

# Climate Change and Environment Strategy 2021 - 2026

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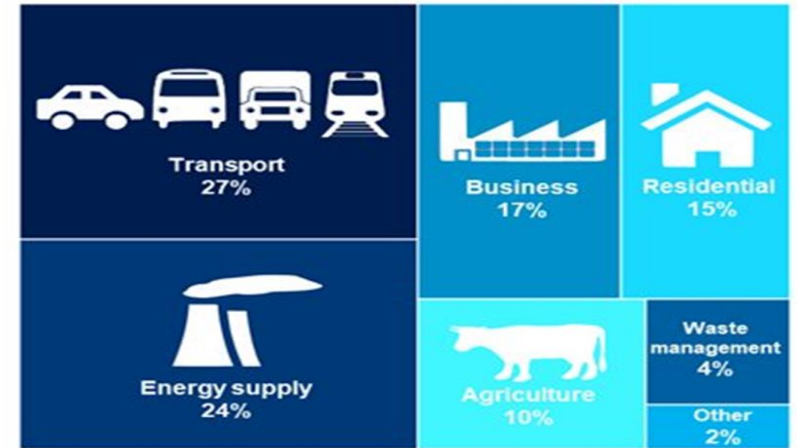


# What is the issue?

All of our activities produce greenhouse gases:

- Social working staff driving between clients
- Office Staff powering computers / printers
- Powering the bin lorries
- Lighting and heating our homes and work buildings
- Powering machinery used in road building
- Items we procure
- Recycling and disposing of waste

Where UK greenhouse gas emissions came from in 2017



As greenhouse gas emissions blanket the Earth, they trap the sun's heat. This leads to global warming and climate change. The world is now warming faster than at any point in recorded history. Warmer temperatures over time are changing weather patterns and disrupting the usual balance of nature. This poses many risks to human beings and all other forms of life on Earth.

**In 2020 Tameside declared a climate emergency – committing us to reducing emissions both from Council activities and those emitted by residents and businesses across the borough**



- Since the last scrutiny panel the Climate Change and Environment Strategy 2021 – 2026 has been adopted
- The strategy has an ambition to be carbon neutral by 2038 (12 years ahead of the UK target). This target means we need to reduce corporate emissions year on year by approximately 14% (currently achieving approximately 5% reduction per annum)
- Alongside the Strategy, are a number of working action plans that detail projects and actions that need delivering corporately and across our neighbourhoods to meet these challenging targets.
- Delivery of the action plans are monitored by the Environment and Climate Emergency Working Group (ECEWG). Chaired by Councillor Laura Boyle.

# Actions: Homes, Buildings and Workplaces

- Procure renewable energy across the corporate estate
- When replacing heating systems or other technologies such as lighting in Council owned buildings install low carbon alternatives where viable, seeking to avoid carbon intensive technologies (coal, oil, gas)
- Complete full assessment of Council owned land and buildings for viability for development of renewable energy and develop where viable (solar thermal / heat pumps / photovoltaic). Invest in the development of renewable energy and energy storage where appropriate
- Obtain an average rating of D or better by 2024 and C by 2030 for our public buildings where economically viable
- Complete street lighting rollout to LED
- Undertake detailed survey of buildings to determine current condition with emphasis on those elements contributing to energy usage and potential energy loss e.g. Upgrade insulation of Council buildings
- All new homes and commercial / industrial buildings to achieve net zero carbon by 2028. Support progression of Places for Everyone and proposed policy JP-S 2 in relation to Carbon and Energy

# Actions: Travel and Transport

- Deliver a transition of the Council's own fleet to electric.
- Workplace Green Travel Programme
- Encourage walking and cycling across the borough
- Enable the rapid shift to electric vehicles by facilitating the installation of EV charging points across the borough
- Require all taxi's to be electric through licensing
- Implement an anti-idling campaign across the borough



# Actions: Greenspace and Biodiversity

- Build natural capital into new and existing development to maximise the value that the environment brings. Plan for and build in green and natural areas.
- Ensure that greenspaces are maintained around Tameside in a way that maximises opportunities for increasing and enhancing biodiversity.
- Encourage sustainable allotment sites and more growing of produce within the community.
- Ensure that flood risk in Tameside is managed effectively
- Development of Local Nature Recovery Strategy



# Actions: Sustainable Consumption and Production

- Embed environmental sustainability criteria in social value procurement mechanisms and ensure the Council's supply chain is minimising carbon emissions.
- The Tameside Food Partnership will continue to engage local partners on the development of a healthy and sustainable food strategy
- Work to reduce single use plastics across the borough.
- Reduce consumption of water across our own estate
- Minimise waste and recycle as much as possible.



