

Tameside Council's Future Vision, Strategic Priorities and Commitments to Climate Change and Improving the Local Environment

Place and External Relations Scrutiny Panel
Tuesday 8th June 2021



Local Impacts

More Saddleworth-style fires likely as climate changes, scientists warn

Saddleworth fires will also exacerbate problems as the UK's peatlands store huge amounts of carbon that they will release



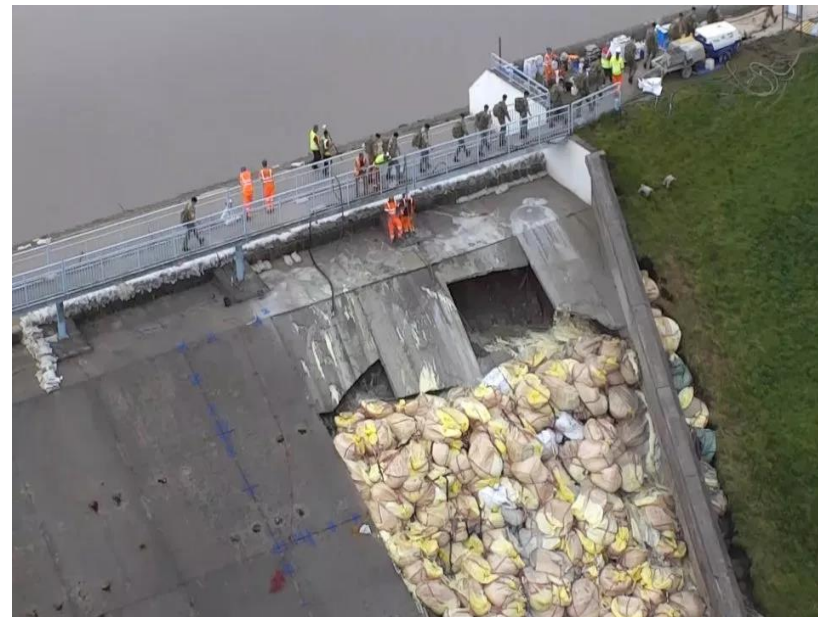
▲ Firefighters tackle the wildfire on Saddleworth Moor. Photograph: Danny Lawson/PA

Deaths rose 650 above average during UK heatwave - with older people most at risk

Exclusive: data shows spike in deaths coinciding with high temperatures, with frail, older people with kidney or heart problems most vulnerable

Whaley Bridge Dam Collapse Is 'Wake Up Call' on Britain's Need to Prepare for Climate Change Impact

Flash flooding has been causing havoc in the UK — leading to concern about climate preparedness.



Air pollution killing more people than smoking in UK

The Policy Position

- International
- National
- Regional
- Local
- Organisational



United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

- With 197 Parties, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has near universal membership and is the parent treaty of the 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement. The main aim of the Paris Agreement is to keep a global average temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and to drive efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The UNFCCC is also the parent treaty of the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The ultimate objective of all agreements under the UNFCCC is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system, in a time frame which allows ecosystems to adapt naturally and enables sustainable development.



