

# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## OVERVIEW:

The 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework identified a series of actions that we need **national government** to take to enable us to go further and faster locally towards our climate change targets. These have been prioritised and grouped under seven key themes:



**Deliver In Partnership.**



**Deliver a Fair and Just Transition.**



**Deliver Sustainable Buildings.**



**Deliver Clean Energy.**



**Deliver Clean, Affordable Transport.**



**Enable Sustainable Choices.**



**Help Us To Adapt.**

This document gives Manchester's stakeholders a guide for conversations with political parties of all stripes over the coming months and in the lead-up to the next general election, to ensure we are making consistent, clear and bold demands of national government.

To find out more about the city's Climate Change Framework, visit: [www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update](http://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update)



# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## INTRODUCTION:

Manchester has a long track record of taking climate change seriously and of collaborating to deliver effective climate action.

In 2010, we launched our first climate change strategy, 'Manchester: A Certain Future'.

In 2015, Manchester's independent Climate Change Agency was formed.

In 2016, the 'Our Manchester Strategy' stated the city will "play its full part in limiting the impacts of climate change, on a pathway to zero carbon".

In 2018, Manchester's Climate Change Partnership was formed.

In 2019, Manchester City Council declared a Climate Emergency.

Between 2005 and 2020, we reduced our emissions by 41%.

In 2020, we launched our latest five-year strategy, 'Manchester's Climate Change Framework', which set a science-based target date for the city to reach zero carbon by 2038 and a carbon budget of 15m tonnes CO2 to stay within.

In 2022, the Framework was updated to include more granular targets for energy demand reduction in specific sectors, for modal shift in transport patterns, and for an increase in renewable energy generation.

The Update also included recommendations, co-designed with a wide range of stakeholders, for action by local residents, business and the public sector, as well as by national government.



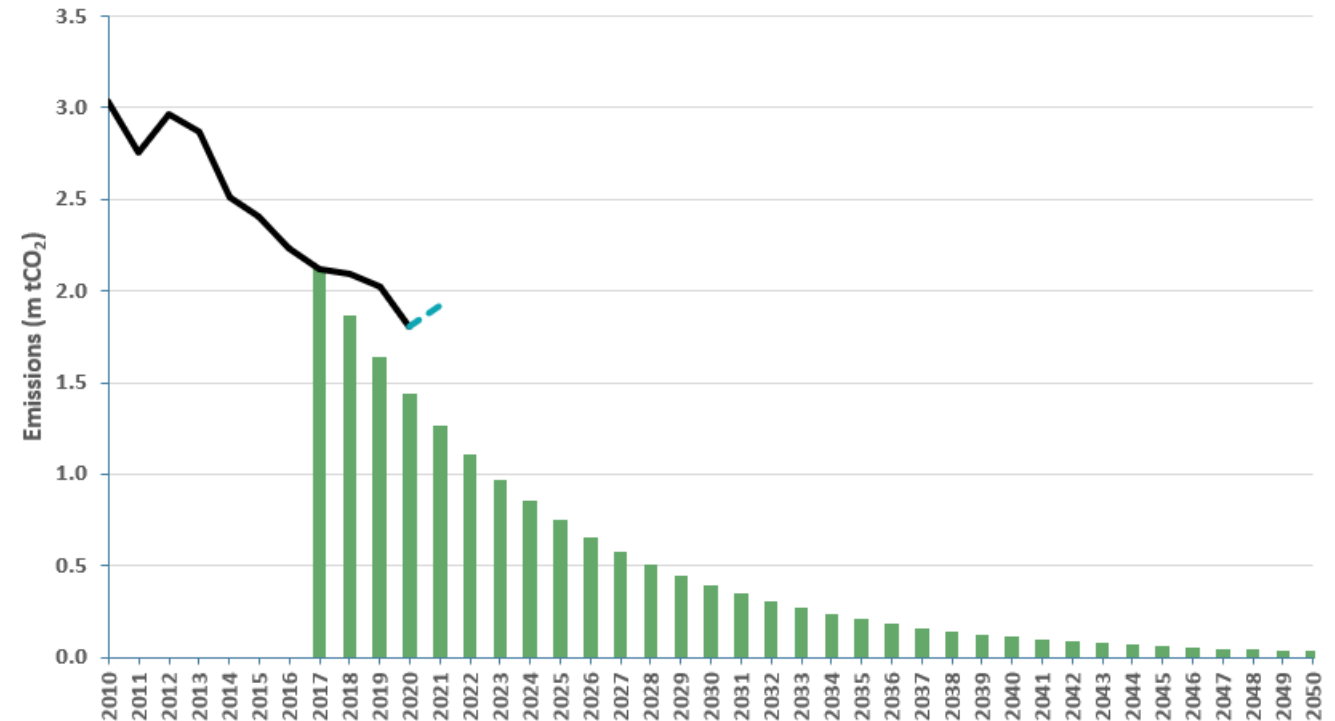
# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Manchester is taking action to combat climate change across many fronts and is recognised internationally as a leading city through its CDP A listing,



However, through our transparent annual reporting of progress against our climate change targets, we are clear that the city is not decarbonising fast enough and is not on track to stay within its carbon budget.

