

# ZERO CARBON

MANCHESTER

**Manchester City Council**  
Progress Update Q1 April - June 2023



## Introduction

This report provides an overview of the progress made in delivering against the refreshed Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2020-25 between April – June 2023 (Q1 2023-24) and highlights some of the work delivered during this period to reduce the Council's direct carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, as well as examples of influencing wider change and action across the city.

This report focuses on the Council's overall activity to reduce its direct carbon emissions, highlights key achievements and challenges faced during the reporting period and showcases Council specific actions. The spotlight section is on how the Council is embedding Zero Carbon within its own business and our city-wide leadership action focuses on sustainable events and how we are influencing event organisers. An overall progress update and RAG rating of CCAP actions is included as Appendix 1.

## Key Messages

- Our 2020-25 CCAP has a carbon budget of **126,336 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (tCO<sub>2</sub>)**. We have used 56.6% of our budget so far, which means the Council has made good progress to date and is on track to remain within the carbon budget.
- The Council has 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 budget for this year.
- During Q4 (January – March 2022), MCC emitted 6,731 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, which is 6.3% higher than the same period last year.
- Key achievements include the installation of solar car ports at the National Cycling Centre; £2.4m secured for two active travel projects and Broadhurst Clough becoming Manchester's tenth local nature reserve site.

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

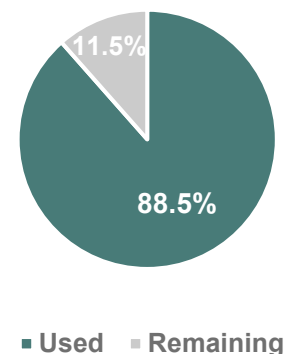
To achieve zero carbon by 2038, the Council has a target to reduce its direct carbon emissions by 13% each year. This ambition is underpinned by a carbon budget<sup>1</sup> of 126,336 tCO<sub>2</sub> for 2020-25, which the Council aims to remain within.

The annual carbon budget for the current year (2022-23) is **24,784 tCO<sub>2</sub>**. In this year, (April 2022 - March 2023), the Council has remained within budget, emitting **21,931 tCO<sub>2</sub>** – therefore using 88.5% of the annual allocated carbon budget. As shown in Figure 1.

The emissions data relates to the previous quarter, January 2023 – March 2023 and includes some estimates for the period due to billing being in arrears. The annual report, which the Council will publish in September 2023, aims to include billing data for the whole year.

**24,784 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> –  
Emissions Budget 2022-23**  
**21,931 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> –  
Emissions produced 2022-23\***

Figure 1: Carbon Budget 2022/23 - Used Budget v Remaining Budget



<sup>1</sup>A Carbon Budget is the cumulative amount of carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions permitted within a specified timeframe

Figure 2 shows the level of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced each year of the CCAP 2020-25, against the annual carbon budget. The graph begins with the baseline year 2018-19 to highlight the year-on-year reduction target and shows that since 2018-19, the Council has remained within its allocated carbon budget.<sup>2</sup>

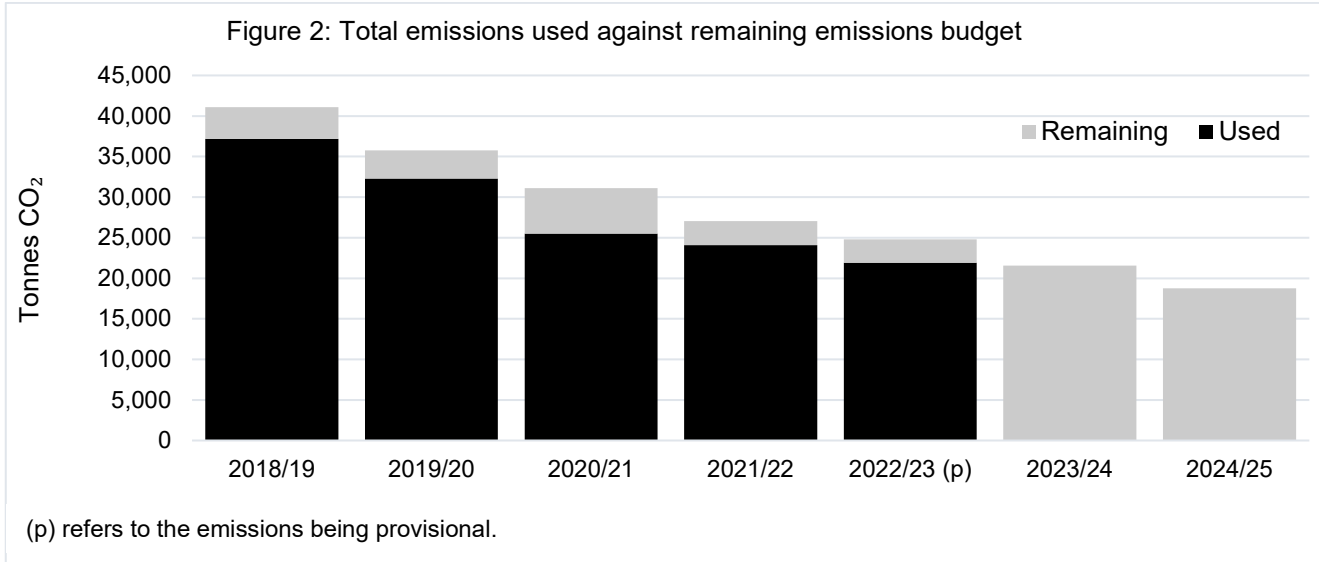
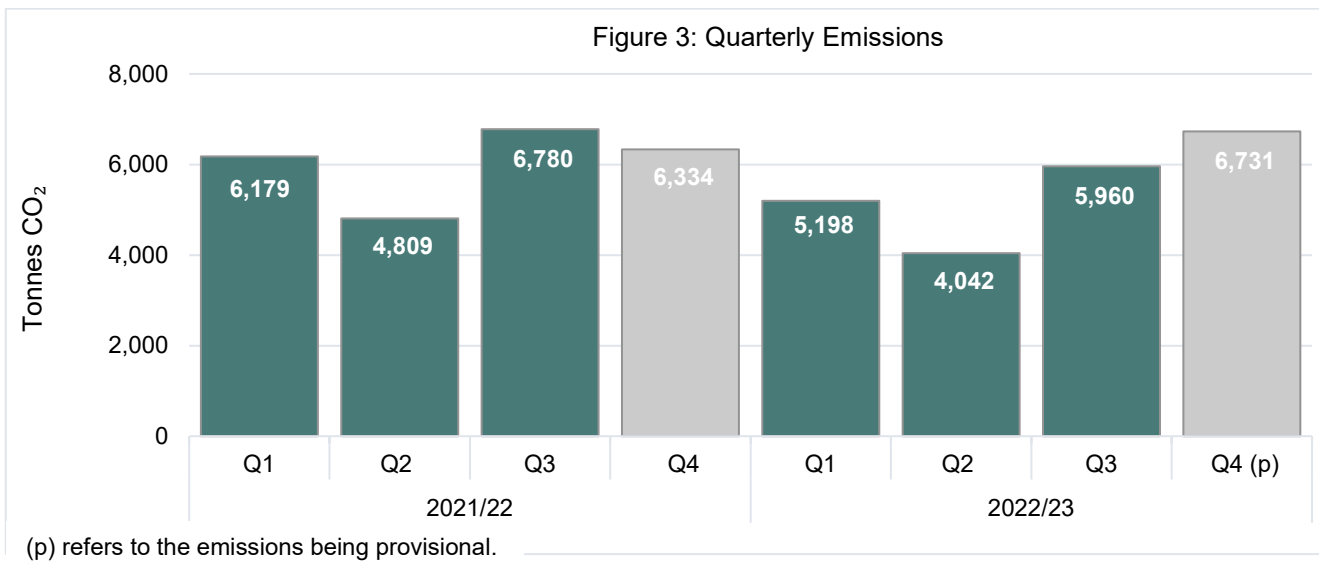


