

Report to Cabinet



Date of Meeting	28 th January 2020
Portfolio	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Health and Wellbeing
Report Author	Mark Widdup
Public/Private Document	Public

Response to Climate Emergency Motion

Executive Summary

1. This report sets out the scale of the challenge we face to meet the Climate Emergency Motion declared by this Council. It sets out the work that has been done before the Council Motion and since it was declared. It suggests what actions and leadership are needed to work towards the ambitions of the Council Motion.
 - 1.1 To update Members on the Council's proposed response to the climate emergency motion approved by Full Council on 17 July 2019. To ask Members to consider the suggested approach being adopted which is intended to closely follow the recently approved GM 5 Year Environment Plan. Members are also asked to consider the draft terms of reference for a Working Group and draft Strategy on Climate Change.

Recommendation

2. Cabinet is requested to:
 - I. endorse the approach which uses the GM 5 Year Environment Plan as a framework which the Council will follow locally and build actions around as set out in paragraph 3.14 of this report;
 - II. approve the proposed Draft Climate Emergency Strategy, for consultation, which is attached as Appendix 3 of the report;
 - III. approve the membership of the proposed Climate Emergency Working Group that was suggested in the Council Motion as detailed in paragraph 3.23 of this report. If Members are mindful to approve the Working Group then they are asked to approve the draft terms of reference detailed in Appendix 1 of the report which will then be agreed by the Working Group once formed.
 - IV. approve the formation of a Climate Change Business Group as detailed in paragraph 3.30 of this report.

- V. note the existing GM and Council projects and activities which should contribute to the 2038 target as set out in Appendix 2 of the report;
- VI. note that a request for an initial capital budget allocation has been included in the budget process to support the climate emergency agenda as detailed in paragraph 5.1 of this report.
- VII. consider the personnel implications set out in paragraph 7.1 of the report and approve the proposal to establish a post of Climate Emergency Officer for an initial three year fixed term contract.
- VIII. note that the Climate Emergency Working Group once established will be tasked to agree the final Climate Change Strategy and produce a detailed climate emergency action plan which can form the basis of future discussions and decisions at Cabinet.

Reason for Recommendation

- 3. The recommendations are put forward to enable the motion on the Climate Emergency as passed at Council on 17th July 2019 to be progressed.

Key Points for Consideration

- 4. Council Motion – 17 July 2019
 - 4.1 The Council noted that on 8th October 2018, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published a report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas Emissions.
 - 4.2 The report warned that the risk of catastrophic climate change including extreme heat, drought, flooding and climate-related poverty would significantly increase unless global warming could be kept to a maximum of 1.5°C.
 - 4.3 The report authors found that global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate and say that urgent and unprecedented action is required to meet the target.
 - 4.4 The Council recognises that the scale of the challenge is unprecedented. Approximately 97.5% of emissions within the borough are beyond the Council's direct control, so everyone within the borough has a role to play if we are to successfully reduce emissions.
 - 4.5 Tackling climate change can only be a common endeavour and will require the Council and its Partners, residents, businesses and other organisations to play their part.

4.6 At its meeting on 17 July 2019, Full Council resolved to:

- declare a climate emergency;
- work towards ensuring that the borough is carbon neutral by 2050, in line with the Mayor and the Government's targets. Achieving this will require significant investment and policy initiatives from the Government, and Council hopes it would be achieved earlier than 2050;
- work towards ensuring that the Council is carbon neutral by 2038 (*), recognising the leadership role it has in the borough;
- develop a working group to support the Council to move from declaration to delivery drawing in cross sector expertise, capacity and capability.
- The working group should draw on existing expertise within the borough as well as including residents who are representative of the borough as a whole;
- set in place a process of engagement and collaborative action that enables an action plan to be considered by Cabinet and Council in early 2020, based on achieving the aforementioned targets.
- *(An amendment to the motion was moved, seconded and approved which amended the target date for being carbon neutral to 2038)*

4.7 Greater Manchester Position

A Greater Manchester Green Summit was held in March 2019. A GM 5 year Environment Plan was launched which set out the urgent steps which needed to happen to provide GM with the best chance of achieving carbon neutral by 2038.

