

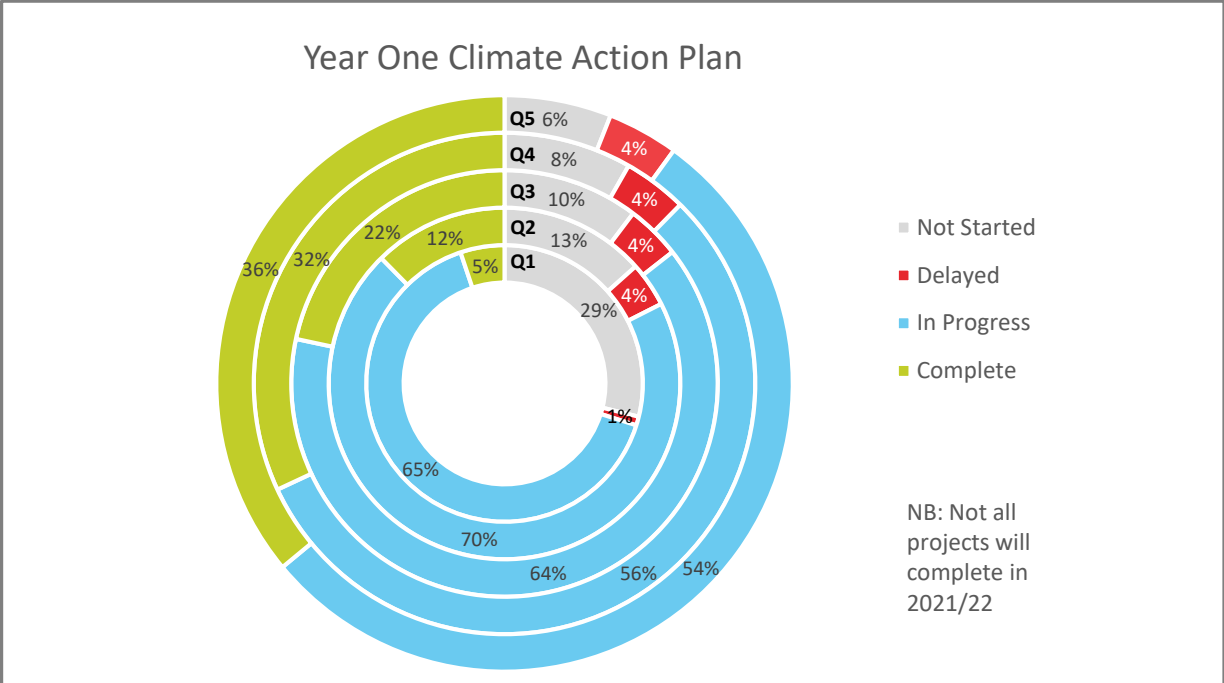
# Year One Climate Action Plan Q5 Report (April – June 2022)



**LIVERPOOL  
CITY REGION**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

**METROMAYOR**  
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

# Dashboard



# Completed Actions (Selected)

Ref	Action	Status	Notes
AQ2	Map the resources and expertise on air quality across the public sector in the Liverpool City Region so that we can better support each other	Complete	Embedded within AQTech Group, links with LJMU
PA3	Halton Borough Council will develop a Climate Change Action Plan to meet the objective of the recent Climate Emergency motion approved by the Council	Complete	Approved by Executive Board in April 2022
PA2	The LCR Combined Authority will introduce climate and carbon impact reporting in decision making and committee reports	Complete	Social value framework which includes environmental/climate impacts has now been introduced.
OA2	10 projects with an environmental focus to complete in 2021, funded through the Future Innovation Fund	Complete	10 Future Innovation Fund projects with an environmental focus have completed.