Figure 3 shows a quarter-by-quarter view of the Council’s total emissions from April 2021, enabling comparisons from one quarter to the same quarter in the previous year.



Emissions vary from quarter to quarter reflecting seasonal differences, for example higher energy consumption in the winter months due to heating buildings, and higher operational fleet emissions in the summer months due to increased maintenance of green spaces. Equally, there are over 300 buildings of varying sizes, conditions, and functions within the Council’s operational estate, so many variables exist around temperature and use of those buildings, which means that emissions can change from year to year.

<sup>2</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.

In general, we are starting to see lower rates of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction in individual quarters in comparison to 2020-21 and 2021-22, which could be due to several factors such as weather conditions, returning to 'normal' business following the pandemic and having delivered significant CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction actions in the earlier years of this 2020-25 CCAP period.

Provisional data for this quarter shows that the Council's total emissions in Quarter 4 (Q4) 2022-23 is 6,731 tCO<sub>2</sub>, which is 6.3% higher than Q4 the previous year.

The information below shows the changes in emissions for each Council area for Q4 2022-23 compared to Q4 2021-22, highlighting where the Council's direct emissions have increased and decreased:

#### Increases

- Council Buildings 10% increase\*
- Staff business travel 13% increase  
(3% increase compared to Q3 2022-23)\*\*



#### Decreases

- Streetlights down 9%
- Waste Collection Fleet down 9%
- Council Operational Fleet down 2%



\*The 10% increase for Council Buildings is due to the inclusion of additional buildings coming online, such as Housing Operations (formerly Northwards Housing) into the reporting since Q1 2022-23.

For the purposes of a direct comparison from Q4 2021-22 and Q4 2022-23, emissions from buildings excluding these additional buildings reduced by 1.5% (from 4,851 tCO<sub>2</sub> down to 4,776 tCO<sub>2</sub> 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 and despite this increase, we have remained under budget for the year<sup>3</sup>.

\*\*Emissions from staff business travel has increased by 13%, when compared to Q4 2021-22 but this is as expected as we moved out of the pandemic recovery period. However, when comparing staff business travel, it is more meaningful to compare to the previous quarter, in this instance, there has been 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 moving to sustainable modes of transport, where feasible and this will continue to be monitored and reported.

## Key Achievements

MCC 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. Jointly funded by MCC and Homes England.



<sup>3</sup>The previous quarterly report (Q4) features MCC buildings as an '[Under the Spotlight](#)' item, providing more detailed analysis of the emissions produced across MCC's operational buildings



MCC has successfully progressed with the National Cycling Centre installation of **solar car ports** 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)

£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.



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.

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.



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.

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.



## Key Challenges

This section highlights strategic challenges associated with delivery of the overall CCAP and where possible, identifies mitigating measures.

