

CLIMATE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 2.00 PM ON TUESDAY, 21 MARCH 2023
IN MEETING ROOM 1 WELLINGTON HOUSE, WELLINGTON STREET,
LEEDS LS1 1DE**

A G E N D A

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- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DECLARATION OF DISPOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**
- 3. EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**
- 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2023**
(Pages 1 - 4)
- 5. CHAIR'S BRIEF**
- 6. MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK**
(Pages 5 - 8)
- 7. PROJECT APPROVALS**
(Pages 9 - 38)
- 8. LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY**
(Pages 39 - 46)
- 9. FLOODING UPDATE**

(Pages 47 - 54)

10. BETTER HOMES HUB UPDATE

(Pages 55 - 64)

11. PLEDGE DELIVERY UPDATE

(Pages 65 - 74)

12. MONITORING INDICATORS

(Pages 75 - 90)

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'BSM' in a stylized, cursive font, with a horizontal line underneath.

**Chief Executive
West Yorkshire Combined Authority**



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CLIMATE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON TUESDAY, 10 JANUARY 2023 AT WELLINGTON HOUSE,
WELLINGTON STREET, LEEDS LS1 2DE**

Present:

Mark Roberts (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Andrew Cooper
Councillor Katie Dye
Richard Goodfellow
Gideon Richards
Jim Cardwell

LEP
Kirklees Council
Leeds City Council
Private Sector Representative
Private Sector Representative
Advisory Representative

In attendance:

Martyn Broadest
Ben Kearns
Sara Brook
Noel Collings
Emma Longbottom
Liz Hunter
Peter Glover
Ariba Rashid
Nadia McPherson

West Yorkshire Housing Partnership
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
West Yorkshire Combined Authority

23. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Tim Swift, Cllr Jack Hemingway, Cllr Paula Widdowson, Simon Pringle and Adrian Gill.

The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Chair Mark Roberts.

24. Declaration of Disposable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

25. Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There was no exempt information requiring the exclusion of the press and public.

26. Minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2022

That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October be approved.

27. Climate and Environment Monitoring Indicators and Response to the Cost-of-Living Crisis

The Committee considered a report to present the latest position on the State of the Region monitoring indicators relating to Climate and Environment responding to requests from Committee members for further information relating to State of the Region indicators, plus additional indicators, and to update the Committee on latest developments on the cost-of-living crisis.

Members noted the headline analysis and considered suggested additional indicators and potential value to the Committee in terms of future monitoring.

The latest intelligence was discussed and the implications of the current economic situation for businesses within the region. The Committee noted the action taken so far by the Combined Authority and the next steps following the Autumn statement.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the additional indicators, latest intelligence on the cost of living crisis and the action taken so far by the Combined Authority and next steps following the Autumn statement be noted.

28. West Yorkshire Plan

The Committee considered a report to provide an overview of progress on the development of a West Yorkshire Plan and its fit with the wider policy framework of the Combined Authority.

It was noted the plan will promote the region and be the 'outward facing shop window' to drive the West Yorkshire's story, rather than being reactive, by setting a trajectory for the longer term, ensuring that all partners speak with one strong voice to government. The Committee considered the draft of the vision and narrative of the plan and agreed the proposed next steps.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the Committee considered the draft vision of the plan and the proposed next steps be endorsed.

29. Better Homes Hub

The Committee considered a report to provide an update on the Better Homes Hub Programme and learnings from elements already in delivery: the Community Renewal Fund Retrofit Hub Pilot and the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF).

Martyn Broadest from West Yorkshire Housing Partnership was invited to speak on this item by the Chair as his expertise brought a particular insight to help the committee discussion.

The Better Homes Hub is an umbrella programme which encompasses all the West Yorkshire activity on domestic energy efficiency retrofit. It incorporates the overarching strategy and the projects that will deliver it (both currently in delivery and those still in programme development phases).

During the meeting, officers provided an overview of the Hub including objectives and workstreams and an update on two of the schemes Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Wave 1 and the Manningham Community Renewal Fund pilot. The programme is currently in development phase.

Members discussed and provided feedback on the overall scope of the Hub programme and the opportunities for demonstrator projects and a one stop shop, which officers noted.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That feedback from the committee on the overall scope of the programme be noted.

