

# #ClimateDeedsNotWords

Contributions towards the speedy implementation of  
Manchester City Council's July 10<sup>th</sup> Climate Emergency Declaration



A Climate Emergency Manchester Report  
Monday July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019

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*It happens to be an emergency, some things don't come for free*  
Midnight Oil Put Down that Weapon

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### **Thanks and acknowledgements**

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Thanks to Marc Roberts for the brilliant-as-ever-cover illustration.

### **Acronyms**

CED	Climate Emergency Declaration
CEM	Climate Emergency Manchester
FoIA	Freedom of Information Act
GHGs	Greenhouse Gases
GMCA	Greater Manchester Combined Authority
GMPF	Greater Manchester Pension Fund
MCC	Manchester City Council
NESC	Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee
PLEV	Personal Light Electric Vehicles
RGSC	Resources and Governance Scrutiny Committee
SCs	Scrutiny Committees
UoM	University of Manchester

## Executive summary

### Can Manchester genuinely get to carbon zero in just over ten years?

Professor Kevin Anderson: *“In isolation, if no one else was doing anything, and if they continue to do nothing, I think probably it would be fairly clear that “no” would be the answer. However just you could also postulate Manchester genuinely trying to go down that route, and then that triggering some other cities. So perhaps Oslo follows suite, maybe Nottingham, maybe Bristol. Maybe then we start to see Paris and some other cities start to follow a similar route. Now if that starts to happen in three or four years **you can start a new momentum which we would find hard to anticipate today.**”* *“It may well be that if Manchester tried to do that it could be the catalyst.”*

Whether 2038 or 2030 it is clear that rapid forward motion is needed. It is also clear from the latest reports that Manchester is a long way from achieving any targets, with only 2.5% reduction being achieved against a 13% target last year. A plan to make a plan is not enough. CEM calls on the council for a draft implementation plan for specific elements of the 10<sup>th</sup> July Climate Emergency Motion to be presented to the scrutiny committee meetings in early September for comment from elected members and members of the public. A final plan should be presented to the six committees in October.

The following actions need to be undertaken immediately, given that this IS an emergency.

- **Ward level engagement** – all 32 wards to have agreed Local Climate Champions - one councillor to champion climate action and engagement within each ward.
- **Create temporary team from senior council management** which reports to chief executive with full time project management support to create implementation plan. Part of remit of group to put together longer-term team to deliver implementation plan.
- **The immediate need is for draft implementation plans to be presented to Scrutiny Committees in September for the following elements of the motion**
  - Element 2 (the zero carbon date)
  - Element 4 (the liaison with all 32 wards by April 2020)
  - Element 9 (Manchester’s aviation emissions)
  - Element 11 (for all members and staff to be zero carbon by the end of 2020)
- **Communication of climate emergency is a key part of engagement of city** – ALL council communications channels to ALL target audiences to include the message that *MCC have declared a climate emergency, we’re fighting for our futures* – along with a link to a dedicated page (see Appendix 5 of this report)
- **Establish a seventh scrutiny committee dedicated to climate** to convene asap. The first job for committee to identify plans in progress but not yet actioned which are incompatible with declaration of emergency

## 1. Introduction

Manchester City Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, displays very welcome ambition. As Councillor Angeliki Stogia (Executive Member for the Environment) noted in her speech in the council chamber that day, reaching this shared goal, action will be required by a range of stakeholders. She also made the important point – *“We currently spend 2 million tonnes every year, which means we run out by 2025 if we continue Business as Usual. There shouldn't be any more Business as Usual.”*

The report of the City Solicitor on the declaration, to be discussed on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July, has the recommendation that

*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.***

This document, created in the spirit of 'co-production' seeks to contribute to a quickening and deepening of that process. We want Manchester to be the leading city on turning climate emergency declaration into rapid and socially just decarbonisation. While it may seem presumptuous, these risks are outweighed by the risk of NOT producing a draft implementation plan suggestions. We simply cannot afford more delay- **Words must become deeds damned quick.** Further, there are many Mancunians with, collectively, a tremendous amount of accumulated knowledge and expertise, willing to work with the City Council on developing, implementing, modifying and strengthening policy. This document, itself a draft, is both a product of some of those people and also an invitation to others.

Meeting the ambition of the declaration will need policy support at national and local level, and a proactively driven set of, public, private and personal actions. Public procurement, as identified in several elements of the motion, is a huge lever to help set a new level, to bring sustainable options to market which can then compete with unsustainable options which currently dump their long-term environmental costs on the public and the planet. As another Councillor, Marcus Johns (Labour, Deansgate) noted, significant employment can be created in sustainable refurbishment, digital and research.

This document details ways in which the elements of the motion passed on July 10th can be rapidly and radically introduced, to create new norms within the council and beyond. The quicker these come into effect, the more additional actions we can then take. afterwards.

### 1.1 Background of Manchester and Climate Change

We have all heard the phrase that those who do not know or understand history are doomed to repeat it. The following is a necessarily brief potted history of local policy attempts to deal with climate change. The topic will be the subject of a longer Climate Emergency Manchester report to be released later this year or early next year.

The background of Manchester City Council's awareness of climate change dates to the early 1990s (at the latest). In the aftermath of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, Manchester said it would host a follow-up event, the 'Global Forum'. This event was widely perceived as a failure (with central government blamed for not providing sufficient funding – some things never change). There was an attempt at implementing the Local Agenda 21

recommendations to involve publics in policymaking, but these petered out by the late 1990s. Environmentalism fell from favour for this and other reasons (notably the second runway campaign). Although Manchester City Council was a signatory of the 2000 Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change, which sought to galvanise local authority action, by 2007 it was clear that little was happening. As Councillor Eve Holt ((Labour, Chorlton) noted in her July 10<sup>th</sup> speech seconding the Climate Emergency motion, the Council's first official policy on Climate Change was the 2008 Principles on Climate Change. This was not followed through on, due to a change of personnel at the top.. The next Council document was one that cost 25 thousand pounds and was produced by a London-based consultancy. Called 'The Call to Action on Climate Change' it was clearly a desk-based study, with little on the ground knowledge. It drew the ire and exasperation of activists, who produced a Call to Real Action document, and suggested an Environmental Advisory Panel be established. The Call to Real Action, now forgotten, was influential, and the Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP, 2009) was based on its methodology of working groups generating ideas that then were collated and refined. The CCAP was agreed by the Executive of Manchester City Council on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The two headline goals were a reduction of carbon emissions of 41% by the year 2020, and the creation of a low carbon culture.

The second goal is worth printing in full, so we understand how far we have NOT come.

*“To engage all individuals, neighbourhoods and organisations in Manchester in a process of cultural change that embeds ‘low carbon thinking’ into the lifestyles and operations of the city. To create a ‘low carbon culture’ we need to build a common understanding of the causes and implications of climate change, and to develop programmes of ‘carbon literacy’ and ‘carbon accounting’ so that new culture can become part of the daily lives of all individuals and organisations. Every one of the actions in our plan will contribute in some way to the development of ‘carbon literacy’ in the city. However, achieving a new low carbon culture – where thinking about counting carbon is embedded and routine – can only be delivered as a result of all the actions together, in an overall co-ordinated manner. Enabling a low carbon culture in the city will be particularly important if the challenge of meeting even more demanding carbon reduction targets between 2020 and 2050 is to be met.”*

Within the CCAP were commitments such as the Council moving to consumption-based metrics by 2013, and the holding of youth climate summits (the first of these took place in July... July 2019). The consumption-based metrics promise was simply abandoned.

A Steering Group (made up of various actors, including members of the Environmental Advisory Panel), was established. It was to be a partially elected body, with responsibility for holding an annual day long stakeholder conference. It was also supposed to secure the endorsement of the CCAP by 1000 organisations in Manchester, which were then expected to write their own implementation plans.

The elections were never held, the stakeholder conferences unilaterally abolished in 2014 (with only one day-long conference managed, in 2010 – with none at all in the crucial year 2011).

While it is convenient to blame the failure of the Copenhagen climate summit in 2009 and the actions of the Coalition (Conservative/Liberal Democrat) Government in imposing austerity –

for the failures mentioned above, this is also incomplete. The failures of the Steering Group and its successors have never been properly acknowledged or scrutinised. This matters because we cannot afford more of the same, and that is what we are likely to get since many of the personnel, and all of the working practices, remain today, unchanged. Despite repeated promises of impending action, of relaunches and refreshes, the stark facts are these – the Manchester Climate Change “Agency” (not a statutory body, simply a community-interest company established by the Council) had once again proven itself not fit for purpose.

