



Cities and Community Energy

September 2021



Acknowledgements

This report would not have been possible without funding from the MCS Charitable Foundation and special thanks goes to Richard Hauxwell-Baldwin at MCS for comments and support during this project.

Community Energy London (CEL) would like to thank a number of contributors to the creation of this report.

Philip Coventry, from Community Energy England, provided invaluable guidance and insights on the hurdles faced by community energy groups in accessing effective support from government at the very local level. CEL would like to give a special thank you to Jonathan Atkinson, Carbon Co-op, for his support in delivering the Manchester Net Zero event. Speakers at the Manchester event and their recommendations have fed directly into some of the conclusions in this report. CEL would like to thank these speakers, including: Councillor Abdul Jabbar MBE, Deputy Leader, Oldham Council; Kate Gilmartin, Rural Community Energy Fund North West; Helen Seagrave, Community Energy Manager, Electricity North West; Emma Bridge - CEO, Community Energy England, Michael Hemingway, Principal Officer Climate Change, Salford City Council; Tanuja Pandit, Power Up North London and Kate Eldridge, Director, Greater Manchester Community Renewables.

A special acknowledgement has to go to the wider network of community energy organisations across England that have delivered energy projects, engaged with their communities and have delivered impacts far beyond expectations for primarily volunteer groups. They achieved this during a time of changing policy and uptake of technologies. CEL is pleased that some of these successes and hurdles they have overcome, have been documented in this report. This report will hopefully help them, regional and local government leaders to better understand how others are approaching the same climate challenge, share information and engage with community energy groups in moving towards Net Zero.

This report was researched by Elaine Trimble and written by Elaine Trimble and Syed Ahmed. . Any inaccuracies are the sole responsibility of the authors and the report does not necessarily reflect the views of those individuals or organizations.

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FOREWORD	4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
1. INTRODUCTION	7
2. WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENERGY?	9
2.1 Community Energy: State of the Sector	9
2.2 Urban Community Energy	9
Case Studies: Community Energy in Action	12
3. CITIES AND CLIMATE	13
3.1 Mayors and Combined Authorities in England	14
4. REVIEW OF CITY CLIMATE PLANS	17
4.1 Community Participation in Climate Plans	19
4.1.1 Climate Targets	20
4.1.2 Community Engagement	20
4.1.3 Skills and the Green Economy	22
4.1.4 Community Climate Action	23
4.1.5 Community Energy	26
4.2 Why support community energy	28
4.2.1 Community Energy and Behavioural Change	28
5. RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY ENERGY ACTION	30
6. CONCLUSIONS	33

Appendix 1:

Analysis of Combined Authorities – and constituent local authorities – Climate Plans (May 2021)

Foreword

Over the past few years London's community energy sector has shown its resilience by bringing forward close to 100 projects across the capital. These have ranged from fuel poverty workshops, to energy efficiency retrofits, solar PV and heat pump installations, and even some of the most innovative electricity storage and supply innovation trials. This has been in large part due to the hard work and inventiveness of groups, but also in equal measure to the support and collaboration that groups have received from a number of London borough officers, Councillors and the Mayor of London. We would like to see other cities and groups in those cities have similar levels of support and encouragement from their Mayors and councils to help drive projects in their areas. With Combined Authorities in England and over 200 local authorities setting out their ambitions to deliver Net Zero in their local Climate Plans, there has never been a better opportunity for collaborating to delivery a cleaner, fairer and more affordable energy system. We hope this report and its recommendations can help further dialogue to make this happen.



Syed Ahmed, Chair, Community Energy London

Cities are where most people live and they are where energy is most in demand. They will be critical to the UK's response to climate change and there is a real opportunity for the community energy sector to contribute. But urban community energy projects have characteristics that mean this opportunity must be understood differently to rural and other locations. Local authorities are key to unlocking the potential of community energy, given their role in local areas with site ownership, energy procurement and responsibilities to citizens. Now more than ever, a concrete and rapid response to climate change is needed and it is important to citizens and local authorities. Urban community energy organisations across England have shown their ingenuity, determination and innovation over the last 10 years; working in collaboration with local authorities only enhances the value this brings to both the community and the local authority and helps make climate action move faster and more fairly. With its comprehensive mapping of urban local authority climate targets and policies, this report provides information essential to help community energy organisations and local authorities work together to enable citizens to participate actively in shaping the transition to a net zero energy system, realise the financial and social benefits that community energy can bring to local communities, and build on climate declarations and targets to help local authorities meet their climate targets.



Emma Bridge, Chief Executive, Community Energy England

Executive Summary

- **Urban areas are major sources of carbon dioxide emissions and present significant challenges to achieving large-scale decarbonisation. This report focuses on opportunities for the greater collaboration of Mayors and councils in England’s cities with community energy groups to drive forward projects to tackle the climate emergency, as well as groups helping deliver local climate action plan programmes, and supporting wider behavioural change activities on emissions reduction, an increasingly critical component to achieve Net Zero.**
- **Community energy groups face particular challenges in the development of projects in cities due to space restrictions in the built environment, increased project costs, a limitation of technologies that can be employed in city-locations and so on. Added to these challenges has been national Government’s removal of a number of policy mechanisms that supported smaller scale community energy projects, typical of the type that were employed in urban locations.**
- **This study analyses the climate emergency plans of England’s Mayoral-led Combined Authorities (excluding London, where we have undertaken separate analysis, published earlier this year¹), along with a number of these authorities ‘constituent’ councils, identifying particular initiatives within those plans to work with local communities and community groups to drive climate related action.**
- **We then go further to examine where specific programmes have been established to support local community energy activity, what these programmes are, highlighting best practice and opportunities where such programmes can be more widely adopted.**
- **Some city and local authorities’ climate plans are now providing new opportunities to help kick start community energy action, but huge potential and room for improvement remains in our towns and cities to boost the uptake of community participation in the delivery of local carbon reduction projects.**
- **To help inform this report, in June 2021, Community Energy London, Carbon Co-op, and Community Energy England held an event, *Net Zero for 2038 – The Role of Community Energy in Greater Manchester*. We highlight a number of findings from that event and, alongside the extensive research undertaken for this report, propose the following recommendations to help drive community energy activity in cities:**
 - 1. Harness the potential of community climate action** – Analysis of the CAs/council climate plans shows that there is a clear acknowledgement of the need for strong community engagement if local Net Zero targets are to be achieved. Many of the plans focus on what can be done to the councils’ own assets to decarbonise: whilst important to ‘lead by example’ – the role of local communities to support wider emission goals across cities is absolutely critical. **Greater information sharing is needed to identify best practice examples where local government have successfully engaged and supported community climate action, including community energy projects. Climate plans should set out clearly where programmes will require active community participation to succeed. Organisations including the M10 Metro Mayors Group, Core Cities, the Local**

¹ *Community Energy in a Climate Emergency*, Community Energy London, August 2021

Government Association (LGA) and London Councils need to send out a common message on the key role that communities will play to help achieve local Net Zero targets.

- 2. Creating a community climate contact** - Community groups – including community energy groups – can find it challenging to engage with local government when wanting to discuss a project or idea they wish to progress. **With the introduction of a climate action plan, CAs and councils should ensure that they put in place resources such as a clearly nominated individual and/or team who can work with community-led projects to navigate council procedures as the project progresses, and also encourage community involvement in climate action plan programmes.**
- 3. Developing Community Energy Roadmaps** – Combined Authorities and constituent councils should collaborate with local community groups to create a roadmap setting out the potential for community energy in their area. **The roadmap should identify how community groups could most effectively support climate action plan priorities, where support from local government to community energy groups is best targeted and how community energy groups can help advise and shape council policy to ensure that it is delivering the intended Net Zero outcomes.**
- 4. Provision of Financial Resources** – With the closure of the Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF), city-based community energy groups have struggled in an already challenging environment to bring forward projects. **Even modest amounts of local authority funding can be sufficient to deliver an initial feasibility study that which in turn can raise capital funding through a community share offer. The development of a project can stimulate local civic pride in helping deliver assets that contribute to reducing emissions and spur on further individual and community action to mitigate climate change.**
- 5. Opening up Data** – The Greater London Authority (GLA) have commissioned and posted online data maps of the energy consumption and solar potential of buildings in London. **With increasing energy efficiency, renewable and building energy consumption data becoming available, access to this data provide can help identify potential sites and opportunities for community groups and other others for possible low carbon projects.**
- 6. Beyond Finance** –Beyond financial support, **local government can explore opportunities to support local community energy action by leasing roof space and/or land for renewable energy projects; supporting bids submitted by groups for funding to external organisations; provide opportunities for groups to support local authority led projects in areas such as energy efficiency retrofit, identify sites for community energy projects or make introductions between key land or building owners and community groups.**

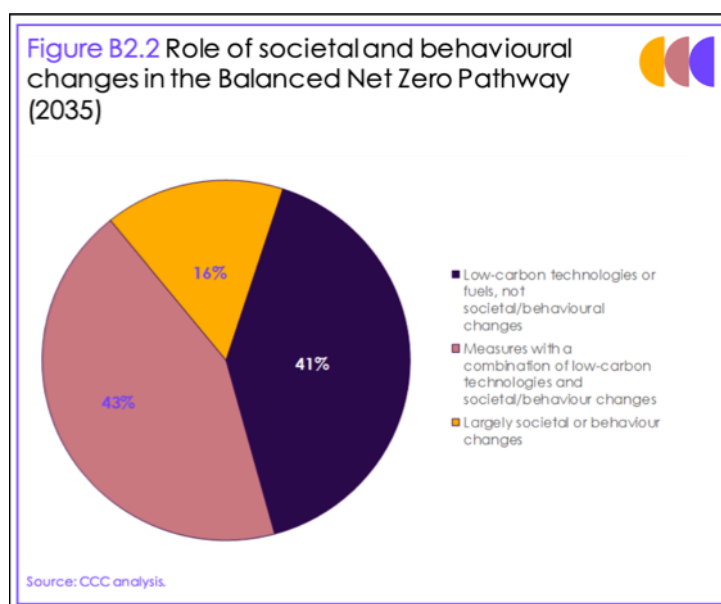
1. Introduction

Since 2019, Mayors of Combined Authorities and over 200 councils across England have declared a Climate Emergency, committing to a series of policy and programmes set out in a dedicated Climate Action Plan, with the aim of achieving Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions for their region.

Local government has been motivated to act in response to growing climate activism informed by the latest climate science as well as an increased awareness that climate change is now being felt on a regular basis in our cities and towns. As the impacts of extreme weather are now reported as regular occurrences across the globe, the imperative to act is being heightened, just as the UK is to host the UN international climate change conference for the first time this November, COP26, in Glasgow.

This need to act to reduce emissions is leading to calls for a system wide change to how we generate and use our energy, grow and transport our food, move around cities and heat our homes. Added to this, as a result of the pandemic, there is now also an emphasis to ensure we can enact these changes equitably, leaving no-one behind, creating a greener and fairer economy for all.

Greater emphasis is now also being placed on what we can do to help achieve the Net Zero goal, both individually and as a community. The Climate Change Committee (CCC) reported that only 41% of the changes needed to achieve Net Zero can be solely delivered by technology, with the majority of emissions savings required, 59%, linked to public behavioural change with or without associated technologies.² More recently the CCC's³ latest progress report stated that "*active engagement with people and businesses across the country*" will be an essential element of securing a Net Zero pathway.



² UK Climate Change Committee, *The Sixth Carbon Budget the UK's Path to Net Zero*, December 2020, page 70.

³ *Progress in reducing emissions 2021 Report to Parliament*, CCC, June 2021

The House of Commons Environmental Audit Committee (EAC) has supported this position, writing earlier this year to the Secretary of State at BEIS that:

*“... the UK will not reach its net zero target without individual and societal behavioural change on energy usage. This has also been suggested by the Climate Change Committee in its Net Zero Report and advice on the Sixth Carbon Budget. **Community energy is uniquely placed to engage the public in the energy transition to a decarbonised network, encouraging increased uptake and understanding of sometimes controversial technologies such as onshore wind turbines and smart grids...Evidence provided to the suggested that community energy brings unique educational opportunities that will be vital for energy behaviour change in the coming decades.**”⁴*

There is a strong rationale for Mayors and councils to harness the skills and passion of the community energy sector in helping contribute to achieving their ambitious goals for Net Zero. At present, such partnerships are few and limited in scope, but as local government sets out potential decarbonisation options in their climate plans, the need for community climate action is being increasingly recognised. Councils will always need to do the ‘heavy lifting’ in terms of reducing emissions, but community energy groups can ‘amplify’ local action, identify new opportunities, raise finance through community share offers, and go on to develop and promote projects that can help support greater public ‘buy in’ on Net Zero.

Many community energy groups are active in cities, but, as with the wider sector, have been adversely impacted by recent Government changes to policy. Community Energy England’s State of the Sector surveys over the past two years has documented the severe contraction in the number of projects coming forward. London groups have however had strong support from the Mayor of London, alongside a number of London boroughs, which is helping drive a significant number of new projects⁵. **This report is looking to drive similar community energy and climate activity in other cities across the country by highlighting that:**

- Whilst community energy groups are delivering emissions reducing through development of community-led renewable energy, energy demand reduction and energy efficiency projects, the number and importantly – the scale of these projects - could increase through greater partnership and support from local government.
- Working alongside local government, groups can support the delivery of programmes set out in council climate plans by disseminating information and uptake across their communities, collaborating on area-wide projects such as building retrofit, and also encouraging wider societal ‘green behaviour change’ amongst the public.
- Local knowledge is key and community energy groups can help identify vulnerable and fuel poor households, determining what their exact needs are, and signposting them to relevant council and industry energy support programmes.
- Community groups bring passion and inspiration, helping keep momentum in pushing forward initiatives: something much needed as the path to Net Zero is hugely challenging.

⁴ Ibid

⁵ See Community Energy London project map - <https://map.communityenergy.london/>

2. What is Community Energy?

Community energy is used to describe a project in which people come together in an open, participatory way to create an organisation that will generate, own, manage, or reduce consumption of energy. In the UK, community energy organisations come in many shapes and sizes but generally share aims of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, re-connecting people with how energy is generated and consumed, tackling fuel poverty, and returning benefits to the local economy. There are two main areas of community energy activity prevalent in cities: community-financed renewable energy generation and energy efficiency/fuel poverty alleviation. However, projects involving electricity grid flexibility services, low carbon transport and local energy supply are also now being explored by groups.

There are multiple benefits associated with community energy, including reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, an increase in decentralised energy capacity and generation, reductions in energy costs for buildings that serve the community, alleviation of fuel poverty, and increasing public engagement in energy and environmental issues.

2.1 Community Energy: State of the Sector

Community Energy England, Wales and Scotland are all seeing increasing interest from parish and town councils, and community organisations with other priorities, who want to deliver energy projects to address climate change. In 2020, community energy organisations employed over 430 people and raised over £30 million in community shares. 34 organisations installed renewable electricity projects across the UK, compared with 39 in 2019, demonstrating continued but reduced growth compared with last year.

The 2021 Community Energy State of the Sector reported *“During the pandemic, the sector has proved both its resilience, with over 400 organisations continuing to work on projects, and its local value with more than 80 organisations leading bottom-up Coronavirus response or delivering over £200,000 of recovery funds to their areas. With the right support this impact could be scaled up to help deliver a green recovery.”*⁶

The study identified that across the UK in 2020:

- There were 424 community energy organisations operating
- The sector employed 431 staff
- 132 organisations were working on energy efficiency projects
- 53 organisations worked on low-carbon heat
- The sector was supported by 3,096 volunteers
- And the sector engaged 358,000 people on energy and climate change
- £30.2m was raised through community share offers
- There was a total of 319MW of community energy installed generating capacity.

2.2 Urban Community Energy

⁶ *Community Energy State of the Sector Report 2021*, June 2021, CEE, CES, CEW

Urban-based community energy groups deliver a range of projects according to the needs of their communities, and in response to local and national government support systems that exist to support their work. However, community energy groups face particular challenges in the development of projects in cities due to space restrictions in the built environment, increased project costs, and importantly, less choice in the type of generation technologies they can employ in city locations (i.e. wind power and large scale solar, two popular project-types for community energy groups outside of cities, not only in the UK, but across Europe, are simply not possible for most urban locations; UK air quality priorities in cities also limit the use of biomass heat combustion schemes). Over the past few years, the removal of a number of support mechanisms by Government, most notably the Feed in Tariff (FIT) that helped finance smaller scale community energy projects typical of the type that were employed in urban locations, have added to these challenges.

These challenges have been exacerbated by the government removing several support mechanisms, most notably the Feed in Tariff (FiT). These helped finance smaller scale community energy projects typical of those employed in urban locations.

Many community energy groups kick-started their work through the development of solar PV projects, but are now diversifying into other areas ranging from EV charging infrastructure, energy storage and, increasingly, a range of energy efficiency projects, responding to new funding streams coming forward. With increasing policy focus on the decarbonisation of heat, technologies such as heat pumps are likely to become a greater focus for all community energy groups, but especially those in cities, where the 'heavy lifting' in terms of switching from gas heating will be required as a result of the concentration of homes and businesses here.

Typical urban community energy projects include:

- **Solar PV** – Solar photovoltaic projects are the most common form of energy generation for community groups, constituting 80% of all community-owned electricity generation. Small to medium scale rooftop solar projects are most typical in urban areas, although such projects are not without their challenges due to competing uses for rooftop space for many non-domestic buildings, from air conditioning units to green roofs; roofs also need to be strong enough to carry a solar array; there can be additional insurance premiums, business rate impacts; and complex building ownership arrangements can mean identifying the landlord or building owner to engage with on the project is not always clear. Hence, community groups typically work with organisations such as schools, community centres and leisure centres to deploy projects, often liaising with local authorities to help broker discussions. There remains significant potential for the installation of solar on such buildings, as well as other sites that groups regularly liaise with such as places of worship, health centres, art venues and so on.
- **Energy efficiency** – Energy efficiency projects can range from larger-scale insulation retrofits, education workshops for residents, energy surveys, including use of a thermal camera to identify heat loss, to building-wide LED lighting installation. Groups also signpost residents and organisations to opportunities to access local and national grants, provide energy tariff switching advice, and support to households looking to arrange payment plans with their energy supplier. Groups are continuing to upskill themselves on routes for the greater provision of energy efficiency to clients, working with local retrofit companies, training staff and volunteers, and exploring routes for greater collaboration with local authorities.

