

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
GREEN ECONOMY PANEL
HELD ON THURSDAY, 29 JUNE 2017 AT TRINITY ROOM,
CITY EXCHANGE, LEEDS**

Present:

Wallace Sampson	Harrogate Borough Council
Jim Cardwell	Northern Powergrid
Councillor Andrew Cooper	Kirklees Council
William Firth	Hargreaves Services PLC
David Gill	Northern Gas Network
Natasha Luther-Jones	DLA Piper LLC
Councillor Jenny Lynn	Calderdale Council
Dr Alice Owen	University of Leeds

In attendance:

Caroline Allen	WYCA
Vicky Dumbrell	WYCA
Dathan Tedesco	WYCA
Jacqui Warren	WYCA

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from John Bradley, Paul Hamer, Nevil Muncaster, Simon Pringle, Councillor Andrew Waller and John Williams.

Wallace Simpson chaired the meeting in Paul Hamer's absence.

Members congratulated Paul Hamer on his appointment as CEO of Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd, which he is due to take up on 31 July 2017.

2. Draft minutes of the meeting of the Green Economy Panel held on Tuesday 11 April 2017

Resolved: That the notes of the Green Economy Panel held on 11 April 2017 be approved.

3. Declarations of interest

Panel member Natasha Luther-Jones declared an interest in the Energy Accelerator (EA) project, in light of the fact that DLA Piper were part of a consortium interested in supplying services for the EA.

4. Governance

The Panel considered a report on governance arrangements which was presented by WYCA's Head of Legal and Governance Services.

The Panel were informed of the proposal to integrate the LEP Panels, including the Investment Panel, into WYCA's decision making structure with the principal advantages of streamlining decision making, increasing accountability and transparency and having direct private sector involvement in WYCA decision making.

The Panel discussed the implications of the changes and noted that a report on the proposals was approved by WYCA on 29 June, meaning that the Green Economy Panel would be appointed as an advisory committee of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority with effect from 1 September 2017.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

5. Green Economy Panel Action Plan update

The Panel considered an update report on progress towards the targets identified in the Green Economy Panel Action Plan, agreed at its meeting of 7 February 2017.

Due to some short term capacity issues within WYCA's Energy and Environmental Resilience (EER) Team it was proposed that its delivery priorities be adjusted in the short-term as outlined in the submitted report.

Pending the conclusion of a directorate restructure, it was likely that additional resources would be made available to support the work of the EER and the Panel. It was therefore proposed that a further review of resources be carried out on the Action Plan and a paper brought back to the Panel at that time.

Resolved:

- (i) That the proposed short term delivery priorities for the Green Economy Panel Action Plan, as outlined at 2.11 of the submitted report, be approved.
- (ii) That on completion of the directorate restructure, a paper be brought back to the Panel outlining the new resources available and any implications for the Action Plan.

6. Green Economy Panel projects update

The Panel considered a report providing an update on the progress of major projects currently being delivered under the Strategic Economic Plan's priority 3 including:

- Energy Accelerator
- Better Homes Programme
- Resource Efficiency Fund

- District Heat Programme
- Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery Plan
- Zero Carbon Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That it be noted that all project, programme and steering boards established to support Panel projects would need to be reviewed in light of recent changes to the governance arrangements for LEP Panels.

7. Green and Blue Infrastructure Delivery Plan

The Panel considered a report providing an update on the progress of the refreshed Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) Strategy and Delivery Plan for the Leeds City Region, including potential resources to support delivery by the end of 2017.

Resolved: That the progress to develop the GBI Strategy and Delivery Plan be noted.

8. Industrial Strategy consultation response

The Panel was provided with a copy of the Leeds City Region response to Government's Industrial Strategy green paper.

Resolved: That the joint WYCA / LEP response to Government's consultation on the industrial strategy green paper be noted.

9. Better Homes update

The Panel considered a report providing an update on the progress of the Better Homes Yorkshire programme, including the exception to the baseline KPI targets for Year 3 (2017/18); and the Tackling Fuel Poverty programme.

Members received an overview of actions taken since the Grenfell Tower disaster to review the cladding fitted to high rise buildings as part of projects delivered by the programme, and in the Leeds City Region more broadly.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress of Better Homes Yorkshire following the completion of Year 2 of the Programme be noted.
- (ii) That the progress of the Tackling Fuel Poverty Programme, including the recommendation of WYCA Investment Committee to approve LGF investment of £1m in Phase 4 projects in Kirklees and Calderdale, be noted.
- (iii) That the exception to contract KPIs in Year 3, to be implemented in-line with Schedule 11 of the Framework Agreement between WYCA and Keepmoat, be

noted.

10. Any other business

- Panel members were informed that ESIF Priority 4 bid stream was now open, in the event that members were aware of any eligible projects.
- Panel member David Gill gave an informal update on the progress of the emerging H21 project.
- Panel member Wallace Sampson informed members that he would be standing down as the GEP representative on the ESIF Sub-Committee which would therefore require new representation from the Panel. This would be picked up during the September meeting.
- The Panel were informed that, in line with the Industrial Strategy, the LEP Board had asked officers to consider whether the SEP might be refreshed. A report was expected at the next LEP Board meeting in September.