




Climate Change & Environment Strategy
2021-2026 Tameside Metropolitan
Borough Council



Graham Hall
TAMESIDE MBC

Foreword by Councillor Alison Gwynne

Since declaring a climate emergency in February 2020, Tameside council have looked carefully at how we can further reduce our contribution to global warming. Initiatives such as the decarbonisation of the public estate are expected to make a real impact and we have begun to challenge how we deliver our services with carbon reduction in mind.

We all know the challenge is huge and some solutions for meeting ambitious net-zero targets are dependent on emerging technologies. However, something that is not reliant on technology – is culture. Reimagining a clean, green, inclusive and prosperous future is key to Tameside realising our collective, net-zero ambitions. By embracing a change in culture, we can succeed in making the dramatic shift towards a low carbon economy.

It will not be easy. We must adopt real, root-and-branch change, where our pioneering spirit pushes us to leave behind old habits, embracing and even innovating new ways of living, travelling, learning, caring and working. The aspiration is highlighted in our Corporate Plan specifically, with this priority, to achieve - *modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment that works for all generations and future generations.*

The opportunities are immense, the prospects exciting. I sincerely hope you join us on our journey towards a net-zero carbon future. A future for everyone, where our community will be enriched by a sense of common purpose at this pivotal time.

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Executive Summary

This Carbon Reduction and Environment Strategy 2021-2026 is the product of cooperation between departments within Tameside Council. Through public engagement and other forums, we have sought guidance from local people and regionally we have worked with peers to develop a workable document and a framework for an effective action plan.

It is important that both residents and businesses find the support they need from us and in-turn offer any support they can back to the community. If we can succeed in fostering a sense of collective responsibility and enthusiasm for the opportunities in the face of the climate crisis – then we are heading in the right direction.

The focal points of the Strategy are, Greenspace & Biodiversity, Homes Workspaces & Council Buildings, Influencing Others, Reducing Consumption & Producing Sustainably and Travel & Transport.



The associated action plans are contained within a set of working documents, which will continue to take shape once the strategy is adopted – identifying how carbon reduction can align with the Tyndall Centre recommendations for Tameside. Additionally the opportunities for environmental protection at a local level and targeted biodiversity net-gain are included in the relevant action plans. The plans, developed with internal and external stakeholder support – should be read as aspirational documents to form a response to the climate emergency. Actual actions may need costing, resourcing and ratifying through the governance process. It is planned that specific action plan task-groups will be formed, linked into the Environment & Climate Emergency Working Group (ECEWG). These teams will comprise of expert officers, stakeholders, elected members and interested parties who wish to assist in driving carbon reduction and environmental protection initiatives into realisation. These groups will also feed back into the ECEWG for progress on action plans to be monitored.

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Biodiversity	The concentration of natural organisms in a given space – includes plants, animals and fungi
Blue infrastructure	Water based environments such as rivers, streams, lakes and ponds.
Climate change	Change in temperature attributed to raised concentrations of greenhouse gases
Climate emergency	A global movement to expedite collective action to avoid environmental damage
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide – a product of combustion and most abundant greenhouse gas
CO ₂ e	Carbon dioxide equivalent – aggregated greenhouse gases attributed to the chemical value of Carbon dioxide
ECEWG	Environment & Climate Emergency Working Group
Fairtrade	An organisation which audits manufacture and farming to ensure workers are paid adequately and treated with care – awarding certification
GMCA	Greater Manchester Combined Authority
Greenhouse effect	Compound warming of the atmosphere due to increased concentrations of greenhouse gases such as Carbon Dioxide
Greenhouse gas	Gas which traps heat in the Earth's atmosphere, forcing warming
Green infrastructure	Natural capital – trees, plants etc.
H ₂	Hydrogen – a gas which when burnt emits only energy and water
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Net zero	Neutral state where absorption of CO ₂ equals it's production
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide – a by-product of combustion – harmful to health and the environment
PM	Particulate matter – physical particles of pollution
Sustainability	Ability to perform and maintain an activity without jeopardising future activity
Tyndall Curve	Graph to demonstrate a calculated “carbon budget” recognised as a credible method for carbon accounting and management
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
Urban-heat-island	The materials that comprise most city buildings and roads reflect much less solar radiation – and absorb more – than the vegetation

they have replaced. They radiate some of that energy in the form of heat into the surrounding air.

Introduction

Tameside Council in partnership with similar organisations across the globe, have declared a climate emergency. This demonstrates that we face an unprecedented and serious situation. However - there are in fact precedents; where urgent action was coordinated by governments to counter environmental problems, with encouraging, successful outcomes.

The killer "pea-soup" smogs of the early 1950's ended due to the introduction of the Clean Air Act in 1956. Later, expanding holes in the ozone layer were identified and global action taken through the Montreal Protocol to eliminate the cause - CFC's. Historically, many other administrative decisions have been successful in protecting the environment, the natural world and people from problems including acid rain, lead in petrol, whale hunting and asbestos.


Global climate change was first acknowledged internationally at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, where among other landmark initiatives - the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) began. The core message being the effect of greenhouse gases on the global temperature. The convention sought to establish a route to limiting the production of greenhouse gases, thus mitigating global warming and its effects.

In 2008 the UK pioneered a central government response to climate change by drafting the Climate Change Act.

In 2015, COP21 took place. The Paris summit generated long awaited international agreements on how to tackle global warming - principally the identification of carbon budgets and the targeting of a limit of global temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) drafted a Five Year Environment Plan in 2019 which identified the core components of; travel, energy, buildings, resource production & consumption and the natural environment. Additionally it addresses how we will need to actively prepare for, and adapt to, the effects of climate change. The plan focus on Places, Economy and People.

