

**Panel Chair:** Paul Hamer  
**Authors:** Jacqui Warren

---

**Report to:** LEP Board

**Date:** 19 July 2017

**Subject:** Green Economy Panel Update

---

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1. To provide an update on progress against the Green Economy Panel's (GEP) major projects.

## **2. Energy Accelerator**

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) submitted a revised application for approximately 3.5 million euros to the European Investment Bank's ELENA technical assistance programme. Further clarifications have since been sought from the ELENA Team. WYCA responded to these clarifications on 15 June 2017 and now hope to be in a position whereby the application will be reviewed by the European Investment Bank in July 2017. It is estimated that approval will take up to six weeks.
- 2.2 Subject to a successful application, permission will be sought from the Combined Authority to accept the funding and proceed to set up and launch the Energy Accelerator (EA). Recruitment of staff and suppliers will also re-commence. WYCA hope to be a position to launch the EA by December 2017.

## **3. Better Homes Yorkshire**

- 3.1 The Better Homes programme launched in March 2015. At the end of the second year of the Programme, 2,480 homes have received energy efficiency or renewable energy measures (747 in Year 2), with a contract value of £11.2m. Almost 75% of the value has been delivered by LCR supply chain, with a further 20% by contractors just outside (i.e. Doncaster). In total 35 different sub-contractors have been awarded work through the programme and 204 jobs have been sustained.
- 3.2 Work has now commenced to improve properties in the Holbeck area of Leeds, this is part of a wider Group Repair scheme; almost 100 properties have now been completed in Bradford, with investment of £850k Local Growth Fund, and £150k match funding (ECO and customer contributions). Wakefield, York, Selby, Harrogate and Craven (Phases 2 and 3) are mobilising; works have commenced in Barnsley and will complete over the summer.

- 3.3 The final phase (Phase 4, £1m) projects have now been developed with Kirklees and Calderdale. Kirklees is a mixed tenure scheme, in partnership with Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing and Kirklees Building Services; 290 hard to treat properties will benefit and is part of a wider KNH investment programme to upgrade the thermal efficiency of 750 'hard to treat' council owned properties in the Deighton/Brackenhall area of Huddersfield. The project in Calderdale will improve 115 hard to treat properties in some of the most deprived areas of the district; privately owned and rented properties will be targeted. The project is part of the Council's £1.4m Affordable Warmth programme which is also providing heating, insulation and energy advice and support for lower income households.
- 3.4 Phase 4 has now been approved by Investment Committee, thus fulfilling a key political aim of delivering a project in every district. Including Phase 4, the total LGF investment in the Tackling Fuel Poverty programme is now £6m, and together with the match funding, the total value is expected to be over £11m.

#### **4. Resource Efficiency Fund (REF)**

- 4.1 The REF continues to make good progress.
- 4.2 The following table summarises progress for June

<b>REF Activity</b>	<b>June 2017</b>
Total Business Contacts	164
Businesses Visited	160
Assessments Commissioned	96
Type I/II Assessments Completed	79
Type III Reviews Completed	34
Businesses Completed	24
Grant Application Forms Issued	13
Grants Approved	10
Grants Completed	2

- 4.3 Work is now being focused on efforts to convert visits and assessments into a greater flow of grant applications.

#### **5. District Heat Network (DHN) Programme**

- 5.1 The DHN Programme continues to support 15 schemes across the Region. All are at varying stages of development. The most recent work includes energy mapping on 4 schemes in the LCR – Clifton Enterprise Zone; Carlton and Monk Bretton (Barnsley); Squire Lane (Bradford); Southbank, Leeds.

## **6. Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan**

6.1 The Strategy was approved by the Board in March 2017, however, temporary resources are being sought from WYCA to complete the Delivery Plan.

## **7. Zero Carbon Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan**

7.1 WYCA have secured £49,900 from the BEIS's LEP Energy Strategy fund. In total only 9 LEPs/combined LEPs were successful.

7.2 This funding will help determine a clear short and long term approach to meeting the target of achieving a zero carbon energy economy (as set out in Priority 3 of the SEP).

7.3 The main outputs from this work will include:

- 1) Refreshed robust energy baseline.
- 2) Scenarios to understand what the LCR energy economy could look like in 2036 and what we need to begin to deliver now.
- 3) Technology options appraisal to identify potential / current strengths.
- 4) Creation of a Delivery Plan that will highlight:
  - Major current / future gaps to focus on delivering
  - New opportunities to explore in terms of clean energy generation, energy efficiency, transport, smart technology / grids
  - Highlight the regions current and future potential (including an evidence base of current strengths and future opportunities to explore with the wider LEP panels in areas such as jobs, skills, training)
  - Draw out key roles and mechanism to deliver the Plan (including key roles for the LEP and WYCA)

7.4 It is envisaged that this work will create, for the first time, a coherent, evidenced, strategic delivery plan that will put the LCR in a better position to articulate how it aims to work towards creating a zero carbon energy economy by 2036. In the shorter term (next 10 years) it will also identify what opportunities to target to make the City Region a leading edge centre for zero carbon energy (as per Priority 3 of the SEP).

7.5 There has been some slight delays commencing this work. This was due to delays in receiving the grant funding. Work has now commenced creating key project initiation documents, project plans and tender specifications for the research. It is anticipated that a draft Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan will be completed by March 2018.

7.6 The York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP have also secured this BEIS funding. Work is now underway exploring joint opportunities and to ensure alignment of the strategies and plans.

## **8. Recommendations**

8.1 The Board is asked to note progress.