Oldham Climate Change Strategy
2013-2020

Making the Transition
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Executive Summary

In 2010 Oldham Council adopted its first climate change action plan, which was originally to be delivered by the Oldham Partnership but subsequent resource cuts limited its success.

Since then, the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan was approved in 2012, Oldham Council’s new Corporate Plan was approved in 2012 and the new Oldham Plan was adopted in 2013.

A refresh of Oldham’s climate change plan has become necessary to bring it into line with these new plans.

The new strategy has been developed using the themes in the Greater Manchester Climate Change Strategy to support & benefit from the AGMA programme. It covers the period 2013-2020, and sets a local carbon emissions target of 48% based on quantified local carbon reduction opportunities, bringing together existing Oldham programmes with new initiatives.

The strategy identifies opportunities for Oldham to support other AGMA districts as lead authority on climate change, as well as the main Greater Manchester themes:-

- Reduce carbon emissions from buildings
- Maximise low carbon energy production
- Reduce carbon emissions from transport
- Green and Blue Infrastructure in climate adaptation
- Raise awareness of energy & behaviour change
- Build the environmental business sector
- Make Oldham a centre for employment & training
- Engage all sectors in climate change

The UK carbon emissions reduction target for 2020 is a 34% reduction on 1990 levels. Greater Manchester has adopted an even more challenging target of 48%.

This strategy sets a local target for Oldham borough of a 48% reduction, in line with the GM strategy. We have already made considerable progress towards this target - by 2011, Oldham had already achieved a 32% reduction, mainly through domestic energy efficiency and a restructuring of the economy towards less energy intensive businesses.

This Climate Change Strategy does not itself commit the Council to any extra expenditure - individual projects will be assessed on their own merit at the appropriate time.

Energy efficiency programmes aim to save the Council £500,000 on our annual energy bill by 2015, and investment opportunities in renewable energy have revenue generating potential for the Council.

External funding streams such as ECO and the Green Deal could additionally bring substantial funding for infrastructure into the borough.
1 Introduction

Oldham Council’s ambition is deliver a co-operative future where everyone does their bit to create a confident and ambitious borough. As we reposition to be a co-operative council we are seeking to improve our processes; manage demand for services by encouraging more people to take responsibility for themselves, their actions and their area; and make the best use of our resources, including assets. Oldham’s Climate Change Strategy is one of the key elements underpinning this commitment. It is about the Council working in partnership with public, private and third sector organisations, as well as communities, to tackle the issues presented by climate change.

The strategy aims to:

- Deliver Oldham’s contribution to national and regional climate change targets
- Securing clean, affordable energy for Oldham’s businesses and residents
- Building the local low carbon and environmental business sector.

Oldham Council has already demonstrated leadership on climate change and energy, both locally and regionally, through successful programmes such as the GM Collective Energy Switching programme (“Fair Energy” campaign), and the development of community owned hydroelectric power in Saddleworth. Looking to the future, as Greater Manchester’s designated Lead Authority on climate change, there are many more opportunities for Oldham to lead and support the other GM districts.

Since the first Oldham Climate Change Action Plan was written in 2010, a number of new plans, strategies, measures and targets have been either developed or amended which have a direct impact on how we continue to approach the issue of climate change in Oldham. They are:-

- Greater Manchester’s Climate Change Strategy and Implementation Plan
- The Oldham Plan
- Oldham’s Council Corporate Plan

The introduction of these new plans, and their respective measures and targets has made an early refresh of the Climate Change Strategy necessary. Oldham’s climate change objectives have also been reviewed to incorporate and mainstream the key themes, priorities and measures within these plans. It is also important to note that the first version of this Plan was delivered by the Oldham Partnership. This new strategy is not a Partnership strategy, but is a Council strategy for the borough which will be delivered in partnership with key organisations within the borough and city region.
The key challenges for Oldham residents and businesses are:

- Fuel poverty (where residents are unable to afford to adequately heat and light their homes)
- High energy costs holding back business competitiveness
- Higher temperatures in built-up areas, a phenomenon known as the Urban Heat Island Effect (especially for vulnerable residents)
- Lack of opportunity for training and employment in the Low Carbon and Environmental business sector.

Oldham’s nine climate change objectives\(^1\) are as follows:

We will:

1. Radically cut carbon emissions from council buildings, schools and homes.
2. Maximise low carbon energy production and use available energy more efficiently.
3. Significantly cut carbon emissions from transport by encouraging modal shift and active travel.
4. Maximise the benefit from green and blue infrastructure to minimise the impact of climate change on landscapes, communities and biodiversity.
5. Encourage awareness of energy and resource use to build sustained behaviour change.
6. Make Oldham a destination for low carbon and environmental sector (LCES) companies.
7. Make Oldham a centre of excellence for LCES training and employment opportunities.
8. Engage all sectors in climate change activity.
9. Use Oldham’s resources and expertise to assist other Greater Manchester (GM) districts and support the GM programme.

The key to maximising the impact of this strategy will be to ensure that Oldham effectively uses the resources available at local, city regional and national levels. Oldham should both contribute to, and benefit from, the co-ordinated Greater Manchester climate change programme as an active participant, leading where appropriate and taking advantage of funding and other resources where available.

Oldham’s Climate Change Strategy also sets a local 2020 target for the borough, based on a carbon budget containing quantified carbon emissions reduction opportunities which have been identified, and taking into account the extra carbon emissions which will come from new development.

\(^1\) For more information on Oldham’s climate change objectives, please see Appendix 2.
If Oldham is to meet the twin challenges of climate change mitigation and energy security, we must aim for a step change in energy efficiency and low carbon energy generation across both public and private sectors. This Plan describes how Oldham will meet these challenges.
2 How Oldham’s Climate Change Strategy has developed

Since Oldham’s original Climate Change Action Plan was written in 2010, Greater Manchester has adopted a Climate Change Strategy for the city region, with a target of a 48% reduction in carbon emissions.

Additionally, the Council has now adopted a new Corporate Plan and a new borough-wide strategy, the Oldham Plan, has also been developed.

Given these changes in the local and regional governance framework, it felt timely to refocus and reframe the original Climate Change Action Plan. We have also renamed it Oldham’s Climate Change Strategy to reflect the language being used within GM.

2.1 Oldham Council’s Corporate Plan

Our corporate ambition and objectives were agreed at Full Council on 23 May 2012. The Council’s Corporate Plan 2012 – 2015: Delivering a Co-operative Oldham was approved at Full Council in July 2012. The Corporate Plan brings together the political ambition, organisational priorities and the council’s statutory functions with key corporate significance. It is presented to Council for approval.

The Council’s commitment to environmental sustainability and tackling climate change is reflected in the corporate priorities, as well as the key actions for 2013/14. Under the third corporate objective, A co-operative Council creating responsive and high quality services, there are priorities to:

- Increase environmental sustainability across our assets, operations and services
- Manage our assets and resources to deliver better value for money
These priorities are underpinned by actions, which include:

- Maintain the ISO14001 Environmental Management System accreditation
- Support delivery of the GM Climate Change Implementation Plan

### 2.2 The Oldham Plan

This Plan forms the overarching strategy of the Oldham Partnership – a network of partners from the private, voluntary, educational, health, and public sectors. The aim is to develop and lead improved outcomes for Oldham’s citizens through innovation and new ways of working, with a particular focus on driving forward economic growth, job creation and delivering a reformed public service within Oldham.

The Oldham Plan sets a number of priority outcomes, and action on climate change is relevant to a number of them:

1. **A Place to Invest with Confidence.** The development of energy infrastructure in the borough will confirm Oldham’s status as an attractive place to invest.

2. **A Dynamic, Skilled and Relevant Workforce for the Future.** Oldham College specialises in the low carbon and environmental skills sector, and with its Green Technology Centre will put Oldham at the centre of the development of a modern workforce in Greater Manchester.

3. **An Enterprising and Co-operative Culture.** The development of innovative approaches to behaviour change and demand management is a key aspect of this outcome.

4. **Well-Connected Communities and Businesses.** The development of closer links between low carbon and environmental sector businesses and economically deprived communities could provide major solutions in Oldham.

5. **A Healthy, Confident and Empowered Population.** Tackling fuel poverty and other inequalities associated with energy use will be key to delivering this outcome.

In light of these major changes to the infrastructure within which this strategy sits, Oldham’s Climate Change Action Plan is being refreshed a year ahead of schedule. The review will ensure that GM themes and commitments, as well as those in the Corporate Plan and the Oldham Plan, are mainstreamed into climate change activity in Oldham as early as possible.
2.3 The GM Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan

A Climate Change Strategy for Greater Manchester has now been adopted by the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA). The Strategy has the following headline objectives:-

- A rapid transition to a low carbon economy.
- An overall reduction in carbon emissions by 48% by 2020 on a 1990 baseline.
- GM will be better prepared for, and actively adapting to, a rapidly changing climate.
- GM will have embedded ‘carbon literacy’ into the culture of organisations, lifestyle and behaviour.

A three-year Implementation Plan was published in autumn 2012, comprising projects aggregated from across the city region. Each district contributed a schedule of projects expected to come forward to reduce carbon emissions across the business, transport and housing sectors (see 2.5 GM Project Mapping).

The adoption of a city regional strategy and action plan gives rise to significant opportunities for economies of scale and extra investment for Oldham and for Greater Manchester as a whole.

The main themes in the GM Implementation Plan are as follows:-

**Buildings**

- GM Green Deal programme, an £85 million programme to retrofit homes with insulation and energy efficiency measures. Expected to generate local employment and provide training opportunities.
- Retrofit of public sector buildings, possibly financed by the AGMA/Green Investment Bank Joint Venture, to reduce carbon emissions and adapt them to climate change.

**Energy**

- Delivery of large-scale key infrastructure such as energy generation and district heat networks.
- New developments across the city region add to emissions, but can also be an opportunity to instigate new low-carbon energy systems.
- Upgrading the electricity grid to deal with new energy supplies.

**Transport**

- Encourage modal shift by means of ‘active travel’ (such as walking and cycling) and development of public transport infrastructure such as Metrolink.
- Electric vehicles will also make a contribution to reducing emissions.

**Green & Blue Infrastructure** (parks, countryside, waterways and water bodies)

- One component of a larger work area of Resilience Planning (which will incorporate emergency planning and business continuity).
• Tackling flooding and the urban heat island through intelligent use of trees and landscapes.
• Development of urban woodlands for wood fuel supply.
• Development of local food growing projects and initiatives.
• GM Flood Strategy planned to be in place by 2014.

Sustainable Consumption & Production

• Reduce CO₂ emissions by addressing issues of waste and efficiency in the supply chain and end-use.
• Cost savings and increased business efficiency.
• Both ‘soft’ measures (behaviour change) and ‘hard’ measures (physical design of products and packaging).
• Public sector procurement

The cross-cutting themes are as follows:-

Low Carbon & Environmental Sector (LCES) Growth

• “Green Growth” in the environmental business sector, including low carbon energy technologies such as solar panels, insulation, and other environmental goods and services, currently makes up around one-third of all UK economic growth. This theme aims to further strengthen the sector in GM.
• There are two sides to this coin: the businesses providing the environmental and low carbon goods and services, and those benefiting from the cost savings that resource efficiency brings.