30. Zero Emission Transport

The Committee considered and noted a report to provide an overview of the zero-emission transport activity and work programme being undertaken by the Combined Authority with the following key points:

- Mayor's West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan.
- Zero Carbon Transport Vision
- Hydrogen Strategy
- Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy
- Bus Service Improvement Plan
- Development of a West Yorkshire Freight Strategy to support the Development of the Local Transport Plan and the delivery of the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan
- Air Quality Strategy for the region

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the update on the zero-emission transport activity and work programme being undertaken by the Combined Authority be noted.

31. Green Jobs Taskforce Update

The Committee considered a report to provide an overview and update on the work and findings of the Mayor's Green Jobs Taskforce to date, including the Taskforce's emerging recommendations to develop a pipeline of skills required for the workforce to support the Combined Authority achieve its climate ambitions and the Mayoral pledge of 1,000 jobs for young people.

Work is progressing on the development of recommendations through the Green Jobs Taskforce and an update on the key themes from research commissioned by the Green Jobs Taskforce to inform emerging recommendations was shared with the Committee.

The Committee discussed and supported the shaping of the emerging recommendations proposed by the Taskforce, ahead of the Taskforce's final meeting in January 2023.

Resolved:

- (i) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (ii) That the work of the Green Skills Taskforce be noted.
- (iii) That the emerging recommendations proposed by the Taskforce be endorsed.

32. Pledge Delivery Update

The Committee considered a report to provide an overview of selected ongoing activity to deliver against the mayoral pledge to tackle the climate emergency.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.



Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: Tuesday 21 March 2023

Subject: **Item 6 – Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

Director: Liz Hunter, Director of Place, Environment and Policing

Author: Sophie Collins, Policy Officer

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1. To inform the committee about a monitoring and evaluation framework that is in development. This framework provides a flexible way to monitor progress towards the commitments in the Climate and Environment Plan. This framework will advance our ability to monitor the impact that projects and programmes are having on our climate ambitions.

2. Information

Background

- 2.1 The Climate and Environment Plan articulates activity that needs to be undertaken between 2021-2024 to set the region on a pathway towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2038. It builds on the 2019 Carbon Emission Reduction Pathways study and sets out 39 actions across eight themes to maximise emission reductions and improve nature and climate resilience.
- 2.2 Development of a monitoring and evaluation framework was commissioned to provide the structure and detail to enable the effective monitoring and evaluation of the 39 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan, and any resulting interventions (policies, programmes and projects). It is also expected that interactions between these interventions will be explored, outlining

potential benefits and challenges. The framework is a flexible tool whereby interventions can be inputted to allow forecasting of performance against a suite of indicators.

- 2.3 Following a procurement exercise in November 2022, genecon were awarded the contract to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Climate and Environment Plan. Completion of the contract and delivery of the monitoring and evaluation framework are set for 31 March 2023. The framework is therefore still in development.
- 2.4 Alignment of the new framework with the State of the Region indicators is being considered. The framework offers the opportunity to provide much more detailed monitoring information on the projects and programmes within the Climate and Environment Plan and is therefore considered to be complimentary to the key socio-economic and environmental indicators for West Yorkshire monitored in the [State of the Region Dashboard](#).

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

- 2.5 The framework will provide detailed insight into how impact will be understood, measured, quantified, and monetised. The ability to attribute benefits to interventions and to demonstrate net additionality will also be key. Alongside this there will be a need to incorporate a focus on learning and best practice in order to shape and inform future delivery.
- 2.6 A bank of indicators and appropriate monitoring and evaluation approaches will be identified to ensure that impact of the actions can demonstrate collective impact against our climate emergency ambitions, as outlined in the Plan.
- 2.7 The framework's dashboard will demonstrate the factual, counterfactual and achieved pathways, in line with the approach taken by the Carbon Emission Reduction pathways, to outline progress against the net zero carbon emissions by 2038 target.
- 2.8 Programmes developed against the prioritised Wave 1 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan will each allot a proportion of their budget to conduct monitoring and evaluation in line with and in addition to this overarching framework.
- 2.9 Updates on the outputs derived from the framework will be provided to the Committee alongside regular programme development and delivery updates as appropriate. This will be in addition to wider monitoring of trend data published and tracked as part of the State of the Region.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. The framework will provide the structure and detail to enable the effective monitoring and evaluation of the 39 actions of the Climate and Environment Plan, and any resulting policies, programmes and projects that assist in addressing the climate emergency and meeting net-zero carbon in the region.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1. Economic, environmental and social indicators have been identified as appropriate to this framework. These indicators will support the monitoring and evaluation of contributions to inclusive growth within the context of the Climate and Environment Plan and a just transition to net zero.
- 4.2. It is crucial that transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy reduces inequality in West Yorkshire. It cannot be the cause of further inequality for our most excluded and deprived groups and communities. Furthermore, opportunities for better jobs and quality of life need to be embedded within the transition to net-zero carbon and sustainable economy.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. Meeting net-zero carbon and transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy should be equitable and not be at the expense of any groups or communities. Indicators which support the monitoring and evaluation of equity, participation and inclusiveness of programmes and policies resulting from the actions of the Climate and Environment Plan will be included in the final framework.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. In July 2022, the Combined Authority approved development costs of £836,240 from gainshare funding for IP4 to fund Combined Authority programme management, staffing resource and technical support for the development of the Climate and Environment Plan Wave 1 project and programme development and resulting business cases.
- 6.2. From this development funding, £15,000 was allocated for the procurement of a supplier to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the Climate and Environment Plan.
- 6.3. The framework provides a structure to calculate and indication of aggregate cost-benefit ratio of the interventions developed under the Climate and Environment Plan.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1. There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1. No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1. That the committee notes the content of this report and provides feedback on the detail presented to support the shaping of the monitoring and evaluation framework.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

