

Policy JP-S 2

Carbon and Energy

The aim of delivering a carbon neutral Greater Manchester no later than 2038, with a dramatic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, will be supported through a range of measures including:

1. Promoting the retrofitting of existing buildings with measures to improve energy efficiency and generate renewable and low carbon energy, heating and cooling;
2. Promoting the use of life cycle cost and carbon assessment tools to ensure the long term impacts from development can be captured;
3. Taking a positive approach to renewable and low carbon energy schemes, particularly schemes that are led by, or meet the needs of local communities;
4. Keeping fossil fuels in the ground;
5. Planning for a balanced and smart electricity grid by identifying geographical locations which could support energy assets⁽³⁰⁾;
6. Increasing the range of nature based solutions including carbon sequestration through the restoration of peat-based habitats, woodland management, tree-planting and natural flood management techniques;
7. Development of Local Area Energy plans to develop cost effective pathways to achieve carbon targets;
8. An expectation that new development will:
 - a. Be net zero⁽³¹⁾ carbon from 2028 by following the energy hierarchy (with any residual carbon emissions offset), which in order of importance seeks to:
 - i. Minimise energy demand;
 - ii. Maximise energy efficiency;
 - iii. Utilise renewable energy;
 - iv. Utilise low carbon energy; and
 - v. Utilise other energy sources.

With an interim requirement that all new dwellings should seek a minimum 19% carbon reduction against Part L of the 2013 Building Regulations.⁽³²⁾
 - b. Incorporate adequate electric vehicle charging points to future proof for the likely long-term demand, taking account of the potential maximum energy demand for the site;

30 Such assets could be heating / cooling networks, electricity generation or storage infrastructure or a mixed hybrid approach subject to local demand and connectivity

31 Applied to operational net zero carbon up to 2028 and considered for net zero 'in construction' from 2028 onwards in line with the UK GBC Framework (<https://www.ukgbc.org/ukgbc-work/net-zero-carbon-buildings-a-framework-definition/>) Minimum carbon reduction target expected to be in line with 2025 Future Homes Standard of 80%.

32 Or until such time that this level is superseded by changes to national building regulations

- c. Where practicable, prioritise connection to a renewable energy/heating/cooling network in the first instance or a low carbon energy/heating/cooling network that is adaptable to non-fossil fuels at a later date;
- d. Achieve energy demand reductions for residential development in terms of space heat demand; hot water energy demand and the delivery of on-site renewable energy generation.

For renewable energy generation priority should be given to PV installation where technically feasible, alternative technologies will be appropriate where the equivalent generation is evidenced.

- e. For non-residential developments, achieve at least BREEAM excellent standard (or equivalent) for the 'Ene 01 – reduction of energy use and carbon emissions' category rising to 'BREEAM outstanding' equivalent for ENE 01 from 2028.
- f. Include a detailed energy statement to demonstrate via site relevant evidence how the development has sought to maximize reductions in carbon emissions in line with relevant policy targets, including the minimisation of overheating risks and appropriate measures for post occupancy evaluation. Whole life cycle emissions should be considered where possible.

District Local Plans may set out specific carbon emission reduction targets, particularly if carbon neutral targets have been set sooner than 2038, or promote other measures through which energy efficiency of buildings and renewable energy generation can be achieved.

Heat and Energy Networks

- 5.20** Around two-thirds of Greater Manchester's carbon emissions come from domestic and commercial buildings. Government analysis⁽³³⁾ identifies heat/energy networks as a cost-effective solution to this issue within areas of high heat density, with modelling suggesting that heat networks could be an important part of the least-cost mix of technologies needed to achieve UK-wide decarbonisation targets by 2050.
- 5.21** Heat and energy networks have the potential to achieve significant emissions reductions and have significant potential for promoting regional growth in the Low Carbon sector.⁽³⁴⁾ The shift to a low carbon economy creates the emergence of new sectors and technologies, which in turn requires new occupations, skills and expertise to be developed in the labour market. This Plan seeks to ensure that its residents will be ready for these new opportunities.

33 See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-future-of-heating-a-strategic-framework-for-low-carbon-heat> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-future-of-heating-meeting-the-challenge>

34 See <http://enworks.com/resources/ESTA%20Wedges%20Approach%20in%20Greater%20Manchester%20Final.pdf>