# In Progress (Selected)

Ref	Action	Status	Notes
GHB5	Work with financial partners to create and consult on affordable finance mechanisms for green infrastructure i.e. municipal green bonds	In Progress	Contact has been made with GM team who brought forward similar approach. Meetings held with providers, potential being investigated for development funding. Secured funding through NEIRF (DEFRA) grant to pilot potential investment approach using habitat banking.
RES4	Work with partners to bid for funding to implement flood resilience projects across the LCR, particularly in areas affecting residential properties and businesses, focussing on nature based solutions	In Progress	Embedded into the UKSPF, particular focus on natural environment/nature based projects. Ongoing discussions with government and partners regarding opportunities for shared investment.
AT8	Review findings from e-scooter trials, followed by a publishing of a plan setting out next steps	In Progress	DfT have confirmed that ministers have approved option of a third trial extension until 31 May 2024.

# YR1 Climate Action Plan Review

Evidence, Research and Intelligence  
July 2022



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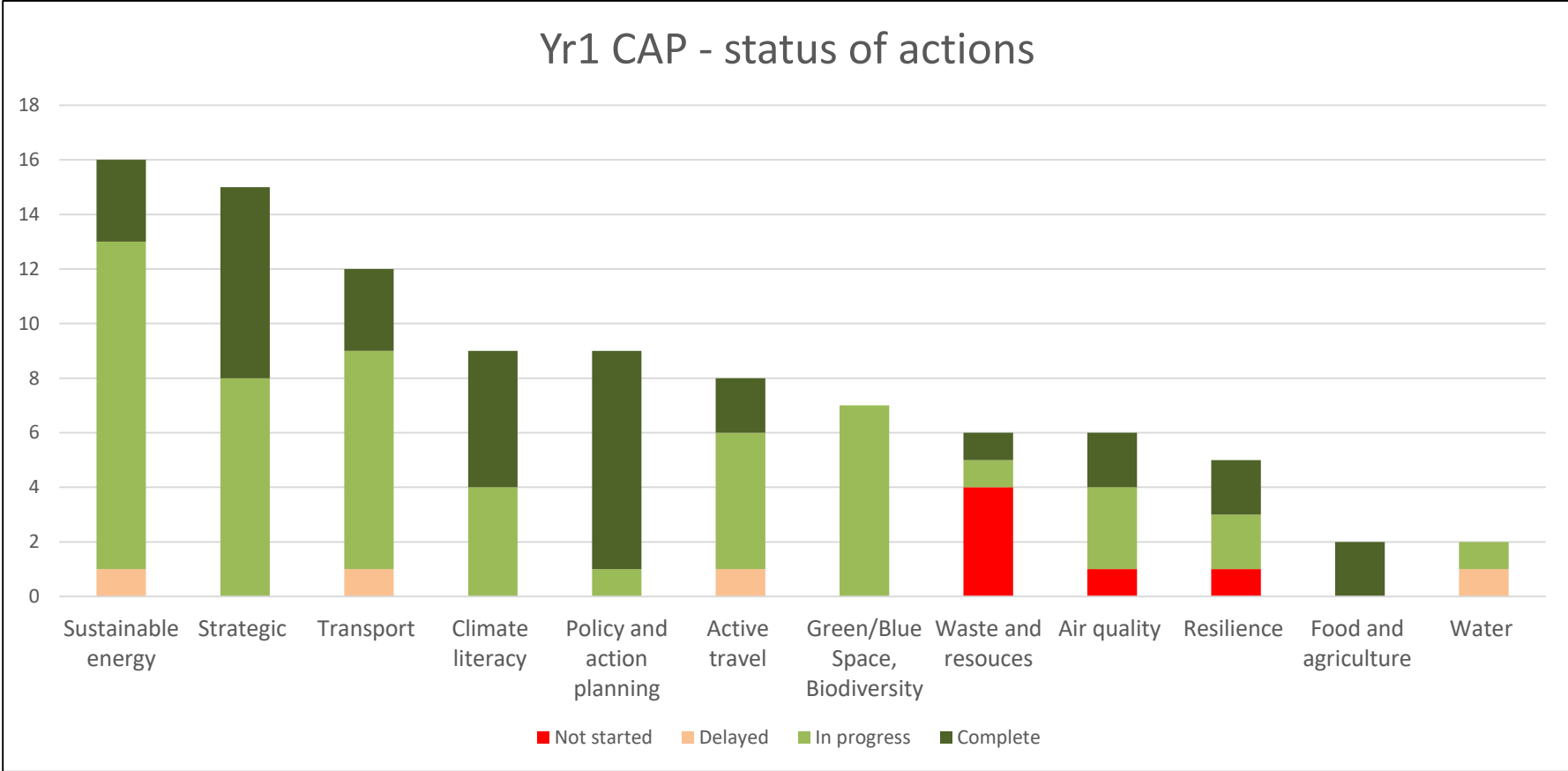
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# 1. Background/Context

