

Bury Council

Draft Climate Action Plan 2021

(Text only version)

We want Bury to be carbon neutral by 2038 to clean the air, protect our environment, and care for the health and wellbeing of our communities

- Let's do it...
- For our planet
- For each other
- For future generations

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What is a Climate Action Plan?

Our Climate Action Strategy provides the groundwork and explains why we are doing, what we are doing and what we hope to achieve.

Our Climate Action Plan is a much more fluid and organic document that will be annually updated, tracking our progress, and highlighting where more work is needed.

All of us have a responsibility to get involved and there are things listed here that we can all do, not just the Council. As we all progress, the Action Plan will keep track of the different projects across different departments, groups, and organisations throughout the borough.

This Climate Action Plan will help us stay on track towards our end goal of carbon neutrality and provide as much accountability and transparency as possible.

Bury's Environmental Forums

Bury consists of six Townships which are then organised into five neighbourhoods: North (including Tottington and Ramsbottom), Bury East (including Bury), Bury West (including Radcliffe), Prestwich, and Whitefield.

Environmental Forums will be established in each of these five neighbourhoods. Prestwich Environmental Forum is already established, and we expect Whitefield to also commence soon with the other three to follow later in the year.

These Forums will aim to unite different groups and voices; provide local communities with greater support to get projects and ideas off the ground; and provide a more concise way for the Council and community to work together.

Community Climate Action Fund

Part of Bury's Climate Action Plan includes disseminating £100,000 worth of funding to local community action groups via successful bids.

Over the financial year 2021/22, the Council will invite bids from the community which tackle issues relating to actions within this Plan.

Funding for projects will be geographically spread across the borough to ensure that all residents of Bury can participate in this action.

Successful bids will need to clearly demonstrate an awareness of environmental issues, locality, community inclusion and fairness.

The Aim of this Plan

Our end goal is reaching carbon neutrality by 2038, if possible, even sooner.

In order to get there, there is much we need to do. We need to engage with and spur on not only our internal departments but also local action groups, the NHS, Greater Manchester Police and Fire Services, businesses, and individuals as we all have a part to play.

We hope that through this document that we can open up a new more-collaborative two-way dialogue that pushes you to make small changes while you push us to make big changes.

With the establishment of the five Environmental Forums and the opportunity to get stuck in on different actions, there is a great opportunity here to not only improve our environment but also our local community.

We have split the Action Plan into 11 Priority Action Areas which link to the Climate Action Strategy. We want to achieve everything in our Action Plan, but time, money and logistics cannot allow us to do everything immediately. Each action will be reviewed annually and classified as either:

- Not started
- Discussion Stage
- Early Actions
- On-Track
- Completed

The classifications will be subjective but will allow us to see where we need to focus our efforts and enable us to act efficiently and effectively.

Next Steps and Enabling Action

As mentioned on the previous page, the Climate Action Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, over the coming year we expect to use the following schedule:

- June / July 2021 - Climate Action Strategy and the Climate Action Plan are put out to public consultation
- Aug 2021 - Climate Action Strategy and Climate Action Plan are redrafted following the consultation
- Aug / Sept 2021 - Council helps establish the four remaining Environmental Forums
- Sept 2021 - Consultation responses are analysed for trends to better inform decision-making
- Sept / Oct 2021 - Council works with the local community to begin delegating actions
- Oct 2021 - Bury Council approves the Climate Action Strategy
- Oct 2021 - Community Climate Fund applications open
- Nov 2021 - Community Climate Fund applications close
- Dec 2021 - Funding approved and money is distributed
- Jan - May 2022 - Council continues to work with Local Action Groups to promote actions, ideas, and initiatives
- June 2022 - Reassessment of the Climate Action Plan

Priority Action Areas

Our 11 Priority Action Areas

1. Our Energy Supply
2. Our Homes, Workplaces and Public Buildings
3. Low Carbon Travel
4. The Things we Buy and Throw Away
5. Food
6. Our Natural Environment
7. The Green Economy
8. Environmental Justice
9. Climate Resilience and Adaptation
10. Putting Climate Change at the Heart of Council Action
11. Carbon Offsetting

Our Energy Supply

Energy Production

- Exploit renewable energy potential in relation to solar, hydro and wind on our land, buildings, and water assets
 - Progress to date: Awarded £8.5 million under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to decarbonise 16 public buildings and preliminary investigations into Council owned potential hydro and wind energy sites