- **Low carbon transport** – Groups are also now active in low carbon transport projects, focusing on the development of communal electric vehicles and charging infrastructure sites. The 2021 State of the Sector report highlights 22 groups involved in EV charging projects with activity also in vehicle to grid (V2G) solutions, selling electricity back to grid at times of demand as a way to increase revenues.
- **Energy storage** – The use of electricity storage solutions, often linked to solar projects, is another area being examined by groups. Batteries linked to a solar PV array can charge when there is an excess of electricity being generated beyond the site’s needs (e.g. such as a PV system on a school roof over the weekend or holidays, where the site is not in operation). A battery can then store and discharge that power onsite when demand is needed, or export to the grid, or be part of a local flexibility project looking to balance electricity supply and demand at the local distribution level, though Community Energy England has highlighted that there remain challenges in developing viable business models to make such services economically feasible at the present time. The Green Alliance’s *Community Energy 2.0* report estimates that the UK has 3GW of installed battery capacity, which is equivalent to powering 300,000 vehicles, with an additional 7GW of planned capacity.⁷ A key message of National Grid’s recent Future Energy Scenarios (FES) was that as much as 13GW of electricity storage is needed by 2030 to enable huge growth in renewables⁸.
- **Heat Pumps** - Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) are projected to become significantly more common as the Government looks to shift heating away from fossil gas, with the Prime Minister announcing an approximate 20-fold increase over today’s installation rate to 600,000 annual heat pump installations by 2028⁹. ASHPs have significant potential in urban areas, both in individual buildings but also by feeding into larger communal heat networks, where waste heat or another heating source is also used. The Government is to set out its plans for decarbonising heat supplies later this year in their Heat and Building Strategy (HABS), and following the introduction of new incentives, renewable heat projects are likely to become increasingly important to urban community energy groups.

⁷ https://green-alliance.org.uk/resources/Community_Energy_2.0.pdf

⁸ [Energy Storage News](#), 13 July 2021

⁹ *The Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution*, HM Government, November 2020

Case Studies: Community Energy in Action

Carbon Coop, Manchester

Carbon Co-op is a Manchester based not-for-profit social enterprise focusing on how to enable a radical reduction in home energy use and avoid runaway climate change. Carbon Co-op delivers services and expertise to enable its household members to reduce their energy use, provides consulting services, and aims to share knowledge and inspire, build a network that connects householders, suppliers and installers, offers quality and independent technical advice and aims to positively shift the climate dialogue through research and advocacy.¹ Carbon Co-op has delivered several impactful projects on home retrofit and green skills training. Through a grant from the Next Generation Community Energy Fund, Carbon Co-op is aiming to transform itself into a digital energy services enterprise and to lead the digital transition with trust and accountability at its core.

Ambition Lawrence Weston, Bristol

Ambition Lawrence Weston (ALW) is not a community energy company per se, yet it is in the process of delivering one of the most ambitious community energy projects in the UK. ALW is a community organisation that has worked to make its neighbourhood, Lawrence Weston, a better place to live. The group established itself in 2012 and has delivered a range of projects starting with inputs into local planning policy including the preservation of local green space, training local residents, securing more affordable housing as part of local developments and creating a network that aims to have a strong voice and to be at the heart of local decision making. ALW's venture into community energy, Ambition Community Energy (ACE), is an outgrowth of ALW's wider aims as its intent is to deliver clean and affordable electricity to area residents.¹

The wind turbine is expected to produce enough electricity to power 3,500 homes generating CO₂ savings of 1,965 tonnes per year. Profits will go towards an on-site Energy Learning Zone and community hub.¹

Community Energy Birmingham

Community Energy Birmingham is a community renewables co-operative that has delivered over 5 energy installations with an annual electricity output of 100,000 kWh per year, avoiding over 100 tonnes of carbon emissions. Community Energy Birmingham grew from three smaller organisations and benefited from some early funding from British Gas and EON. They have built on those initial projects and now have solar generation on commercial and recreational buildings including a ski centre. Excess electricity is even used to heat an immersion tank to ensure that school groups have warm showers in the Ackers Residential Centre.¹

Community Energy Birmingham is structured as a Society for Community Benefit, and it raises finance through community share offers. It is owned by its members and membership starts at only £1.

3. Cities and Climate

The coming decade will see significant changes in our towns and cities as Government Net Zero strategies set out major infrastructure upgrades to our homes and streets. Local government leaders will increasingly need to make planning and other decisions in relation to new EV infrastructure charging equipment, heat networks, routes to decarbonising gas networks, installing solar arrays, and large scale building retrofit programmes.

The Cities Climate Commission recently highlighted that London and the UK's 11 Core Cities produce 50% of the UK economy, are home to 44% of the population and large numbers of businesses. Consequently, cities also produce substantial carbon emissions (15% of the UK total just from their urban cores) but are also *"places that can achieve the biggest acceleration in lowering carbon, which is vital if the UK is to reach its Net Zero targets."*¹⁰ The Commission also stated that a capital investment requirement of around £330 billion will be needed across all our cities to deliver Net Zero. Cities and large towns – and their density – are central to the UK meeting its net zero objective, and a priority needs to be placed around ensuring that planning, housing retrofit and transport policies *"work with net zero goals, rather than against them"*¹¹.

The past few months has seen unprecedented calls for action to harness the powers of cities and local authorities to respond to Net Zero. This includes:

- The Climate Change Committee¹² setting out a priority recommendation to Government that it should *"Support local government (with MHCLG) to play a full role in the Net Zero transition, including through increased resourcing, guidance, involvement in local area energy plans, statutory reporting on the emissions from their estate and reforming the planning framework to enable delivery of low-carbon and climate-resilient measures."*
- The National Audit Office (NAO) highlighting that for Net Zero, *"...local authorities will have a critical part to play. There are 333 principal local authorities and 10 combined authorities (as*

¹⁰ [UK Cities Joint Declaration on new Climate Investment Commission](#), 1 July 2021

¹¹ Net zero: decarbonising the city, Centre for Cities, July 2021

¹² [2021 Progress Report to Parliament](#), CCC, 24 June 2021

well as the Greater London Authority) in England, between them providing a range of services to people in their areas which impact on net zero, such as transport planning, social housing and recycling and waste services.”¹³

- The importance of cities and climate change will be highlighted at the forthcoming COP26 climate conference, which will hold its first ‘*Cities, Regions & Built Environment Day*’ on 11 November, where the role of local government will be highlighted and where UK local government will have a role in designing and participating the day¹⁴.

Metropolitan mayors released a joint statement¹⁵ in July 2021 stating “*Metropolitan combined authorities, cities and local authorities are playing an essential role in ensuring the UK meets its Net Zero target and many have committed to ambitious targets. They are already at the vanguard of delivering climate change action on the ground, unlocking good jobs across our communities in the process.*”

Metro mayors are directly elected leaders of ‘combined authorities’, city regions that are made up of a number of mainly urban local councils. Combined Authorities have power and resources devolved to them from national government (as set out in the Devolution Register¹⁶), which allows for member councils to be more ambitious in their joint working.

Ten combined authorities have been established to date. These are listed below, including the local authorities that make up the authority:

3.1 Mayors and Combined Authorities in England

Table 3.1: England’s Combined Authorities and their Constituent Councils

			Constituent Councils
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough	On 3 March 2017, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority was established as a Mayoral Combined Authority for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area.	Dr Nik Johnson was elected Mayor in May 2021 taking over from James Palmer, who was elected in 2017.	<u>Seven local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge City Council • Cambridgeshire County Council • East Cambridgeshire District Council • Fenland District Council • Huntingdonshire District Council • Peterborough City Council • South Cambridgeshire District Council

¹³ [Local Government and Net Zero in England](#), National Audit Office (NAO), 16 July 2021

¹⁴ [Priorities for COP26](#), House of Commons, 22 July 2021, LGA

¹⁵ [Net Zero Local Leadership Communique: Delivering a Net Zero UK](#), UK100, 13 July 2021

¹⁶ See <https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/devolution/devolution-online-hub/devolution-explained/devolution-register>

Greater Manchester	The Greater Manchester Combined Authority was established formally in March 2011. In November 2014, it was announced that Greater Manchester, along with several other city regions, would elect a 'metro-mayor' with similar powers to the Mayor of London.	Andy Burnham was elected Mayor of Greater Manchester in May 2017, and was re-elected for a second term in May 2021.	<u>Ten local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolton • Bury • Manchester • Oldham • Rochdale • Salford City Council • Stockport • Tameside • Trafford • Wigan
Liverpool City Region	Established 1 April 2014.	Steve Rotheram was elected as the first Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region on 5 May 2017, and re-elected for a second term in May 2021.	<u>Six local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halton • Knowsley • Liverpool • Sefton • St Helens • Wirral
North of Tyne	Established 2 November 2018.	Jamie Driscoll, elected as the first ever Mayor for the North of Tyne Combined Authority in May 2019.	<u>Three local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle • North Tyneside • Northumberland
South Yorkshire	The authority's first mayoral election took place on Thursday 3 May 2018. Previously known as Sheffield City Region Combined Authority, the present name was adopted in June 2021.	Dan Jarvis was elected as Mayor of the Sheffield City Region in May 2018.	<u>Four local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheffield • Rotherham • Doncaster • Barnsley
Tees Valley	Created in April 2016.	Ben Houchen was elected as the first Mayor of Tees Valley in May 2017 and re-elected in May 2021	<u>Five local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darlington • Hartlepool • Middlesbrough • Redcar & Cleveland • Stockton-on-Tees

West Midlands	Established in 17 June 2016	Mayor Andy Street was elected on 4 May 2017 and re-elected for a second term in May 2021.	<u>Seven local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birmingham City Council • City of Wolverhampton Council • Coventry City Council • Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council • Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council • Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council • Walsall Council
West of England	WECA was established in early 2017	Dan Norris was elected Mayor in May 2021 taking over from Tim Bowles who was elected in May 2017.	<u>Three local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bath and North East Somerset • Bristol City Council • South Gloucestershire
West Yorkshire		Tracy Brabin was elected the first Mayor of West Yorkshire on 9 May 2021.	<u>Five local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bradford City Council • Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council • Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council • Leeds City Council • Wakefield Metropolitan District Council
North East Combined Authority	Created 15 April 2014	No directly elected mayor	<u>Four local authorities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunderland • Gateshead • South Tyneside • County Durham

The following section outlines the climate plans of the majority of England’s Metropolitan Mayors, as well as a selection of their constituent local authorities within those regions, and considers the role that these plans are engaging with local communities to support emission reduction initiatives as well directly supporting community energy action.

4. Review of City Climate Plans

The key analysis behind this report is based on:

- The climate plans of England’s **seven Combined Authorities** who have declared a Climate Emergency, and also;
- 14 urban local authorities, which are members of Combined Authorities, but who have also issued their own climate action plan.

and is contained in full in Appendix 1 of this report.

Two Combined Authorities have not declared a climate emergency: Cambridge and Peterborough, and Tees Valley. However, there are constituent councils within these areas who have declared a climate emergency, and their plans have been reviewed.

The list of Combined Authorities and councils whose climate plans studies are set out in Table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Climate Emergency Declarations and Climate Plans

Mayoral Area	Selected Constituent Councils who have declared a Climate Emergency	Climate Emergency Declared	Climate Target	Linked Strategies
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority		No Climate Emergency Declaration Has Been Made	Net Zero 2050	Independent Commission on Climate will report its findings and recommendations to the Combined Authority in 2021
Constituent Councils	Cambridge City Council	February 2019	Council and City Net Zero 2030	<i>Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan 2021-2026</i> , March 2021
	Peterborough City Council	July 2019	Council and City Net Zero 2030	<i>Carbon Management Action Plan</i> , March 2020
Greater Manchester Combined Authority		July 26, 2019	Carbon Neutrality 2038	<i>Five Year Environmental Plan (2019 – 2024)</i>
Constituent	Manchester City Council	July 2019	Zero Carbon 2038	<i>Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-2025</i>

Councils	Salford City Council	July 2019	Carbon Neutral 2038	<i>Local Plan, 2017</i>
Liverpool City Region		June 2019	Zero Carbon City Region 2040	<i>Year One Climate Action Plan, April 2021</i>
Constituent Council	Liverpool City Council	July 2019	Net Zero 2030	Environment consultancy Eunomia engaged in Oct 2020 to develop plan.
North of Tyne Combined Authority		May 2019	Carbon Neutral 2030	Citizens Assembly Feb/March 2021
Constituent Councils	Northumberland Unitary Authority	June 2019	Carbon Neutral 2030	<i>Climate Action Plan 2021 - 2023</i>
	Newcastle City Council	April 2019	Carbon Neutral 2030	<i>Net Zero Newcastle – 2030 Action Plan</i>
	North Tyneside Council	July 2019	Carbon Neutral 2050	<i>North Tyneside Climate Emergency Action Plan, September 2020</i>
Sheffield City Region Combined Authority		November 2019	Net Zero 2040	<i>SCR Mayor's Climate Emergency Response Framework, July 2020</i>
Constituent Council	Sheffield City Council	January 2019	Carbon Neutral 2030	<i>Setting Climate Commitments for the City of Sheffield, June 2019</i>
Tees Valley Combined Authority		No declaration	National Targets of Net Zero 2050	
Constituent Councils	Darlington	July 2019	National Targets of Net Zero 2050	<i>A Carbon Neutral Darlington Borough Council Climate Change Strategy (July 2020)</i>
	Middleborough	2019	Carbon Neutral: 2029 Council, 2039 Town	<i>Middleborough Green Strategy (Draft), November 2020</i>

West of England Combined Authority		July 2019	Zero Carbon 2030	<i>West of England Climate Emergency Action Plan, September 2020</i>
Constituent Councils	Bristol City Council	November 2018	Carbon Neutral 2030	<i>Bristol Climate Action Plan, 2019</i>
West Midlands Combined Authority		June 2019	Zero Carbon 2041	<i>West Midlands 2041, January 2020</i>
Constituent Council	Birmingham City Council	June 2019	Zero Carbon 2030	<i>Route to Zero Action Plan, December 2020</i>
West Yorkshire Combined Authority		June 2019	Net Zero 2038	<i>Clean Growth Action Plan, September 2019</i>
Constituent Council	Leeds City Council	March 2019	Carbon Neutral 2030	<i>Climate Emergency Update, January 2020</i>

- A key finding of the analysis of these strategies is that there is a lack of consistency between climate action plan goals of the combined area authorities and the constituent councils whose plans were also studied.
- As mentioned above, in the cases of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and Tees Valley Combined Authorities, the Authorities have not as yet declared a climate emergency whereas some of their constituent councils have done so, which is likely to make the achievement of those councils' carbon reduction goals more challenging.
- **The only mayoral area where there was alignment at the regional and council levels was in Greater Manchester, where all authorities are targeting Carbon Neutrality at 2038.**

4.1 Community Participation in Climate Plans

The fact that there is no common methodology to work to when developing a climate action plan, at either CA or council level, means that each authority has taken a different approach on the focus and content of its climate action plan, with different priorities and emphasis adopted, different targets, and potentially different routes for measuring success. Despite the Government's adoption of a UK Net Zero target in 2019, national government has not called on metro mayors or local authorities to respond to this change to its emission reduction plans, or supported their climate declaration actions and subsequent strategy work. The National Audit Office's recent *Local Government and Net Zero* study found that "central government has yet to determine, in consultation with the sector, local authorities' overall responsibilities and priorities in achieving the national net zero target, and whether or not any of these might require a statutory basis. Without a clear sense of responsibilities and priorities we see a risk that local authority action on net zero is not as coordinated, targeted, or widespread as it might need to be. For example, some local authorities

in our focus groups and workshops told us it is unclear what the most effective balance of national, local and regional action is likely to be to reduce emissions.”¹⁷

Despite not having a clear sense of responsibilities or priorities, authorities at both the regional and council levels are developing strategies outlining how their authorities will reduce carbon emissions. **The focus of this study is to report on those areas of the CA/council climate plans, which indicate specific initiatives, or plans to support and/or collaborate with local communities on emission reduction projects. Additionally – we examine where councils have identified a role for community energy – and what steps they are taking to boost such action in their regions.**

Appendix 1 of this document provides a comprehensive overview of the commitments linked to community action made by CAs and a selection of their constituent councils in their climate plans, which we have grouped along the following themes:

- Climate Targets
- Community Engagement
- Skills and the Green Economy
- Community Climate Action: active mobility, advocacy, fuel poverty, renewable energy, and youth engagement.
- Community Energy

Here we provide analysis and commentary across these themes below:

4.1.1 Climate Targets

National policy is to achieve Net Zero by 2050, however nearly all combined authorities have set targets to achieve either carbon neutrality or net zero by an earlier date, as set out in Table 4.1. In many instances, it is unclear whether the authorities are differentiating between Net Zero and Carbon Neutrality, for example, Bristol City Council states that it uses “*Carbon Neutral as short hand for Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions, taking into account our direct emissions in the city from energy use and transport but also our total indirect emissions which includes aviation and the consumption of goods and services produced elsewhere.*” In this sense, Bristol City Council is taking a very wide look at emissions but does not see a difference between the two. Hence, it is not always clear at the present time how much meaning should be given to a Carbon Neutral or Net Zero target. However, it needs to be acknowledged that reaching either target will require mobilising significant resources both within the council and, critically, going beyond what the council can directly act upon, and working proactively with local residents, wider public sector organisations within their region and businesses.

With the majority of local climate targets set around the period 2030 – 2040, many authorities are setting out their clear ambitions for rapid change to reduce emissions. However, it is also clear that these initial climate plans are not able to provide the full range of policies and incentives required to meet their carbon neutrality/Net Zero targets, and further action will be needed as these plans develop over the coming decade, including initiatives to enable much greater public participation in climate mitigation – and adaptation – programmes.

4.1.2 Community Engagement

Climate plans targets generally focus on emissions related to council buildings (town halls, schools, leisure centres etc.) as well as services delivered by the council, and not on total emissions released

¹⁷ *Local government and net zero in England*, National Audit Office (NAO), July 2021

across their area. However, **reaching Net Zero will require councils taking into account emissions from businesses, and households of all tenure, taking greenhouse gas levels far beyond the council's actual footprint. This acknowledgement is reflected in all climate plans, which have stressed the need for stronger community engagement if targets are to be achieved.** There are considerable differences between the two levels of local government in how they plan to approach their communities on Net Zero broadly reflecting their different responsibilities; Combined Authorities take a more strategic approach about setting the appropriate policy framework for emissions reduction across the region; whereas councils focus on more specific actions linked to their day to day operations.

