(E)MISSION: ZERO TOWARDS ZERO-EMISSION MOBILITY IN EUROPEAN CITIES  
GREATER MANCHESTER

The study

To better understand how European cities can transition to zero-emission transport by around 2030, the Clean Cities Campaign commissioned TRT Trasporti e Territorio to model five major European cities - Brussels, Madrid, Greater Manchester, Milan, and Warsaw - in four different scenarios.

The scenarios apply different policy packages, which differ in their focus (active, shared and public transport, electrification of vehicles or a combination of both) and the level of ambition (current policies and plans vs. transformative measures).

The study is meant to inform the debate on the decarbonisation of urban transport and to encourage cities across Europe to step up their efforts to create climate-friendly, people-centred transport systems and cities that are fit for the future.

The main findings

▶ All scenarios lead to significant greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions by 2030, ranging from 55% to 94% of GHG emissions from urban transport. However, only the most ambitious scenario, ‘(E) Mission: Zero’, achieves more than a reduction above 90% and thereby brings the cities close to the objective of zero-emission mobility.

▶ It is very ambitious but possible, to reach close to zero-emission transport in the selected cities by around 2030, applying policies and technologies that are already available.

▶ Measures that encourage citizens to reduce car use and switch to cleaner modes of transport and vehicles are highly effective and therefore indispensable. They include low/zero emission zones, limited traffic zones but also the electrification of cars, buses and vans/trucks and the expansion of cycling infrastructure.

▶ Large reductions in GHG emissions from urban transport provide important environmental, health and economic co-benefits by improving road safety, reducing air and noise pollution and decreasing transport energy consumption. In most of the scenarios and cities, the benefits strongly outweigh the costs of the measures.
GREATER MANCHESTER

WHY ZERO EMISSION URBAN MOBILITY?

- More space for people
- Contribute to climate protection
- Fewer road collisions
- Less noise pollution
- Cleaner air
- Less congestion

HOW COULD GREATER MANCHESTER GET THERE?

Reducing access of fossil-fuelled vehicles in parts of the city
- Low- and zero-emission zones

Promoting active, shared and electric transport
- Zero-emission deliveries
- Electrification of buses
- Working from home
- Expanding walking & cycling networks

CleanCities
The results for Greater Manchester in a nutshell

Per capita t CO2-eq from urban transport

Passenger cars per 1,000 inhabitants

NOx emissions from urban transport in g/capita

Million vehicle-kilometers by passenger car

Modal split based on distance travelled (pkm)

Monetized costs and benefits per scenario

Cumulated (2019-2030) and discounted (3%) costs and benefits compared to the business-as-usual scenario
The policy recommendations

▶ Provide leadership and planning security by adopting and communicating a clear vision and implementation plan to fully transition to zero-emission transport by the early 2030s.

▶ Set a target date for removing polluting vehicles from our urban centres and actively communicate the benefits of such a policy.

▶ Review investment plans to prioritise the provision of reliable, affordable and climate-friendly alternatives to the use of cars, vans and trucks (e.g., walking and cycling infrastructure, public and shared transport, cargo bikes and logistics hubs).

5 measures Greater Manchester should implement

In line with conclusions from other research, this study confirmed that a number of policy measures, when properly implemented, have a particularly strong impact on GHG emissions from urban transport and can thus be recommended as no-regret measures for Greater Manchester.

▶ Public Transport Priority: bus lanes need to cover more of the road network to make the service more appealing than private car travel. Bus lanes that already exist should be extended to be 24 hours a day, and more bus lanes should be installed on key routes, covering at least 30% of the road network.

▶ Limited traffic zones (LTZ): local measures that regulate access by cars in certain areas can discourage car use to and through such places and thereby reduce GHG emissions. Greater Manchester should urgently ramp up its School Streets programme and increase the number of pedestrian zones in town centres.

▶ Electrification of cars, buses, vans and trucks: Electric vehicles produce, on average, around three times less GHG than fossil-fuel vehicles over their entire life cycle, thus reducing emissions from urban transport. Greater Manchester already has a target for a Zero Emissions bus fleet; it must now set the same ambition for freight vehicles, starting with increasing its support for cargo bikes for small businesses. The number of publicly available charging points must be rapidly increased.

▶ Expanding cycling networks and facilities: The availability of a cohesive, direct, safe, comfortable and attractive network of cycling infrastructure encourages cycling, which reduces GHG emissions. We welcome the target of 2,734km of active travel routes as set out in the Bee Active Network map. But delivery of dedicated infrastructure has so far been slow. To meet our net zero ambitions it must be delivered as soon as possible.

▶ Delivering a shared transport strategy: Shared bikes and e-scooters replace short journeys by car and can be rolled out rapidly. Increased availability of car club cars can help to reduce private ownership of cars, in turn increasing use of both public transport and active travel. These options should form a key part of Greater Manchester’s pathway towards net zero transport.

Find out more

▶ Technical report: The full results and further details for Greater Manchester can be found in the accompanying technical report produced by TRT Trasporti e Territorio, a specialised transport consultancy.

▶ Briefing: The Clean Cities Campaign briefing ‘(E-)Mission: Zero. Towards zero-emission mobility in European cities’ presents the study methodology, its main results, conclusions and policy recommendation and can be found on the CCC website.

▶ Dashboard: A dashboard on the Clean Cities Campaign website visualised the main results of the study for each of the modelled cities.
About us

The Clean Cities Campaign (CCC), hosted by Transport & Environment, is a European coalition of almost 100 civil society organisations. Together, we aim to encourage cities to transition to zero-emission mobility by the 2030s and to become champions of active, shared and electric mobility for a more liveable and sustainable urban future. www.cleancitiescampaign.org

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