In 2016, responding to an e-petition scheme started by Avaaz, the City Council committed Manchester to being zero-carbon by 2050. In 2018 this date was brought forward to 2038 (though as ever the devil is in the detail, about what is counted, and how).

At the 2019 AGM of the Manchester Climate Change “Agency”, mislabelled a conference, it was casually conceded that the 13.5% reduction in emissions needed for the previous year had not been achieved. The actual reduction was 2.5%. And after that admission, came the invitation to drink wine and mingle (Stocks, 2019).

This is not a response to an emergency.

### 1.2 Climate Emergency Declarations

Over the last year – and especially over the last six months, in the aftermath of the record-breaking heatwaves and fires of the Northern hemisphere in 2018, the IPCC’s 1.5 Degrees report and the school strikes inspired by Greta Thunberg - a great deal of energy has been devoted to getting local authorities, cities, and even national governments to declare a ‘climate emergency’. There is no commonly-agreed set of criteria for such declarations. Some set near-term greenhouse gas reduction targets, others long-term ones (i.e. 2050) or none at all. Some speak of new organisations and new ways of working while others rebadge business as usual. Few if any speak to international, inter-generational and interspecies justice and provide detailed plans on how to get there.

Manchester’s hands were to some extent tied because of these events. Nonetheless, the Council – and the Labour Party – insisted its 2038 zero-carbon target was enough. Despite much internal agitation, the Manchester Labour Party manifesto for the 2019 Council elections was extremely sparse on climate change, to the anger and frustration of many. The silence over a climate emergency was deafening.

Ongoing climate strikes, and the actions of multiple cities to which Manchester compares itself (including the ‘core cities’ see table 1.) forced the City Council leadership to bow to the inevitable.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Core City</b>
November 14th, 2018	Bristol
February 14th, 2019	Sheffield
March 28th, 2019	Cardiff
March 29th, 2019	Leeds
April 4th, 2019	Newcastle
May 16th, 2019	Glasgow
June 12th, 2019	Birmingham
July 10th, 2019	Manchester

Table 1. Timeline of climate emergency declarations by Core Cities

### 1.3 Manchester and its Climate Emergency Declaration

The task for the Council's leadership is now to turn words into deeds.

The task for the backbench councillors, of both parties, and for citizens who care, is to critically support the leadership to turn words into deeds, by developing a credible, evidenced based and bold plan, and implementing it.

The temptation to repeat the mistakes of 2009-2019 is enormous. The same soothing glossy documents. The same top-down "summits" where people are sat in rows and told both that the people at the front of the room have a good track record and credibility, while also being guilted into thinking that changing their lightbulbs or switching to a plant-based diet is an adequate response. These lifestyle consumption changes are necessary but not sufficient.

What is needed is for citizens of Manchester to be citizens. Not to merely be consumers or residents, but to actively engage with all the mechanisms by which they can affect both the policies and the behaviours of the City Council and other ostensibly democratic bodies. What is needed is not to be sat in rows, but to be attending scrutiny committee meetings, sending Freedom of Information Act requests, lobbying councillors, challenging delay and excuses, while simultaneously drawing ever more individuals and organisations into the networks of activity in wards, both proposing and achieving concrete goals, week in, month out.

The first of the Core Cities to declare a Climate Emergency was Bristol, in November 2018. It has taken them until July 2019 to produce an implementation plan. That's 8 more months of business as usual, and in any case a Bristol Green Party representative observed

*"The newly published plan does not reflect the urgency of the issue. In fact, it is a collection of existing projects, many of which were started by previous administrations. The report does little to identify a strategic approach or pin down concrete actions. A plan to make a plan is not what we need right now."*

Manchester can and must demonstrate real leadership by committing to produce an advanced comprehensive and bold draft implementation plan for the specific key elements of the motion it passed on July 10<sup>th</sup> by mid-October at the absolute latest. That means bringing a draft implementation plan to the scrutiny committee meetings in early September so that elected members and members of the public have a chance to make constructive suggestions in advance of a final implementation plan to be presented to the six committees in October. Anything less is a failure of leadership.

After briefly commenting on the pre-ambule to the motion, the rest of this section deals – in turn, with the 23 elements listed (we have combined the Liberal Democrat amendment within element 2).

#### **DANGERS OF CEDs**

It cannot be emphasised enough that there are dangers in Climate Emergency Declarations. Firstly, they can easily be an excuse for Business as Usual with a green tinge. Secondly, they can demobilise citizens who decide they no longer need to lobby elected officials nor ask awkward questions of civil servants. And if/when little progress is made on the declaration, they can be excuse for demobilisation to curdle into demobilisation and (entirely justified) cynicism. Finally, it is entirely likely that the rhetoric of emergency will be taken up by actors seeking to restrict the public's right to know, to assemble, to protest and to challenge decisions, while also proposing dangerous techno-fixes and unpopular/inadequate technologies.

## 2. The Climate Emergency Declaration

### 2.1 Introduction to CED

This Council notes:

<p>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.</p>	<p>Indeed. We have known this for a long time. And according to a recent report on adaptation by the Committee on Climate Change, adaptation in Greater Manchester is not on track. Almost TEN YEARS after the Climate Change Action Plan was agreed, when asked to quantify the impacts of its work on adaptation, the Manchester Climate Change Agency said <i>‘Not possible to quantify at this stage, but work has helped to develop a positive international reputation and recognition in this area.’</i> (CCC, 2018: 61)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>And yet at the Youth Climate Action Summit on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019 there was a plaintive Powerpoint slide for session 3-  <i>“How do we get everyone on board for the city's zero-carbon journey?”</i>          If we had been meeting the 2008 proposals, or holding annual day-long stakeholder conference from 2010 onwards the session would instead have been titled <i>“What we’ve learnt from 11 years of engaging people and being a world-leader in this.”</i> But we haven’t, so it wasn’t. This admission (of inability to reach out) was repeated bluntly at the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee meeting on Weds 17<sup>th</sup> July.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Manchester doesn’t lead the way, sorry. If you have a Google Alert on the words Manchester and climate, you quickly realise that Manchester New Hampshire gets about as much attention. Google is getting it right. The Carbon Budget only covers scope 1 and 2 emissions and there are so far only outline plans for a proportion (of those emissions. Moreover, there is a danger that the budget suggests that it is OK to burn that much carbon. Yet the climate emergency is already here, killing people and destroying ecosystems on which we all depend.</p>
<p>The recent and welcome upsurge of action by the young people of Manchester, exemplifying the radical traditions of which Manchester is proud.</p>	<p>This upsurge has in fact been resisted and controlled, not just by the Greater Manchester Police (Robson, 2019) but also by some of the very people who supported this motion.</p>



## 2.2 The 23 specific elements of the Climate Emergency Declaration

Element 1: Declare a Climate Emergency.	
Where are we now	Whoop!! Declaration declared
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	It's interesting that the Manchester Labour Party Manifesto for the May 2019 Council elections was a curiously anodyne document...
Have OTHER councils tried it? With what results and learning so far	Lots of other councils have been making declarations. And then doing nothing, or taking decisions that directly contradict their fine words. This is a global problem. With our species, mostly, and our systems of governance and production.
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	We will know a bit in three months, and a lot more in a year. Climate Emergency Manchester has committed to producing quarterly reports, with the fun title Hung Drawn and Quarterly. The first will be released on 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2010).
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	All scrutiny committees, all the time A seventh scrutiny committee, dedicated to Environmental (and Climate) policy, is urgently needed. Neither NESC nor a subgroup can cope. Citizens too, via CEM and other groups. Ideally activists in Manchester will compare notes with activists in other parts of the UK (and beyond).

### Manchester's Budget Crisis

It is crucial to acknowledge that Manchester City Council is in an extremely difficult situation at the moment, for reasons beyond its control. It has not had information from the government on what its budget will be for the financial year from May 2020 onwards. This absurd state of affairs makes allocating resources even harder than it would otherwise be. All of this surely adds to the need for the Council to think creatively about how to engage with critical friends from outside the current charmed circle.

