

**Manchester City Council
Report for Information**

Report to: Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny
Committee – 10 October 2024

Subject: Overview Report

Report of: Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Summary

This report provides the following information:

- Recommendations Monitor
- A summary of key decisions relating to the Committee's remit
- Items for Information - Emissions Report Q1 April - June 2024
- Work Programme

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to discuss the information provided and agree any changes to the work programme that are necessary.

Wards Affected: All

Contact Officers:

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Background documents (available for public inspection): None

1. Monitoring Previous Recommendations

This section of the report lists recommendations made by the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee. Where applicable, responses to each will indicate whether the recommendation will be implemented, and if it will be, how this will be done.

There are no outstanding previous recommendations.

2. Key Decisions

The Council is required to publish details of key decisions that will be taken at least 28 days before the decision is due to be taken. Details of key decisions that are due to be taken are published on a monthly basis in the Register of Key Decisions.

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution is an executive decision, which is likely:

- To result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant having regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates, or
- To be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the city.

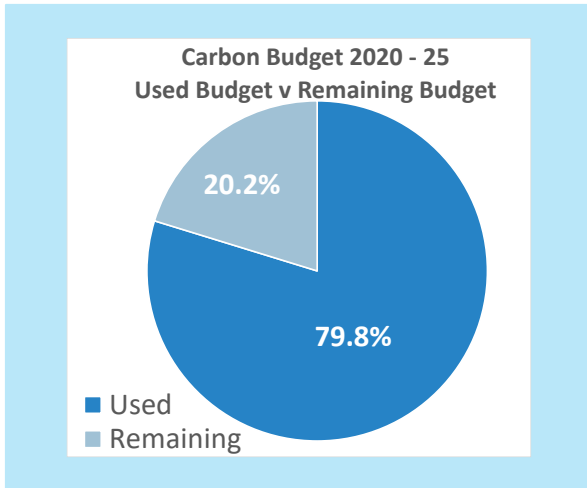
The Council Constitution defines 'significant' as being expenditure or savings (including the loss of income or capital receipts) in excess of £500k, providing that is not more than 10% of the gross operating expenditure for any budget heading in the in the Council's Revenue Budget Book, and subject to other defined exceptions.

An extract of the most recent Register of Key Decisions, published on **30 September 2024** containing details of the decisions under the Committee's remit is included overleaf. This is to keep members informed of what decisions are being taken and to agree, whether to include in the work programme of the Committee.

There are currently no Key Decisions currently listed within the committee's remit.

Manchester City Council CO₂ Emissions for 2024/25

To achieve its objective to be Zero Carbon by 2038 at the latest, the Council (MCC) has a target to reduce its direct carbon emissions in line with science-based targets set by the Tyndall Centre for Climate Research. This ambition is underpinned by a maximum amount of CO₂ emissions (a Carbon Budget¹) of 126,336tCO₂ for the period 2020-25, which the Council aims to remain within.



Figures for Quarter 1 (Q1) in 2024/25 estimate that the Council has emitted 5,459 tonnes of CO₂ during this period. As shown in Figure 1, this leaves the Council with 20% of its 5-year carbon budget remaining, with less than a year of the Budget period still to come.

Current energy forecasting indicates that MCC will remain within the 5-year carbon emissions target figure for 2020-25.

The higher levels of carbon reductions made in the first 3 years (see figure 2) of this Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) period have helped to keep MCC on target.

Figure 1

MCC's Science Based CO₂ Reduction Pathway (The Carbon Budget)

Current energy forecasting indicates MCC are still on track to stay within the 5-year carbon budget. As figure 1 shows, MCC still has 20% of its five-year carbon budget, or 30,848t CO₂ remaining after Q1 of 2024/25. As further demonstrated in **Figure 2** below, prior to 2023/24 the Council remained within its allocated annual carbon target every year since the baseline year 2018-19. The graph begins with the baseline year 2018-19 to highlight the year-on-year reduction that has been made².

