

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK ANNUAL REPORT 2025



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1.

Welcome to the first annual report of the Trafford Climate Change Network. The Network consists of key partners from across Trafford that have an interest in addressing the climate crisis.

1.2.

Helping Trafford become a climate resilient, carbon neutral borough will require all of us to take action and to work together. The aim of this report is to demonstrate the great work that is already being done across Trafford to address climate change. But also, as explained in Section 3, we know that the pace of progress needs to increase if we are to meet our aim to become a climate resilient, carbon neutral borough. We therefore also hope that this report can help inspire, provide ideas and encourage collaboration between partners.

1.3.

The report consists of a series of case studies of climate action that is being driven forward by TCCN members, outlined in Appendix B. The case studies cover the period up to the end of 2025.

2. THE CLIMATE CRISIS

2.1.

Addressing the climate crisis is one of the Council's five corporate priorities, as outlined in our Corporate Plan for 2024-27 . This means doing two things:

- Reducing our greenhouse gas emissions to minimise our contribution to climate change. The main greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide, but other, stronger, greenhouse gases include methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases. For shorthand, we tend to refer to carbon emissions, as all greenhouse gases can be converted to a carbon equivalent .
- Adapting to climate change by building our resilience to climate impacts such as flooding, storms and extreme heat.



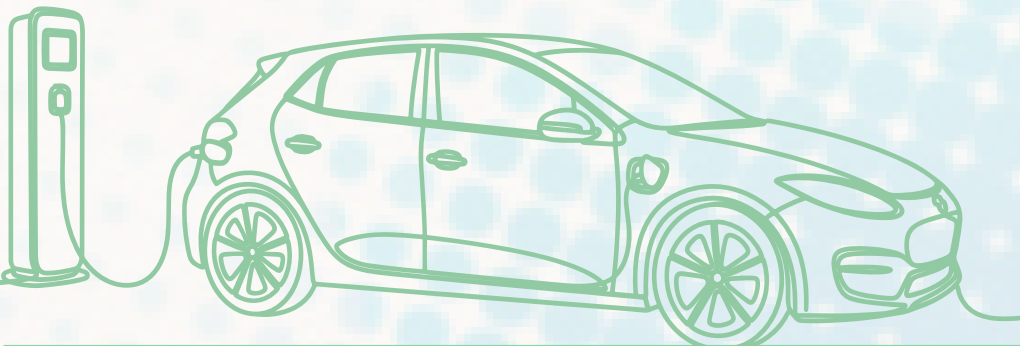
3. REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS

3.1. The UK Climate Change Act requires the Government to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This means bringing net carbon emissions – the balance between what we emit to the atmosphere and what is taken out of the atmosphere (by nature, or by technologies) – down to zero. But many local authorities have decided that to tackle climate change, carbon emissions need to come down more quickly and have therefore set earlier targets. Trafford, along with the rest of Greater Manchester, has set a target to achieve carbon neutrality (essentially the same as net zero) across the borough by 2038.

The pathway that the emissions reductions take is equally important. This is because climate change is affected by cumulative emissions over time. A scenario where emissions fall rapidly in coming years, before flattening out in later years, will lead to much lower cumulative emissions than a scenario where emissions reductions are low initially and get steeper in later years.

3.2. Carbon emissions in Trafford have been falling – by just under 43% since 2005. But as with the rest of the country, the pace of emissions reductions in Trafford is not fast enough and needs to increase to be able to meet our target.