The majority of authorities at both levels stressed need for public sector leadership to incentivise local action. For example:

- **Sheffield City Region** stated *"If we are to achieve our 2040 SCR:NZ objective, then everyone has to play their part. Leadership should be provided by civil leaders from across the City Region, but real change can only happen if all of our communities are empowered to do their bit. This will take engagement, understanding and ensuring we are all informed about the choices we have to make."*
- **Bristol City Council** states: *"The Mayor is committed to the delivery of a climate change public engagement programme to engage and empower citizens (SDG 17)."*
- The **Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)** started with highlighting the need for all key authorities to be engaged: national government and, in Greater Manchester, the GMCA, Local Authorities and Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM). GMCA's sustainability plan highlights that it is also about convening and engaging partners, providing the right policy framework, using their operations/public buildings to motivate change and it also stressed the need for everyone to take action, *"...everyone needs to engage and feel empowered to act and support others to do the same. We need this agenda to become more mainstream, in particular harnessing the potential and enthusiasm of our city region's young people, engaging them in the aims and actions this plan sets out."*

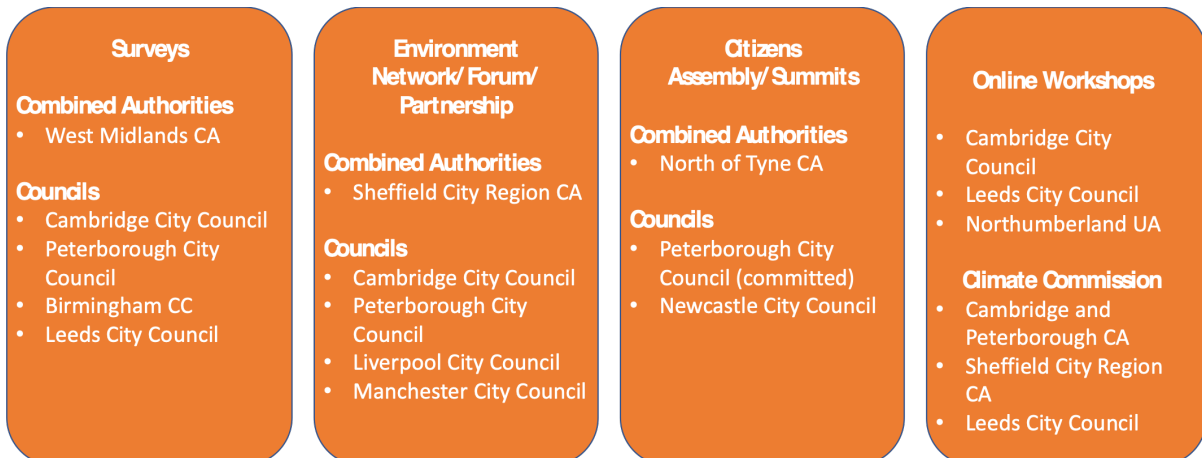
At the city council level, community engagement was more detailed and listed specific projects.

Most authorities highlighted within their climate plans the importance of community engagement and the need for leadership and action at the authority and city/council level to be both an example and to help create the infrastructure or market for wider change. Councils and authorities want to see their actions become catalysts for wider behavioural change, greater resident engagement and to support a just transition to Net Zero. For example:

- **Leeds City Council** initiated the Big Leeds Climate Conversation, which started with officers and volunteers engaging with the public, they then formed the Leeds Climate Change Citizen's Jury, which worked with the Leeds Climate Commission to create 12 key climate recommendations for the city to take forward.
- **North Tyneside Council** clearly saw a link between community engagement, behavioural change and community energy groups (explored in more detail later in this section).

The most common tools that authorities either were using or were proposing to use included:

- Surveys
- Citizens and Youth Assemblies
- Environmental Networks (ongoing formal connection to borough comprised of residents)
- Climate Commissions and appointed commissioners
- Online workshops and learning tools



4.1.3 Skills and the Green Economy

The Government stated in their November 2020 Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution that its proposals will support up to 250,000 green jobs in 2030. An estimate from National Grid¹⁸ suggests that between now and 2050 that there will be a need to fill 300,000 green jobs – more than double the number of jobs in the energy sector today.¹⁹

The climate plans reviewed generally acknowledged that there must be a shift in employment towards green jobs if climate targets are to be reached. Differences across strategies were most evident in the approach to this question: is it an economic opportunity for an existing skilled workforce or is it a skills gap that must somehow be fixed? Several authorities definitely see the growth of green jobs as a significant opportunity and are starting initiatives to put their regions forward as the hub for green skills.

Very few strategies had any details around what their skills initiative would look like, but some did mention possible partners. The following diagram illustrates where they are in planning for developing a green skills base.



¹⁸ [Building the Net Zero Energy Workforce](#), National Grid, January 2020

¹⁹ <https://www.current-news.co.uk/news/400-000-green-energy-jobs-to-fill-if-the-uk-is-to-meet-net-zero-target>

Many Combined Authorities do see the energy transition as an opportunity, for example:

- **GMCA** see this as a region-defining opportunity, with their strategy stating *“As well as reducing our energy bills, we can secure first mover advantage from accelerating the transition to a low carbon economy, creating jobs in the future economy.”* The strategy is realistic in that it acknowledges the current ‘Catch 22’ that these skills are not yet being demanded yet projects are being slowed due to a lack of skills. Their response will be to try and create the opportunities for green skills, helping build the market for these roles.
- The **West Midlands** has made re-skilling and employment as a result of the sector transition one of its Key Actions. It sees this as an opportunity to *“build wealth, and recycle it throughout the region through skills and community ownership: people in the WM can become more prosperous as we invest into tackling climate breakdown.”* It goes further to say that investments will be made into the people who need it most, with an aim to tackle fuel poverty, give people an opportunity to change their career trajectory by improving skills, connectivity, cleaning the air and ensuring the quality and availability of public spaces and assets.
- **Liverpool City Region** has an aim to work with local colleges, authorities, universities and training providers and to refresh their Low Carbon Skills for Growth Action Plan with a better understanding of future green jobs and the specific skills requirements.

City Councils tended to have more specific recommendations and in some cases such as, in **Birmingham City Council**, use its procurement powers to implement change. Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust will ensure that training for new technologies is included as part of the tendering process. Birmingham’s strategy also reported that it is in early conversations with the West Midlands Combined Universities about setting up a retrofit training programme.

Newcastle City Council has an ambition to grow ‘green collar’ jobs and to ensure that these are high quality and in thriving industries. It proposes to use short-term economic stimulus funding as a springboard for delivering sustained and ambitious low carbon growth and to leverage private finance as it grows. The strategy specifies the need not only for skills but also for accreditation, a supply of skilled workers that can deliver the new government-funded housing energy efficiency retrofit programmes, and also the provision of specific support to those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

4.1.4 Community Climate Action

Across all climate plans studied, there are number of common areas of action where greater public participation and community engagement are absolutely critical if plans are to succeed. We have grouped these under the following areas:

- i. Active Mobility
- ii. Advocacy
- iii. Fuel Poverty
- iv. Renewable Energy
- v. Youth Engagement

The following section goes into further detail into these areas providing specific examples from climate plans.

i. Active Mobility

A key objective for most combined authorities was promoting active travel to their communities. Typically funding is being allocated towards the promotion and improving infrastructure of cycling and walking routes. For example:

- The **Liverpool City Region** has numerous actions including direct funding for cycling routes and the creation of a cycling website.
- The **West Midlands CA** specifies that that it will reallocate highways space to mass transit and active travel. It further makes a connection between its investment in a 5G network, working remotely and a reduction in the need to travel at all.

Councils focused on actual journey numbers and targets to reduce those numbers, as well as provision of specific cycling routes and delivering promotional events such as car free zones and weekends. For example:

- **Newcastle City Council** is targeting a 70% increase in cycling journeys and
- **Birmingham City Council** has put forward plans to pedestrianise some city centre streets.

ii. Advocacy

Advocacy was an area where the combined authorities and city councils differed significantly. The CAs' strategic role for a region provided the impetus to make more calls on national government in areas such as longer term funding for green projects, faster decarbonisation of the national grid, strengthening climate commitments ahead of COP26, and make changes to transport and national planning policy to align with Net Zero.

Examples include:

- **West Midlands Combined Authority** is requesting for planning policy changes in order to demand zero carbon or negative carbon developments as well as significant sums for a Low Carbon City Investment Fund (£1bn) and a Clean Air Fund (£1bn), which it estimates would actually be worth £6.5bn to the overall economy.
- The **West of England** is asking for changes in energy distribution regulation to support innovation in renewable generation.
- **Liverpool City Region** is asking for changes in the technical notes for highways and junctions to support cycling and walking, and reinforcement of climate commitments and leadership, in particular in the lead-up to COP26.
- **Greater Manchester Combined Authority** envisages creating an Energy Transition Region to test new approaches, policy and finance mechanisms to accelerate local renewable generation, storage and efficiency projects.

Councils focused less on advocacy, but it was still part of several strategies. For example:

- **Sheffield City Council's** strategy is asking national government/National Grid to act faster on grid decarbonisation.
- **Bristol City Council** is asking national government to increase local powers to reduce particulate emissions from industrial and residential buildings, with a focus on wood burners.
- **Birmingham City Council** joined forces with the West Midlands Combined Authority through its Low Carbon Officers' group, and a number of other public sector and wider organisations, to collectively lobby via a Route to Zero Taskforce, which has now been replaced by a Climate Assembly.

- **Leeds City Council** is asking for a national taxation and incentive scheme to increase the use of electric vehicles and to significantly boost the amount of long-term funding available for active travel and public transport improvements.

iii. Fuel Poverty

Alleviating fuel poverty was mentioned in many, but not all strategies. When fuel poverty was specifically mentioned it tended to be aligned to wider building retrofit programs with an aim to reduce energy costs. Fuel poverty discussions often reference a choice some families have between ‘heating or eating’ and that lowering energy bills would go some way towards helping.

- **West Midlands CA** included fuel poverty within one of its Key Actions and stated that as part of pursuing greater energy devolution they will combine a shift to sustainable energy with a medium-term reduction of fuel poverty. The Authority will also work to reduce fuel poverty by delivering the government’s housing energy efficiency targets five years ahead of time.
- **Birmingham City Council** points out that electricity is more expensive than gas – and that there will be a very real problem with councils being able to deliver the electrification of heat if the price of electricity remains significantly higher than natural gas.
- **Leeds City Council** has commissioned the University of Leeds to map household energy use to better understand where investment can deliver maximum benefits, including a reduction in fuel poverty. Leeds is investing in its housing with an aim to reduce fuel poverty and it will ask national government to ensure that a national infrastructure approach to housing would drive action, achieve economies of scale and offer support to those in fuel poverty.

iv. Renewable Energy

An increase in renewable energy generation was mentioned in nearly all strategies, but detail surrounding how much, or how it would be delivered, was only present in a few. The strongest support for renewable energy were in strategies where specific targets were stated.

- **Greater Manchester CA** is targeting 45MW of local generation by 2024 and 20% renewable generation for all new build housing. GMCA also proposed creating a new investment vehicle to deliver renewable assets on estates and to start collective purchasing of renewable electricity. Manchester City Council proposed points that suggested that retrofit would include a range of renewable technology including, solar, batteries and EV charging).
- **Liverpool City Region** is to develop a potential renewable project pipeline, with a view to attract commercial partners, to help bring projects forward faster.
- **Sheffield City Region** has also put forward renewable heating targets to get 85% of homes transitioned to heat pumps and 15% transitioned away from gas via some other form of renewable heat, possibly through heat networks.
- **Bristol City Council** also put forward an aim to develop heat networks.
- **The West Midlands CA** has an ambition to develop a regional investment plan for both renewable heat and cooling.

Smart technology was mentioned in a few of the strategies. Most notably, **Newcastle City Council** is aiming to develop a virtual power plant, where electricity is generated and consumed within a very local area and smart technology controls supply, demand and storage of electricity to maintain a balanced micro-grid behind the main grid connection.

Peterborough has plans for an online renewable energy portal, again potentially putting forward areas where renewable energy may be most appropriate.

v. Youth Engagement

Several city councils have identified youth engagement as a priority. Where councils have focused on youth engagement the most common approach has been via a Youth Summit, as delivered by **Manchester City Council, Newcastle City Council and Leeds City Council**. Other city councils, including Peterborough, Bristol and Leeds, have been engaging on the issues via existing local youth councils. For example:

- **West Midlands’ Combined Authority** stressed the need to engage young people and specifies that the region will champion young leadership. The authority will invest in the education, skills and capabilities of young people and will make space for them to create and lead.²⁰
- **Leeds City Council**, as part of its Big Leeds Climate Conversation²¹, has incorporated a number of actions specifically targeting teens and young adults. The council organised three workshops with young people, including one with the youth council and other events via BreezeLeeds.org – a website for those aged 19 and under and their families who are looking for positive things to do.²² The council promoted the climate conversation with schools and via Leeds for Learning. Additionally, specific presentations about the programme were delivered directly to primary and secondary school heads. Leeds City Council also planned to publish a guide for schools, survey young people on their climate views, hold a youth summit, hold a Climate Emergency Advisory Committee meeting with a focus on schools and engagement and deliver family and child friendly events, including the Leeds Ambassador event, and promote their programmes at job/university fairs.
- **Newcastle City Council** is taking an action-based approach, and it is asking its teens and young adults to attend the Youth Summit, encourage friends and family to do more for the climate, and to walk and cycle to school and work. The council will create a network of Student Climate Change Champions to promote positive actions and to help young people to understand their impact, and work with the Youth Democracy Group, formerly the Youth Council, to collect views on climate, understand their priorities and how they can contribute to net zero.²³

4.1.5 Community Energy

Of the strategies reviewed for this report, only two include specific support programmes for community energy projects. However, community energy is referenced in a further eight strategies, where proposals range from acknowledging some degree of value to projects, or intent to engage with community energy groups. **The fact that community energy is mentioned in less than half of the strategies reviewed demonstrates that the sector has relatively low visibility to authorities and many have not connected their aims and targets with the potential benefits that community energy can deliver.**

The **West of England Combined Authority**, has direct support in place for community energy projects via its Low Carbon Challenge Fund (LCCF). Their climate plan states that it will provide

²⁰ West Midlands’ Combined Authority, *West Midlands 2041*

²¹ Leeds City Council, *Climate Emergency Update*

²² <https://breezeleeds.org/about-breeze>

²³ Newcastle City Council, *Net Zero Newcastle – 2030 Action Plan*

funding and technical support to increase community energy via its LCCF and also with the South West Energy Hub²⁴. Other CA climate plans reference community energy in the following ways:

- **GMCA** states that “ *Our infrastructure will be fit for the future; we will have an integrated, clean and affordable public transport system, resource efficient buildings, greater local community renewable energy, cleaner air, water and greenspace for all.*” The strategy acknowledges that community energy groups are already adding value: “*We need to continue to realise and support the contribution and power of community energy groups to contribute to local electricity generation, including Generation Oldham and Greater Manchester Community Renewables*”. It also highlights that community groups are well placed to help tackle tough issues as they understand the local area and can bring people together with a common purpose.
- **Liverpool City Region** states an ambition to invest in local community energy projects, stating it will work with its financial partners to enable affordable renewable energy and to facilitate investment into community energy projects.
- **Sheffield City Region** states that it will ‘champion community ownership.’ The strategy goes on to say that communities will be enabled to develop local energy schemes and provide residents opportunities to invest in the region’s infrastructure.
- **West Midlands CA** states that it will work with financial institutions and investors to create products to enable positive outcomes, with one proposed concept being a co-operative share issue to deliver community owned renewable energy.

Bristol-based community energy group Ambition Lawrence Weston (ALW) was a recipient of the West of England LCCF funding for the development of a community-owned wind turbine, sited on **Bristol City Council** land, with the profits from the sale of the electricity generated by the turbine contributing to the development of a local community hub providing training, social support and debt advice to residents. This is a good example of a working partnership across the Combined Authority, local council and a local community group to deliver both environmental and social benefits²⁵.

North Tyneside’s climate action plan puts forward community energy ambitions at the outset of the document, stating that it will undertake community energy programmes and install solar PV, with other energy technologies, across domestic and commercial properties.²⁶ The strategy states that it will engage with community groups to explore routes for community centres to become demonstration sites for low carbon technologies, as well as providing local practical and educational support.

²⁴ The South West Energy Hub is one of five that have been established across England. In the South West, the Hub covers seven Local Enterprise Partnership areas, with the West of England Combined Authority leading the project. More at <https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/south-west-energy-hub/>

²⁵ [Lawrence Weston to tackle fuel poverty with wind turbine](#), BBC, 29 October 2020

²⁶ North Tyneside Council, *North Tyneside Climate Emergency Action Plan*.

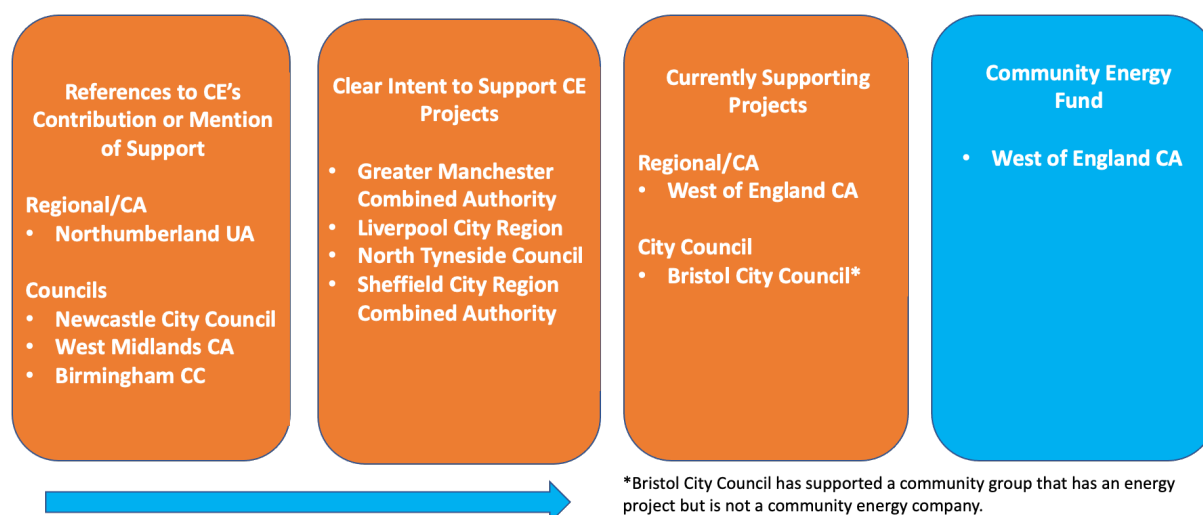
4.2 Why support community energy

Community energy groups can support CAs and local authorities to meet their climate emergency targets in a number of ways:

- Identifying, delivering and managing renewable energy and energy efficiency projects within the region
- Raising investment for these projects via community share offers from the local community
- Working with local authorities to support the delivery of programmes contained within their climate plans – this can range from encouraging community participation in any new initiatives to directly working with officers on projects
- Supporting and influencing green behaviour change amongst the community.

A progression of community energy support by local authorities can be seen as the following: starting to promote the work of community energy groups to local residents and businesses, to establishing relationships with community energy groups to include them within council climate delivery programmes, to developing specific programmes for community energy, such as feasibility or capital support funds.