A further incentive to redouble efforts came when the Fridays for Future movement began to influence government globally – introducing the principle of Climate Emergency. Tameside formally declared a Climate Emergency in February 2020, committing to act to reduce the Borough's carbon impact to "Net Zero" by 2038 based on Tyndall Centre research and in partnership with other GM boroughs.



1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rio Earth Summit and UNFCCC
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK Drafts Climate Change Act
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK Becomes Signatory of UNFCCC's "Paris Agreement"
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greater Manchester Combined Authorities ratify "Five Year Environment Plan"
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tameside Council Declares a Climate Emergency

Why Act?

The effects of pollution, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change are damaging and sometimes irreversible. However, future impacts are still entirely within our power to limit.

If we do not act to limit global average temperature rise to 1.5°C or below, we face at the very least - irreversible biodiversity and habitat loss, more frequent extreme weather events, climate refugees and food shortages.

This is not an exotic or remote problem, environmental extremes have been experienced locally. Tameside witnessed flooding and wildfires in the last five years as well as incidents of serious pollution.

Latest predictions are that climate change is happening faster than previously thought and August 2021's IPCC report underlines the urgency to decarbonise.

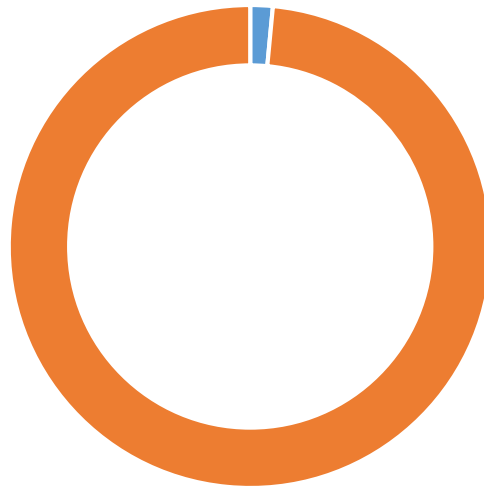
The cost of pollution on the health service is immense - from increased instances of asthma near busy roads and the psychological stresses caused by unbalanced urban living. The Nuffield Trust states that effects of pollution over the next 16 years could cost the NHS £18.6bn.

The UK government has published the Ten Point Plan for a Green Industrial Revolution. With a shift in consumption patterns there will be a wealth of opportunity as new markets emerge. We hope to maximise Tameside's part in this new chapter in UK economics.

When this strategy is read in conjunction with the Inclusive Growth Strategy, (Draft) Housing Strategy, Clean Air Strategy, Fleet Replacement Strategy, (Draft) Planning Strategy (pending adoption of GM's Places for Everyone), (Draft) Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy and STAR Procurements renewed principles - Tameside officers and wider stakeholders will be empowered to deliver services with a keen focus on achieving zero carbon and environmentally sensitive activities towards 2038.

As a local Council, we can effect physical change to the best of our abilities on corporate operations i.e. our fleet, our buildings and to a degree - our supply chain. However, across Tameside the majority of change needed is outside of the Council's direct control. As a community - Tameside, its residents and businesses, hold the key to reducing 98% of the borough's total carbon emissions.

Emissions across Tameside



■ Council emissions ■ Non-council emissions

To prevent catastrophic global warming, we must collectively act to reduce the further input of CO₂ into the atmosphere and champion new technologies and methods for doing so. Additionally we must act to protect and enhance natural capital to deliver a greener and more biodiverse borough, preserving our physical and mental wellbeing as well as acting as a carbon sink – drawing down and locking in CO₂. And we must act to ensure any impacts of climate change are managed as best as can be over the coming years, as the average global temperature is predicted to continue to rise – but with our best efforts not exceeding 1.5°C.

Tameside in Context

Why does Tameside need to invest time and money into decarbonising services? Why do we need to communicate and lead on adopting carbon neutral solutions to residents and stakeholders?

The Paris Agreement enshrined a principle of carbon budgeting, and since its adoption, those budgets have been divided and shared. From global to national, then regional and finally borough-sized segments of the whole.

The Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) published the carbon emissions from Tameside in 2018 as 833,000 tonnes. This is the entire borough-wide impact of heating homes and offices, commuting, manufacturing, shops, street-lighting – everything!

Tameside Council were directly responsible for approximately 12,000 tonnes of CO₂e in 2018/19. This fact is critical to our successful, collaborative approach to reducing carbon emissions across the borough. In percentage terms if we at TMBC reduced all corporate emissions completely, there would still be 98.6% of the Borough's total emissions left to eliminate. The graph below shows a useful guide to the split of emissions by broad category.