To achieve the plan's ambitions requires urgent action from everyone in Greater Manchester – from businesses, the public sector, and local residents.

The plan sets out how **Greater Manchester's local authorities and health sector** will work to reduce our environmental impact (of our buildings, vehicle fleets and procurement processes, in particular).

We also need **businesses** to lead the way, maximising the potential economic benefits resulting from the transition to a low-carbon economy. This includes increasing the efficiency of how businesses heat and power their buildings and produce goods/services, reducing the environmental impact of how their goods and staff travel, and installing renewable energy and heating technologies at their premises.

Staff will play a key role in driving these changes within their businesses and several organisations have supported this by running carbon literacy training for their staff or promoting environmental volunteering.

As **residents**, we can all take what might seem like small steps but which will add up to making a big difference across Greater Manchester. We can cycle and walk for short journeys and use public transport for longer ones. Where we do need to drive, we can car share or replace a petrol/diesel car with an electric one when we come to upgrade. We may also be able to install renewable energy generation at our home and upgrade our heating system and insulation to reduce the impact of the energy we use.

Our consumption of products that are made outside the city region, such as food, clothing and single-use plastics, can also have a significant impact on the environment – so we need to think about the products we buy and consume.

The above actions won't be enough, we all need to work together in new and innovative ways – in **how we develop new technologies, how we fund and finance investment in deploying what already exists, how different sectors work together, how we increase the capacity and capability of our workforce** and how we **educate and change people's behaviours**.

4.8 Key Aims of the GM 5 Year Environment Plan

What do we need to do over the next 5 years?

There are six broad themes set out in the Environment Plan as follows;

Our Energy Supply – the source of power and heat to our buildings and transport

- Increasing local renewable electricity generation, de-carbonising how we heat our buildings, increasing the diversity and flexibility of our supply

Our travel and transport – how we move and how goods are transported

- Increasing use of public transport and active travel routes;
- phasing out fossil-fuelled private vehicles and replacing them with zero emission alternatives;
- tackle to most polluting vehicles on our roads;
- establishing a zero emissions bus fleet;
- de-carbonising freight transport and shifting to rail and water transport

Our homes, workplaces and public buildings – the demand for energy to heat the places we live and work

- Reducing the heat demand from existing homes;
- reducing the heat demand from existing commercial and public buildings;
- reducing the heat demand in new buildings.

Our consumption and production of resources – how sustainably we produce goods and services and what we do with them after we have used them

- Producing goods and services more sustainably, moving to a circular economy;
- becoming more responsible consumers;
- managing our waste as sustainably as possible;
- reducing unnecessary food waste.

Our natural environment – increasing the wide range of benefits provided by our air, land, water and biodiversity

- Managing our land sustainably;
- managing our water and its environmental sustainability;
- achieving a net gain in biodiversity for new development;
- increasing investment into our natural environment;
- increasing engagement with our natural environment.

Our resilience and adaptation to climate change – how resilient we are to climate change and how well we adapt to its impacts

- Embedding climate change resilience and adaptation in all policies;
- increasing the resilience of an investment in our critical infrastructure;
- implementing a priorities programme of nature-based climate adaptation action;
- improving monitoring and reporting.

How will we achieve the target for GM and Rochdale Borough?

- 4.9 Climate emergency cannot be just another service performance goal familiar to Council Members and Officers, where control and accountability is clear and supported through existing statute or policy. This is a challenge where the totality of solutions needed is not clear and the approach we take will be emergent.
- 4.10 The Council will need to put in place appropriate governance arrangements to ensure accountability which adhere to the Council's constitution and decision making process, however, we anticipate the extent of the challenge, potential solutions and community opinion are all things that need to inform the evolution of our actions and plans.
- 4.11 The Council cannot provide all the solutions, as combating climate change needs system wide change that involves communities, business, individuals and stakeholders across all sectors of the economy. We have an opportunity to address this challenge through the development of a longer term vision for our Borough whilst ensuring we deliver real change in the short and medium term.