Development of Low Carbon / Green Skills

• Education and training to provide a skilled workforce.

Stakeholder Engagement – Public, Private & Voluntary Sectors

• Maintaining a coordinated approach to addressing climate change issues across GM, and obtaining ‘buy in’ from all organisations.
• Examples are the “Toasty” insulation brand and the development of climate change strategies at district and organisational level to support the GM Climate Change Strategy, developing and detailing individual actions and programmes.
Additional Context – Greater Manchester

2.4 The GM City Deal, Low Carbon Hub and UK Green Investment Bank

In 2012, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (formerly AGMA) signed a "City Deal" agreement with the Coalition Government to stimulate economic growth.

The City Deal for Manchester included a commitment to establish a "Low Carbon Hub" consolidating the various centres of excellence in the GM environment sector, which were originally set up in response to the designation of Manchester as a “Low Carbon Economic Area for the Built Environment” by the last government.

The City Deal for Manchester also contains a proposal for a Joint Venture (JV) with the UK Green Investment Bank (GIB) to take low carbon infrastructure investment opportunities through to delivery. As a first stage, the JV is building a project portfolio to achieve the required scale for investment by GIB. The three areas of opportunity which are being considered are the retrofit of public sector buildings, street lighting and district heat networks.
### 2.5 GM project mapping

In 2012, the AGMA team began compiling evidence to support the three-year GM Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan. A schedule of projects was submitted by Oldham, along with the other nine Greater Manchester councils and other public and private sector organisations.

It is expected that regular progress reviews of these projects will take place. Whilst few projects have quantified carbon savings identified, the list provides a useful ‘starter for ten’ overview of activity in Oldham borough.

An overview of all of the projects can be found online at:-


Some examples of projects which were submitted to the AGMA mapping programme are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oldham</th>
<th>Buildings</th>
<th>St Marys New Build</th>
<th>2 x Passivhaus and 4 x Code for Sustainable Home level 6 (not sure of exact costs, HCA funded)</th>
<th>Contour Homes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>FCHO capital investment programme</td>
<td>General property upgrades to 12,000 homes (£149 million in 5 years), includes energy efficiency measures</td>
<td>FCHO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>Air to Water source heat pumps in 18 properties</td>
<td>“Minimum of 200 homes receive home visit for help. £41k from DoH</td>
<td>FCHO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>Keep Cosy scheme</td>
<td>Oldham Council / Age Concern</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>Green Technology Centre</td>
<td>Oldham College</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Oldham emissions reduced 48%.
- Low carbon economy
3 Objectives and Themes

Objective 1: Radically cut carbon emissions from Council buildings, schools and homes.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Buildings

Oldham’s buildings emit around one-third of the total carbon emissions from the borough, and use around the same proportion of energy. Therefore, in order to meet our targets, radical reductions in both must be achieved in buildings.

3.1.1 Council-owned buildings and assets

The Council’s energy bill is around £7 million annually; reducing energy use and making our buildings more energy efficient will help to reduce the council’s energy costs as well as cutting carbon emissions.

Oldham Council’s proposed Corporate Energy Policy

The Council’s proposed new Energy Policy is the driver to renovate the corporate building stock to reduce the overall energy costs, associated carbon emissions and take advantage of any opportunities for renewable energy generating technologies and associated subsidies which might exist.

The retrofit of Council buildings will be integrated with Greater Manchester level initiatives such as the Joint Venture with the UK Green Investment Bank, which aims to provide finance for the retrofit of both public and private sector buildings across the city region Non Domestic Energy Efficiency programme, (NDEE).

Other aspects of the Energy Policy include:

- improved monitoring and control arrangements,
- the rationalisation of the estate including the disposal of any superfluous buildings (these may continue to emit carbon under new ownership).
• “Agile working” for Council employees is a behavioural change measure which will assist in reducing the requirement for office space.

• Exploring opportunities for district heat networks to serve public buildings (please see section 3.2).

Oldham Community Leisure has made a commitment in 2013 to reduce carbon emissions by 5% every two years for the next ten years. OCL has project managed a boiler and heating replacement scheme at Failsworth Sport Centre which has seen the Kerosene boiler replaced with a modern, more environmentally friendly, new fuel efficient modular gas system, which will deliver an annual CO$_2$ reduction of 246 tonnes, which equates to a 46% annual reduction.

**Actions:-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA03</th>
<th>Submit a portfolio of council buildings for energy efficiency retrofit through the GM / GIB Joint Venture NDEE (Non Domestic Energy Efficiency)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA23</td>
<td>Oldham Community Leisure to achieve ISO14001 accreditation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA03</td>
<td>Complete retrofit of a portfolio of council buildings and schools, through GM GIB JV and other funding mechanisms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Heather McManus, heather.mcmanus@oldham.gov.uk*

### 3.1.2 Schools

School buildings, although owned by the Council, pose a particular problem when it comes to retrofitting for energy efficiency. As the schools pay their own energy bills, any expenditure on the fabric of the building will be recouped by the schools themselves through savings on the energy bill. This means that there is no viable business plan for the Council to invest in energy efficiency for schools, and schools do not generally have the capital funding required to make the investment themselves.

**Financing energy efficiency**

The GIB JV aims to set up a ‘group buying’ scheme across Greater Manchester, to enable economies of scale for schools retrofit programmes.

Salix finance provides zero interest capital funding for energy efficiency projects, and special ‘deals’ are available for schools with longer pay-back periods allowed than for non-schools projects, and a higher threshold cost per tonne of carbon saved.

The GIB JV will bring together GIB funding and Salix in a single financing package.

**Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC)**

Schools have for the past few years been included in the Government’s CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme – effectively a carbon tax which aims to incentivise investment in measures to reduce carbon emissions. However, in 2012 the Government changed the CRC scheme so that from April 2014 (the beginning of Phase 2 of the CRC) all state-funded schools will be exempt. The Department for Education has advised that...
the CRC exemption will be replaced by new incentives for schools to invest in energy management. This includes an emphasis on the Energy Services Company (ESCO) approach, whereby a third party provides capital funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in schools and takes a proportion of the financial savings arising from the energy bill to pay for the measures over time.

The ESCO approach opens the door to combining GIB JV project development funding and capital funding provided by a third party, possibly as an optional extra on the Service Level Agreement held with schools by Unity Partnership. Thus, neither the Council nor the schools need to find the capital funding required for energy efficiency projects.

Renewable energy solutions

A number of schools have been fitted with biomass-fuelled boilers – however, in many cases the boilers are not used, the schools being heated by the back-up gas-fuelled boilers. An evaluation study needs to be done to ascertain why these biomass installations are not functioning as intended, and whether remedial action can be taken, or the biomass boilers can be removed and installed in a more suitable location.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA15</th>
<th>Select and submit a number of Oldham’s schools with energy efficiency measures using either Salix or GIB JV funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Heather McManus, heather.mcmanus@oldham.gov.uk*

3.1.3 Domestic homes and fuel poverty

Around 42% of Oldham’s carbon emissions come from domestic homes in the borough. However, the current SAP rating (“Standard Assessment Procedure”, a measure of energy efficiency) for private housing in Oldham is measured at 63, significantly above the national average of 48 for all private sector housing in England (this is based on a small sample of homes surveyed in 2010). Average CO₂ emissions total 5.24 tonnes per annum, again significantly better than the national average of 7.1 tonnes p.a. for all private housing in England.

Green Deal programme

Oldham, along with the other Greater Manchester authorities, has committed to participating in a city regional Green Deal programme from 2014. The Green Deal is the coalition government’s flagship energy efficiency retrofit initiative, which together with the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), aims to encourage householders to refurbish their homes with energy efficiency measures at no upfront cost.

An interim initiative to tackle fuel poverty in around 1,000 Oldham homes (the Fuel Poverty Investment Agreement), plus a coordinated scheme with the Greater Manchester Energy Advice Service to take advantage of ECO funding until the main GM Green Deal begins, is taking place between April 2013 and March 2014.
The GM Green Deal programme is a three-year scheme and aims to retrofit 1,225 Oldham homes as part of the city regional programme. An additional aim is to generate around 88 employment opportunities in the low carbon sector in Oldham.

Affordable Warmth Strategy

Oldham also has an Affordable Warmth Strategy which aims to reduce the incidence of fuel poverty and excess winter deaths in the borough, partly through improving the energy efficiency of existing homes. The AWS is due to be refreshed after the new UK Fuel Poverty Strategy has been published in 2013.

New build requirements

New homes built in the borough will need to conform to modern building regulations, which correspond to the energy efficiency requirements of the Code for Sustainable Homes levels 4, 5 and 6 (5 and 6 being “zero carbon”). These new build requirements are in line with the council’s Joint DPD (Policy 18 ‘Energy’). Policy 18 states that development must follow the principles of the zero carbon hierarchy in-line with the requirements of the Code for Sustainable Homes. Developers will be encouraged to achieve standards in excess of building regulations wherever possible.

Microgeneration and renewable energy

Around 350 solar photovoltaic systems have been installed in Oldham to date, mostly on residential properties. The Feed In Tariff and the new Renewable Heat Incentive provide financial models to encourage the installation of heat and electricity generating renewable energy technologies, and are expected to continue over the life of this Plan.

*Image: St Mary’s “Passivhaus” (very high efficiency) standard homes, Oldham*
Existing housing stock

The Greater Manchester low carbon home retrofit strategy sets out a framework for delivering domestic carbon reductions of 55% by 2022. This ambitious target means that the Committee on Climate Change’s (CCC) projection for take-up of retrofit measures nationally for 2027 will need to be achieved in Greater Manchester by 2020.

The original dataset from Oldham’s Housing Stock Condition Survey has been revisited to provide a low carbon module, modelling thermal efficiency improvements to Oldham’s housing stock. Headline findings from the module are as follows:-

- Without energy efficiency improvements to the housing stock, fuel poverty in Oldham has risen from 17.7% of households in 2010 to around 24% in 2013. The latest DECC figures show us at 16% (2011), which is lowest level in GM.

- If Oldham’s housing stock received all energy efficiency measures possible, it would
  - cost around £264 million to implement
  - save Oldham’s residents about £17 million annually on their fuel bills at current prices
  - save 95,531 tonnes of CO₂ annually
  - return levels of fuel poverty to below 2010 levels

The Warm Homes Oldham, GM Green Deal and ECO programmes are expected to be the main initiatives delivering housing retrofit to 2020 and beyond.

Home Energy Conservation Act requirements

The Home Energy Conservation Act requires that Oldham, along with other local authorities, submit a report every two years from March 2013 detailing plans to tackle the energy efficiency of housing in the borough.