To get back on track, we need everyone to play their full part in addressing this most pressing challenge, including national government.



# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

[www.manchesterclimate.com/askofgovt](http://www.manchesterclimate.com/askofgovt)



## DELIVER IN PARTNERSHIP

Swift, effective climate action requires partnership at every level of every sector. Manchester's Climate Change Partnership has pioneered a successful model which brings public institutions, the private sector and civil society together in common action for the common good. We call on Government to commit to adding its considerable weight to our Partnership, and to work with equivalent Partnerships in other UK cities, to deliver a clean, green, sustainable economy and healthy society in which everyone can thrive.



## DELIVER CLEAN ENERGY

Commit to finishing the task of generating all our energy from renewable and sustainable sources, removing barriers and incentivising investment to deliver a modern comprehensive energy system by the end of this decade.



## DELIVER CLEAN, AFFORDABLE TRANSPORT

Commit to comprehensively reshape personal and public transport, enabling people to make active travel the first-choice for short journeys, supporting local authorities and operators to decarbonise buses, trams and trains, delivering the national transition to electric vehicles, and driving the global transition to sustainable aviation and shipping.



## DELIVER A FAIR AND JUST TRANSITION

To deliver an environmentally sustainable economy through policies which protect the most vulnerable, create good jobs and deliver accessible, affordable public services.



## ENABLE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES

Commit to measures which promote conscious consumer choices, enabling people to buy sustainably, recycle more and throw away less.



## DELIVER SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

Commit to an urgent expansion of efforts to improve the efficiency of all buildings to reduce emissions, make homes warmer and cheaper to run, make businesses more resilient, increase investment and create thousands of new jobs for local people.



## HELP US TO ADAPT

Commit to comprehensive support to reduce risk and build resilience against the present, unavoidable and intensifying impacts of climate change, including flooding, extreme temperature and pressure on the supply of food, water and other vital resources.



# DELIVER IN PARTNERSHIP

Swift, effective climate action requires partnership working at every level of every sector. Manchester's Climate Change Partnership has pioneered a successful model which brings public institutions, the private sector and civil society together in common action for the common good. We call on Government to commit to adding its considerable weight to our Partnership, and to work with equivalent Partnerships in other UK cities, to deliver a clean, green, sustainable economy and healthy society in which everyone can thrive.





# DELIVER A FAIR AND JUST TRANSITION

To deliver an environmentally sustainable economy through policies which protect the most vulnerable, create good jobs and deliver accessible, affordable public services.





# DELIVER SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

Commit to an urgent expansion of efforts to improve the efficiency of all buildings to reduce emissions, make homes warmer and cheaper to run, make businesses more resilient, increase investment and create thousands of new jobs for local people.





# DELIVER CLEAN, AFFORDABLE TRANSPORT

Commit to comprehensively reshape personal and public transport, enabling people to make active travel the first-choice for short journeys, supporting local authorities and operators to decarbonise buses, trams and trains, delivering the national transition to electric vehicles, and driving the global transition to sustainable aviation and shipping.



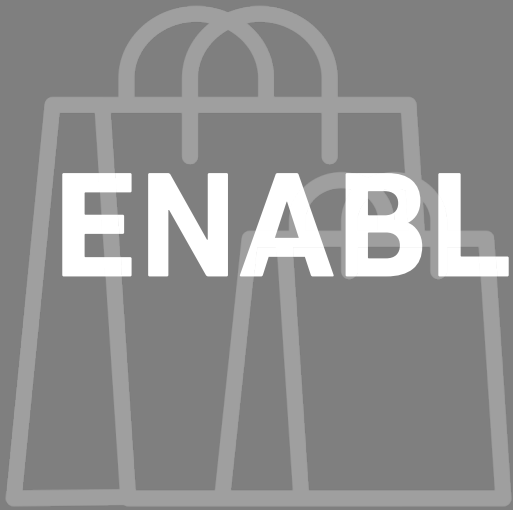




# DELIVER CLEAN ENERGY

Commit to finishing the task of generating all our energy from renewable and sustainable sources, removing barriers and incentivising investment to deliver a modern comprehensive energy system by the end of this decade.





# ENABLE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES

Commit to measures which promote conscious consumer choices, enabling people to buy sustainably, recycle more and throw away less.





# HELP US TO ADAPT

Commit to comprehensive support to reduce risk and build resilience against the present, unavoidable and intensifying impacts of climate change, including flooding, extreme temperature and pressure on the supply of food, water and other vital resources.





