

OUR JOURNEY, SO FAR:

Natural Environment

YOU TOLD US...

PROVIDE A PLAN TO ESTABLISH QUALITY, CLEAN, SAFE, AND MULTIFUNCTIONAL GREENSPACES.

We produced a draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy in 2021, setting out how we can create a greener Greater Manchester by enhancing green spaces for nature and for people. We will be producing a full strategy in 2023.

YOU TOLD US...

CARRY OUT SUSTAINABLE TREE PLANTING THROUGHOUT THE CITY, TOWNS AND PARKS.

Supported by a Tree Woodland Strategy – All Our Trees – City of Trees are committed to planting 3 million trees, one for every person across Greater Manchester, with 1 million of these planted by 2024. Over 750,000 trees have been planted to date.

YOU TOLD US...

PROVIDE EDIBLE LANDSCAPES, DESIGNED FOR SOCIAL COHESION AND PROMOTING LOCAL BIODIVERSITY.

Through the IGNITION project, we established the Living Lab at the University of Salford to explore and engage businesses and residents on the benefits of nature-based solutions – including for biodiversity, water management and people on campus.

YOU TOLD US...

ESTABLISH A GREEN BANK WITH FUNDS AVAILABLE TO FINANCE GREEN PROJECTS.

The Greater Manchester Environment Fund was launched in 2020 to deploy funding to enhance and create new green spaces for nature and people. It’s already directing over £4.5m funding into environmental projects across the city-region, including through the Green Spaces Fund.

YOU TOLD US...

PROMOTE AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY BUY-IN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGING WITH NATURE.

Through the Green Social Prescribing Pilot, we are delivering activities to connect people with nature whilst improving people’s mental health and wellbeing, and the natural environment, all at the same time.

YOU TOLD US...

INTRODUCE GREATER MANCHESTER PLANNING POLICY FOR NET GREEN GAIN AND DEVELOPER OFFSETTING ON CONSTRAINED SITES, ALONGSIDE INTRODUCING GREENSPACE QUOTAS FOR DEVELOPMENTS.

A long-term plan for jobs, new homes, and sustainable growth – Places for Everyone – is currently undergoing independent examination. Its proposals maximise the use of brownfield land and urban spaces while protecting Green Belt land from the risk of unplanned development. It also includes 10% biodiversity net gain for new developments and a commitment to develop an Urban Greening Factor.

YOU TOLD US...

IDENTIFY PRIORITY AREAS FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT THROUGH A STRATEGIC ANALYSIS OF NATURAL CAPITAL ACROSS THE CITY-REGION.

Through the Greater Manchester Natural Capital Investment Plan, we identified priorities and have been working to develop business models for investment in the natural environment.

YOU TOLD US...

USE NATURAL CAPITAL ASSESSMENTS AS A STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING TOOL TO ALLOW TARGETING OF FUNDING TO AREAS THAT MEET ECOLOGICAL, SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL PRIORITIES.

We commissioned and produced Natural Capital Accounts for Greater Manchester and each of the ten local authorities, as well as publishing a guide to help organisations understand and use Greater Manchester’s award-winning Natural Capital tools.



OUR JOURNEY, SO FAR:

Sustainable Lifestyles, Circular Economy and Waste

YOU TOLD US...

ESTABLISH GREATER MANCHESTER AS A ZERO WASTE TO LANDFILL REGION.

Our Sustainable Consumption and Production Plan provides the framework for Greater Manchester’s key activities in four priority areas: Moving to a Circular Economy, Managing Waste Sustainably, Reducing Food Waste, and Moving to Sustainable Lifestyles.

YOU TOLD US...

REDUCE WASTE, RECYCLE AND COMPOST MORE.

The Recycle for Greater Manchester Community Fund supports creative solutions to recycling, repairing and reusing household waste in Greater Manchester. We have already provided funding for 47 projects.

We also launched the Renew Hub to help build Greater Manchester’s circular economy, reusing and repurposing items donated by residents to be sold in our three Renew shops.

YOU TOLD US...

STRENGTHEN GREATER MANCHESTER’S PRODUCTIVE GREEN SPACES AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE ENTERPRISES.

We have signed the Milan Food Policy Pact and established a Greater Manchester Food Board, with a vision that supports the development of a sustainable food ecosystem.

YOU TOLD US...

CUTTING HOUSEHOLD FOOD WASTE BY 80% VOLUME.

Recycle for Greater Manchester is supporting households to reduce food waste through innovative campaigns including ‘Buy, Eat, Keep, Repeat’ and ‘Plan Your Scraps’.

YOU TOLD US...

RECOGNISE THE WIDER HEALTH AND WELLBEING BENEFITS OF ACTIVITY.