At the present time, there is a real disparity between numerous stated intentions to support community energy and actual support provided (see graphic below). This drop-off could be linked to simply a lack of resources or a lack of engagement with community energy groups to better understand their potential to support and deliver local climate priorities.



It also needs to be emphasised that there are non-financial ways that local authorities can support community energy activity and these will be explored later in the report.

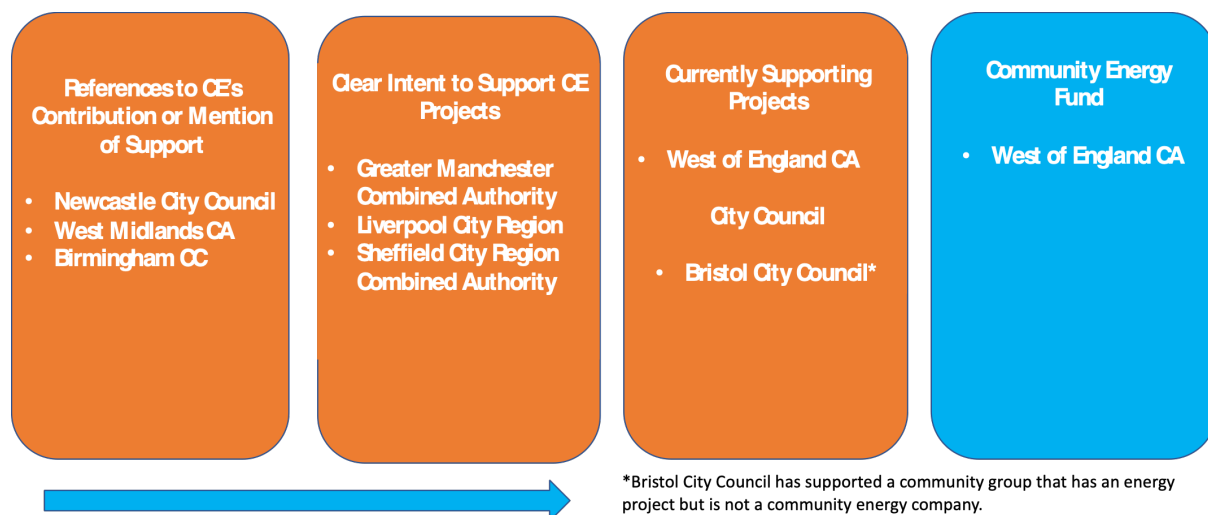
4.2.1 Community Energy and Behavioural Change

Through enabling greater public participation in energy projects, community energy groups are providing an important route to engage residents on the issue of climate change which not only supports local council ambitions for emissions reduction, but also encourages wider environmental

behaviour changes across the community. CEE has estimated that through the work undertaken by over 100 community energy organisations involved in energy efficiency, that these groups were able to engage with 234,000 local people²⁷. More work needs to be undertaken to understand the extent that such engagement fosters actual change amongst communities, but many energy sector organisations are realising the benefits of working with community energy groups to reach the ‘hard to engage’ households and are increasingly working with groups as part of the delivery of their services. Electricity North West (ENW) found that the 29 community energy groups operating within their license area were reaching over 6,000 people, roughly 216 per group²⁸. These numbers show a very high level of engagement, particularly for groups that are primarily small and volunteer based. North Tyneside Climate Action Plan, prepared by the Carbon Trust with the council, does start to make these connections and states that “Community energy has the potential to create real engagement within the local community. Citizens partake as active participants in a process of change, rather than passive consumers. Participants will have a say in how things move forward, share in the benefits, a sense of collective purpose and be more invested with the outcomes.”²⁹

Electricity North West stated in its *Electricity North West: Community Energy State of the Sector Report 2020*, that within their license area, over 20 local authorities have declared a climate emergency. And that action plans are being developed to meet these targets and that “community energy is uniquely placed to help reach local and national net zero targets whilst keeping important social issues at the heart of the energy transition.”

If indeed other councils agree that community energy is a route to real engagement and a sense of purpose then possibly more in-kind and direct financial support will be forthcoming and more authorities will move into boxes 3 and 4 along the evolution of community energy support.



²⁷ Community Energy England, *Community Energy State of the Sector 2020*

²⁸ Electricity North West, *Electricity North West: Community Energy State of the Sector Report 2020: Working Together Towards Net Zero.*

²⁹ North Tyneside Council, *North Tyneside Climate Action Plan.*

5. Recommendations to support community energy action

With combined authorities and councils setting carbon reduction pathways even more ambitious than national government, it is essential that these authorities fully engage with their communities to drive climate action to help achieve local targets. This will require residents not only fully engaging in all aspects of climate plans linked to local services (waste, transport, green spaces, food etc.), but also actively participating in the energy transition to decarbonise their homes and neighbourhoods.

To help inform this report, in June 2021, Community Energy London, Carbon Co-op, and Community Energy England held an event, *Net Zero for 2038 – The Role of Community Energy in Greater Manchester*, where speakers³⁰ and participants, which include local government representatives and community energy practitioners, explored options that could best enable community energy action in cities. **Some of the actions raised during the event where community energy groups can support and bring value to local government climate initiatives included:**

- Local knowledge is key – and community energy groups can support in helping identify vulnerable and fuel poor households, including providing details of what their exact needs are.
- Groups can provide expertise on technologies such as solar, wider decentralised energy supply and distribution issues as well as experience and advice on energy efficiency retrofit.
- Community groups bring passion and inspiration, helping keep momentum in pushing forward initiatives: something much needed as the path to Net Zero is hugely challenging
- Groups can also provide knowledge and training to residents and communities on key areas such as retrofit, energy efficiency measures, solar and so on.
- Community energy groups are trusted organisations, bridging residents and local government.
- Groups have shown that they can raise millions of pounds of funding to invest in local projects through community share offers. They are also able to access grants not always available to councils.
- These community share offers not only provide the capital investment into the project, but can also create long term community funds that are re-invested back into the local area.
- [Greater Manchester Community Renewables](#) (GMCR) was provided as an example of a group who helped inspire parents and children into supporting the development of energy projects, eventually installing solar panels on seven Salford schools – demonstrating what can be achieved by the community - as well as reducing school energy bills.

In terms of opportunities for local government to support community energy action in their area, proposals included:

³⁰ Speakers included representatives from local government, including the Deputy Leader for Oldham Council, an Officer from Salford City Council, practitioners from Carbon Co-op, Greater Manchester Community Renewables, the Rural Community Energy Fund, Community Energy England, Electricity North West and Power Up North London.

- Local authorities can support groups navigate the network of council operations (property, legal, housing, procurement, and education) when project opportunities arise – having a clear point of contact in the first instance for groups to go to is essential.
- The importance of support for initial feasibility studies for projects (structural surveys, legal advice, planning permission, DNO application etc) is key. The premature closure in 2016 of the Government’s [Urban Community Energy Fund](#) (UCEF) was a setback for many groups working in cities. Following the closure of UCEF, in London, the introduction of the Mayor’s [London Community Energy Fund](#) (LCEF), and specific borough initiatives such as the [Islington Community Energy Fund](#)³¹ have helped fill both the funding gap, stimulating community energy activity across the city, delivering new projects, raising new funds through community share offers and supported the formation of new groups.
- Beyond financial support, local government can explore opportunities to support local community energy action by leasing roof space and/or land for renewable energy projects; supporting bids submitted by groups for funding to external organisations; provide opportunities for groups to support local authority led projects in areas such as energy efficiency retrofit, identify sites for community energy projects or make introductions between key land or building owners and community groups.
- Local government can also promote local groups across their region: council support provides credibility for groups when talking to local organisations where they wish to develop a scheme – e.g. schools, community centres, places of worship etc.

Building on the outputs of this event, further consultation with groups, and the analysis of the climate actions plans studied for this report, we recommend the following actions by Combined Authorities and their constituent councils to drive community climate and community energy action in their regions:

1. Harness the potential of community climate action – Analysis of the CAs/council climate plans shows that there is a clear acknowledgement of the need for strong community engagement if local Net Zero targets are to be achieved. Many of the plans focus on what can be done to the councils’ own assets to decarbonise: whilst important to ‘lead by example’ – the role of local communities to support wider emission goals across cities is absolutely critical. **Greater information sharing is needed to identify best practice examples where local government have successfully engaged and supported community climate action, including community energy projects. Climate plans should set out clearly where programmes will require active community participation to succeed. Organisations including the M10 Metro Mayors Group, Core Cities, the Local Government Association (LGA) and London Councils need to send out a common message on the key role that communities will play to help achieve local Net Zero targets.**

2. Creating a community climate contact - Community groups – including community energy groups – can find it challenging to engage with local government when wanting to discuss a project or idea they wish to progress. **With the introduction of a climate action plan, CAs and councils should ensure that they put in place resources such as a clearly nominated individual and/or team who can work with community-led projects to navigate council procedures as the project progresses, and also encourage community involvement in climate action plan programmes.**

³¹ Other London boroughs have also set up similar funds – notably LB Camden and LB Lewisham

3. Developing Community Energy Roadmaps – Combined Authorities and constituent councils should collaborate with local community groups to create a roadmap setting out the potential for community energy in their area. **The roadmap should identify how community groups could most effectively support climate action plan priorities, where support from local government to community energy groups is best targeted and how community energy groups can help advise and shape council policy to ensure that it is delivering the intended Net Zero outcomes.**

4. Provision of Financial Resources – With the closure of the Urban Community Energy Fund (UCEF), city-based community energy groups have struggled in an already challenging environment to bring forward projects. **Even modest amounts of local authority funding can be sufficient to deliver an initial feasibility study that which in turn can raise capital funding through a community share offer. This has been evidenced by the number and size of the community energy share offers in London following feasibility support provided through the London Community Energy Fund (LCEF) and similar initiatives in cities such as Bristol and Oxford. The development of a project can stimulate local civic pride in helping deliver assets that contribute to reducing emissions and spur on further individual and community action to mitigate climate change³².**

5. Opening up Data – The Greater London Authority (GLA) have commissioned and posted online data maps of the energy consumption³³ and solar potential³⁴ of buildings in London. **With increasing energy efficiency, renewable and building energy consumption data becoming available, access to this data provide can help identify potential sites and opportunities for community groups and other others for possible low carbon projects.**

6. Beyond Finance –Beyond financial support, **local government can explore opportunities to support local community energy action by leasing roof space and/or land for renewable energy projects; supporting bids submitted by groups for funding to external organisations – including innovation projects³⁵; provide opportunities for groups to support local authority led projects in areas such as energy efficiency retrofit, identify sites for community energy projects or make introductions between key land or building owners and community groups.**

³² For further information see: *Setting up a Local Authority Community Energy Fund*, Community Energy London & LB Islington Council, June 2020

³³ *London Building Stock Model*, GLA

³⁴ *London Solar Opportunity Map*, GLA

³⁵ A useful list of the types of innovation projects that could be supported can be seen in *Community Energy 2.0: The Future roles of local energy ownership in the UK*, Green Alliance, February 2019

6. Conclusions

The Environment Audit Committee (EAC) wrote to BEIS earlier this year highlighting how:

“Successful community energy projects across the country are placing tackling climate change at the heart of their activities, engaging the public in decarbonisation and pioneering innovative trials to meet the demands of a potentially decentralised and increasingly digitised future energy network³⁶.”

In the absence of any strategy for the community energy sector from national government at the present time, there is now an opportunity for Mayors and councils, through their climate plans, to lead on shaping community climate action in their areas. There are currently no policies, plans and only minor support from national government to support community energy. CEE’s recent State of the Sector 2021 report concluded that: *“An engaged energy citizenry will be necessary for achieving net zero and we are calling in this report for the government to get behind this populist movement, and provide real, demonstrable support for the sector³⁷.”*

The Environmental Audit Committee stated³⁸ *“...it is disappointing that [the] recent Energy White Paper only mentions community energy once and local energy only twice. **We recommend that the forthcoming Net Zero Strategy emphasises the importance of community energy, and that BEIS develops, with the support of the devolved administrations, a complementary UK-wide community energy strategy, to include practical support measures to harness the potential of community energy.**”*

Our comprehensive survey of climate plans by England’s Combined Authorities and a number of their constituent councils has found that whilst many strategies delivered a vision, and often highlighted the critical role that communities will play to achieve local Net Zero goal:

- The process of engaging citizens and communities with these plans remains unclear.
- Unlocking the power of communities to shape and deliver projects within their own neighbourhoods remains largely untapped.
- Recognition of community energy groups’ ability to delivery renewable and energy efficiency projects to support council ambitions is yet to be realised.
- The role that community energy groups can to play to help upskill communities, create jobs and deliver positive social impact to ensure that no one is left behind and everyone can benefit from the energy system, including the most vulnerable, has been overlooked.

There is a growing expectation from the public for Mayors and councils to deliver against targets set out in their climate plans. This has been spurred on by increasing evidence that we are already

³⁶ Letter to Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng, SoS BEIS ‘*Technological Innovations and Climate Change inquiry: Removing the barriers to the development of community energy*’, Environmental Audit Committee, 29 April 2021

³⁷ Community Energy State of the Sector Report, Community Energy England, June 2021

³⁸ Letter to Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng, SoS BEIS ‘*Technological Innovations and Climate Change inquiry: Removing the barriers to the development of community energy*’, Environmental Audit Committee, 29 April 2021

feeling the impacts of man-made climate change through the increased incidence of extreme weather events alongside further reporting by the IPCC in August 2021³⁹. Councils have acted boldly in declaring climate emergencies after a decade of austerity and delivering climate plans at the same time as dealing with the complexities of the provision of frontline services during the pandemic. The time is now right to take the next step, harnessing the dynamism of the community energy sector to activate community climate action across our cities and progress on the path to Net Zero.

³⁹ Climate change widespread, rapid, and intensifying – IPCC, Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, August 9 2021, IPCC

Appendix 1

Analysis of Combined Authorities – and constituent local authorities – Climate Plans (May 2021)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority		Not Declared a Climate Emergency
Cambridge City Council		<i>Climate Change Strategy and Carbon Management Plan 2021-2026 and Appendix 3</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) to deliver a range of walking, cycling and bus improvements on key routes into and across Cambridge, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chisolm Trail cycling route connecting Cambridge and Cambridge North Stations • 2 Greenways, providing radial cycling and walking routes connecting Cambridge and surrounding settlements and employment sites. • Bus, cycling and waling priority schemes on Histon Road and Milton Road • Building new Council housing developments in Cambridge with a target of less than one car parking space per home to encourage travel by walking, cycling or public transport, subject to individual development requirements • Promote sustainable modes of transport through the planning system by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying policies in the current Local Plan to support housing and non-residential development which prioritises access by walking, cycling and public transport. • Develop new policies related to promoting sustainable transport and ensure that the accessibility of new development sites to sustainable transport infrastructure is a key aspect in decision making in preparing the Greater Cambridge Local Plan
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering a measurable biodiversity net gain on the City Council’s estate through enhanced management of existing Local Nature Reserves and making parks and housing open spaces more hospitable to wildlife through creation of meadows, scrub and woodland. • Implementing projects to manage water courses and improve biodiversity, including a project to improve rare chalk stream habitats in Cambridge. Initial work will focus on Cherry Hinton Brook,

		<p>Vicars Brook at Coe Fen, and Coldhams Brook on Stourbridge Common.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to cease the use of herbicide on grass road verges and trial using a new grass cutting and collecting machine, which will reduce cuttings left on verges.
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 - online workshops during November 2021, which were attended by a total of 75 residents. Three of the workshops focused on specific themes in the strategy (housing, waste and sustainable food, and climate change adaptation) and two of the workshops covered the strategy as a whole. Each workshop included presentations by Council officers and University of Cambridge experts, followed by a facilitated discussion with participants. • An online consultation survey, which was completed by 252 residents. • 3 - "Climate Change Forum" meetings between August 2020 and January 2021 with local environmental groups including Cambridge Carbon Footprint, Transition Cambridge, Cambridge Sustainable Food, Carbon Neutral Cambridge, and Friends of the Earth. • Regular meetings with Cambridge Zero (the University of Cambridge's new climate change initiative) and meetings other University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin academics with climate change expertise. • A workshop with key businesses and institutions in Cambridge on 28 January 2021. • Producing a net zero carbon animation, which was used to promote the workshops and the survey on the Council's social media accounts. We also promoted the workshops and survey via all residents' associations, members of local environmental groups, and to University of Cambridge staff and students. • Communicating and engagement is a key theme of the new Climate Change Strategy. We will also explore innovative ways of communicating and engaging with residents and businesses to encourage positive behaviour change and low-carbon living.
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with local voluntary and community groups to address food poverty, including working with Cambridge Food Poverty Alliance and Cambridge Sustainable Food to develop a food redistribution hub. • Continuing to work with the Cambridge Sustainable Food network towards achieving the Sustainable Food Cities Network Silver Award for Cambridge, and exploring opportunities to apply for the Gold Award. • Maintaining the current level of occupancy rates at existing allotments and supporting take-up of new community gardens and allotments in growth sites to encourage residents to grow their own food.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with local voluntary and community groups and other partners to promote sustainable food practices to local businesses.
	Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding for projects included in the Carbon Management Plan comes from a number of different funding sources, including the Council's Climate Change Fund and existing General Fund or Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets for delivering services. The Climate Change Fund was established in 2008 to fund measures that will reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's buildings, fleet and services. The Climate Change Fund has contributed a total of £1.4 million to projects delivered since 2008/09. (Pg 3) in January 2021 the Council secured £1.7 million from the first round of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. Identify a percentage of the Council's reserves to invest in innovative "green investments" to facilitate measures to offset climate change.
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the tree canopy cover through tree planting and protection on public and private land, and using parks, open spaces and other green infrastructure in the city to help regulate temperatures.
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will be commissioning a retrofit study to identify what energy efficiency and renewable energy and low carbon heating measures would need to be installed for different property archetypes in Cambridge to reach different carbon emissions standards.
Peterborough City Council		<i>Carbon Management Action Plan</i>
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change Champions: The Council has an active network of 60 Change Champions representing the Council's various service areas. These individuals are responsible for raising awareness of key initiatives and embedding change. A key focus for the Champions moving forward will be to develop and deliver a programme of behavioural change activities to result in actions that will directly reduce carbon emissions across the Council's estate. This programme of work commenced in December 2019 and a small budget has been allocated from the current Climate Change revenue budget to support this work. Peterborough Climate Change Partnership (PCCP): work is underway to launch a local climate change partnership meeting. This is likely to involve members of the local business community, residents, young people, Council officers and members. Discussions are underway with the local Leadership Forum to ascertain if their environment sub-group could act as a strong starting point for such a group. Citizen Engagement: whilst the above will enable certain members of the public to be involved in