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Source: BEIS

The Reduction Pathway

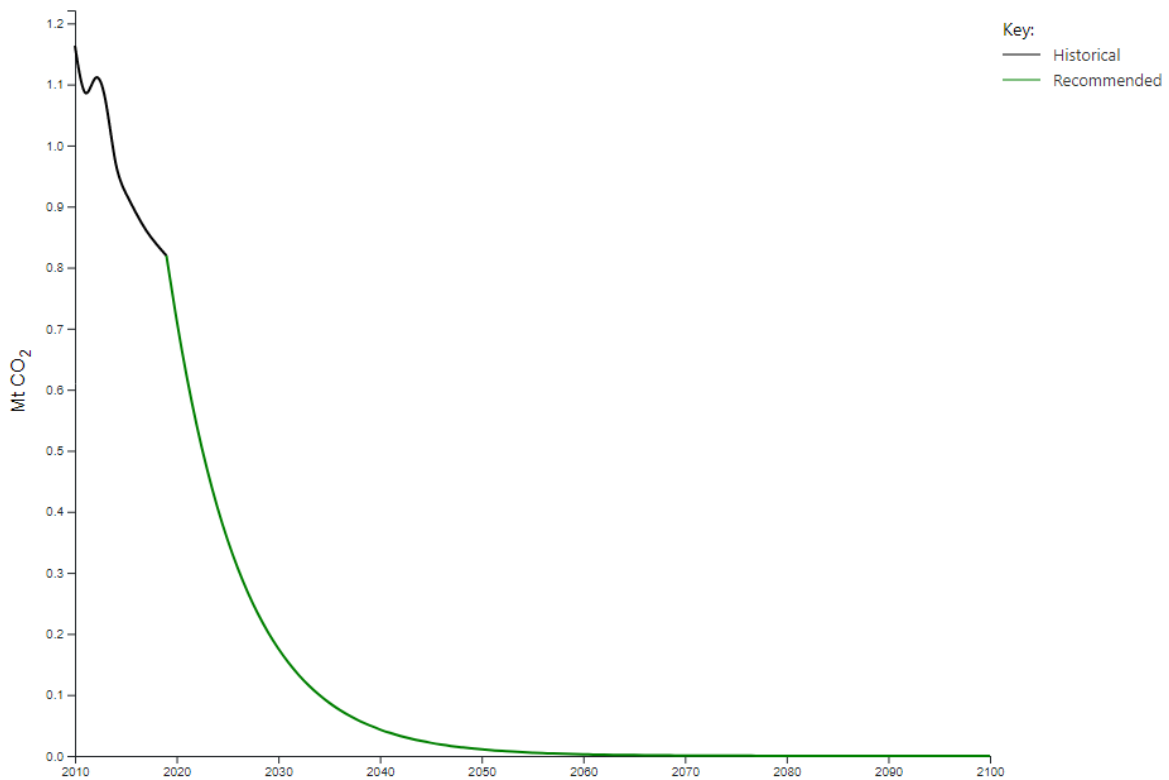
Manufacturers, commuters, sports clubs, schools, residents, care homes, administrative businesses, healthcare providers, retailers and every other both public and private enterprise across Tameside need to collectively step up to driving real change.

It should be noted that utility companies have a very significant role to play in actively bringing down our carbon emissions by decarbonising our energy supplies.

The Tyndall Centre has helped us to calculate Tameside's carbon budget and plotted a trajectory for this over the next thirty years. We are using this to determine our progression towards a zero carbon economy. More information can be found here - [Tameside Tyndall Research](#)

The graph below shows how steeply we need to modify the emissions curve to reach net zero.

Pathway projections for Tameside



Source: Tyndall Centre, University of Manchester, 2021

The Latest data from Tyndall, from Autumn 2021, suggest that there is a great deal of work to do to meet that Tyndall curve.

TMBC Priorities

Our People, Our Place, Our plan.

Tameside’s Corporate Plan sets out the key priorities for Tameside. ‘Our People Our Place Our Plan’ outlines our aims and aspirations for the Borough, its people and how we commit to work for everyone, every day.

The plan is structured by life course – Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well, underpinned by the idea of ensuring that Tameside is a Great Place, and has a Vibrant Economy.

Within each life course, we have identified a set of goals that set out what we want to achieve for people in the area throughout their life.

This Climate Change and Environment Strategy is one of a number of other key Council documents that define the actions we need to take to meet these priorities.

Our People – Our Place – Our Plan		Co benefits of Climate Action and how the Climate Emergency Response Plan links to other key priorities
Starting Well	Great Place Inclusive Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the energy efficiency of housing can help to reduce fuel poverty and associated illnesses of living in cold and damp homes. The health benefits of a lower carbon diet (less red meat and more plant based) can also help to reduce the incidence of obesity and type-2 diabetes thereby reducing the strain on the NHS.
Living Well		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our parks and greenspaces have multiple benefits, as well as absorbing CO₂ and helping to mitigate the effects of a changing climate these spaces can improve physical and mental health. Decarbonising the transport sector by improving fuel efficiency and moving from petrol and diesel to electric vehicles will make enhancements to air quality and reduce strain on the NHS. By protecting against biodiversity loss we can safeguard the food system helping to prevent against food shortages and associated health impacts.
Aging Well		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving digital infrastructure will help people to work differently. Reducing business travel and the reliance on travelling to a set workplace will cut commuting time, allowing more flexibility as well as reducing traffic emissions. Harnessing opportunities that arise from investing in a green economy. Increased research, development and innovation in this area provides the opportunity for job creation, economic growth and decarbonisation. Improving the efficiency of buildings will help decrease building running costs, improve occupier comfort levels and reduce carbon emissions from buildings.

This strategy reinforces Tameside’s commitment to the borough, its resident and other stakeholders – to create a place to “Start Well, Live Well and Age Well” sustainably, where the natural capital is enhanced and our collective impact on climate change is reduced. Crucially the borough needs to identify where areas of risk exist when the effects of climate change could be damaging, and prepare as best as we can to mitigate those risks.

Importantly – the Corporate Plan states specifically a desire to create;

Modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment that works for all generations and future generations.

