



Decarbonising the city

**GREATER MANCHESTER
LOW CARBON ECONOMIC AREA
FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

BRIEFING: SEPTEMBER 2011

In December 2009, Greater Manchester was designated as the UK's first Low Carbon Economic Area (LCEA) for the Built Environment. A Joint Delivery Plan encompassing the work necessary to achieve this was agreed by the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) in June 2010 stretching ahead to the end of the financial year 2014/2015. Responsibility for the Plan is owned by the AGMA Environment Commission and a private sector-led board has been established to oversee its implementation.

CONTEXT

The Plan is being revised and will be continually updated forming a core delivery component of the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy endorsed by AGMA and our Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). As well as contributing to the overall delivery of this strategy, the Plan also contributes towards the objectives of the overarching strategic plan for the conurbation, the Greater Manchester Strategy.

AMBITION

The original Plan was based on the vision that: "By 2015, Greater Manchester has established itself as a world leader in the transformation to a low carbon economy".

The actions within the Plan represent those that make up the built environment component of the low carbon economy, excluding transport. The direct emissions from these sectors make up 70% of Greater Manchester's carbon emissions with transport making up the majority of the remainder. If Greater Manchester is to be successful in its ambitions then a range of benefits will be realised. Broadly speaking, these are in terms of employment and skills progression, accelerated business growth, increased inward investment, advances in innovation and technology, enhanced infrastructure and accelerated carbon abatement.

By 2015 the Plan aims to deliver the following targets:

An additional 34,800 jobs created in the built environment sector, giving a total of 68,920 new jobs in the sector

Additional £1.4 billion of GVA generated against a baseline business as usual forecast of £0.9 billion

Carbon emissions from existing buildings to be reduced by an additional 1.8 million tonnes, raising the total figure for carbon savings to 6.1 million tonnes

Emissions are cut and GVA is increased

THE STRUCTURE OF THE PLAN

Greater Manchester's approach to the low carbon economy is one which seeks to integrate investment in capital programmes, which reduce carbon emissions with those that capture the economic opportunity.

This approach is structured as six discrete but linked work programmes:

Residential retrofit

Non-residential retrofit

Low carbon infrastructure

Skills and employment

Business growth

Low carbon laboratory

Combined, these will enable Greater Manchester to become a national leader in:

The Green Deal

Low carbon infrastructure

Low carbon skills

Developing a strong and flourishing supply chain

Securing the necessary finance for investment in the Plan's capital programmes will be critical to achieving both economic objectives and carbon reduction targets.

The LCEA for the Built Environment will address and balance the need to reduce Greater Manchester's carbon footprint with the economic opportunities created as we strive for a low carbon future.

CONTACT

For more information contact:

Steve Turner, Head of Carbon Economy, New Economy Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester M1 6EU

Mobile 07912 774099 **Telephone** +44 (0)161 237 4417

Email steve.turner@neweconomymanchester.com

Roger Milburn

Chair, LCEA Board

Director, Arup Manchester

Email roger.milburn@arup.com