None

Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

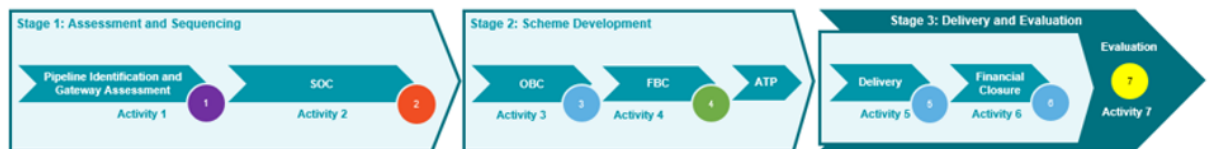
Subject: Project Approvals

Director: Liz Hunter, Director of Policing, Environment & Place

Author: Craig Taylor, Head of Portfolio Management and Appraisal

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To report on proposals for the progression of, and funding for projects under Investment Priority 4 – Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability Investment within the West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS), that have been considered at stages 1, 2 and 3 of the Combined Authority’s assurance process.



- 1.2 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee has delegated decision making authority approved by the Combined Authority on 23 June 2022. Where the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee is asked to make an approval decision this will be highlighted in the summary table and made clear in the recommendations.
- 1.3 The recommendations can be found in Section 12 of this report.

2 Report

- 2.1 This report presents proposals for the progression of schemes through the Combined Authority’s assurance process in line with the Combined Authority’s Assurance Framework. Further details on the schemes summarised below can be found as part of this report.
- 2.2 For more detail on the Combined Authority’s Assurance Framework through which each of the schemes outlined in this report are being approved is provided in **Appendix 1**.

3 Investment Priority 4 (IP4) - Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability

3.1 The West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS) sets out the Investment Priorities for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2024 across six areas. In each, a number of priority project / programme areas have been identified that are the focus for intervention.

3.2 West Yorkshire declared a climate emergency in 2019 and has a target to be net zero carbon by 2038. Investment Priority 4 (IP4) will deliver a range of programmes under Wave 1 of the Climate and Environment Plan, which will contribute to the achievement of the net zero carbon target, with the following programmes:

- Better Homes Hub
- Better Neighbourhoods
- Business Sustainability
- Flooding and Drainage
- Green Skills and Training
- Solar Panels and Battery Storage.