Continuing Our Journey

Tameside Council has worked hard to reduce emissions and improve the environment:

Recording a 43% reduction in borough wide carbon emissions between 2005 and 2019

Installing LED street lighting across 69% of columns during phase 1 of the rollout with the remaining planned early 2022, a project in total saving of 4285 tonnes of carbon

Introducing electric vehicles to the council vehicle fleet, purchasing 10 new electrically powered vans and 14 electric charging points to support this.

Streamlining the corporate portfolio of buildings and identifying efficiencies in the way we run our services

The electricity contract for our corporate buildings ensures they are supplied by renewable power

Secured £2.3m on the first round of public sector decarbonisation – investing in greener technologies across eleven of the most inefficient buildings on the estate. A further bid of £2.9m pending for 2022 for six other sites. In total over the lifetimes of these projects the carbon savings are projected to be in the region of 11,000tonnes

Increasing tree cover across the borough, with 18,000 trees planted in the last three years and another 14,000 planned over the next planting season.

Supporting the roll out of solar PV scheme for residents and we continue to roll out renewables such as solar PV across the estate when we have the opportunity to do so

Accessed £14 million for walking and cycling improvements across the borough

Provide all residents with a comprehensive recycling service for a wide range of materials, recycling 54% waste across the borough

Supported the Clean Switch campaign to assist residents to switch to a green tariff

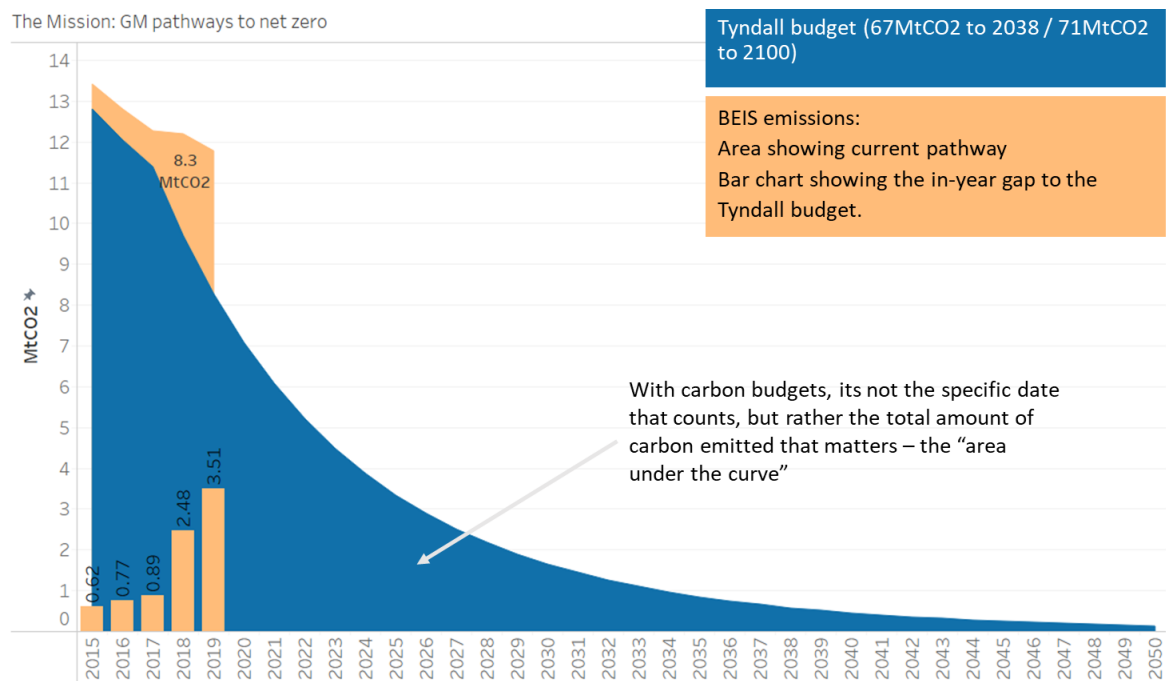
Improving the energy efficiency of homes across the borough by leveraging funding such as CERT and ECO to help improve the insulation of homes. Additionally promoting the Green-homes grant local authority delivery scheme.

These examples demonstrate some of the terrific, inspiring action from Tameside Council but we realise that there is still much more to do to meet the dual challenges of climate change and environmental protection across the borough. A critically important component of our Climate Change and Environment Strategy will be the highlighting of the need to work together as a community to deliver positive environmental impacts – with a priority focus on how we travel and how we heat our homes and buildings.

Latest Regional Carbon Emission Data

Across Greater Manchester, we have a tremendous resource of colleagues working to address the challenges of climate change and environmental protection. Regionally there has been great advance in collective solutions – the combined approach to public sector decarbonisation being one such example.

This regional support, including the assistance of Manchester Metropolitan University's Tyndall Centre enables officers to clearly analyse and develop a measured approach to carbon reduction. Latest figures provide a stark reminder that on our current trajectory – the GM region is not on target to reduce emissions in line with the recommended Tyndall curve – see below.