- 4.12 The Council is best placed to help facilitate this work through a co-creation process. It will require major investments, changes to systems of how we use and interact with energy and changes to how we live our lives and define success. It will also redefine how we interact with our environment. Above all, it will involve collective leadership and shared ambition to deal with this challenge head on, and this report sets the framework for how we can define and develop future actions.
- 4.13 It is proposed to use the GM 5 Year Environment Plan as the framework on which to deliver our actions at a district level. Given that the GM target can only be achieved if all 10 districts are seeking to achieve similar aims it would seem appropriate to link in with the above themes.
- 4.14 There are already a number of GM projects in which Rochdale is actively involved. For example, in order to tackle the major risk that air pollution poses, the 10 local councils in Greater Manchester are developing a Clean Air Plan.
- 4.15 Appendix 3 sets out a draft Climate Emergency Strategy. The public facing strategy outlines the effects and impacts of climate change, as well as the current picture in Rochdale, to demonstrate why the Council has declared a climate emergency. It includes the national, regional and local policy agenda, and targets for reducing the impact. The strategy has been informed by toolkits, data, strategies and frameworks prepared by various agencies including Friends of the Earth, Ashden, Tyndall Centre, Greater Manchester Combined Authority and United Nations. The Council's goals have been framed around the Sustainable Development Goals which are a blueprint to achieve social, economic and environmental sustainability. The outcomes are also aligned with the GM Environmental Plan, whilst adopting a wider focus for climate action to ensure collective responsibility across all council services. The draft strategy will continue to be developed through consultation and accompanied by a delivery plan to steer the Council's activity on an annual basis, over the next five years.
- 4.16 Appendix 2 sets out the existing GM and Council projects or activities which should contribute to the 2038 target.

4.17 **Climate Emergency Working Group**

Members are asked to endorse that a Climate Emergency Working Group should be established in order both to accelerate action towards the Council's existing sustainability objectives and potentially to set more demanding targets. Arrangements for taking forward its recommendations would be a matter for further consideration by this Committee.

In a bid to put climate concerns at the heart of council decisions, a Climate Emergency Working Group will be established to consider strategies and actions that will help achieve our carbon-neutral ambitions. Given the broad range of issues within the 6 themes it is suggested that the Working Group consist of the following;

- Councillors – Cross Party (2 Labour, 1 Con, 1 LD)
- Representative from a new Climate Emergency Business Group (see below)
- Member of Youth Parliament
- Action Together (Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations Rep)
- Residents (2)
- Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RSL representative)
- Director of Neighbourhoods
- Officers to provide support on Policy, Legal, Finance, communications etc
- Academic support from University sector

Young people should be a central voice in the group to help shape the future with the above stakeholders. It is proposed to ask the Youth Parliament how they wish to be represented on this group.

The Working Group will be supported by a range of Officers as required covering areas including communications and marketing, HR, finance and legal. External expert advice may need to be sought although we could look to GM for support in this regard connected to the 5 Year Environment Plan.

A draft of the suggested terms of reference of this working group is attached at Appendix 2 of this report.

It will be important that the Climate Emergency Working Group is established with the principles of equality, inclusion and diversity.

Rochdale Council will call on central government to provide the powers, resources and help with funding to make this possible.

Climate Emergency Business Group

The Borough has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the field of Green Energy and climate change. It is therefore proposed to establish a Climate Emergency Business Group which can provide technical, professional and commercial support to the Council.

A number of potential attendees have been identified and these will be confirmed in due course.

Alternatives Considered

Given Rochdale Council has approved a motion to declare a climate emergency it is appropriate to consider how the Council, its partners and stakeholders will deliver the targets by 2038.