<p>Element 2: 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.</p> <p>Liberal Democrat amendment “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.”</p>	
Where are we now	<p>In response to a Manchester Friends of the Earth 2019 election survey question “Will you support (or have you supported) a Climate Emergency motion in your local authority area?” Cllr Angeliki Stogia gave this response</p> <p><i>However there is a strong argument that the target should be 2030, and I would like to see Manchester aiming for this, but of course we need to bring our partners in the economic activity of the city and above all the people we represent along with us as well</i></p> <p><a href="https://www.manchesterfoe.org.uk/election-survey-2019-candidate-response/?display=2&amp;id=170">https://www.manchesterfoe.org.uk/election-survey-2019-candidate-response/?display=2&amp;id=170</a></p> <p>Where are we? Well, we have missed the reduction target this year by 11% (2%), so the obvious issue here is that the targets serve no purpose. We need to try 6 times harder. There should be uproar about this. The more we fail now the more we jeopardise we future chances</p>
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened	Manchester Climate Change ‘Agency’ has already paid a consultancy (Anthesis) for a delivery plan. Anthesis came back with ‘the gap’ which was code for they can’t do it without compromising economic growth at all costs. We now have to compromise economic growth at all costs.
Have OTHER councils tried it? With what results and learning so far (so we don’t reinvent the wheel or make rookie mistakes)	Other councils have set ambitious targets, but few seem to have put action plans in place (here it is possible to have a certain sympathy with the leadership of Manchester City Council in resisting being ‘bounced’ into declaring an emergency by other councils)
How could the implementation of the element create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	<p>The process – open and transparent – by which the 2030 investigation is held must be spoken of regularly and repeatedly by senior figures, including ALL members of the Executive, ALL Scrutiny Chairs and other public figures.</p> <p>If a dedicated website is set up to explain what is being done, how, why, where, when, by who. If public consultation on the process is made, with active engagement across the city by faith groups, trades unions, businesses, community groups and so on.</p> <p>If action starts on this even before an implementation plan for this element is brought to NESC in September.</p>
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	The final executive meeting of the year is on 11 December 2019. Presumably the report would go to scrutiny committees at their meetings in early December, meaning it would have to be released on 26 November 2019. That is an extremely ambitious deadline.
Who should be	All members of the public should be actively lobbying their

scrutinising? How? When	councillors (not just the ward climate champion) to ensure that maximum pressure and maximum engagement occurs on this process.
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Professor Kevin Anderson, of the Tyndall Centre, Manchester, has addressed scrutiny committees and Full Council on several occasions about climate change and Manchester's Contribution. He was recently interviewed on the possibility of Manchester being zero carbon by 2030. Here is what he said.

**MCFly: Let's drag you along to the hyper local level now, down from Greater Manchester level to Manchester City Council. I'm sure you're aware that there's a Climate Emergency Manchester petition and it is putting the demand that Manchester City Council declare a climate emergency and then create a plan from zero carbon by 2030, with a proportionate share of the aviation emissions from the airport which of course the City Council owns thirty five point five percent of. My first question is - is it actually physically possible for a connected, both nationally and internationally, city like Manchester to, with all of the political will ... do you see any viable pathways, means, by which a city could get within spitting distance, meaningful spitting distance, of zero carbon in ten and a half years? You're allowed to say "no it's a pipe dream," we're adults...**

**Professor Kevin Anderson:** Well I think if we have to be careful to say no. In isolation, if no one else was doing anything, and if they were to continue to do nothing, I think probably it would be fairly clear that "no" would be the answer.

However you could also postulate Manchester genuinely trying to go down that route, and then that triggering some other cities. So perhaps Oslo follows suite, maybe Nottingham, maybe Bristol. Maybe then we start to see Paris and some other cities start to follow a similar route. Now if that starts to happen in three or four years you can start a new momentum which we would find hard to anticipate today. But you could write a scenario and when you look back anything we can see what happened. It's hard to predict in advance, but you can sort of see that. I mean who would have guessed Extinction Rebellion or Greta Thunberg or even if you look back bit further, who would have guessed "one point five degrees centigrade" in 2014.

So I think if everything else stays as it is - you know *ceteris paribus* - no we can't we won't see that, but the world doesn't stay as it is. And it may well be that if Manchester tried to do that it could be the catalyst. Now could it deliver on that sort of the reduction - I think the idea is to try to deliver on it if we fail because we have only have an 80% reduction by 2030, well okay, that's considerably better than where we're heading at the moment. So yes I think we should be trying, but I think we can't just try with the normal set of tools. We have to start to try and think differently. I think we still think we can solve climate change, and the rest of the world can just carry on as it is. And this is just completely misses the scale of the challenge that we're actually facing, and where most of the emissions have come from.

Element 3: Become carbon neutral by the earliest possible date.	
Where are we now	Carbon neutrality is an extremely thorny topic. As Blakey and Hudson (2019) note “The UK economy is <u>primarily driven</u> by its service sector, and the value of its imports is roughly <u>triple</u> that of its exports. The production and transport of these imported goods are a direct consequence of the UK’s consumption habits, but these emissions aren’t counted by the committee because they occur beyond its shores. “ We need to state clearly what the footprint(s) are now, with agreed and explained methodologies for BOTH production based and consumption based metrics.
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	Manchester Climate Change “Agency,” a community interest company almost entirely funded by the City Council, has already paid Anthesis for a delivery plan. They came back with ‘the gap’ which was code for they can’t do it without compromising economic growth at all costs. We now have to compromise economic growth at all costs. Moreover, the reduction target has been missed so the targets serve no purpose. They need to try 6 times harder. There should be uproar about this. The more they fail now the more they jeopardise their future chances.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	The list is long, as the council knows  It is also worth noting that the Labour Party at a national level is looking closely at the loopholes in declaring only production-based measures (Savage, 2019)
How could the implementation of the element create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	Refer to the low carbon culture goal (page 5), long ignored. If Manchester City Council wants to demonstrate leadership, it will dust off that 2009 goal, admit that it has ignored it for ten years, and then set to work, in genuine partnership.
What needs to happen	We need an annual meeting of the Executive of Manchester City Council, well-advertised and devoted <i>entirely</i> to the climate strategies, the actions of all members of the Executive in achieving the targets, at which they can be questioned not only by members of the Council, but also members of the public. The six monthly updates of all Executive members against their One Manchester responsibilities must also contain an explicit reporting obligation against the CED commitments.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	There should be monthly dashboards of what action is being taken by Executive Members and their deputies, alongside quarterly reports against agreed outputs and outcomes.

Element 4: 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.	
Where are we now	<p>The fact that after ten years of climate action there is a need to <i>'identify residents and partners who want to be actively involved'</i> says everything that needs to be known about the impact of the Council/"Agency" efforts to date.</p> <p>There are 32 wards in Manchester. Achieving this in the next 8 months means at least 4 per month, with December a deeply problematic month for both weather and Christmas reasons...</p>
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	The point about ward plans was suggested in 2014 by the lead author of this document, in a previous effort to get the City Council to take climate change seriously. Although the Executive Member for the Environment expressed her appreciation of the idea, absolutely nothing was done.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Plenty. In each ward. These need to be identified, and invited to attend the individual ward meetings. The meetings have to be designed to be genuinely inclusive, not merely top-down defensive opportunities for spin and blandishments.
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the three councillors per ward becomes named responsible councillor for this issue (this is not to say the other two are either off the hook or not allowed to grab glory!)</li> <li>• A copy of the current ward plan is made available online, in a central and easily locatable location and for anyone who wants a hard copy.</li> <li>• At least one month's notice for the meeting, so that it can be properly publicised via Twitter etc. and can be added to the websites and social media of other groups and so that the ward councillors can tweet about it etc.</li> <li>• Livestreamed and recorded so that people who cannot attend in person will be able to participate remotely/catch up later.</li> <li>• Photos of any flipcharts</li> <li>• Short blog posts written before and AFTER saying what happened at the meeting(s)</li> <li>• See it as part of an ongoing process of engagement about climate change with the ward</li> </ul> <p>Opening meetings could/should be in the wards of members of the NESC. Once there have been ten meetings, there should be a (published) post-mortem which feeds into improvements in the format for the remaining meetings Opportunities for people to give anonymous feedback</p>
How could it go wrong,	All meetings are held, but they do not engage a wider

<p>how will we know if we are succeeding?</p>	<p>audience and are top-down.</p> <p>Poor design, poor chairing/facilitation,  <i>“I predict that they will be up for bringing people together and make them feel engaged, exercise their agency for free. You yourself have called the stakeholder group a fig leaf and you’re right. I more and more think these things divert focus and pacify. Sure, everyone can make a difference, just some people can make more of a difference - usually very rich people, airports and multinational corporations. Stakeholder groups work on consensus, and we shouldn’t be forging a consensus with an airport and Tesco. We should be disagreeing with them fundamentally. How we can retain and galvanise anger at high emitters to bring about change is the most important point here. We need to have these disagreements and stakeholder groups as safe spaces for everyone duck the opportunity to do this. It leaves us tinkering around the edges. Insulating houses is a good idea - but it’s not the same as taking cars off the road and planes out of the sky.”</i> (anonymous contributor)</p> <p>Ideally carbon budgets can be estimated for individual wards to create greater ownership and engagement</p>
<p>Who should be scrutinising? How? When</p>	<p>While waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in, NESC, with a monthly report on how many ward meetings have been held in the previous month.</p> <p>See appendix 2, page 38 for a table. Something like this needs to appear on the City Council’s website, asap.</p>