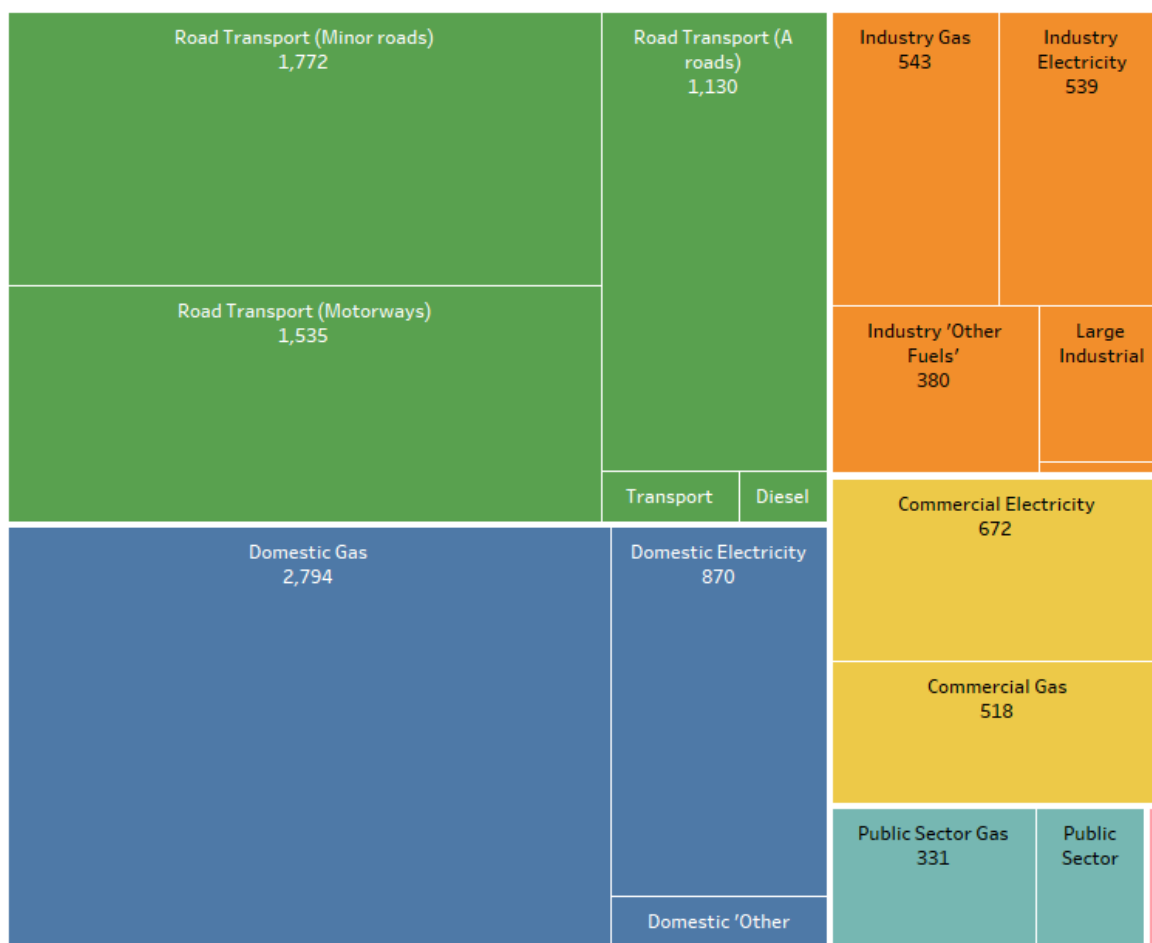
Credit: GMCA, Greater Manchester Environment Team 2021.

Greater Manchester and Tameside Carbon Reduction Priorities

To generate the biggest impact, we must focus on the highest impact categories – these are shown clearly below as domestic heating and road transport. These are elements where the majority of citizens can contribute to making an impact. The Council is trying to show best practice and lead by example (decarbonising our building stock and fleet activities) – however by far the greatest impact will be realised when residents and businesses notably reduce the carbon emissions of their activities. Tameside is embarking on a journey to collaborate with stakeholders to facilitate and signpost this transformation – and as communication is key, this Climate Change and Environment Strategy one important component of those efforts.

The transformation will not only require personal adjustments, there is an acknowledgement across the region that we need to usher in a systemic modernisation, enabling a sustainable economy that actively reduces carbon emissions.

Emissions magnitude by sector (ktCO₂ / 2019)



Credit: GMCA, Greater Manchester Environment Team 2021.

You Said, We Did – Climate Change Consultation

The Council sought the views of Tameside residents to ask what their priorities were for this strategy and what the Council should prioritise.

90% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they were worried about climate change, with 86% agreeing that they support the Council taking action on climate change.

When asked about specific actions to tackle climate change, the most commonly selected actions were:

- Assistance in improving the energy efficiency of their homes
- Actions to support and encourage walking and cycling
- Planting trees on Council owned land and encouraging others to do the same

Comment from the Youth Council included the following:

- *Climate change is having devastating impacts across the world right now and focusing on loosely enforced targets or individual sacrifices such as switching to reusable straws, is not enough!*
- *Affordability- some people won't be able to afford some of the changes if they wanted to switch to solar panels etc.*
- *I would like to see green spaces more heavily valued and protected and think it would be great if schools could get involved in conservation efforts etc. to not only improve understanding of our beautiful surroundings but also build pride in our local area and a knowledge of the importance of environmental preservation.*

The findings and responses have contributed to the development of this strategy and accompanying action plan.

Tameside Council officers are committed to continuing to work together with stakeholders to address this challenge.

Greenspace & Biodiversity

Open spaces, trees and natural capital have become more important to many of us during the COVID pandemic. The benefits of time spent in nature are hard to quantify but undeniable. Additionally there are very measurable benefits to robust natural capital – such as the carbon sinks and oxygen provision of trees and the flood mitigation of well managed uplands. Crops rely on insects for pollination and the entire food chain is balanced on that fragile dependency.

