

**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Executive – 24 July 2019  
**Subject:** Climate Emergency Motion to Council  
**Report of:** City Solicitor

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**Summary**

This report seeks to inform the Executive of the climate emergency motion passed by the Council at its meeting held on 10 July 2019.

**Recommendation**

To the extent that the motion concerns executive functions, the Executive is asked to also accept and adopt the motion and to request that the Chief Executive brings forward an implementation plan to a meeting of the Executive later this year.

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**Wards Affected** All

<b>Manchester Strategy outcomes</b>	<b>Summary of the contribution to the strategy</b>
A thriving and sustainable city: supporting a diverse and distinctive economy that creates jobs and opportunities	The decision of the Executive may affect the aim of a sustainable city
A highly skilled city: world class and home grown talent sustaining the city's economic success	Not directly applicable
A progressive and equitable city: making a positive contribution by unlocking the potential of our communities	Not directly applicable
A liveable and low carbon city: a destination of choice to live, visit, work	The decision of the Executive will affect the aim of a low carbon city.
A connected city: world class infrastructure and connectivity to drive growth	Not directly applicable

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

- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Risk Management

- Legal Considerations
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### **Financial Consequences – Revenue**

None directly at this moment. However, the decision of the Executive may involve revenue considerations.

### **Financial Consequences – Capital**

None directly.

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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.

None

## 1.0 Notice of Motion

1.1 On the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 Council considered the following motion proposed by Councillor Annette Wright, seconded by Councillor Eve Holt, also signed by Councillors Jon-Connor Lyons, Yasmin Dar, Madeleine Monaghan, Emily Rowles, Angeliki Stogia, Nigel Murphy, Richard Leese, Mandie Shilton Godwin, Joanna Midgley, Marcus Johns, Williams Jeavons, Carl Ollerhead:

This Council notes:

- The serious risks to Manchester's people, of climate change/global heating affecting economic, social and environmental well-being, supply chains – including food security, financial systems and local weather, among many others;
- That in 2008 the 'Principles of Tackling Climate Change in Manchester' were agreed as a call to action to engage people from all walks of life in climate change action and, build support for a new way of thinking about climate change;
- That Manchester leads the way, with an agreed Paris compliant carbon budget set in December 2018 and an acceleration of the target for becoming a zero-carbon city by 12 years, setting 2038 as the new target for the city, based on research from the world-renowned Tyndall Centre for Climate Change;
- The recent and welcome upsurge of action by the young people of Manchester, exemplifying the radical traditions of which Manchester is proud.

This Council agrees (or to the extent that the below concern executive functions, recommends to the Executive) to:

- Declare a Climate Emergency;
- Continue working with partners across Manchester and GMCA to deliver the 2038 target, and determine if an earlier target can be possible, through a transparent and open review. Become carbon neutral by the earliest possible date;
- Encourage involvement in all wards by April 2020 through meetings as part of the Our Manchester strategy, to identify residents and partners who want to be actively involved in achieving the target, with provision for those who cannot attend. Ensure ward plans contain specific, measurable, achievable steps;
- Review all policies, processes and procedures to ensure the council can become carbon neutral. Present an action plan by March 2020 detailing how the city can stay within its carbon budget. Report back regularly to the NESC. Review the corporate plan;
- Work with the Tyndall Centre to review the actual emissions from aviation. Investigate the best way to include aviation in our overall carbon reduction programme in the long term;
- Make climate breakdown and the environment, an integral part of activity throughout the Council, including all decision making, ensuring key decisions take into account the impact on achieving the zero-

- carbon target and including an environmental impact assessment in all relevant committee reports;
- Ensure that everyone in the council receives carbon literacy training by the end of 2020. Make attendance easier by varying times and length of sessions;
  - Encourage all staff on council business to use the lowest carbon, appropriate, travel;
  - Investigate measures to ensure future procurement is carbon neutral. Increase the percentage of social value with an additional environmental element;
  - Work with suppliers to green their supply chains, and support local production;
  - Work with training providers to ensure Manchester residents can take on green jobs;
  - Investigate and introduce measures to help reach domestic zero carbon levels including addressing fuel poverty and retrofitting existing homes;
  - Investigate ways to ensure that future local plans place a mandatory requirement for all new development to be net zero carbon by the earliest possible date;
  - Push GMCA to decarbonise public transport, heat and energy as early as possible;
  - Through our role on GMPF, encourage divestment in fossil fuels as early as possible;
  - Call on the government to:
    - provide powers and resources to make the zero-carbon target possible including funding for big capital projects
    - accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions from aviation
    - accelerate the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, funding low carbon energy generation
    - ensure that the UK prosperity fund focuses on enable the transition to a low carbon economy

## **2.0 Amendment to the motion**

2.1 At the Council meeting Councillor Richard Kilpatrick propose, and Councillor Greg Stanton seconded the following amendment to the above motion:

To include the additional bullet point:

- Explore the possibility of introducing a 2030 target in line with the IPCC report and request that a report on its viability be brought back to the Executive before the end of the year.