Element 5: Review all policies, processes and procedures to ensure the council can become carbon neutral	
Where are we now	What is the current carbon footprint area by area of the council's activities (direct transport, primary energy, carbon activity of other activities). This needs to be communicated clearly, in charts, videos and documents.
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	There is already a very tokenistic box in the reports. This is swept aside routinely as ' <i>congruent with our One Manchester Policy</i> '. As was noted recently by a senior councillor – " <i>we are very aware that 'green' could easily become a box to tick, allowing business as usual. We don't want to give the impression that, once a particular report has been taken, the problem is solved.</i> "
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Tyndall Centre and the Sustainable Consumption Institute of University of Manchester. University students could fruitfully use this work for final year projects (especially given that the University of Manchester has declared a climate emergency).
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	If the officers, exec members and other members responsible for devising or delivering policy gave public accounts of what needed to change, and how, and engaged in constructive public dialogue about this.
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	If this becomes purely tokenistic; if we don't see any existing policies extensively reviewed and revised in the next six months for being incompatible with the Climate Emergency Declaration then we will know that we are not succeed.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	All scrutiny committees, on a rolling basis (i.e. it should be a criterion against which ALL policy is judged.)

Element 6: Present an action plan by March 2020 detailing how the city can stay within its carbon budget.	
Where are we now	This item seems to simply reiterate the existing proposal, announced in November 2018 for the Manchester Climate Change “Agency” and Board to an action plan forward. Since November 2018 the “Agency” and Board have not, to our knowledge, held any public meetings or launched any appeals for information to help them with this much vaunted action plan, which is not due to be released until March 2020.
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	The “Agency” has already paid Anthesis for a delivery plan. They came back with ‘the gap’ which was code for they can’t do it without compromising economic growth at all costs. We now have to compromise economic growth at all costs.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Too many to mention
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	Alongside element 2, ideas could be collected and collated through a genuine bottom-up process.  This is FAR beyond the capacity or the desire of the top-down approach demonstrated by the Climate Change “Agency” and Board. Again – what public meetings and appeals have been made in the 9 months since November 2018?
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	If the process is kept in-house by MCCA, which has shown itself to be not fit for purpose (Nationally, the general approach in government is to break the UK national carbon budgets down into different areas and focusses on different targets and plans for each area. So, a budget reduction plan for decarbonising energy generation, one for transport, etc etc - strongly recommend taking this approach in this regional plan. ALSO would recommend talking to the Climate Change Committee to understand how they approach what they do at the national level to see what learnings there might be from their approach).
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	All the scrutiny committees, every month. Probably the lead needs to be taken by NESC and RGSC, while waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in.



Element 7: Report back regularly to the NESC.	
Where are we now	The NESC is massively overwhelmed and over-committed. Although it is the biggest of the scrutiny committees in terms of membership, it also has the largest agenda (see for example the number of items on its formal agenda for Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> July, without including the Great Ancoats St debate. Although it has recently committed to looking at climate change more regularly, until recently, it had only scheduled a single hour for climate policy in the next calendar year! There is a clear and urgent need for a seventh scrutiny committee, entirely devoted to environment (with a focus on climate change)
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	The history of scrutiny of climate policy is a sorry tale. This has not been helped by the actions of the Executive Members for the Environment, past and present. In late 2018, at roughly the same time that the 2038 carbon neutral goal was being proudly press released, the current Executive Member for the Environment unilaterally cancelled quarterly carbon reports to the NESC and stated that this sent the right message about the Council's commitment to climate action.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Manchester Climate Monthly has intermittently attempted to 'keep the Council' honest, through attending and reporting on NESC, lobbying councillors and submitting FoIAs to the City Council. Other people have also submitted FoIAs, and have been denied basic information.
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	Need a pure-play Environmental Scrutiny Committee  IF the existing scrutiny committees committed to overhauling their processes (especially around communication), in line with the open letter sent to the Scrutiny Chairs on Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July (see appendix x) There are of course resource implications
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	The meetings of NESC are overwhelmed, with important issues receiving five or ten minutes of scrutiny, with offices and Executive Members 'talking out the clock'
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	Members of the public who care about climate change need to engage closely, critically, consistently and supportively, month in, month out. Climate Emergency Manchester will try to support people in doing this.

Element 8: Review the corporate plan	
Where are we now	A google of the Corporate Plan came up with various documents, and it was simply unclear which was relevant! The corporate plan needs to be displayed prominently on the City Council's website
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	Pass
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	If a firm deadline (March 2020?) is set for the review to be completed, with the names of those doing the review released asap. With a commitment to multiple open public meetings about the Corporate Plan If the relevant Executive Member(s) and lead members on this item were to commit to regular blogs, speeches, videos etc about what is happening, and why.
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	If the corporate plan is left unchanged but the words "climate-resilient" "future proof" and "low carbon" are sprinkled through the document(s), and if the in the pipeline capital investment projects are waved through, on the basis that a review has not yet been completed. There can easily be a rush to get unsustainable projects in 'under the wire'. If we were betting people, we'd put everything we own on this being the outcome.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	While waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in, NESCI. It should demand three monthly updates between now and, say, March 2020.

<p>Element 9: 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.</p>	
<p>Where are we now</p>	<p>There's lots of different ways to cut the cake on aviation, but there is one that is most politically palatable for the council...</p> <p>125 MtCO<sub>2</sub> is the Paris aligned carbon budget for flights leaving the airport 2018-2100 which is built on assumptions in the Tyndall report and a prerequisite for the Council's zero carbon budget. The Council has signed up to it.</p> <p>They have lots of levers they can pull in acting on the airport, it's situated in the city, it is 35.5% owned by the council and some of its citizens use the airport. Unfortunately these flights are only 22% GM citizens and ~4.5% Manchester citizens. If they adopt a citizen use perspective (which is what Tyndall will push for) this will only reflect a tiny proportion of Manchester's capacity to act over these flights. Our role in decarbonising the airport should not be decided by Tyndall, we should put the numbers out there, let people disagree on our role (rather than just playing the smallest one and hiding that decision) and pull every single lever that we can... Not just rely on culture change and cleaner fuels.</p>
<p>Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.</p>	<p>The City Council and the Tyndall Centre, have a very close and mutually beneficial relationship, with all the broader threats and opportunities that entails</p>
<p>How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?</p>	<p>This needs to be a public process, with the methodology, terminology and processes of review clearly explained, and sign-posted, with regular and frequent public meetings enabling academics to engage not just with the City Council, its community interest company also known as the Climate Change "Agency" and consultancies, but other actors who might provide less welcome, more awkward perspectives.</p>
<p>How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?</p>	<p>If this item is not tied to element 2, it will be a moot point, with the question of responsibility for aviation emissions neatly sidelined into 'discussions with central government'.</p>
<p>Who should be scrutinising? How? When</p>	<p>NESC and the proposed new scrutiny committee, on a bi-monthly basis.</p> <p>A deadline needs to be set, and it will be hard to reconcile this inclusion of aviation emissions with element 2 of the motion – the demand that a report is conducted into becoming genuinely zero-carbon before 2038.</p>

Element 10: 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.	
Where are we now	The safest assumption is to say that NO decision making has climate breakdown at its heart. Important to be honest and realistic
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	Absolutely not, despite goal 2 of the 2009 Climate Change Action Plan (the low carbon culture commitment – see page 5 of this document)
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Steady State Manchester, CLES, CEM, Sustainable Consumption Institute at the University of Manchester
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	Yes, but what about growth economics? That is pretty fundamental to how things operate at present.  Greatest risk of failure here is the cold reality that the fossil fuel solution is often going to be the lowest cost, so local authorities' costs would be expected to increase. ALSO, suggest it will need internal specialists either training up or recruiting to do carbon assessments to assess changes investments or new policy implementations to robustly assess carbon impact of such proposed changes. The devil will be in the detail!
Who should be scrutinising? How? When?	This is an enormous agenda. There is no way on Gaia's no longer very green earth that a local authority, with its limited resources, its limited authority, can do more than be one small player in this. Small does not mean insignificant, however. There can be no ducking of responsibility as there has been over the last ten years

### **Rising Up! Manchester Families ([www.risingupmcr.org](http://www.risingupmcr.org)) notes on motion**

10. 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.