The impacts of climate change on our natural world are already becoming apparent, from increased floods, to droughts and crop failures. As our concerns about climate change increase, we must remember the important role that biodiversity and the natural environment plays in controlling our climate and vice versa.

Tameside's green infrastructure is essential in reducing the impacts of climate change on the lives of our residents. Trees and green urban spaces capture and store CO₂, improving air quality. Plants and trees also reduce the effects of increased urban temperatures through their evaporative cooling and shading qualities as well as assisting in natural drainage. Green infrastructure also mitigates the "urban-heat-island" effect where hard-standing, concrete, brick and tarmac all otherwise would store up heat and radiate in the summer months – making towns and cities feel much warmer than rural areas. Sustainable urban drainage (SUDS) can also cope with extreme rainfall – preventing flash floods.

Green roofs work to reduce the heat lost by buildings and providing better insulation in winter months, decreasing a buildings energy use. As well as vegetation, the presence of open bodies of water, such as ponds, can assist with the cooling of surrounding areas and in reducing daytime temperatures. Water (sometimes referred to as our "blue infrastructure") also harbours life. The complexity of biodiversity in a water body being a good indicator of the quality of the environment. There is work to do to ensure life in Tameside's rivers thrives.

Trees are a powerful ally in the fight against climate change. As well as harbouring dozens of species of other plants, invertebrates, birds and even small mammals, they capture and store carbon from the atmosphere and lock it up for decades – even centuries. Trees in Tameside contribute to ensuring that the borough is a more biodiverse, healthy and beautiful place to live. The UK has very sparse tree cover in comparison to other developed nations, so not unusually for the UK – Tameside would benefit from more trees. We want to work with residents and partners to increase tree and woodland cover where possible. We also need to ensure that we protect the ones we already have.

As part of the City of Trees project, we hope to continue to offer enhanced natural capital across the Borough. Additionally ensuring that the requirement for "net environmental gain" is mandated in any building schemes approved in Tameside. [City of Trees](#)

Homes, Workspaces & Council Buildings

According to BEIS almost three quarters (73%) of building related emissions come from the use of natural gas, mainly for heating. Burning fossil fuels results in emissions of methane, nitrogen dioxide and carbon dioxide, all 'greenhouse gases' that contribute to climate change.

Energy efficiency of newly constructed buildings has improved over the years but Tameside is still home to many old and inefficient buildings. Reducing heat loss through the buildings' fabric combined with modernising and decarbonising heat-sources will cut related carbon emissions significantly.

In order to eliminate carbon emissions from our buildings we should:

- Ensure the energy efficiency of buildings is maximised through insulation and other "fabric-first" interventions, better "smart" building controls and embrace new low energy alternatives such as LED lighting;
- Replace gas heating and cooking appliances with alternatives;
- Maximise renewable energy generation opportunities and purchase any remaining electricity from renewable sources.

Development in Tameside must embrace the principles of sustainability and grasp the ambitious vision for the possibilities for low-carbon, environmentally sensitive development. In partnership with the Council, registered social housing providers such as Jigsaw Homes are actively pursuing net-zero trajectories.

The UK Government plans to ensure all non-domestic buildings are built "zero-carbon ready" from 2025 ([Green Building Targets](#)). Tameside's construction industry has an opportunity to upskill and prepare for the changes ahead. It is an exciting prospect – to imagine radically different construction methods and innovations in Tameside. It's an chance to participate in sustainable, inclusive growth in Tameside - upskilling people to help deliver a vibrant, low carbon future.

Regionally, the Greater Manchester Combined Authorities' "Places for Everyone" sets guidance on Carbon & Energy – requiring all new homes and commercial/industrial buildings to be Net Zero by 2028.

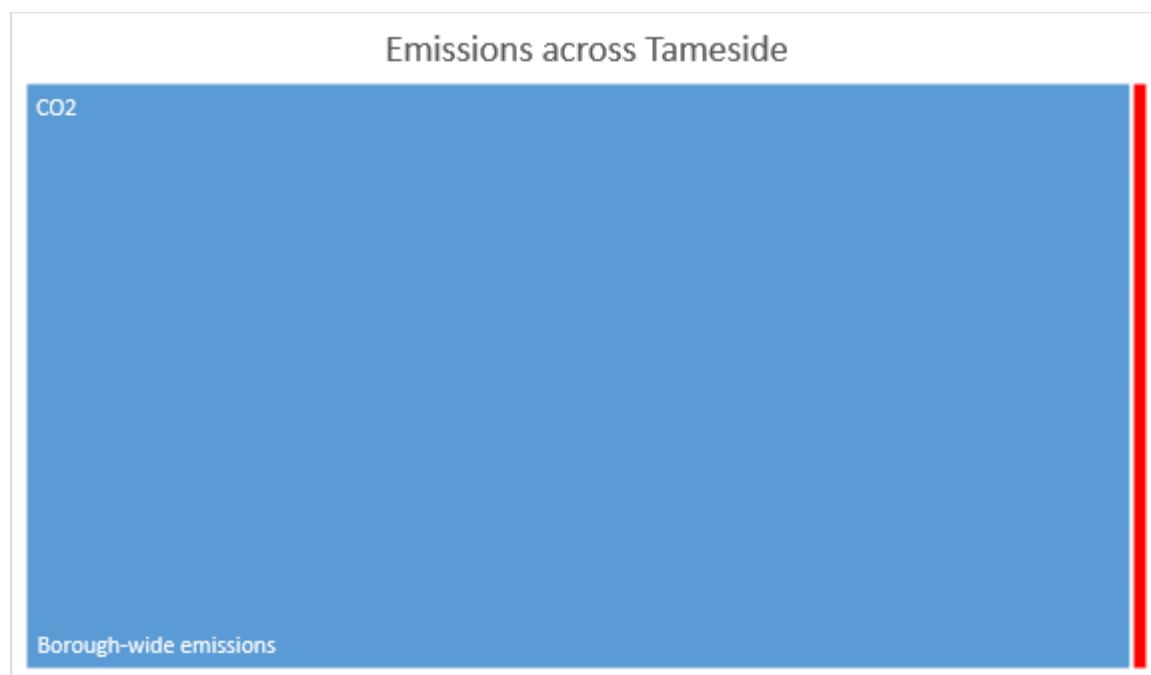
Tameside Council has begun to decarbonise the corporate estate and our electricity tariff is a green one. Additionally the Work Smart project is yielding savings as the estate is used in a more agile and efficient way.

