

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Date: June 2022

Subject: GMCA Sustainability Strategy & Climate Emergency Update

Report of: Andy Burnham (Mayor) and Eamonn Boylan, Cex GMCA

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek approval for the publication of the Greater Manchester Sustainable Consumption and Production Action (SCP) Plan. The SCP Plan forms part of the suite of documents sitting underneath the GM 5-year Environment Plan.

Once approved, the SCP Plan will provide the framework for Greater Manchester's key activities in this area of work over the coming years.

Recommendations:

The GMCA is requested to:

1. Consider and comment upon the SCP Plan and
2. Approve the SCP Plan for publication (Appendix 01).

Contact Officers

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Equalities Impact, Carbon and Sustainability Assessment:

Results of the [Sustainability Decision Support Tool](#) to be included here:

Impacts Questionnaire			
Impact Indicator	Result	Justification/Mitigation	
Equality and Inclusion	G	The Plan looks to raise awareness through community engagement and involvement	
Health			
Resilience and Adaptation			
Housing			
Economy	G	Moving to a circular economy can have a positive social, economic and environmental effect on the conurbation By creating a circular economy it should identify gaps and skills and stimulate economic growth in those areas Innovation is key to developing solutions and end markets for difficult materials Inward investment could potentially through innovation	
Mobility and Connectivity			
Carbon, Nature and Environment	G	The SCP Plan looks to reduce carbon emission through its 4 key priority areas	
Consumption and Production	G	The SCP Plan focuses on key priority areas, as set out in the report, to reduce the level of waste produced A number of projects are currently in place to look at minimising construction waste Managing waste sustainability as possible is a key priority within the plan Moving to a circular economy is a priority with the SCP Plan PlasticFreeGM continues to be a priority within the SCP work programme	
Contribution to achieving the GM Carbon Neutral 2038 target		The SCP Plan and work programme are a critical element to the delivery on GM achieving Carbon Neutral by 2038. As SCP covers a wide range of areas, ensuring that the work programme is sufficiently resourced would improve the contribution to delivery of the overall plan.	
Further Assessment(s):	N/A		
 Positive impacts overall, whether long or short term.	 Mix of positive and negative impacts. Trade-offs to consider.	 Mostly negative, with at least one positive aspect. Trade-offs to consider.	 Negative impacts overall.

Risk Management

All risks regarding the delivery of the 5YEP and SCP theme are set out in the GM Environment Team's Risk Register. There is nothing identified within the SCP section of the register which is currently identified as 'red' status.

Legal Considerations

There are no legal implication of the recommendations set out within the report.

Financial Consequences – Revenue

The SCP Work Plan (Annex 01) sets out expenditure that is within the budget forecasts (2022/23) for certain areas of work. Actions for future years may require additional funds. If so, these would be subject to a separate detailed business case being approved.

Financial Consequences – Capital

There are no capital consequences within the report. Actions for future years may require additional funds. If so, these would be subject to a separate detailed business case being approved.

Number of attachments to the report: 2:

Appendix A: SCP Plan

Annex A: SCP Work Plan 2022-23

Background Papers

[The Greater Manchester 5 Year Environment Plan](#)

Tracking/ Process [All sections to be completed]

Does this report relate to a major strategic decision, as set out in the GMCA Constitution

No

Exemption from call in

Are there any aspects in this report which means it should be considered to be exempt from call in by the relevant Scrutiny Committee on the grounds of urgency? N/A

1. Introduction/Background

After a year of intensive consultation, the 5-year Environment Plan (5YEP) was launched at the GM Green Summit in 2019. The 5YEP sets out the high-level priorities of the Sustainable Consumption (SCP) Theme which have been progressed. In the intervening period, work has been undertaken to gather evidence and form a consensus on the priority actions required to deliver a SCP Programme for the city region. This work forms the basis of the SCP Plan presented for approval today.

This report sets out the key priorities identified in the SCP Plan along with the SCP work programme for the 2022-23 financial year (Annex 01).