Buildings

- Provide local exemplar projects for renewable heating systems in Six Town Housing properties and also in developments where we have influence such as developments on our own land or partnerships with

third parties

- Progress to date: 90 Six Town Housing properties retrofitted with air source heat pumps and private developments increasingly required to incorporate renewable heating systems
- Increase the use of heat pumps and other sustainable renewable heating options in existing buildings
 - Progress to date: Awarded £8.5 million under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to decarbonise 16 public buildings
- Introduce policies requiring all new developments to be carbon neutral, featuring renewable heating systems and maximum renewable energy generation
 - Progress to date: Early discussions around future developments on brownfield sites
- Produce a Local Area Energy Plan by working with our local partners and District Network Operators to plan for the move towards carbon neutrality to include
 - Progress to date: Preliminary work has begun, and further details are being discussed

Infrastructure

- Work with our district network operator to plan the upgrade to a smart electricity grid
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Work with the private sector to install future electrical infrastructure
 - Progress to date: Not started

Collaboration

- Work with the private sector, government, and other partners to create new business models to make renewable energy more attractive
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Work with the business community, Greater Manchester Combined Authority, and government to build the green energy sector to ensure we have sufficient service providers to deliver new renewable heating systems
 - Progress to date: Greater Manchester Green Growth Company provides support and continual work
- Work with local colleges to ensure that our local workforce is provided with the necessary technical skills in sustainability around retrofitting and renewable heat and energy systems
 - Progress to date: Not started

Council Related

- Ensure the council's procurement of electricity is from certifiable renewable sources.
 - Progress to date: Business case being investigated

Our Homes, Workplaces and Public Buildings

New Developments

- Support the establishment of a Bury Eco Standard for new builds as well as the retrofitting of existing properties where planning legislation allows and incorporate this into planning regulations
 - Progress to date: Not started

- Provide landlord and developer incentives to encourage them to develop carbon neutral housing
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Ensure that all new Council built homes are carbon-neutral standard. Where this is not possible, due to technology not yet being in place or sufficiently affordable, we will future-proof properties so they can be fitted later with more advanced technologies that emerge in the future
 - Progress to date: electric vehicle charging now required for domestic developments and National Planning Policy Framework compliance required which includes various sustainable and climate-resilience measures
- Work with Greater Manchester Combined Authority to agree phasing of increasing expectations for developers to build new zero-carbon housing over the period to 2028, so that by 2028 all new homes being built in the borough and across Greater Manchester are building zero carbon homes. Embed this into planning policies and dialogue with developers
 - Progress to date: Working with Greater Manchester Combined Authority on the Pathways to healthy NetZero housing for Greater Manchester
- Work with Registered Providers operating in Bury to learn and explore together how they might achieve net zero carbon new homes ahead of 2028
 - Progress to date: Established a Joint Commissioning Partnership with Registered Providers across the borough to ensure carbon neutrality is front and centre of new Council

homes

- Require zero carbon development wherever we have additional influence for example as a client, end user, landowner, or development partner
 - Progress to date: Achieved through the ongoing work with Registered Providers as well as through the Council's work around Affordable Housing. More work needed to engage with private developers

Local Industry and Business

- Understand more about our energy use by the local industry and commercial sector and develop means to help them overcome challenges in the transition to carbon neutrality.
 - Progress to date: Greater Manchester Green Growth Company assisting with companies across the borough understand their energy more and make reductions where possible
- Develop pilot projects around deep retrofitting and renewable heating systems in order to build our low carbon business sector
 - Progress to date: Siddall Street eco-scheme is currently under construction and has been shortlisted for an award due to their work around zero-carbon homes which include lots of carbon efficient measures

Enabling Action

- Work closely with a range of partners, including Greater Manchester groups and private social landlords in order to learn and develop solutions together including financial incentives to make the shift to carbon neutral homes

- Progress to date: Work continues through Registered Providers and affordable housing
- Create strong buyer demand for low carbon homes, for example by actively promoting the financial benefits of occupying a net zero-carbon home
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Work with Government, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, housing associations and all relevant bodies to provide and promote grant funding opportunities to install insulation and retrofit technologies to domestic households within Bury
 - Progress to date: EON Green Home Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme available and ECO Boilers funding also available

Collaboration

- Improve the carbon literacy of our residents, businesses, and council employees
 - Progress to date: Beginning to look at implementing an internal carbon literacy programme
- Invite local groups in each of the five neighbourhoods to drive forward the private housing low carbon challenge. Establish neighbourhood champions to help with this
 - Progress to date: Housing Strategy has started conversations with residents around sustainability and the Climate Action Strategy Consultation will further this work
- Work with Six Town Housing to implement the Greater Manchester Landlords Combined Climate Strategy

