



Greater Manchester  
Chamber of Commerce

Helping Business Grow for Over 225 Years

## GMCC'S Commitment to the Five-Year Environmental Plan for Greater Manchester

GMCC supports the Five-Year Environmental Plan and the need for urgent action in the next decade to achieve GM's vision for carbon neutrality by 2038. Early mover advantage will create significant environmental and economic benefits for GM.

Demonstrating our commitment to carbon neutrality, GMCC is making our own pledge:

**To become the greenest Chamber of Commerce by both action and influence by the end of the five-year plan.**

We support and promote the following principles:

- **Decarbonisation** – must be at the heart of the GM strategy and the GM Local Industrial Strategy – it's an environmental, health and economic necessity.
- **Ambition and the "right thing to do"** - must not just be defined by public sector targets, incentives and regulation. The need for action and investment in adaptation and mitigation must be better balanced
- **GM environmental policy must grow the City Region economy** – resilience, agility and innovation is required to create opportunity from climate change disruption.
- **Launch large-scale resource efficiency programme** – a critical business improvement tool that delivers carbon savings, improved productivity and secures material supply.
- **Behavioural change** – must be given equal billing with regulation and enforcement – realistic and patient investment required to effect a long-term cultural shift.
- **Clear and consistent policy focus as GM level** – a singular view of targets and approach helping everyone to "keep an eye on the 2038 prize".
- **Act now for meaningful change** – we need to heat, cool and move without fossil fuels and generate more renewable energy and storage where it's needed.
- **Equal prominence and support for simple, low-cost options** – such as LED lighting and other energy efficient measures which pay back in three years. "Make the right thing to do – the easy thing to do".

Our pledge and principles are a starting point that we will continue to develop and adapt. We expect our members and our partners to hold us accountable to these commitments. In turn, we expect others to be accountable for theirs and to demand the same standards from their customers and partners.

**Clive Memmott**  
Chief Executive

25<sup>th</sup> March 2019