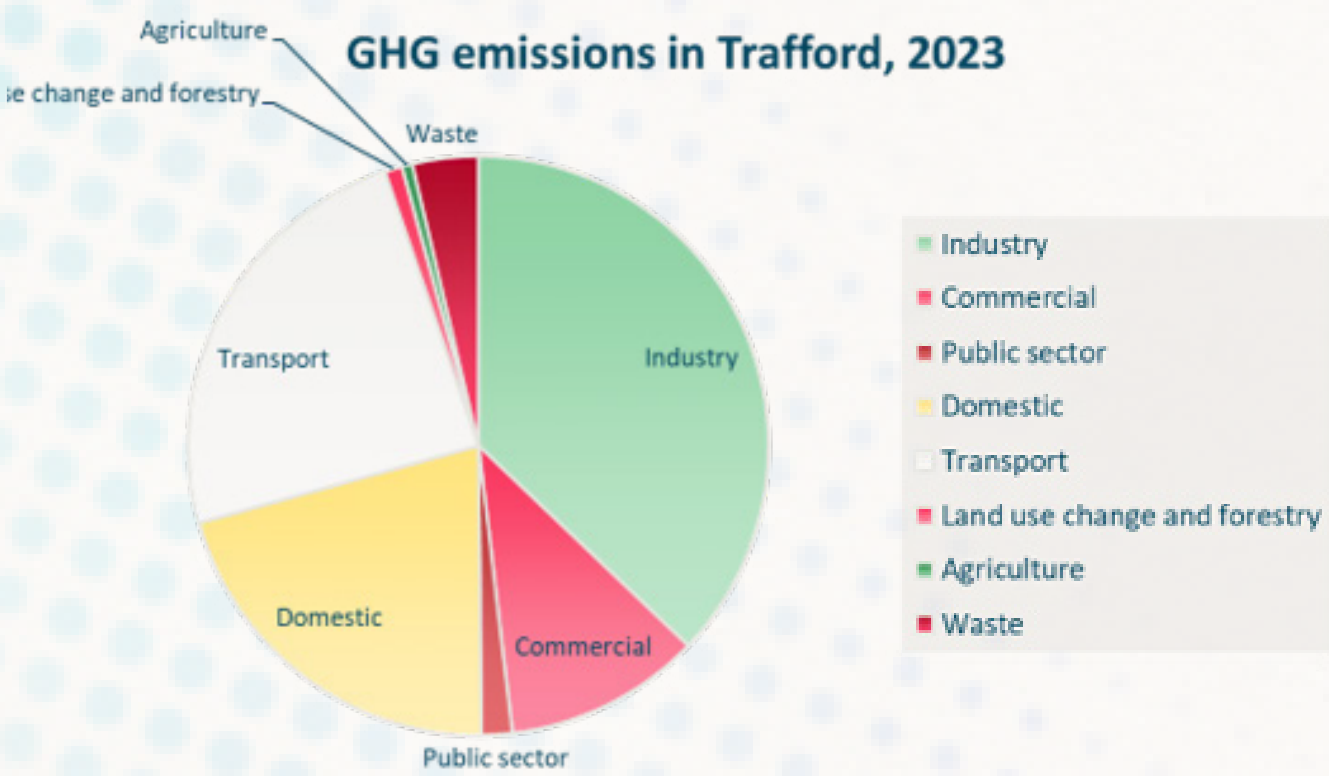
3.3. But the date by which we meet our carbon neutral target is not the only important factor.



¹[Corporate-Plan-2024-27.pdf](#)
² As an example, over a 100-year period, methane is around 30 times more potent in its climate change effects than carbon. Therefore, one tonne of methane is around 30 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.

And climate science tells us that the first pathway – early action – is needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Hence, despite 2038 seeming quite distant, there is an urgent need for deep emissions cuts now and over the next few years.

3.4. The graph opposite shows greenhouse gas emissions in Trafford for the year 2023, the latest year for which we have data. It can be seen that the largest source of emissions is industry. This is different to most other local authorities and is primarily because of Trafford Park. Transport and domestic buildings are also large sources of emissions. You can view a more detailed breakdown of Trafford’s greenhouse gas emissions on GOV.UK, which publishes regional data every year for the two years before.



4. ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

4.1. We are already feeling the effects of climate change and will continue to do so. Even if we managed to stop all carbon emissions tomorrow, the climate will continue to change from the cumulative effects of the carbon emissions emitted into the atmosphere until now. It is therefore critical that we all adapt our lives to minimise our vulnerability to a changing climate. Adapting to climate change will help us continue to meet our vision – for Trafford to be where all our residents, businesses and communities can thrive – well into the future.

4.2. Trafford worked with other Greater Manchester partners in 2024 on a climate change risk assessment (CCRA) for Greater Manchester. This prioritises a range of climate risks, such as flooding, extreme heat, storm damage, impacts on habitats and so on, that can affect residents, communities and businesses.

4.3. The Council is now working with GMCA and other GM partners to prepare a climate change adaptation strategy and action plan for the city region. And the Council will continue to better understand how Trafford will be impacted by climate change and how we can build more resilient communities and businesses.

³ [gm-ccra-report_final-v2.pdf](#)

5. A VISION FOR TRAFFORD

- 5.1.**

Dealing with the challenges mentioned above doesn't mean restricting our lives or giving things up. It means living smarter, cleaner, healthier lives, to the benefit of all of us. Addressing the climate crisis needs to be done sensitively, to ensure that no-one gets left behind or unfairly disadvantaged. Delivering this is known as a 'just transition'.
- But if we get this right, addressing the climate crisis can lead to many benefits:

 - Cleaner air
 - Greener neighbourhoods
 - Healthier, more active lifestyles
 - Comfortable energy-efficient homes and buildings
 - Greater resilience against flooding and extreme heat

6. THE TRAFFORD CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK

- 6.1.**

The TCCN is an open network of partners that are active in Trafford and have an interest in addressing the climate crisis. The current members are listed in Appendix A, but others are welcome to join. The network meets quarterly, shares information and ideas and aims to identify climate actions that members can take forwards. More information on the TCCN can be found on the Council website.