		<p>activities and offer views, the Council wants to set up a mechanism whereby wider citizen engagement can take place. This will commence with a city wide survey designed to gauge local opinion in order to ascertain priorities for local action...Alongside this the Council will ensure that: its website provides up to date and accurate information about its activities alongside a carbon calculator to allow individuals to quantify the personal impact; issue a regular e-newsletter to subscribers providing information on local citywide activity, and; continue to raise awareness of climate change through the local media.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools: the Council sees schools as having a vital role to play in helping to meet our ambitious targets. Schools have a big direct carbon impact themselves (through, for example, their use of electricity, gas and materials consumption), but also a vital education and behavioural change role... we will consider the possibility of launching a carbon saving competition to encourage schools to reduce their energy consumption. • Parish Councils: similar to schools, the Council sees Parish Councils as having a vital role to play in helping to meet our ambitious targets. Parish Council generally have a relative low carbon impact themselves, but can have a vital role championing change within its local area. As such, we intend to work with a willing Parish Council to prepare a bespoke action plan (Parish-CMAP), that maximises the opportunities Parish Councils have within their statutory powers, with the intention that this will form the template for other Parish Councils to use. • Council committed to convene a Citizens Assembly. • City Wide Action Plan: This third plan is intended to be ‘Peterborough wide’, looking at a programme of actions to combat emissions across the whole area, including business, homeowners and visitors. Such a plan will need to be prepared in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders, and we intend to help set up that collaboration in the coming months (before summer 2020) and complete the plan by March 2021.
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the efficiency of buildings, in particular to address fuel poverty.
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking a thorough appraisal of the carbon emissions arising from our Farm Estate land, and develop options and proposals to reduce such emissions and, potentially, use of such land to generate renewable energy and/or peat restoration to act as a regenerating carbon sink. • Completing an energy opportunity assessment for Sand Martin House, Regional Swimming Pool, Hampton Premier Leisure & Fitness Centre, Bushfield Sports Centre, and Clare Lodge to identify measures that can be taken to reduce consumption and/or generate renewable energy and deliver at least one of these on each site. (not a direct quote as combined similar statements)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Collection: Renewable Energy via an online renewable energy portal
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peterborough Youth Council: this group of young people have agreed that they would like a significant proportion of their work to focus on addressing the climate emergency. As such the Council commits to working in partnership to deliver tangible action. One specific action suggested by the Youth Council may be to coordinate a Schools Conference.
Greater Manchester Combined Authority		<i>Five Year Environmental Plan (2019 – 2024)</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential for active travel networks (walking and cycling routes) to also provide green infrastructure Priority 1: Increasing use of public transport and active travel modes 2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan, including: Mayor’s Challenge Fund for walking and cycling Transforming cycling and walking infrastructure to encourage people to make walking and cycling their natural choice for short journeys Targeted investment from the GM Health and Social Care Partnership to support population scale behaviour change to create a cultural norm for walking
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do We Need from National Government (across these 3 priorities)? To work with us to establish an Energy Transition Region (or Energy Innovation Zone) in Greater Manchester to test innovative approaches, policy and finance mechanisms to accelerate local renewable energy generation, storage and efficiency at scale Accelerated and deeper decarbonisation of the national electricity grid beyond that in the scenarios set out by the National Grid. A more stable and longer term policy landscape for local renewable electricity generation and low carbon heat to build confidence, demand and supply in a sustainable way.
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieving a net gain in biodiversity for new development
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our infrastructure will be smart and fit for the future; we will have an integrated, clean and affordable public transport system, resource efficient buildings, greater local community renewable energy, cleaner air, water and greenspace for all. Install renewable electricity generation (e.g. solar PV) at your premises and consider partnering with community energy groups (e.g. Power Paired) to do so. We need to continue to realise and support the contribution and power of community energy groups to contribute to local electricity generation, including Generation Oldham and Greater Manchester

		Community Renewables. Community-led action can often tackle challenging issues around energy, with community groups well placed to understand their local areas and to bring people together with common purpose. Community groups have come together to develop a Community Energy Action Plan they will implement to support this.
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our public sector has a leading role to play. This includes national government and, in, Greater Manchester, the GMCA, LA and TfGM, as follows: • Convening, engaging and educating – see the section below. • Providing the right policy framework – this includes setting ambition and direction providing a robust evidence base to inform action and where the public sector have the policy levers available, setting a policy framework in which others can take action to help meet our aims. • Operations – the public sector should lead by example in putting in place actions to meet our aims. This is most effective in areas the public sector has direct operational and/or financial control over including its assets (e.g. land, buildings, vehicles) procurement and, for the Las, the development it consents. These actions have been outlined throughout this Plan. • Given the need for all of us to take action to achieve the aims in this plan, everyone needs to engage and feel empowered to act and support others to do the same. We need this agenda to become more mainstream, in particular harnessing the potential and enthusiasm of our city region’s young people, engaging them in eth aims and actions this plan sets out.
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Organisation – continue to work with partners across these areas, particularly on the development of our food strategy.
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This includes supporting people out of fuel poverty and enabling fair access to jobs, greenspace and clean, safe transport.
	Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All citizens will have access to green space in every community, more trees including in urban areas, active travel networks, environmental education and healthy and locally-produced food. • City of Trees – develop, embed and support delivery of a Greater Manchester Tree and Woodland Strategy, contribute to 3m tree planting target and increase volunteering and engagement. • GMCA and LA will embed a natural capital approach on their estates and land.
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing local renewable electricity generation • Increasing the diversity and flexibility of our supply • The installation of low carbon heating and renewable energy generation/storage as part of retrofitting a building to reduce its energy demand or adding green infrastructure (e.g. green walls) to it. • Will complete a full assessment of the potential of our assets for renewable energy and develop these

		<p>assets (where financially viable) by the end of 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an investment vehicle to develop assets for renewable energy and deliver renewable energy generation on estates. • Require 20% renewable energy generation at new developments. • Examine the potential to establish a GM collective solar PV/battery purchase to drive up residential uptake. • Priority 1: Increasing local renewable energy generation, adding at least a further 45MW by 2024.
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GMCA will develop a Resilience Strategy, setting out a clear approach to resilience across Greater Manchester. A roadmap will be produced in 2019.
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As well as reducing our energy bills, we can secure first mover advantage from accelerating the transition to a low carbon economy, creating jobs in the future economy. We already have a diverse and thriving Low Carbon Environmental Goods and Services sector, which has the potential to grow further if we achieve the aims set out in our plan. It currently employes over 45,000 people, has annual sales of 6.7 bn and growth of 6.3%, outperforming the UK average to be ranked 3rd in the UK. • New green skills – there is a substantial shortage for workers in the new green economy sectors. In some areas, we face a skills ‘Catch 22’ – the employer demand does not exist for the level of skills delivery required by this plan, and at the same time projects for such employers are hampered by the lack of skills. It is therefore imperative to work with institutional and vocational skills providers to ‘pump prime’ the provision of skills appropriate to new green sectors.
Manchester City Council		<i>Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-2025</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in public transport and active travel infrastructure such as cycling and walking. This will include progressing the pipeline of schemes for funding via the Greater Manchester Mayor’s Challenge Fund. • Improving the city’s cycling infrastructure including the Oxford Road and Wilmslow Road ‘Dutch Style’ cycling lanes
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific references
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 1,000 Council staff have now received Carbon Literacy training which aims to increase their awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis. • Neighbourhood Teams are engaging with residents to develop climate change action in ward plans, deliver events, build capacity and listen to residents. At a neighbourhood level, the Neighbourhood

		Investment Fund (NIF) is available to support local priorities including environmental projects in wards and also improvements to green and blue infrastructure.
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Green spaces and trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securing investment in the city for environmental projects including tree and hedge planting and community orchards with the planting of an estimated 100,000 trees on known schemes across the city, including 8.75 km of hedgerow and 108 community orchards over the last 10 years (Source: internal MCC Monitoring).
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and deliver large scale remote Renewable Energy eg Solar PV generation projects. A small number of large generation projects are essential to remain within our carbon budget whilst the organisation mobilises to deliver the wider change required. Retrofit of the Council's operational estate. Energy generation and charging infrastructure including Solar PVs on suitable buildings and sites, Batteries, EV Charging Infrastructure and Heat Pumps.
	Thematic/Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct / energy-only CO₂ emissions Indirect / consumption-based CO₂ emissions CO₂ emissions from flights from Manchester Airport Target-setting and reporting methodology for organisations and sectors <i>Influencing behaviour and being a catalyst for change.</i>
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This represents a major opportunity to both establish Manchester as a centre for green technology and services, and to work with local skills providers to ensure that the city's residents are given the best possible opportunities to access these new careers.
	Youth Climate Summits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Climate Summit in January 2020 as a follow up to the event in July 2019 (see summary in Appendix 3).
Salford City Council		<i>Local Plan 2017 and website</i>
	Active Mobility	<p>Policy A3 Walking and cycling</p> <p>An increase in the proportion of journeys made by walking and cycling will be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintaining and enhancing an integrated network of safe, convenient and attractive walking and cycling routes, and addressing identified gaps within that network; Significantly improving secure cycle parking facilities at all destinations that people wish to travel to, including railway stations, public transport interchanges, workplaces, town and neighbourhood centres and visitor destinations across the city; and Ensuring that new developments make appropriate provision to help maximise levels of walking and

		cycling.
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to nature for people in all parts of the city, including within higher density areas and other neighbourhoods poorly served at present • Significantly enhancing the city's overall biodiversity interest for the benefit of existing and future residents • All development shall deliver a net gain in biodiversity value. All major development shall deliver at least a 10% net gain in biodiversity value.
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting improvements in energy efficiency and energy security, which can help to reduce fuel poverty amongst poorer households
	Green spaces and trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that all residents have good access to a wide range of recreation facilities and opportunities • Addressing shortfalls in recreation provision that currently affect communities in some parts of the city • Enabling everyone to live active and healthier lives • Improving access from all parts of the city to the countryside
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A positive approach will be taken to renewable and low carbon energy schemes, subject to the other policies in this plan. Developers are strongly encouraged to incorporate renewable and low carbon energy infrastructure into their schemes wherever possible. • All developments are encouraged to maximise opportunities for on-site electricity and heat production from solar technologies. Extensive roof surfaces and walls provide particular opportunities, such as on large-scale commercial or industrial developments, but there is also significant potential for smaller-scale installations including on individual dwellings. • Target: Total citywide renewable and low carbon energy generating capacity – 27,119 MWh – target is a significant increase
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development aims, but no link to Climate Action
	Youth Climate Summits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
Liverpool City Region		<i>Year One Action Plan</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality and Transport (Key Theme) –Achieve zero carbon mobility with an emphasis on active travel and low polluting modes • investing in the Transforming Cities programme and other priorities such as the Sustainable Transport

		<p>Enhancement Package (STEP) and City Centre Connectivity initiative that promote public transport and active travel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With academic partners Liverpool John Moores University, continue and complete roll out of real time data collection to inform air quality and active travel policy and action • Complete Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 schemes: delivering separated cycle routes, school streets and modal filters to reduce traffic in or through high streets of neighbourhood streets • Initiate the Active Travel Fund Tranche 2 campaign to encourage use of the schemes including cycle routes, and launch an active travel website for the LCR • Implement the Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan Phase 2, delivering 19.4km of continuous cycle route in Halton and to start the route on the Wirral • Complete Liverpool City Centre Connectivity 1, the scheme will improve 2.5km of pathways, 0.5km of cycle route, manage traffic in Liverpool City Centre and plant 66 trees (pg 19)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure new standards set out in Government technical notes for highways and junctions are enacted to support and enable cycling and walking • least likely to have contributed to the human causes of the emergency. These principles ensure that the climate action plan will be driven by climate justice at a local, national and global scale, putting fairness, equality and inclusion at the heart of the City Region's response. • Seek opportunities for private funding and lobby government for green public works project investments and leadership (pg 15) • Continue to engage with all central Government departments to reinforce LCR's commitment to achieving a net zero carbon goal, particularly in the period leading to COP26 in November 2021 (pg 16)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Green Spaces, Habitats and Biodiversity (Key Theme) –Improve LCR's green and blue spaces to be thriving biodiverse areas and increase accessibility to existing and new spaces (pg 8) • Include environmental requirements (including biodiversity/natural capital, access to nature, water management) in standards for new housing and commercial developments (pg 21) • Secure gains in biodiversity and the long term storage of natural carbon through strategic tree planting, restoration, re-creation and management of a broad range of habitats including wetlands and grasslands (pg 21) • Utilise natural capital baseline work completed to consider how habitat connectivity could be enhanced to improve biodiversity across LCR and set out a plan to achieve defined targets (pg 21)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with financial partners to scope out mechanisms to enable affordable renewable energy and

		efficient products and invest in community energy projects (pg 25)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58 environmental projects taking place across the LCR in 2021, funded through the Community Environment Fund and across all themes (pg 15) • Produce a climate engagement strategy that will engage with businesses of all sizes, members of the public including young people, the third sector and community organisations to gather insights and opinions on actions (pg 24) • Guiding Principle: ensure the resilience of places and citizens to climate change. (pg 6)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Agriculture (Key Theme) –Take action to support low impact agricultural and food production in the LCR including local food growing initiatives (pg 8) • Encourage sustainable local food production and raise awareness of the impact of purchase choices. (pg 9) • Planning policy changes to allow space for nature and local low carbon food production. (pg 9)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and map areas where increased green space and planting will improve air quality and develop a plan to deliver improvements (pg 18)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble a collaborative project pipeline of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in the public sector, assisted by support from Local Energy North West Hub (pg 26) • Trial innovative low carbon energy projects in all 6 Local Authorities in the LCR, sharing outcomes and lessons learnt to enable future roll-out, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halton Borough Council will retrofit the DCBL Stadium with electric heat pumps and LED lighting • Wirral Council will commission detailed project delivery studies for a potential low carbon Birkenhead district heat network (subject to Government Heat Network support) • Liverpool City Council will lead on development of low carbon heating options for Paddington Village and Liverpool Waterfront • Halton Borough Council will develop a renewable micro electrical grid to connect the existing 1MW solar farm at St Michael’s Golf Course to the Council stadium, office, leisure centre and depot • Sefton Council will carry out a solar PV options appraisal with Economic Regeneration team (pg 26)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change and Resilience (Key Theme) –Combating the effects of climate and weather changes that are already built in and will impact our region (pg 6) • Complete an investigation on the resilience of critical infrastructure of the Liverpool City Region, identifying principles and actions to address risk (pg 17) • In partnership with LCR stakeholders and agencies, scope out and undertake a climate risk and

		resilience stock take across relevant plans and programmes (pg 17)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with colleges, local authorities, independent training providers, universities and the voluntary/community sector to develop locally responsive green skills provision (pg 15) • Develop a clear understanding of the future green jobs and skills requirements, including a refresh of the Low Carbon Skills for Growth Action Plan (pg 15) • Information and skills training for people who manage the land to encourage biodiverse and low carbon practices. (pg 9)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map access to green space/infrastructure to start addressing injustices in accessibility, especially young people (pg 21)
Liverpool City Council		Climate Action Plan (Under Development) – Reviewed the <i>Liverpool City Plan</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase levels of cycling and walking, public transport usage, and reduce the use of private vehicles (pg. 15)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See green space
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mentions
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase community participation, confidence and integration • To increase opportunities for all residents to engage in creative, cultural and physical activities and experiences, including through improved digital engagement (pg. 17). • People power: This is the most important part of how we will reconfigure our approach and decision making. We aim to redefine the relationship between public services and their citizens, communities and businesses. We are committed to resourcing and collaborating with our communities so they have the authority, autonomy and capacity to co-design future changes and take more control over defining and shaping the things that matter to them (pg. 19) • Develop a city-wide approach to community empowerment, collaboration and resourcing which builds upon the asset-based development principles. We will take this forward via our People Power Group (pg. 20).
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuing the natural environment and supporting biodiversity: we will develop a Sustainable City Plan to recognise the critical value of high quality green infrastructure and its fundamental contribution to population health in the city and will protect and enhance our parks and green spaces, and green

		<p>routes and corridors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase the number of designated green routes. • To increase the number of areas of nature conservation interest. • To increase tree and woodland cover in the right location. (pg.15)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing strong, resilient and sustainable communities in which services are accessible to and produced with residents and community organisations. • To increase community co-production in the design and delivery of local services (pg. 11).
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving innovation and boosting productivity to make all business sectors resilient and sustainable, with a particular emphasis upon growth opportunities in health/life sciences, and clean growth sectors. • To maximise the social and economic impact from development within the city's Knowledge Quarter. • To increase the number of jobs and businesses in higher value-added sectors. • To increase the export of services and goods (pg. 13).
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have been gathering views from young people about what is good about growing up in Liverpool and what can be improved. Around twenty children and young people's groups have been engaged on the City Plan to date and recurring topics that have been highlighted include: (pg. 3)
North of Tyne Combined Authority		<p>Strategy Under Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Assembly Expected March/April 2021 • No strategy or summary available to review
Northumberland Unitary Authority		Climate Action Plan 2021 - 2023
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will encourage and support walking and cycling as the preferred mode of transport for short journeys and we will deliver our walking and cycling vision. We will review school transport contracts, considering emissions as a factor. (pg 15) • A draft LTP programme for 2021/22 is currently in the process of being finalised. In this draft programme of works, 1,525,000 has been allocated for cycling and walking. This will be spent on a variety of highways improvements for pedestrians and cyclists, as well as maintenance of public rights of way. (pg. 36) • 65 priority cycling and walking corridors have been identified through the creation of the LCWIPs. The estimated cost of creating these is over 80 million (pg. 37)

	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council was clear in its initial pledge when declaring a climate emergency in 2019, that it would require the support of national government along with regional agencies, residents and businesses to achieve a carbon neutral Northumberland. (pg 66)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key projects to support enhanced biodiversity: Community Climate Champions, Free Tree Scheme, Great Northumberland Forest and Local Nature Recovery Strategy (pg. 57 and 61)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council have co-funded an officer with the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) to assist community groups to apply for the Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF), which can support feasibility and project delivery of community energy projects. (pg. 48) As demand for electricity is likely to increase through electrification of heat and transport, this figure could only be realised by significant investment from the Council, businesses and residents in their own micro-generation schemes such as solar photovoltaics and community energy projects. (pg. 64)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping residents, businesses and our own staff understand the implications climate change has on our communities and providing them with the knowledge and tools to reduce their emissions is essential to meeting our net-zero target by 2030. Engaging with our communities through digital platforms, public events, local press stories and through community projects will ultimately help incite change at a local level and promote the positive work the Council is doing to tackle climate change. It is also important to develop partnerships with businesses, community groups and schools, as well developing strategic partnerships with other organisations working towards the same aims such as Borderlands, the North of Tyne Combined Authority and the NELEP. (pg. 21) The delivery of our climate change target is dependent on the whole County pulling together, to that effect we will be running several community engagement schemes this year. (pg. 4)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on food recycling
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beyond jobs and investment, pursuing the strategies set out in this plan both in the next two years and in the longer-term scenario modelling to 2030, will bring many additional benefits. It is the Council's ambition to use its Climate Change Action Plan to also improve public health, reduce fuel poverty, increase green tourism practices and to ultimately become the UK's greenest county. (pg. 63)
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another community engagement campaign is the Free Tree scheme. To help increase tree planting across the county, and further increase negative emissions, the Council aims to giveaway thousands of young tree saplings to residents, community groups and schools to plant on their land, with the aim of giving away a free tree to every household in the county. (pg. 22)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst we acknowledge that the UK's national grid is projected to decarbonise substantially