It would seem appropriate to use the GM 5 Year Environment Plan as a framework on which to base out local action plans. The alternative would be for the Council to establish its own model which in the view of Officers would look very similar to the one already approved at a GM level.

Costs and Budget Summary

- 5.1 It is widely accepted that in order to effectively implement a climate emergency plan there is a requirement to establish a climate emergency budget. This could be a combination of revenue and capital investment which will be clearer once Officers have completed the assessment of what activity we are currently undertaking and what new actions may come from the Climate Emergency Working Group. Funding will have to be identified if revenue schemes are developed and will be subject to future consideration by Members, however the draft capital programme includes a £1M per year for the first 5 years to link with the 5 Year Plan this being subject to approval at Budget Council in February.
- 5.2 It is further proposed that in order to deliver such a large and ambitious programme a dedicated resource will be required. It is proposed to establish a post of 'Climate Emergency Officer' for a fixed three year period. The investment required will be circa £150k for the three year period. Once the capital schemes are identified the post will be charged against the capital budget however the post will require some revenue funding whilst the schemes are developed. It is proposed that £50k is allocated from budget pressures to fund the post for 12 months whilst the capital investment schemes are identified and progressed.
- 5.3 It should be noted that few if any funding sources are currently available to local authorities and significant action would be dependent on new funding being made available following the government's decision to increase the targets in the Climate Change Act. For example, the GM Clean Air Plan is wholly dependent on Government Funding for its successful implementation.

Risk and Policy Implications

6. Legal implications will be assessed and the Working Group will receive advice as proposals and actions are developed and delivered.
- 6.1 The climate emergency agenda will link closely to the Council's new corporate plan and as specific actions are proposed these will be linked to delivery of our outcomes for the Borough.
- 6.2 A full risk register will be developed to accompany any actions plans.
- 6.3 Workforce Equality Impacts Assessment

Any workforce equality issues arising from this report will be identified as the proposals progress.

6.4 Equality/Community Impact Assessments

Community impacts from a new Climate Emergency Action Plan will reduce carbon emissions and will reduce fuel bills. The type and extent of impacts will depend on the focus of the action plan.

Potential carbon reduction measures are broad and there may be community aspirations to deliver measures in sustainable transport, air quality, biodiversity enhancement and water management, yet these may fall outside of the requirements of the funding source(s) and as such expectations may need to be managed.

Consultation

7. There will be ongoing consultation around the Council's suggested approach to the Climate Emergency. Residents will be invited to be involved in putting together our action plan and to have regular opportunities to develop future proposals as they arise.

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
GM 5 Year Environment Plan	https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/media/1986/5-year-plan-branded_3.pdf
For Further Information Contact:	Mark Widdup – Director of Neighbourhoods mark.widdup@rochdale.gov.uk

Draft terms of reference of the Climate Emergency Working Group

1. It is proposed that the draft terms of reference for a working group should be:
 - To scrutinise the development of new carbon emissions reduction targets for the Council beyond 2020;
 - To consider the effectiveness of planned activities to meet the Council's 2038 carbon neutral commitment;
 - To propose new actions to achieve the above, drawing out budgetary and other resource implications for the Council and the Borough;
 - To suggest oversight and review mechanisms in order to ensure progress towards targets;
 - To collate and consider good practice from other cities, towns and local authorities from the UK and internationally;
 - To consider how the powers which city and regional agencies currently possess can be better used to achieve the above and where further asks need to be made of national government;
 - To ensure that its work is fully informed by the need to address inequalities across the Borough's communities in relation to climate issues;
 - To draft initial recommendations by no later than March 2020.

2. Cross-party membership of such a group will reflect the significance of the issues which it will address. Members will also be able to invite external partners, third sector bodies and community voices to make representation and presentations to the Working Group.