- Progress to date: Operational gas supplied should be by green energy. Small scale projects in the pipeline to demonstrate deep energy retrofitting. Projects under development to improve carbon literacy of staff and tenants.
- Collaborate with other public sector organisations in Bury to reach carbon neutrality.
 - Progress to date: Bury working with Fire & Rescue and Police Service as part of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. Collaboration as part of the One Public Estate project. Potential for Greater Manchester Combined Authority project to look at renewable energy across public sector assets. Working with the Fire Service regarding carbon literacy
- Enforce minimum energy efficiency standards in the privately rented sector
 - Progress to date: Toolkit provided by Department for BEIS to help enforce and civil penalty plan in place to enable enforcement

Retrofitting

- Carry out a stock condition survey to establish a baseline position for Bury's private and public sector housing stock
 - Progress to date: Energy Systems Catapult are currently conducting a Greater Manchester wide stock survey on behalf of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- Develop a plan to bring all currently built privately owned housing stock into carbon neutrality by 2038 and SAP C rating by 2025
 - Progress to date: Energy Systems Catapult are currently

conducting a Greater Manchester wide stock survey on behalf of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and HECA report produced bi-annually highlighting energy efficiency improvements

- Develop a plan to bring all currently built Local Authority housing stock into carbon neutrality by 2038 and SAP C rating by 2025
 - Progress to date: Work is being factored into Six Town Housings programme around repairs and upgrades
- Develop pilot projects around retrofitting a small amount of the Local Authority housing stock to carbon-neutral standard, learning from other Councils, and developing a skill base in the process
 - Progress to date: A sample of Six Town homes are being upgraded to carbon neutral as part of an ongoing pilot project
- Increase volume of deep retrofits over time as new technology emerges and the market develops
 - Progress to date: Awaiting emergence of technology
- Work with Registered Social Housing Providers to generate an ambitious but realistic plan of action to retrofit their homes up to the Bury Eco-Standard by 2038
 - Progress to date: Eco-Standard needs to be developed first

Future Proofing

- Become 'bid-ready' by: Working up project ideas to enable successful funding bids and developing a scheme delivery framework with partners to ensure that, when funding opportunities do arise, we can approach the most relevant contractor and develop a bid in a timely manner

- Progress to date: Registered Providers are looking at how best to incorporate futureproofing. Current, in-progress stock audit should produce data enabling the borough to be bid-ready
- Observe and note developments in other low carbon technologies such as the role of hydrogen which could provide another route to helping us meet our targets
 - Progress to date: Awaiting emergence of technology

Council Related

- Design and implement a planned programme to energy audit and decarbonise all Bury Council's corporate buildings
 - Progress to date: Awarded £8.5 million under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme to decarbonise 16 public buildings

Low Carbon Travel

Infrastructure

- Develop and promote active travel and the 15-minute neighbourhood concept as part of proposed regeneration schemes to create thriving and sustainable town centres
 - Progress to date: Bury, Radcliffe and Prestwich town centres are currently drawing up redevelopment plans which include the 15-min neighbourhood concept. TfGM submitted bid to central Government regarding Active Travel Revenue Funding which will look at travel methods into town centres.
- Develop exemplar projects where priority is given to cyclists and pedestrians rather than to motor vehicles to create safer neighbourhoods and travel options

- Progress to date: Garside Hey Low Traffic Neighbourhood – implemented. Fishpool, Heaton Park and Pimhole Low Traffic Neighbourhood plans are being developed
- Develop and improve walking and cycling infrastructure and provide routes for people to feel safe whilst walking and cycling
 - Progress to date: Construction of Cyclops Junction at Angouleme Way/Market Street begins summer 2021 and Mayor’s Challenge Fund Scheme to develop the Bee Network
- Improve the connections between different modes of sustainable travel - walk and ride, cycle and ride, park and ride, bus, and train.
 - Progress to date: Transport for Greater Manchester submitted proposals to upgrade cycle parking at every metro link station using the Mayors Challenge Fund

Business & Private Sector

- Promote the greater use of cargo and delivery bikes for last mile deliveries
 - Progress to date: Transport for Greater Manchester submitted proposal for a cargo bike rental scheme in Prestwich.
- Promote the use of e-bikes for those looking for or needing a less physically demanding form of cycling and as good alternative to the car
 - Progress to date: Transport for Greater Manchester submitted proposal for a e-bike rental scheme in Prestwich.
- Use the licensing regime to require all taxis and private hire vehicles to be electric by 2029

- Progress to date: Under Minimum Licencing Standards, requirements proposed for all licensed taxis to be Ultra Low Emission Zone by 2029.