2.2 The amendment was accepted by the proposer and included as part of the motion.

## **3.0 Resolution of the Council**

3.1 The motion was put to Council and voted on and the Lord Mayor declared that

is was carried unanimously.

### 3.2 The Council resolved as follows:

This Council notes:

- The serious risks to Manchester's people, of climate change/global heating affecting economic, social and environmental well-being, supply chains – including food security, financial systems and local weather, among many others;
- That in 2008 the 'Principles of Tackling Climate Change in Manchester' were agreed as a call to action to engage people from all walks of life in climate change action and, build support for a new way of thinking about climate change;
- That Manchester leads the way, with an agreed Paris compliant carbon budget set in December 2018 and an acceleration of the target for becoming a zero-carbon city by 12 years, setting 2038 as the new target for the city, based on research from the world-renowned Tyndall Centre for Climate Change;
- The recent and welcome upsurge of action by the young people of Manchester, exemplifying the radical traditions of which Manchester is proud.

This Council agrees (or to the extent that the below concern executive functions, recommends to the Executive) to:

- Declare a Climate Emergency;
- Continue working with partners across Manchester and GMCA to deliver the 2038 target, and determine if an earlier target can be possible, through a transparent and open review. Become carbon neutral by the earliest possible date;
- Encourage involvement in all wards by April 2020 through meetings as part of the Our Manchester strategy, to identify residents and partners who want to be actively involved in achieving the target, with provision for those who cannot attend. Ensure ward plans contain specific, measurable, achievable steps;
- Review all policies, processes and procedures to ensure the council can become carbon neutral. Present an action plan by March 2020 detailing how the city can stay within its carbon budget. Report back regularly to the NESC. Review the corporate plan;
- Work with the Tyndall Centre to review the actual emissions from aviation. Investigate the best way to include aviation in our overall carbon reduction programme in the long term;
- Make climate breakdown and the environment, an integral part of activity throughout the Council, including all decision making, ensuring key decisions take into account the impact on achieving the zero-carbon target and including an environmental impact assessment in all relevant committee reports;
- Ensure that everyone in the council receives carbon literacy training by the end of 2020. Make attendance easier by varying times and length of

- sessions;
- Encourage all staff on council business to use the lowest carbon, appropriate, travel;
- Investigate measures to ensure future procurement is carbon neutral. Increase the percentage of social value with an additional environmental element;
- Work with suppliers to green their supply chains, and support local production;
- Work with training providers to ensure Manchester residents can take on green jobs;
- Investigate and introduce measures to help reach domestic zero carbon levels including addressing fuel poverty and retrofitting existing homes;
- Investigate ways to ensure that future local plans place a mandatory requirement for all new development to be net zero carbon by the earliest possible date;
- Push GMCA to decarbonise public transport, heat and energy as early as possible;
- Through our role on GMPF, encourage divestment in fossil fuels as early as possible;
- Explore the possibility of introducing a 2030 target in line with the IPCC report;
- and request that a report on its viability be brought back to the Executive before the end of the year;
- Call on the government to:
  - provide powers and resources to make the zero-carbon target possible including funding for big capital projects
  - accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions from aviation
  - accelerate the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, funding low carbon energy generation
  - ensure that the UK prosperity fund focuses on enable the transition to a low carbon economy

#### **4.0 Key Policies and Considerations**

##### **(a) Equal Opportunities**

None

##### **(b) Risk Management**

None

#### **5.0 Legal considerations**

##### **Functions that are the responsibility of the Executive**

- 5.1 Regulations provide that all decisions of a local authority are to be executive decisions unless the regulations provide otherwise. The regulations provide

that the following types of decision are none executive, and can therefore be taken by Council or one of its committees:

- individual applications for licences/consents, such as planning applications, taxi licences, etc;
- personnel matters;
- scrutiny of decisions;
- other regulatory functions, such as audit and standards;
- constitutional matters;
- setting the budget;
- Policy framework plans required by law, namely:
  - Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy;
  - Youth Justice Plan;
  - Development Plan Documents;
  - Licensing Authority Policy Statement
- Policy framework plans the Council has decided to adopt (listed in Article 4.1(a)(ii) which include:
  - Climate Change Action Plan;
  - The Manchester Strategy ("Our Manchester")
- Those matters listed in Article 4.2, such as appointing the Leader, etc