2. Sustainable Consumption and Production Plan (SCP)

The SCP Theme of the GM 5 Year Environment Plan focuses on valuing resources and reducing waste. It also supports our carbon neutral ambitions by identifying actions which will reduce our Scope 3 emissions. The SCP plan is now being finalised for publication and covers 4 key priority areas:

- Moving to a Circular Economy
- Managing Waste Sustainably
- Reducing Food Waste
- Moving to Sustainable Lifestyles

2.1 To Move Greater Manchester to Becoming a Circular City

The aim of this priority is to move towards a more circular economy, where all resources are valued and waste is kept to an absolute minimum. The Plan primarily focuses on 2 key areas:

Industry

- Sustainable Product Design – we need to make more sustainable products that move us away from a ‘throw away’ society and enable resources to be in use for as long as possible. To achieve this, we need to increase the reusability and recyclability of all components created.
- Resource efficiency – to maximise resource efficiency by moving away from linear business models to circular economy models, minimising the use of raw materials and reducing waste at source.

- Business to Business Approach (B2B) – to create a circular economy we need to engage with all organisations within the sector to understand all the component elements within that industry.

Policy Development & Innovation:

- Sustainable Procurement – we need to ensure that we are procuring the most environmentally sustainable products by embedding environment criteria and promoting circular economy procurement principles within procurement policy and throughout our decision-making processes.
- Resource/Consumption Mapping – to fully understand the scale of change required we need to understand the resources we are using.
- Innovation – to ensure we can reduce the use of all raw materials, innovation will be critical to find solutions throughout the lifecycle of products and drive the development of a circular economy.

2.2 To Manage Waste As Sustainability As Possible

Turning the majority of waste produced into valuable resources is critical to Greater Manchester becoming a circular city region, so we need to manage our waste as sustainably as possible. This means that we need to reduce the amount of waste produced (through prevention and reuse), recycle as much as possible whilst increasing the quality/value of materials so raw materials use is minimised. To continue to make progress, this priority will focus on 3 main elements:

1. **Business Waste** - We need to fully understand municipal waste arisings within the city region, meaning that we need not only to understand household waste, but also business municipal waste data flows and behaviours to reduce the level of waste arisings and increase recycling.
2. **Policy Development and Innovation**
 - **England's Resource and Waste Strategy**
We need to better understand the implications of the newly enacted Environment Act and make informed decisions, based on the environmental and economic impacts of new service provisions and waste management requirements. This will shape the next Greater Manchester Waste Strategy.
 - **Policy Development**

To make waste management effective, we need to ensure that the correct infrastructure is in place to make reducing, reusing and recycling as easy as we possibly can.

- **Innovation**

We need to maximise recycling by using innovation to create sustainable solutions and establish 'end markets' that will reduce the amount of raw materials required in product design.

3. **Household Waste** – to meet our ambition to become a carbon neutral city region, we need to reduce waste arisings and maximise recycling, both in terms of quantity and quality. Waste generated by households, and how that is processed, is important to both moving to a more sustainable lifestyle and becoming a circular economy city region.

2.3 Reducing Food Waste

The aim of this priority is to reduce avoidable food waste arising through a sustainable food system approach. We need to reduce the overall amount of food waste generated, ensure we maximise redistribution to ensure that those who are living in financial stress can access such services, ensure that everyone within the conurbation has access to affordable healthy food, increase home growing and composting and stimulate local markets, through a full system approach. To achieve this, we will be working with:

- Public sector bodies, through procurement strategies and other initiatives such as the Food Security Action Network and 'no child goes hungry' campaign.
- Exploring a Good Food Charter to be incorporated within the social value framework.
- Working, through Good Food GM, with stakeholders on the delivery on the Good Food Vision.
- Working with R4GM and stakeholders on food waste campaigns.

2.4 Moving to Sustainable Lifestyles

75% of our total carbon emissions are attributed to households. This means climate change is impacted by the food we eat, the things we buy and throw away, how we

travel and how we heat and power our homes. To enable the city region to become carbon neutral we all have a role to play to reduce our own personal carbon footprint by making more sustainable lifestyle choices.