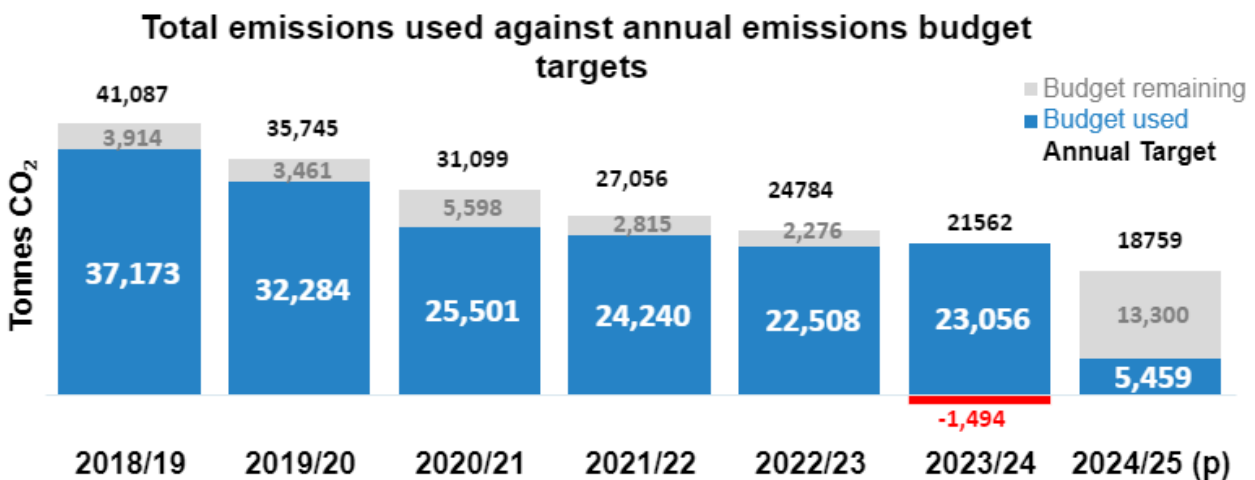


Figure 2 (p) refers to the emissions being provisional

¹ A Carbon Budget is the cumulative amount of carbon (CO₂) emissions permitted within a specified timeframe.

² 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. As such, the emissions recorded may need to be revised periodically if energy data changes.

Quarter 1 2024/25 Emissions

The Council’s total emissions in Q1 2024-25 are 5,459 tCO₂.

Emissions vary from quarter to quarter reflecting seasonal differences in service provision. Figure 3, below, shows a quarter-by-quarter view of the Council’s total emissions from April 2022, enabling comparisons from one quarter to the same quarter in the previous year. Q1 24/25 emissions are 524 tonnes higher than those from Q1 23/24, this is an 11% increase.

Total emissions used per Quarter

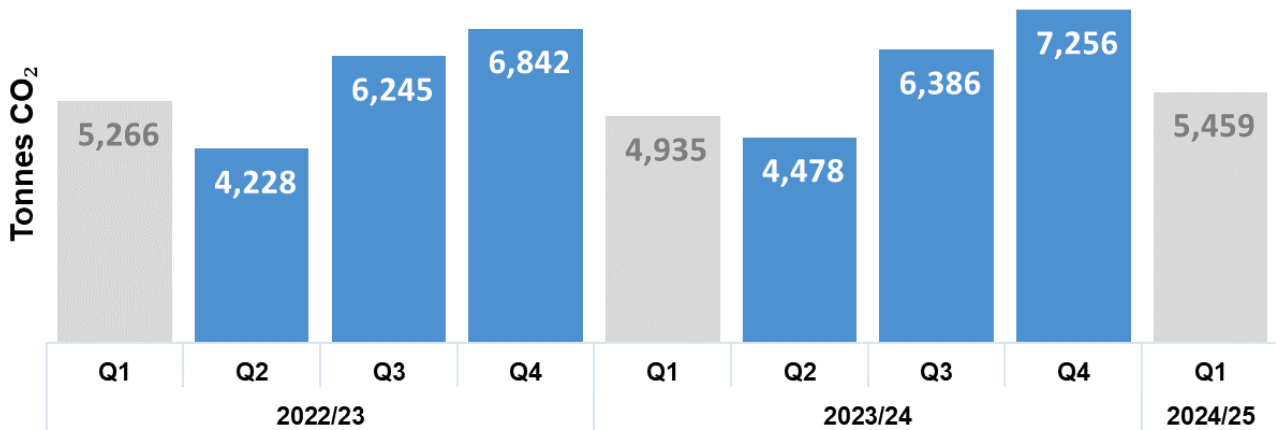
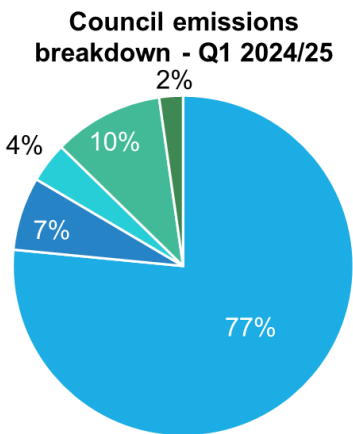


Figure 3



The graph to the left (Figure 4), shows a breakdown of how these total emissions are apportioned against Council services. Council buildings emissions contributed the most to the overall figure at 77% of total emissions. Staff travel contributed the least to the overall emissions figure, at 2% of total emissions.