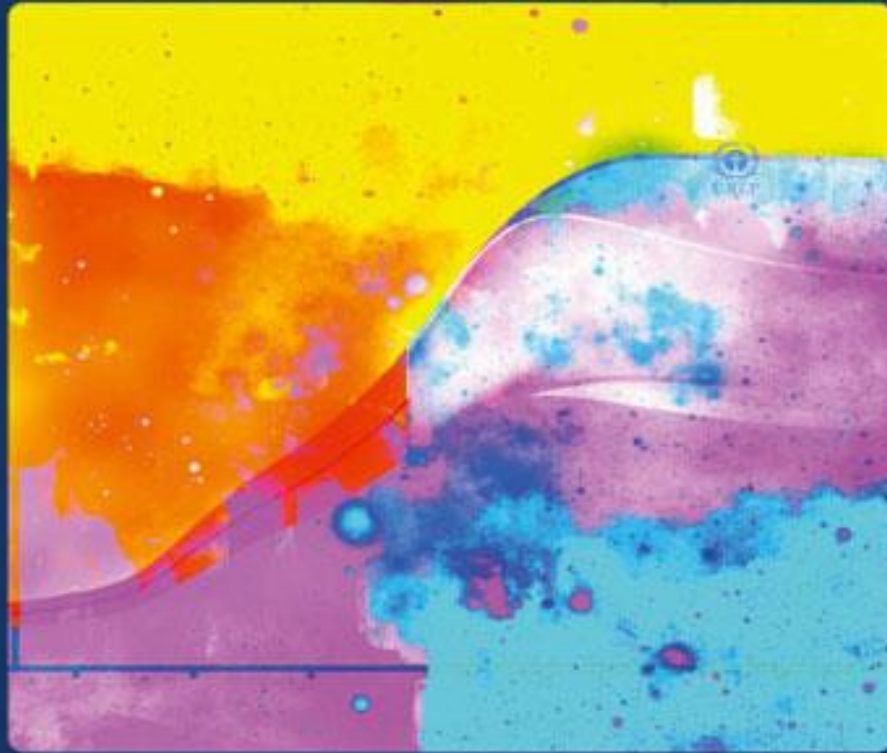
United Nations
Climate Change

International : The Paris Climate Agreement :2016



The [Paris Climate Agreement](#) (also known as the Paris Accord) is an international treaty on the climate crisis aiming to radically **reduce the world's carbon emissions and prevent a catastrophic rise in the Earth's temperature over 2°C**. It was introduced to rally the world's nations together against our common deadly threat – the climate crisis.

IPCC Report : October 2018



ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Global Warming of 1.5 °C

An IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.

National; UK Climate Change Act 2008

Original Goal:

80% reduction from 1990 levels by 2050

Revised Goal:

Net zero carbon by 2050



We reach net zero when the amount of carbon dioxide we add is no more than the amount taken away. These goals guide us to significantly reduce our absolute emissions and find ways to sequester any residual carbon emissions - so there's no net increase in CO₂.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

- **UN Climate Change News, 31 May 2021** – Against the backdrop of a new international warning that the world is dangerously close to exceeding the [Paris Agreement](#) goal of limiting global temperature rise at 1.5C, governments today began three weeks (May 31 to June 17, 2021) of virtual discussions designed to pave the way for a successful UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) this November in Glasgow.
- The need for urgent progress was underlined by a [new assessment](#), published by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) last week, indicating there is now about a 40% chance that the annual average global temperature will reach the 1.5C mark in at least one of the next five years. Exceeding this goal will likely impact food security and lead to more frequent and severe climate impacts such as heat waves, storms and sea level increases.



United Nations
Climate Change

Regional Policy: GMCA 5-year Environment Plan

- Carbon Neutral Greater Manchester by 2038.
Carbon neutral means that any CO₂ released into the atmosphere from activities is balanced by an equivalent amount being removed.
- The plan details the actions that will have THE MOST impact on putting us on track over the next 5 years
- The plan aims to mobilise all residents, businesses and other stakeholders to take action on climate change.



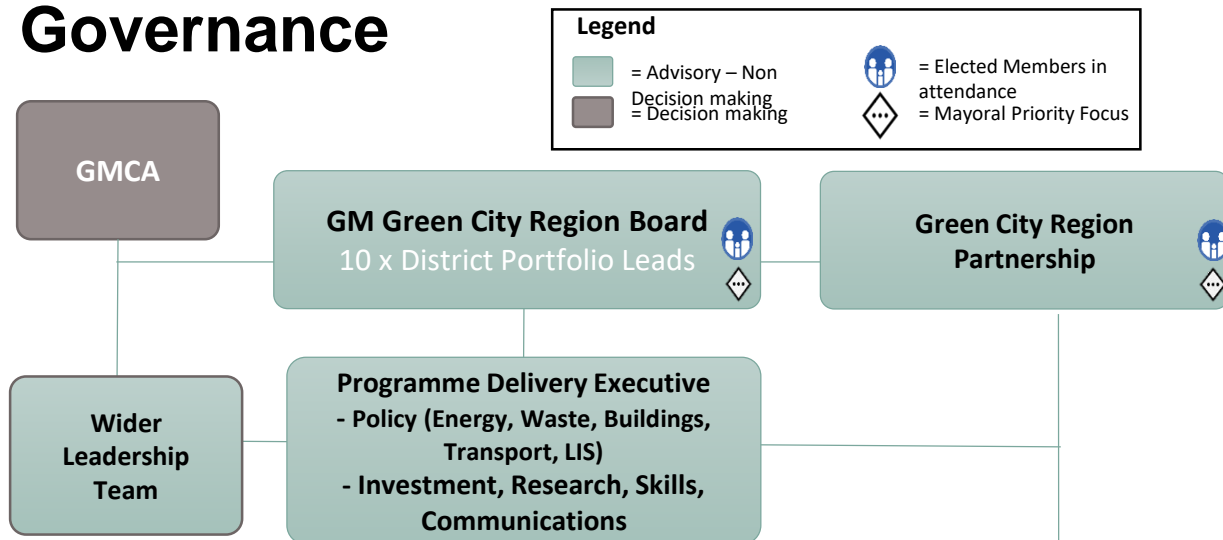
Regional Policy: GMCA 5-year Environment Plan