Actions:-  Lead Officer: Angela Carr, angela.carr@oldham.gov.uk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA02</th>
<th>Secure Oldham’s place in the GM Green Deal programme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA11</td>
<td>Refresh Oldham’s Affordable Warmth Strategy in light of the new UK Fuel Poverty Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA02</td>
<td>Retrofit 1,225 owner occupied Oldham homes over three years via GM Green Deal programme. Generate around 88 employment opportunities in the low carbon sector in Oldham.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA12</td>
<td>Review Oldham’s approach to housing retrofit, including participation in GM Green Deal, and submit second Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTA03</td>
<td>Develop housing retrofit strategy post GM Green Deal programme 2017-2020 and submit subsequent HECA returns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA18</td>
<td>Explore the possibility of extending the Warm Homes Oldham scheme post March 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.1.4 Core Strategy Policies - 1 (Climate Change & Sustainable Development) and 18 (Energy)

Oldham Council has a number of Planning Policies which aim to encourage the development of sustainable and environmentally friendly energy sources, and to ensure that all new development such as housing and employment sites is brought forward in a way that reduces its environmental impact.

Policy 1 – Climate Change & Sustainable Development

“Development should adapt to and mitigate against climate change and address the low carbon agenda, contribute towards sustainable development, help create a sense of place, improve the quality of life for residents and visitors, and enhance the borough's image.”

The policy aims to promote economic and housing development (on brownfield sites as a first preference) in accessible locations with good public transport accessibility to encourage the use of sustainable transport and access to existing local services to reduce the need to travel as well as minimising the risk from flooding.

Policy 18 – Energy

“There is the need to ensure that growth over the lifetime of the LDF is achieved in a sustainable manner so that we break the link between carbon emissions and growth, whilst also reducing fuel poverty. This will be achieved by promoting `green` energy, by reducing energy consumption and increasing energy conservation through sustainable construction, renewable technologies and low carbon energy. We will promote and facilitate where appropriate viable `green` energy proposals.”

The energy policy is self-explanatory, and refers to Oldham’s Climate Change Delivery Plan (i.e. this document) as key guidance for development.

The policy emphasises that sensitivity must be given to local community attitudes to low carbon energy infrastructure when promoting and facilitating ‘green’ energy where appropriate. This is to ensure it is delivered in the right way.

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Claire Nangle, claire.nangle@oldham.gov.uk
Objective 2: Maximise low carbon energy production and use available energy more efficiently.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Energy

Low carbon energy production can range from renewable energy technologies such as wind and solar power to the more efficient use of fossil fuels such as in combined heat and power (CHP) generating stations. District heat networks are a more efficient use of any heat-generating plant burning either fossil fuels or biofuels.

3.2.1 District heating – social housing

The district heat network in St. Mary’s is the oldest District Heat Network (DHN) in Greater Manchester still functioning.

Over time this has given Oldham Council valuable experience in operating a heat network serving social housing, but the age of the network also means that a considerable amount of investment is required in order to modernise it and bring it up to the standards of a modern, efficient, financially viable DHN.

With the advent of the “Green Deal”, and its attendant energy supplier subsidy the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), considerable investment potential can be unlocked. The investment will enable First Choice Homes Oldham to retrofit the housing stock in St. Mary’s to make it more energy efficient, but it will also enable us to replace the ageing infrastructure of the heat network itself, including the boilers and underground water pipes where necessary.

As well as retrofitting the homes on the St. Mary’s estate with high-performance energy efficiency measures, the boilers will be replaced and converted to biomass fuel.

It is estimated that with savings from all of the energy efficiency measures, plus extra income from the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), the costs of the St. Mary’s network will be halved, potentially giving residents a significant saving on their fuel bills and so making a contribution to tackling fuel poverty in the area.
The savings also open up the possibility for different options for governance structures to be considered, for example a co-operative / social enterprise model for heat networks serving social housing. Such a model could be replicable at a GM level.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA05</th>
<th>Complete technical feasibility and business cases for refitted St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA05</td>
<td>Take St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks from feasibility to delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA11</td>
<td>Ongoing monitoring of cost and sustainability of biomass fuel for St Mary’s. Development of cost mitigation options using low carbon technologies e.g. solar thermal, heat pumps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Heather McManus, heather.mcmanus@oldham.gov.uk*

### 3.2.2 District heating – corporate buildings

In 2012, Oldham secured funding from the Department of Energy and Climate Change for a feasibility study and business case for a new district heat network serving large, corporate buildings in the town centre, including the Council’s Civic Centre, the college, a new hotel and the police station.

The new heat network could either function as a stand-alone network or could be physically connected to the existing St Mary’s network.

The DECC funding will cover a technical feasibility study and business case. It is envisaged that the remaining steps, from business case to delivery, will be funded either from a bid submitted to the Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) stream, together with other projects from other GM districts, or via the Joint Venture with the Green Investment Bank.

The Council’s Civic Centre could potentially be served by this new heat network, reducing energy use and emissions in support of the Buildings theme (section 3.1).

A new heat network serving the town centre could potentially form one unit of a larger Greater Manchester heat network ESCO.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA05</th>
<th>Complete technical feasibility and business cases for refitted St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA05</td>
<td>Take St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks from feasibility to delivery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Heather McManus, heather.mcmanus@oldham.gov.uk*
3.2.3 District energy – existing industrial parks & new developments

Industrial Parks

In order to remain competitive, Oldham businesses will increasingly have to find ways to cut their energy costs and associated environmental taxes such as those incurred through the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme.

Possible solutions

In 2012, Armstrong Point, the region’s first Zero Energy Cost business park, was opened in Wigan borough:-

[http://www.armstrongpoint.co.uk/](http://www.armstrongpoint.co.uk/)

With all the energy required by companies moving into the business park provided free of charge on-site from renewable energy technologies combined with high-efficiency buildings, Armstrong Point gives an immediate competitive advantage to its resident organisations due to low operating overhead costs. The cost of the low-carbon energy technologies is covered by subsidy payments such as the Feed In Tariff (FIT) and Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), allowing the business park owners to offer free energy to businesses locating in the park.

Other industrial parks in Greater Manchester, such as Trafford Park, realise the implications of rising energy costs for business competitiveness. Trafford Park in particular is working with Manchester University, Trafford Council and environmental consultants to identify opportunities for utilising waste heat from industrial processes and on-site renewable energy generating plant to provide low-cost or no-cost energy to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) on the Park.

Oldham could potentially source project development funding from the GIB JV or the European Union for initiatives to develop integrated energy schemes for business parks within the borough. Ensuring Oldham’s businesses remain competitive in the face of rising costs will be critical to protecting employment and training opportunities for Oldham residents going forward.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA10</td>
<td>Complete an assessment of the potential for process integration and low carbon energy provision for Oldham’s existing business and industrial parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTA02</td>
<td>Deliver process integration and low carbon energy systems for Oldham’s existing business and industrial parks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lead Officer: Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk

Claire Nangle, claire.nangle@oldham.gov.uk
New developments

New developments bring an opportunity to create entirely new district heat networks and low carbon energy systems. Retrofitting is always more expensive than new build, so where new infrastructure can be created and integrated with a new development from inception, the opportunity should be taken. These systems can then potentially be expanded to cover existing employment sites or homes.

In Oldham, one major proposed new mixed use development is at Foxdenton. There may be an opportunity, via Core Strategy Policies 1 and 18, to encourage the development of a district heat network serving both homes and businesses, and low carbon energy generation systems such as solar photovoltaics on the roofs of the warehouses and office space.

In the current economic climate of low growth and a relatively depressed housing market, councils are reluctant to place any extra financial burdens on developers for fear that the development will not go ahead. Thus, an alternative approach is required. The Council can play an enabling role, exploring the potential for low carbon infrastructure for the development with interested parties to be delivered at an affordable cost to the developer.

This approach is being considered by other GM districts for major new developments.

The issue of energy security is key for new developments, and Oldham Council will expect planning applications for major new developments to include robust plans for energy supply infrastructure. Where existing energy sources exist, such as landfill and sewage gas generation facilities, Oldham’s low carbon planning policy designates proposed nearby developments as being “Network Expansion Areas” and developers will be required to carry out a technical feasibility study for a district heat network to be supplied by the existing low carbon energy sources.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA06</th>
<th>Explore the potential for district heating and other renewable energy generation for the proposed Foxdenton development.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA06</td>
<td>Construction of Foxdenton development incorporating low carbon energy where possible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lead Officers: Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk
Claire Nangle, claire.nangle@oldham.gov.uk
3.2.4 Local supply of sustainable fuels

**Biomass**

Oldham Council owns and operates a small ‘tree station’ processing arboricultural arisings from council operations in local parks and woodlands.

The facility produces high quality wood chip fuel suitable for biomass boilers. The fuel supplied is within tolerance for G30 (grade) and W30 (moisture content).

It is estimated that the tree station currently takes in around 600 tonnes per annum of wet wood ‘in the round’ for processing. This quantity could be increased through agreement with neighbouring local authorities to take their “arb arisings”, and possibly through future agreements with local farmers to produce energy crops such as willow on Short Rotation Coppice (SRC) or poplar. Council owned land could also be planted with SRC crops.

The tree station currently supplies a 400kW biomass boiler at Waterhead Academy, which typically uses around 300 tonnes of dry wood chip in a year.

Other possible future customers could be Failsworth Academy (which has an under-used biomass boiler with a hopper on the first floor requiring specialist delivery equipment), Radclyffe School in Chadderton and a possible 198kW biomass boiler installation to serve the glasshouses at Alexandra Park, which currently costs the council a significant sum annually in heating costs.

The facility could in theory provide a proportion of the fuel for a biomass-fuelled boiler serving the district heat network at St. Mary's, but it is unlikely that it would be able to provide all of the fuel required.

The facility could in theory also provide other forms of wood fuel such as logs for domestic wood stoves, but in practice the resource required to split and store logs would not make their production worthwhile given the relatively small profit margins for this kind of fuel.

The Mersey Forest operates a scheme of ‘wood allotments’, where residents can cut their own firewood. There may be potential for such a scheme to be put into place in Oldham, and a feasibility study will be conducted as part of a wider community renewable energy strategy.

| STA19 | Conduct an evaluation study to ascertain why biomass installations in schools are not functioning as intended, and whether remedial action can be taken, or the biomass boilers can be removed and installed in a more suitable location. |

*Lead Officer: Nik Anderson, nik.anderson@oldham.gov.uk*
Shale Gas Extraction

There may be some geology in Oldham giving rise to gas in tight shale formations, which can sometimes be extracted in a process known as hydraulic fracturing or “fracking”. It is unlikely though that any such “fracking” activity will take place in the borough due to the high costs and low quality of resources – Oldham is on the edge of viable areas, and so activity is likely to be focused outside of the borough.

However, Oldham is host to companies involved in the manufacture of equipment used in the fracking process, which may bring a small economic benefit in terms of jobs and investment.

The council would consider the appropriateness and local and environmental impact of any proposals for shale gas extraction prior to undertaking any such process in line with the borough’s Local Plan.

