

Sir Richard Leese

Leader of the Council

Labour Member Representing the Crumpsall
Ward

Manchester Climate Change Partnership

Contact:

Jonny Sadler, Programme Director

Manchester Climate Change Agency

jonny.sadler@manchesterclimate.com

15 July 2020

Reference: Embedding Ambitious Climate Change Action at the Heart of Manchester's Recovery and Our Manchester Strategy Reset – proposal from Manchester Climate Change Partnership

Dear Jonny,

I am writing in response to the letter I received from the Manchester Climate Change Partnership on 24 June setting out a clear offer of support to contribute towards Manchester's recovery work and the reset of the Our Manchester Strategy.

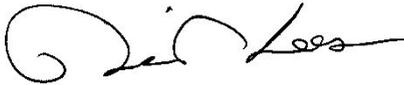
As you already know, climate change is a major priority for the Council and is something we have worked extremely hard on over the last decade through the delivery of specific projects with our partners in the city. In March 2020, the Council's Executive approved the citywide Manchester Climate Change Framework 2020-25 and we look forward to working with the Manchester Climate Change Partnership on the refreshed version with a recovery annex which you referred to in your letter. At the same meeting, the Executive also approved the Council's own Climate Change Action Plan 2020-25 which set out how the Council will half our own direct emissions over the next 5 years and also play our full part in supporting the city's ambitions. Our Plan includes reference to all 6 of the priority areas within the citywide framework and we will be reporting progress against our priorities at the next meeting of the Neighbourhoods and Environment Scrutiny Committee on 22 July 2020 and on our website www.manchester.gov.uk/zerocarbon .

The Council and our partners have already undertaken a tremendous amount of work in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and we are now firmly in the planning for recovery phase. We have been clear throughout this period that our climate change ambitions should be considered within all of the different recovery workstreams rather than being a stand alone topic. We are already taking steps to try and realise the longer term benefits of some of the changes we have seen in the city since March 2020 and are keen to accelerate action wherever possible. As well as addressing the global climate emergency, we also believe that local action on climate change will help to create a city which is more economically competitive, resilient and inclusive.

We would like to take up the offer of working with the Climate Change Partnership and would suggest holding a focused session on recovery and the Our Manchester Strategy reset as soon

as possible. We would also like to ensure that the Partnership is represented in the Our Manchester Strategy reset sessions we will be running with the Our Manchester Forum. The current Our Manchester Strategy has 5 themes including 'A Liveable and Low Carbon City' and we will be using these themes for the citywide consultation over the coming months, however, we very much see climate change and sustainability as cross-cutting themes which needs to be considered across all of the themes along with equality and inclusion.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Leese', written in a cursive style.

Sir Richard Leese

Leader, Manchester City Council

Deputy Mayor of Greater Manchester