3. The suggested membership of the Climate Emergency Working Group is as follows:-
 - Councillors – Cross Party (2 Labour, 1 Con, 1 LD)
 - Representative from a new Climate Change Business Group
 - Member of Youth Parliament
 - Action Together (Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations Rep)
 - Residents (2)
 - Rochdale Boroughwide Housing (RSL representative)
 - Academic support from University sector
 - Director of Neighbourhoods
 - Head of Policy and Performance

NB - Officers from Legal, Finance and other services will attend as and when required

4. This approach offers a good opportunity to engage with the Borough's residents in ways which can support the Council's community empowerment ambitions. The UN, for instance, has been commending the use of a Talanoa dialogue for such purposes. This is an open, participative and creative means of seeking to make wise decisions for the collective good. It has its origins in community practice in Fiji and other Pacific islands and has been adopted by the UN for the purposes of getting parties together to talk about climate change issues. It is being actively promoted by the UN as part of a collective conversation about how the main aims of the Paris climate agreements are progressing.
5. It is proposed that the Working Group will facilitate a 'Citizen's Assembly' in the Borough to seek the views of our residents on the issue of Climate Change and the Green agenda. Views collected from this Assembly will be included in the formulation of our strategies and plans and will form the basis of an open dialogue with our residents as the action plan is rolled out.
6. In addition, given children and young people are key stakeholders in this agenda it is proposed to facilitate a Young Person's Conference/Workshop which will be dedicated to listening to their views and ideas and how they want to be engaged throughout this process.
7. The Council considers it appropriate to engage in a positive way with all organisations which may have an interest in Climate Change. To this end will be actively inviting groups including 'Extinction Rebellion' and others to engage in the development of our draft Strategy and action planning and to assist us to deliver our ambitions working towards 2038.
8. The climate justice agenda is particularly important in relation both to local communities and on a global scale. The Working Group will be sensitive to the fact that climate change can act as an additional stress on vulnerable communities in the Borough, particularly around flood risk and increased summer heat.
9. There is evidence that climate change is very strongly gendered in its impacts. Globally girls and women are often the first to have to deal with the effects of changing weather on their families' security and wellbeing and the first to suffer from the effects of conflict. It is therefore proposed that the working group should look to reflect this key dimension of climate change in its own composition and ensure equal gender representation on the group.

Examples of current activity Rochdale Council is doing to support the Climate Emergency Motion

1. Using the six broad themes in the Strategy the current activity can be summarised as follows

Our energy supply – the source of power and heat to our buildings and transport

Increasing local renewable electricity generation, de-carbonising how we heat our buildings, increasing the diversity and flexibility of our supply

- The Council has secured planning consent for a 5MW solar Chamber House Farm, Heywood. Exploring involvement in a GM 'Unlocking Green Energy Bid' to fund up to 40% of construction costs with energy generated by the farm put into the national grid and sold back to the Council as a saving on its energy bill.
- Existing River Roch hydro scheme adjacent to Rochdale interchange – TfGM

Our travel and transport – how we move and how goods are transported

Increasing use of public transport and active travel routes

- Development of a Rochdale Local Cycling and Walking Plan (LCWIP) to implement new/improved cycle links in areas of perceived greatest opportunity to change travel behaviours. Funding sought from GMCA/Dft and/or developer contributions
- Beelines – working with GMCA on a number of cycle corridor scheme to promote walking/cycling schemes from the likes of GM Mayor's Challenge Fund and/or DfT, developer contribution.
- Castleton cycle corridor MCF scheme - £1.4m grant from GM Mayor's Challenge Fund to provide an improved cycle/walking corridor through centre of Castleton around railway station
- Sudden – Rochdale cycle corridor – see MCF comments above, up to £10M scheme which we are seeking Transport for North/DfT funding Castleton Station Masterplan – re-use of vacant land for up to 2,000 residential units,

new station parking and commercial uses on brownfield land within 10 minutes walking distance of Castleton railway station. Lobbying for additional rail investment