Landfill and Sewage Gas

The table below shows electricity generating capacity from landfill and sewage gas production sites in Oldham in 2005.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Installed Capacity (MW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scout Head Power Plant (High Moor)</td>
<td>Landfill Gas</td>
<td>2.096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chadderton Landfill Scheme (Greenside Way)</td>
<td>Landfill Gas</td>
<td>1.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham Sewage Treatment Works (Foxdenton Lane)</td>
<td>Sewage Gas</td>
<td>0.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>4.666</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although more up-to-date figures are not available, potential exists for waste heat produced during the electricity generation process to be used locally to heat homes and businesses via district heat networks, depending on the expected lifetime of the gas resource.
3.2.5 Community renewable energy opportunities

Community owned renewable energy enterprises are becoming more popular, and can provide a way of engaging local communities in such a way that opposition to renewable energy development can be overcome. Often it is the feeling that a large industrial energy company is imposing its development on a community that results in objections, but this kind of opposition can be dispelled by community ownership of the development.

Community owned organisations tend to be less experienced than commercial energy companies, and so the development of renewable energy opportunities may take much longer than simply letting the site to a typical commercial venture. Benefits however stay with the local community rather than going purely to sometimes large national or even multinational energy companies.

Oldham Council will explore all avenues for realising the potential of renewable energy in the borough, but as a co-operative council, the community owned approach will be one of the options considered for any site. The Council will set up a resource to encourage community groups to come forward to develop renewable energy opportunities in the borough.

Hydroelectric

Saddleworth Community Hydro, an Industrial and Provident Society for the benefit of the community, plans to build a 50kW hydroelectric turbine at Dovestones Reservoir, which has now in August 2013 received planning permission. Oldham Council has purchased £1,200 of shares in the scheme, which issued a community share offer to fund the project.
Wind

As with shale gas extraction, the council would consider the appropriateness and local and environmental impact of all renewable energy types prior to undertaking any such process in line with the borough’s Local Plan.

In 2003, a study was undertaken, looking at which areas of Oldham could be suitable for wind power. Areas around Saddleworth and Shaw emerged as most suitable in terms of wind speeds. Oldham has potentially some of the best wind power resource in Greater Manchester.

The original 2003 wind power study has been cross-referenced with Council-owned sites to identify any opportunities for income generation by the council. These opportunities could be developed either by the council alone or in partnership with community owned wind power companies.

Many private land owners around Saddleworth are successfully applying for planning permission to erect small wind turbines, such as this one at Lark Hill, Dobcross.

There is some controversy about this locally, with some residents arguing that small wind turbines do not make a sufficient contribution to energy generation and carbon emissions reduction to be worthwhile in view of the impact on the landscape.

According to the Energy Saving Trust, a well-sited 6kW turbine can generate around 10,000kWh and save the equivalent of around 5.2 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year.

Some years ago, United Utilities applied to build a wind farm on Saddleworth Moor, comprising a number of large wind turbines (1MW or more each). The application was refused amidst large-scale local objection, on the grounds that an industrial-scale approach to wind power was not appropriate for that area.

Local arguments have thus been made against both large and small scale wind.
One approach which may be more appropriate in Oldham than commercial development is community owned wind power. This approach could be well received if local communities are included in discussions from the beginning, and local objections overcome, as well as the opportunity being given to local residents to own shares in the ventures.

A community-owned approach may also help to address potential Planning concerns around renewable energy developments on green belt land.

In 2012, a local company conducted a further study for the potential of large-scale wind power in Oldham borough. A number of potential sites were identified but after a screening process, only one site (near Shaw) remained. This final site was eventually excluded due to access problems for the necessary vehicles and infrastructure.

However, the potential for an assessment of medium and small-scale wind power remains, and the local company mentioned above has proposed that such an assessment could be conducted at a cost. Access requirements are less of an issue for medium and small scale wind, although for medium scale wind the requirements are similar to large scale wind.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA04</th>
<th>Complete a study of the potential for medium and small scale wind power in Oldham using local and GM resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA04</td>
<td>Develop and deliver medium and small scale wind and other renewable energy projects in Oldham, using council, community and private sector resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA16</td>
<td>Develop a resource to support community renewable energy projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Philip Cresswell, philip.cresswell@oldham.gov.uk*

Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk

3.2.6 Geothermal and ground source energy

Along with most of Greater Manchester, Oldham has many disused coal mines, some up to 150m deep.

There is a significant potential (up to several megawatts per shaft) for harvesting of ground sourced heat, which could be used to feed district heat networks serving either domestic homes or businesses requiring space heating.

Proposed new developments and existing social housing neighbourhoods are particularly suited to the exploitation of this resource. Council buildings could also potentially benefit.

A local company, Groundtherm, which was involved in developing Oldham College’s Green Technology Centre, is one company offering services to develop and deliver ground sourced heat from disused coal mines.
A mapping exercise could identify the locations of disused coal mine shafts in the borough and match them with developments which could be served. Subsequent steps would be to identify business cases for infrastructure companies to utilise the harvested heat to serve individual developments.

First Choice Homes Oldham have commented: “FCHO would be interested in the opportunities available in and around our estates and welcome OMBC’s plan. We will be able to contribute any existing data we hold to the study and would like to be involved early in the process so we are in a strong position to turn the study into delivery.”

Recorded Coal mine Workings in Oldham – screen shot from Coal Authority MRSDS system. Unrecorded workings may also exist, especially at shallow depths close to coal seam outcrops.

**Actions:-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA01</th>
<th>Conduct a mapping exercise to establish the potential for ground source heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production, including heat sources matched with social housing estates, council buildings, new developments, existing and future heat networks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA01</td>
<td>Develop a strategy to harvest ground source heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTA01</td>
<td>Deliver projects to harvest heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production and use it in district heat networks supplying social housing, public buildings or business parks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk*
Objective 3: Significantly cut carbon emissions from transport by encouraging modal shift and active travel.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Transport

“Modal shift” refers to residents who, instead of using their cars with the associated high carbon emissions, move to using public transport or other environmentally friendly modes such as electric vehicles. “Active travel” refers to human-powered travel modes such as walking and cycling.

Initiatives in Oldham

In Greater Manchester, the Metrolink is the most carbon efficient mode of motorised travel and will enable ‘modal shift’ (passenger behaviour change) away from car use. The extension to Oldham Mumps (temporary) stop was opened in June 2012, the line to Shaw and Crompton opened in December 2012 and in February 2013 the line opened to Rochdale Railway Station. The extension through Oldham town centre is due to be completed by spring 2014. This extension will have four new stops at Westwood, King Street, Union Street and Oldham Mumps. The proposals at Oldham Mumps will see an integrated Metrolink and bus interchange along with a new park and ride site. Once complete in 2014, the temporary section of the Oldham Rochdale line, to the south of Oldham town centre, will be decommissioned. A free Oldham Metrolink service will operate between the temporary Oldham Mumps and the town centre until the town centre Metrolink extension in completed in spring 2014. The bus service operates using an electric-diesel hybrid vehicle which has a lower environmental impact than a standard bus and is helping to cut carbon emissions.

The Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle Scheme, a new electric vehicle charging point network and pay as you go programme, was launched across the region’s ten authorities on 26th July 2013. Phase 1 saw the installation of more than 250 charging bays across the ten Greater Manchester local authorities, including bays at eleven locations in Oldham. Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) is looking to expand the network and planning is now underway for the installation of more charging points under phase 2 of the GMEV scheme, which runs up to March 2014.

Oldham Council is working with Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) to deliver the Local Sustainable Transport Fund ‘Let’s Get to Work’ programme which aims to get more people into work whilst reducing congestion and carbon emissions. The project has secured over £37 million of Government funding for the period up to March 2015.
Interventions being delivered in Oldham include:

- Sustainable access projects including the Rochdale Canal Cycle route, Kingsway to Shaw link, Broadway cycle facilities and pedestrian facilities associated with key Metrolink stops;
- Travel advice for businesses to enable sustainable commuting;
- Travel support for jobseekers;
- The installation of a commuter cycle hub in Oldham Town Centre;
- Adult cycle training courses;
- Bike maintenance courses; and
- Local Link demand responsive transport service to Kingsway Business Park covering Sholver, Royton and Shaw and Crompton.

Improvements to the bus network are being delivered through the Better Bus Fund grant award and include various improvements along key bus routes such as bus stops clearways, kerb upgrades, bus friendly traffic calming, mobile camera enforcement and yellow keep-clear boxes, all of which will help to improve the reliability and punctuality of bus services, making them more attractive to users.

Oldham Council has also been successfully campaigning for cheaper bus fares with the operator First through the Fares Fair campaign, which has resulted in discounted fares across Greater Manchester following a successful Oldham pilot. Also as a result of the campaign, members of Oldham Credit Union can now take advantage further discounts on a weekly bus ticket.

Improvements to cycle and pedestrian facilities are delivered through the Council’s annual transport capital programme. Oldham has secured European funding (approximately £150,000) through involvement in a three-year cycling project which includes community engagement projects aimed at increasing existing cycling levels in the borough and encouraging new cyclists and the installation of new and upgraded cycle paths.

Greater Manchester has secured funding through the Cycle Safety Fund (£500,000 in 2013/14) and through the Cycle City Ambition Grant (£20 million to March 2015). Both these programmes will see direct investment in cycle facilities in Oldham including:-

- The installation of Trixi mirrors at traffic signal junctions to improve the visibility of cyclists for HGV drivers (number of installations and locations yet to be agreed);
- The installation of Advanced Stop Lines for cyclists at traffic signal junctions (number of installations and locations yet to be agreed);
- £148,000 of investment in the cycle network around Hollinwood to complement the Hollinwood Cycle and Ride Metrolink stop proposal included in the Velocity 2025 bid.

Oldham Council has a staff travel plan in place through which it aims to reduce carbon emissions associated with staff travel to work and on Council business.
Initiatives include the implementation of an annual Cycle to Work scheme for Council employees.

The Council also requires major developments to mitigate the impacts of travel by staff and visitors through the development of travel plans.

Oldham Community Leisure currently monitors the number of miles undertaken by its vehicle fleet and currently sets year on year targets for reductions by ensuring co-ordinated and planned maintenance programmes and ensuring engineers are assigned to the correct jobs.

OCL has incorporated a cycle to work scheme which is visited on an annual basis helping to raise environmental and health awareness in the work force and aims to reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

OCL also endorses the use of local suppliers within its sustainability policy, which aims to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with long haul deliveries.

FCHO will be delivering initiatives to encourage staff to walk and car share to improve health and reduce carbon emissions.