- Council buildings
- Operational fleet
- Streetlights
- Biffa waste fleet
- Business travel

Figure 4

The information below shows the changes in emissions for each Council area for Q1 2024-25 compared to Q1 2023-24, highlighting where the Council’s emissions have increased and decreased, relative to the same time the previous year³.

³ These are provisional figures and subject to change following further data quality checks.

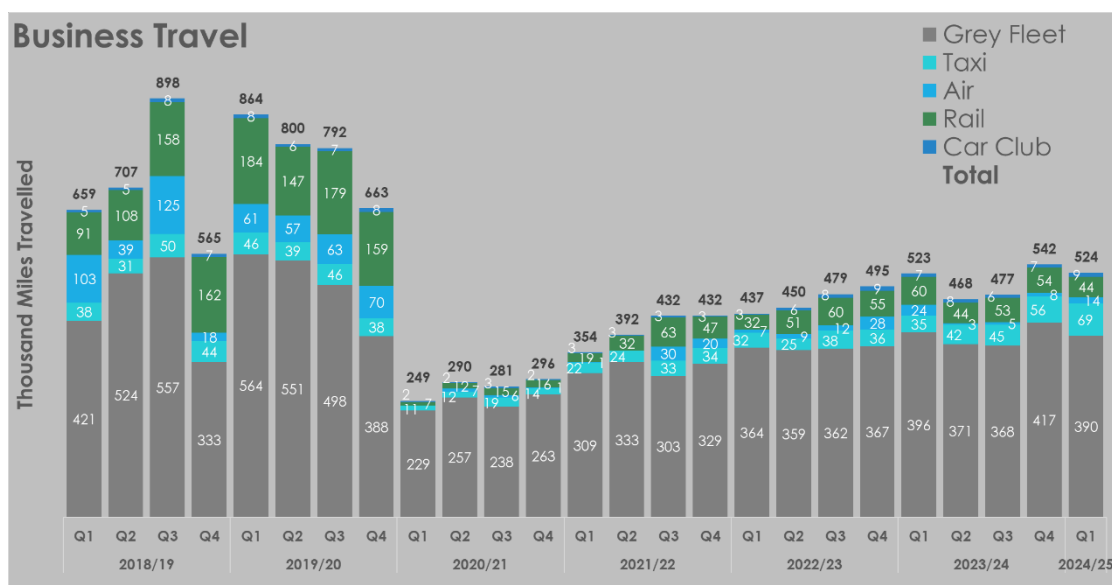
Council Area	Q1 23/24	Q1 24/25	Performance	Direction
MCC Buildings	3,700 tCO ₂	4,178 tCO ₂	12.9% increase	↑
Streetlights	367 tCO ₂	380 tCO ₂	3.4% increase	↑
Waste Collection Fleet	556 tCO ₂	569 tCO ₂	2.5% increase	↑
Council Operational Fleet	190 tCO ₂	209 tCO ₂	9.8% Increase	↑
Staff Business Travel	123 tCO ₂	123 tCO ₂	0.7% increase	→

As shown above, an increase in emissions can be seen across all areas. The largest increase was seen in **MCC Buildings**, with a 12.9% rise in emissions since the same quarter in 2023/24. At 478 tonnes, this contributes the largest proportion of the increase on Q1 of last year. The operational estate consists of over 300 buildings of varying sizes, conditions, and functions, so many variables exist around use of those buildings, which means that emissions can fluctuate. However, one large contributor to the increased emissions is the re-opening of the Aquatics Centre, which, whilst operating significantly more efficiently than prior to refurbishment, is still a large consumer of energy.

Actions continue to progress towards reducing the Council’s energy consumption and increase renewable energy generation. This will minimise the impact of increased emissions via the National Grid as calculated through the national emission conversion factor⁴. A significant mitigating action by the Council is that, from Autumn 2025, MCC will purchase its own renewable electricity via a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) which will significantly reduce our overall emissions and give us some protection from fluctuations in national grid carbon intensity levels.