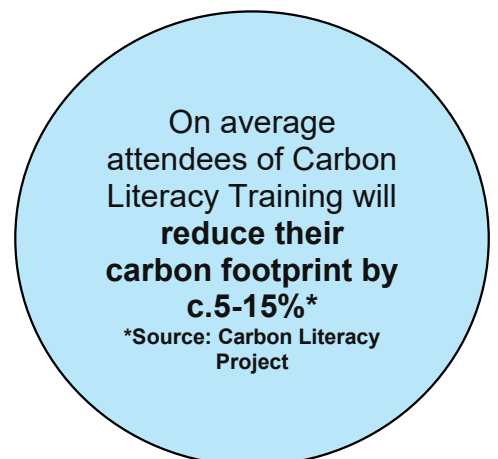
- Whilst we are within the CCAP 2020-25 Carbon budget, making significant future carbon savings across the Council will become increasingly challenging. Upcoming decarbonisation projects across MCC's Estate (Action 1.1) for example, are predicted to be on a smaller scale in varying conditions, which will result in smaller carbon savings, often at higher costs per tCO<sub>2</sub> reduction achieved.
- Competing national demands on housing funds, such as complying with the Decent Homes Standard, fire safety regulations and damp prevention, are affecting delivery of housing retrofit across the Council's housing stock. Additional resource has been added to the Housing and Residential Growth team to focus on the development of a Housing Retrofit Plan and to identify funding opportunities to support delivery (Action 1.6).
- Delays to the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan are hindering the development of the new Manchester Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). Government's Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has agreed the development of a new AQAP, and any remodelling of the Greater Manchester Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) should be in line with the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan (Action 2.11).
- The financial landscape for the coming years looks challenging, which could mean UK Government investment in climate change may be impacted. The Zero Carbon Finance and Investment Sub Group continues to explore opportunities for investment into climate action (Action 5.2).
- The decarbonisation of the national electricity system by 2035 has been factored into Manchester's science-based target to become zero carbon by 2038. However, if the national electricity system does not decarbonise at the expected rate, this will impact on meeting national carbon reduction targets. We will continue to monitor this and the impact this has on the Council's carbon reduction targets, along with taking mitigating actions, such as continuing to decarbonise our estate.

## Under the Spotlight – Embedding Zero Carbon within the Council

This section provides an overview of how Manchester City Council is embedding its zero carbon ambition within the Council, as outline in actions 5.1 and 5.2 under the Workstream 5: Catalysing Change and Behaviour Change

In 2020, there was a resetting of the [Our Manchester Strategy – Forward to 2025](#), which included Manchester as 'A liveable and Zero-carbon City' as one of the Council's priorities. As a result, the Council's internal Corporate Plan also now reflects this priority, mirroring the Our Manchester Strategy and so do the individual internal Council Service Plans, which outline how each service aims to deliver against the Our Manchester Strategy priorities. This approach links the Our Manchester Strategy priorities with each member of staff, like a golden thread and enables them to contribute to the delivery of the Council's target to become zero carbon by 2038.

To support this approach, the Council committed to delivering Carbon Literacy training to 50% of its staff by 2025 and deliver bespoke training to support Council Services (CCAP Action 5.1), as outlined in the refreshed CCAP 2020-25.



The commitment to educate and equip Council staff with the skills and knowledge needed to deliver the Council's zero carbon priority goes further than this- the Council also appointed a permanent Zero Carbon Workforce Development Manager and a Carbon Literacy Lead to embed positive climate change behaviour across the workforce and oversee delivery of the Carbon Literacy Training programme.

In 2022, Manchester was the first local authority to achieve Silver Accreditation from the Carbon Literacy Project in recognition of 15% of the workforce being Carbon Literate. The Council is now working towards Gold Accreditation by 2025, which requires 50% of the workforce to be Carbon Literate.

#### Key Performance Indicators:

- Average **150** officers attending training sessions every month
- **1928** officers certified Carbon Literate, including
  - **93** elected members (pre-election)
  - **136** Senior Leadership Group officers
- **26%** of the workforce is Carbon Literate

Members of staff who received Carbon Literacy accreditation more than 2 years ago can also access a Climate Change Top Up Training which enables them to keep knowledge on this subject up to date and relevant to Manchester. The online course can also be shared with a wider audience, such as with schools, as a more accessible format.

In line with requirements for the Gold Accreditation, the Council also supported other organisations, including Salford, Wigan and Liverpool Councils and NHS Trust, with delivery of the Carbon Literacy Training.

### Embedding Zero Carbon within the Council and influencing the city

Other ways of embedding zero carbon into the Council are:

- Bespoke sector specific training to compliment the Carbon Literacy Training:
  - [Julie's Bicycle](#) (a not-for-profit organisation mobilising the culture sector to take action on the climate crisis) delivered training to MCC's Culture and Events teams, to provide officers with the knowledge needed to support and influence the culture and events sectors to consider their own operations and take action to combat climate change.
  - Action Sustainability UK delivered Zero Carbon Commissioning training to Commissioning Managers across the Council, to empower commissioners to request sustainable activity from suppliers as part of their tender process. This training was so successful that it has been delivered to a second tranche of Commissioning Managers.
- A Zero Carbon Workforce Network has been established for officers currently dedicated to delivering the Council zero carbon ambition. The network provides officers with opportunities to discuss current zero carbon work priorities, to share learnings, offer peer to peer support and share useful information.