7. OVERVIEW OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD IN 2025

- 7.1.**

2025⁵ has been a busy time in Trafford on the climate front. Here are some of the highlights:

 - We've been working to decarbonise our leisure estate, with the refurbished gas-free Altrincham Leisure Centre opening in August 2025, and work starting to heat Move Urmston from waste heat from a new data centre. For more information on our work across the leisure estate, see page10.
 - Within the health sector, we have seen efforts towards decarbonisation with the removal of gas from Altrincham and Trafford Hospitals, and solar PV installations at several NHS Manchester Foundation Trust clinics.
- Worthington Primary School installed solar panels in summer 2025 and three Trafford schools began work under the national Great British Energy Solar Partnership. For more information on this, and wider work by schools, see page 12.
 - We have also made great progress around low carbon travel with schemes ranging from improvements to cycle lanes and pedestrian crossings, the launch of new School Streets, the increased provision of free bikes through our Bike Libraries, and expanded EV charging infrastructure, see pages 14-17.

8. CALL TO ACTION

From this report we hope you can see that a lot of work is going on across Trafford to make the borough a greener, more resilient, low carbon place to live. But we know we need to do more to stay on track to our carbon neutral target and to become less vulnerable to climate change.

The case studies in this report can hopefully provide some inspiration and ideas and can encourage collaboration and support between groups and individuals. Ultimately, it will take all of us to instigate change in our lives to protect our environment and to make sure that future generations can enjoy living, working and playing in Trafford for years to come.

⁴ [The Trafford Climate Change Network | How you can get involved | Trafford Council](#)
⁵ This report focuses on activities up to the end of 2025.

APPENDIX A

CURRENT TCCN MEMBERS (AS OF DECEMBER 2025)

- [Biora Group](#)
- [Bruntwood](#)
- [City of Trees](#)
- [Elected members](#)
- [GMCA](#)
- [Green Economy](#)
- [Groundwork](#)
- [Growth Company](#)
- [Invest Manchester \(was MIDAS\)](#)
- [Lancashire Cricket Club](#)
- [L&Q](#)
- [Manchester United](#)
- [Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [Peel](#)
- [The Conservation Volunteers](#)
- [Therme](#)
- [Thrive Trafford](#)
- [Trafford College](#)
- [Trafford Council](#)
- [Trafford Leisure](#)
- [TfGM](#)
- [UA92](#)
- [United Utilities](#)
- [Your Housing Group](#)

APPENDIX B

CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

HEALTH SECTOR

Trafford General (NHS Manchester Foundation Trust)

The Trafford Hospital Decarbonisation scheme began in April 2025 and should be completed in early 2027. The work is expected to remove around 93% of energy carbon emissions from this site due to the removal of the gas boilers and electrification of the heating systems through air source heat pumps. The scheme also includes upgrades to the building fabric, additional solar panels, lighting upgrades and building management systems. The work benefits from £18.9m from the public sector decarbonisation scheme (round 3c) and will be the first retrofit acute hospital to complete this sort of decarbonisation scheme.

Altrincham Hospital (NHS Manchester Foundation Trust)

Decarbonisation of Altrincham Hospital is taking place through the installation of air source heat pumps on the roof and removal of the gas boilers (except one for backup). Funding of around £750k has come from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund (round 4). Tender packs were issued in August 2025 and due to be commissioned in autumn 2026.

Solar PV on clinics (NHS Manchester Foundation Trust)

Chapel Road Clinic (Sale) will be installing solar panels and is currently being designed ready to tender. This is part of an overall £2m awarded to the Trust from GB Energy. Work will be delivered by March 2026.

Meadway Clinic (Sale) received funding in December 2024 from the National Energy Efficiency Fund for solar panels.

Woodsend Clinic has had solar PV and new electric radiators installed.

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CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

LEISURE

Trafford's leisure centres are run by Trafford Leisure, a TCCN member. 2025 has been an exciting year for improvements to our leisure estate. All Trafford leisure centres import 100% of their electricity from green, renewable, 'REGO' sources.

Altrincham Leisure Centre (Trafford Council, Trafford Leisure)

In August 2025, the refurbished Altrincham Leisure Centre opened to the public. It is the first leisure centre in the borough to be warmed with huge air source heat pumps and solar panels, meaning the use of fossil fuels has been removed completely. Solar panels now cover the entire sports hall and help reduce the electricity costs. This will save over 400 tonnes of carbon per year. Other measures include:

- A new building management system (BMS), that operates the most efficient pumps, motors and controls, to ensure it runs as efficiently as possible.
- A state-of-the-art microfiltration system to achieve purer water, better pool operation, reduced running costs and less water use.
- An onsite active travel hub providing safe and secure storage for bikes and wheeled access to the building, linking in with the area's Active Travel network, as well as EV charging points on the car park.