**Actions:-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA07</th>
<th>Open Oldham Town Centre Metrolink Extension (a Transport for Greater Manchester project supported by Oldham Council)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA08</td>
<td>Provide a free Metroshuttle bus service until the Town Centre Metrolink extension is open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA09</td>
<td>Deliver the Better Bus Fund programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA10</td>
<td>Install Advanced Stop Lines for cyclists at selected junctions (to be agreed with TfGM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA16</td>
<td>Deliver the MOBISEC community engagement programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA08</td>
<td>Deliver Local Sustainable Transport Fund Let’s Get to Work sustainable access projects in Oldham - four capital schemes: Rochdale Canal cycle way, Kingsway to Shaw link, Broadway cycle facilities and pedestrian facilities for Metrolink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA09</td>
<td>Deliver Local Sustainable Transport Fund Let’s Get to Work travel choices programme in Oldham (in partnership with Transport for Greater Manchester)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lead Officer: Joanne Betts, joanne.betts@oldham.gov.uk*
Objective 4: Maximise the benefit from green and blue infrastructure to minimise the impact of climate change on landscapes, communities and biodiversity.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Green and Blue Infrastructure

Green and blue infrastructure refers to parks, countryside, lakes, rivers and other water bodies and watercourses. It is also referred to as "natural capital", and the careful design and use of natural features can be greatly beneficial to tackling issues associated with climate change.

Oldham has a number of Planning Policies which aim to use green and blue infrastructure to make Oldham more resilient to the effects of a changing climate.

3.4.1 Core Strategy Policy 6 - Green Infrastructure

“We will value our local natural, built and historic environments, green infrastructure, biodiversity, geodiversity and landscapes, and their wider settings. The council will identify, protect, conserve and enhance this multi-functional Green Infrastructure network in the borough and maximise the benefits associated with Green Infrastructure, such as health and climate change adaptation.”

Climate change adaptation functions of Green Infrastructure include flooding control, urban heat island mitigation and biodiversity enhancement. There may be opportunities for tree planting on land owned either by the council or strategic partners, bringing with it benefits for biodiversity and the health and wellbeing of local communities who could use the new woodlands for recreation and general amenity, as well as potentially for wood fuel, helping to tackle fuel poverty.

The Council has £250,000 available for tree planting in the borough, some of which could be allocated for street trees, once drainage concerns have been addressed. Additionally, TfGM is obliged to plant 2,000 trees in Oldham to compensate for those lost in the development of the Metrolink line to Oldham town centre.

3.4.2 Core Strategy Policy 19 – Water & Flooding

“The council will ensure development does not result in unacceptable flood risk or drainage problems by directing development away from areas at risk of flooding, and protecting and improving existing flood defences, water resources and quality.”

Blue Infrastructure plays a key role in flooding control as well as biodiversity and urban heat island mitigation.

Schedule 3 of the 2010 Flood and Water Management Act imposes a requirement for drainage systems to comply with National Standards on SUDS, which will set out how drainage systems are to be designed, constructed and maintained. Schedule 3 will be supported by regulations and orders, and the National Standards will be accompanied by detailed guidelines.
The key provisions in Schedule 3 of the Act are as follows:-

- A SUDS approving body (SAB) is to be created in all unitary or county councils.
- The SAB will be given power to approve drainage systems for managing rainwater in new developments, before construction starts.
- The Secretary of State is obliged to publish National Standards for design, construction, operation and maintenance of SUDS and SABs will have to approve drainage systems that they judge to comply with those National Standards.
- SABs will be required to adopt and maintain approved SUDS, if they serve more than one property and where the SUDS system functions, as it has been approved at design stage.

**Actions:-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA13</th>
<th>SUDS Approving Body (SAB) established in the Council for compliance with national legislation on SUDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lead Officer: Jameson Bridgwater, <a href="mailto:jameson.bridgwater@oldham.gov.uk">jameson.bridgwater@oldham.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.4.3 LIFE+ European funding

In 2012, Greater Manchester submitted a funding bid to the European LIFE+ funding stream for a Green Infrastructure project in urban areas, led by Red Rose Forest (a subsidiary of Community Forests North West). The bid was unsuccessful but at the time of writing is due to be resubmitted in the 2014 funding round.

An additional opportunity to bid to LIFE+ has arisen for 2013, for a project based on a GM ecological network around river valleys.

**Actions:-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MTA14</th>
<th>Participate in resubmitted LIFE+ bid for Green Infrastructure in Urban Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lead Officer: Dave Catherall, <a href="mailto:dave.catherall@oldham.gov.uk">dave.catherall@oldham.gov.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective 5: Encourage awareness of energy and resource use to build sustained behaviour change.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Sustainable Consumption and Production

Sustainable Consumption and Production refers largely to behavioural change in the manufacture, use and disposal of goods, or the ‘cradle to grave’ supply chain. Environmentally friendly practices are also expected to save money through the more efficient use of available resources.

3.5.1 Waste and recycling

Although difficult to quantify, the reuse and recycling of waste is beneficial in terms of reducing the carbon emissions associated with landfill sites. Although some recycling processes use energy and have attendant carbon emissions, the prevention of methane emissions from the landfilling of waste is a major benefit to overall emissions reduction.

One way to mitigate the impact of methane production though is to capture it and burn it to produce electricity and heat, although in the burning of the methane, carbon dioxide is emitted to the atmosphere.

The composting of food waste through anaerobic digestion can also be used to generate methane for use in electricity generating plant.

Oldham Council has a target for 50% or more of waste from the borough to be recycled by 2015, including food waste, and a stretch target of 60% by 2025, corresponding to Greater Manchester wide targets. Zero waste is the ultimate aim.

Building awareness of waste and recycling issues across all sections of the community is essential to encourage residents and businesses to gain an understanding of the environmental issues surrounding waste. Engagement and education programmes are therefore key Council activities to drive improvements in residual waste reduction and diversion from landfill.

Residual Waste in Oldham is processed by a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility at Arkwright Street, otherwise known as an anaerobic digester. The fuel briquettes produced by the facility are transported to Runcorn where they are used in an incinerator. Additionally, the In-Vessel Composting (IVC) facility in Rochdale is used to process garden and food waste into quality compost, which is available for sale at Arkwright Street.

Lead Officer: Mark Husdan, mark.husdan@oldham.gov.uk

| MTA17 | Achieve at least a 50% recycling rate by 2015 and 60% by 2025, and a 50% reduction in residual waste by 2025. A 90% diversion of waste from landfill by 2015. |
3.5.2 Carbon Literacy

Carbon literacy is a broad term used to describe a working awareness in homes and businesses of the carbon implications of lifestyle and working decisions.

Carbon literacy ranges from the extremely practical skills to save money on bills (knowing how to set heating controls properly, turning off lights when not in use, taking showers instead of baths) to the less obvious but still very important wider lifestyle choices such as taking the train on holiday instead of flying, eating less meat from grain-fed intensive farming, the carbon footprint of packaging and food waste, and other more indirect forms of carbon pollution.

Oldham’s Affordable Warmth Strategy aims to engage householders on domestic energy efficiency and behaviour change. The wider carbon literacy agenda is currently not being addressed in Oldham.

A Manchester company called Cooler Projects has developed a carbon literacy standard which is being used by some districts to deliver behaviour change oriented programmes. One option would be for Oldham to also use this standard, although a resource would need to be made available to fund and deliver such a programme.

The retrofitting of homes in St. Mary’s and the redesign of the district heat network offers an opportunity to engage residents in carbon literacy and behaviour change.

The high-emissions neighbourhoods in the East of the borough should also be engaged in behaviour change programmes.

AGMA has successfully applied for European funding to support a demand-side energy management project called DIMMER which is due to commence in autumn 2013. The project will use feedback mechanisms and technologies to incentivise self-management in energy consumers.

Actions:-

| STA20 | Develop and deliver a behaviour change / carbon literacy programme for St. Mary’s residents to complement the retrofitting of homes and the conversion of the heat network to biomass |
| STA21 | Identify organisations and communities in Oldham to take part in the DIMMER project |
| MTA15 | Develop and deliver a behaviour change / carbon literacy programme for high emissions neighbourhoods |

Lead Officers: Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk

Dave Catherall, dave.catherall@oldham.gov.uk

Angela Carr, angela.carr@oldham.gov.uk
Objective 6: Make Oldham a destination for LCES companies.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Low Carbon and Environmental Sector (LCES) Growth

Environmental sector companies currently operating in Oldham include:

- **Groundtherm** – a company looking to exploit ground sourced heat from disused underground mine workings.
- **Altern8** – a solar photovoltaic installation company.
- **Armacell** – selling insulation products for pipework.

The Council actively seeks engagement with other environmental sector companies operating in the borough, and any such companies should contact the council.

Oldham Council is focused on developing the low carbon and environmental business sector through activities such as emailing local business networks with information and opportunities to help businesses become more efficient and competitive.

One Greater Manchester programme which has provided a resource efficiency programme for businesses is ENWORKS. It is anticipated that this will continue for the next two years, funded through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

In future it may be possible to redesign some of Oldham’s industrial parks to include “green business zones” to attract LCES companies.

**Actions:**

- **STA18** Use the Oldham & Rochdale Construction Sector Group to publicise opportunities and schemes arising from the Low Carbon Economy to ensure that local companies are involved in Greater Manchester initiatives and secure a place in the supply chain.

- **STA22** Implement an Environmental Business Pledge to build supply and demand in the Low Carbon and Environmental Sector

*Lead Officer: Louise Slater, louise.slater@oldham.gov.uk*
Objective 7: Make Oldham a centre of excellence for LCES training and employment opportunities.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Development of Low Carbon / Green Skills

Together with Trafford College, Oldham College is a National Skills Academy for Environmental Technologies (NSAET), including Green Deal Assessor training. Oldham College also hosts a Green Technology Centre and Business Network.

At present, the training provided at Oldham and Trafford Colleges will in the main benefit those seeking work in the construction industry, but it is envisaged that the potential range of employers will widen over time.

Currently there is no sector-specific tracking of trainees going on to employment after taking the course, but it seems likely that the government will be asking for this kind of information in the future. Trafford College has agreed to work with Trafford Council to develop a performance indicator tracking trainees who go on to work in the Low Carbon and Environmental Sector (LCES) as part of Trafford’s Sustainability Strategy 2013-2020.

Oldham College and Oldham Council will work with Trafford to develop a similar indicator in Oldham, and both performance measures can contribute towards tracking success in this theme of the GM Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan.

Actions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MTA07</th>
<th>Performance measure developed and implemented to track employment in low carbon and environmental employment sector</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA13</td>
<td>Ensure integration of NEDO project (Japanese technology) with Oldham College, FCHO trials and location of new technology businesses in Oldham</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lead Officer: Jon Bloor, jon.bloor@oldham.gov.uk
Objective 8: All sectors engaged in climate change activity.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Stakeholder Engagement – Public, Private & Voluntary Sectors

As a leading Co-operative Council, Oldham’s approach to tackling climate change and associated issues such as fuel poverty will be based on a holistic model to achieve sustainability:

- Managing and working to reduce demand for energy and for public services associated with fuel poverty, using council resources to influence behaviour change in an invest-to-save model.
- Optimising energy supply and use through renewable energy generation and the installation of energy efficiency measures.

This approach will require the participation of public, private and community sector organisations across the borough, working together to solve the issues which will arise and ensure that residents and businesses are instrumental in designing the systems which will prepare Oldham for a low carbon, high energy cost future.