- The Highways Service have project managed the implementation of 4 Electric Car Charging units across the Borough within publicly accessible car parks. EV users can join the scheme and park for free whilst charging at <https://www.chargeyourcar.org.uk/> the team continue to contribute ideas and support the implementation of “rapid” EV charging points via TfGM and OLEV funding.
- The Car Parking team offer permits for parking and a differential charge for the cost of the permit based on CO2 emissions, the classification is 185g/CO2 are charged at a lower rates and higher emitting vehicle classes are charged at a higher rate.
- The Highways team have been part of a major multi-modal policy study for Greater Manchester called “Streets for All”. Officers and elected Members have attended workshops on how road space can be reallocated along major strategic corridors to encourage different modes of travel and be a destination in their own right.
- Rochdale Station Gateway Masterplan – residential led masterplan for around 800 new homes, commercial uses, new public square, transport interchange, walking and cycling links to Town Centre and 500 space P & R around Rochdale railway station. Lobbying for additional rail investment
- Acquisition of land at Smithy Bridge station for additional Park and Ride – up to 250 spaces
- The majority of street lighting is via LED bulbs and continues to be the policy for bulb replacements.

Phasing out fossil-fuelled private vehicles and replacing them with zero emission alternatives;

- Continue to work with GMCA and TfGM as part of the Clean Air Plan

Moving to a Green Fleet of Council vehicles

- Transition of Council fleet to electric vehicles - EM have a fleet of 12 Nissan eNV200 fully electric small vans that have replaced 12 small diesel vans. This removes harmful emissions from approximately 10% of EM’s fleet and provides a saving in running costs of £1700 per annum for each vehicle. It is our intention to purchase fully electric medium sized vans as soon as they are available on the market. EM is also currently working on replacing all of our

non-Euro 6 compliant fleet with new compliant vehicles in order to comply with the GM Clean Air Zone in 2021.

- EV charging - EM have installed 17 EV charge points within Green Lane Depot consisting of 15x 16amp (slow) and 2 x 32amp (fast). These charge points can supply charging for approximately 50+ electric vehicles based on an average daily mileage of 27 miles and an average range of 100 miles per vehicle.

Tackle the most polluting vehicles on our roads;

- GM Clean Air Plan
- As part of the Council's commitment in improving our environment and air quality, the Licensing Service engaged the services of a firm called Electric Blue under their EVolve project. The purpose of the project was to acquire a better understanding both of the practical and financial impact of introducing EV's, for the private hire and taxi trade, within the Borough. This would involve providing the necessary information to drivers to assist them to migrate from their existing type of licensed vehicles (petrol and diesel) to electric. Individual reports are being provided to private hire and taxi drivers to demonstrate the feasibility of converting to EV's / ultra-low emission vehicles. The information within the reports are generated from the installation of telematic devices within the private hire and taxi vehicles, which captured the following data:
 - Evidence of the main routes and stopping points for the private hire and taxi vehicles – data which perhaps could then be used for any future electric charging point requirements and locations;
 - The analysis and comparison of the running costs of the existing vehicle with an electric vehicle;
 - Quantify the air quality improvements afforded by switching to electric vehicles; etc.

In partnership with Electric Blue, the Licensing Service were able to secure the 'buy-in' from our trade.

The key findings of the EVolve project included:

- Average daily mileage was around 114 miles.
- 99.9% of all shifts completed by drivers could be completed in an Electric Vehicle with just 1 rapid charge top up (15-30 mins) during the shift. (8509 of 8514 journeys)
- Over the 28 days of data being collated, the drivers would save almost 2/3rds of running costs by converting to an EV. (£6,188.27 compared to £2,201.42 in a comparative Electric Vehicle)
- There are substantial comparative emissions savings that can be made.

- £45k of extra disposable income could be available to the drivers. This is for 21 vehicles only - this amount can be calculated across the entire fleet across converting to EV.