And customer feedback has been great, showing that net zero need not mean losing out. "Having had falls, I had no confidence in my ability to stand. The classes have given me more self-confidence in life in general when going out to various things, even with a stick." [Michael, customer]

More information can be found here - [move Altrincham will set new sustainability standards in Trafford](#)

Move Urmston (Trafford Council, Trafford Leisure)

In summer 2025, work started at Move Urmston to install a data centre on the site. This will help meet the increasing demand for data storage. But it also provides an opportunity – the heat that gets created by the data centre, which would otherwise have been lost, will be harnessed and used to heat the leisure centre and swimming pools. This innovative project comes about as a result of a collaboration between Trafford Leisure and Deep Green. Move Urmston will be the first public leisure centre in the UK to benefit from Deep Green's full sized, commercial modular data centre. This new system will significantly reduce the swimming pool's gas requirements, leading to substantial cost savings and a significant reduction in carbon emissions. In turn, this helps Trafford Leisure keep prices affordable for our members. You can find out more [here](#).



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CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

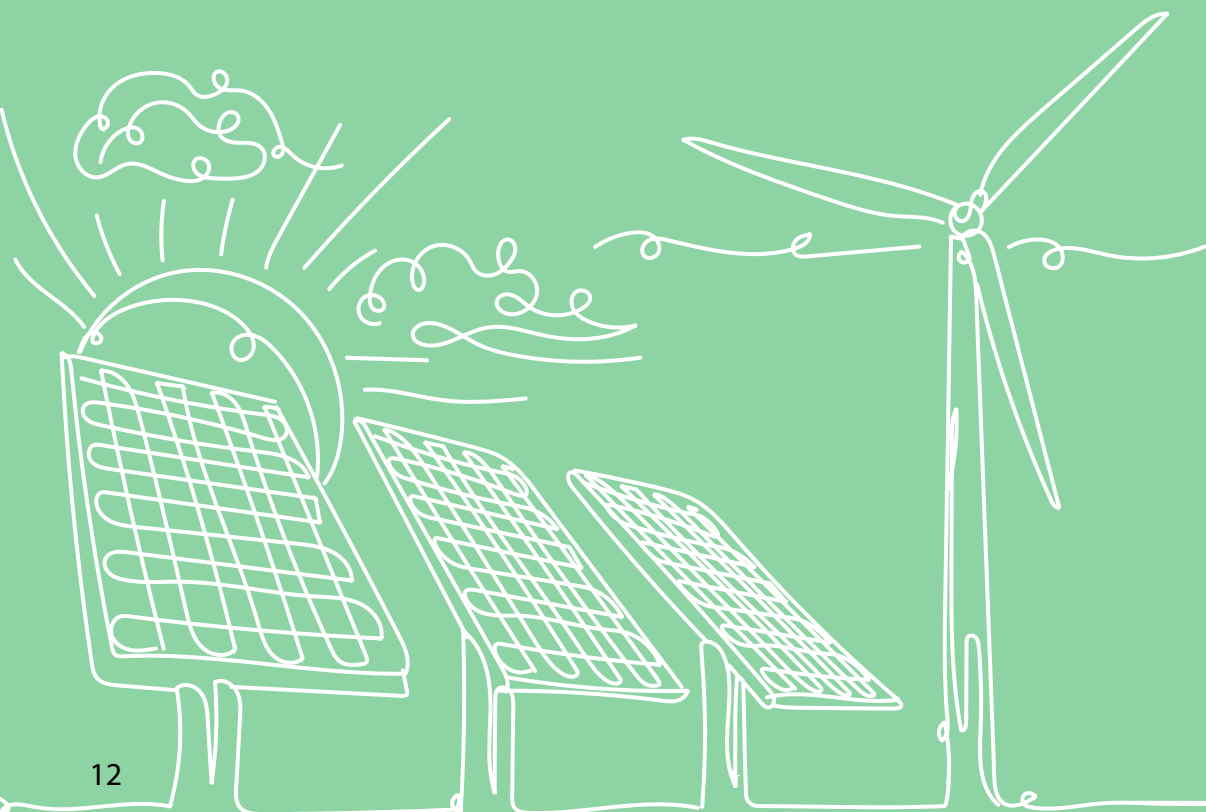
SCHOOLS

Climate Action Plans

In its sustainability and climate change strategy for education, the Department for Education states its intention that all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan. During 2025, Trafford Council provided schools with guidance and templates for developing CAPs and worked with Let's Go Zero to run a couple of workshops on how to create CAPs – one with schools and one with early years settings.