Whilst the Council will lead on the overall delivery of this strategy, all partners will be engaged in the process and some organisations will be asked to take ownership of individual actions from the Action Plan. Concerned parties have been consulted in the production of this strategy.

As one example, Oldham Community Leisure has an allocated annual sustainability fund that is to be used exclusively to invest in energy management and energy initiatives. These investments aim to reduce utility consumption and Greenhouse Gas emissions, assisting OCL in meeting Oldham Council’s objective of ‘developing climate change plans’ as detailed within its corporate plan. OCL’s performance is managed via the Council’s Performance Management system.

The public sector is a major customer to local business, and ensuring that supply chains prioritise low carbon, sustainable goods and services will be a key aspect of reducing emissions for which the Council is responsible.

Lead Officer: Jackie Wilson, jackie.wilson@oldham.gov.uk
Karen Lowes, karen.lowes@oldham.gov.uk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA24</th>
<th>Oldham Council to achieve Level 1 of the Flexible Framework (procurement)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTA19</td>
<td>Oldham Council to achieve Level 3 or above of the Flexible Framework (procurement)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Objective 9: Use Oldham’s resources and expertise to assist other GM districts and support the GM programme.

GM Climate Change Strategy Theme: Oldham's Leadership in Greater Manchester

Oldham Council is the Lead Authority on climate change in Greater Manchester. Therefore, it is appropriate for the Council to seek to assist other Local Authorities and the GM programme as a whole.

3.9.1 District heat networks

District Heat Networks offer a significant opportunity in GM to utilise waste heat from industrial processes and power generation facilities to provide heating and cooling to residential and commercial premises alike. Combined Heat and Power generation allows scarce fossil fuels to be used more efficiently and renewable fuels to be used where technically feasible and socially appropriate.

The St. Mary’s heat network in Oldham is the longest-running District Heat Network in Greater Manchester. It is operated by Oldham Council and serves a social housing neighbourhood owned by First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO), and also a leisure centre.

In 2013 Oldham is using funding, secured from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), to develop another heat network which will serve a number of large users such as Council buildings and commercial businesses in the town centre.

These two networks will provide flagship models for the two main types of development to be served by district heat. These models could then be replicated across GM.
The 2010 AGMA Decentralised Energy Study highlighted a number of opportunities for District Heat Networks across Greater Manchester. However, as most of the other GM districts lack experience of operating heat networks, there is a lack of confidence stemming from limited technical and financial expertise in this area.

There are a number of opportunities to secure development funding for GM District Heat, including from the European Union (Intelligent Energy Europe / European Regional Development Fund), the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), and the Greater Manchester Joint Venture with the UK Green Investment Bank (GIB JV).

Oldham Council, together with Unity Partnership (Oldham Council’s strategic delivery partner), is exploring opportunities to help other GM districts to develop their own heat networks.

One option could be to establish an Energy Services Company (ESCO) at a GM level to oversee all GM heat network projects. Financial viability is necessary for a heat network project to be delivered, but there are many other reasons for establishing district heat networks, such as reducing carbon emissions and tackling fuel poverty.

**Actions:-**

| STA14 | Work with the Greater Manchester Environment Team to develop a delivery approach for the establishment of a GM ESCO if appropriate, and other GM districts to identify areas for joint working |

*Lead Officers: Heather McManus, heather.mcmanus@oldham.gov.uk*

Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk

Philip Cresswell, philip.cresswell@oldham.gov.uk
3.9.2 Fair Energy

The tightening of available energy supplies is one consequence of climate change, which along with the imposition of extra charges on energy bills to pay for climate change mitigation programmes, leads to constantly increasing energy prices and in the current national system the poorest often pay disproportionately more for energy.

Whilst we endeavour to reduce the cost of energy for all, we are also committed to tackling fuel poverty and the impact that energy cost inequality has on those least able to pay. There are a number of solutions either underway or being developed.

Collective energy switching

Collective energy switching is a principle first developed in the Netherlands. The idea is that residents get together en masse and invite energy companies to offer them special rates for gas and electricity. The idea is that the energy companies will try to undercut each other for the large amount of potential new customers, and the residents therefore get a better deal than would normally be available.

Oldham’s first local energy switching auction was held in November 2012, and its success resulted in Oldham Council leading the first energy switching campaign in Greater Manchester, the auction taking place on the 29th January 2013. Over 35,000 residents registered for the GM auction, making this the most successful switching scheme in the UK at that time. Interpretation of the data from the switching broker suggests that 73% of those who registered could make a saving, the average saving being £122 per registration.

The second auction saw 160,000 sign-ups across Greater Manchester, and this pioneering scheme has now been expanded to include many local authorities and other organisations outside of GM.

Energy co-operatives

The possibility of using community-owned renewable energy cooperatives to address the issues of carbon emissions and energy cost inequality is also being explored by Oldham Council and partners.

Actions:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STA12</th>
<th>Develop the GM Collective Energy Switching programme in light of an analysis from past auctions and the forthcoming national tariff simplification changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA17</td>
<td>Develop comprehensive “Fair Energy” strategy encompassing community owned renewable energy, behaviour change programmes, housing retrofit and energy switching</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lead Officers: Andrew Hunt, andrew.hunt@oldham.gov.uk

Suzanne Barrett, suzanne.barrett@oldham.gov.uk; Angela Carr, angela.carr@oldham.gov.uk

Jackie Wilson, jackie.wilson@oldham.gov.uk
4 Carbon budgeting, monitoring and metrics

In order to map out how Oldham will meet carbon reduction targets, we must consider not only all of the opportunities to reduce emissions, but also those factors which will result in increasing carbon emissions. This section takes an overview of the factors we know about and uses them to draw up a carbon budget and a local carbon emissions reduction target (see Appendix 1).

These opportunities and liabilities will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis, and a trajectory analysis will be offered comparing performance against the latest carbon emissions data published by the Department for Energy and Climate Change. A performance framework will be implemented to track progress against Oldham’s nine objectives.

4.1 Emissions reducing opportunities in Oldham

1. Domestic Housing Energy Efficiency. The new Low Carbon Module (2013) of Oldham’s Housing Stock Condition Survey (2010) estimates that if all homes in Oldham were brought up to their maximum thermal efficiency specification, it would save a total of 95,531 tonnes of CO₂ annually. The actual measures installed to achieve this standard, and the cost of the works, are detailed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALL IMPLIED IMPROVEMENTS</th>
<th>DWELLINGS</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>COST (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gas condensing boiler</td>
<td>33,489</td>
<td>45.1</td>
<td>77,024,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loft insulation</td>
<td>59,699</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>15,046,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draught proof property</td>
<td>20,787</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>4,157,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavity wall insulation</td>
<td>25,983</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>11,692,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid wall insulation</td>
<td>17,934</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>143,472,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan storage heater</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1,068,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double glazing</td>
<td>4,218</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>11,811,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All dwellings with one or more improvements</td>
<td>68,126</td>
<td>91.7</td>
<td>264,151,346</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Realistically, achieving all of these works in the timescale available would be extremely challenging, so this strategy will aspire to a 40% achievement rate by 2020, giving a saving of 38,212 tonnes of CO₂ annually.

2. Retrofit of Oldham Council corporate buildings, including Microgeneration Measures. Target of a reduction of 2,254 tonnes of CO₂ by 2015 (around 10% of current carbon footprint), corresponding to an annual financial saving of £500,000 on the Council’s energy bill.
3. **Retrofit of Oldham’s Schools, including Microgeneration Measures.** Not yet quantified, will be scoped through the AGMA NDEE programme.

4. **Hydroelectric opportunities in Oldham.** Saddleworth Hydro’s proposed turbine has a capacity of 50kW, and should offset around 200 tonnes of CO₂ from grid electricity every year.

5. **Wind Power on Oldham Partnership Land Opportunities.** Not yet quantified.

6. **Ground source heat potential from Oldham’s Disused Coal Mines.** Not yet quantified.

7. **Domestic Solar PV & Other Microgeneration Installations.** The average size of a solar PV installation is 3.5kWp (source: Energy Saving Trust: [http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generating-energy/Choosing-a-renewable-technology/Solar-panels-PV](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generating-energy/Choosing-a-renewable-technology/Solar-panels-PV)) which would save the household around 1 tonne of carbon dioxide annually. In the 30 months between June 2010 and December 2012, a total of 392 solar PV installations took place in Oldham (Source: DECC). If the same rate of installation continues (13 per month), by December 2020 an extra 1,092 installations will have taken place, totalling 1,484 in total, saving around 1,500 tonnes of CO₂ annually. Other microgeneration technologies exist and will add to this figure, but as we do not have any data to work from, this Strategy will take this figure as a conservative estimate, to be revised annually as more data is published.

8. **Business and Industry Energy Efficiency.** The Carbon Trust (a government funded organisation) has introduced the “Energy Efficiency Financing for Business” loans scheme, similar in principle to the “Green Deal” for households - the loan is repaid from savings on the energy bill. Standard energy efficiency measures can normally be expected to achieve carbon dioxide savings of between 5% and 15%. Assuming the success of the scheme, plus the national Green Deal for commercial buildings which is due to commence in 2013, this strategy will adopt the relatively conservative lower target of a 5% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions in the business sector across the board. Based on the national figure for the business sector (2008 baseline), this is equal to 21.4 kt CO₂ per annum saved by energy efficiency in businesses.

9. **St. Mary’s District Heat Network Refurbishment.** The heat network serving the FCHO social housing in St. Mary’s ward is to be renovated, including the conversion of the boilers to run on biomass fuel. The leisure centre is to be demolished and removed from the network, and a new leisure centre built in the town centre. The FCHO homes will be retrofitted with energy efficiency measures as part of the renovation. An initial overview of the project estimates the carbon savings at 2.4 kt CO₂ per annum.
10. **New Oldham Town Centre District Heat Network.** Not yet quantified.

11. **Oldham’s Industrial Parks.** Carbon saving opportunities not yet quantified.

12. **“Smarter Travel Choices” – Modal Shift & Active Travel.** The Friends of the Earth “Smarter Travel Choices” programme was demonstrated in Darlington, Peterborough and Worcester in the 5-year period between 2004 and 2009. An average cut in car use of around 8% was achieved across the three local authority areas. This would not translate to an 8% cut in carbon emissions associated with road transport due to emissions from goods vehicles. Emissions from car travel make up around 60% of total road transport emissions (source: Table 3.1, “Environmental Costs of Rail Transport”, report to the Office of Rail Regulation August 2005). An 8% cut in car use would therefore result in a cut in emissions of around 5% over that same 5-year period. Reducing emissions from transport is challenging though, so this strategy will aspire to a 5% reduction in overall road transport emissions on the 2008 NI186 figure of 261.58 kt CO\(_2\) over the 10-year period 2010-2020 from the implementation of “Smarter Travel Choices”, a reduction in emissions of 13.1 kt CO\(_2\). This estimation ignores any potential cut in emissions between 2008 and 2010 but the error is on the side of pessimism so we will accept it for the purposes of this strategy.

