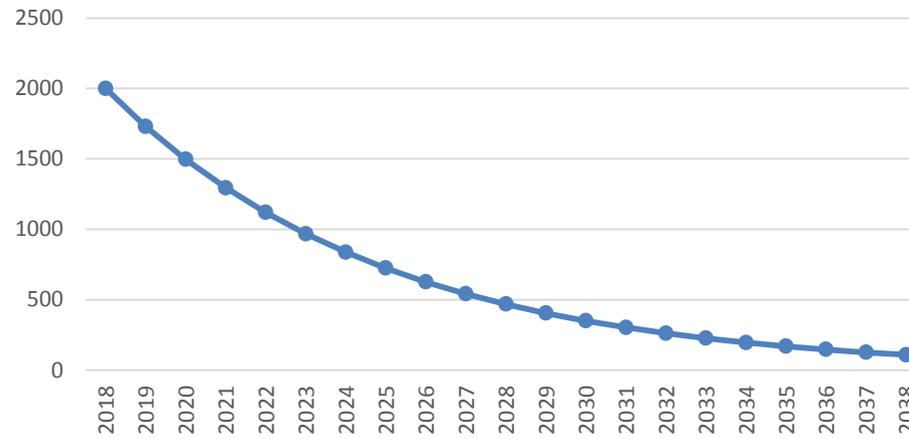


Scrutiny Committee:	Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny
Date:	Weds 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
Policy document:	Manchester Climate Change Annual Progress Report
CEM Authors:	Dr Marc Hudson, Dr Joe Blakey and Joseph Clough Stats provided by Dr Joe Blakey (the VAST majority of the work was conducted by Dr Blakey and Mr Clough)

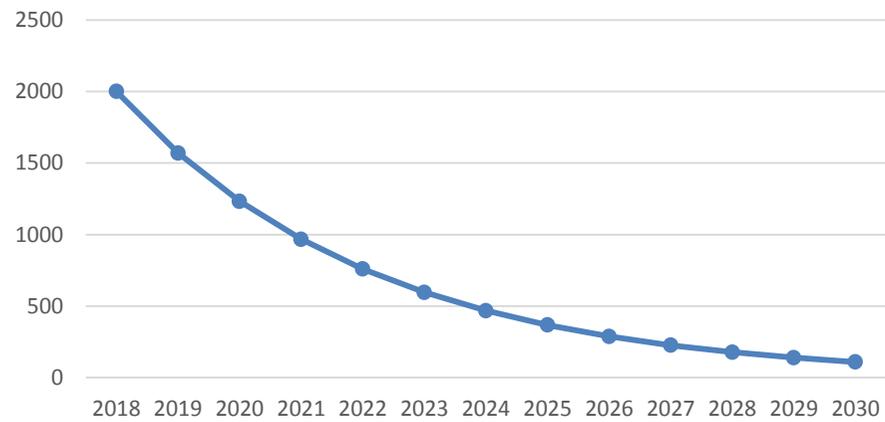
<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
Who wrote this?	Strategic Lead Policy and Partnerships Head of Local Planning and Infrastructure Jonny Sadler, Manchester Climate Change Agency
When was this policy last scrutinised?	July 2018
What success metrics COULD/Should be used?	Actual reductions in emissions (2% is not 13%) Numbers of citizens involved across the 32 wards of the city

<p>What are the carbon reduction/transformation implications?</p>	<p>In theory this report should be all about where we are coming from, what we have been doing, what has been working, what has not been working and what we need to do differently to achieve the necessary outcomes. It is not.</p>
<p>What is incomplete information in the report?</p>	<p>1. <i>“4.1 [...] In 2018 the city achieved a 40% reduction in emissions since 2005 and is now projected to achieve the 41% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020.”</i></p> <p>However, as the city often exceeded its yearly budget between 2005 and 2014 we now need to be aiming for a 57% reduction by 2020 to stay within the cumulative emissions budget. This would require emission reductions of approximately 15% per annum in 2019 and 2020.</p> <p>2. 4.3 speaks clearly to the role of domestic and commercial energy efficiency but does not sufficiently acknowledge the role of consumption, investment non-internal transport in becoming a holistically ‘zero-carbon’ city.</p> <p>3. It should be acknowledged that subsequent to the amendment in the Climate Emergency Declaration, the zero-carbon target could be brought forward to 2030. We presently need to reduce emissions by 13.5% to go zero-carbon by 2038, however a 2030 date for zero-carbon will require a yearly reduction closer to 21.5%. This is over 8 times the reduction last year (2.5%). See graphs below. It is also crucial that the cumulative emissions budget for the city is recalculated to this end.</p>

13.5% year on year reduction for zero carbon  
2038 (MtCO<sub>2</sub>)



21.5% year on year reduction for zero-carbon  
2030 (MtCO<sub>2</sub>)



