

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: Environmental Sustainability Subgroup – 29 January 2014

Subject: Recommendations from the June 2012 and May 2013 meetings of the Economy Scrutiny Committee

Report of: Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit

Summary

At its first meeting on 7 August 2013, the Environmental Sustainability Subgroup made the following recommendation:

To revisit the recommendations from the June 2012 and May 2013 meetings of the Economy Scrutiny Committee at its final meeting, to consider whether there are any that are still outstanding which should be incorporated into the final report of the Subgroup.

This report lists the recommendations from those two meetings, and the actions that has been taken in response.

Recommendations

To note the information contained in the report, and consider if any further action relating to these recommendations is required.

Wards Affected: all

Contact Officers:

Eleanor Fort
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Background documents (available for public inspection):

None

Recommendations from the June 2012 meeting of the Economy Scrutiny Committee

Recommendation	Response	Contact Officer
<p>To recommend that the Executive Member for Environment considers ways in which the Council's relationships with energy supply companies could be used to reduce carbon use in the Council and the city. To recommend that the Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee reviews current proposals and further opportunities in this process.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration</p>
<p>To recommend that the Council's existing sustainable procurement policies are reviewed with a view to establishing best practice in terms of outcomes for the low carbon economy and environmental sustainability.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee. It was also picked up through the work of the Subgroup.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration</p>
<p>To request a report on the 'greening' of the Greater Manchester Strategy, including aspects relating to investment in low carbon programmes.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee. The Economy Scrutiny Committee considered the draft refreshed Greater Manchester Strategy in June 2013.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration</p>
<p>To request that New Economy works with Manchester City Council to research and develop additional measures to Gross Value Added (GVA).</p>	<p>This was picked up through the work of the Subgroup.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager</p>
<p>To request a report on the Manchester Carbon Literacy Project and its proposals for the city</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration</p>

	This was also picked up through of the Subgroup.	Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager
To recommend that Manchester City Council acknowledges the finite nature of resources and that this is taken in to consideration in economic decision making.	This was picked up through the work of the Subgroup, in particular the What Do We Want From Growth? Discussion Paper and the discussion on decision making.	Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager
To recommend that Manchester City Council uses its influence and partnerships to continue the development and delivery of strategies and programmes that embed sustainability in schools and further education curriculums.	An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee. on Eco schools and the Sustainable Schools Working Group. This will also be discussed further in the Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2014/15-2016/17, which will be considered by the Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee.	Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager
To recommend that all scrutiny committees consider the climate change implications for their areas of work.	An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.	Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration
To encourage members to visit Charlie Baker's house in Chorlton and other eco houses open to the public, and to request that details of these are circulated to members of the Committee.	This site visit took place in September 2013, and was attended by Councillors Paul, Davies, Hackett and Simock. The visit is discussed in the final report of the Subgroup.	Eleanor Fort, Scrutiny Support Officer
To request that environmental organisations make greater efforts to involve a broader spectrum of Manchester residents in their activities, particularly those from backgrounds and areas who are less likely to be environmentally aware.	This request was made at the June 2012 meeting, when various environmental organisations were represented.	Not applicable
To recommend that the Council notes the	An update to this recommendation was provided in	Not applicable

<p>development of a grassroots report by members of the public on issues discussed during this meeting, and to invite Council officers to contribute.</p>	<p>the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee. The report by Steady State Manchester was published in late 2012.</p>	
<p>Group A: To note that the presentation on Green Jobs and Skills focused on the green jobs created by environmentally sustainable measures, rather than the broader changes to most jobs that would happen in the future. To recommend that in future, the broader sense is used to ensure that it reflects the impact across the whole economy and jobs market and that this is progressed by the GM Employment and Learning Partnership.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.</p> <p>This recommendation was taken up in the Great Manchester Skills Priorities, which have been developed by the Greater Manchester Skills and Employment Partnership.</p>	<p>Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy</p>
<p>Group A: To recommend that the Council focuses more on being creative and ambitious in developing strategies to ensure the economy and jobs market become environmentally sustainable, and less on responding to outside policies and pressures.</p> <p>To also recommend that the Council shares the best examples of what has worked and ensure that knowledge learned from these is shared across Greater Manchester.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy</p>
<p>Group A: To recommend that the Council works with schools, colleges and adult education to ensure their curriculums reflect the need to develop new skills in a lower carbon economy. To ensure that schools are making the most of the expertise available along and engaging with groups who are willing to work with them.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee.</p>	<p>Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy</p>
<p>Group B: To request that Council officers draw up a plan at the Greater Manchester level to produce a</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy</p>