Establishing a zero emissions bus fleet;

- Continue to work with GMCA and TfGM as part of the Clean Air Plan and linked to Bus deregulation

De-carbonising freight transport and shifting to rail and water transport

- GM Freight and Logistics Strategy being led by TfGM

Our homes, workplaces and public buildings – the demand for energy to heat the places we live and work

Reducing the heat demand from existing homes;

- The Council continues to implement a programme grant funded, lasting energy-saving improvements to private sector properties with measures including external and cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, small measures (LED lighting, radiator reflector panels, heating controls, etc).
- We commission a CIC, EnergyWorks, hosted by Groundwork Oldham, who provide energy advice and grant funding across the borough and to all tenures.
- RBC was recently 'Commended' at the North West region of the Energy Efficiency Awards for its work in the community
- The manager from EnergyWorks has been awarded 'Energy Efficiency Champion of the Year 2019' at the recent National Energy Efficiency Awards for her work in promoting and delivering energy efficiency measures across the borough.
- RBC was the best performing borough in GM in delivering the Green Deal for Communities programme, both in terms of number of measures delivered and the lowest unit price per measure.
- Strategic Housing's activity, on behalf of the council, has been mainly (over 95%) in the private sector and has achieved the following outputs between 2012 to date:

Measure	Number of installs	Total cost saving p.a for residents*	Total tonnes CO2 saved p.a
External wall insulation	400	£64k	280
Condensing boilers	300	£37.5k	120
First time central heating	63	£10k	378
Loft insulation	20	£3k	8
Cavity wall insulation	70	£11.2k	32
Energy use advice	5308	£1.75m	3,981
Total	853	£1.877m (per annum)	4,799 (tonnes p.a)

*Figures from EST

Reducing the heat demand from existing commercial and public buildings;

- Reduce energy use in own estate- EM currently have plans for the installation of a wind turbine and a solar panel installation on the roof of the “Green Shed”. In addition we have already installed a voltage optimiser on our electricity supply. Further improvements have taken place in respect of the installation of double glazed windows throughout the depot and smart LED lighting that reduces the amount of power required to light the offices.
- Replacement of Rochdale cremators- the procurement will look at reducing energy consumption compared to the current cremators
- Replaced light fittings to LED at six council buildings which will reduce energy consumption and maintenance costs
- Fitted solar PV panels to L'boro sports hall roof generating solar power for the sports centre and generating a small income for the Council

- Replaced heating boilers at three primary schools over the summer to more energy efficient boilers linked to building a management system that will help further reduce consumption
- Fitted a new energy management system to N1R which is helping manage our systems more efficiently and reducing energy consumption
- Bio mass boiler will run throughout the winter months which generates an income at N1R, the boiler is used at peak times when the building heating output is at its maximum to reduce gas consumption
- Light Fixture to the front entrance at N1R needs replacing, the replacement fittings will be LED which will double the lifespan of the fittings and will be more efficient
- Energy awareness newsletter to be prepared for all schools and service leads in corporate assets which will give energy advice on how to reduce energy consumption
- Staff are constantly reminded to switch off products when not in use. In particular heavy use items such as ovens

Reducing the heat demand in new buildings.

- GMSF emerging policies around this – Planning are considering an option for Rochdale to work up a local planning policy guidance document on this and other e.g. Solar

Our consumption and production of resources – how sustainably we produce goods and services and what we do with them after we have used them

Producing goods and services more sustainably, moving to a circular economy;

- Link with STaR on procurement issues and look to undertake Climate Change Impact Assessment on all large procurement decisions over OJEU limits (£180K)

Becoming more responsible consumers;

- Promote key messages through Council and Partner communications and marketing to residents
- Continue to promote recycling with particular emphasis on Food waste

Managing our waste as sustainably as possible;

- The Council is launching an Eco-Business Scheme in November 2019 which will be promoted at all opportunities by officers across Public Protection. The scheme will raise awareness and encourage businesses to become more

sustainable and they can make a pledge and sign up to the scheme. Commitments will be made by those that sign up which relate to the following areas: Energy Efficiency (LED bulbs, turn off electrical equipment, encourage walking, cycling to work, car share) Waste & Food Waste Reduction, Plastic Minimisation, Reducing Environmental Impact. We will also be signposting businesses to support and available funding via the Business Growth Hub and will promote businesses that sign up and they will get something to display at their premise. The scheme is currently being finalised and we aim to formally launch it in November. Branding and criteria has just been agreed and signed off.