Great British Energy Solar Partnership

Three schools in Trafford were selected to take part in Great British Energy's Solar Partnership programme. In late 2025, the three schools – Lostock High School, Broadoak School and Lime Tree Academy – began to work with a range of Great British Energy's technical contractors to develop climate action plans and to assess possible measures for grant funding, such as solar panels, electric vehicle charging and LED lighting.



Worthington Primary School (GMCA, Trafford Council)

Worthington Primary School is the first school in Greater Manchester under the Powering our Schools programme to receive rooftop solar.

The solar panels were funded by the school and Trafford Council supported the school throughout their involvement in the GMCA-led programme. Powering our Schools supports schools on their 'solar journey' by funding rooftop surveys and other technical support and enabling joint procurement of panels with other schools, to bring down costs. A second phase of the programme is currently being developed.

The solar panels are expected to generate 30MWh of electricity annually and supply at least 30% of the school's electricity consumption. It will save the school up to £10k in energy savings per year and investment payback period is 4 years.



More information on Powering our Schools can be found at Powering Our Schools - [GM Green City](#)

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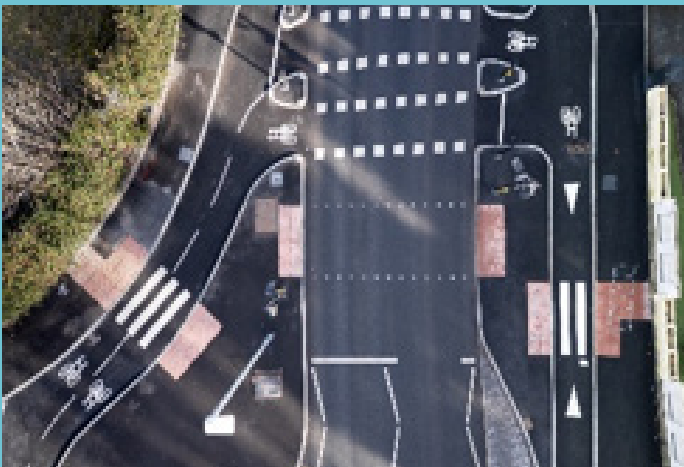
CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

LOW CARBON TRAVEL

Cycle and road infrastructure (Trafford Council)

In May 2025, the work to develop cycle lanes along the A56 Chester Road was completed. The active travel improvements include cycle lane bollards for safety, wider buffer strips between cycle lanes and the main road, plus better pedestrian crossings and bus stops. The traffic island between the M60 and Barton Road has also been remodelled, to keep three lanes of traffic as well as a new cycle lane.

Cycling and walking upgrades along Talbot Road are now almost completed on the stretch from Chester Road to Boyer Street to provide high-quality segregated cycle tracks and wider pavements, forming a vital artery in the regional Bee Network. Cycling improvements have also taken place at the junction at Talbot Road and Seymour Grove.



Key safety installations in Sale have been delivered include a new crossing at Firsway, as well as modernised signals at the Sinderland Road and Barrington Road junctions in Atrincham. Future schemes have been identified. A new Red Route and Red Route Clearway have been introduced on the A56 to specifically improve bus reliability and reduce congestion.

Finally, successful community events at Victoria Park and Gorse Hill Park were held, including the “Ride and Stride” festival and “Pedal Parties”, providing free bike servicing (Dr. Bike), balance bike and learn-to-ride skills, and pre-loved bike sales.

School Streets (Trafford Council)

A School Street is a road outside a school with a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The aim is for a safer, calmer and cleaner journey to school environment for families that encourages active travel. Trafford has 6 school street schemes currently being delivered through funding from Transport for Greater Manchester.



From September 2024, St Hugh of Lincoln RC Primary School in Stretford initiated a school street scheme for 2 days a week. They join other schemes that have implemented school streets in Trafford – Urmston (full time since 2023), Seymour Park (3 days per week since January 2024), Victoria Park Infants (full time from March 2024), and Tyntesfield (3 days per week from April 2024). Early results have been positive - Tyntesfield has seen a 40% shift out of cars, which equates to 164 fewer pupils coming by car and an 89% reduction in the number of cars entering the St Hugh of Lincoln school street.

Trafford Council has secured further funding from TfGM to launch 3 new school street schemes at The Willows in Timperley, St Matthew’s in Stretford, and one other to be identified. There is also a transition to make the existing schemes not reliant on volunteers and therefore more sustainable by using left hand sided barriers. Trafford Council has also commissioned a feasibility study into using ANPR enforcement for 2 of the schemes where no other alternatives are deemed possible.

The school streets scheme has been a catalyst to other active travel initiatives such as WOW Walk to School, play streets in partnership with UA92, fun and interactive story trails and the launch of Trafford’s first bike bus for Victoria Park Juniors which uses the new cycling infrastructure on Kingsway and the A56/Chester Road.