Tameside Council administers central government funding to run the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme in partnership with E.ON. If you have a combined gross annual household income of less than £30,000 and your home has an EPC rating of band D, E, F or G, you may qualify for a Green Homes Grant of up to £10,000. Further details of this and other schemes can be found here - [Energy Saving Grants and Funding](#) .

Influencing Others

Tameside MBC's energy and transport emissions combine to approximately 12,000tonnes of CO₂e per annum. Across the Borough, all activities, including domestic, leisure, education and business amount to approximately 833,000tonnes of CO₂ per annum. Even if the Authority achieved carbon neutrality, that would only remove a maximum of 1.5% of the Borough's total emissions*.

The graph below illustrates this starkly, with the red line to the right representing TMBC's corporate contribution of CO₂e to the whole Boroughs CO₂ output.



This demonstrates how important the work of signposting and communicating solutions is for Tameside Council. This strategy defines a statement of intent. Read with the associated action plans, it helps to describe mostly corporate solutions. Our hope is that those in the community, outside of the Council, will be inspired to get on track towards an effective emissions pathway – targeting net zero in 2038.

Tameside Council recognise that as we move into this decade – our role as communicator will be fundamental to assisting our stakeholders in joining us on our journey. We plan to facilitate carbon literacy training to help our people prepare for this significant challenge.

It will be important for us to feed back to Regional and National institutions too, sharing successes and highlighting problems as we work to decarbonise and protect and enhance natural capital. It will also be important for stakeholders to feed back to the Council – to tell us what you need help with, to meet this unprecedented challenge.

*slight disparity between BEIS and Tyndall figures where CO₂ & CO₂e are referenced respectively. If we only included TMBC CO₂ emissions, the red line would be narrower still.

Reducing Consumption & Procuring Sustainably

In terms of efficiency – the first action is to reduce consumption or demand for resources. We must be vigilant and address waste head on. As a Council – protecting the public purse is an important component of our mission. Pursuing the objective of “best-value” is fundamental.

Procuring sustainably goes far beyond using recyclable materials or low carbon processes. It means local trade, protecting the environment, a low carbon supply chain, fair pay and humane treatment of everyone in the value chain. These principles are important in an equitable society and reflect Tameside’s values.

As partner in the Stockport, Tameside, Trafford and Rochdale procurement partnership (STaR) we have an influence on that framework to mandate high environmental and ethical stewardship standards from vendors.

The STAR framework says:

STAR recognises that procurement decisions can have a major socio-economic and environmental implication, both locally and globally, now and for future generations. The associated procurement activity is critical to ensuring that not only is best value being obtained, but that public money is spent in a way that protects both people and the environment and is vital to:

- *Furthering Sustainable development*
- *Stimulating innovation*
- *Avoiding unnecessary costs*

We recognise our responsibility to take a robust approach to ethical and sustainability issues, especially around modern slavery and human trafficking, which we are absolutely committed to preventing, within our partner’s supply chains.

The local supply chain is vital – the Council has a responsibility to support Tameside businesses that can thrive and feedback positively as stable employers in a supportive business community. As the UK economy invests and focusses on a Green Industrial Revolution, Tameside’s brilliant business community has an opportunity to capitalise. The Growth Team have worked to develop a new Inclusive Growth Strategy ([Inclusive Growth Investment Strategy 2021](#)) to facilitate this.

If you are a local business and you are not sure how to begin to work more sustainably, here are four basic steps to use as a guide;

- Quantify your annual carbon emissions from your business related activities.
- Identify where you can reduce resource consumption and/or emissions.
- Link locally to engage a supply chain on your doorstep.
- Periodically review your impact and adjust activities accordingly.