Staff travel - update

In response to a request from the Chair at Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny on 5th September 2024, a short update on staff travel by mode is provided below:



⁴ National Government conversion factors – The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) provide annual figures to allow for consistent reporting of greenhouse gases across the UK. The conversion factor is applied to the unit of energy consumption, and is calculated by DESNZ to reflect the carbon intensity of different fuel sources.

Although total distances travelled have increased as business activity has returned to more normal patterns following the pandemic there is still an overall downward trend in distances travelled compared to pre-pandemic levels. Rail travel, Air travel and the Council's Grey Fleet have all seen a downward trend in distances travelled; whilst distances covered by taxi have seen a very slight increase in trend and car club distances have remained consistent. A more detailed update on staff travel will be provided with the CCAP reports to the Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods scrutiny committee in January 2025.

Next Steps

The City Council continues to implement the current CCAP for the period 2020-25 and our projections are that MCC will remain within our science-based CO₂ targets (our Carbon Budget) over the current 5-year CCAP from 2020-25.

Officers are developing a new CCAP for the period 2025-30 which will be focussed on keeping the City Council on track to achieve its Zero Carbon 2038 objectives and to remain within our science-based targets for the period 2025-30.

The City Council remains fully committed to its objective of being a Zero Carbon Council by 2038 at the latest. The City Council is taking steps to directly purchase renewable energy through a Power Purchase Agreement which will make a significant reduction in CO₂ emissions for the City Council in future years. In addition, the Council is developing its next five-year CCAP for the period 2025-30 which will include CO₂ emissions reduction actions designed to ensure that the Council remains on-track to be Zero Carbon by 2038 at the latest.

Regular updates on wider delivery of the CCAP are provided via Bi-Annual Progress Reports, which have been scheduled into the Committee's 2024/25 work programme. Previous CCAP quarterly and annual progress reports are available on the [Manchester City Council website](#).

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**Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee
Work Programme – October 2024**

Thursday 10 October 2024, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 30 September 2024)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Manchester Climate Change Agency/ Partnership Impact Report 2023/24	To receive and comment upon the Manchester Climate Change Agency 2023/24 Impact Report.	Cllr Rawlins	Samantha Nicholson, MCCA	
Manchester Active Travel Strategy and Investment Plan – Update on Progress	To receive an update report on the Manchester Active Travel Strategy and Investment Plan. To include an update on School Streets. To include the response to the emerging threat from e-mobility transport (i.e. scooters, unlicensed motorbikes) to pedestrians.	Cllr Rawlins	Hayley Fails Robert Scott	
Manchester City Council Single Use Plastics Action Plan	To update the Committee on progress in delivering the Council's Single Use Plastic Action Plan.	Cllr Rawlins	Peter Schofield Helen Harland	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information. This will include the Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan Q1 emissions report.	-	Lee Walker	

Thursday 7 November 2024, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 28 October 2024)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
2025/26 Budget Proposals	To receive a report on the Council's anticipated budget position for 2024/25, the budget process and draft proposals for any services in the remit of this committee.	Cllr Rawlins Councillor Igbon Councillor Akbar	Tom Wilkinson Paul Hindle	
Annual Waste and Recycling Update	To receive a report that provides an update on delivering waste and recycling removal services. This will include consideration of compliance with the Biffa contract.	Cllr Igbon	Heather Coates	
Manchester's Emissions Report	To provide a summary of Manchester's Emissions Report covering the city's direct, energy-related emissions and a report and discussion on city-wide in-direct emissions.	Cllr Rawlins	Samantha Nicholson MCCA	
Adaptation, and Resilience	Adaptation and Resilience inc. city centre greening and heat management. This report will include consideration of the approach to water management.		Samantha Nicholson Helen Harland	
Child Friendly City	The scope of this report is to be determined.	Councillor Bridges	Paul Marshall	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Lee Walker	

Thursday 5 December 2024, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 25 November 2024)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Manchester City Council Power Purchase Agreement	To provide a progress report on the Council's renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).	Cllr Rawlins	Sarah Narici Mark Duncan	
Local Area Energy Plan	To receive an update report on the Manchester Local Area Energy Plan.	Cllr Rawlins	Hayley Fails	
Neighbourhood Compliance Team Report	The Committee have requested information on the approach to the following areas of activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alleyway management. - Untidy private commercial premises (ie shops that store large waste on their frontages). - Commercial waste collection and the issues it raises. - Flytipping. - Waste in private gardens. 	Cllr Igbon	Shefali Kapoor	
Food Hygiene	To receive a report that considers the approach to food hygiene.	Cllr Igbon	Shefali Kapoor	
Our Manchester Strategy 2025-2035	To receive the draft Our Manchester Strategy 2025-2035.	Cllr Craig	James Binks	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Lee Walker	