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CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

Electric vehicle charging infrastructure

In recent years, the partnership between Trafford Council and Be.EV helped to install public electric vehicle (EV) charging points in car parks across Trafford offering a blend of charge types across our 77 bays and 13 sites, including the most recent installation at Altrincham Leisure Centre. The partnership helps ensure that our residents and visitors have access to reliable infrastructure, priced competitively and with transactions conveniently managed through a phone app.

To complement this, Amey, in partnership with Trafford Council, announced the launch of its first public on-street electric vehicle (EV) charging network. 35 on street electric charge points have been installed, creating 56 charging bays. The full initiative will deliver up to 100 public EV charge points across Trafford, supporting the borough’s commitment to cleaner air and more sustainable transport options with 100% zero carbon energy used at its EV charging points.

Supported by the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements, the network provides affordable and accessible charging solutions for residents and visitors, supporting households without off-street parking. Amey’s new EV social media channels are also live, offering updates, tips, and community stories.

Park and Stride Schemes

To support Urmston School Street as well as two other schools where a school street is not currently possible, park and strides have been introduced using Trafford Council car parks.

At Golden Hill car park, Flixton Road car park and Oakland Drive car park, parking charges have been waived in the morning and afternoon to allow parents to park and walk a short distance to school helping to ease congestion immediately outside a school.

Supporting uptake

Bike Libraries:

Trafford currently has 7 bike libraries, where residents can borrow a bike, free of charge to use for active travel as well as for physical and mental wellbeing. The current libraries are Manchester Bike Kitchen, based at Sale Mall, Woodsend Bike Library, Broomwood Blue Sci Wellbeing Centre, Our Sale West, Partington, Sale Moor Community Partnership and Cycling UK has an e bike library which operates out of Stretford Public Hall.



Cycle Hubs:

Trafford Council in partnership with Trafford Leisure has just opened 2 new cycle hubs at Altrincham Leisure Centre and Stretford Leisure Centre, funded by the Shared Prosperity Fund. Both can accommodate standard bikes as well as adapted and cargo bikes ensuring they are dry and secure whilst customers are using the centres.

Cllr Barry Winstanley and Cllr Sue Maitland on the Jorvik Trike from Woodsend Bike Library

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CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Bee Net Zero Trafford Park (Trafford Council, GMCA, Growth Company, Green Economy)

This is a partnership between Trafford Council, GMCA and the Growth Company (including different parts of the Growth Company such as Green Economy, Invest Manchester (was MIDAS) and the Energy Innovation Agency). It was set up in March 2024 to support businesses on Trafford Park to decarbonise. Throughout 2024/25, support was given to a number of businesses, helping them understand their energy use and carbon emissions and to identify measures to cut costs and reduce carbon. Some examples are shown below:

Beer Piper International Limited: Beer Piper is a micro business with a beer line cleaning system that helps to reduce beer wastage and to make line cleaning less time consuming, less costly and less messy. Green Economy helped them calculate their carbon footprint and delivered a resource efficiency review, identifying 9tCO₂ of potential savings across 5 opportunities – LED lighting, motion sensors, heat optimisation, solar PV and plastic packaging.

Blossom Coffee Roasters Ltd: the company provides ethically sourced coffees in a way that is responsible towards people and planet. The Green Economy team delivered a resource efficiency audit and further to analysis of the opportunities, suggested use of Infrared Heaters. The report identified savings of 8tCO₂e and £2481 annually, for a price of less than £1000. Supplier details have been provided to support procurement and they are now moving ahead. The Green Economy consultants will be keeping in touch over the coming months and helping them move from their existing Climate Neutral Certified status to having a plan to reach net zero.

Creamline Dairies: Creamline Dairies has been delivering milk and groceries to Cheshire and Manchester for nearly 70 years and remains a family run business to this day. The partnership conducted a site review at Eccles and Trafford Park. The Green Economy team developed from this a report provided identifying opportunities savings through rainwater harvesting, solar PV, waste and packaging, itemising these based on carbon and financial savings, and calculating payback period. Green Economy team calculated their current Carbon Footprint to be 5643.97CO₂e, and will look to revisit the site and identify any further savings since the site audit. Three members of staff attended the Journey to Net Zero Trafford Park cohort, which has enhanced their capacity to adopt these opportunities.

More information on Bee Net Zero Trafford Park here: beenetzero.co.uk/trafford-park.

Decarbonisation business support (Green Economy)

Green Economy supports businesses to build resilience, boost productivity and drive growth through sustainability. It helps organisations cut carbon, improve efficiency and strengthen competitiveness on the journey to a more sustainable future. Green Economy also acts as the sector development body for the green tech and environmental services industry - accelerating growth for the companies powering the net zero transition, from renewable energy and energy efficiency to retrofit and nature based solutions. This support is underpinned by a commitment to building capability through training and developing a more sustainable supply chain.