Public Transport

- Work with Transport for Greater Manchester to ensure all buses become ultra-low emission vehicles
 - Progress to date: Retrofit funding in place. 1.5% of buses across Greater Manchester are now low-carbon emission buses.
- Where possible give priority to public transport over other motor traffic to promote orbital inter-town travel via public transport
 - Progress to date: There are existing bus lanes on several of Bury's roads. Transport for Greater Manchester are pushing to give greater priority to buses.
- Work with Transport for Greater Manchester and bus service providers to provide more flexible and affordable payment and ticketing options to promote inter-town travel via public transport
 - Progress to date: Transport for Greater Manchester plans to franchise the bus service in Greater Manchester have been approved which will improve service and better regulate ticket prices
- Replace Bury's Bus Rail interchange to provide a modern, inviting, user friendly facility to promote inter-town travel via public transport
 - Progress to date: Discussions have recently begun
- Promote a shift from individual ownership of vehicles to the use of travel services e.g., car clubs and travel passes

- Progress to date: Proposed e-car pilot project working with Transport for Greater Manchester and Manchester City Council

Air Quality

- Following consultation with residents publish the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan and implement a Clean Air Zone with suitable supporting measures.
 - Progress to date: Consultation is complete, and results are being analysed
- Work with Transport for Greater Manchester, Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership to develop a roadmap to reduce freight emissions and support modal shift increased efficiency and alternative fuels for HGVs
 - Progress to date: Greater Manchester is reviewing its freight strategy to ensure it meets future environmental requirements. This includes measures within the Clean Air Plan and planning for a long term roadmap to zero emissions

Electric Vehicles

- Increase investment in the electric vehicle infrastructure to support large scale electric vehicle charging
 - Progress to date: Two rapid chargers to be installed in Bury town centre. Funding in place for widening the electric vehicles charging infrastructure as well as producing an on-street charging pilot. Transport for Greater Manchester funding acquired for a taxi rapid charging hub. Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy currently drafted.

- Promote offering an electric vehicle – “Try before you buy” scheme
 - Progress to date: Working across Greater Manchester Councils to seek funding for an e-van try before you buy scheme

Council Related

- Use council procurement routes to encourage low emission vehicles for deliveries
 - Progress to date: Procurement strategy will be updated to reflect the Bury 2030 objectives and explain how corporate priorities will be embedded into procurement procedures and activity. Climate change and carbon reduction will be included within the process.
- Decarbonise the council fleet
 - Progress to date: Installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure at Bradley Fold depot. £10 million in funding allocated to upgrading the fleet and providing electric vans
- Use Council influence to effectively reduce emissions from aviation at Manchester Airport to maintain compliance with regional Paris Agreement commitments
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Build on the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic to encourage working from home and to use IT to avoid business travel
 - Progress to date: Council now actively promoting internally full agile working

The Things we Buy and Throw Away

Community Engagement

- Improve education to increase awareness of zero-waste choices available to consumers
 - Progress to date: Participate in Greater Manchester wide zero waste campaigns.
- Spread environmentally informed procurement practices to include: More focus on the "whole life" impact of products and shortening of supply chains to reduce unnecessary travel and promote the procurement of local goods and services
 - Progress to date: Whole life costing is already incorporated into tender evaluation advice but will be strengthened as new procurement guidance is produced. Using local suppliers and environmental considerations will be further incorporated

Waste Reduction

- Increase recycling rates with a wider range of materials collected for recycling
 - Progress to date: Recycling rate currently at 58% and continual outreach and comms work required.
- Work with public sector organisations such as the NHS to reduce waste and increase recycling
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Aim for no biodegradable waste to landfill by 2030
 - Progress to date: 98.3% of municipal waste is diverted from landfill

- Introduce a strategy to move towards an enforcement-based response to fly-tipping
 - Progress to date: Further enforcement regulations being considered

Encouraging Re-use

- Increase the life of products by facilitating more outlets for servicing and repair
 - Progress to date: Products suitable for re-use collected at the Household Waste Recycling Centres in Bury will be available at three re-use shops across Greater Manchester
- Work within the council and with our communities to avoid single use plastic
 - Progress to date: Target of being single-use plastic free by 2022 identified in the 2030 Strategy
- Encourage re-manufacturing - where items are returned to the original manufacturer to be restored
 - Progress to date: Not started

Business/Private Sector

- Increase the number of zero-waste/sustainable businesses in the borough
 - Progress to date: Green Growth Co now lists over a dozen sustainable businesses throughout the borough
- Work with local businesses to improve waste reduction
 - Progress to date: Continuing work across Bury and wider-Greater Manchester to reduce local business waste and provide

options regarding waste. Green Growth Co have diverted 167,851t of waste from landfill