Through the Green Social Prescribing Pilot, we are delivering activities to connect people with nature including creating growing spaces and delivering food growing schemes, whilst improving people’s mental health and wellbeing, and the natural environment.

We launched the Green Spaces Fund, a £2.6m scheme supporting community-led projects that increase the amount and quality of accessible, nature rich green space, particularly in areas of greatest need. Over 70 applications were received in round 1, with further rounds to be launched later in 2022 and 2023.

YOU TOLD US...

REDUCE SINGLE USE PLASTIC USE AND ENCOURAGE LOCAL BUSINESSES AND PRODUCERS TO USE LESS PACKAGING AND GENERATE LESS WASTE.

We established the Plastic Free GM campaign, GM Refill campaign, Public Sector Plastic Pact, and Academia Plastic Pledge, to reduce the use of avoidable single-use plastics in Greater Manchester.

YOU TOLD US...

SUPPORT BUSINESSES TO DESIGN OUT WASTE.

Through the Textiles Circular Economy Business to Business Platform we will develop a circular economy roadmap for textiles, exploring and driving actions that establish circular solutions for the region’s textile waste problem.

We launched Bee Net Zero, a collaborative Greater Manchester programme to support organisations on their journey to becoming net zero, helping businesses reduce waste and become more resource efficient.

YOU TOLD US...

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE SHOULD BE TAUGHT TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGHOUT GREATER MANCHESTER.

We launched the Schools Climate Action Planner to provide schools with a free, online, easy-to-use action planning tool to reduce their carbon footprint and environmental impact.

YOU TOLD US...

CREATE AN ENVIRONMENTAL CULTURE THROUGH YOUTH LEADERSHIP, EMPOWERMENT, AND ACTION.

A Northwest Net Zero Youth Network has been established as a commitment taken by NW regional Mayors from COP26.

YOU TOLD US...

LOUDLY CHAMPION THE VISION FOR A CARBON NEUTRAL CITY REGION, REGULARLY PROMOTING THE MANY STEPS INDIVIDUALS CAN TAKE AND THE BIG IMPACT THAT COLLECTIVE ACTION CAN MAKE.

A Green City Region website has been launched to drive climate action and show the progress we are making across Greater Manchester.



OUR JOURNEY, SO FAR:

Low Carbon Energy and Buildings

YOU TOLD US...

ESTABLISH ZERO CARBON BUILDING STANDARDS TO ENCOURAGE SOLAR PANELS ON NEW BUILDS, STIMULATING LOW CARBON SUPPLY CHAIN, JOBS IN MAINTENANCE AND ONSITE ENERGY GENERATION.

Places for Everyone – the long-term plan of nine Greater Manchester districts for jobs, new homes, and sustainable growth – is currently undergoing independent examination. The plan sets out the target for all new builds to be net zero by 2028.

YOU TOLD US...

DEVELOP ENERGY AND RETROFIT OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR.

As part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Phase 1, we have invested £77.1m in retrofit and low carbon energy generation for 200 public buildings including GM Fire and Rescue Service, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust and Transport for Greater Manchester. PSDS 3a is currently underway with plans to invest £19.5m for circa 24 public buildings.

YOU TOLD US...

SET A GREATER MANCHESTER RETROFIT STANDARD AND PROGRAMME WITH DELIVERY TARGETS.

We launched the Greater Manchester Retrofit Taskforce, which is leading the way on a 3-year programme to tackle the climate crisis through innovative finance solutions and building the supply and demand for the skills and jobs needed to grow the supply chain. In March 2022 the Retrofit Action Plan was launched which sets out the programme and delivery targets.

Your Home Better, an independent service delivered by retrofit experts, providing advice, planning and support, has been set up. It will initially focus on the 31 percent of Greater Manchester homeowners who have expressed a desire to pay for some form of retrofit in the next five years.

In 2022 a Retrofit Skills Hub was launched, offering courses to 1,140 people to upskill into green jobs. These are highly skilled jobs that create a guaranteed career in a burgeoning sector. We'll also be upskilling 85,000 people currently in existing construction jobs so they have job security and relevant skills.

YOU TOLD US...

DEVELOP A GREATER MANCHESTER ENERGY COMPANY WHICH ACCELERATES DEPLOYMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION, STORAGE AND AGGREGATION.

We explored the opportunity for a Greater Manchester Energy Company, but the risks outweighed the benefits. Instead, we have launched the Go Neutral Smart Energy framework, a key part of our work to decarbonise the public sector estate.

YOU TOLD US...

SUPPORT COMMUNITY ENERGY INITIATIVES TO TRIAL, INNOVATE, AND OWN NEW ENERGY PROJECTS.

