

Appendix 2 – Route to Zero (R20) Key Lines of Enquiry

Key lines of enquiry are the questions that need to be explored to support the R20 journey. They have been co-created following initial input from the cross-party group behind Birmingham's climate emergency declaration and concerted contributions from the Taskforce.

At this stage, the key lines of enquiry are draft and this will remain a live document that we continually update as this work progresses, and which will be finalised once we have obtained a clear baseline.

Where are we and where do we need to get to?

- What's the current carbon footprint and predicted trajectory for the city and the Council?
- What's required, of the city and the Council, to meet the 2030 ambition (looking at different sectors including housing, transport, food production and consumption, waste, planning, etc.)? This will include:
 - Taking a systemic and holistic approach including assessing how these actions interact with other local priorities such as health and wellbeing
 - Understanding what we need to do, do more of, do less of, stop doing, and do differently
 - Understanding things on a granular level as well understanding the big picture (e.g. how many homes need retrofitting and by when, and how much additional local funding, capacity and skills training (among other things) would be needed to meet these objectives)
 - Looking at adaptation as well as mitigation including how action to reduce emissions can increase climate resilience and adaptation and vice versa
 - Thinking short and long-term and understanding how we can make the most impact
 - Understanding how we can embed sustainability in decision-making and ensure decision-making is consistent with R20
- What are the barriers to achieving the ambition (e.g. current and future investment, existing policies, existing plans, etc.) and what needs to change to overcome these barriers?
- What's needed to transition to the new economy (e.g. support for our communities and businesses, bridge funding, investment, infrastructure, types of jobs, etc.) and what are the interdependencies?
- What can be done at city and regional level, and what needs to be done at a national level?
- How we can build a case for investment in alignment with city and regional models?

What are the levers and opportunities?

- What are the Council's and partners' own levers and enablers (e.g. resources, assets, powers, partnerships, etc.) and how we can make the most of them?
- What are the opportunities for collaboration and cooperation (e.g. across local authorities, partners, anchor institutions, businesses, groups engaged in climate action, etc.)?
- What are the key opportunities and opportunity areas (e.g. devolution, investment, Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, global partnerships, sector growth, etc.) and how can we leverage these?

- Who are the influencers or key players in the city and region, and how we can influence them?

What will the impact be on communities?

- What are the needs of different communities and groups and how we can reconcile these needs with the need to act on climate? Within this is the acknowledgement that the city's communities are not homogenous and R20 will have different impacts on different communities, particularly for those which are already disadvantaged.
- What are the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts on our communities and businesses of R20 and how can these be mitigated to ensure nobody is left behind?
- What are the benefits of R20 (e.g. on housing, transport, health, etc.) and how can these be meaningfully conveyed to citizens?

How should we engage with communities and how can we support positive behaviour change?

- How can we best communicate and engage with citizens, businesses, partners, and others on this agenda and how can we build collective agency for change, including supporting them to understand that how things currently are isn't sustainable and that change is required now?
- How do we meet the needs of local communities to deliver a R20 plan that resonates with their goals and work with them in an active and meaningful way, enabling them to take more responsibility for their own emissions and shape their own sustainable future?
- What needs to be in place to drive positive behaviour change (e.g. for individuals, businesses, and others)?

How can we build on learning and good practice?

- What already exists or is already happening that can help to drive this agenda?
- How can we use previous and existing work on this agenda to inform our approach moving forward?
- How can we learn from and build on good practice from other places?
- How can we support citizens, businesses, and communities to learn from one another?