We know that our country is **not changing fast enough** to mitigate climate change, to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and adapt to the changes in our climate.

Accelerating action cannot be the responsibility of just one part of society.

National government should **facilitate all organisations in the public, private, and third sectors to work together**, using models like Manchester's Climate Change Partnership, to limit the impacts of climate change and create a healthy, green, socially just society where everyone can thrive.

## 1. DELIVER IN PARTNERSHIP

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

### Support Cities towards Net Zero:

- Provide support and resources to cities to accelerate progress towards achieving net-zero emissions.
- Foster collaboration among cities in the UK, Europe, and globally to share knowledge and innovations in combating climate change.
- Work in partnership with local businesses to assist them in decarbonisation efforts, building resilience, and utilising their expertise to advance citywide action.

## 2. DELIVER A FAIR AND JUST TRANSITION

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

### Ensure an Equitable Transition:

- Provide targeted support and funding for excluded communities to actively participate in the zero-carbon transition, particularly focusing on those who can least afford it.
- Implement financial incentives to make sustainable options, including access to renewable energy, accessible to all, with a particular emphasis on low-income households and underserved areas.
- Invest in sustainable industries to create local employment and community development.
- Implement robust monitoring and reporting to track climate policy impacts on vulnerable communities.

The **transition to a zero-carbon society** needs everyone to make changes in their lives, but that transition will be harder for many of our excluded communities.

We know we will not gain the support of society to make the necessary changes unless it can be achieved by all our communities and is seen to be **fair**.

We need to deliver a **just transition** and this requires that actions don't negatively impact the most vulnerable and that the costs don't fall unevenly on those least able to afford them.





## 3. DELIVER SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

### Address Building Performance & Retrofit:

- Implement UKGBC Roadmap recommendations
- Update National Calculation Methodology (NCM) for better energy performance prediction
- Introduce mandatory energy efficiency data disclosure for existing non-domestic buildings
- Establish a National Retrofit Strategy with a Retrofit Delivery Authority
- Enforce Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) for all tenures at point of sale

### Provide Financial Incentives & Support:

- Provide grants and financial products for low-income households' retrofit projects
- Encourage banks to offer attractive options like low-interest mortgage extensions

### Promote Low Carbon Heating:

- Redistribute environmental levies on gas and electricity to promote low carbon heating
- Explore an earlier cut-off date for sale of gas boilers in existing homes
- Promote quality assurance for heat pump installers and upskilling campaigns

### Incentivise Energy Performance:

- Introduce variable stamp duty rates based on building energy performance
- Remove VAT on refurbishment work meeting energy performance targets
- Strengthen building regulations for energy improvement in existing dwellings
- Reform Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) for data accuracy
- Require institutional investors to disclose energy and carbon performance in annual reporting

### To reach zero carbon:

We need to **retrofit existing buildings** – our homes, institutions, industrial and commercial premises – to make them more energy efficient. They need to be better insulated, rely less on gas for heating, and use more efficient appliances and equipment.

We need to construct **new buildings** to high and rising standards of low carbon performance, covering operational and embodied energy, which ensures we do not add to the future cost of decarbonisation.





## MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

### 4. DELIVER CLEAN, AFFORDABLE TRANSPORT

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

#### Enhance Funding and Capacity:

- Provide additional revenue funding for local authorities' sustainable transport strategies.
- Implement integrated funding mechanisms for decarbonised transport.
- Collaborate with local partners to reduce emissions across road networks.

#### Incentivise Active Travel and Zero-Emission Vehicles:

- Review tax measures to encourage active travel & zero-emission vehicles.
- Redirect national road budget to safety and sustainable travel initiatives.

#### Transition to Cleaner Public Transport:

- Phase out new diesel buses and coaches by 2035.
- Offer grants for second-hand electric vehicles to support lower-income households and small businesses.

#### Deliver Awareness Campaigns and Support:

- Publish Local Authority Transport Toolkits to support decarbonisation strategies.
- Strengthen active travel messages in national campaigns and fund local efforts.

#### To reach zero carbon:

We need to **travel less** and **change the way we travel**, ensuring we choose the right mix of transport for each journey, prioritising active travel (walking and cycling) and public transport, particularly for short trips.

We also need to rapidly reduce our dependency on fossil fuels and **deploy electric vehicles** at scale for both public and private transport.





## MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

### 5. DELIVER CLEAN ENERGY

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

#### Enhance Finance and Support for Renewable Energy Projects:

- Increase availability of development finance via the UK Infrastructure Bank (UKIB) for renewable energy projects.
- Bring forward subsidies supporting local energy generation and battery storage.
- Clarify lending terms for the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to include energy projects.