Green Economy supported 38 businesses over the 2024/25 period across Trafford, outside of Trafford Park. Businesses supported range from micro to large, across diverse sectors, including construction and housing, finance, and hospitality.

"We've received excellent guidance and assistance on our own Heat Pump journey from Thalia Czarkowska and Green Economy [part of The Growth Company]. And now, as an MCS Accredited provider, J Mills is qualified to design and install ASHP systems for both domestic and commercial properties."

[J Mills Contractors]

APPENDIX B

CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

One Trafford Partnership (Amey)

Amey have continued to lead on various green initiatives as part of our One Trafford Partnership. Highlights include:

- The transition of 29 vehicles to electric, with over 50% of its fleet under 3.5 tonnes now fully electric, resulting in savings of more than 180tCO2e annually
- The life of the Refuse Collection Vehicle (RCV) fleet has been extended through an effective maintenance programme, preventing the release of over 2,000tCO2e that would have occurred through new vehicle production
- Investment in 73 battery-powered electric plant items, including strimmers, hedge trimmers and breakers, means over 80% of handheld plant is now fully electric. This has been supported by enhanced charging facilities for safe and efficient operation.
- A model approach to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been introduced, enabling items to be refurbished for re-use or recycling. This initiative, inspired by a colleague's idea, now saves 14.7tCO2e for every tonne of PPE processed
- 16 new charging stations have been installed at the Partnership's office to support the ongoing transition to electric vehicles

Decarbonising Sale Waterside (Equans)

Sale Waterside is a 5-storey building for community use including restaurants, a library, a theatre, gallery and staff offices for the council.

Since October 2025, all electricity supply is procured from 100% renewable sources, and all gas is also obtained from a green gas supply. Half hourly data for both gas and electricity has also been obtained towards the end of 2025; this will allow the analysis of energy consumption in greater detail. Already, this data has been valuable in identifying abnormalities and spikes in energy use and enabled changes to Waterside's BMS (Building Management System).

LED light replacement was completed in October and will reduce energy use almost 70%.

A Behavioural Change Campaign was also rolled out to encourage staff to turn off lights and think about their use of fans and heating to further support energy use reduction.

LOW CARBON HOMES

ECO4 and Great British Insulation Scheme (Trafford Council, GMCA)

Trafford Council and GMCA have worked to implement national home retrofit schemes such as ECO4 and GBIS in Trafford. ECO4 is targeted at low income and vulnerable households and offers free or discounted insulation, heating and other measures to reduce energy costs and emissions.

In the period April 2024 to March 2025, this delivered the following in Trafford:

- 200 properties completed
- £1.58m invested
- 470 individual measures installed
- Average estimated annual bill saving of £564.67
- Average annual CO2 saving of 875.7 tonnes

In the period April 2025 to January 2026, the following was delivered in Trafford:

- 115 properties completed
- £1,56m invested
- 286 individual measures installed
- Average estimated annual bill saving of £638.41
- Average annual CO2 saving of 588.01 tonnes

GBIS is administered by Ofgem. It is designed to deliver improvements to the least energy efficient homes in Great Britain to tackle fuel poverty and help reduce energy bills. In Trafford in 2024/25 this resulted in:

- 24 properties completed
- £58,000 invested
- 33 individual measures installed
- Average estimated annual bill saving of £67.00
- Total annual CO2 saving of 84.44 tonnes

ECO4 is now coming to an end and Trafford Council is working with GMCA to take forward the implementation of the new Warm Homes: Local Grant. More information on home retrofit support can be found at:

- ECO4 - [Energy Company Obligation \(ECO\) | Ofgem](#)
- GBIS - [Great British Insulation Scheme | Ofgem](#)
- Your Home Better - [YOUR HOME BETTER](#)
- RetrofitGM - [retrofitGM - Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#)
- Warm Homes: [Local Grant](#)

APPENDIX B

CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

Social housing – L&Q

L&Q spent £3.7m between November 2023 and January 2025 lifting 104 Trafford Borough homes to EPC Band C, whilst simultaneously reducing tenants’ heat demand to less than 90kWh/m2/yr. The improvements will make the homes more comfortable, remove any existing damp or mould issues and reduce the heating bills of tenants benefiting from the programme by about £250-£400 per year. Most homes treated were semi-detached properties in Sale Moor, where energy improvement measures included wall and loft insulation, new doors, new windows and upgraded ventilation. L&Q also invested in 20 ‘expensive-to-treat’ solid wall homes in the Urban Road area of Altrincham. Because the walls of homes around Urban Road are solid brick, they had to be insulated externally. In addition to measures fitted to homes in Sale Moor, L&Q also invested significantly in high specification brick effect external wall insulation, to retain the street scene.