		<p>between now and 2030, there is much that the Council can do to support renewable energy generation. We will achieve this through taking a number of actions including continued support for renewable technology where installations are technically possible, economically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> feasible, environmentally advantageous and socially acceptable: including wind, solar and hydro. (pg. 9) It is important to note that the overarching, crosscutting priority of the investment plan is for a ‘clean growth town’, incorporating active travel alongside other key priorities, such as supporting the renewable energy sector in the town and developing the heat network described above. (pg. 38) Through Green Homes Grant voucher scheme and the Local Authority Delivery aspect of that fund, Northumberland County Council is actively supporting the installation of renewable energy generating technology, particularly solar PV, which is relatively simple to be installed and provides significant energy savings to bill payers. (pg. 48)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are several policies in the emerging Local Plan supporting the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts, including Policy TRA 1. The policy seeks to ensure sustainable connections by reducing the need to travel by car and maximising the use of sustainable modes of transport. (pg. 41)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council will continue to collaborate at a regional level with neighbouring authorities around net zero action, including existing forums covering energy, transport and skills. (pg. 20) The investment required in realising these scenarios would not only result in green infrastructure but could create around 11,000 jobs within Northumberland across many sectors and skill levels ranging from tree planting to highly skilled construction and engineering jobs. (pg. 63) This is an extremely ambitious scenario (80% of domestic properties and 60% of commercial properties would be accessing low or zero carbon heat by 2030), dependent on many factors including significant capital investment and a major behavioural shift from residents and businesses. However, pursuing this strategy would create massive economic benefits for the county in terms of jobs, infrastructure, supply chain opportunities and training and skills advancements. (pg. 64)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will prioritise engagement with our schools and early years settings, to ensure the county’s youngest minds are educated in how they can best to tackle climate change. Working with colleagues in Early Years and Education, we will create resource packs to enable our teachers have the knowledge and tools to educate our children in the importance of tackling climate change. (pg. 22)
Newcastle City Council		Net Zero Newcastle – 2030 Action Plan

	Active Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing active travel by c. 70% • Increasing the modal share of active travel through developing an attractive, safe and continuous walking and cycling network infrastructure. • Equipment for selected schools to support active travel i.e. cycle and scooter storage. • Taking measures to improve the air quality and environment around schools is also encouraged, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introducing car free zones around schools. ○ Regular car free weekends. ○ Greater use of streets to create safe spaces for children to play, walk, run and cycle. • T9 – Transport Policy 9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop and implement schemes to reduce the dominance of cars in the city by reallocating road space to active travel and low carbon transport modes, whilst meeting vibrant high street and Covid-19 requirements.
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As well as delivering zero carbon electricity to local homes and businesses, small scale renewable energy installations can also create opportunities for local investment by local people, and allow opportunities for addressing inequality within the city. • E6 - Develop Newcastle GREEN (GIS based Renewable Energy and Energy efficiency Network) website and promote uptake of low carbon measures to all property owners (domestic and non-domestic).
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Net Zero transition is not something that can be achieved by one organisation, agency or community acting along, but by the city coming together, building on our strong history of partnership and cooperation. • There are established strong partnerships across key organisations in the city – universities, colleges, schools, health partners, business community and the voluntary and community sectors and we will be building on this to drive our transition to Net Zero. • We are committed to a programme of citizen and community engagement, focussing on all sections of society to shape our response to the climate crisis. Plans for further Climate Summits and a Citizen’s • Assembly were put on hold due to Covid-19 and new mechanisms to ensure we can involve everyone safely are being developed.
	Community Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 year Green Bond schemes already exist in the market; the key difference would be that investments must make projects happen within the city. These could offer a higher return to personal finance than traditional options, which may be essentially devaluing in ISAs – this latent capacity could be used to

		<p>accelerate the city's drive towards Net Zero, but also help build community capital through residents being able to contribute towards the wider programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The finance may be one-off payments towards schemes in exchange for carbon credits (generated through projects within the city under the additionality principles) or the utilisation of green bonds for example through crowd sourcing and other means - something like a Net Zero Geordie Bond. Pg 7
	Funding/finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be open to using a mix of alternative commercial models and financial approaches for funding low carbon infrastructure and technology, some of which will be innovative and some which are well-proven • A9 - Continue to engage at local, regional, national and international forums to learn lessons, access funding and deliver resources to key Net Zero actions. • A18 - Look beyond grant funding by working with public and private sector partners to develop pathways to commercial deployment and mass roll-out of low carbon measures. • The Government has recently announced that a Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund will be launched to support the Clean Growth Strategy and post Covid-19 economic recovery. The fund will invest £1 billion through a grant programme to public sector bodies, including schools and hospitals, to fund both energy efficiency and low carbon heat upgrades. Further information on the fund is expected to be forthcoming in 2020. • E4 - Work with private sector partners and housing organisations to deploy available Green Homes Grant and other funding streams to as many properties as possible within the city.
	Green Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It includes a commitment to increase the canopy cover across the city from the existing 18.1% to 20% by 2050, equating to a total increase in numbers of over 19,000 trees.
	Pilot projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We intend to apply for funding for a pilot project for a Neighbourhood Virtual Power Plant comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Domestic scale renewable energy installations on multiple properties. ○ Installation of a small number of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points on the street. ○ Controller managing excess power from the renewable energy installations being sent to the EV charging points, to a small battery bank or direct to the grid. • E14 - Working with our delivery partner Eon, deliver the BEIS funded Electrification of Heat Demonstration Project and learn lessons that can be applied in future heat pump roll out projects.
	Renewables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A city-wide 'in-setting' scheme could involve the movement of finance towards renewable energy generation or carbon reduction or sequestration schemes; this could include energy efficiency or tree

		<p>planting/habitat restoration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimise the use of local renewable or low carbon energy in accordance with a hierarchy, prioritising decentralised energy schemes, followed by other renewable energy solutions and finally other lower carbon energy solutions. Where no decentralised energy scheme exists, strategic and other large-scale developments must evaluate the feasibility of providing a decentralised energy system and, where feasible implement such schemes. • In addition to our 100% Clean Energy commitment for Newcastle City Council and other Anchor Institutions' clean energy transitions, we must ensure a renewable energy transformation across the city.
	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We must grow our business base and 'green-collar' jobs in the 'new' low carbon economy through product and service innovation, reskilling and addressing poverty to ensure an inclusive society that challenges social inequality. We must ensure that these new 'green-collar' jobs are not an extension of the gig economy, but instead are high quality, well paid and permanent positions in thriving industries. This will mean using short term economic stimulus money as a springboard for delivering sustained and ambitious low carbon economic growth, and leveraging much greater private sector investment. • Specific skills interventions could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting tradespeople to develop the skills and accreditation needed to install and maintain low and zero carbon heating systems, such as domestic heat pumps ○ Ensuring a supply of adequately skilled and qualified installers of domestic and commercial energy efficiency measures such as those supported through the Green Homes Grant scheme. ○ Supporting training of engineers and maintenance operatives in low carbon growth sectors, such as offshore wind. ○ Closer collaboration with regional businesses in the low carbon sector to maximise skills and employment opportunities for Newcastle residents in a wider regional context. ○ Specific support to encourage young people and those from disadvantaged communities to learn about employment opportunities within the low carbon sector and to take up relevant skills provision such as work experience, apprenticeships and specialist training. • A12 - Work with city higher education providers and education partners to prepare for, and support, a low carbon skills transition.
	Youth engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific pledge for young adults 1) Attend the upcoming youth summit, 2) encourage friends and family to do more and 3) walk and cycle on their journeys to school and work. • Developing a network of Student Climate Change Champions to deliver sessions in schools and with

		<p>voluntary and community groups across the region on how young people can understand the impacts of climate change and important actions that they can take individually and collectively to solve climate change issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Youth Democracy Group (formerly the Youth Council), a Climate Change Youth Summit will be arranged to engage with young people on the topic, collect views and ideas, understand young people's priorities and how they can contribute to the Net Zero programme. • Ensuring that children, young people and students are invited to participate in, and are represented in a meaningful way in, Climate Change Summits and the Citizen's Assembly. To this end, we will hold a Climate Change Youth Summit in 2021. Pg 29 • A5 - Continue to engage with all members of the city through the Climate Change Convention. Hold additional Climate Change Summits, including a Youth Summit. Pg 34
North Tyneside Council		North Tyneside Climate Emergency Action Plan
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage use of active travel modes, e.g walking and cycling, by making residents feel safer and able to shift away from car usage (pg. 16). • Roll out of infrastructure to enable more cycling and walking. Enable electric bicycles and electric scooters availability through share schemes. (pg. 56) • Building cycling lane infrastructure. Closing roads and widening pavements. Prioritise east to west travel within the borough, and refer to the Department for Transport funded Cycle Tool. Promote electric bicycles and electric scooters availability through share schemes. • Indicative costs of cycling lanes: 1.5 million per km. (pg. 56) • Require new developments and redeveloped sites to take a cycling and walking first approach, in line with the "15 minute city" approach. (pg. 59) • Roll out of infrastructure to enable more cycling and walking. Capitalise on the willingness of people to cycle as a result of covid (175% increase compared to before). Closing roads and widening pavements, providing good access to cycle lanes etc. East to west travel within the borough is really difficult with existing transport infrastructure. Some cycling networks in the region are poor and unsafe, road surfaces not good for bikes – need investment. Encourage modal shift prioritising active travel and multimodal including public transport. Cost: 3 million per annum over 10 years, 30 million in total (pg. 77).
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the transition to low carbon heat, we will need highly coordinated planning of infrastructure at the national, regional and local levels, alongside an effective policy and regulatory

		<p>framework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At a national level, the UK Government is yet to commit to a clear strategy for heat decarbonisation. Key strategic decisions such as the role of electrification versus the use of alternative fuels such as hydrogen, and the potential for geographically distinct approaches, are yet to be made. (pg. 48)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A bid to the Trees for Climate fund, in conjunction with other north east England local authorities, for tree planting funding from the national Nature for Climate Fund. • Trees for Climate grants are anticipated to cover 100% of costs, including establishment and planting. The programme is expected to be run by England’s Community Forests. (pg. 68)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking community energy programmes, as well as installing solar PV with energy system integration across domestic and commercial properties (pg. 7). • Support the development of community heating schemes where sufficiently viable, focusing on higher density areas of the Borough. (pg. 15) • Deliver grassroots community energy projects with local ownership –such as street by street solar, energy efficiency retrofit, or low carbon heating projects. Engage via community centres and community groups for outreach, education in the community. Community centres could also be used to demonstrate low carbon technologies and educate the community. The lockdown period has brought neighbourhoods together, presenting a moment of social and community cohesion that could be capitalised upon to progress a green and democratic energy system. (pg. 47).
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2050, the Borough of North Tyneside will be carbon neutral and has adapted, and is resilient to a changing climate. The Borough and its stakeholder groups - made up from the commercial and industrial sectors, public sector organisations, the third sector and local community organisations, housing professionals and developers - have, via meaningful transparent dialogue and actions, collectively achieved: --an inclusive transition; (pg. 7) • Community energy has the potential to create real engagement within the local community. Citizens partake as active participants in a process of change, rather than passive consumers. Participants will have a say in how things move forward, share in the benefits, a sense of collective purpose and be more invested with the outcomes. (pg. 47) • Proactive approach to empower the community and invigorate existing groups to lead decarbonisation action on a local level. • Support the development of neighbourhood planning groups. • Promote awareness across the community on local group efforts to build bottom-up initiatives for

		<p>decarbonisation on different sectors of the economy and society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative financial schemes and support tools need to be identified. (pg 65). • Develop and deliver a communications strategy for engagement with residents (pg. 74).
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop to explore possibilities within council to integrate more urban agriculture for local food production, promoting healthier diets and managing food waste strategies. (pg. 73)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the recently announced Green Homes Grant, North Tyneside can apply to the £200m Local Authority Delivery (LAD) Scheme funding, for which the first phase deadline is the 1st September 2020. The minimum grant offered is £500k, and proposals should target low-income households with a combined income of <£30k in EPC Band E, F or G rated homes, likely indicators of fuel poverty. Alternatively, the Council could bid into BEIS's £50m demonstrator project for the decarbonisation of social housing, which is to inform a future Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. (pg. 42). • Integrate 'energy efficiency first' approach into fuel poverty policy & programmes. (pg. 74)
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community forest plantation in the English North East area to promote carbon sequestration and carbon offsetting opportunities. (pg. 67).
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the uptake of building-mounted solar, using the planning system as a means to ensure renewable energy potential is considered, and support ground-based renewables where appropriate. (pg. 14) • Decarbonisation of the power sector is particularly important for North Tyneside to become a carbon neutral Borough by 2050. • The electrification of heat and transport means that there will be an increase in demand for electric power which must be met through low carbon electricity generation such as solar or wind energy. North Tyneside has significant potential for renewable energy, particularly with respect to building integrated solar PV. (pg. 45). • North Tyneside work with wider North of Tyne region to set higher ambition building standards for new developments, this will include requirements to integrate renewable energy, such as solar pv, ground source heat pumps etc., where appropriate. (pg. 76)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure there is a mix of generating technologies across the Borough to provide resilience, flexibility and to support the decarbonisation of the national grid, whilst moving as far towards energy independence as possible. (pg. 13)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We also need to tackle the skills gap and provide the training needed for the low carbon heat transition. (pg. 47) • Heat pump roll-out in Social Housing: The project will demonstrate leadership in heat decarbonisation

		<p>across the public estate, aiming to catalyse action in the domestic and commercial sectors, and support the strengthening of skills and supply chain. (pg. 48)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrating considerations on employment needs and associated skills to the Climate Emergency action plan for 2050 will allow North Tyneside Council to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote greater awareness on the dependence of low carbon development on the availability of a skilled workforce. ○ Determine changes in labour demand and skills requirements in sectors of strategic importance. ○ Establish a productive dialogue with relevant social partners to design training mechanisms relevant to workers and employers. (pg. 63) • Training electricians and heating and plumbing engineers in solar photovoltaic systems and • heating energy efficiency. Provide the necessary skills for the design, installation, testing, commissioning, handover, servicing and fault finding of solar photovoltaic systems and heat pumps (pg. 64).
	Youth engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, the Council has taken steps to ensure young people have a voice in the development, delivery and review of key environmental actions, through the Youth Council and Cabinet. (pg. 69).
Sheffield City Region Combined Authority		
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will involve and listen to residents and businesses • We will consider the impact of our investments • We will focus on factors we can influence • We will deliver a ‘just transition’—in our drive to design a new low carbon world, we must ensure sections of our communities do not lose out and ideally gain through being distributive by design. That is why we will champion community ownership and the delivery of low emission active travel neighbourhoods.
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Policy 8: Enhance our multi-modal transport system which encourages sustainable travel choices and is embedded in the assessment of transport requirements for new development, particularly for active travel. (pg 15) • Invest over a sustained period in high quality cycling and walking infrastructure that better connects homes, transport interchanges, education, employment and recreational opportunities using safer, direct and convenient routes. (pg 15)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention

	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That is why we will champion community ownership and the delivery of low emission active travel neighbourhoods. Communities will be enabled to develop local energy schemes and provide opportunities for residents of the SCR to invest in our City Region's energy infrastructure. (pg 12)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If we are to achieve our 2040 SCR:NZ objective, then everyone has to play their part. Leadership should be provided by civil leaders from across the City Region, but real change can only happen if all of our communities are empowered to do their bit. This will take engagement, understanding and ensuring we are all informed about the choices we have to make. (pg 11) We must build broad and deep local engagement with climate emergency actions. That is why we will establish a forum by which our communities can engage and be involved with taking action. (pg 11) Due to the importance of this work, it is proposed to appoint a Climate Change Commissioner who will provide direct leadership on this agenda. The Commissioner will engage with the wider public, interest groups and experts and will be supported by a Climate Change Advisory Board. The Board will include representatives from local authority citizen panels across SCR, and a dedicated project team resourced jointly with Government and Sheffield University through the SCR:NZ (Net Zero) Partnership. (Climate Response Framework)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will work with the University of Sheffield's Grantham Centre for Sustainable Futures and Institute for Sustainable Food, to identify how the City Region can increase food production to match export/consumption in an environmentally sustainable manner. (pg 17)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A strategic approach is needed to tackling fuel poverty, improve inefficient dwellings and ensure that the nature of spatial development does not exacerbate carbon emissions. It is important to focus on both the need to retrofit buildings and ensure new developments meet the expectations of reduced running costs of the occupants and take account of the movement away from fossil fuels for heating. (pg 13)</i> We will support widespread energy efficiency improvements to existing dwellings across our City Region to reduce the number of excess winter deaths. (pg 13)
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will continue with the Mayor's commitment to support the growth of the Northern Forest, which aims to see 50 million new trees planted over the next 25 years to contribute to carbon drawdown. (pg 16) Through our joint Public Sector Assets work, we will identify land assets which can be used for reforestation and green retrofitting. (pg 16)

	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 85% of homes with heat pumps & 15% other form of renewable heating inc. hydrogen
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We will improve the energy resilience of our City Region through the increased use of smart grids and storage and working with network providers to strategically plan future improvements. (pg 12)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be investment in the training and upskilling of those who will be designing, installing and maintaining our future energy systems. (pg 12) We must prepare our current and future workforce with the skills required to both respond to the climate challenge, but also to be able to take advantage of the new industries that will emerge. (pg 18)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
Sheffield City Council		<i>Setting Climate Commitments for the City of Sheffield,</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CO2 emissions in the carbon budget related to electricity use from the National Grid in Sheffield are largely dependent upon national government policy and changes to power generation across the country. <i>It is recommended however that Sheffield promote the deployment of low carbon electricity generation within the region and where possible influence national policy on this issue. (pg 13)</i>
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
Tees Valley Combined Authority		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy Under Development
Darlington		
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention

