

## Announcements Arising from the Greater Manchester Green Summit on 21 March 2018

### Overarching

- As Mayor, Andy Burnham proposed that we **bring forward the date** by which we make Greater Manchester zero carbon by at least a decade. But he emphasized that we can only do this if everyone in the room today, as well as individuals and organisations across GM, agrees & signs up to play their part. This goal would need to be debated today (at the Summit), what it would mean for ordinary people & see whether we can build the necessary consensus. If there is enough agreement, we will then undertake further detailed work & look to bring it back to another Summit within six months to a year to confirm it.
- GM is now one of the few global cities that has taken a **science based approach** to calculating carbon targets and trajectories
- GM cannot do this alone. We will **work with Government** to ensure it delivers those things that require national action, including decarbonising the national grid and transport infrastructure and seek to negotiate agreements for greater flexibilities and finance through further devolution
- We also need to lever the strength of our universities to support our endeavours, working with the 100,000 strong student body, as well as accessing the academic expertise on offer.

### Natural Environment

- GM is already designated as **Defra's UK Urban Pioneer city** which means we have the opportunity to find new ways to value, manage and invest in our Natural Environment
- GM will further explore how we could create a **GM Environment Fund** to support our aims and, if so, how it could be sustainably funded working with Government, agencies and the private sector
- GM will produce a **Natural Capital Investment Plan** by Dec 18 which would identify those natural assets which could provide strategic benefit to local communities across Greater Manchester

### Energy

- GM will explore the creation of a **GM Energy Company** that is able to invest in energy generation, storage and control technologies in buildings to generate revenue from 'grid balancing'
- GM will produce a **Smart Energy Plan** by Sept 18, as part of an overall GM wide infrastructure strategy which will also cover digital, EV's and green and blue infrastructure
- Electricity Northwest will lead a workstream to assess how more **future energy demand** can be met from smart, local renewable sources
- ERDF

### Buildings

We need to move to considering the whole life cost of our domestic and commercial buildings, including their construction and running costs, rather than just focusing on their construction costs. It has also been estimated that 50% of the energy used in our commercial and public buildings could be saved simply through better energy management. To support work on carbon from GM's buildings:

- The UK Green Buildings Council will lead a workstream to assess how our current building stock can affordably be **retrofit** to cost efficient standards. A significant deep retrofit campaign has the potential to create 55,000 jobs, if an appropriate finance mechanism can be found
- The GMSF will include a **date by which all new homes built across GM will need to be net zero carbon** (Further work would need to be done to agree this date)
- Andy called on the public sector to consider not renewing leasing on buildings that they occupy which do not meet **minimum energy performance standards**

### Transport

- GM will establish a new public sector-led commercial model for the GM EV charging network this year that will be at least double the size of the present system
- GM wants to move to an **emissions free bus fleet** and we will look at whether our new bus powers can help us to achieve this faster
- GM will **transform cycling and walking** in the City Region by investing up to £50m per year for three years from 19/20 through the Transforming Cities Fund
- GM will strive to ensure that **TfGM's 2040 Strategy** – and wider transport investment – is fully aligned with our carbon neutral ambition

### Waste

- Building on the Government's recent announcement about investigating how it can use the tax system to reduce plastic waste, it was announced that there will be a **#Plastic Free GM Campaign** to see how GM can be at the forefront of taking action to eliminate single use plastics
- To support this, a number of GM's tourism and hospitality companies have already signed a pledge to eradicate the use of single use plastics by 2020. Within the next 6 months, these businesses will set out a plan to achieve this and, as a first step, will have begun to replace plastic with recyclable straws.

### Launches

The Green Summit also launched a number of initiatives which support the overall Environmental agenda:

- Tyndall Centre have published their report which quantifies the impact of the Paris Agreement for Greater Manchester <http://www.mace.manchester.ac.uk/our-research/centres-institutes/tyndall-manchester/news-events/new-tyndall-manchester-report-quantifying-the-implications-of-the-paris-agreement-for-greater-manchester.htm>
- The Wildlife Trust will launch **'My Wild City'** in Manchester, a £225k campaign to support local action and natural environment awareness
- Oldham MBC launched their **Community Energy Asset Bank**, an online service to match up community energy groups with asset owners interested in having their roofspace or land developed for renewable energy by a local community energy group. They will encourage other areas to get involved in this, and it could link to the potential GM Energy Company
- A wide range of local action on food by the public, private and voluntary sector will be co-ordinated via the launch of **Good Food Greater Manchester**, a strategic food Board for GM
- The new GM **Natural Capital Group Website** 'Nature Greater Manchester' went live on the day of the summit <https://naturegreatermanchester.co.uk>