Energyworks (Groundwork)

Groundwork’s Energyworks programme offers a number of energy saving services to Greater Manchester residents enabling them to be warmer, healthier and better off in their homes. In Trafford, 87 home visits and calls were carried out in 2025 to support residents with reducing their energy use and saving money. This has produced £11,500 in cost savings and over 19,000 kgCO2 savings through installing small measures, such as radiator foils and draught excluders, and sharing behaviour change advice.



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

Trafford Park Wildflower Verges (Trafford Council)

These new ‘honey-bee highways’ were part of the wider ‘Greening Trafford Park’ project, whereby over 2,000sqm of vital habitat for pollinators was created, boosting local biodiversity and raising the quality and attractiveness of the environment around the historic industrial estate. The wildflower verges, which contain a mixture of more than 50 wildflower species, are also providing vital support to their new neighbours following the installation of 10 beehives in nearby Lostock Park. The schemes were funded by the Government’s UK Shared Prosperity Fund, with further wildflower verges and tree planting proposed.



Woodland Management (City of Trees)

City of Trees have worked with corporate volunteers at sites across Trafford in 2025 to carry out woodland management tasks, including work at Cob Kiln Lane in Urmston, to clear invasive species such as Himalayan balsam, bramble thinning, access improvements, regenerated ash removal, cutting back dogwood and hazel coppicing to allow more light in and allow native species to thrive. At Broadway Park in Urmston, work included bramble thinning to improve access, removal of dogwood to reveal hawthorn and elder shrubs, and removal of sea buckthorn to allow light to reach the woodland floor. All of these support restoring habitats and nature in line with Greater Manchester’s Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

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CASE STUDIES OF CLIMATE ACTION IN TRAFFORD BY TCCN MEMBERS

Nature Recovery in Trafford - Wet Willow Wildlife (The Conservation Volunteers/ Lancashire Wildlife Trust)

Since the 1970s, willow tits have seen a dramatic population decline of over 90% and are a red listed species of importance in the context of Greater Manchester's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), together with Lancashire Wildlife Trust, have been working on the Wet Willow Wildlife project to support the willow tit population at a landscape scale across the North West, funded by Defra.

TCV and Greater Manchester Ecology Unit trained and supported 72 citizen science volunteers to carry out willow tit surveys across Trafford and the Mersey Valley to better understand the local willow tit population.

Willow tits need messy, damp scrub and wet woodland habitats. During the project, 193 TCV volunteers took part in activities to enhance and connect habitats for wet willow wildlife species at sites along the River Mersey and Sinderland and Red Brook habitat corridors, with practical conservation events being held throughout October 2025.

Invasive vegetation was cleared and new shrubs planted by TCV and local residents to create habitat to attract the willow tit to nest and breed in Woodheys Park's woodland area.

People, Place and Nature Project - Longford Park

Trafford Council is delivering £6m of improvements to the features and facilities of Longford Park, thanks to support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. The project will restore, reconnect, and improve the existing features and facilities of this historic park.

The works will:

- Improve access for all ages and abilities
- Enhance play, recreational, and sports facilities
- Improve the park's biodiversity and resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Regenerate The Long Barn into a sustainable, energy-efficient community space
- Ensure the park continues to be central to the local community

Meanwhile the activity plan that accompanies the project is being delivered too. Green skills training is being delivered to closed groups and through open sessions to the public, and events to encourage park users to consider how they engage with nature are also being planned.



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WASTE

Waste minimisation and recycling (Trafford Council)

Trafford Council’s Waste team undertook a review of the borough’s larger grey bins in 2024 across 5,039 households. This resulted in downsizing bins at 1,219 properties, removing approximately 121,900 litres of bin space.

Between November 2024 and March 2025, a recycling programme was rolled across council buildings. This included:

- Rolled out food waste recycling in the Town Hall
- Rolled out recycling (paper & card, mixed recycling and food waste) to other council buildings including libraries, cemeteries, children’s centres

During this time, the Waste Minimisation Team switched to electric vans. The team are now working on rolling out food waste to approx. 5,000 flats.



Rag Revival (Groundwork)

Groundwork, in partnership with Trafford Council, have been delivering their Rag Revival programme, enabling participants to gain a better understanding of textile overconsumption, encouraging textile waste to be upcycled into crafts and creations, teaching participants basic skills such as sewing, and providing a great opportunity for residents to have fun and meet new people.

Groundwork supported 14 participants in Trafford between February and August 2025 as part of a wider programme across Trafford, Stockport, Salford and Manchester which diverted 516 items of rag textiles from landfill thanks to our Working Wardrobe project.

"I've been through a really challenging period over the last few months... [T]his group has given me hope, focus and Rag Revival has been one of the most positive changes in my life. This group has also changed my attitudes for the better."

[Participant]





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