Scheme summaries

<p>Better Neighbourhoods West Yorkshire</p>	<p><u>Scheme description</u></p> <p>The Better Neighbourhoods programme forms part of the wider Climate and Environment Plan (Wave 1) portfolio.</p> <p>The programme will work with the five West Yorkshire Local Authority partners to provide grants of £5,000 to £50,000 to local communities, with a particular focus on those communities considered disadvantaged, to fund projects that will support the transition to net zero carbon.</p> <p>Projects are expected to deliver local clean energy solutions, improved efficiency of buildings, increased awareness of sustainable travel and embed green and climate-ready nature solutions.</p> <p>The scheme is to be delivered through the Combined Authority's gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4 Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability.</p> <p><u>Impact</u></p> <p>The programme's wider social benefits include improving disadvantaged communities by providing funding at a community level to educate and implement climate improvement projects. These projects will increase climate knowledge, accelerate behaviour changes, and deliver infrastructure to improve wellbeing and building efficiency, with a long-term aim of reducing carbon emissions.</p> <p>No benefit cost ratio (BCR) or detailed value for money assessment is available to reflect value for money at this stage in programme development.</p> <p><u>Decision sought</u></p> <p>Approval to proceed through decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and decision point 4 (full business case) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).</p> <p>Total value of the programme - £2,060,000</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £2,060,000.</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £2,060,000.</p> <p>A decision by the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
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<p>Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations</p> <p>West Yorkshire</p>	<p><u>Scheme description</u></p> <p>The scheme will deliver 233-Kilowatt Peak (kWp) of solar panels to seven West Yorkshire bus stations, located in Batley, Bradford (interchange), Brighouse, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Keighley and Ossett.</p> <p>Funding for the scheme has initially been identified through the gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4 Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability as this will allow the scheme to progress without delay. However, a review is ongoing to determine whether it would be better funded through another funding stream. This would allow gainshare funding, which can be used more flexibly, to be made available for other activities.</p> <p><u>Impact</u></p> <p>The scheme will result in carbon emissions reduction by a gross figure of 393 tonnes over a 25-year period and reduce energy consumption from the national grid energy supply, reducing pressure on the revenue budget through energy cost savings of £1,700,000 by March 2024.</p> <p>The value for money assessment reflects a benefit cost ratio (BCR) of 1:3.86. This is categorised as high value for money.</p> <p><u>Decision sought</u></p> <p>Approval to proceed through decision point 2 to 4 (business justification) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).</p> <p>Total value of the scheme - £476,203</p> <p>Total value of Combined Authority funding - £476,203</p> <p>Funding recommendation sought - £366,310</p> <p>A decision by the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee using the delegated authority from the Combined Authority is sought as part of this report</p>
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Other decisions relevant to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Decisions made by the Combined Authority on 08 December 2022

- 3.3 The following schemes have recently been assessed in line with the Combined Authority’s assurance process and approved by the Combined Authority.
- 3.4 The full agenda and papers for the meeting can be found on the [Combined Authority website here.](#)

<p>Business Sustainability Programme</p> <p>West Yorkshire</p>	<p>Approval of decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and decision point 4 (full business case) and for work to commence on activity 5 (delivery)</p> <p>Funding approved – up to £10,596,934</p> <p>Total indicative value of the scheme - up to £21,946,934</p> <p>Total indicative value of Combined Authority funding - up to £11,696,934 with the remainder coming from private match</p>
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4 Information

- 4.1 The Combined Authority's Assurance Framework requires that formal approval is given to the following elements of a scheme as part of its development:
- The progression of a scheme through a decision point to the next activity.
 - Indicative or full approval to the total value of the scheme funding requested.
 - The Combined Authority's entry into a funding agreement with the scheme's promoter.
 - The assurance pathway and approval route for future decision points.
 - The scheme's approval tolerances.

- 4.2 This report provides information required to enable the Combined Authority to approve each of the above elements.

Background to the Climate and Environment Plan (CEP) Wave 1

- 4.3 The Climate and Environment Plan includes partnerships and programmes that help enable carbon reduction in future years. The plan focuses on enabling actions that maximise emissions reduction, improve nature, and prepare for a changing climate in line with the 2038 target and will be delivered in waves.
- 4.4 The two schemes included in this report: The Better Neighbourhoods programme and the Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations are being delivered as part of the CEP – Wave 1 portfolio, prioritised with other programmes at various stages of development, which will reduce and improve West Yorkshire's carbon footprint and contribute towards a transition to net-zero and climate emergencies. The portfolio is funded by the gainshare allocation for IP4 - Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability.
- 4.5 Funding for the Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations scheme has initially been identified through the gainshare allocation for IP4, this will allow the scheme to progress without delay. However, a review is ongoing to determine whether it would be better funded through another funding stream. This would allow gainshare funding, which can be used more flexibly, to be made available for other activities. At this stage however, it is important to note that Combined Authority funding has been secured for this scheme and the funding stream will be determined at the earliest opportunity.
- 4.6 The portfolio gained decision point 1 (strategic assessment) approval from the Combined Authority on 22 July 2022 and approval for future approvals of CEP Wave 1 programmes to be delegated to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee.
- 4.7 As part of the portfolio's decision point 1 (strategic assessment) approval at Combined Authority on 22 July 2022, development costs of £836,240 were approved for business case development.

