junction at Wilmslow Road / Ladybarn Lane and upgrade work to the Stockport Branch Canal pathway.
- 5.4 Manchester City Council has signed up to the Refill Scheme, which aims to reduce the use of single use plastics, drive positive behaviour change and increase reuse across the food and drink sector in the city.
- 5.5 Organisers of the 2023 Great Manchester Run implemented changes to reduce single use plastic during this year's event by reducing the number of water stations, providing smaller water bottles, improving, and increasing recycling facilities and improving communications with runners prior to the race.

<sup>1</sup>Invoicing of electricity and gas data can be changed by the supplier within reason up to 6 years after original billing, and this taking place weeks or even months after the original bill is not unusual in the industry. During 2021-22, there were delays in invoicing and this was only resolved in December 2022. As such, the emissions recorded in our [CCAP 2021-22 Annual Report](#) for that year have been revised (from 22,807 tCO<sub>2</sub> to 24,102 tCO<sub>2</sub>) following a recent review of our energy data. However, we still remain within the allocated annual carbon budget of 27,056 tCO<sub>2</sub> for 2021-22.

- 5.6 Broadhurst Clough in the north of the city is Manchester's tenth site to be designated a local nature reserve. This status will help to protect natural habitats and wildlife in this area.
- 5.7 Manchester City Council partnered with Wenta – a not-for-profit social enterprise who are offering free advice to support small businesses on how to reduce their carbon footprint and run a more sustainable business.

## **6.0 Recommendations**

- 6.1 The Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods 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 (April – June 2023).
- 6.2 The quarterly progress reports are published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

## **7.0 Appendices**

- 7.1 Appendix 1 - CCAP Q1 Quarterly Progress Report April – June 2023