

Manchester City Council Report for Information

Report to: Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny
Committee – 7 September 2023
Executive – 13 September 2023

Subject: CCAP Annual Report, April 2022 – March 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. This report is the third Annual Report of the CCAP 2020-25 and provides an overview of progress made during the year 2022-23.

Recommendations

The Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment upon the contents of the Climate Change Action Plan Annual Report for 2022-23.

The Executive is recommended to note the content and approve the Climate Change Action Plan Annual Report for 2022 - 2023.

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	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>

Financial Consequences – Capital

This report looks back over the year April 2022 – March 2023 and it is not expected that there will be any financial consequences to the Capital budget that should arise from the contents 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 Updated 2022*
- *Manchester City Council Climate Emergency Declaration July 2019*
- *Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25*
- *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 highlight progress made in delivering Manchester City Council's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-2025 during its third year – April 2022-March 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 This report brings together updates provided over the last 12 months (April 22 – March 23) into a single report and highlights progress made during this time against the CCAP Work Plan 2022-23 as well as progress made on the Council's direct carbon emissions.
- 1.4 As such, this includes both the Council's actions at a citywide level to lead by example, influence and enable other stakeholders to act as well as its own organisational ambitions to become zero carbon by 2038 at the latest.
- 1.5 Regular updates on delivery of the CCAP are provided to this Scrutiny Committee via Quarterly Reports and Annual Reports, such as this. Previous progress reports dating back to April 2020 are available on the Council's website and can be found [here](#).
- 1.6 The Annual 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 by the Council's 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 own carbon emissions and to remain within a carbon budget of 126,336 tonnes of CO₂ (tCO₂) over the five-year period of 2020-25. This science-based target is set out as a pathway for the Council to work against in order to become a zero carbon organisation by 2038 at the latest.
- 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 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.

- 2.5 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.
- 2.6 The actions within the refreshed CCAP were adopted across all workstreams from Quarter 3 2022-23 (October – December 2022). As such, this Annual Report takes into account the new actions that were added as part of the Refresh which took place mid-way through the year (September 2022).

3.0 Key Messages

- 3.1 Manchester City Council has remained within its allocated carbon budget (the maximum amount of CO₂ emissions permitted) for the year 2022-23, using 89% of this budget (22,072 tonnes CO₂ out of 24,784 tonnes CO₂). This means that the **Council has made good progress** during its third year of the CCAP.
- 3.2 Overall, the Council's carbon budget for the 2020-25 period is 126,336 tCO₂ and we have used 57% of this budget so far, which means the Council has made **good progress to date** and is **on track to remain within the carbon budget** for this period.
- 3.3 55% of the actions in the CCAP 2020-25 are working to target (marked Green in the attached RAG (Red – Amber – Green) report) and the remaining are work in progress (45% of actions are Amber in the RAG).

4.0 Manchester City Council's CO₂ Emissions

- 4.1 This report shows the Council has used 89% 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.
- 4.2 The Council has made significant progress in reducing its direct carbon emissions to date and has remained below the allocated carbon budget. However, the overall rate of CO₂ reduction is slowing down and delivering further reductions, in line with the zero carbon science-based pathway, will become more challenging, particularly whilst there is no simple solution for entirely replacing gas.
- 4.3 Figure 1 (below) 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 within its budget of permitted