AIMS :

- **Mitigation of Climate Change** : For our City Region to be carbon neutral by 2038 and meet carbon budgets that comply with international commitments
- **Aim for Air Quality** : To improve our air quality, meeting World Health Organisation guidelines on air quality by 2030 and supporting the UK government in meeting and maintaining all thresholds for key air pollutants at the earliest date.
- **Aim for Sustainable Consumption and Production** : To put us on the path to become a circular economy , recycling 65% of our municipal waste by 2035 and reducing the amount of waste we produce.
- **Aim for our Natural Environment**: To protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment for all our benefit, taking steps to implement and achieve environmental net gain
- **Aim for Resilience and adaptation to Climate Change** : to be prepared for the impact of climate change and already be adapting to the future changes for any increase in climate shocks and stresses .

Green City Region - Integrated Governance

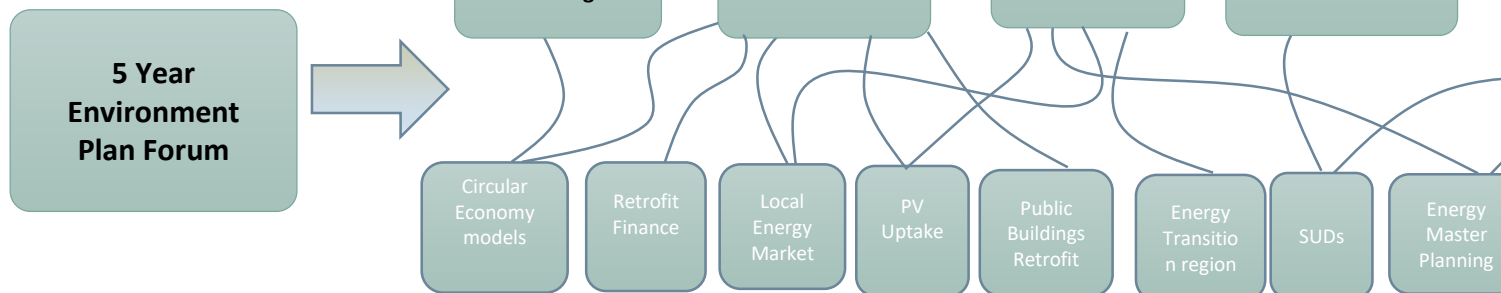
Governance



Mission Based Approach

Challenge Groups (Quarterly)

- Target driven, Outcome focused
- Topic based Task Leads



Open Forum (Bi-Monthly?)

- Comms, Engagement, Cross working
- Task Leads & wider NGO, Public, Private

Task & Finish Groups (selected examples - as needed)