# Actions: Influencing Others

This action plan ties up all the other pieces of work and actions across the other areas to ensure that

- Embed Sustainability across the whole workforce / borough
- Encourage / enable retrofit of all existing owner occupied housing stock to level C or above. Encourage residents to get the basics right such as LED lighting and draught proofing, home insulation
- Encourage sustainable travel and communicate the aims of air quality management plan
- Assist businesses to access energy related support from the Growth Hub
- Encourage and communicate waste hierarchy refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle and purchase sustainable products
- Encourage and communicate the benefits of managing land for biodiversity



# What we have done



- Climate Change and Environment Strategy has been adopted 2021-2025
- Circa £2.5 million funding was awarded to Tameside to improve the energy efficiency / decarbonise 14 Council buildings (11 corporate / 3 schools) under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund. All projects under this funding round have been successfully delivered in a very short timescale. Measures installed include insulation, draught proofing, improvements to Building Management System (BMS), solar PV, solar thermal, ASHP, window replacements. This will reduce carbon emissions by an estimated 355.86 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per annum.
- Rolled out the LED street lighting programme - The lantern installation continues to progress with 5,564 installed to date out of 7,240
- Embedded Walking and Cycling programme via the Mayor's Challenge fund
- Flood Prevention – improving infrastructure, Micklehurst, Demesne Drive, Broadacre, Mottram Old Road, Stalybridge Country Park
- Replacement of Cremators and Mercury Abatement, Filtration Plant and Heat Recovery Facilities
- Bin round reviews / frequency of collections – to improve efficiencies.
- Greening the Fleet - New fleet replacement strategy has now been adopted – ULEV options available for all services - All of the fleet CAZ compliant by May 2022 – Provision of electrical tools as well as vehicles.
- 54,402 trees across the Borough greenspace and have planted 666 highway trees over the past 6 years. Working with City of trees to determine further planting opportunity with volunteer support possibly on scrubland

# What we have done



- Local plan (Places for Everyone) is driving opportunities to secure “biodiversity net gain” (BNG).
- Climate working groups to move forward progress against the action plans.
- TMBC partnered with TfGM to secure a number of EV Charging Points for Tameside Car Parks, specifically for Taxis (installation late summer – three sites with spaces for charging eleven taxis in total)
- Public Health team (Food Partnership Steering Group) working towards a Strategy that incorporates sustainable food and healthy choices.
- Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Funding bid for and won in partnership with other Greater Manchester Authorities – delivering low carbon improvements such as air source heat pumps, solar PV, insulation and double glazing to homes most in need across the borough.



# What we will be doing in the next 12 months

## Further funding has been secured

- Further funding has been secured to deliver further decarbonisation projects under Public Sector Decarbonisation Grant 3a. to deliver projects on a further four Tameside buildings– two schools, and two leisure facilities before end March 2023.
- Carbon Literacy online training will be rolled out across all Council teams to help embed messages.
- Key requirements to adopt green infrastructure within our future developments will be included both within the public realm and planning conditions.
- Continue to work alongside colleagues in GMCA to realise any further potential collaborative projects to reduce carbon when the opportunities arise.
- Working with GMCA on the introduction of air source heat pump offer to residents utilising the government's boiler upgrade scheme grant to part fund.





# What we will be doing in the next 12 months



GM grant from DEFRA - £574k to monitor particulate matter concentrations and to develop a communication campaign

Continue to deliver Active Travel schemes within the borough – increase the use of walking and cycling as a safe and preferred way to travel

The introduction of the Environment Act 2021 - powers to enforce smoke control orders in relation to domestic properties emitting smoke from chimneys, including the use of FPNs (up to £300).

Continue to deliver a Greening the Borough agenda – including the sustainable planting programme, City of Trees planting.



Highways street planting programme to be undertaken following successful bid for £38,000 from City of Trees.

Continue a roll out of Environmental Cultural programme – a key arm of Town of Culture – Slow Food – Slow Growing.

Continue to deliver Green Arts Award

Questions and comments?