<p>comprehensive and integrated package for local businesses that sets out what support and funding is available to make businesses more green and to stimulate demand for low carbon goods and services.</p>	<p>Committee and the Investing in Green Growth for Manchester report submitted to the same meeting.</p>	<p>Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Mark Atherton, Greater Manchester Director of Environment</p>
<p>Group B: To support the transition to a low carbon economy</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee and the Investing in Green Growth for Manchester report submitted to the same meeting.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Mark Atherton, Greater Manchester Director of Environment</p>
<p>Group B: To request that Council officers explore financial mechanisms at a Greater Manchester level aside from grant funding, (for example, the use of financial instruments and EU funding) that are available for green businesses.</p>	<p>An update to this recommendation was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee and the Investing in Green Growth for Manchester report submitted to the same meeting.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Mark Atherton, Greater Manchester Director of Environment</p>
<p>Group C: To recommend to the government that it should review the criteria for assessing funding for infrastructure projects, for example in the Regional Growth Fund, so that they include specific priorities around supporting low carbon industry and creating low carbon jobs. This will stimulate investment in the green agenda and low carbon infrastructure as existing funding criteria and priorities are too focused on short term economic growth.</p>	<p>A letter was sent by the Chair to the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills.</p> <p>An update on other work taking was provided in the May 2013 report to the Economy Scrutiny Committee and the Investing in Green Growth for Manchester report submitted to the same meeting.</p> <p>The Greater Manchester Growth and Reform Plan will also progress this work.</p>	<p>Eleanor Fort, Scrutiny Support Officer</p> <p>Angela Harrington, Head of Regeneration Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy</p>

Recommendations from the May 2013 meeting of the Economy Scrutiny Committee

Recommendation	Response	Contact Officer
<p>To recommend that a scheme is established to help people buy energy efficient household appliances, for people who would otherwise be forced to buy appliances that are poor quality and use a lot of energy. Particular focus should be given to people who buy appliances through rent-to-buy schemes, which are not good value for money and generally not of high quality. To request that Mark Atherton take this forward through the Low Carbon Hub and work with relevant organisations, for example credit unions or cooperatives, to determine if a suitable scheme can be established. To request that Mark Atherton report back to the Committee on his findings.</p>	<p>The Council will include advice and guidance on white goods and household appliances as part of its communications with residents, to be taken up through the <i>Manchester – A Certain Future</i> Steering Group.</p>	<p>Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager</p>
<p>To request that the Interim Head of Regeneration and the Head of Climate Change: Buildings and Energy provide some options of how sustainability and the climate change agenda can be addressed through local plans such as ward plans.</p>	<p>This recommendation has been addressed in the work of the Subgroup. Please see final report and recommendations for more detail.</p>	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager</p>
<p>To recommend that all councillors carry out the carbon literacy training in the next twelve months.</p>	<p>This is currently being rolled out.</p> <p>Six members of the Council have completed the carbon literacy training.</p> <p>The Environmental Strategy team plans to train:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 more by the end of June 2014 • a further 30 between July 2014 and March 2016 • the remainder between April 2016 and March 2017 	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonathan Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager</p>

<p>To request that officers produce a report on how the key recommendations in the report produced by Steady State Manchester can be implemented.</p>	<p>17.</p> <p>Discussions with Steady State Manchester are ongoing. With their agreement, work is being focused on the first two recommendations.</p> <p>The four key recommendations were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To develop a dashboard of the city’s social, economic and ecological wellbeing</i> This has been addressed through the Subgroup’s work. Please see final report for more detail. • <i>To increase local food production and link it to employment, resilience and mental health</i> Neighbourhoods Scrutiny Committee is looking at this in more detail. • <i>To link skills and youth employment with the retrofitting of the city’s homes</i> This is one of the priorities of the Greater Manchester Low Carbon Hub Skills Group. • <i>To address the discrepancy between many people in full time employment working too many hours a week and many people in part time employment or who are unemployed working too few hours a week, by making it for full time employees to work fewer hours.</i> This is not something that the Council can do alone, and discussions with Steady State Manchester are ongoing. 	<p>Jessica Bowles, Head of City Policy Jonny Sadler, Environmental Strategy Manager</p>
<p>To request that the Scrutiny Support Officer circulate</p>	<p>This visit took place in September 2013.</p>	<p>Eleanor Fort, Scrutiny</p>

information about Charlie Baker's ecohouse to the Committee, along with information about other ecohouses in the city that they can visit.		Support Officer
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