### 4.2 Emissions from new development in Oldham

#### Housing

The Council’s Local Plan seeks to deliver in the region of 2,000 new homes (after the clearance of old houses) during the duration of the Climate Change Strategy.

The majority of these houses will conform to Part E (energy efficiency) building regulations equivalent to Code for Sustainable Homes (CFSH) levels 4 and 5. A CFSH Level 5 home will be roughly twice as thermally efficient as a Code Level 3 home (which emits 10 tonnes of CO\(_2\) annually), so for the purposes of this strategy, we will take an average of 5 tonnes of CO\(_2\) per annum as the average carbon footprint of new homes build in Oldham. Using this estimate, new housing in Oldham will increase CO\(_2\) emissions by around 10,000 tonnes per year by 2020.

#### Emissions Reduction from Housing Clearance

During the duration of the Climate Change Strategy housing clearance is forecast to be 182 dwellings.

We do not know the Energy Performance Certificate rating of each individual property to be cleared, so for the purposes of this strategy we will take a figure of 10 tonnes of CO\(_2\) per annum, which is the carbon footprint of an average terraced house.

So by 2020, total cumulative carbon savings from housing clearance will be around 1,820 tonnes of CO\(_2\) per annum.
Employment Land

From the Joint DPD: “Forecasting indicates that the borough may require an additional 30,000 square metres of office floorspace during the plan period, as shown in the Employment Land Review.”

Typical air-conditioned office space can emit around 40kg of CO\textsubscript{2} per square metre (source: [http://www.cibse.org/pdfs/ECG019.pdf](http://www.cibse.org/pdfs/ECG019.pdf)). This would give a total carbon footprint for new office space in Oldham of around 1,200 tonnes of CO\textsubscript{2} annually.

Net Change in Carbon Emissions from Housing

Taking the above estimated figures, the total net addition to carbon emissions from new homes built in Oldham will be around 9,380 tonnes per annum.
The proposed new mixed use development at Foxdenton is one of Oldham’s most significant new developments.

With both employment sites and residential districts, the proposed development has a potentially significant additional carbon impact for Oldham’s carbon budget.

However, with new developments, some opportunities exist to install low carbon energy infrastructure in an integrated way.

However, in the current economic climate, the cost of additional low carbon energy infrastructure can make new development financially non-viable. Therefore, the implementation of low carbon energy systems must be approached in such a way to mitigate this potential barrier.

The developer for Foxdenton will be engaged in discussions with a view to achieving the most carbon efficient development possible.
Appendix 1) A summary of the carbon budget for Oldham (expressed in thousands of tonnes of carbon dioxide \( \text{kt CO}_2 \)):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year and Baseline</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Transport</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990 Baseline (estimated according to GM methodology)</td>
<td>607.2</td>
<td>534.8</td>
<td>313.5</td>
<td>1,455.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Baseline (DECC Full Dataset)</td>
<td>499.65</td>
<td>428.37</td>
<td>261.58</td>
<td>1,189.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Recent Data (2011 DECC Full Dataset)</td>
<td>414.3</td>
<td>332.2</td>
<td>236.7</td>
<td>Total 983.2 ( \text{kt CO}_2 )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**National Programmes**

- **(RED) Reduction in Oldham’s emissions from national grid implementation of UK 15% renewable energy target***: -64.95 -> -56.69 -> -34 ** -> -154.64

**Opportunities in Oldham**

- **(GREEN) Private Sector Housing Energy Efficiency (including “Toasty” scheme and Green Deal) – loft and cavity insulation, efficient boilers, double glazing**: -38.2
- **Retrofit of Oldham Council buildings including solar PV etc**: -10.7
- **Electricity reduction projects for street lighting**: Not Yet Known
- **(AMBER) Retrofit of Oldham’s schools including solar PV etc**: Not Yet Known
- **Hydroelectric opportunities**: -0.2
- **Wind power on Oldham Partnership land**: Not Yet Known
- **Solar Photovoltaic & Other Microgeneration (small wind power, micro Combined Heat and Power, biomass boilers and stoves, solar hot water systems, ground and air source heat pumps) – Feed inTariff / Renewable Heat Incentive / Green Deal**: -1.5
- **“Green Deal for Business” (Carbon Trust / Siemens) / ENWORKS / EBS – resource efficiency measures as for domestic sector plus efficient equipment and appliances**: -21.4
- **St. Mary’s District Heat Network upgrade**: -2.4
- **Oldham’s Industrial Parks - Low Carbon Sector & District Heat Network – process integration between organisations, energy generation and energy efficiency**: Not Yet Known
- **Ground source heat from disused coal mines**: Not Yet Known
- **“Smarter Travel Choices” – modal shift and active travel**: -13.1
- **Sub Total CO\(_2\) reductions**: -107.05 -> -87.99 -> -47.1 -> -242.14

**Additional Emissions Risks in Oldham**

- **Estimated Carbon Emissions from Proposed New Development**
  - Oldham 2020 Target (most recent data minus opportunities plus liabilities): 315.45
  - Oldham percentage Reduction on 1990 baseline: 48% reduction
  - Oldham percentage Reduction on 2008 baseline: 37% reduction
  - UK Low Carbon Transition Plan Target (2008 baseline): 29% reduction

Please see following page for key.
* The national target of 15% energy to be produced from renewables is the UK’s share of the European Union target of 20% and is assumed for the purposes of this strategy to result in a corresponding 15% cut in emissions across both gas and electricity supplied from the National Grid. The picture is likely to be more complex than this, depending on what fossil fuel sources are replaced with renewable energy, but the 15% figure will be used as a rough estimate for this strategy. The proportion of renewable energy supplied at the baseline year of 2008 was around 2%, therefore a deduction of 13% on the 2008 baseline will be made for the purpose of this strategy.

** For road transport, the Renewable Transport Fuels Obligation (RTFO) currently requires that 5% of all road transport fuel sold will contain 5% biofuels by 2013/14. The UK Department for Transport estimates that in the future up to one third of all transport fuel sold could come from renewable sources. Vehicle fuel consumption standards have also steadily risen over the past few years, with engine efficiency improving and emissions levels per vehicle falling. Additionally, the development and increasing popularity of electric vehicles is likely to have an impact on carbon emissions from transport. For the purposes of this strategy, it is assumed that the 15% target for renewable energy in the National Grid will also apply to road transport fuel, including a switch to electric vehicles.

** Key:**

**RED** Emissions reduction opportunities where the Council has minimal influence, are longer term or technically very challenging.

**AMBER** Emissions reduction opportunities where the Council has indirect influence and can only deliver in partnership with others.