### What's next

There is still more work to do until zero carbon is fully embedded within the Council. Some of the activities being consider are:

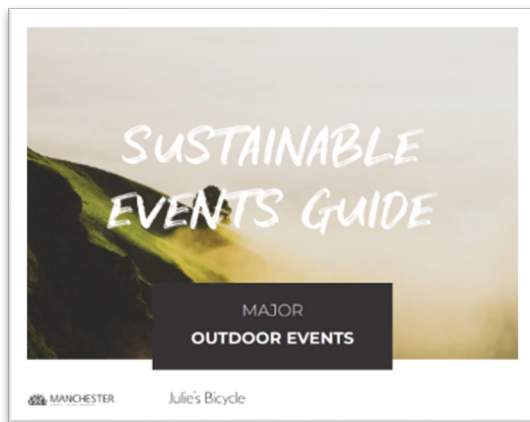
- The Council's Awards for Excellence, which recognises staff and teams who go above and beyond in their roles, will include a zero-carbon category this year, where staff can show how they have embedded zero carbon within their roles.
- Further bespoke training will be considered as this is requested by individual service areas.
- Continue to collaborate and support other organisations in delivery of the Carbon Literacy Training in line with Manchester's value of 'owning it and working together'. This will also help the Council meet the requirements of Carbon Literacy Project Gold accreditation.
- Ensuring MCC's zero carbon ambition is considered as part of the Council's decision-making processes and is reflected within new or refreshed policies

## Seeing is believing – Sustainable Events across the City

This section focuses on the Council's leadership role and influence in driving climate action across the city, in relation to outdoor events sector, helping Manchester with its target to be zero carbon by 2038 at the latest.

CCAP Action 3.3 sets out the action the Council will take to improve the sustainability of events: Council-owned events; Council-funded events; and external events on Council land.

### Sustainable Events in Manchester



The Council's work to increase the sustainability of events began with the publication of the [Sustainable Event Guides](#) in 2019, building on good practice from key Council-led events such as Manchester Day and the Christmas Markets over the last 10 years.

It is important to note that the events industry was one of the most impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The first 'normal' year of event activity following the pandemic was 2022, which also saw significant cost increases. A targeted approach has taken place over 2022/23 to understand progress, challenges and potential areas of opportunity following this hiatus.

**Over 50 events**  
(with attendance over 1000) take place in parks and other licensed outdoor event spaces every year!



### Key achievements in 2022:

- **Skate Manchester:** Access to grid power from the National Football Museum supply enabled a saving of 50,000 litres of diesel, the equivalent of 90 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. This was also cost neutral to the organiser.
- **Reusable cup pilot** (using Council-owned cups) enabled savings of 24,000 cups and half a tonne of plastic waste across 3 events.



## Developing understanding and measurement of sustainable events

In the last couple of years, the events industry has developed its approach to sustainability, with key developments such as the [Green Events Code of Practice](#). Key funders, such as the Arts Council and UK Sport have developed environmental sustainability strategies and associated funding requirements.

The start of 2023/24 has seen Council processes strengthened to capture more and better data, along with more consistency over engagement with external event organisers.

All events are briefed on the five key areas of action that should be taken:

1. Energy
2. Travel
3. Waste (including Single Use Plastic reduction)
4. Food and Drink
5. Water

Sustainable Event Guides are available as additional support if needed. Organisers are then asked to report back on progress against each key area; alongside a targeted approach being taken for key events.

### Paralympic World Swimming Championships (July/August 2023)

Aims to be the most sustainable Para Swim World Championships yet.

Measures include:

- environmental impact as core theme to Board sub-group
- development of a Sustainable Procurement Code
- development of a sustainability action plan (aligned to five key impact areas)
- carbon foot printing to understand impact

### Great Manchester Run (May 2023)

Key measures introduced to reduce the amount of plastic waste:

- smaller bottles
- reduced number of water stations-all participants to arrive hydrated
- recycling improvements
- more communication on sustainability goals.



## Communication and Engagement Highlights

This section highlights the communications and resident engagement activity during this quarter. Below are examples of how the Council is aiming to influence positive behaviour change both internally with staff and across the city with residents and other stakeholders.

### Neighbourhood engagement

As part of our climate leadership role across the city, MCC's Neighbourhood teams support local communities to proactively engage in local climate activity to reduce their carbon footprint. Examples of activities delivered during this quarter include:

- Involvement in the planning of community festivals, such as Envirolution Festival, Whalley Range Celebrate Festival and Mersey Fest.
- Clean Air Day events in Levenshulme, Charlestown, Higher Blackley, Gorton, and city centre – these include school streets, parking enforcements, and street parties.
- Weekly free gardening and vegetable growing workshops for residents led by Sow the City.
- Bid submission to GM Greenspaces Fund by Miles Platting Community & Age-friendly Network: MP-CAN Climate Action Group (supported by MCC Neighbourhoods, University of Manchester and Jigsaw Homes).



*Residents at Envirolution showing their pledges to reduce their carbon footprint.*



*Ardwick Climate Change Roadshow event held at West Gorton Community Park*

- Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers supported Biffa to collect discarded clothing at Great Manchester Run 2023, which were donated to Mustard Tree Charity.
  - Great Big Green Week – Community events planned by the In Our Nature programme.
  - Launch of sustainability sessions for residents in Wythenshawe and Chorlton.
  - Woodhouse Park engagement event to incorporate climate conversation.
- Seeds of Joy community garden event led by MCR Active.
  - Bulk purchase and distribution of LED lightbulb units for residents – a conversation tool for domestic energy efficiency.
  - Fallowfield Brow Environmental Project – continuation of alleyway improvement.



*Residents and partners engaged in Levenshulme Clean Air Day event*

## Schools Spotlight

Work is ongoing across the Council's Neighbourhoods and Education teams to implement our zero carbon ambitions in school settings. Examples of activities include:

- Climate Change Neighbourhood Officers visiting schools to support the zero-carbon agenda.