Thursday 16 January 2025, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 6 January 2025)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
2020-25 Climate Change Action 2024/25 Mid-Year Progress Report	To provide a full update and progress report on actions and progress in Q1 and Q2 of 2024/25 to deliver the 2020-25 Manchester City Council Climate Change Action.	Cllr Rawlins	Rebecca Heron Mark Duncan Helen Harland	
2025-30 Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Progress Report	To provide a progress update of Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan for the period 2025-30	Cllr Rawlins	Rebecca Heron Mark Duncan Helen Harland	
Clean Air Plan	To receive a report that provides the Committee with information on the Clean Air Plan. This report will include air quality data across the city (and where possible data at a ward level.)	Cllr Rawlins	Rebecca Heron	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information. This will include the Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan Q2 emissions report.	-	Lee Walker	

Thursday 13 February 2025, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 3 February 2025)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
2025/26 Budget Proposals	Consideration of the final 2025/26 budget proposals within the remit of this Committee that will go onto February Budget Executive and Scrutiny and March Council.	Cllr Rawlins Cllr Igbon Cllr Akbar	Tom Wilkinson Paul Hindle	
Carbon Literacy	A report on progress in the Council's carbon literacy training and development for its staff and also wider work on Manchester becoming a Carbon Literate City.	Cllr Rawlins	Suzanne Grimshaw Lauren Harwood	
Aviation and Manchester Airport	Annual report on MAG (Manchester Airports Group) and aviation.	Cllr Rawlins	David Houliston	
Parks Strategy Update and Parks and Climate Change	To receive an update report on the progress of delivering the Manchester's Park Strategy and an update on the implementation and the delivery of the Parks Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) since the last report to the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee on 8 February 2024. This report will also include information on the provision of recycling bins in Manchester Parks.	Cllr Igbon	Kylie Ward	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information. This will include the Manchester City Council Climate Change Action Plan Q3 emissions report.	-	Lee Walker	

Thursday 6 March 2025, 2pm (Report deadline Monday 24 February 2025)

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Sustainable Food	To receive a report that considers the subject of sustainable food.	Cllr Rawlins	David Houliston	
Pest Control	To receive a report that provides an update on the approach to pest control.	Cllr Igbon	Heather Coates	
Manchester Green and Blue Strategy and Implementation Plan, including annual update and a report on the Tree Action Plan	To receive the annual update on the delivery of the Green and Blue Implementation Plan together with information on the delivery of the Tree Action Plan. The Committee have also requested consideration of insect life in the wider discussion regarding biodiversity.	Cllr Rawlins	Julie Roscoe	
Housing Retrofit	Report will provide an update on the progress made since September 2024, describing the key achievements and planned activity in housing retrofit.	Cllr White	David Lynch Martin Oldfield Sharon Hanbury	
Overview Report	This is a monthly report, which includes the recommendations monitor, relevant key decisions, the Committee's work programme and any items for information.	-	Lee Walker	

Items To Be Scheduled

Item	Purpose	Lead Executive Member	Lead Officer	Comments
Pesticides Policy	To receive a report that describes the policy in relation to the use of pesticides for weed control on streets.	Cllr Igbon	Heather Coates	Previously considered 7 December 2023.
Commercial Property Retrofit	A report on the work of the Manchester Climate Change Agency challenge group and their assessment of the opportunities and challenges around commercial retrofit.	Cllr Rawlins	Samantha Nicholson, MCCA	
Water Pollution and the River Irwell	To receive a report that considers the response to the issue of pollution in the River Irwell.	Cllr Rawlins	Mark Duncan (TBC)	Through the Chair consideration will be given to partners to be included in this item.
The Manchester Local Plan	To receive and update on the Manchester Local Plan.	Cllr Rawlins	Julie Roscoe	
Student Strategy Partnership	To receive a report that describes the work of the Student Strategy Partnership to address issues of flytipping and poor waste management arrangements associated with student accommodation. This will include case studies.	Cllr Igbon	Shefali Kapoor	