- ❑ LCR first region in the country to declare a climate emergency back in 2019. Significant consultation activity with stakeholders, business, local communities ahead of the COP26 summit in November 2021
- ❑ Y1CAP developed in response to MM commitment that the LCR would reach Net Zero by 2040. Start of the journey to becoming a *globally competitive, environmentally responsible, socially inclusive society*
- ❑ Phase 1: Pathways to Net Zero (Feb 2022) subsequently developed to provide a new strategic vision focused on reducing/removing emissions from:
  - ❑ Homes
  - ❑ Neighbourhoods
  - ❑ Journeys
  - ❑ Workplaces
- ❑ Phase 2: LCR Yr 2-5 delivery plan under development

# 1. Background/Context

- ❑ Yr1CAP: 88 (97) actions related to 12 key themes
- ❑ Predominantly LCRCA based activities (70%); snapshot of LA activities (22%); 6% Merseyside Waste Authority
- ❑ 90% of all actions underway or complete
- ❑ Significant progress with strategic priorities; policy & action planning; and climate literacy/education – shifting behaviours



## 2. What has been achieved to date?

### LCRCA Strategic lead and convening role:

- Climate Partnership Group; CA Portfolio Group; LA officer group
- Net Zero strategic and delivery plan documents (Y1CAP; Pathways to Net Zero; Year 2-5 Delivery Plan)
- Embedding Net Zero into Policy, Projects and Procedures – e.g. housing; LTP4; brownfield land programme; CA reporting and investment decisions; social value/procurement
- Provision of expertise to secure external funding – e.g. NW Energy Hub; Social Housing Decarbonisation Programme

### LCRCA Investor and commissioner of services:

- Progression of Glass Futures, Freeport, Mersey Tidal
- Hydrogen Buses and Green Bus Routes under development
- Metro Mayor's Community Environment Fund – 2 rounds supporting 58 projects
- CA Future Innovation Fund – 10 environment projects supported to date



## 2. What has been achieved to date?

### ❑ Local Authority activities:

- ❑ **Halton:** clean, renewable energy (solar farm project in development), large scale air source heat pumps, biomass boilers, production of hydrogen
- ❑ **Knowsley:** carbon reduction in workplaces/historic buildings (Courthey Park; Huyton Library; Kirkby Leisure Centre; Nutgrove Villa – LEDs, Solar, ASHP, PV). Climate resilience through tree planting, SUDs, biodiversity
- ❑ **Liverpool** – transformational local transport systems; active travel/segregated cycle lanes; green buses/bus routes; urban green infrastructure solutions; Clean Air Plan; sustainable energy in Paddington Village (Smart buildings)
- ❑ **Sefton** – climate education for young people (EcoCentre) and resources for educators. Rolling out Clean Air Crew Resources with CEF funding. Embedding carbon assessment in decision making process and providing training for all staff. Community energy (wind turbine proposal); testing appetite for a citizens Panel/forum
- ❑ **St Helens** – transitioning high-energy manufacturing to hydrogen fuels (first hydrogen fuel cell waste vehicle); climate change engagement via Climate Commission and Youth Climate Commission.
- ❑ **Wirral** – managing land to benefit wildlife, aiming to double tree cover; established an innovate partnership model (Cool Wirral) and Cool 2 strategy, set a carbon budget, aiming for silver carbon literacy award (217 trained)

- ❑ **Merseyside Waste Authority:** waste composition analysis complete; Zero Waste 2040 strategy & action plans underway to support waste reduction/recycling/reuse targets