	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of course, as a leader within our community we recognise our role in encouraging wider action, so we will use our influence and experience to inspire action across the borough. (pg 4) When considering offsetting projects, we want to secure the widest benefit for Darlington, so we will invest in local projects that also deliver wider social and environmental benefits. (pg 5)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For example, the Council has committed to planting at least 10,000 new trees over the next five years and will support community groups to plant trees in the Borough (pg 6)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renewable generation will be reported alongside our carbon emissions (pg 9) To meet the net zero carbon target increasing the amount of renewable energy that we generate is paramount. We also need to ensure that we maximise the use of any renewable energy we generate through the use of complimentary battery technology systems.
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f) We will address the risk that there is likely to be a national shortage of skills and resources available to deliver a programme of this scale, particularly when seen alongside similar ambition and demand from other local authorities and business. (pg 14)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
Middlesbrough		Middlesbrough Green Strategy
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the use and uptake of cycling and walking across Middlesbrough (pg. 6)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention.
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council is setting out an ambitious 10 year vision to develop a Green agenda to rise to the challenge of climate change and support and improve biodiversity within Middlesbrough. (pg. 3). Increase the tree cover of the town from the current level of 11.8% to aim to reach the national average of 16% by 2025. (This is equivalent of adding 320 football pitches of new planting in size.) We aim to Plant 15,000 more trees by 2021 (pg. 7)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention

	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement Develop : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community engagement activities and initiatives. ○ Educational programmes to promote environmental sustainability town wide • How we will do this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with community groups and volunteers to help make Middlesbrough a greener and better place to live. ○ Work with schools and groups to promote greater environmental awareness and involvement. (pg. 10)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middlesbrough aims to become a Gold Sustainable Food Place by promoting exceptional achievement in two areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food poverty and food insecurity and food access ○ Local food procurement • Aim to establish a surplus food redistribution hub. • Middlesbrough will continue to be a Fair Trade Town which ensures producers in developing countries receive a fair price for their goods. • Support local businesses and settings to procure and provide healthy and sustainable food to boost local prosperity, encourage healthy eating and protect the environment. • Inspire and enable the local food culture so that all residents have access to buy, grow, produce and cook affordable, healthy and sustainable food. • Help residents and businesses to minimise and recycle food and food related waste either individually or collectively to increase the sustainability of local food and reduce its impact on the environment. (pg. 11)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase and improve biodiversity within Middlesbrough by creating rich and diverse habitats . Promote usage of parks and open spaces. How we will do this: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with partners, volunteers and Middlesbrough’s Greenspaces Forum to improve the quality and increase the amount of green space delivering associated health benefits. ○ Increase the tree cover of the town from the current level of 11.8% to aim to reach the national average of 16% by 2025. (This is equivalent of adding 320 football pitches of new planting in size.) We aim to Plant 15,000 more trees by 2021. ○ Plant trees adjacent to main road corridors to increase pollution absorption ○ Providing greater levels of carbon capture through increased tree cover.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase the amount of land given over to wildflowers by creating new annual meadows and managing existing meadows and verges better ○ Become more bee-friendly town through better awareness and habitat management to aid pollinating species. Seek to install bee hives in central Middlesbrough locations and parks. (pg. 7)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention of generation. ● Purchase energy from Greener Renewable fuel sources to be carbon neutral by 2030. (pg. 5)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It (the strategy) sets a programme to meet Government targets for Greenhouse gas emissions and make the town more climate resilient to make sure we are prepared and can adapt to changes in climate and to minimise the environmental impact of council services in future. (pg. 3)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention.
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention.
West of England Combined Authority		West of England Climate Emergency Action Plan
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● £10m to be allocated to walking and cycling measures and £3m for active travel and public transport measures to supporting recovery following the covid-19 pandemic. ● Actions to increase the uptake of cycling and walking through the implementation of the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan [LCWIP] including continuity of cycling and walking lanes, improved maintenance, provision of secure cycle storage, e-bikes and scooters and an active travel campaign. (pg 15) ● Revenue raised from demand management measures could be reinvested in active travel & public transport. (pg 29) ● Continue the public information campaign to promote active travel/reduced car travel (pg 31) ● Use strategic planning and transport powers to facilitate active travel and public transport (pg 31)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To achieve this goal, we will need to rapidly reduce carbon emissions in the region as well as adapt to the impacts of climate change such as increased heat, drought and flooding. This will require changes in the way that we act and make decisions. However, the way to achieve this goal is complex and will require a collaborative approach between national government, combined authorities, unitary authorities, individuals, business and international government. (pg 5) ● Delivering our regional goal will be complex and will require action by national government, combined authorities, unitary authorities, individuals, business and international government. WECA does not have the funding or levers to do it all alone. The below diagram sets out how responsibility lies between stakeholders.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby government to update national transport policy to enable authorities to accelerate progress towards net zero carbon (pg 33) • Work with partners to lobby government for regulation change to support innovation in energy distribution and renewable energy generation (pg 38) • Work with partners [including the South West Energy Hub] to support innovative approaches to increase the generation and distribution of renewable energy. This could include securing new sources of funding (pg 38)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the implications of and develop an approach to achieving 10% biodiversity net gain across all development under the Town and Country Planning Act [2004] - requirements being introduced through the Environment Bill (pg 43) • How we will measure success: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An increase in green infrastructure and biodiversity (pg 28)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Actions so Far: £1.7m Low Carbon Challenge Fund includes £500,000 for a local wind turbine as part of a community energy project • Provide direct scheme funding & technical support to increase community energy generation (pg 38) • Continue to provide funding and technical support for local energy projects. These are currently delivered through Low Carbon Challenge Fund [LCCF] and South West Energy Hub (pg 38)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan has been developed with input from representatives from our unitary authority partners, business, community organisations and government who have given their time, knowledge, expertise and skills to inform its content through a series of workshops. We will continue this co-production approach as we implement the actions in this plan.
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The green environment: Protect and enhance the environment through a proactive approach to green infrastructure • Simply reducing our emissions will not be enough. We need to adapt to the impacts of climate change that are happening today such as flood and extreme weather events. The scope of this action plan will also consider how we adapt to the impact of climate change, recognising the importance our environment, green spaces and natural habitat has on protecting us from the impact of climate change. (pg 9) • Work in partnership to support the delivery of the Joint Green Infrastructure Strategy Action Plan including actions that lead to the increased provision of green spaces (pg 27)

	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to decarbonise the energy system and increase local renewable energy (pg 4) • Through the Local Energy Scheme, £500k has been awarded to support a local renewable energy project, demonstrating our commitment to increase the number and quality of local renewable energy projects.(pg 12) • How we will measure success: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Renewable energy generation has increased (pg 22) • Actions that increase local renewable energy generation including steps to expand and enhance the West of England Local Energy Scheme and accessing support for local projects through the South West Energy Hub (pg 21) • Work with partners to explore the potential for a local renewable energy tariff (39)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with partners through the Green Infrastructure Strategy to develop climate resilience (pg 27) • Work with partners to help business plan for climate resilience reducing the risk and impact of extreme weather events such as flooding and drought • Work with Natural England to pilot the National Framework of Green Infrastructure standards that will support the development of a consistent and nationally agreed approach to assessing and delivering green infrastructure policy and projects that supports climate adaptation and resilience (pg 43)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Strategy: Actions that support the increase of low carbon skills including using the new Government funding programme to encourage the provision of green skills programmes. • We have also worked closely with our businesses to understand their needs and how WECA can help foster green innovation and invest in the skills needed to make sure our region takes advantage of the economic benefits of clean growth. (pg 11) • Work with partners to encourage innovation in low carbon services, goods and technologies [e.g. hydrogen, carbon capture and renewable energy technologies]. (pg 34) • How we will Measure Success: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Local people have developed green skills and accessed new green jobs (pg 19) • Identify funding sources that could be used to commission green skills courses. (pg 35) • Use the careers hub to inspire young people into 'green' skills and careers (pg 36) • Promote green skills opportunities through Future Bright (pg 36) • Use Further Education capital investment to encourage low carbon skills development e.g. through the City of Bristol College Construction Skills Academy. (pg 36)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby government for further funding to develop a low carbon fund for new apprenticeships. (pg 36)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
Bristol City Council		<i>Bristol Climate Action Plan</i>
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for clean and sustainable travel (pg 10)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call on government for increased powers and resources and to lead through national policies, taxation etc (pg 4) • The council is contributing to national processes on climate action via the UK Core Cities network and the LGA. (pg 7) • The Plan also sets out how the council will continue to work with a wide range of partners in the city in order to deliver the scale of change needed. Nationally, the council is working alongside the Core Cities group to present a clear case to government in order to secure the necessary national actions and powers to achieve the goals that are not within the council's remit and powers. (pg 10) • The council will call on government to grant us increased powers and resources to reduce particulate emissions, particularly from industrial and domestic uses, including from private wood burners (SDG 3) (12)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council plans to run a small trial with Bristol Energy to better understand the financial business case for solar panels in social housing (SDG 7) (pg 11)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor is committed to the delivery of a climate change public engagement programme to engage and empower citizens (SDG 17) (pg 11) • Highlights our commitment to work with the whole community in responding to the climate emergency and to work with other cities and partners to share learning and knowledge (pg 10)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generate clean, renewable energy (pg 10) • Deliver significant low carbon energy infrastructure in the city (including a heat network) (pg 4)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2016, Bristol published its Resilience Strategy. This was a globally benchmarked piece of work giving a tailored, systems approach to having a resilient Bristol. Our Resilience Strategy comprises a 50-year vision, resilience pillars, goals and transformative actions. The Climate Emergency Action Plan and One City Climate Strategy builds on this important piece of work. (pg 6)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council will work with Business West and approach the Economy Board to help businesses to develop low carbon business models and to secure investment to enable them to reduce their own carbon footprints and build climate resilience (SDG 13) (pg 11)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create low carbon jobs and businesses (pg 10) The council will deliver the City Leap Project to attract £1bn of investment in the city's energy system and contribute to creating new jobs in the city, insulating homes and installing new renewable energy (SDG 11; SDG 7) (pg 11) We will work with the West of England Combined Authority and neighbouring councils to align the existing funding for employment, training and skills to ensure that everyone is able to benefit from the opportunities of a low carbon economy (SDG 4) (pg 11)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council will work with the Youth Council to involve young people in creating the future plans for the city. (pg 10)
West Midlands Combined Authority		West Midlands 2041
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Key Actions: 1. Active travel and cleaner transport</i>, including keep your car at home schemes to reduce emissions, reduce unnecessary travel and encourage low carbon connectivity. We will also be working with the 5G Team to support infrastructure for digital connectivity to reduce the need to travel. (pg 3) Reallocate highway space to walking, cycling and mass transit (example given on pg 40)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Government also has an important part to play: whether it is in regulation, devolving its power, or investing money. As such, this plan will try to identify what is necessary and 'who leads'. (pg 5) Core Cities UK, an advocacy group representing the ten largest cities outside of London (including Birmingham), worked together to create a series of 'asks' that each will need from Central Government to meet the climate challenge: £1bn Low Carbon City Investment Fund to support and accelerate high impact green projects. £1bn Clean Air Fund to support the delivery of clean air zones, estimated to be worth £6.5bn to the economy. Tax and incentives to boost and encourage investment in low carbon enterprises. (pg 22) NPPF reform: collaborate to reform the National Planning Policy Framework to ensure that planning authorities have a robust basis on which to demand zero carbon / carbon negative developments and to assist localities in improving transport and in planning their decentralised energy and waste

		systems. (pg 41)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The West Midlands Will: Take a ‘circular’ approach: circular economies ‘design out’ waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems. This encompasses the reduction, re-use, and recycling of waste, as well our commitment to biodiversity net gain and the quality and quantity of our green spaces, canals, rivers, and lakes. (pg 21) • Investing in the resilience of our places: between five and fifteen years • Expansion of natural capital investment: explore expansion of the initial WMCA Natural Capital Investment Plan, enabling investments in green and blue spaces across the region – this will take both biodiversity net gain and boosting resilience to climate breakdown into account. (pg 32)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayoral WMCA is answerable to local people and the local authorities that comprise it, and a great deal of the sub-national legwork will be led by neighbourhoods, towns, and cities. (pg 5) • But we can also work with financial institutions and investors to create products that unlock positive outcomes, whether it is a revolving loan for energy efficiency investment, a green bond to unlock sustainable urban drainage schemes or a co-operative share issue to deliver community-owned renewable energy system. (pg 45)
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Action 5: A number of behaviour change campaigns at-scale, including on single-use plastics, energy use, waste and cycling, walking and active travel. The WMCA has already committed to eliminating single-use plastics from all activities by 2020, and we will work to see how other organisations and individuals across the region can make similar commitments. (pg 4) • Government must support the region through devolution, regulation and investment, and we need to work in partnership with businesses and third party organisations to stimulate the creation and use of innovative financial products, from community share issues to green bonds. (pg 7) • The West Midlands Will: Build wealth, and recycle it throughout the region through skills and community ownership: people in the West Midlands can become more prosperous as we invest into tackling climate breakdown. (pg 20) • we need to turn to the region’s people, businesses, Councils and community organisations, to give us a sense of whether we are in the right place. This will be part of an overarching campaign, ‘Let’s Talk 2041’, which everyone can participate in, championed by the Mayor Andy Street, the Environment Portfolio Holder, Councillor Ian Courts, and the wider leadership of the WMCA. (pg 51)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the formation of a national Food Security Institute (pg 31)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Action 10: Pursuing <i>energy devolution</i> so that we can combine a shift to sustainable energy with a medium-term reduction in fuel poverty. We will work closely with Energy Capital around the need for

		<p>devolution of resources and responsibilities to support this, for example securing devolution of Energy Company Obligation funding to the WMCA . (pg 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the incidence of fuel poverty across our region by hitting current government targets for energy efficient housing five years ahead of schedule. (pg 34, WM Regional Energy Strategy). • The West Midlands Will: Invest in comfortable homes and buildings: whether a home, commercial unit or community building is old or new, it should be easy and affordable to keep it at a comfortable temperature (encompassing heating and cooling). Investing into the energy performance of buildings can help to achieve this, addressing homelessness, fuel poverty and waste. (pg 21) • We will change our economy without leaving anyone behind. • The investments we make in order to meet the climate challenge will be into the people who need them to thrive: tackling fuel poverty, giving people space to change career direction, improving skills, providing affordable connectivity, cleaning the air and ensuring the quality and availability of public spaces and assets. (pg 22)
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Actions 4: Creating breathable places, including big ambitions for tree planting programme with one tree for each resident, as well as building on Wildlife Ways and advancing plans to establish a West Midlands ‘national park’. (pg 4) • In that spirit, the West Midlands will: Boost health and wellbeing: many aspects of tackling climate breakdown align with improving health and wellbeing. Spending time outdoors in green space. Active travel. Breathing cleaner air. Living in a comfortable home. • A 21 - steady income. Investments into tackling climate change will put these opportunities front and centre. • More green space: collaborate to increase planning requirements for green space and energy efficiency27. (pg 42)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence energy generation, storage and distribution policies: in line with the UK Government’s own commitments, ensure that the region is able to influence its policies relating to renewable energy, heat, and energy storage. (pg 37) • Develop a regional investment plan for renewable heating and cooling (example given on pg 39)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Target 2. We need to boost our resilience to ‘locked in’ climate breakdown (pg 13) • We will invest in the resilience of our places (pg 27) • All example actions listed in this section are linked to the WMCA’s aim to embed resilience, including: • Work with TfWM and partners to create ‘climate audit’ on resilience of current network. (pg 31) • Investing in the resilience of our places: the first five years

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural Capital investment begins: the Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Delivery Programme (currently in its early stages) will be delivered. ○ Urban greening on transport infrastructure: bus and Metro shelters located in places exposed to heat and flooding could be replaced with ‘green roof’ shelters. ○ West Midlands National Park: developing the commitment to creating a regional National Park, building on work developed by Birmingham City University. ○ Expanded natural environment workforce: explore development of a workforce strategy for the natural environment, drawing on employment pathways that already exist in the sector – e.g. the Heritage Lottery funded ‘Natural Prospects’ scheme run by the Birmingham & Black Country Wildlife Trust²⁰. ● Investing in the resilience of our places: between five and fifteen years ● Expansion of natural capital investment: explore expansion of the initial WMCA Natural Capital Investment Plan, enabling investments in green and blue spaces across the region – this will take both biodiversity net gain and boosting resilience to climate breakdown into account. ● Sustainable Urban Drainage investment plan: attracting investment in the ability of developed places to deal with increased rainfall via the use of SUDS. ● Employment deal for the natural environment: explore development of an employment deal for the natural environment, working with FE colleges, universities and other training providers to incentivise transition into careers linked with climate adaptation and the natural environment. (pg 32) ● Design Charter to shape new neighbourhoods: aim for the Design Charter, which provides guidance to developers building new homes with WMCA resources (including on low carbon construction, operation, and resilience), to be applied to all new developments. (pg 41)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key Action 6: Investment to support re-skilling and employment as a result of sector transitions – including further work to scope a climate re-skilling workstream over time. An example of this is encouraging FE colleges, universities and other training providers to incentivise transition into careers linked with climate adaptation and the natural environment. (pg 4) ● In this spirit, the WM Will: Build wealth, and recycle it throughout the region through skills and community ownership: people in the West Midlands can become more prosperous as we invest into tackling climate breakdown. Developing skills that meet the challenges of climate breakdown are useful beyond the region, and have a clear, motivating social purpose. (pg 20) ● We will change our economy without leaving anyone behind. ● The investments we make in order to meet the climate challenge will be into the people who need

		<p>them to thrive: tackling fuel poverty, giving people space to change career direction, improving skills, providing affordable connectivity, cleaning the air and ensuring the quality and availability of public spaces and assets. (pg 23)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have space to learn new skills and broaden their horizons without risking poverty (pg 24) • Example Action; Collaborate to create joined-up skills support mechanism for people in at-risk industries (pg 25) • Changing our economy without leaving anyone behind: between five and fifteen years • Focused support for people in at-risk jobs: collaboration to merge resources from education, adult skills, social security, and industry to create focused support for people working in ‘at risk’ industries, as well as for people who would like to return to the labour market. (pg 26)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Youth Strikes: WMCA’s climate emergency declaration is that acknowledgment, of the scale of climate breakdown, at regional scale – although the next step, to meet that emergency with the thought, care, and resources that requires will take more effort to achieve. (pg 17) • In this spirit, the WM will: Champion young leadership: this is a young region, and it is because of young leaders that we are focusing on adapting to and mitigating climate breakdown. Continuing in that spirit, we will invest into the creativity, education, skills and capabilities of young people in this region, and will make space for them to create and lead. (pg 20)
Birmingham City Council		Route to Zero Action Plan
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure funding to deliver projects identified in the Birmingham Walking and Cycling Strategy. (2031) • Develop 2-3 additional pop up cycle lanes as part of tranche 2 of the active travel fund, funding permitting. (2022), (pg 6) • The government allocation of the Emergency Active Travel Fund allowed us to dedicate more space to walking and cycling, and as a result accelerate the delivery of some of our existing ambitions as these were stated in the Birmingham Transport Plan. (pg 37) • The city centre of Birmingham will be transformed through the creation of a network of pedestrian streets and public spaces integrated with public transport services and cycling infrastructure. (pg 37) • Active travel – walking and cycling – will become how most people get around their locality most of the time. Cars will no longer dominate street life around homes and schools. A limit of 20mph will be standard on all local roads. Residential neighbourhoods and local centres will be places where people are put first. (pg 38) • 10.2.7 Cycle lanes will continue to be delivered. Cycle lane proposals are set out in the Birmingham