- Schools taking part in an action planning pilot to support the development of their own climate action plans.
- Following on from the Central Green Schools Network meeting held last quarter, Schools Networks have now been set up in North and South Manchester. £5,000 of funding has also been secured to support this agenda.
- MCC's Communications team visited Armitage CE Primary in Ardwick and recorded films documenting their progress with the Bee Green Relay and the work of their eco-team.

## Communications Highlights

Communications restrictions in the pre-election period (27 March – 5 May) meant that external communications were limited. However, in May and June, activity to promote our zero-carbon ambition through campaigns, ongoing social media activity and regular press releases continued.

During June, planned content for Clean Air Day, Bike Week, World Refill Day and Garden Wildlife Week is scheduled.

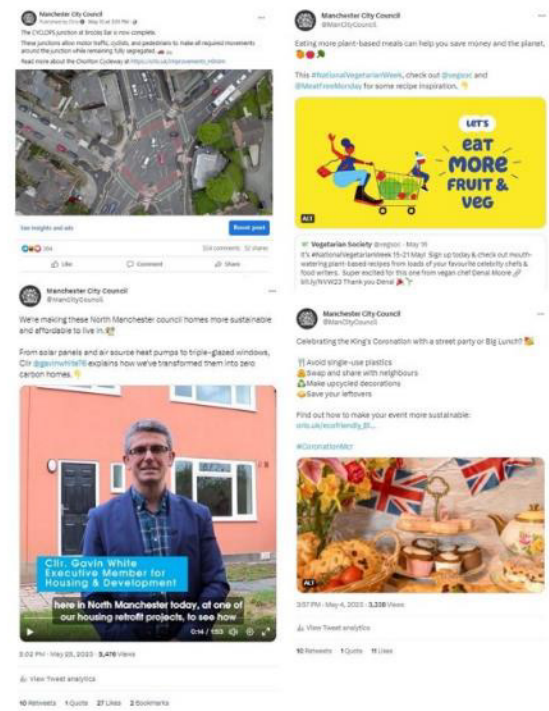
## Social Media

**18**  
posts  
across all  
social media  
channels

**348,251**  
views

**920**  
likes

- Topics covered this quarter:
- Recycling
  - Earth Day
  - Stop Food Waste Day
  - GB Spring Clean
  - Coronation (sustainable events)
  - National Vegetarian Week
  - Active travel
  - Housing retrofit
  - Envirolution



Internal Communications

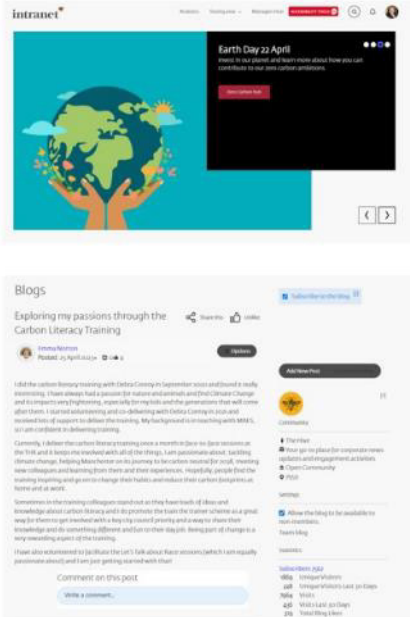
Topics covered in April and May:

- Carbon Literacy training
- Earth Day

For June, we are also planning content around Clean Air Day and Bike Week.

Outcomes:

- 63 staff booked carbon literacy training via the learning hub.
- Following our Earth Day communications, 68 colleagues read our ZC ambitions on the intranet and 253 visited our Carbon Literacy Training intranet page.
- Earth Day was a top feature on the intranet carousel.



63  
Staff booked  
carbon  
literacy  
training

41  
visits to the  
ZC hub

102  
visits to the  
cycle to work  
page

Behaviour Change Campaign

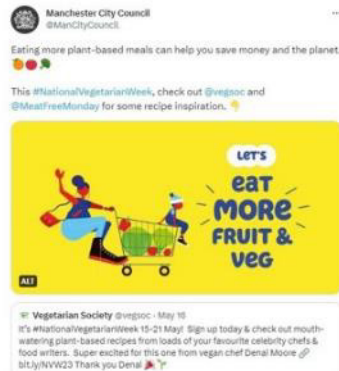
The behaviour change campaign continues to run on digital screens around the city with the aim of promoting positive behaviour change and climate change.



New posters have been created to go in libraries around the city.



Some of this messaging was also shared via social media e.g., in this post for National Vegetarian Week:



The Neighbourhoods team and In Our Nature programme continue to promote these messages through their engagement activities.

Key Performance Indicators:

Community  
engagement  
at the local  
level

Residents  
feedback

Social  
Media  
engagement  
and visits to  
MCC  
website

**10 May**  
Innovative CYCLOPS junction completed as part of Chorlton Cycleway



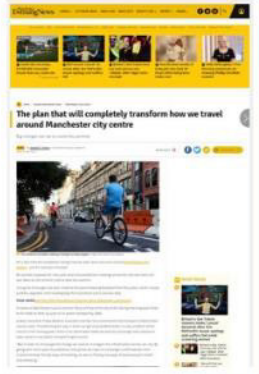
**25 May**  
Start date announced for Stevenson Square walking and cycling improvements

- Manchester Evening News
- The Manc
- Manchester Wire



**31 May**  
Big and bold changes set for city centre as Council continues push towards sustainable transport.

- Manchester Evening News
- Places North West



In June, we are planning press releases about:

- MCC's commitment to the Refill campaign to reduce plastic waste and promote the availability of refills in public buildings (to be issued on World Refill Day 16 June)
- Red Bank topping out - low carbon affordable housing (14 Jun)
- Ancoats Mobility Hub Start on site (tbc)
- Sustainability of this year's Manchester Day
- Details of decarbonisation schemes being brought forward with recently-awarded housing retrofitting funding.
- Completion of decarbonisation works to Velodrome.