- *Needs a dedicated TEAM that leads on this, plus this needs to be written into job descriptions of dept heads and directors.*
- *Needs a fast track review system should a plan be flagged by anyone as having failed – e.g. Great Ancoats having no cycle lanes – so that this ability to catch plans that slip through net part of standard operation of council.*
- *Not just committee reports. It needs to be made part of the fabric of operating at the council. It should be added as a factor on every single plan and piece of work as a tick box to say that environmental impact has been considered. (As standard for equalities impact.)*
- *What about a very visual representation of that quarterly reporting (I presume they will be bringing back in) – a project management traffic light system displayed at front of town hall?)*

Item 11: 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.																																											
Where are we now	<p>About half the councillors have completed their carbon literacy training. This sounds impressive, until you realise that the Economy Scrutiny Committee recommended back in 2013 that ALL councillors complete the training by the end of 2014. Or that it was written into the MCC Climate Change Action Plan 2015/16 - 2017/18 that all councillors would be carbon literate by the end of 2015... <a href="https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/18680/5_mcc_climate_change_action_plan_201616_-_201718">https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/download/meetings/id/18680/5_mcc_climate_change_action_plan_201616 - 201718</a> The last time the Council was forced (in response to a Freedom of Information Act request) to say how many councillors were carbon literate, it emerged that only one member of the SMT had completed the training (this may now have changed, a mere two years after FOIAs started to be submitted about the SMT).</p> <p>In reply to a December 2018 Freedom of information request, the Council stated the following - <i>As of November 2018 there were 7,252 members of staff (headcount) which equates to 6,200 full time equivalents. The Council currently has 612 staff who are carbon literate.</i></p> <p>In response to a February 2019 FoIA, the council supplied this.</p> <p><b>2. Please list all carbon literacy training for</b></p> <p>a) Strategic Management Team b) Councillors c) Staff</p> <p><b>In the last six months, with the dates their training occurred, the numbers of a) b) or c) trained, and in case of a) and b) their names.</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Number of attendees</th> <th>Number of Cllrs</th> <th>Names of Cllr</th> <th>Number of SMT</th> <th>Names of SMT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>17.01.2019</td> <td>7</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>24.01.2019</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>07.02.2019</td> <td>12</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.02.2019</td> <td>8</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>05.03.2109</td> <td>16</td> <td>2</td> <td>Rabnawaz Akbar, Annette Wright</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>11.03.2019</td> <td>10</td> <td>1</td> <td>Lee-Ann Igbon</td> <td>1</td> <td>Fiona Ledden</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Number of attendees	Number of Cllrs	Names of Cllr	Number of SMT	Names of SMT	17.01.2019	7	0		0		24.01.2019	5	0		0		07.02.2019	12	0		0		12.02.2019	8	0		0		05.03.2109	16	2	Rabnawaz Akbar, Annette Wright	0		11.03.2019	10	1	Lee-Ann Igbon	1	Fiona Ledden
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Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	<p>It's important to remember that, with regard to carbon literacy, the initial goal was that all people who lived, worked or studied in Manchester (that's about a million) would receive a day's carbon literacy training by the end of 2013.... Tumbleweed</p>																																										
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge,	<p>As per suggestion made in 2014, if the carbon literacy training is delivered beyond the City Centre, in wards.</p> <p>If it is regularly blogged about, both supportively and critically, by those who are undergoing the training.</p>																																										

skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water down carbon literacy and jump over a lower hurdle (assurances have now been given that this is not possible)</li> <li>• Fail to achieve</li> <li>• Achieve but nothing really changes (e.g. Home is ‘carbon literate, not that you’d notice – they still happily run long slick adverts for airlines)</li> </ul>
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	<p>While waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in, NESC. It should insist on the creation of a dashboard, updated in real time, and prominently displayed on the Council’s website. In March 2019 it was admitted that such a database <i>“has been considered but there are currently no plans to publish this information on the Council’s website.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All members of the Executive, Scrutiny Chairs, all Members of SMT and members of NESC should be carbon literate by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019</li> <li>• All other elected officials and ward councillors should be carbon literate by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019</li> <li>• All council staff not yet carbon literate should receive training in 2020.</li> </ul>

Element 12: Encourage all staff on council business to use the lowest carbon, appropriate, travel.	
Where are we now	There is no policy to encourage low carbon transport options, and according to a 2019 FOIA request, no discussions about creating one has been held. In the last six months Executive Members, including ones who publicly backed the Climate Emergency Declaration, have flown to and from Brussels, Belfast and Paris. The Council has paid for flights to Edinburgh, London, Exeter last year
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	No. The council has made no effort to encourage the lowest carbon forms of transport for long-distance travel.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	It doesn't need anyone else to get the City Council to reduce its use of flights.
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	Greatest risk of failure here is the cold reality that the fossil fuel solution is often going to be the lowest cost, so local authorities' costs would be expected to increase
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	If the word 'encourage' is used to allow a purely voluntary scheme As Rising Up Manchester points out - <i>Need actual mechanisms to encourage, reporting of each department included in key performance indicators etc.</i>
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	While waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in, NESC should call for a real-time updated dashboard which shows all flights taken on council business, with the name of the Exec Member/elected member and name of officer (if member of SMT – role if not), and whether other lower carbon forms of transport were considered. This dashboard should be part of the monthly review process. The dashboard could and should be established by the end of August at the absolute latest. If it is not, activists will use the Freedom of Information Act to create such a dashboard, unofficially and at greater cost to the Council. A report from the lead member for Active Transport would be good on the local possibilities around bike-share and, should the Government change the 1835 Highways Act, e-scooters...

Element 13: Investigate measures to ensure future procurement is carbon neutral. Increase the percentage of social value with an additional environmental element.	
Where are we now	There have been, and continue to be, various reports and subgroups about ethical and low-carbon procurement. A report giving an overview of these would be welcome.
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	There have been repeated reports and efforts on ethical procurement (there is in fact an ongoing task and finish group working on this).
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Ethical Consumer Research Association Sustainable Consumption Institute Kindling Trust Unicorn Grocery
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	If the investigation of measures is done publicly, with regular updates of the investigation, written in plain English, and shared broadly on social media
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	Does carbon neutral mean offsetting? With whom? UK only? GM only? If GM only that is quite a limit on procurement. Biggest threat here is the ambiguity of what this might mean. Is it everything from paperclips to new council buildings? The scope of this could be incredibly broad but equally very challenging to achieve <i>This must mean a stand-alone environmental element on top of the social value not just increasing the percentage of environment within it And must not be able to be satisfied with some bullshit environmental cashback to council</i>
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC and RGSC, and the new subgroup, while waiting for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to kick in.



Element 14: Work with suppliers to green their supply chains, and support local production	
Where are we now	There is already a subgroup investigating this.
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	See above
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	
What could happen next	Make ISO14001 a mandatory requirement for supplying to the council and support SMEs to gain the accreditation if they haven't already got it.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	A subgroup of NESC, RGSC and Economy Scrutiny Committees in the short term. A separate Environment Scrutiny Committee as of May 2020.

Element 15: Work with training providers to ensure Manchester residents can take on green jobs	
Where are we now	Unclear – there have been various ‘green apprenticeship’ schemes, especially at a Greater Manchester level, often prey to the usual changing fortunes of ecological modernisation policies.
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	Regular reports on what is being done, what outcomes/impacts are seen.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	Economy Scrutiny Committee A task and finish group made up of members of ESC and other scrutiny committees in the short term. A separate Environment Scrutiny Committee as of May 2020.