4. “5.3 [...] The latest data for the 2018/19 financial year shows that the Council’s direct emissions have reduced by 48.1% since the 2009/10 baseline meaning that the 41% target has been achieved and surpassed a year ahead of schedule”

This is excellent news. However, it is bad practice to focus on ‘end year reduction targets’ as it does not account for fluctuation in emissions year on year. For example, the City of Manchester is predicted to meet its 41% target but is also due to it exceed its cumulative emissions budget as its yearly budget was often exceeded between 2005 and 2014. The authors would encourage the council to in future focus on cumulative emissions budgets rather than ‘end year reduction targets’. Nonetheless, if one assumes a linear reduction from 2009/10 levels, we can assume a cumulative emissions budget of 630,292,491 tCO<sub>2</sub>, to date MCC have used 589,235,983 tCO<sub>2</sub> and 41,056,508 tCO<sub>2</sub> remains for 2019/20. This seems a very achievable target given that 37,417,810 tCO<sub>2</sub> was used in 2018/19. Nonetheless, as part of the zero carbon target and climate emergency declaration Manchester City Council should be looking for even deeper cuts next year (26,566,645 tCO<sub>2</sub> is a 21.5% reduction and 32,366,406 is a 13.5% reduction for instance but the council ought to devise their own cumulative emissions budget).

On Page 13, it states that due to Manchester’s failure to reduce our emissions by 13% last year, we will now have to reduce our emissions by 13.5% each year.

What are the main reasons for the failure to reach this target, and what will be done differently in the future to make the now more difficult target. The council has been working with local organisations to make plans to reduce emissions by 13% each year. Will these plans now be changed (mid-progress) to ensure that the council and external organisations reach the 13.5% commitment instead?

### **Appendix 3**

#### **Action 1**

If the plan was to change all streetlights by September 2019, why does a competition date of the end of 2020 get given a green rating?

**Action 6**

The plan stated, for leisure facilities to “Develop a reporting process which demonstrates emissions per visitor number.” And this action has been rated green. Presumably this has been done – what are the emissions per visitor number for each leisure site and how have these changed since last year?

Also under action 6, it states

“Ongoing: Work in Partnership with GLL and Eastlands Trust to deliver Environment and Energy Plans for their sites.”

In the MCC Climate Change Action Plan: 2014/15 CO2 Report, it was stated: “GLL have developed individual Environment and Energy Action Plans for all sites committing to year on year carbon reductions of 3%. This information is being shared with Eastlands Trust to align performance measures and monitoring across both contracts.” Is GLL still committed to making just carbon reductions of 3% per annum, or has the council changed this commitment to 13.5% annual reductions? What commitment to CO2 reductions has Eastlands trust made?

- One question for councillors to answer is – given that [Unite is calling for a London wide boycott of GLL](#) due to the pay and conditions of their workers, are the councillors happy that the management of many of the council’s leisure sites is outsourced to GLL?

**Action 9**

“Zero Carbon Manchester 2050”

[Latest data from BEIS](#) shows that at our current rate of emission reductions, if we ignore the airport, the borough won’t reach 95% reduction in emissions from production until the mid 2070’s. Why is this action point given a green rating?

**Action 11 and 14**

Both are given an Amber rating. Why Amber and not Green? What would need to be done for the ratings of these actions to go to Green?

**Action 12**

Not given a rating. What should its rating be, and why?

**Action 13**

This action point was to “Reduce citywide emissions from energy: Identify and develop additional heat network clusters in Manchester”

Part of the plan was to, in 2016/17 “Complete master planning for heat network opportunities at Piccadilly Station (Network Rail).” – What progress was made with this?

Part of the plan was to, in 2016/17 “ Commence delivery of regional level project development with Salford and Trafford”– What progress was made with this?

Part of the plan was to, in 2017/18 “ • Identification and investigation of further cluster opportunities.”– What progress was made with this, apart from at “corridor”.

In general, why has this action been rated Amber and not Red? We were supposed to be at the stage of developing detailed business plans and moving into delivery over a year ago, and yet it seems that none of the sites yet have a detailed business plan.

Under **action 16**, further details and milestone – it states “The work of the Food Board is to be transitioned to an independent body during 2019/20. In preparation for this, Manchester Health and Care Commissioning are commissioning a Food Board Manager to take over the work of the food board and to carry out consultation, mapping and review”

This detail of the plan was **not** part of the “MCC Climate Change Action Plan” that was signed off by NESC. The part of the plan that NESC said it wanted has been deleted, and a different action added in its place.

- Were NESC aware that the “The work of the Food Board is to be transitioned to an independent body” (other ways of phrasing this are ‘outsourced’, or ‘put outside the council’s control’).
- Are NESC happy that this has happened? Who made this decision to change NESC’s plan?