Reducing unnecessary food waste.

- Continue our efforts in promoting recycling of food waste
- Raise awareness with Schools who currently procure mixed waste collections

Our natural environment – increasing the wide range of benefits provided by our air, land, water and biodiversity

Managing our land sustainably;

- Improve the public realm in Rochdale Town Centre through the Town Hall Restoration Project. Creating high quality urban greenspace, improving sustainable drainage etc
- Naturalisation of grass verges and open spaces across the borough – by changing from a grass monoculture to planting with a wider variety of plant species which will encourage a greater biodiversity. These areas also require less mowing and maintenance once established so reducing fuel usage.
- Identify new allotment locations – ongoing piece of work to increase allotment provision across the borough. Allotment use can reduce food miles and residents' carbon budgets by growing their own.

Managing our water and its environmental sustainability

- The Littleborough to Rochdale town centre flood risk management project in partnership with the Environment Agency will better protect more than 1000 homes and businesses
- Our partnership with the National Flood Forum supported by the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee works with communities and businesses vulnerable to flood risk helping to promote a culture of personal and neighbourhood flood resilient behaviour and support local flood action groups.

- We are working with the Mersey Forest and Environment Agency to deliver Natural Flood Risk Management measures in the South Pennine fringes of the borough
- Working with the GMCA, Regional Flood and Coastal Committee, EA and United Utilities to develop, promote and deliver best practice in sustainable urban drainage (Fran)

Achieving a net gain in biodiversity for new development;

- We are working with the GMCA and Natural England to develop a GM wide approach to promoting and delivering biodiversity net gain through new development.

Increasing investment into our natural environment;

- There is the GM Natural Capital Investment Plan which seeks to identify a pipeline of projects and existing and new streams of investments that can be utilised.
- Through our Pennine Edge Forest initiative and working with City of Trees, Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission we are supporting the development of the Northern Forest project and working to identify land that could be included in new tree planting proposals and further funding opportunities to support this.
- Littleborough/Hollingworth Lake Masterplan – improved recreational opportunities around Hollingworth Lake - Link 4 Life
- Currently involved in the development and implementation of the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan to tackle nitrogen dioxide exceedances. Stakeholder engagement work has taken place and the results are being considered across AGMA and with TfGM. We are planning to take part in public consultation on the clean air plan. Nicola Rogers and Laura Elliott are leading on this area of work.
- A real time air quality monitoring station is to be installed in the borough.
- Monitoring of NOX at various points across the borough currently takes place by the installation of monitoring tubes at points across the borough. The number of monitoring points has recently been increased.

Increasing engagement with our natural environment.

- Development and improvements across our Parks and Countryside services to encourage participation and more people using the outdoors
- We are working as a member organisation with Pennine Prospects who are developing proposals for a South Pennines People's Park which celebrates the South Pennines and its landscape and wildlife, promotes better access for recreation and by public transport, supports a sustainable rural economy and encourages the delivery of sustainable land management and environmental services for climate resilience e.g. peatland restoration that supports carbon and flood risk management.

Our resilience and adaptation to climate change – how resilient we are to climate change and how well we adapt to its impacts

Embedding climate change resilience and adaptation in all policies;

Increasing the resilience of an investment in our critical infrastructure;

Implementing a priorities programme of nature-based climate adaptation action;

Improving monitoring and reporting

- These areas will be developed as our plans become more detailed