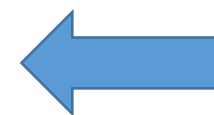
- Problem solving, task delivery



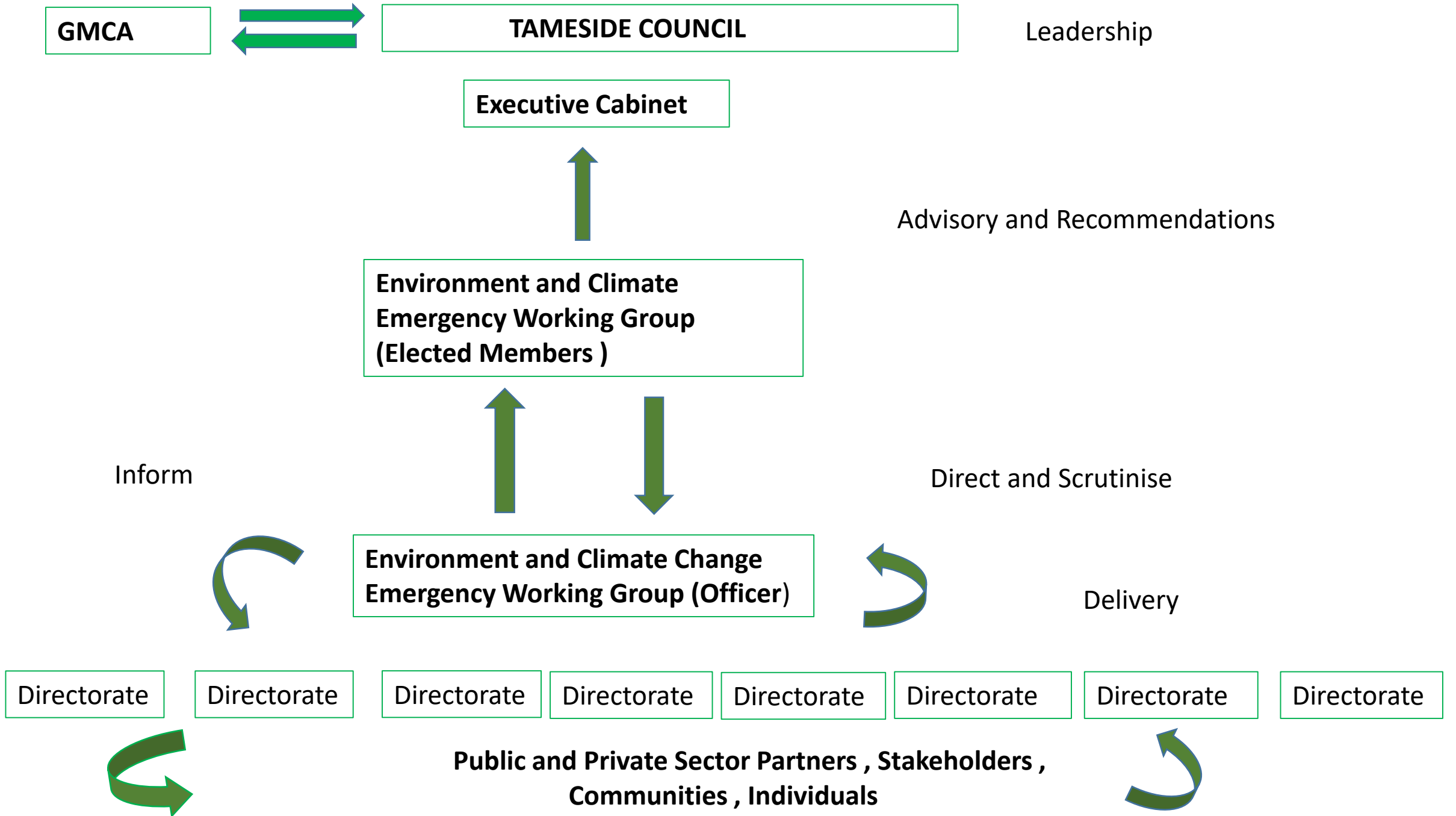
Key Influences



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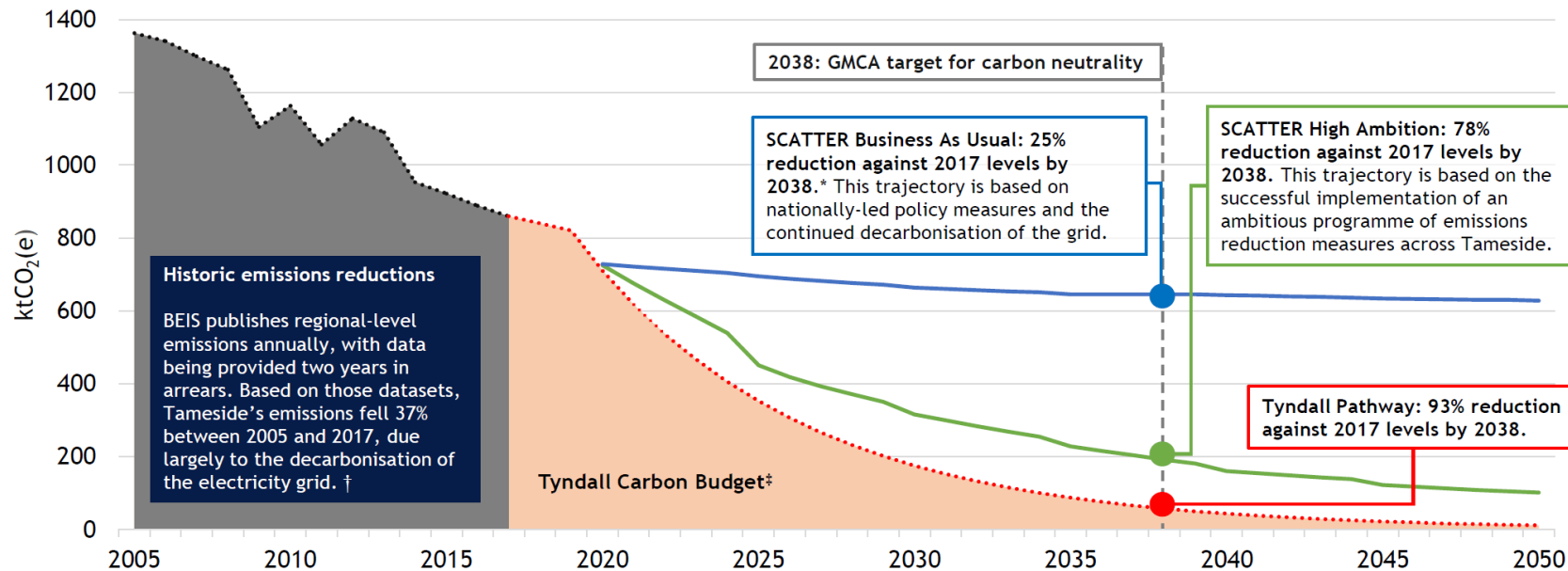
I N P U T



Carbon Reduction Pathway Tameside

SCATTER PATHWAYS SUMMARY

† BEIS (and the Tyndall Centre) uses a different methodology to SCATTER for many of its emissions, meaning direct comparisons may not always be appropriate.
* See <https://carbonbudget.manchester.ac.uk/reports/E08000008/>
*in relation to 2017 BEIS data.



Tameside Council Climate Emergency

In February 2020 Tameside Council declared a Climate Emergency, committing the Council to make our operations net-zero carbon in line with the GM commitment to do so by 2038 and to support and work with all other relevant agencies towards making the entire area zero carbon within the same timescale.

Putting Climate Change at the Heart of Everything We Do

- Formation of a cross council officer group to better support coordination of activity
- Potential increase in resource available to support response
- Production of draft Tameside action plan (with set targets) for agreement with involvement from panel members. Consideration to be given to building back better / green recovery.
- Formalisation of the agreed action plan and supporting information through the Council's governance process
- Require panel members to take a leading role in the monitoring and reporting processes of the agreed action plan
- Member and officers carbon literacy training
- Tameside elected member to sit on the GM Green City Region Board

Putting Climate Change at the Heart of Everything We Do

- First draft of Strategy and accompanying Action Plan is almost complete
 - Action plan has been discussed with key officers from the Council
 - Further work required to understand how we can track and measure success / costings
- Initial Consultation Exercise Undertaken
 - 372 responses from the online survey
 - Attended Tameside Partnership Engagement Network to Discuss the Plan
 - Tameside Youth Council were consulted

Consultation Summary

Online consultation available between 15 December 2020 and 29 January 2021

Survey included 22 multiple choice and open questions.

Results

- 93% of respondents either live or work in Tameside
- 90% of respondents either strongly agree or agree that they are worried about climate change.
- 92% of respondents either strongly agree or agree that they are willing to take personal action to reduce the impact of climate change.
- 77% of respondents either strongly agree or agree that climate actions are the most important thing we can do.
- 86% of respondents either strongly agree or agree that they support the Council taking action on climate change and the wider environment.
- 67% of respondents were NOT aware that the Council has declared a climate emergency.