Element 16: Investigate and introduce measures to help reach domestic zero carbon levels including addressing fuel poverty and retrofitting existing homes.	
Where are we now	<p>MCC and housing associations have good track record of basic home improvements in social housing, but government changes to ECO have set them back and there is a lack of a plan to whole house retrofit. Great Places and Northwards are leaders in this area.</p> <p>In owner occupier sector MCC have done little aside from engage with existing providers such as Carbon Co-op.</p>
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	<p>To be fair, MCC's track record is pretty standard in this area. The approach to retrofit in social housing has been slightly better than other LAs.</p> <p>The big issue for all LAs is the UK policy environment which is has been going backwards on retrofit ever since 2010.</p> <p>One area the Council could effect change is in the planning system. They could enforce a system whereby householders need to consider energy efficiency in any refurbishment that goes to planning. And also divert Section 106 planning monies in to funding retrofit. (as per Stockport)</p>
Have OTHER councils tried it? With what results and learning so far (so we don't reinvent the wheel or make rookie mistakes)	<p>There is a proposal in London to use money from the airport to fund retrofit in a carbon offset fund, again, this is something MCC might look at.</p>
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	<p>Yes, Carbon Co-op are running a pilot: <a href="https://carbon.coop/2019/06/new-report-advocates-bottom-up-approach-to-retrofit/">https://carbon.coop/2019/06/new-report-advocates-bottom-up-approach-to-retrofit/</a></p> <p>...the pilot is one of 6 running nationally. Unfortunately that these pilots are basically the current extent of Government action on owner occupier retrofit. There is some work on ECO for social housing but again, lobbying from Big Six has progressively reduced this.</p> <p>In Scotland, there is more activity and the Scottish Government is running a low interest loan programme. Otherwise, you need to look further afield to Ireland, Germany and parts of the US.</p>
How could the implementation of the motion create multiplier effects/fringe benefits for other organisations, building the knowledge, skills and relationships of the city? Who else could be involved in turning this motion into reality?	<p>There is a role for Neighbourhood teams in taking a holistic approach to creating a retrofit infrastructure – in terms of local supply chain skills, local institutions and householders – see People Powered Retrofit for some recommendations.</p> <p>There is also a role for FE colleges</p>
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are	<p>Asking for 'Zero Carbon homes' would be a mistake and likely lead to an emphasis on batteries and ultimately greater</p>

succeeding?	<p>carbon emissions via embedded sources.</p> <p>MCC need to adopt a methodology for tracking energy use in domestic buildings, likely linked to space heating demand rather than EPCs.</p> <p>It may well be that this work is likely to be better done at a GM level. This is a very broad policy topic and the biggest generality is to conflate action on ‘fuel poverty’ with ‘retrofitting existing homes’ - which infers homes not in fuel poverty, i.e. owner occupiers and to an extent private rental. In fact, fuel poverty is an issue as much linked to austerity, welfare and social justice as it is to energy efficiency and the tools to address this are very different to those necessary to address energy efficiency in owner occupier homes.</p> <p>The other issue, which is a little unclear in the text, is asking to achieve ‘zero carbon’ in homes - something that is unlikely to be technically possible and could cause disastrous unintended consequences. The real aim of a low carbon retrofit strategy should be to much reduce demand for heating whilst decarbonising the energy system as a whole. Some or most homes will contribute renewable energy generation via solar PV panels but due to the divergence between times of generation and use, even with increased use of demand side response technologies, individual homes will never become ‘carbon neutral’ in and of themselves.</p>
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC, and citizens.

Element 17: 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.	
Where are we now	Building developments or all?
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	It is essential to ensure that we understand the scope of this. Does it include new development of ALL kinds (commercial buildings, new retail developments), as well as core conventional domestic developments?  Who is to investigate? How? By when? Reporting to whom?
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC. Needs to set date for investigation to begin and conclude!

Element 18: Push GMCA to decarbonise public transport, heat and energy as early as possible.	
Where are we now	Various projects happening at National, City Region and LA level. Not all action is, or needs, to happen at GM level...
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	The Civic Quarter Heat Network: says will save 3100 tonnes, over 5 years. So, about 600 tonnes a year. This, in the city scheme of things, is not a lot. But every little helps?
Have OTHER councils tried it? With what results and learning so far (so we don't reinvent the wheel or make rookie mistakes)	Bridgend and Newcastle have significantly explored this with the support of the Energy Systems Catapult (as have GMCA!) on domestic heat. Leeds Council has also done extensive work looking at converting the gas grid to hydrogen. Also - Two projects very much in this area in Oxford City, and one in Orkney, all funded by the £100M Innovate UK "Prospering from the Energy Revolution" programme
Actions	Ask TfGM to present a report to NESC on its 2040 plan and achieving zero carbon by 2038 at the latest. Investigate potential impact of PLEVs (personal light electric vehicles). Impact should assess lifecycle analysis, including battery production, disposal and opportunity costs...  Need to go in with really clear definition on scope of this to ensure eyes are really open at the start. Re heat, this would have to include domestic, retail, commercial and industrial for example. Re transport, this needs to include ALL transport within the region which includes both transport "within" the region and transport of goods and products both INTO and EXITING the region  Also FOOTNOTE Biggest threats are the ability for national policy frameworks and policies to deliver. For example, a workable national credible policy framework for decarbonising heat is still a long way away and decarbonising heat in homes for one will be impossible without it. i.e. in the domestic building environment these would be frameworks that would facilitate wide-scale heat pump

	deployment, or conversion to a Hydrogen economy (plus very extensive insulation retrofit). Another example area, heavy road transport, in which achieving this very unlikely without implementation of a national strategy. There ARE OTHER AREAS similarly difficult without national policy frameworks
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC, at a quarterly or more frequent level. GMCA scrutiny obviously also required. The GMCA declaration of climate emergency may also help.

Element 19: Through our role on GMPF, encourage divestment in fossil fuels as early as possible	
Where are we now	How much currently invested? What actions has MCC taken within the GMPF? Can it lead by example?
Has the council tried to do this before and what happened.	The council has resisted until very recently.
Have OTHER councils tried it? With what results and learning so far (so we don't reinvent the wheel or make rookie mistakes)	The GMPF has resisted.
Are there organisations, besides councils, that have been trying some of this stuff? Manchester but also national	Fossil Free Greater Manchester have been campaigning on this for ages, mostly being ignored.
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	We will know we are succeeding if the Pension Fund divests.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC

### “Ask the government”

Element 20: Provide powers and resources to make the zero-carbon target possible including funding for big capital projects.	
Where are we now	
How could it go wrong, how will we know if we are succeeding?	Such capital projects come with their own carbon footprints of course (concrete is not free of emissions, no matter what is happening in Sweden). They need also to be projects which pay back on multiple levels NB, councils can normally borrow at low rates. MCC and others could/must increase data availability for the calculation of consumption-based footprints. Need to be really explicit about what these are.
Who should be scrutinising? How? When	NESC and other committees.

Item 21: Accelerate the reduction of carbon emissions from aviation.	
Where are we now	The City Council should investigate imposing, or supporting the imposition of a frequent flyer levy. We already have the technologies to reduce emissions. We do not need to wait for carbon fibre advances, electric engines etc. As the Executive Member for the Environment said in her speech on Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2019, ‘flying less’ is a solution. Certainly the City Council could revisit the seemingly endless expansion of Airport City? It won’t, of course, because the entire economic model is built on inward investment, of the spatial fix, the sustainability fix and other fixes which no longer fix anything. Other than fixing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. They sure fix a lot of that.

Element 22: Accelerate the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, funding low carbon energy generation.	
Where are we now	Through increasing the caps on the contract for difference scheme. i.e. enabling existing contracts to increase in size with the same payment per GWh ,and massively increasing the contract for difference going forward. Having public ownership of offshore wind especially so that the profits from renewables can be used to pay for energy efficiency measures, as community energy projects have already done. To realise the potential of renewable energy including green and biogas so there is no need for nuclear. That we can be an exporter of clean electricity.

Element 23: Ensure that the UK prosperity fund focuses on enabling the transition to a low carbon economy.	
Where are we now	That measures to support renewables are done at a higher level than support for fossil fuels and to remove support for fossil fuels where possible.

### 3. What is missing

The Climate Emergency Motion debated and accepted on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July was a bold document, much more detailed than many others proposed and passed by local authorities in Manchester and beyond. Necessarily, however, it was not complete, as its authors would be the first to admit. New proposals will be necessary. For now, two comments were received from people Climate Emergency Manchester reached out to.

#### 3.1 Comment 1

Wales has zero interest loans for social enterprises including environmental enterprises which is cool (Brighton and Camden have used the same model), link is <https://se-assist.co.uk/wales/> a similar scheme for home owners to refurbishment which is [https://www.rocbf.co.uk/home\\_loans\\_mid\\_wales/](https://www.rocbf.co.uk/home_loans_mid_wales/) Both have been done locally, so perhaps MCR could do a similar scheme.

#### 3.2 Comment 2

##### **Rising Up! Manchester Families response to motion**

##### **What is missing?**

##### **Adaptation and resilience**

The motion makes no mention of any provision for adaptation nor for resilience. We know that impacts of climate breakdown are inevitable, that they will be experienced more acutely within cities, and that as a city with high levels of multiple deprivation we will have large numbers of residents with very low personal resources to enable them to manage any difficult periods.

- Policies aimed at increasing thick networks and neighbourhood cohesion to be fast tracked – e.g. licenses to enable Play Streets and seed support for Transition Town initiatives, Incredible Edible etc.
- Does council have emergency response plans for heatwaves/flooding/food shortages etc etc?
- Policy on local food production needed. Both in terms of hugely increasing food grown locally through small holdings etc and also in encouraging provisions for food production which is viable irrespective of weather.