**21 June**

Following Manchester City Council's commitment to the Refill Scheme run by the environmental group, City to Sea, the Council's pledge to become a 'refill destination' was highlighted in a news article: [Britain is embracing switch to refillable water bottles, say campaigners | UK news | The Guardian](#)

## Appendix 1 – Action RAG Rating and Progress Update

The tables below provide an overview of the progress of actions across all five workstreams included in the CCAP 2020-25 using a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) rating system.

### Key

Working to target (Green)		Work in progress (Amber)	Not started / missed critical milestones (Red)	Complete (Grey)
<b>Workstream 1 – Buildings and Energy</b>				
Action	Action Summary	Action Update		
1.1 - Green	MCC Estates carbon reduction programme	Six buildings with live carbon reduction works – estimating carbon savings up to 470 tCO <sub>2</sub> per annum. Works complete December 2023. Installation of solar car ports at the National Cycling Centre due to complete end of June 2023 – estimating carbon savings up to 36 tCO <sub>2</sub> per annum. Carrying out 72 carbon reduction site surveys to understand works and budget required to shape the update of the carbon reduction strategy for MCC Estates. A bid to Public Sector Low Carbon Skills Fund submitted to fund technical design work for 12 sites and 5 heat decarbonisation plans in preparation for a bid to Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund (PSDS) 4 late 2023. Awaiting decision.		
1.2 - Amber	Manchester Build Standard	Working with partners to ensure the Standard is being embraced, challenging when no contractual relationship is in place. A full review of the Standard to be undertaken later in the year to ensure latest technologies and practices are included.		
1.3 - Amber	Large scale renewable energy generation	In the implementation phase - Project Team established with external advisors to procure a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). Clear timeline and resourcing plan established to deliver activities required to have a PPA in place to meet 2025-30 carbon reduction targets. Market engagement session held with developers ahead of the commencement of procurement.		
1.4 - Green	LED street lighting	Refurbishment of existing traffic signs with LED units, 300 completed this period with an estimated saving of 14 tCO <sub>2</sub> per annum.		
1.5 - Amber	Civic Quarter Heat Network	Manchester Town Hall connection scheduled for late 2024. Ongoing activity underway to identify new customers, with Ener-Vate leading the commercial engagement activity with potential off takers. Regular reports presented to the company Board on engagement activity with a new website for the Network to go live imminently. Options for further efficiencies to the Network are currently being explored.		
1.6 - Green	MCC Housing Carbon Reduction	Approximately 160 air source heat pumps (ASHPs) are expected to be installed funded by ERDF, current sign-up is around 150. Solar PV scheme is ongoing with around 100 properties complete. A pilot of 'Hybrid Retrofit' to 10 properties has been put on hold until suitable properties can be identified. Two deep retrofit properties are complete, which bring these properties to net zero carbon or beyond. Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 2 bid for £11.6m grant was successful, to retrofit 1603 properties across 6 projects over 2 year.		

1.7 - Amber	Citywide Housing Carbon Reduction	Baseline work on emissions across registered providers stock complete. Working closely with the Chair of Manchester Housing Provider Partnership Zero Carbon subgroup, which involves the four largest housing providers within Manchester, to develop a monitoring framework for social housing stock. Working with GMCA to link up support home owners and private landlords, particularly those on low income.
1.8 - Amber	Commercial and non-domestic building carbon reduction	During April/May support provided by GM Growth Company to the Commercial Sector and claimed under the ERDF Carbon Reduction contract was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One 'Enterprise Company' supported</li> <li>• Savings of 6.49 tCO<sub>2</sub> across the businesses supported</li> <li>• Financial savings of £4244 due to energy efficiencies</li> <li>• One company investing in Green technology</li> </ul>
1.9 - Green	Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP)	Extensive internal contacts have been made and baseline data is being established. Soft marketing exercise carried out in preparation for the electric vehicle charging infrastructure procurement process.
1.10 - Green	Leasing and disposing of Council buildings and land	Zero carbon and environmental credentials are a key element of the Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan asset review process. This covers all decisions relating to the Council's land and property portfolio and is weighted and considered along with other corporate priorities.
1.11 - Amber	Manchester Local Plan	Hearing stages of Greater Manchester's Local Plan, Places for Everyone concluded in March 2023. Evidence base for Manchester's Local Plan continues to be developed across a number of workstreams and policies to support Manchester's Local Plan will be developed over the Summer 2023. A workstream to inform the Local Plan on key zero carbon policy aspects will conclude July 2023.
1.12 - Amber	Partnerships e.g., Green Building Council	Engagement ongoing with partners to understand best practice in build standards and how to influence developers.