Travel & Transport

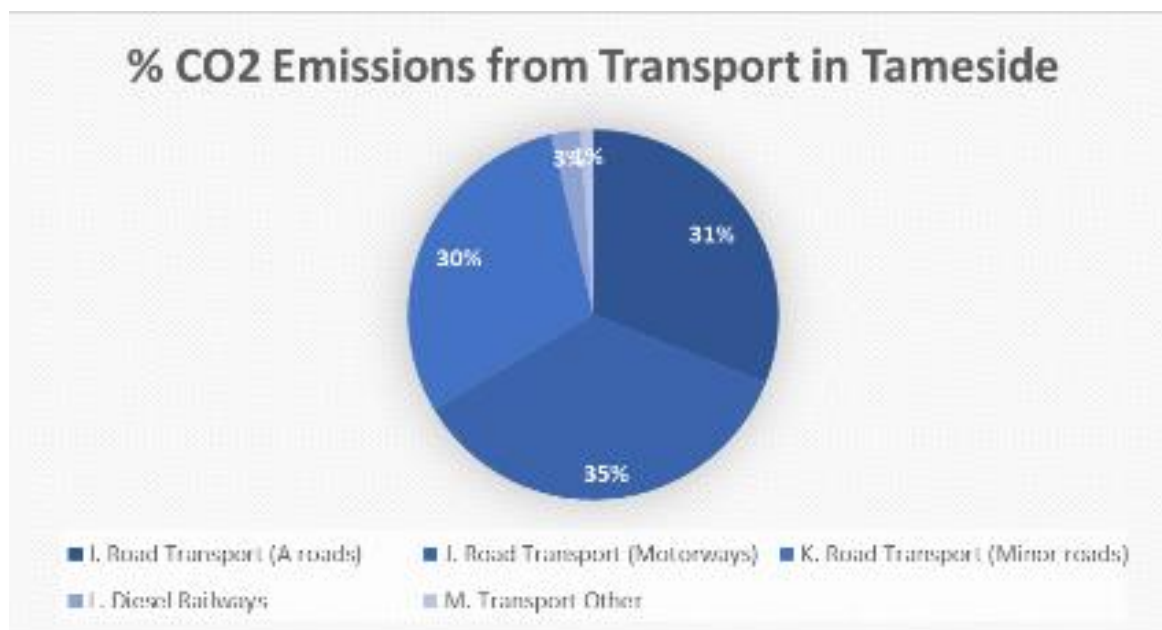
Transport represents a third of all of Tameside's CO₂ emissions. Of this, 82.3kt of CO₂ (31%) is from petrol and diesel vehicles on A roads, 85.0kt CO₂ is from petrol and diesel vehicles on minor roads (30%) and 100.1kt CO₂ (35%) is from petrol and diesel vehicles on motorways.

We rely on affordable and safe transport for continued economic growth. However, our current dependence on cars, powered by fossil fuels, comes with economic, environmental and health costs. Increased car use, especially for journeys once made by other means has led to serious problems of congestion and air pollution, particularly in urban areas. Despite improvements in air quality since the 1950s, air pollution is still linked to a range of very serious health conditions and contributes to around 1,200 early deaths in Greater Manchester every year.

All Councils are required by law to assess air quality against national standards and take action in areas where these standards are unlikely to be met. The Government has instructed us to take quick action to reduce NO₂ emissions, which are mainly produced by older diesel engines. Greater Manchester local authorities have worked together to produce a Clean Air Plan to tackle air pollution on local roads ([Clean Air Greater Manchester](#)) we are also rolling out the Clean Air Zone, which is designed to improve air quality for all.

Additionally GM are in the latter stages of approving their Streets for All Strategy – which will further influence spatial planning in favour of person centred urban and sub-urban environments. The vision being a streetscape that is; Integrated, Inclusive, Healthy, Environmentally responsible, Reliable, Safe & Secure and Well maintained.

In order to achieve our carbon neutrality target, it is clear we will need to reduce emissions that derive from transport. We must lessen the amount we travel in fossil fuel powered vehicles, by enabling a shift to more sustainable modes of transport such as walking and cycling as well as enabling a move to zero emission alternatives.








Planning and development control in Tameside considers how areas link, how active travel is elevated and how the environmental commons of air, land and water can be protected. Nine GM Boroughs have drafted the Places for Everyone strategy – to shape our city region ([Places For](#)

[Everyone](#))

Examples of Action Plans

Each of the five prior sections has a dedicated action plan associated with it. These plans will be dynamic, working plans for practical activity to deliver the strategy.

Examples of some component actions for each category are listed below.

	GREENSPACE & BIODIVERSITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ENHANCING NATURAL CAPITAL• DRAWING DOWN CARBON THROUGH TREE PLANTING
	HOMES, WORKSPACES & COUNCIL BUILDINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LOW CARBON SOLUTIONS WHEN REFITTING• DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE OPPORTUNITIES
	INFLUENCING OTHERS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OFFER A GREAT WEBPAGE FOR REFERENCE AND INFORMATION• CARBON LITERACY TRAINING
	REDUCING CONSUMPTION & PROCURING SUSTAINABLY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DRIVE ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE THROUGH SUPPLY CHAIN CONDITIONS• MONITOR AND IMPROVE WASTE PROCESSING
	TRAVEL & TRANSPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ENABLE UPTAKE OF SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL OPTIONS• SUPPORT GM CLEAN AIR PLAN

References & Links

[City of Trees](#)

[Clean Air Greater Manchester](#)

[Energy Saving Grants and Funding](#)

[Green Building Targets](#)

[Inclusive Growth Investment Strategy 2021](#)

[Places For Everyone](#)

[Tameside Tyndall Research](#)

Table of Appendices

Detailed action plans for each of the five themes

REFERENCE	TITLE
Appendix 1.	Greenspace & Biodiversity
Appendix 2.	Homes, Workspaces & Council Buildings
Appendix 3.	Influencing Others
Appendix 4.	Reducing Consumption & Procuring Sustainably
Appendix 5.	Travel & Transport

Appendix 1. Greenspace & Biodiversity Action Plan

Appendix 2. Homes, Workspaces & Council Buildings Action Plan

Appendix 3. Influencing Others Action Plan

Appendix 4. Reducing Consumption & Procuring Sustainably Action Plan

Appendix 5. Travel & Transport Action Plan