#### Promote Carbon Reduction Efforts and Sustainable Energy:

- Shift environmental levies on energy bills to be based on carbon impact, aligning with Climate Change Committee recommendations.
- Explore the potential of hydrogen for decarbonising industry, transportation, and heating sectors.

#### Empower Local Authorities for Zero-Carbon Goals:

- Empower local authorities with enhanced powers and resources to undertake systems-based, area-wide planning for achieving zero-carbon goals.
- Develop necessary infrastructure and incentives to increase renewable energy generation.

#### To reach zero carbon:

We need to see a **rapid shift away from fossil fuels** to electricity for heating, transport, and industry. To support this, we need to **increase renewable energy generation**, both locally and at national level.

This needs to be coupled with a **step change in energy efficiency** across all sectors, and increased adoption of **smart grid** technologies and **local storage** to balance energy supply and demand for maximum efficiency.

We need to continue to explore the **role of hydrogen** in our future energy mix, including to support decarbonisation of industry, transport, and heating.





# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## 6. ENABLE SUSTAINABLE CHOICES

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

### Support a Circular Economy:

- Establish business support programmes for all sizes and sectors to enable organisations to reduce indirect emissions and embrace circular economy practices.
- Ensure that regulatory frameworks are coherent and conducive to fostering a circular economy. This involves reviewing and updating regulations to support circular practices and eliminate barriers to sustainability.

### Improve Labelling:

- Develop a standardised labelling system informing consumers about environmental and climate impacts of products, including food, enabling informed choices.

### Encourage Behaviour Change:

- Implement national behaviour change campaigns focused on consumer choices related to goods and services that contribute significantly to consumption-based emissions. These campaigns aim to encourage sustainable consumption patterns.

### Enhance Corporate Transparency:

- Support the development of more reliable and traceable data on indirect emissions and increase requirements for companies to disclose such emissions in their financial reporting. This enhances transparency and accountability in addressing climate impacts.

### Promote Sustainable Food Standards:

- Uphold high-quality food standards that prioritise minimising climate impacts in trade deals, ensuring that the UK maintains sustainable practices in its food production and consumption.

### To reach zero carbon:

We need to **half the city's consumption-based emissions by 2030**, before halving once again by 2036.

We need to **produce goods and services more sustainably**, moving to a circular economy, alongside becoming more sustainable consumers.

We need to **reduce waste** production, including unnecessary **food waste**, and manage unavoidable waste as sustainably as possible, maximising reuse and recycling.





# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## 7. HELP US TO ADAPT

In practical terms this requires action by national government to:

### Set High Ambition and Strategy:

- Set high-level ambition for adaptation in line with the UK's net-zero target.
- Establish a comprehensive National Resilience Strategy addressing known and emerging climate risks.
- Strengthen accountability for the cross-Whitehall National Adaptation Strategy to embed principles across Government policy and strategy.

### Increase Climate-Resilient Investments, Standards and Disclosure:

- Advocate for integrating climate risks into private sector infrastructure project appraisal and spending by 2025.
- Ensure climate resilience considerations in all public capital spending, including the £650 billion National Infrastructure and Construction pipeline by 2030.
- Develop national standards for resilient infrastructure and require infrastructure operators to maintain long-term strategies to meet standards.
- Develop localised climate risk data to guide investment and decision-making across sectors, as recommended by The World Bank report.
- Expand mandatory reporting via the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) by in the public sector.
- Make reporting via the Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) mandatory for both public and private sectors.
- Ensure long-term support for Flood Re to provide affordable flood cover in household insurance policies.

### Economic and Tax Relief Measures:

- Commission a review on the economics of climate resilience for smarter public-private investment.
- Develop Environmental Investment Tax Relief to incentivise environmental outcomes, including adaptation.

### To adapt and build resilience:

We need to **understand our exposure to climate change risk** and make detailed plans that support all our residents, all parts of our city, its economy and natural environment to adapt.

This includes prioritising action to ensure our **critical infrastructure is resilient** to climate change and ensuring our most vulnerable communities are protected.

We need to **ensure all the investments we make are resilient to climate change** and we need to develop innovative models to **unlock new private investment** for adaptation.



# MANCHESTER'S CLIMATE CHANGE ASKS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## SUMMARY:

This document brings together the series of actions that Manchester has identified we need national government to take to enable us to go further and faster locally towards our climate change targets. They are grouped under seven key themes:



**Deliver In Partnership.**



**Deliver a Fair and Just Transition.**



**Deliver Sustainable Buildings.**



**Deliver Clean Energy.**



**Deliver Clean, Affordable Transport.**



**Enable Sustainable Choices.**



**Help Us To Adapt.**

To download this report and for more detailed background information, visit: [www.manchesterclimate.com/askofgovt](http://www.manchesterclimate.com/askofgovt)

To download the 2022 Update to Manchester's Climate Change Framework, visit: [www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update](http://www.manchesterclimate.com/content/2022-update)