### Workstream 2 – Transport and Travel

Action	Action Summary	Action Update
2.1 - Green	Electric refuse collection vehicles (eRCVs)	Emissions from the 27 eRCVs continue to be monitored. Next step is to explore efficiency options for the remaining 50% of the fleet.
2.2 - Green	Replace operational fleet with EVs	Mileage by MCC e-Cargo bikes was 415 miles this quarter, four times the distance travelled in Q4. One additional electric vehicle included in MCC's fleet taking the total to 42 electric and 2 hybrid vehicles.
2.3 - Green	Business Travel Policy	The staff Ultra Low Electric Vehicle (ULEV) scheme launched late March 2023 via internal communications and directorate level specific communications. There has been 910 unique visits to the website and 33 vehicles ordered by staff. Engagement workshops are in development to give staff the resources and skills to travel differently, delivered the first workshop to Manchester Adult Education Services. Consideration of the Staff Travel Policy was embedded within the

		2023/24 zero carbon section of the Service Plans to prompt service leads to consider travel as part of their wider service planning.
2.4 - Amber	Environmental actions within Highways	Highways are trialling the National Highways Carbon Tool on the A34 Corridor project. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) guidance has been rolled out across Highways and various presentations have taken place to introduce staff to the documents. Currently in the process of commissioning a consultant to produce a sustainable materials palette list - outcomes of the work have been agreed.
2.5 - Green	Greater Manchester Transport Strategy 2040	Work has commenced on a refresh of the Manchester Local Implementation Plan, to set out Manchester's priorities for delivering the GM Transport Strategy 2040.
2.6 - Amber	City Centre Transport Strategy	Work has commenced on setting out a plan to progress the aims as set out in the City Centre Transport Strategy.
2.7 - Green	EV Charging Infrastructure Strategy	Soft market testing has been carried out to look at the market interest and feasibility in the proposal for a supplier to fully fund the installation, operation and maintenance of public EV charge-points on council owned assets. A procurement exercise is due later this summer
2.8 - Green	Active Travel	£2.4m secured from Active Travel Fund 4 for Wilmslow Road/Ladybarn Lane CYCLOPS junction (£0.9m) and Stockport Branch Canal upgrade (£1.5m).
2.9 - Amber	Sustainable Travel Incentives for MCC Staff	Communications calendar of sustainable commute days (such as clean-air day, bike-to-work day, car-free day, etc.) has been created. Specific content will be shared with MCC's Communications team on those days/weeks to highlight the various schemes in place to promote sustainable commuting.
2.10 - Amber	Aviation Emissions	The Manchester Airport Group (MAG) contributed to the <a href="#">Sustainable Aviation Net Zero Carbon Road-map Summary Report</a> which was published in April 2023 and sets out the industry's plan to reach net zero by 2050. MAG continue to be a member of the Jet Zero Council who published their 2 year action plan in April 2023.
2.11 - Amber	Air Quality	Manchester's 2016-2021 Air Quality Action Plan has been delivered. A follow-up action plan is on hold whilst awaiting the outcome of the GM Clean Air Plan. Annual regional reports, which include Manchester's progress are available at <a href="https://cleanairgm.com/data-hub/monitoring-reports/">https://cleanairgm.com/data-hub/monitoring-reports/</a> .

### Workstream 3 – Sustainable Consumption

Action	Action Summary	Action Update
3.1 - Amber	Sustainable Procurement	Work continues to embed sustainable procurement across live commissioning processes. The measurement of scope 3 emissions remains a challenge due to the level of detail on purchasing information. The Council has successfully recruited a Programme Procurement Manager and recruitment is underway for a supporting role. These roles will help drive forward the sustainable procurement work. A recently implemented Contract Management System will aid with monitoring carbon emissions of future contractors.
3.2 - Amber	Reducing Single Use Plastics (SUPs) in the Council	Working Group established to continue engagement with services and external partners to understand SUP usage, challenges and opportunities for reduction. The Council signed up to Refill to raise



		awareness amongst staff, businesses and residents and embed positive behaviour change. Engagement with all events planned for 2023/24, with a targeted approach to events with high SUP usage.
3.3 - Green	Sustainable Events	Findings of the environmental assessment of Christmas Markets has been received and will inform planning for 2023. Engagement with targeted, high-volume events and baseline data collection is underway. Data for Para Swim World Championship is also being collected to understand the impact of sustainable measures. Grid Power Scoping Report is currently being reviewed internally to agree next steps.
3.4 - Amber	Waste Services	Meeting to discuss current waste and recycling processes across MCC estate took place and next steps agreed. Work to improve signage in Central Library is underway, aiming to reduce waste contamination and increase recycling rates in the cafe and library.
3.5 - Amber	Supplier Toolkit	MCC are engaged in Greater Manchester Heads of Procurement discussions to ensure greater consistency in procurement with focus on social value, including zero carbon considerations. Tailored training for procurement and commissioning staff was delivered this quarter. Further guidance on zero carbon considerations is being developed to support outcomes of the training.
3.6 - Green	Influencing Single Use Plastics reduction in the city	Work continues to embed SUP free ambitions across Manchester's parks.
3.7 - Green	Manchester Food Board	Ongoing engagement with FoodSync to scope the content of a Manchester Sustainable Food Policy.

#### Workstream 4 – Adaptation and Sequestration

Action	Action Summary	Action Update
4.1 - Green	Tree Action Planning	Engagement around the development of a refreshed tree action plan has taken place, with presentations made to the Manchester Green Infrastructure (GI) external stakeholder group and the internal MCC GI officer's group.
4.2 - Green	Nature Based Solutions	MCC representatives continue to attend joint working groups with other authorities and organisations such as United Utilities, City of Trees and GMCA to explore ways to work together on further SuDS projects in Manchester.
4.3 - Green	Parks CCAP	MCC Parks Climate Change Action Plan was shared with Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee in March 2023, before launching in April. The plan is in the implementation phase and having a positive impact with decision making, e.g. the opportunity to change a fleet vehicle to electric has been taken.
4.4 - Green	Green and Blue (G&BI) Strategy	Following on from Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny comments in March 2023, further consideration is needed about the interrelationship between the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and other strategies including Local Nature Recovery Strategy (GM level); Our Rivers, Our City; work on Biodiversity Net Gain; Tree Opportunity Mapping; Tree Action Plan; and Biodiversity Strategy.