##### **Ecological crisis**

Motion makes no mention of biodiversity or ecological crisis. We are in the middle of the sixth mass extinction, Britain's wildlife is in dire straits and this is a massive failing. Carbon reduction and protection of desperately needed habitat for wildlife sometimes in conflict and often different question but they should be intrinsically linked. E.g. planting of trees. Under carbon reduction irrelevant whether provide habitat for insects. E.g. HS2 horrendous for biodiversity.

- As well as targets to cut emissions there should be positive targets pertaining to increasing areas of wildness and nature, increasing drawdown and increasing resident's ability to make environmentally friendly choices
- This to apply retrospectively to all plans currently in progress including the GMSF which must be halted to fully take into account the UN warning. Since the GMSF process began the UN issued a report which told us that the loss of nature is an urgent threat to human lives. The latest report constitutes extraordinary enough circumstances/ information that the only responsible reaction is to make sure this consideration is central. The GMSF proposes building on greenbelt. Recognising the emergency means recognising that greenbelt is a vital resource which must be protected. Greater Manchester councils must adopt a brownfield first

policy, as advocated by the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Some brownfield sites are valuable for biodiversity – these must be protected.

- Consideration of impact to apply to projects that the council supports via financial or political means.- For example, Manchester City Council to drop support for HS2. (HS2 will devastate around 100 biodiverse rich ancient forests. Planting new trees cannot make up for destroying irreplaceable natural habitat and ecosystems. Research has also shown that the HS2 could draw capital into London, rather than benefitting the north. In 2014 Andy Burnham described it as a “poor deal for most of the region’s taxpayers”) - For example, MCC to not progress support for projects such as GMCA providing £70million local funding for ecologically damaging projects for the A6-M60 bypass
- Work being done on making Manchester more wildlife friendly to be included and current plans stepped up in terms of urgency and ambition to make them in line with recognition of the emergency facing us. Achieving a much greater area of varied biodiverse habitats and preservation of habitat needs to be a key aim. Rewilding must take place on a large scale. Established trees and areas of habitat must be recognised and valued as the precious resources that they are, with policies which protect them.

**Focus on economic growth must be challenged**

**Citizen’s Assembly needed**



#### 4. What next?

Next 1 month (by end of August 2019)

	<b>Simple</b>	<b>Complex</b>
Executive	Commit to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing, for 22 elements, a named champion, with a commitment to report openly and bluntly on progress, obstacles and shortfalls</li> <li>producing draft implementation plans for the elements crucial element (2, 4, 9), which will be presented to scrutiny committees in September</li> </ul>	Fulfil the commitments in the box to the left. That the Council sets up a dedicated “Project Room” to act as meeting and communication fulcrum for this activity. A room of this sort would use its wall space to hold all key information about the challenge, area by area, current thinking on options for overcoming those challenges, performance against targets. A room of this sort is often used in manufacturing sectors (particularly Aerospace and Automotive) as a way of communicating, engaging and inspiring both internal and external stakeholders in the delivery of complex projects. One of the contributors to this report has direct experience of this idea.
Councillors	Decide which of the three councillors is to lead on climate change in the ward (this does not mean the other two do nothing!)	Begin to think - and <i>liaise</i> - about ward plans and how they can be altered to help meet the aspirations in the Climate Emergency Declaration
Citizens	Engage with councillors to ensure that implementation plans are drafted and come to scrutiny. Make sure that civil society groups they are part of are aware of the climate emergency motion and what it commits the council to. And that this will only happen if citizens step up.	“Adopt” one of the elements of the motion Engage with all councillors on the questions of the ward plan and dates/venues of meeting(s) about the plan
CEM	Further work on key elements of the motion and how they can be implemented (this document is, necessarily, uneven).	Populate all 32 ward pages of its website with additional data. Produce more detailed draft implementation plans for specific items, if the Council does not, in fact, commit to doing so in a timely manner

Next 3 months (by end of October 2019)

	<b>Simple</b>	<b>Complex</b>
Executive	Produce an implementation plan, which is modified in response to comments and suggestions both from citizens and councillors for all 23 elements of the motion	Co-ordinate action around the ‘moving target’ 2nd element of the motion, participating in public discussions and investigations of moving the zero carbon target.. Liaise closely with Climate Change Committee to understand how they approach what they do at the national level to see what learnings there might be from their approach
Councillors	Ask questions about the implementation plans, suggest improvements to it	Create full schedule of meetings to occur in all 32 wards (if exact date and

		venue not known, commit to a particular week). Liaise with citizens and groups within ward, explaining the challenges ahead
Citizens	As with councillors, engage constructively with the process of implementation plan production (yes, it's boring, but so what?)	Bring in more people who are worried about climate change, have vaguely heard of the climate emergency declaration. Get them involved, make it easier rather than harder for them to stay involved.
CEM	Create brief briefings, videos etc. that explain what is going on, what SHOULD be going on.	Collaborate with other campaigning groups and individuals to share and increase resources

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## Appendix 1: Who is responsible and what should they be delivering

<b>Element of motion</b>	<b>Named responsible Exec Member</b>	<b>Named responsible councillors</b>	<b>Named responsible officer and email</b>	<b>Frequency of reporting</b>	<b>Metrics and deadlines</b>	<b>Key questions/suggested deadlines</b>
1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Will it be more than words? Time will tell...
2					Executive Meeting 11th Dec, will need to be published on 27 <sup>th</sup> November	How will public be involved in open and transparent process??
3						Define carbon neutrality (production and consumption based metrics)
4					End of April 2020.	Ensure the meetings begin soon, that they are well-planned, well-publicised and well-delivered, enabling those who cannot attend in person to participate. Start with the wards of NESC members. Actively learn from the process (iterate!)
5						Who is to review? When? How? Reporting when?
6						Given that the Manchester Climate Change “Agency” has had this on its to do list since November 2018 and has held no public meetings, an overhaul is called

						for.
7						A seventh Scrutiny Committee, dedicated to Environment (and especially Climate) is urgently needed
8						Who will do this? By when? How?
9						For this to be meaningful, it needs to be done openly and quickly, to feed into the discussion about bringing forward the zero-carbon target date (Item 2).
10						If goal 2 of the 2009 Climate Change Action Plan had been pursued, this item would be redundant. It would be instructive to ask those charged with it why they think that they failed quite comprehensively. Element 10 is “do or die,” and will need all hands on deck
11						Who goes first? Who leads by example?
12						When will ‘fly only if no alternative’ policy be produced?
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						Three separate issues here!

19						Very big party to be had.
20						Given Westminster gridlock, will anyone in Government listen?
21						
22						
23						

## Appendix 2: Table for item 4. (Wards and the meetings)

A table like this is urgently needed on the City Council's website.

Ward	Lead councillor on climate in the ward, email and Twitter account	Name of ward co-ordinator and email	Date of meeting(s)	Mechanisms for people who could not attend the meeting but want to be involved to be meaningfully included proposed	Press release/ announcement (ideally 30 days in advance)	Post-mortem of meeting? Blogs by attendees? Mechanisms enacted?
Ancoats and Clayton						
Ardwick						
Baguley						
Brooklands						
Burnage						
Charleston						
Clayton and Openshaw						
Cheetham						
Chorlton						
Chorlton Park						
Crumpsall						
Deansgate						
Didsbury East						
Didsbury West						
Fallowfield						
Gorton and Abbey Hey						
Harpurhey						
Higher Blackley						
Hulme						
Levenshulme						
Longsight						

Old Moat						
Miles Platting and Newton Heath						
Moss Side						
Moston						
Northenden						
Piccadilly						
Rusholme						
Sharston						
Whalley Range						
Withington						
Woodhouse Park						

**Appendix 3:** Letter sent to Manchester Evening News in early July. (unpublished)

“On Wednesday 10th July Manchester City Council will debate whether to declare a climate emergency. The motion has been put forward by a Hulme councillor, Annette Wright, and comes against the backdrop of ongoing climate strikes by children, the protests by Extinction Rebellion, a petition started in March by the “Climate Emergency Manchester” group, and ever more alarming reports from scientists about climate breakdown.

Manchester City Council has long talked a good game on climate change, but the rhetoric has sometimes outstripped the reality. The fault for some – but by no means all – of the gap can be laid at the door of central government. Over the last nine years Manchester has suffered huge cuts in funding.