## 2. What has been achieved to date?

Theme	Examples of projects completed /underway
<b>Overarching - Strategic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Pathways to Net Zero' Strategy; Y1CAP monitoring dashboard;</li> <li>• Establishment of a Portfolio Board and Officer Group;</li> <li>• 58 projects supported by the Community Environment Fund</li> </ul>
<b>Policy &amp; action planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon modelling to inform the CAP for 2040;</li> <li>• CA and LA carbon action plans developed to reduce organisational emissions;</li> <li>• LCR partners introducing climate impact reporting into decision making and cabinet reports</li> </ul>
<b>Climate literacy &amp; engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LCR Climate engagement strategy in progress and LA plans underway – Knowsley, Wirral Cool2Partnership/Cool 2 Strategy, St Helens Climate commission, Sefton and Liverpool inclusion of impacts in reporting and training provided for staff</li> <li>• Climate and carbon literacy training for staff and members – Sefton, Wirral, Liverpool</li> </ul>
<b>Resilience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stocktake of climate risk and resilience in relevant plans and programmes</li> <li>• Opportunities for nature based solutions scoped with partners to alleviate flood risk</li> </ul>
<b>Air quality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CA to work with LAs to support a common approach to addressing poor air quality</li> <li>• Map areas where green space and planting will improve air quality - underway</li> <li>• Liverpool Clean Air Plan – OBC underway</li> <li>• LJMU – roll out of real time data collection</li> </ul>

## 2. What has been achieved to date?

Theme	Examples of projects completed
<b>Active travel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the £16m SUD scheme – with 52.8km cycle lanes and 49ha habitat improvements</li> <li>• Active travel website launched and active travel fund tranche 2 schemes underway</li> <li>• Cycling/walking around Runcorn Station expanded</li> <li>• E-scooter trial extended to Nov 22 – third trial extension to May 24 under consideration.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LCR digital strategy and infrastructure improvements underway (dig once)</li> <li>• Merseyrail electrical battery technology trial complete</li> <li>• Lease of 20 hydrogen buses nearing completion (for air quality action area: 10/10a initially)</li> <li>• Work underway with partners (Highways England, Port, major industries) to publish an action plan towards zero carbon fuel use; and with investors/funders to assist transition from fossil fuel vehicles</li> <li>• LCR Bus Service Improvement Plan approved – planning underway</li> </ul>
<b>B/G space, habitats, biodiversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of a natural environment development principle within the SDS – to be assessed</li> <li>• Creation of a new local nature recovery strategy underway</li> <li>• Deliver a LCR recreation mitigation strategy to protect biodiverse sites impacted by recreation</li> </ul>
<b>Food and agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links established with the agricultural sector – funding to support sustainable farming/food production funds (e.g. UKSPF) underway</li> <li>• Commonplace mapping of local food/growing projects complete</li> </ul>

## 2. What has been achieved to date?

Theme	Examples of projects completed
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of water supply/management/quality organisations underway – to identify gaps</li> </ul>
<b>Waste and resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste composition analysis complete – to inform waste reduction, recycling, reuse</li> <li>• Zero Waste 2040 strategy &amp; action plans underway to support recycling/reuse targets</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Homes Grant – LAD 1 &amp; 2 (£11.4m retrofit for 1120 homes)</li> <li>• Modelling to define scale of retrofit needed across LCR – work underway with NWEH</li> <li>• Phase 3 Merseytidal project progressed</li> <li>• Industrial decarbonisation – progress innovation pilots (e.g. glass futures)</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Sector sustainable energy trials in all LAs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halton: DCBL stadium – heat pumps and LED lighting</li> <li>• Wirral: Low carbon district heat network</li> <li>• Liverpool: Paddington village and waterfront</li> <li>• Halton: Solar farm - golf course, stadium, office, leisure centre, depot</li> <li>• Sefton: Solar PV; wind turbine project in planning</li> <li>• Knowsley: Innovative retrofit in historic buildings</li> <li>• Capacity building support via NWEH – energy manager working up a pipeline of projects; supporting LA funding applications</li> </ul>