We have been supporting community focused energy projects through Net Zero NW and Electricity North West's community energy programmes.

In addition, as part of the Local Energy Market Programme a citizen's jury was held to engage with residents across GM on the future energy plans for their communities.

YOU TOLD US...

DEMONSTRATE ENERGY INNOVATION AT SCALE TO DEMONSTRATE MODELS THAT REDUCE THE COST OF THE ELECTRIFICATION OF HEAT.

In partnership with Bruntwood, Hitachi, MMU, SSE, UoM and UoS, we have set up an Energy Innovation Agency, aiming to deliver innovative technological solutions to help the transition to carbon neutrality.

The Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Centre at Manchester Metropolitan University is the UK's first Fuel Cell Centre of Excellence.

The Hydrogen Electrolyser at Trafford Energy Park will be the UK's largest Green Hydrogen production facility and the CryoBattery on the same site is a world first, using liquid air at a commercial scale.

Energy House 2.0 at the University of Salford is the world's first environmentally controllable chamber where full sized terraced houses can be constructed and tested.

YOU TOLD US...

DEVELOP A GREATER MANCHESTER ENERGY PLAN, WITH DECARBONISED ELECTRICITY AND GAS SUPPLY TO MANAGE AND REDUCE FUTURE DEMAND.

We are the first city-region to develop smart Local Area Energy Plans, showing how we will heat and power every street to achieve our targets. This provides a geospatial plan for where energy generation, retrofit, low carbon heat and electric vehicle infrastructure should be installed.

YOU TOLD US...

INCENTIVISE HOMEOWNERS AND LANDLORDS TO RE-INSULATE / RETROFIT THEIR HOMES AND ENCOURAGE PRIVATE FINANCE OPTIONS.

Through the Green Homes Grant we have supported thousands of people to take action to retrofit their homes, making them better insulated, less draughty, and heated sustainably. We have also spent £24m on retrofitting fuel poor homes, supporting around 2000 homes.

A further £19m has been secured to spend on social housing via the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. We are working closely with RPs across the city region to deliver this programme.

Finance is a key workstream for the Retrofit Taskforce; we are working with the Green Finance Institute to explore options.



OUR JOURNEY, SO FAR:

Transport

YOU TOLD US...

MAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT, WALKING AND CYCLING THE EASY CHOICE FOR TRAVEL TO WORK.

The Bee Network is our plan to revolutionise travel across the city-region.

YOU TOLD US...

INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE BASED ON USAGE – MAP WALKING AND CYCLING POTENTIAL ACROSS THE CITY REGION.

So far, we are spending £18 per head annually in Greater Manchester. That adds up to 108 cycling and walking schemes with a total value of more than £500 million in the development pipeline. So far 100km of new cycling infrastructure has also been installed.

YOU TOLD US...

BOOST CYCLING RATES BY SUPPORTING IMPROVED QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE RIGHT PLACES, BASED ON STUDIES OF TRAFFIC PATTERNS AND EFFICIENT ROUTES.

Our Bike Hire Scheme is currently operating with 220 bikes across 41 stations and is awaiting approval on 6 final stations. The Cargo Bike pilot also has 23 e-cargo bikes operational.

YOU TOLD US...

ADOPT POLICY THAT LINKS ACTIVE TRAVEL TO GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONNECTED NETWORKS; DEVELOP A SET OF ACTIVE TRAVEL STANDARDS IN GREATER MANCHESTER’S SPATIAL FRAMEWORK.

Through Streets for All - our approach for everything we do on streets in Greater Manchester – we are developing proposals to support the integration of natural features (particularly SuDS) into our streets, to ensure they support nature recovery and climate adaptation as well as well as active travel.

YOU TOLD US...

EXPAND AND INCREASE FREQUENCY OF BUS AND TRAM SERVICES, INCLUDING IN URBAN PERIPHERIES.

We have an ambition to move to a zero-emission bus fleet and are working with local bus operators to reduce emissions from buses and to take advantage of Government vehicle funding competitions for greener vehicles.

There are now more than 250 buses in GM with Euro VI engines. TfGM has a fleet of 101 environmentally friendly hybrid buses and three fully electric buses. 52 buses in the 87-strong Yellow School Bus fleet are also hybrid. The remainder have been fitted with the latest equipment to reduce pollution from the tailpipe. GM has had £115m allocated from the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement for Zero Emission Buses.

We have now also regained control of the bus fleet and will be using this new power to integrate the bus and tram system, making it more financially accessible for passengers and giving TfGM more power to switch to EV buses.

The tram system already runs on renewable energy and has expanded to become the largest light rail network in the UK. Services run on seven lines to 93 stops covering nearly 60 miles.