Council Related

- Consider the sustainability implications of all key decisions, plans and policies at the council to include: More utilisation of sustainability appraisals and project evaluation tools that put a price on environmental impacts
 - Progress to date: Procurement strategy will be updated to reflect the Bury 2030 objectives and explain how corporate priorities will be embedded into procurement procedures and activity. Climate change and carbon reduction will be included within the process
- Encourage purchasing from local businesses where possible in Council decisions
 - Progress to date: Council procurement includes a requirement to invite bids from local businesses. Council actively engages with the local construction industry via the Bolton, Bury & Wigan Construction Network

Food

Community Engagement

- Promote a plant rich diet and reduce overall meat consumption particularly the consumption of beef and lamb where rearing livestock has a higher impact
 - Progress to date: Partnerships around the Bury Food Strategy are looking at how best to incorporate plant rich diets more
- Promote the shift to a lower energy intensity diet e.g., buy local

produce and seasonal goods ideally organic, from more sustainable farms or at least buy British supporting UK agriculture consumption of local and seasonal food

- Progress to date: Requirement for businesses aiming to achieve the Healthy Catering Award. Council is currently aiming for the Food for Life Award which includes localism and increased sustainability
- Work with communities and businesses to reduce waste food
 - Progress to date: One aim of the Bury Food Strategy is to reduce food waste
- Develop our community's knowledge of healthy food
 - Progress to date: Identified as a Key Action in the Bury Food Strategy. School and Bury Adult Learning Services continue to promote work around healthy nutrition
- Encourage the drinking of tap water and the avoidance of bottled water
 - Progress to date: Refill.org have identified several water fountains across the borough but more work is needed
- Choose fish from more sustainable sources
 - Progress to date: Part of the Food for Life Award criteria

Project Enabling

- Enable new local "Grow your own" projects
 - Progress to date: Incredible Edible are established in Bury and the Council are keen to support where possible. Several nurseries and schools incorporate small-scale food growing.

- Develop allotments to grow local food
 - Progress to date: Identified as a Key Action in the Bury Food Strategy

Further Research

- Carry out research into Bury's role in consumption emissions and to establish priority measures to reduce these
 - Progress to date: Bury Food Strategy has been developed and further internal work will promote action and drive research

Business/Private Sector

- Support local independent food outlets
 - Progress to date: Plans to develop a local food charter and identify a local food lead in Bury Council. Supporting local business will be incorporated into Council procurement decision making.
- Promote the buying and selling of food which has minimal packaging
 - Progress to date: Not started

Council Related

- Work within the council and with our communities to avoid single use plastic
 - Progress to date: Target of being single-use plastic free by 2022 identified in the 2030 Strategy
- Implement a sustainable procurement plan across Council run catering
 - Progress to date: See Bury Food Strategy and procurement

policies will be reviewed later this year

Our Natural Environment

Trees

- Working towards the Greater Manchester target to plant 3 million trees within 5 years
 - Progress to date: Ongoing work with Cities of Trees to increase tree-planting within the borough
- At least double tree cover on council owned land and protect existing trees
 - Progress to date: Ongoing work with Cities of Trees to increase tree-planting within the borough

Current Natural Environment

- Produce a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy to show how we will protect, enhance, and develop our existing natural environment and greenspace
 - Progress to date: Policy in place already to protect green infrastructure (see below) but needs updating
- Protect existing public open space, sport and recreational facilities and enhance natural capital
 - Progress to date: Green Space Strategy and Unitary Development Plan in place to protect green spaces. Many green spaces are now not cut and are allowed to grow naturally, promoting biodiversity, and reducing maintenance-related emissions
- Maintain our Green Flag parks

- Progress to date: 12 Green Flag parks currently being maintained, and improvements are being actioned where required

Biodiversity

- Promote the delivery of/work with applicants to encourage the delivery of biodiversity net gain in new developments (in line with national policy)
 - Progress to date: Included in the proposed Environment Bill, which, if passed will mandate every new development to include improvements in biodiversity value. GM has produced the 'Biodiversity Net Gain: Guidance for Greater Manchester' (Feb 2021) which provides guidance prior to the Bill in statute.
- Encourage urban beekeeping within the borough
 - Progress to date: Beekeeping currently happening in Philips Park. To be further encouraged

Community Engagement

- Promote carbon neutral actions in private gardens
 - Progress to date: Not yet started
- Increase the number of us connecting and valuing the natural environment
 - Progress to date: Parks Department support Local Action groups where possible. City of Trees projects are on-going as well as development of community orchards. Lots of collaboration between the Council and the Friends of... park groups