4.5 - Green	Biodiversity Strategy	Ongoing work with colleagues in the Growth & Development team to prepare for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) as a statutory part of planning from November 2023. Additional funding from DEFRA has been secured to help pay for a new officer post in the Planning Team to coordinate the delivery of BNG.
4.6 - Green	Tree Planting	Tree opportunity mapping is now live on MCC website, with infographic material for each ward to be added soon. There is further need for consensus on tree site choices.

### Workstream 5 – Catalysing Change

Action	Action Summary	Action Update
5.1 - Amber	Carbon literacy training	1,928 members of staff are Carbon Literacy Certified and 93% of elected members have received training. A carbon literacy refresher training module is now live and a targeted roll out is being considered to staff who are already carbon literate. The refresher module will also be made available to school's climate champions.
5.2 - Amber	Embedding zero carbon within Council decision making	Zero Carbon considerations have been built into applications for the latest Our Manchester Voluntary and Community Sector, and Cultural Grant programmes. Updates on the Zero Carbon Culture Guide and climate action in the Culture Sector was taken to <a href="#">the Environment and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee</a> in March 2023. Influencing climate action within the community and voluntary sector can be difficult, these organisations are often small, lack resources and infrastructure. The Council continues to support this sector and lead by example to influence further action.
5.3 - Green	Finance & Investment	Finance & Investment Subgroup focusing on development of the feasibility study as part of the Innovate UK Net Zero Living Pathfinder Phase 1 project, which includes the development of a high-level pipeline of projects with a variety of funding sources.
5.4 - Green	Community Engagement	Ward CCAP templates have been redesigned to include SMART targets. Existing plans will be revised in line with the new template and published in autumn 2023. Recommendations from the Task & Finish Group were presented to <a href="#">the Environment, Climate Change and Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee</a> in May 2023. Workshops for Neighbourhoods staff and briefings for Ward Members are being planned and will be held next quarter.
5.5 - Green	Citywide Communications Strategy	Zero Carbon communications reduced during pre-election period, however national awareness days were marked. Social media activity increased post-election with celebration of the National Vegetarian Week and planning for Clean Air Day. In Our Nature's community support grants have also been promoted.
5.6 - Green	Fund Manchester Climate Change Agency (MCCA)	Funding for the Manchester Climate Change Agency is now in place for 2023/24 and covers four core posts and a small operational budget. Four members of staff who are 100% funded by In Our Nature are all in post following successful recruitment.
5.7 - Amber	Support Manchester Climate Change Partnership (MCCP)	The Council is working with MCCA, GMCA and NHS colleagues to develop shared approaches for production of the Climate Adaptation Plans. The objective is to ensure plans are joined up and developed at pace.

		Recommended actions in the <a href="#">Framework Update 2022</a> have been reviewed to identify actions directly delivered by MCC, and those where MCC can influence or enable through local authority powers and as a member of MCCP.
5.8 - Amber	Support Education Providers to reduce carbon	A Green School Network is established in North, South and Central Manchester boundaries and will report to the Governance Review Board chaired by Cllr Bridges. £20k has been secured from MCC's Zero Carbon reserves to support these Networks, as well as action planning pilot in the Zero Carbon Schools programme. This pilot will help to embed climate change into the curriculum and enable schools to calculate their own carbon footprint. Climate Change Champion sessions have begun, the first session was attended by 35 young people.
5.9 - Amber	Influence GM stakeholders to decarbonise	The Council is working in partnership with the GMCA and Oldham Council to access funding from Innovate UK's Net Zero Living Pathfinder Programme, Phase 2, which opens in July 2023 and is targeted at unlocking non-technical barriers to delivering Net Zero at scale across the UK. MCCP's city challenge on commercial building retrofit is being delivered across GM as part of the GM mission-based approach.
5.10 - Amber	Government Lobbying	GM Trailblazer Devolution Deal concluded and signed following a long period of negotiation with Council involvement. The deal confirms a single settlement for GM in next spending review 2025/26 which will cover Retrofit/Net Zero funding alongside Local Growth & Place; Local Transport; Housing & Regeneration and Adult Skills. The Deal also includes commitments to piloting devolution of Net Zero funding to GMCA through allocation rather than competition. Potential setting of GM Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES), further work on nature recovery & climate change adaptation are also explored.
5.11 - Green	International networks and projects	Core Cities UK are working with Eurocities to promote the 3Ci initiative at the Brussels Urban Summit on 12-15 June 2023. Manchester delegation will meet with partner cities and sign a Eurocities 'Call to Action' on sustainability and inclusion within culture, which will enable Manchester to share our work to date and learn from other partner cities.
5.12 - Amber	Green Skills Plan	Work and Skills team and Strategic Housing are engaging with training providers to develop their understanding of the Council's retrofit needs to deliver Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund programme. Work is underway to ensure Social Value discussions for retrofit procurement are aligned with MCC's inclusive ambitions and strategy priorities. The latest round of £7m skills bootcamps including Construction & Green Skills funding went live on 12 April 2023 via the GMCA / Chest portal. Engagement events and key Manchester providers are sighted via Work and Skills Channels and Networks. Further details can be found on the <a href="#">GMCA website</a> .