In December 2016, under the leadership of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, the first Inclusive Low Emissions Implementation plan was launched. It sets forth the core strategies that will guide Manchester’s low-emissions transition over the next 10 years, with a focus on land use, transport, energy, and natural assets. The plan has been crafted to meet the city’s 2°C target and maximise economic growth while protecting the health and wellbeing of its citizens. It presents a clear blueprint for a low-emissions Greater Manchester, forecasting a 25% drop in citywide CO₂ emissions by 2030. The plan is built around the following four key pillars:

1. **Transport**: A £500 million investment plan has been established to accelerate a transit-oriented development strategy in the city region. Greater Manchester is the first region in the UK to commit to the development of a New Build Transport Hub. This initiative will enable the construction of 55,000 new homes, promoting a sustainable and inclusive transport system.

2. **Energy**: A comprehensive Integrated Energy System will be developed, featuring three district energy systems. These systems will replace the aging energy infrastructure with modern, low-carbon systems. The city will roll out 400,000 smart meters and 2,500 smart streetlights. Energy savings will be generated through the adoption of smart meters and energy efficient investments.

3. **Natural Assets**: Greater Manchester will enhance its green infrastructure and natural capital. The city will focus on improving green spaces, developing a biodiversity strategy, and protecting the city’s natural assets. This will contribute to the health and well-being of the city’s population.

4. **Business and Innovation**: Greater Manchester will become “the most enterprising region in Europe” by the year 2020. The region will develop a Regional Innovation and Enterprise Strategy and support start-ups to scale-up. The city also plans to create an entire new 6,800-acre mixed-use site in Salford, UK, to drive economic growth and innovation.

The Inclusive Low Emissions Implementation plan reflects Greater Manchester’s commitment to a sustainable future. However, achieving this goal requires ongoing efforts to address the challenges associated with climate change. The city is making significant progress in reducing emissions and improving quality of life for its residents. The plan outlines a comprehensive strategy that leverages the strengths of the Greater Manchester region to create a sustainable and resilient future for all citizens.