New Developments

- Develop new quality green spaces in areas where they do not exist particularly in neighbourhoods where people are vulnerable
 - Progress to date: Government and Natural England are establishing standards around accessible green spaces
- Promote the implementation of parklets
 - Progress to date: Not yet started
- Develop new sources of funding to increase investment in our natural environment from the private sector and other alternative sources
 - Progress to date: Not yet started
- Incorporate greenspace and green and blue infrastructure within large scale new developments where appropriate. To be achieved through planning policies in Places for Everyone and the Bury Local Plan
 - Progress to date: Appropriate planning policies are being developed and included in Places for Everyone and Bury Local Plan

Future Proofing

- Having bid-ready projects relating to urban-greening initiatives
 - Progress to date: As town-centre strategies are redeveloped, new projects are likely to be identified
- Reduce water and energy use associated with the green spaces
 - Progress to date: Water reduction techniques implemented.

Herbicides

- Manage council owned land and road verges to increase biodiversity and drawdown carbon pollution, including through reduced pesticide use and increased planting of wildflowers
 - Progress to date: Ordered an environmentally friendly weed control machine, which uses steam to kill the weeds for use in greenspaces settings and some areas of the highway network. Ceased using glyphosate in schools and parks except for the treatment of invasive weeds. Highway weed spraying using glyphosate has been reduced from 2 sprays per season to 1 spray per season. Identified four trial sites for wildflower seeding/re-wilding this season

The Green Economy

Local Business/Private Sector

- Stimulate local demand for renewable energy and other green solutions within the business sector
 - Progress to date: Green Growth Co have assisted 170 businesses with low-carbon sector support
- Actively promote improved energy efficiency and carbon neutrality to local businesses
 - Progress to date: Green Growth Co have helped saved 44,591t CO₂e
- Provide direct guidance to businesses to assist with the development of business cases for low carbon measures and where feasible access to funding
 - Progress to date: Green Growth Co have helped businesses in

Bury save over £9.3 million by improving environmental performance and provide guidance regarding funding

- Promote businesses that address the climate emergency to create and expand “green collar” jobs created by firms in environmentally focussed industries. These should be good quality jobs with career ladders to help low-income workers into this growing sector
 - Progress to date: Green Growth Co have established an accessible database of local businesses working with them
- Support and promote the Green Growth Company to support local businesses to decarbonise
 - Progress to date: Exploring options to support further activity of Green Growth Company in Bury

Skills Development

- Complete and develop a skills strategy audit to identify priority areas for green jobs and emerging skills requirements. These could include jobs related to installing insulation and other energy-saving measures, renewable energy, sustainable food production, last mile cycle deliveries etc
 - Progress to date: Greater Manchester Combined Authority Local Skills Report and Labour Market Plan (2021) identifies the green economy and the skills surrounding it as vital for development. Further Bury specific work required
- Work with our local schools and colleges to ensure that we work together to fill the skills gaps to make sure we can take advantage of the growing green economy
 - Progress to date: Not yet started

- Promote and incentivise inclusive innovation by working closely with local Universities and industry
 - Progress to date: Not yet started
- Use our existing business fora and networks to promote carbon literacy amongst local workforces and to generally increase awareness of the need to tackle climate change and effective solutions
 - Progress to date: Not yet started

Community Engagement

- Further explore collaborative models with our public sector and other partner agencies such as the NHS, Fire and Police to reduce carbon emissions through our commissioning and procurement processes
 - Progress to date: Wider engagement around Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme
- Increase awareness of a “sharing economy” working with voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to encourage and incentivise a circular approach to the use of resources
 - Progress to date: Not yet started

Council Related

- Explore collaborative models with our public sector and other partner agencies such as the NHS, Fire and Police to reduce carbon emissions through our commissioning and procurement processes
 - Progress to date: Not yet started
- The Council will use its influence in suitable projects and procurement to specify low and zero carbon measures

- Progress to date: Procurement strategy will be updated to reflect the Bury 2030 objectives and explain how corporate priorities will be embedded into procurement procedures and activity. Climate change and carbon reduction will be included within the process

Environmental Justice

Community Engagement

- Reach out to more fuel poor residents in the private sector through new partnerships
 - Progress to date: Partnerships have been developed with several action groups including Citizen Advice Bureau, Groundwork and Greater Manchester Fire Services. Capacity has been restricted recently due to staffing
- Utilise our township and neighbourhood structures to help identify fuel poverty issues and to design effective solutions for local environmental issues
 - Progress to date: Assists existing partners and signposts residents towards the advice and funding that is on offer by charities and action groups
- Raise awareness of frontline officers in the council and partner organisations to help them to identify signs of fuel poverty and the systems for referring these
 - Progress to date: Lots of engagement work has taken place internally to ensure frontline officers are aware of the issue and know how to action issues when raise
- Work with the NHS to address health inequalities and work towards

reducing the potential impacts of climate change on those already suffering

- Progress to date: Neighbourhood profiles have been created to better inform out work and the Council is actively pursuing further collaboration with the health care service to reduce environmental impacts and inequality