		Walking and Cycling Strategy and Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, 2020. Tranche 2 of the Active Travel Fund provides an opportunity to enhance existing routes, and if funding permits, develop 2-3 additional schemes. (44)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.1.2 Birmingham City Council are also working with the CA through the Low Carbon Officers' Group which brings together climate change leads from across the CA to share experiences and best practice and engage in delivery. Collective lobbying across the CA region will be important in seeking the national changes required to deliver Route to Zero. • BCC will link up with the CA and the LEP to maximise our lobbying power. (pg 20) • We need to continue to lobby whilst we wait for the outcome of the future homes consultation. (pg 30) • We need to lobby central government for better sustainability requirements at a national level. (pg 30) • 14.4.1 Some lobbying will be needed to deliver the canopy cover project; lobbying will be community based in the areas of low canopy cover. As previously mentioned, some internal lobbying may be required to secure some additional staff resource within the ecology/green infrastructure team. (70)
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce Biodiversity supplementary planning document. (pg 7) • An ERDF bid is being formulated by the UoB in partnership with TEP, Ackers and community and BCC for habitat restoration, in channel modifications and removal of the weir at Ackers – this will provide biodiversity and flood alleviation benefits (pg 66) • The Urban Forest Master Plan will identify priority areas for tree planting, based on a variety of factors, such as air quality and surface water flooding. A biodiversity information note will be drawn up to set out Biodiversity Net Gain principle and outline the Local Nature Recovery Network and strategy ahead of this being mandated through the Environment Bill. A Biodiversity SPD will follow after the BDP review.
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local projects such as community energy schemes help to generate income for local people. (24) • Centre for Sustainable Energy - The project will include some initial data analysis (e.g. modelling decarbonisation options for buildings in the city, overlaying and integrating public datasets, aggregating address-level data, mapping results to small area level). However, working in partnership with Birmingham City Council and the city's Route to Zero Task Force, the focus will be on using the data to deliver a range of community-scale carbon reduction initiatives alongside underpinning 'full-city-scale' applications of the data which align with Birmingham's existing decarbonisation policies and programmes. (pg 17)

	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City Council has undertaken some early engagement work on Route to Zero including an online survey and a series of focus groups. This is seen as a starting point and a full programme of community engagement will need to sit alongside the delivery of Route to Zero, the Communications and Engagement sub-group of Route to Zero Task Force will play an important role in shaping and delivering this. (pg 20) • Through the Future Parks Accelerator project (chapter 14) there are discussions around the formation of consultation/stakeholder type groups. (20) • Full Council Engagement- The Future Parks Accelerator programme takes a systems-change approach that has mapped the integration between the city’s strategic outcomes and the natural environment across the following areas of the council - Housing and the built environment; the Children’s Trust and Education; the Health agenda; Employment & skills; new ideas and activities have been tested on the ground through 4 community pilots. (pg 65) • Cole Valley – Priority 6 Submission for ERDF Funding: Alongside the infrastructure improvement project activities there will be a programme of community engagement to inform the ongoing rehabilitation of this currently underused area to create a community common that is used by and accessible to the local community. Community engagement will focus on developing the area as a green, post-Covid recovery, connecting corridor to the wider city that benefits local citizens economically and socially as a site for green skills training and learning pathways and enterprise opportunities, as well as improved health and wellbeing.
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Improving the standard of new build and existing housing to address our net zero ambitions will also produce a number of co benefits. The first of these are the health benefits, improving the energy efficiency of homes can reduce ill-health, nearly half of households living in the most energy inefficient homes are in fuel poverty. 10% of excess winter deaths are directly attributable to fuel poverty. (pg 23) • Electricity is currently more expensive than gas and heating must be kept affordable to our tenants to avoid fuel poverty. (pg 28)
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of an Urban forest masterplan • Begin targeting the wards with the lowest % canopy cover(2022) • Work collaboratively with WMCA on the WM National Park concept • Deliver the Ward End and Cole Valley Green Skills Hub project. (pg 7) • 14.1.3 Cole Valley Route

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14.1.3.1 One of our big moves within the natural environment is how we will create enhance existing green corridors and create new routes and green infrastructure within Birmingham. A key focus within this agenda is the Cole valley route. We want to maximise the cities 'green lungs' and green routes that allow easy access into city, making it more enjoyable for walking and cycling. To date, the Cole Valley has become an area of focus for this agenda.
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximise the potential of the Tyseley Environmental district, including energy from the Tyseley energy from waste plant during its operational lifetime. (pg 7) Investigate how the district heat network's energy centres can be converted to a carbon neutral energy source. (pg 7) Complete the BEIS heat decarbonisation study. (pg 7)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the standard of Birmingham's housing stock will also produce financial savings, by reducing energy bills. Improving housing standards also in turn increases resilience, making households better protected against future energy price rises as well as being more physically resilient during heatwaves. (pg 23)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham Municipal Housing Trust to ensure that appropriate training on new technologies is included as part of the tendering process and staff from maintenance teams are included within this process. (pg 5) Establish training and project partners for e-cargo bikes (pg 6) Deliver the Ward End and Cole Valley Green Skills Hub project. (pg 7) BCU is in early conversations with West Midlands Combined Universities about setting up a retrofit training programme, initially as part of (or overlapping with) their BA Design for Future Living course but also as a stand-alone training course or summer school. (pg 19) Normalise the concept of retrofitting which will be key for the building industry contractors. This will require utilising added value through our procured contractors to have a leading role within the retrofit industry at large, with possible training and show casing good practice 'know how' upping skills and knowledge. (pg 35) Tynesley Energy Park - Developing skills and training in a commercial environment. (pg 60)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific mention
West Yorkshire Combined Authority		Clean Growth Action Plan
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Growth Principle 3. Tackle air quality and improve health We will improve local air quality and cut harmful pollutants and carbon emissions by supporting

		<p>healthier and more sustainable modes of business travel and by influencing low emission transport across the region. (pg 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2020, the Combined Authority, through our City Connect programme, will have invested £60 million in cycling and walking schemes across West Yorkshire and York since 2015. • An estimated £69 million from the Local Growth Fund will be spent on walking and cycling improvements within our wider delivery programme up to March 2021. • A 26% increase has been recorded in people using the Cycle Superhighway between May and July 2018, compared to the same period in the previous year. • Our Travel Plan Network, which provides sustainable travel advice to businesses to help more people walk, cycle or use public transport to get to work, we will work with an additional 96 employers this year. (pgs 5 & 6)
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LEP is investing £1.7 million in natural flood management projects in Calderdale and Kirklees which will reduce the risk of flooding to around 3,000 homes and more than 1,000 businesses and support biodiversity (pg 6)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Growth Principle 7: Measure and report our performance • We will monitor, benchmark and report annually on energy, water, waste consumption and carbon emissions to ensure we are meeting our targets. (pg 4)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Clean Growth Principle 1. Reduce energy and carbon emissions • We will minimise energy use and reduce carbon dioxide emissions arising from the Combined Authority's offices and bus stations through the introduction of energy efficient measures, renewable and clean energy generation (where possible) and staff behavioural initiatives. (pg 3) • Key Principle 7. Measure and report our performance • We will monitor, benchmark and report annually on energy, water, waste consumption and carbon emissions to ensure we are meeting our targets. (pg 4) • As part of the Leeds City Region Energy Strategy, adopted in December 2018, we are developing initiatives and exploring opportunities such as energy efficient street lighting schemes, the development of hydrogen buses and refuelling stations, and carbon capture storage. (pg 5)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LEP’s Energy Accelerator is the only programme of its kind of the UK and will enable £60 million worth of capital investment in low carbon and energy efficient projects which otherwise may not have been completed due to a lack of capacity, expertise and funding. (pg 6) • Reducing our operational energy and carbon emissions • We will minimise energy use and reduce carbon dioxide emissions arising from the Combined Authority’s offices and bus stations through the introduction of energy efficient measures, renewable and clean energy generation (where possible) and staff behavioural initiatives. (pg 8) • Over the coming two years we will: • Build on a reduction in energy consumption of 34% over the past five years by developing a Corporate Asset Management Plan that embeds clean growth principles and explores higher standards of energy efficiency and renewable energy across offices and bus stations. (pg 8) • Source all our energy from 100 percent renewable sources.
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance our natural environment • We will integrate green and blue infrastructure and climate resilience into our estate and work where practically possible. (pg 4) • The Combined Authority’s Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy sets out how City Region partners can use natural assets to help the economy prosper, improve quality of life for residents, reduce carbon emissions and make the region more resilient to climate change. (pg 6)
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Action Plan sets out how we will achieve our fourth priority – supporting clean growth – by growing our regional economy whilst also cutting greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide. (pg 2) • The Combined Authority declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 and the City Region is committed to becoming a net zero carbon economy by 2038 at the latest, and to make • significant progress by 2030. (pg 6)
	Youth Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention
Leeds City Council		Climate Emergency Update
	Active Mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council is committed through the West Yorkshire Transport Plan to a series of initiatives which are designed to cut carbon emissions by a quarter over the next decade. It is the council’s aim to be city where you don’t need to use a car. The measures include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Doubling bus patronage ○ A 75% increase in rail

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A 10% increase in walking ○ A 300% increase in cycling ○ A 15% decrease in car usage (pg 3-4) ● The city now has 172km (over 107miles) of cycle network including the city connect superhighway between East Leeds and Bradford. The council’s educational work encourages safe and sustainable active travel, across the city. Last year, 22,000 pupils benefitted from pedestrian skills and bike ability training. ● 3.4.4 Leeds triathlete and double Olympic champion Alistair Brownlee MBE, has been named as the city’s first Active Travel ambassador. In his new role, Alistair will add his support to initiatives, projects and infrastructure projects being undertake through the city’s Active Travel campaign, which key aim is to encourage more people to incorporate walking and cycling as part of their day-to-day journeys. (pg 22) ● In partnership with DfT, they will be trying to deliver: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Comprehensive, safe, segregated cycle network across the city. ○ New and enhanced key walking routes between communities linking residents and district centres. ○ A programme of 20mph zones for residential streets across the district. ○ Enhanced streets and pedestrianisation schemes creating a vibrant city centre.
	Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The council has several key asks of government in relation to transport ● Commitment to deliver an Urban Mass Transit Network in Leeds City Region; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Significantly increased long term funding for active travel and public transport in the city region; ○ Full commitment to deliver Leeds Integrated Station Masterplan; ○ Greater control and influence on public transport services at a local level; ○ Use of national taxation and incentive schemes for behavioural change and increase in low carbon vehicle uptake; ○ A review of the Department of Transport (DfT) assessment framework to provide sufficient weight for new transport projects that reduce carbon emissions by encouraging mode shift and constraining car use; ○ Greater local influence over Highways England to ensure the investments and operation of the Strategic Road Network aligns with local policy. (pg 4) ● This includes: lobbying government to support greater freedoms for local authorities to determine where ECO funding is targeted; enhancing promotion of energy efficiency measures, good practice and funding opportunities to residents (e.g. via the #LeedsByExample website), and; using funded

		<p>projects for social housing (e.g. TIBB project referred to above) to achieve economies of scale in the market and as demonstrators to encourage private homeowners to take up energy efficiency measures such as EWI. (pg 33)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As well as lobbying government, the council is engaging with Core Cities and the sub-region in learning and sharing good practice. (pg 34)
	Biodiversity	<p>Landscape and biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity is being critically affected by a combination of climate change and changes in land use. These changes both impact upon the quality of our lives and those of generations to come but also upon the stability of the ecosystem. Addressing the issues of landscape and biodiversity presents the opportunity to offset some of the remaining carbon in production but also to enhance wildlife and improve the public experience. A combination of developing woodland on our own holdings, together with work with other land owners are set to bring forward millions of trees in the next thirty years. A further report will be brought to the Executive Board in the summer regarding the council's contribution to the Northern Forest. The council also has a specific programme to develop green spaces in the city centre as it becomes a major residential centre, shifting its emphasis towards encouraging biodiversity. • The council will also seek to ensure through Planning that all new housing developments support biodiversity. (pg 6) • As part of a plan to achieve net carbon neutrality and also to mitigate the existing effects of climate change, the city must also have a strategy for different land use which promotes tree planting and biodiversity. (pg 41) • A scheme is also currently underway to distribute 14,000 trees to schools throughout Leeds in a drive to increase green space and biodiversity across the schools estate. (pg 43)
	Community Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention.
	Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Big Leeds Climate Conversation (BLCC) saw council officers and volunteers engage with residents about the climate emergency and promote the consultation at more than 80 meetings and events across the city including community committees, Carnival, Breeze Events, Pride and Child Friendly Leeds Live. A mixed-method approach was taken that included online questionnaires, in-person conversations, focus groups and social media. • The Leeds Climate Change Citizens' Jury was put together by Leeds Climate Commission working with professional facilitators Shared Future Community Interest Company as part of its response to the Big Leeds Climate Conversation following Leeds City Council's declaration of a climate emergency in

		<p>March 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.2.3 The citizens’ jury process ran from 12 September to 3 November with 25 jurors, selected by stratified random selection to represent a “mini public” of Leeds. Jurors spent nine sessions across nearly 30 hours of deliberation, listening to and questioning 22 commentators on topics from climate science to housing and from transport to finance. • 3.2.4 Their final list of 12 recommendations reflect the jury’s priorities for the city of Leeds, and emphasise the need for climate action at all levels. The recommendations, which are accompanied by a request for three-monthly progress reports, will be presented formally to Leeds City Council’s Climate Emergency Advisory Committee in January and will guide the work of the Leeds Climate Commission. (pg 18)
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an opportunity to engage the University to undertake an audit of school kitchens to determine their holistic carbon output, considering various issues such as food preparation methods, food waste, energy consumption, appliances, deliveries, etc. The objective of the assessment is geared towards identifying the potential for interventions to reduce carbon emissions. This project is anticipated to commence in 2020. (pg 36) • Beyond the supply chain, behaviour change interventions are being developed in areas where the council has direct control over the consumption of food. (pg 38) • The council’s agricultural land portfolio will be reviewed to identify opportunities for additional areas of tree planting as lease events occur. However, this must be balanced with the demand for good quality agricultural land to support food production. (pg 42)
	Fuel Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transformational Insulation in Back-to-Backs (TIBB) – this is a £10.5m project, with £5.28m from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to fit innovative external wall insulation (EWI) to 750 solid wall back-to-back properties in selective licensing and other priority neighbourhoods, providing significant enhancements in energy efficiency and reductions in fuel bills, and so contributing to addressing fuel poverty in the city. (p30) • The council is in the process of commissioning the University of Leeds to carry out data analysis of the council housing stock for a year. The University will map household energy use, energy/carbon saving opportunities and socio-demographic data across the city. The outcome will be a targeted and costed plan as to where and when to invest to deliver the best cost and carbon savings, whilst also maximising social benefits in terms of health and fuel poverty. (pg 31) • Housing: The Domestic Energy Efficiency & Fuel Poverty Initiatives in the council’s portfolio of cutting carbon projects improve housing quality and tackle fuel poverty in the city; (pg 46)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask of Government: Deliver a ‘national infrastructure’ approach to home and building retrofitting to drive action and achieve economies of scale, with funding for households in fuel poverty and incentives for the ‘able to pay’;
	Green space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council also has a specific programme to develop green spaces in the city centre as it becomes a major residential centre, shifting its emphasis towards encouraging biodiversity. (pg 6) • As part of the natural flood management scheme, two million trees are being planted in the upper catchment area by 2025, with Leeds City Council providing £4 million of funding. (pg 42) • A report has been brought to Executive Board today entitled “Proposal for Woodland Creation” that focuses primarily on council land within the council’s parks and green spaces with an ambition to plant a minimum of 25 ha of woodland per year. (pg 42) • There are further schemes already planned at the Headrow and Corn Exchange to further increase green space. A scheme is also currently underway to distribute 14,000 trees to schools throughout Leeds in a drive to increase green space and biodiversity across the school’s estate. (pg 43)
	Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any agreement would also need to ensure contributions only to new renewable energy generation facilities, such that carbon savings, were genuinely additional. (Referring to the purchase of a 100% green electricity tariff). (pg 19) • Fitting the Future (FTF) - this project will develop and demonstrate a business case for domestic solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation utilising energy storage, which enables a greater proportion of the renewable energy generated to be used directly by domestic properties. (pg 30) • The council could also submit a devolution style proposal to government for ‘green new deal’ type funding to bring economic investment into the city in support of Leeds meeting its carbon targets. In relation to private housing this could include retrofitting homes with energy saving features and potential renewable energy generation and supply infrastructure. This could also allow financial incentives to be provided to homeowners for the most energy efficient homes, or interest free loans for installing energy efficiency measures. The initiative would be linked into developing the local supply chain, and creating new jobs and training opportunities within Leeds. (pg 33)
	Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific mention.
	Skills/economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Council Plan; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inclusive growth: The work of the Leeds Climate Commission in unlocking investment in the low carbon economy supports growth and investment, helping everyone benefit from the economy to their full potential and supports businesses and residents to improve skills, ○ A programme of road safety measures supported with education, training and publicity

		<p>campaigns. (pg 24)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council has identified the Carbon Literacy Project as the most suitable independent training available. The Project has been recognised by the United Nations as one of 100 worldwide Transformative Action Programs and has recently been awarded funding by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to develop materials for the public sector. More than 11,000 citizens across 800+ organisations have already been certified as carbon literate by the Trust. (pg 21)
	<p>Youth Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council promoted the Big Leeds Climate Conversation at a variety of events aimed at younger people and/or families including 8 Breeze events, 2 careers networking sessions in schools, 8 university fairs and Child Friendly Live. Additionally, three workshops were held with young people, including one with the city’s Youth Council. Letters promoting the conversation were also shared with schools via Leeds for Learning and presentations were delivered directly to primary and secondary school head teachers as part of scheduled meetings. Finally, a promoted post was seen by more than 35,000 residents aged 13-24 on Facebook and Instagram. (pg 35) • There was focused engagement with young people during the BLCC. However, this was just the start of the engagement and there are a number of key events and activities already planned for 2020: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publication of a guide for schools ○ Young people survey undertaken on climate emergency ○ Youth Summit, February 2020 – focused on climate change ○ Climate Emergency Advisory Committee Meeting focused on schools ○ Child Friendly Leeds Ambassador event, June 2020 (pg 38)