	<p><b>Action 17</b> Sustainable events it states – “Refresh of Green Events Guides completed draft stage to include a suite of seven guides” . Could we see a copy of these draft guides, or is the council maintaining its position that the public interest is best served in keeping these hidden rather than disclosing them?</p>
<p>What are they trying to bury on page 26 in a footnote.</p>	<p>This is the remarkable thing. It used to be that failure would be hidden. Since the On Mayor’s Second Green Summit, the various bodies seem to have switched to a ‘hiding in plain sight’ mode, a la Edgar Allan Poe’s Purloined Letter. (See Dr Hannah Knox’s commentary at <a href="https://manchesterclimatemonthly.net/2019/04/03/the-mayors-green-summit-another-point-of-view/">https://manchesterclimatemonthly.net/2019/04/03/the-mayors-green-summit-another-point-of-view/</a>) <i>“More worryingly, though, was that THE GAP also seemed to weirdly legitimise failure as a form of success. When Extinction Rebellion stormed the conference at the end of the day, shouting out to the now depleted audience, ‘do more, faster, now’, and ‘we demand more’ their critique had already been dampened by THE GAP that already anticipated this call to action. Unfazed, Burnham muted their urgent cries by giving them the microphone and inviting them to put their views across, telling us he couldn’t agree with them more.”</i></p> <p>On the recent MCCA meeting (not a conference) – Claire Stocks commented – <a href="https://beethechangeblog.co.uk/three-climate-emergencies-declared-yay-and-then-ignored-oh/">https://beethechangeblog.co.uk/three-climate-emergencies-declared-yay-and-then-ignored-oh/</a> <i>“It started with Monday’s revelation at the Manchester Climate Agency’s annual ‘conference’ that the city had only managed 2.5% of our pledged 13% year on year carbon reductions ..... But no – speaker Jonny Sadler’s 10-minute speech was clear and unemotional and followed by a smooth-talking presenter who offered no time for questions, and instead urged us all to go and mingle and ‘find out what you can do as individuals – go on challenge yourselves to think of things you haven’t before!’. It seemed a staggering miss-step – this damning revelation of collective failure on a massive scale (barely a dent in the cuts we need to make) – followed by no questions, no discussion and just an invitation to find out about recycling, vegetarian recipes or carbon literacy training.”</i></p>
<p>What is missing from the report?</p>	<p>Any sense of urgency Any admission that over the last ten years there has been a consistent failure to engage in long-term meaningful ways with the vast majority of Manchester’s citizens and organisations. For example The day-long ‘stakeholder conferences’ that the Steering Group/Climate Change Agency were supposed to hold were cancelled in 2014. The youth climate summit that happened on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July was almost 9 years overdue.</p>

<p>What are other cities doing on this issue that could be copied?</p>	<p>No other cities are doing a particularly great job. A large proportion of the emissions reductions that cities like Manchester claim comes from national factors beyond Manchester's control. The irony is that Manchester is quick to blame central Government (often rightly) for its actions in hindering Manchester's climate ambitions, but simultaneously happily takes credit for national level actions that have reduced Manchester's footprint. Over the coming months, Climate Emergency Manchester will build connections with concerned citizens in the other core cities, to compare notes about the gaps between rhetoric and reality in their respective cities.</p>
<p>What are the standard success metrics/reporting baselines against which it is usually measured?</p>	<p>The target was a 13% reduction in emissions. This was not achieved.</p>
<p>When should this policy next be scrutinised, and how. Should there be a dashboard?!</p>	<p>Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee could insist that the quarterly reports on the Council's own performance are restarted. They were unilaterally cancelled by the Executive Member for the Environment in November 2018. NESC could also insist that MCCA provides written quarterly progress reports on the activities it is undertaking, and provide rough data on the emissions reductions the city is (or is not) achieving.</p>
<p>What are the questions/ observations that we could lobby councillors to put?</p>	<p>All of the above</p>
<p>What are the questions which are probably too hot for councillors to ask?</p>	<p>None. This issue matters too much. And there are councillors on the committee who know this.</p>

How might this be taken further? Are there “big picture” changes that could be proposed? If so, who is best to put them?

There is a burning need for a seventh Scrutiny Committee, dedicated purely to Environment. The amount of material NESC is expected to cover is simply too great, and too much is slipping through the net.

CEM will push for a seventh Scrutiny Committee to be added to the City Council’s structures. CEM is aware that the earliest that this can happen is May 2020. In the meantime, we will be scrutinising as many council policies as we can.

We invite other members of the public to work with us.

Our email is [climateemergencymancheste@gmail.com](mailto:climateemergencymancheste@gmail.com)

Our Twitter is @climateemergmcr

Our website is [climateemergencymanchester.net](http://climateemergencymanchester.net)