Housing Sector

- Work closely with all housing providers, third sector and all other partners to improve identification of fuel poor households
 - Progress to date: Work is ongoing to identify issues around fuel poverty and provide guidance and assistance where possible
- Continue to work with Greater Manchester Combined Authority and Government agencies to design, access and deliver effective schemes to remove fuel poverty whilst achieving carbon neutrality
 - Progress to date: In progress
- Target energy efficiency schemes to reduce fuel bills in the homes of the fuel poor and other vulnerable households
 - Progress to date: Implemented an Affordable Warmth Strategy (2016) and a Fuel Poverty Strategy (2016) which has delivered an annual action plan
- Promote the use of smart meters
 - Progress to date: Funding available by National Energy Action

Climate Resilience and Adaptation

Further Research

- Better understand the current and future impacts of extreme

weather events and climate change

- Progress to date: Bury are looking at specific issues such as flood modelling around Redvales. Greater Manchester have done work around Urban Heat Islands.
- Work with utility providers to better understand our critical infrastructure, how it all works together and how we can protect it against the risks of climate change
 - Progress to date: Work has been conducted around Bury Wastewater Treatment Works to protect critical infrastructure from flooding
- Conduct an assessment around the impacts of extreme weather in the borough
 - Progress to date: Defra and Greater Manchester-wide studies and maps have been conducted. Further local research required though

Infrastructure Retrofitting

- Incorporate adaptation within our plans and strategies and make necessary changes to our building's infrastructure and our natural environment
 - Progress to date: Decarbonisation Fund is being used to improve infrastructure across several public buildings. Redevelopment of town centres will also include work around public buildings
- Identify the most vulnerable people in the areas most at risk of flooding and high heat levels and target adaptation policies actions and spending to those area

- Progress to date: Environment Agency has produced maps and property lists regarding flooding and Greater Manchester has produced Urban Heat Island Maps. Bury is continuing its work around household suffering fuel poverty.

New Developments

- Require new developments to incorporate run-off attenuation measures
 - Progress to date: Major developments should include sustainable urban drainage systems unless demonstrated to be inappropriate according to Government guidance
- Investigate potential sustainable drainage systems projects to reduce runoff and therefore potential flooding in the borough
 - Progress to date: Tree planting on the A56 in Prestwich
- Continue with the building of the Radcliffe and Redvales flood defence scheme that will remove over 800 properties from Flood Risk Zone 3
 - Progress to date: To be completed by end of 2021

Community Engagement

- Educate and prepare our residents, our businesses and public sector partners to encourage change in behaviours, operations and services that can support adaptation and resilience to climate change
 - Progress to date: Environment Agency has conducted engagement work around flooding to highlight risks and prepare people should flooding occur

Council related

- Ensure that all council services are adaptable to a changing climate
 - Progress to date: Bury Emergency Plans in place. Regularly reviewed
- Continue developing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in support of The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework to identify critical gaps and solution
 - Progress to date: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has recently been updated and will form part of the Places for Everyone.

Putting Climate Change at the Heart of Council Action

Cross-Department Incorporation

- Require that any impacts on carbon targets are identified in all formal reports to senior management and cabinet members
 - Progress to date: Early discussion stage
- Produce an annual related greenhouse gas report on emissions resulting from Council operations
 - Progress to date: Annual report produced and reported on the website
- Set measurable indicators to monitor progress towards our 2038 carbon neutrality target
 - Progress to date: Climate Action Plan includes indicators relating to the 11 Priority Action Areas
- Embed social value including the environment in the Council's procurement

- Progress to date: To be reviewed later this year
- Promote the decarbonisation of the Council's pension
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Align all our council plans policies and guidance with our carbon targets
 - Progress to date: Bury 2030 Strategy commits to carbon-neutrality by 2038. Housing Strategy aligns with these carbon targets
- Increase carbon literacy within the Council and promote champions to take the lead on such matters
 - Progress to date: Carbon literacy programme under development
- Incorporate carbon awareness into the Change Agents programme
 - Progress to date: Not started

Energy

- Divest from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy projects
 - Progress to date: Further investigation required

Travel

- Explore opportunities to reduce staff travel and encourage sustainable modes of transport if travel is needed
 - Progress to date: Pool bike scheme implemented. Agile working is now actively encouraged to reduce travel

