

GREATER MANCHESTER ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN

Issue 3: September/October 2012



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'GREEN LIGHT' EDITION

The past month has seen the signing of the GM City Deal Implementation Plan, the first meeting of the Low Carbon Hub Board; the green light for a 'Go Early' programme to test the Green Deal & ECO; progression to Phase two of the joint venture with UK Green Investment; agreement to finalise the GM Climate Change Implementation Plan; an energy project work programme agreed by the GM Energy group; and the development of collective energy switching schemes - [read more below](#).



AGMA
ASSOCIATION OF
GREATER MANCHESTER
AUTHORITIES

Please review the Environment Commission web pages [here](#). If you would like to suggest changes, additions or add news or for more information on items in this bulletin, please contact Lisa Hoyland (L.Hoyland@agma.gov.uk)
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GM 'GOES-EARLY' TO TEST GREEN DEAL

Greater Manchester will receive a £3m share of the £12m fund announced by Ed Davey on September 21st to help kick-start projects to test the Green Deal.

The proposed GM 'Go-early' programme is expected to deliver £8.7m of energy efficiency retrofit improvements across nearly 700 buildings by March 2013. Key elements will include:-

- ✚ extension of existing schemes in the social housing sector;
- ✚ creation of loan finance to offer right to buy and owner occupied households the opportunity to improve the energy efficiency of their homes;
- ✚ 50 empty properties in GM will be retrofitted as they are brought back into occupancy;
- ✚ The creation of a network of 8 eco show houses;
- ✚ 1 Public Building will be retrofitted.

[\(Read more\)](#)

LOW CARBON HUB

The GM City Deal implementation plan, signed on 18th September, included a range of low carbon actions. A detailed action plan has been developed to support the Memorandum of Understanding with DECC. This Action Plan was agreed by DECC and GM at the first low carbon hub board meeting on 26th September, subject to Ministerial sign off later this month.

As part of the MoU, DECC officials have visited Manchester to develop and progress priorities, including a meeting on 14th September to scope out work on developing a Greater Manchester Low Carbon Trajectory, and a workshop session on 19th September to input to the development of the Energy and Buildings Themes of the GM Climate Change Implementation Plan.

Meetings have also been arranged with BIS and DEFRA to progress shared priorities during the autumn. [\(Read more\)](#)

GM CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

An ambitious plan to bring together the collective climate change actions of Greater Manchester's Authorities; key private sector companies, education and wider group of organisations is on the way to completion. A short narrative plan with high level actions has been drafted for approval by the Environment Commission. The team are now considering the options for making the 1,000 line project list available for review by its contributors. [\(Read more\)](#)

LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP

It is proposed that the first formal LNP Board meeting will take place in early November following a national DEFRA workshop and North West LNP's meeting in early October. [\(Read more\)](#)

SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION (SCP)

The first meeting of the SCP Theme Group was on the 7th September facilitated by the ENWORKS partnership Board. The group identified 10 core components of SCP namely: Food; Domestic Consumption; Transport; Business Supply Chains; Commercial and Industrial Waste; Public Sector procurement; Water; Business Resource Efficiency; Eco-innovation and Design.

ENWORKS have recently updated the figures in their Local Impact Reports to show the positive economic (£52m savings) and environmental impacts (217,200 tCO₂e) delivered in Greater Manchester through their business support projects ([Read more](#))

ERDF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT

The Environmental Sustainability Technical Assistance (ESTA) project is now underway via a successful funding application submitted by Manchester Solutions. The project is being delivered by ENWORKS and is working through the Environment Commission and the GM Environment Team. The project provides staff resource and access to research to help the NW LEP's and their partners establish environmental sustainability aims and objectives for the next ERDF programme.

EUROPEAN FUNDING BIDS

The following bids have been submitted or are under consideration.

LIFE+ - Submitted - 26 September
A proposal on Green Infrastructure (GI) and the role it plays in adapting our urban centres to climate change.

FP7 Smart Cities and Communities - Deadline 4 December - to support work on the Manchester Future Cities Demonstrator project.

FP7 Energy Efficiency Buildings – Deadline 4 December - for “Integration of technologies for energy-efficient solutions in the renovation of public buildings”. ([Read more](#))

LOW CARBON SKILLS

A work programme has been developed to progress the green skills agenda ([Read more](#)).

OUR BUILDINGS

GREEN DEAL PARTNERSHIP CONSIDERED

A Business Case was approved at an informal meeting of the AGMA Leaders on 28th September, proposing that GM Authorities could take a proactive role in the Green Deal market by forming a public/private delivery partnership. Final sign off is pending confirmation of the approach that could:

- Catalyse over £100m of activity
- Generate £36m of GVA
- Support 1000 jobs opening up opportunities for apprenticeship and training activities.
- Assist 15,000 households to make their homes warmer
- Address fuel poverty

([Read more](#))

ENERGY

Following detailed discussion at the last two GM Energy Group meetings plus a series of 1:1 meetings, it was agreed that the membership of the Energy Group and the LCEA Work Package 3 (infrastructure) would be integrated and refined. Invitations will be issued to the new membership in mid-October for the next meeting on 28th November. Bury's Executive Director Environment will represent the local authority Chief Officer's at the meeting. A forward work programme has been submitted to the Environment Commission. ([Read more](#))

Collective Energy Switching (CES)

GM Councils including Manchester, Bolton, Stockport, Trafford and Oldham have developed approaches to CES. The schemes will enable residents and businesses to join together as a single powerful buying unit to negotiate cheaper energy bills.

TRANSPORT

Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM) has completed a project to install a wind turbine at Horwich Parkway Railway Station, the first in GM to be partially wind-powered.

The scheme, funded by TfGM, the INTERREG IVB fund, Foundation and Bolton Council, is part of the EU's Ticket To Kyoto programme, a joint project between five European transport organisations. The turbine is a Gaia 11kW which stands 24.8m from the ground to the tip of the highest blade. The scheme will generate an estimated 26,000kWh of electricity every year –around a half of the electricity needed to power the station ([Read more](#)).