



## Greater Manchester Green City Region Partnership

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Subject: COP26 Preparations & Green Campaign

Report of: Sarah Mellor, Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production,  
Environment Directorate, GMCA  
Hayley James, Assistant Director, Communications, GMCA

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### PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To provide the Partnership with an overview of the Green Summit for 2021 and activities proposed for COP26.

### RECOMMENDATION:

The Partnership is requested to consider the report and endorse the approach to the Green Summit and COP26.

### CONTACT OFFICERS:

Sarah Mellor, Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production, Environment Directorate  
sarah.mellor@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk  
Hayley James, Assistant Director, Communications

BOLTON  
BURY

MANCHESTER  
OLDHAM

ROCHDALE  
SALFORD

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# 1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Between 1-12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 the United Nations' (UN) Climate Change Conference, known as COP26 will be held in Glasgow. The Conference will have 2 main zones:

Blue Zone: Held at the Scottish Events Campus (SEC) for International negotiations; and

Green Zone: Held at the Glasgow Science Centre for the UK Government Showcase.

1.2 There are four overarching strands to negotiation:

1. Mitigation: Secure global net zero and keep 1.5 degrees within reach
2. Adaptation: Urgently adapt to protect communities and natural habitats
3. Mobile Finance
4. Collaboration: Work together to deliver

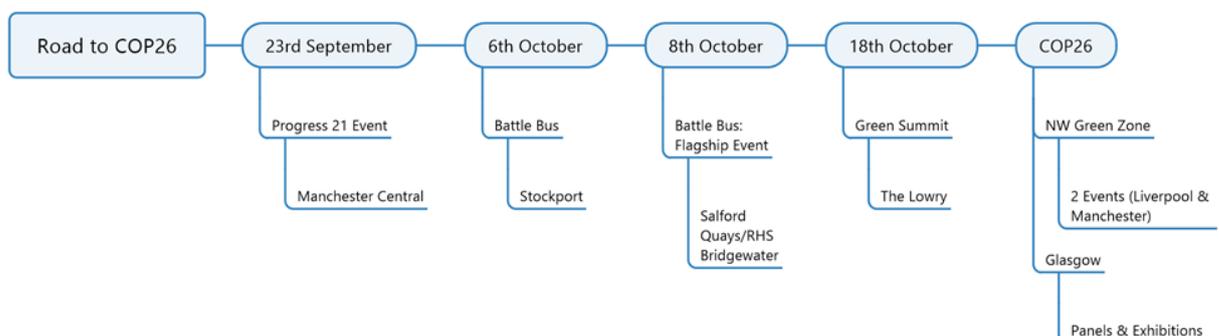
1.3 As well as the strands to negotiation, there are also five UK Presidency themes which the conference will be focusing on:

1. Adaptation and resilience
2. Nature
3. Energy
4. Transport; and
5. Finance

1.4 Given the international nature of the event, organisations needed to submit expressions of interest to be part of the Green Zone in Glasgow.

## 2. ROAD TO COP26

2.1 To maximise Greater Manchester's platform ahead of COP26, a number of events are being organised to showcase the work that's happening within Greater Manchester and the progress we are making to become carbon neutral by 2038. The timeline below shows activities that are currently scheduled.



Timeline: Road to COP26

## 2.2 Greener GM Campaign

Working with Marketing Manchester a campaign has been developed to promote Greater Manchester's progress. The campaign will communicate GMs strengths, innovation and bold ambition across the Green Agenda, targeting audiences as a place to live, work and invest. It also will raise awareness of Greater Manchester's role in helping drive the UK as a global leader in net zero innovation.

A part of this campaign, Progress 21, an event organised by The Growth Company is taking place on 23rd September 2021 at Manchester Central offering a wide-ranging programme of support to residents and businesses across Greater Manchester.

## 2.3 Zero Carbon Tour (The Battle Bus)

The Zero Carbon Tour plans to act as a golden thread bringing together powerful examples of sustainability actions and innovation from across the country in the build up to COP26. Throughout the tour "carbon stories" of actions and initiatives being taken by organisations, community groups, services and individuals that play a part in creating a sustainable future for the United Kingdom will be gathered and shared on the Tour's website to inspire others around the country (and beyond) to take similar action. The most impactful examples of sustainability action gathered during the Tour will be showcased at COP26 to inspire others to create similar initiatives around the world.

The tour is scheduled to be in the North West at the start of October. Currently 2 events are being held within Greater Manchester, including a flagship event which will start at Media City in Salford Quays and end with an event in RHS Bridgewater.

## 2.4 Green Summit

This year's Green Summit is scheduled to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at the Lowry. The event will primarily focus on showcasing engaging activities featuring communities and SMEs in the morning with the afternoon session moving into more regional activities.

## 2.5 North West Events

Due to Glasgow being inundated with expression of interests to attend the Green Zone, BEIS are funding virtual Green Zones throughout the country which will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> November, to tie into the 'cities' day being held in Glasgow. The North West are working in partnership to potentially deliver two events, one being held in Manchester and another being held in Liverpool.

## 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Partnership are requested to consider the report and endorse the approach to the Green Summit and COP26.