## 3. What has worked well?

- ✓ **CA leadership and convening role** – climate partnership; portfolio group; officer group ‘invaluable’; Yr1CAP provided sense of direction
- ✓ **Increased accountability** - all 6 LA’s have declared a climate emergency and are working towards becoming net zero by 2030; priority shifted significantly via portfolio members and lead executive directors
- ✓ **Networking and sharing best practice** – facilitated by the officer group
- ✓ **Climate literacy/education** - training provided for officers & members to embed net zero implications into CA/LA/other stakeholder’s policy and investment decisions – is starting to have an impact
- ✓ **Attraction of external funding** – public sector decarbonisation scheme (PSDS); low carbon skills fund; social housing decarbonisation fund; NWEH supporting local projects
- ✓ **CA expertise adding capacity** – CA officers, energy manager (NWEH)
- ✓ **CA leading on transformational change:**
  - ❑ Policy - Housing Strategy; Transport Strategy (LTP4); Air Quality; Strategy
  - ❑ Investment - Glass Futures; Freeport; Mersey Tidal; Hydrogen Buses; LCR Digital JV

### 3. What could be improved?

- ❖ **Capacity to address the agenda** within the Local Authorities – varies from lead officers liaising with service areas to more established/evolving teams
- ❖ **CA resourcing** - to build on the significant progress to date (programme management, active lead officer role, CA leadership); and ability to respond to the increasingly important climate change agenda
- ❖ **CA/political leadership** - to engage and enhance collaboration with other key stakeholders and anchor institutions within LCR e.g. NHS, HEI partners, Businesses
- ❖ **Awareness of/access to new funding opportunities** - key role for CA
- ❖ **Greater co-ordination and more strategic/LCR research & projects** - to maximise benefits/achieve economies of scale (e.g. LED street lighting; PV panels); recognition different starting points
- ❖ **More LCR guidance** that can be applied consistently by partners e.g. EV infrastructure; alternative fuels; measurement
- ❖ **Governance/authority** - to push the agenda with and within partner agencies via more formal agreements; use of procurement
- ❖ **More realistic timescales** - for the development and implementation of projects

# 4. Conclusions

## 1: Progress to date

- ❑ Considerable progress made by all delivery partners – with 90% of all planned activity either underway or complete
- ❑ Strategic actions; policy and action planning; and climate literacy/education all particularly strong – which will in turn build the foundations for future activity
- ❑ CA and the Climate Partnership, providing important leadership and strategic oversight role (setting direction, convening) and adding value and capacity to the work of partner agencies
- ❑ All Local Authorities working towards net zero carbon reduction targets by 2030, through a range of interventions bespoke to their local areas and sharing best practice and lessons learned across the LCR
- ❑ Pathway to Net Zero - developed to set out LCR's vision and strategic framework for achieving the ambitious target of becoming net zero by 2040. Delivery plan (yr 2-5) will describe the actions needed to reduce emissions in homes, neighbourhoods, journeys, workplaces.

# 4. Conclusions

## 2: Implications for LCR Yr 2-5 Delivery Plan

- Alignment of Yr 1 action plan with the Yr 2-5 delivery plan to ensure seamless transition of work underway and progression of activity delayed to date (need to retain all priorities)
- Identification and inclusion of actions needed to address new and emerging policy e.g. Natural Environment & Biodiversity and the need for a Nature Recovery Strategy
- Clarity needed re the scope of the delivery plan – is it a CA document (and constituent LA partners) or a City Region plan which encompasses activity from a wider set of stakeholders e.g. NHS, Universities, Social Landlords
- Enhanced governance – nominated leads with authority; formal agreements
- Realistic timescales for delivery of interventions and metrics/measures of success - with clear audit trails that build on the early stage climate impact implications set out in CA/LA reporting
- Continued investment by the CA and ongoing delivery of strategic leadership/advisory/convening role – including consistent city region guidance e.g. EV infrastructure policy
- Development of more cross boundary projects; interventions that go beyond LA estates; more offsetting
- Acceleration of transformational projects and greater use of devolution powers where possible