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

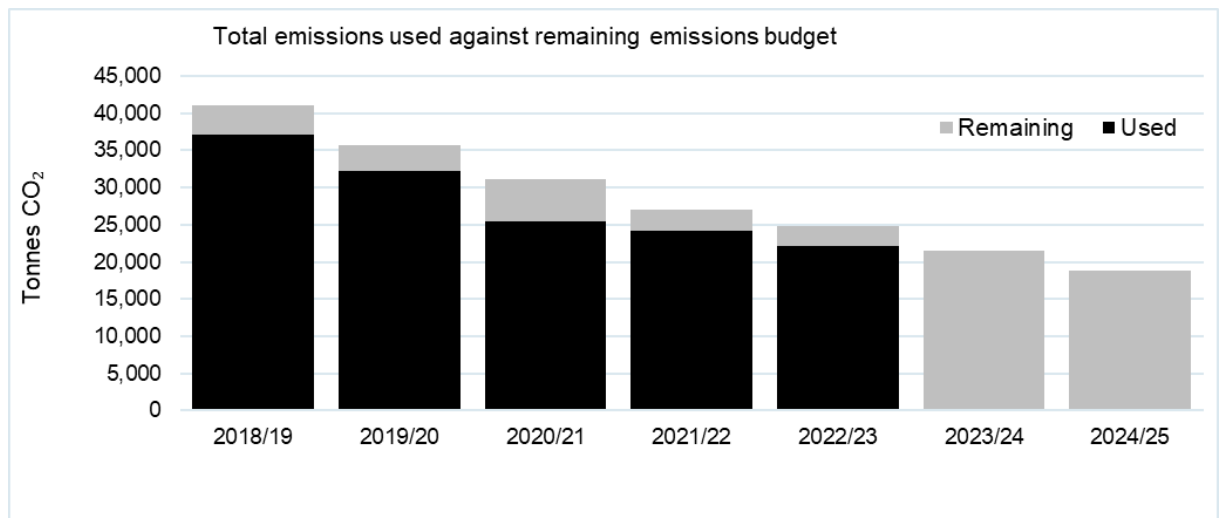


Figure 1: Total emissions used against remaining yearly emissions budgets

5.0 Key Achievements

- 5.1 Over the course of this 12-month period, in addition to the previous 2 years' work, the Council has been able to secure over £227m to support delivering the CCAP. This investment included funding for dedicated resource with the creation of 13 new posts, whilst a number of services also identified opportunities to create zero carbon focused posts, all providing additional capacity to aid delivery of the CCAP.
- 5.2 Examples of achievements during this 12-month period which this investment and dedicated additional capacity has helped deliver include:
- A new [Housing Strategy](#) for Manchester, launched in June 2022, setting out the ambitious low carbon retrofit plans for existing and new homes.
 - Installation of energy efficiency, heat decarbonisation and energy generation measures completed across 18 buildings, funded by £21.3m from the UK Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme
 - [Manchester's Active Travel Strategy](#) and Investment Plan (endorsed by Executive Committee in February 2023) with key objectives for the five-year plan including making walking the natural choice for short journeys and doubling cycling journeys from 6% to 12%.
 - Establishing Green School Networks across North, Central and South Manchester (sharing best practice, exploring opportunities for education settings, and working collaboratively on issues relating to climate change.

¹Invoicing 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. For example, 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 tCO₂ to 24,101 tCO₂). We will continue to take further reviews of our energy data and make any required amendments in future Annual Reports. However, indicative data shows we remain within the allocated annual carbon budget.

- Increasing green infrastructure across the city, such as Mayfield Park (the first park built in the city centre for over 100 years), c. 800 trees and hedge trees planted, and progress being made with new Highways guidance for increasing sustainable urban drainage across the city.
- Strengthening the Ward Climate Change Action Plans, to help identify carbon savings at a local level and allow the Council to support residents and communities to live more sustainably.

5.3 This hard collaborative work was recognised and celebrated with the Council's CCAP 2020-25 winning the Sustainability and Social Value Award at the Public Finance Awards 2022.

5.4 The Key Achievements section in the CCAP Annual Report provides further examples of achievements made throughout the year.

5.5 Furthermore, in early 2023, planning took place for an Away Day in Summer 2023 for the Zero Carbon Coordination Group that oversees the delivery of the CCAP. The focus of this Away Day was to start considering the next iteration of the CCAP, beyond March 2025. This was held in July 2023 and work is now underway on planning the production of the next CCAP, for April 2025 onwards.

6.0 Summary and Next Steps

6.1 This report demonstrates the considerable progress that has been made by the Council to date. To stay within our carbon targets for the next five years will require a step change in how we work, along with investment and commitment from all stakeholders across the city.

6.2 The Zero Carbon Coordination Group that oversees the delivery of the CCAP attended an Away Day in July 2023, with the key focus being the next iteration of the CCAP, beyond March 2025. Work is now underway on planning the production of the next CCAP for April 2025 onwards.

6.3 In conjunction, we will be working closely with colleagues, partners (such as the Manchester Climate Change Agency and Partnership) and residents to create a vision for how a resilient zero carbon city in 2038 will look. This will feed into and align with the new Manchester Economic Strategy and the new Our Manchester Strategy, along with the next Climate Change Framework and the next CCAP.

6.4 There will be a number of important milestones on the next stage of the Council's journey to becoming zero carbon. These include:

- The joint Innovate UK bid with GMCA and Oldham MBC for investment to further explore new net zero finance and funding models, being submitted in September 2023
- Progressing with the procurement of a partner to provide an electricity Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the Council's future energy supply.
 - The procurement is at Invitation to Tender stage, with a preferred partner to be selected in December 2023, with report being presented

to the Executive and relevant Scrutiny Committees as part of the corporate governance and approval process. The PPA will facilitate the provision of zero carbon energy to the corporate estate from 2025, to ensure the Council successfully meets the Zero Carbon targets as outlined in the CCAP.

- The adoption of Places for Everyone (Joint Local Plan) expected in spring 2024; and the development of the Manchester Local Plan over the next two years.
 - The joint local plan and the Manchester Local Plan will deliver policies that support our zero carbon ambitions across a range of issues including new buildings; energy generation systems; green infrastructure, biodiversity net gain and transport.

6.5 The new CCAP will use this vision and set out the actions that the Council will be required to take, to achieve our zero carbon target and climate change ambitions.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 The Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee is recommended to note and comment on the contents of the CCAP Annual Report and the progress that has been made in delivering the CCAP 2020-25 during its third year (April 2022 – March 2023).

7.2 The Executive is recommended to note the content and approve the Climate Change Action Plan Annual Report for 2022 - 2023.

7.3 This Annual Report will be published in an accessible format on the Council's website.

8.0 Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 - CCAP Annual Report (April 2022 – March 2023)