Funding Opportunities

- Having bid-ready projects to ensure easy access for funding opportunities as they arise
 - Progress to date: Not started
- Investigate the use of Planning Agreements to fund climate related community projects
 - Progress to date: Not started

Community Engagement

- Continuously review and improve how we involve citizens in our existing decision-making processes and ensure that voices of the most vulnerable communities are represented
 - Progress to date: Production of the Climate Action Strategy and Climate Action Plan will better enable and incorporate this. Community Champion initiative set up to increase engagement. The Council's Let's Do It Strategy focuses strongly on incorporating community action and engagement.
- Review language used and ensured there is consistency across the Council with regards to climate action and the environment
 - Progress to date: Not started

Carbon Offsetting

- Keep up to date with carbon offsetting opportunities and consider the practicality and reliability of using these means to meet our target
 - Progress to date: Greater Manchester Environment Fund has been proposed as a way of managing funding for biodiversity and carbon offsetting projects
- Where necessary, acknowledge and incorporate carbon offsetting in a

timely manner to ensure the 2038 target is reached

- Progress to date: Not yet looked at

Key Performance Indicators

The Key Performance Indicators listed below will be a way for us to monitor progress annually and track how well we are moving towards our 2038 carbon neutrality target. The Key Performance Indicators have a greater focus upon quantitative facts and using these statistics will help us clearly quantify progress.

The baseline data included here represents the most up to date data available and progress will be assessed annually in comparison to the baseline.

General

- General CO₂ emissions produced within our borough = 844,500t CO₂e (2018) ^[1]
- CO₂ emissions resulting from council operations = 15,650t CO₂e (2019/20) ^[2]
- Measured concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particles (PM₁₀)
 - Whitefield: 19µg/m³ (2020); 16µg/m³ (2020)
 - Prestwich: 38µg/m³ (2020); 17µg/m³ (2020)
 - Radcliffe: 20µg/m³ (2020); 18µg/m³ (2020) ^[3]

Our Energy Supply

- Total Council-related renewable energy generated = 202,682kWh (2019/20) ^[2]
- Total renewable energy generation in the borough = 51,000MWh per

annum

- (April 2021) ^[4]
- Electricity consumption (incl' domestic and non-domestic) = 620,000MWh per annum (2019) ^[11]
- Council energy purchased from renewable energy sources = 30.7% ^[5]

Our Homes, Workplaces and Public Buildings

- Number of homes improved across Bury with sustainability measures = 78 leads generated (2021)
- Carbon emissions from the domestic sector = 284,700t CO₂e (2018) ^[6]
- Homes in the private rented sector that have and F or G rating = 552 (504 have the potential to improve above an F rating) ^[8]
- Commercial buildings with a Display Energy Certificate of C or above = 30% ^[5]
- Carbon emissions from council buildings = 11,581t CO₂e (2019/2020) ^[2]

Low Carbon Travel

- Proportion of journeys made by walking and cycling = 10% of journeys
- (2021) ^[4]
- Number of plug-in vehicles registered in Bury = 424 plug-in vehicles registered (2021) ^[7]
- Number of charge points installed = 24 charge points (2021) ^[4]

- Proportion of total bus fleet that is low-carbon = 1.5% of buses in Greater Manchester are now low-carbon (2021)
- Emissions from council transport activity = 1,565t CO₂e (2019/2020) [2]
- Number of private cars registered in Bury = 109,600 (2021)

The Things we Buy and Throw Away

- Tonnage of household waste collected = 60,913t (2019/2020)
- Recycling rates (kerbside collected) = 56% average (2019/20) [8]
- Municipal waste diverted from landfill = 98.3% (2021) [5]

Food

- Recycled food waste = 43% of food waste is correctly captured in the organic recycling bin (2021—data not available annually) [8]
- Food waste levels (kerbside) = 62% classified as avoidable (2021—data not available annually) [8]

Our Natural Environment

- Average number of parks, playing fields or public gardens within a 1km radius = 5.1 (2020) [9]
- Tree canopy cover = 12.4% (2016) [10]

Green Economy

- Number of businesses in Bury that have implemented carbon-reduction measures (as listed on the Green Growth Co) = 17 (2020) [13]
- Total emissions for the industrial and commercial sector = 18kt CO₂e (2017) [14]

Environmental Justice

- Percentage of households in fuel poverty = 11.6% of households are living in fuel poverty ^[2]

Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change

- Assessment of vulnerability carried out = Not implemented

Putting Climate Change at the Heart of the Council

- Become carbon neutral by 2038 = On-track

Carbon Offsetting

- Technology to be constantly monitored and where relevant incorporated into projects = n/a

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