What do we mean by sustainable lifestyles? Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs, so living more sustainable lives looks to reduce waste, reduce our carbon footprint and choose products that are environmentally and socially responsible. It recognises that no one can do everything, but everyone can do something; small changes can make a difference.

As well as the development of the GM [Green Cities website](#) and review of our social media channels, we are continuing to deliver a communications plan with our internal and external stakeholders to work together to educate, raise awareness and develop campaigns which will engage with GM citizens and encourage them to make more sustainable life choices.

3.0 Next Steps - Work Programme

Once approved, the SCP Plan will provide the framework for Greater Manchester's key activities in this area of work over the coming years.

The SCP Plan will be delivered by a Challenge Group of public, private, third sector and academic partners, formed under the GM Mission Based Approach, reporting in to GMCA via the Green City Region Partnership. The first year of delivery (2022/3) is set out in the attached SCP work programme (Annex A).

4.0 Recommendations

The GMCA is requested to:

1. consider and comment on the SCP Plan and
2. approve the SCP Plan for publication (Appendix 01).

Team: GM Environment Team, SCP Work Programme		
Function	Actions	2021/23 Deliverables
Deliver and/or support development of strategy and policy for Greater Manchester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop detailed policy reports to support delivery of the GM 5 Year Environment Plan Support development of Zero Waste Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GM SCP Plan GM Good Food Vision and Delivery Plan GM Waste Strategy (£10k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafting responses to the consultations Drafting Waste Strategy
Deliver and/or support research to inform strategy/policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Universities and other partners to deliver research or feasibility studies which further existing policies or programmes Project Funded research with Universities on topic specific policy development Procure research on specific knowledge gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material flows for circular economy (£40k) B2B Platform Textiles Project CIRCuiT City Network: CE Construction (LAWAB) REDUCES – Circular Economy Models (MMU) Plastics Centre of Excellence (UoM) TRANSFORMS:3D Printing (MMU) TRANSFORMS: 3D Printing in Construction (MMU) REDUCES: CE Policy (UoM) One Bin to rule them all (UoM) Climate Change, Sustainability & Inclusion (UoM) Food Procurement (Tyndall Centre) Food & Garden Waste Analysis (Waste Team) England's Waste Strategy – Cost analysis (Waste Team) Local Levers (£40k) Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) (£60k?) TEP Assessment (£?)
Deliver and/or support the delivery of projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the use of single Use plastics Sustainable Lifestyles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver PlasticFreeGM Campaign (£3k) Support delivery of Refill scheme Local Authorities Public Sector Pact Explore further rollout of water fountains Small changes make a difference campaign (£30k)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement • Annual Green Summit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce Waste, including Food Waste • Joint Booklet/Stakeholder Analysis/Personas –link to UU/ENWL work on behaviour change/sustainable consumers • Increase Recycling/Waste Prevention • Reduce Food Waste (£20k) • Social Value Plan (Environment & Good Food Charter) • Embedding CE/Environment Criteria within Local Authority procurements focusing on consumption within LA's (£30k – implementation of local levers) • Delivery of the Green Summit (£30k)
Engaging and/or Influencing others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a Mission based Approach including the management of Partnership/Board and Challenge groups to encourage collective action • Lobby National/International Government • Work with other Global Cities/Core cities • Tools & systems to encourage behaviour change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise Stakeholder Mapping exercise & wider engagement • Encourage action by others • Green Summit (£30k) • Development of Green Cities website (£10k) • No of consultations responded to • Feeding into CA's response to Environment Bill • Conferences/Meetings/Membership of Intl consortia • Online carbon literacy training portal
Communicating, internal and external	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of existing support mechanisms • Monitoring of Env. Performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and expand contact database • Maintain web presence and social media resource • Sector specific communications (eg Green School network) • Deliver comms plan • Conferences and events • Briefing notes for officers and politicians • Performance Framework