This climate emergency motion provides a great chance to reboot engagement with all sectors of Manchester – business, but also trades unions, religious groups, community groups and the like. We the undersigned urge Mancunians to contact their local councillors to ask them to support the motion, and we urge the Council to pass the motion unchanged, or with amendments that strengthen it rather than weaken it.

We also pledge to be critical and constructive allies of the council in the coming years as it turns the words of the motion into deeds.”

Holly Kramer	Didsbury
Nicole Dubertrand	Urmston
Paul Harnett	Manchester
Mx Dennis Queen	Manchester
Helena Whalley	Cheadle Hulme
Frank Dominy	Manchester
Marion Smith	Fallowfield, Manchester
Josh Edwards	Manchester
Harry Grosvenor	Rolvenden
Sarah Wild	Hyde
Connor Jennings	Northern Quarter
Meredith Greenwood	Richmond
Jennie Gibson	Levenshulme
Hannah Butler	Manchester
Rachael Warham	Stockport
Chantelle Jones	Manchester
Beth Edwards	Suffolk
Joe Warde	Manchester
Luke Jackson	Manchester
Katie Scott	London
Susan Edwards	Elmsett
Mike Killian	Longsight
Jana Kennedy	Old Trafford
Kayleigh Lee-Simion	Manchester
Jennifer Sheardown	Romiley, Manchester
Rosie Yohannan	Levenshulme
Rosetta Ceesay	Manchester



#### Appendix 4: Suggestions to scrutiny committees

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, after the Climate Emergency Motion was unanimously passed, CEM sent individual and bespoke letters to the Chairs of 5 of the Council's 6 scrutiny committees. There were specific suggestions about climate issues which fell within the remit of the specific Scrutiny Committee, alongside more general observations about improving the scrutiny process. The individual letters have been published on the CEM website. The generic suggestions were as follows –

*More generally, we are sure that you agree that engaging and involving as many individuals and communities in the scrutiny process is extremely beneficial. It helps communities understand better the constraints on the Council's ability to act (especially under the austerity of the last ten years), and makes it easier for citizens to understand that difficult decisions confront policymakers at every turn. Secondly, more people involved means more innovative ideas, helping to manage some of the intractable issues the Council faces. To that end, we propose that all the scrutiny committees consider the following actions to increase their ability to engage with the broadest possible range of voices from Manchester.*

- *Publicise meetings extensively (perhaps asking the Manchester Evening News to run a story on the coming set of six scrutiny committee meetings), and that the location is well-signposted. We attended a scrutiny committee in June which was very challenging for us to find.*
- *Create an online system for people to be able to sign up for specific alerts (via email, text etc.) for either the either for a whole committee or for specific topics that the scrutiny committee covers Residents can sign up to be notified about planning and licensing but not other issues.*
- *Use social media – at the very least Twitter, Facebook and Youtube – to publicise the agendas of the six scrutiny committee meetings a week in advance, with a brief description of all the papers on one single web-page, instead of in different pdfs. Each committee could also have an agreed hashtag, and – resources willing – its own Twitter account.*
- *Create simple videos to explain what each committee does (once a year), and, as capacity allows, about specific upcoming meetings of committees, and what will be discussed. Many people in Manchester have poor reading skills, and are intimidated/baffled by the dense and arcane jargon that the Council sometimes uses. Videos would dent that fog.*
- *Overhaul the web pages of each committee in order to make it easier to search for reports and find out what reports contain. This could also involved creating an easily searchable database of upcoming reports, with a traffic light system to indicate which reports have been delayed, for how long and for what reasons.*
- *Allowing for cost implications and the importance of live-streaming in enabling people who cannot attend meetings to keep in touch, might it be possible for scrutiny committees (or at least task & finish groups and subgroups) to hold meetings outside the city centre, especially in wards which do not always get a lot of attention.*

*We have no doubt that other ideas will be put forward by the members of the public who will start to attend scrutiny committee meetings regularly. Perhaps a monthly anonymous feedback survey for those who do attend in person would help the Council to monitor progress on whether people were finding the meetings useful and understandable.*

*We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you and the fellow members of your committee.*

*Signed*

*Calum McFarlane Marc Hudson and Chloe Jeffries*

## Appendix 5: Communications and engagement with external target audiences – initial actions

We cannot expect engagement from residents and businesses unless they know that it is a climate emergency and that Manchester City Council has officially declared it as one. Awareness of the gravity of the situation is growing rapidly thanks to Greta Thunberg, Extinction Rebellion and the Climate Strikes, alongside increasing incidents of natural catastrophe, scientific discovery of the extent of the problem (e.g. permafrost melting 70 years ahead of previously estimated worst-case scenario). However, many residents still are not aware which is going to present a serious barrier to engagement or support of more radical council measures taken.

ALL council communications channels to ALL target audiences to include the message that *MCC have declared a climate emergency, we are standing up for our futures* – along with a link to a dedicated page. Council marketing team and contact centre team to liaise and provide a full list of channels available if this does not exist already.

The Manchester Climate Change Agency website, reports and other communications must be updated to reflect the level of emergency and to be transparent about where we are at the moment. Their latest report and ‘conference’ are likely an additional part of the reason why there is such low engagement with residents across the city, there is a lack of transparency about responsibility and progress amounting to spin which is likely to lead to low trust.

It is vital that engagement be a part of the solution. Stronger local communities and thick networks are key in enabling meaningful ways that residents can both reduce carbon and become more resilient, increasing support levels between residents. The council should immediately enable Play Street licenses (Mcr has chosen to call Open Streets) citywide. Transition town initiatives are another way to seed thick networks. Edible Incredible initiatives and increased wilding to create habitat for wildlife could also be supported. (Rising Up! Manchester Families will be putting forward a proposal on this shortly.)

It is imperative that while residents are asked to ‘do their bit’ that communications recognises the main responsibility lies with larger organisations, including the Council. ‘Doing their bit’ very much must include engaging and working with councillors to help the council to deliver more. Communications must be tailored for segmented target audiences identified in different wards in the city. For example residents in areas of high levels of multiple deprivation are unlikely to be able to moderate their actions to reduce their individual carbon footprints, both because less affluent people are less responsible for emissions and also that they have less control over factors such as where they shop or how they travel. They are also more likely to be the ones suffering from negative environmental factors such as high levels of air pollution. Residents in these areas need to be given more support for setting up schemes such as described above, including support for initiatives such as tool and toy sharing, food growing.

(This text provided by Rising Up! Manchester Families)

### Appendix 6: How the document was collated

On June 30<sup>th</sup> we approached various people we knew who had a track record of critical but constructive engagement with Council policy. Our email included the sentence “We are writing to ask you to look through the motion and - for whichever of the elements of it you want - to comment on how it could be implemented quickly and in ways that increase participation in Manchester from civil society organisations.”

We nudged people on July 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Drafting July 11-17  
 Profraeding July 18-20  
 Publication July 22

### Appendix 7: What is CEM?

Climate Emergency Manchester was founded in late March 2019, with the initial goal of getting 4000 signatures of people who live, work or study in Manchester. This would force a debate at full council about the declaration of a climate emergency.

The text of the motion is as follows

*We the undersigned petition the Council to declare a climate emergency, with a target to be "zero carbon" by the year 2030, with a proportionate share of Manchester Airport's emissions (35.5 percent owned by the Council) included in the carbon budget it sets.*

*Other councils around the United Kingdom have declared a climate emergency. While Manchester has set a target of being zero-carbon by 2038 (based on production-based emissions), this is not ambitious enough. Moreover, it excludes a fair share of the overall emissions from Manchester Airport. Declaring a climate emergency, and then taking the relevant actions, will show true leadership on the crucial issue facing young people today.*

We are still collecting signatures, both online and on paper.

CEM wants to make it

- **harder rather than easier for Manchester City Council to continue with the trajectory of climate policy creation and implementation over the last ten years**, which has been characterised by smoke, mirrors and hot air. Lots of promises, lots of blame-shifting, and of late throwing up hands and saying ‘gosh, we don’t know, it’s not like we’ve been paid for ten years to have answers to those questions - what ideas do you have?’. [We intend to be a critical friend to the Council, while refusing to ever become a fig leaf, or giving up.]
- **easier rather than harder for citizens and groups to work together** – and with the council – at a hyper-local level (there are 32 wards in this city) **to take action on the climate emergency**. This will involve sharing skills and knowledge, building capacity and continuing to act while acknowledging/coping with overwhelming feelings of dread, despair and futility. And to remember the Cocker Protocol (ask us).

If you want to get involved, please email us on [climateemergencymanchester@gmail.com](mailto:climateemergencymanchester@gmail.com)