**GREEN** Emissions reduction opportunities where the Council can directly influence the outcome.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Measuring Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | Radically Cut Carbon Emissions from Council Buildings, Schools and Homes  | • Percentage cut in emissions from council buildings, schools and homes  
• Total tonnage of CO₂ emissions cut from council buildings, schools, homes  
• Financial savings on the energy bills of council buildings, schools, homes  
• Investment value of energy efficiency and renewable energy retrofit projects  
• Annual CRC / Carbon Footprint Reports to DECC  
• Alternate yearly HECA return submitted  
• Measures installed / Green Deal assessments / Green Deal loans / ECO funding secured  
• Annual DECC figures on carbon emissions from households in Oldham |
| 2      | Maximise Low Carbon Energy Production and Use Available Energy More Efficiently | • Tonnage of CO₂ replaced / reduced by low carbon energy sources / networks  
• Number / percentage of Oldham homes / businesses served by low carbon energy  
• Investment value of low carbon energy sources / networks  
• Financial savings from low carbon energy sources / networks  
• Total MWh generated by low carbon energy sources  
• DECC figures on Feed In Tariff / Renewable Heat Incentive Installations in Oldham |
| 3      | Significantly Cut Carbon Emissions from Transport by Encouraging Modal Shift and Active Travel | • DECC figures on carbon emissions from Transport in Oldham  
• Funding secured for transport related projects in Oldham  
• Passenger numbers for Metrolink  
• Carbon emissions per mile for car journeys in Oldham (by LSOA)  
• Number of people taking up cycle training  
• Number of businesses engaged in cycle training and travel planning  
• Number of electric vehicle charging points in Oldham |
| 4      | Maximise the Benefit from Green and Blue Infrastructure to Minimise the Impact of Climate Change on Landscapes, Communities and Biodiversity | • Delivery of local actions from the GM Natural Capital Group Action Plan  
• Cost / financial value of SUDS schemes in Oldham  
• Council SAB established  
• Value of funding secured for G&BI projects in Oldham |
| 5      | Encourage Awareness of Energy and Resource Use to Build Sustained Behaviour Change | • Number of awareness raising programmes in Oldham  
• Number of residents trained in carbon literacy  
• Number of businesses engaged in carbon literacy  
• Number of council staff trained in energy and waste awareness  
• Recycling rates in Oldham  
• Flexible Framework Level achievement for Oldham Council (procurement) |
| 6      | Make Oldham a Destination for LCES Companies                               | • Number of low carbon districts, developments and business parks  
• DECC figures on carbon emissions from business and industry in Oldham  
• Number of Oldham companies engaged in delivery of climate change programmes  
• Percentage of total project cost allocated to Oldham businesses as part of supply chain  
• CO₂ savings from Enworks and other initiatives  
• Number of / investment value of ESCOs set up and operating in Oldham |
| 7      | Make Oldham a Centre of Excellence for LCES Training and Employment Opportunities | • Number of Oldham College trainees going on to work in the LCES (indicator to be developed with Trafford College)  
• Number of LCE courses offered in Oldham  
• Number of LCES jobs advertised in Oldham |
| 8      | All Sectors Engaged in Climate Change Activity                             | • Oldham Partnership consulted on Climate Change Strategy  
• Ownership of actions by representatives from all sectors |
| 9      | Use Oldham’s Resources and Expertise to Assist Other GM Districts and Support the GM Programme | • Number of GM programmes / initiatives / funding bids led by Oldham Council  
• Value of funding secured for GM Projects by Oldham  
• Value of GM projects delivered by Oldham  
• Value of Oldham officer time supplied as ‘in kind’ funding for GM programmes |
### Appendix 3) Actions: Short Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Short Term Action</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Responsible Services / Partners</th>
<th>Funding / Resources</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STA01</td>
<td>Conduct a mapping exercise to establish the potential for ground source heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production, including heat sources matched with social housing estates, council buildings, new developments, existing and future heat networks</td>
<td>1, 2, 6</td>
<td>Environment Policy / Low Carbon Hub</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA02</td>
<td>Secure Oldham’s place in the GM Green Deal programme</td>
<td>1, 6, 7</td>
<td>Housing Strategy Delivery</td>
<td>Startup costs for GM Green Deal are £1.3 million, to be paid from a GMCA underspend.</td>
<td>GM Green Deal scheme commences delivery in January 2014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA03</td>
<td>Submit a portfolio of council buildings for energy efficiency retrofit through the GM / GIB Joint Venture NDEE (Non Domestic Energy Efficiency)</td>
<td>1, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services / Low Carbon Hub / GIB JV / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>0.5 FTE from Unity Partnership to support GM NDEE team</td>
<td>Portfolio of Quick Wins to be submitted by June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA04</td>
<td>Complete a study of the potential for medium and small scale wind power in Oldham using local and GM resources</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>£12K for medium scale wind study</td>
<td>GM wind and hydro studies available June 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA05</td>
<td>Complete technical feasibility and business cases for refitted St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks</td>
<td>1, 2, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services / Low Carbon Hub / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>£110K DECC funding for new town centre network</td>
<td>Town centre study to be complete by August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>£15 million ECO funding for St Mary’s refit</td>
<td>Governance and business case for St Mary’s to be developed by April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA06</td>
<td>Explore the potential for district heating and other renewable energy generation for the proposed Foxdenton development.</td>
<td>1, 2, 6</td>
<td>Special Projects Team / Environment Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Approach agreed by April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA07</td>
<td>Open Oldham Town Centre Metrolink Extension (a Transport for Greater Manchester project supported by Oldham Council)</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA08</td>
<td>Provide a free Metroshuttle bus service until the Town Centre Metrolink extension is open</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref</td>
<td>Short Term Action</td>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Responsible Services / Partners</td>
<td>Funding / Resources</td>
<td>Milestones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA09</td>
<td>Deliver the Better Bus Fund programme</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund</td>
<td>December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA10</td>
<td>Install Advanced Stop Lines for cyclists at selected junctions (to be agreed with TfGM)</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund</td>
<td>December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA11</td>
<td>Refresh Oldham’s Affordable Warmth Strategy in light of the new UK Fuel Poverty Strategy</td>
<td>1, 5, 8</td>
<td>Housing Strategy Delivery</td>
<td>Refreshed Fuel Poverty Strategy to be adopted by April 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA12</td>
<td>Develop the GM Collective Energy Switching programme in light of an analysis from past auctions and the forthcoming national tariff simplification changes</td>
<td>5, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>New auction format developed and delivered by October 2013</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA13</td>
<td>SUDS Approving Body (SAB) established in the Council for compliance with national legislation on SUDS</td>
<td>4, 8</td>
<td>Strategic Planning / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>Funding from national government ring fenced for technical drainage officers</td>
<td>SAB established by December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA14</td>
<td>Work with the Greater Manchester Environment Team to develop a delivery approach for the establishment of a GM ESCO if appropriate, and other GM districts to identify areas for joint working</td>
<td>1, 2, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services / Low Carbon Hub / Environment Policy / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>Corporate energy budget</td>
<td>GM ESCO approach developed by March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA15</td>
<td>Select and submit a number of Oldham’s schools with energy efficiency measures using either Salix or GIB JV funding</td>
<td>1, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services / Low Carbon Hub / GIB JV / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>Salix / GIB JV</td>
<td>Portfolio of schemes for retrofit compiled by March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA16</td>
<td>Deliver the MOBISEC community engagement programme</td>
<td>2, 5</td>
<td>Economy, Places &amp; Skills - Transport</td>
<td>Local Sustainable Transport Fund</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref</td>
<td>Short Term Action</td>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Responsible Services / Partners</td>
<td>Funding / Resources</td>
<td>Milestones</td>
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<tr>
<td>STA17</td>
<td>Develop comprehensive “Fair Energy” strategy encompassing community owned renewable energy, behaviour change programmes, housing retrofit and energy switching</td>
<td>1, 2, 5, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA18</td>
<td>Use the Oldham &amp; Rochdale Construction Sector Group to publicise opportunities arising from the Low Carbon Economy to ensure that local companies are involved in Greater Manchester initiatives and secure a place in the supply chain.</td>
<td>1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9</td>
<td>Environment Policy / Economy, Places &amp; Skills – Strategy, Policy, Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA19</td>
<td>Conduct an evaluation study to ascertain why biomass installations in schools are not functioning as intended, and whether remedial action can be taken, or the biomass boilers can be removed and installed in a more suitable location.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Unity Partnership</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA20</td>
<td>Develop and deliver a behaviour change / carbon literacy programme for St. Mary’s residents to complement the retrofitting of homes and the conversion of the heat network to biomass</td>
<td>1, 5, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy / Housing Strategy Delivery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA21</td>
<td>Identify organisations and communities in Oldham to take part in the DIMMER project</td>
<td>1, 5, 8</td>
<td>Corporate Policy / Environment Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA22</td>
<td>Implement an Environmental Business Pledge to build supply and demand in the Low Carbon and Environmental Sector</td>
<td>1, 2, 6, 7</td>
<td>Economy, Places &amp; Skills – Strategy, Policy, Resources / Oldham Business Leadership Group</td>
<td>£15,000 required for EBP</td>
<td>Implemented to commence April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA23</td>
<td>Oldham Community Leisure to achieve ISO14001 accreditation</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 5, 8</td>
<td>Oldham Community Leisure / Unity Partnership</td>
<td></td>
<td>Achieve accreditation by April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA24</td>
<td>Oldham Council to achieve Level 1 of the Flexible Framework (procurement)</td>
<td>5, 8</td>
<td>Oldham Council Procurement</td>
<td></td>
<td>April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref</td>
<td>Medium Term Action</td>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Responsible Services / Partners</td>
<td>Funding / Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTA01</td>
<td>Develop a strategy to harvest ground source heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production.</td>
<td>1, 2, 5</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>Ground Source Heat Strategy developed by April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA02</td>
<td>Retrofit 1,225 owner occupied Oldham homes over three years via GM Green Deal programme. Generate around 88 employment opportunities in the low carbon sector in Oldham.</td>
<td>1, 6, 7</td>
<td>Housing Strategy Delivery Economy, Places &amp; Skills – Strategy, Policy, Resources</td>
<td>Oldham required to fund £1.4m loan capital probably through PWLB</td>
<td>GM Green Deal programme concludes in January 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA03</td>
<td>Complete retrofit of a portfolio of council buildings and schools, through GM GIB JV and other funding mechanisms</td>
<td>1, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services / Low Carbon Hub / GIB JV / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>GM GIB JV, Salix, PWLB</td>
<td>April 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA04</td>
<td>Develop and deliver medium and small scale wind and other renewable energy projects in Oldham, using council, community and private sector resources</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>Wind power potential fully realised – April 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA05</td>
<td>Take St Mary’s and new town centre District Heat Networks from feasibility to delivery</td>
<td>1, 2, 9</td>
<td>Commercial Services, Low Carbon Hub, IEE</td>
<td>£100K from DECC for new town centre heat network £15 million from British Gas ECO for St Mary’s GIB JV funding</td>
<td>ESCOs set up for St Mary’s and new town centre DHNs – April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA06</td>
<td>Construction of Foxdenton development incorporating low carbon energy where possible.</td>
<td>1, 2, 6</td>
<td>Special Projects Team, Environment Policy</td>
<td>Phased construction as per planning application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA07</td>
<td>Performance measure developed and implemented to track employment in low carbon and environmental employment sector</td>
<td>7, 9</td>
<td>Oldham College / Trafford College</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA08</td>
<td>Deliver Local Sustainable Transport Fund Let’s Get to Work sustainable access projects in Oldham - four capital schemes: Rochdale Canal cycle way, Kingsway to Shaw link, Broadway cycle facilities and pedestrian facilities for Metrolink</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td>£1 million from GM Local Sustainable Transport Fund bid</td>
<td>March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA09</td>
<td>Deliver Local Sustainable Transport Fund Let’s Get to Work travel choices programme in Oldham (in partnership with Transport for Greater Manchester)</td>
<td>3, 5</td>
<td>Neighbourhoods</td>
<td></td>
<td>March 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref</td>
<td>Medium Term Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>MTA10</td>
<td>Complete an assessment of the potential for process integration and low carbon energy provision for Oldham’s existing business and industrial parks</td>
<td>2, 6, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy&lt;br&gt;– Strategy, Policy, Resources&lt;br&gt;Manchester University</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA11</td>
<td>Ongoing monitoring of cost and sustainability of biomass fuel for St Mary’s. Development of cost mitigation options using low carbon technologies e.g. solar thermal, heat pumps</td>
<td>1, 2, 9</td>
<td>Environment Policy / Commercial Services / Unity Partnership</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA12</td>
<td>Review Oldham’s approach to housing retrofit, including participation in GM Green Deal, and submit second Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) return</td>
<td>1, 6, 7, 9</td>
<td>Housing Strategy Delivery / Environment Policy</td>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA13</td>
<td>Ensure integration of NEDO project (Japanese technology) with Oldham College, FCHO trials and location of new technology businesses in Oldham</td>
<td>1, 6, 7, 8, 9</td>
<td>Oldham College, FCHO&lt;br&gt;– Policy, Resources</td>
<td>As per NEDO timescales</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA14</td>
<td>Participate in resubmitted LIFE+ bid for Green Infrastructure in Urban Areas</td>
<td>4, 9</td>
<td>Corporate Policy</td>
<td>LIFE+</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA15</td>
<td>Develop and deliver a behaviour change / carbon literacy programme for high emissions neighbourhoods</td>
<td>1, 5, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA16</td>
<td>Develop a resource to support community renewable energy projects</td>
<td>2, 6, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>April 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA17</td>
<td>Achieve at least a 50% recycling rate by 2015 and 60% by 2025, and a 50% reduction in residual waste by 2025. A 90% diversion of waste from landfill by 2015.</td>
<td>1, 2, 5, 8</td>
<td>Waste Management</td>
<td>2015-2025</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA18</td>
<td>Explore the possibility of extending the Warm Homes Oldham scheme post March 2014</td>
<td>1, 5, 8</td>
<td>Housing Strategy Delivery</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MTA19</td>
<td>Oldham Council to achieve Level 3 or above of the Flexible Framework (procurement)</td>
<td>5, 8</td>
<td>Oldham Council Procurement</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix 5) Actions: Long Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Long Term Action</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Responsible Services / Partners</th>
<th>Funding / Resources</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LTA01</td>
<td>Deliver projects to harvest heat from Oldham’s disused coal mines plus landfill and sewage gas production and use it in district heat networks supplying social housing, public buildings or business parks</td>
<td>1, 2, 6</td>
<td>Environment Policy</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>Maximum utilisation of ground source heat by April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTA02</td>
<td>Deliver process integration and low carbon energy systems for Oldham’s existing business and industrial parks</td>
<td>2, 6, 8</td>
<td>Environment Policy, Economy, Places &amp; Skills – Strategy, Policy, Resources</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>All industrial sites to be optimised by April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LTA03</td>
<td>Develop housing retrofit strategy post GM Green Deal programme 2017-2020 and submit subsequent HECA returns.</td>
<td>1, 6, 7</td>
<td>Environment Policy, Housing Strategy Delivery</td>
<td>To be identified</td>
<td>Strategy developed by January 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>