- 4.8 On 21 October 2022 the Combined Authority approved a change request for further development costs of £2,917,893, comprising £1,507,893 to continue to develop individual programme business cases, £310,000 for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund's contribution to the CEP Wave 1 Flood Risk and Drainage Programme and £1,100,000 as part of the CEP Wave 1 Business Sustainability Package to provide immediate support to businesses with the cost-of-living crisis.
- 4.9 On 08 December 2022, the Combined Authority approved up to a further £10,596,934 for the Business Sustainability Package.
- 4.10 With approval being sought through this report for £2,060,000 for the Better Neighbourhoods programme, this would bring the total CEP Wave 1 portfolio approval to £16,411,067.
- 4.11 Although funding for the Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations scheme has initially been identified through the gainshare allocation for IP4, as the funding stream has not been determined yet, the scheme has not been included in the CEP Wave 1 portfolio approval total above.

Projects in Stage 1: Assessment and Sequencing

- 4.12 There are no schemes to review at this stage.

Projects in Stage 2: Scheme development

Project Title	Better Neighbourhoods
Stage	2 (scheme development)
Decision Point	2 (strategic outline case) and 4 (full business case)

Is this a key decision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:		
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Background

- 4.13 Better Neighbourhoods is a grant funding programme, which will be delivered by the five West Yorkshire local authorities.
- 4.14 By December 2024, the programme will contribute to a transition to net-zero carbon by investing a minimum of £1,700,000 in neighbourhood-level projects which engage communities in at least one of the following:
- Local, clean, and flexible energy solutions
 - Healthy, affordable, and efficient buildings
 - Walking, cycling and public transport
 - Green and climate-ready nature solutions.
- 4.15 Funding will be allocated to local authorities based on population, with grants from £5,000 - £50,000 awarded to community level organisations, for projects which evidence an ability to support net zero activity under at least one of the following buildings, energy, nature, transport, and climate resilience.
- 4.16 Each project must demonstrate a positive impact on at least one disadvantaged community and will aim to reduce West Yorkshire’s carbon emissions such as installing bicycle storage to promote sustainable travel or installing solar panels on community buildings, complementing other CEP Wave 1 schemes installing solar panels.
- 4.17 The programme uses the term disadvantaged to describe communities that live in areas within the 10% most deprived in England, according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) - equivalent to more than half a million people,

more than one in five people in West Yorkshire - or identify as having one or more of the nine protected characteristics.

- 4.18 The programme aligns to the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF), specifically Priority 4 “Tackling the Climate Emergency” and the Mayoral pledge to “Tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment”.
- 4.19 By March 2025, the programme will evaluate the effectiveness of engaging communities, encouraging behaviour change and reducing carbon emissions, providing information so that projects can be replicated or scaled-up for to take advantage of future funding opportunities.
- 4.20 A summary of the scheme’s business case is included in **Appendix 2**.

Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 4.21 Community buildings will be fitted with sustainable technologies to reduce natural gas consumption, reduce electricity consumption and / or improve energy efficiency. These improvements are likely to have long term impacts on reducing carbon emissions.
- 4.22 Sustainable travel will be promoted, through for example, bicycle storage installed within the community.
- 4.23 The programme will increase community knowledge on the importance of a transition to net zero, how to participate and will accelerate behaviour change.
- 4.24 A Stage 1 Carbon Impact Assessment has been undertaken. Carbon savings / increases have not been calculated but are expected to be included in the programme’s evaluation.

Outputs and Benefits

- 4.25 The scheme outputs and benefits include:
 - Contributing to a just transition to net zero by ensuring that all projects can demonstrate a positive impact on a least one disadvantaged community across West Yorkshire by December 2024
 - Inspire behaviour change and educate at the community level whilst contributing to improved community assets and improved sense of place
 - Partnering with voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations across West Yorkshire for projects which evidence an ability to support net zero activity under at least one of the four themes of Better Neighbourhoods – buildings, energy, nature and transport
 - Sustainable energy improvements in up to 10 community buildings
 - Contribute to the development of up to 10 clean energy generation projects
 - Deliver up to 10 schemes which results in reported increases in public transport use, walking and cycling

- Deliver up to 10 projects which increase community access to green space and nature.

Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.26 The programme is aware that transitioning to net-zero means the risks, costs, benefits, and impacts may be distributed unequally in society, as incentives and newer technologies are adopted by wealthier individuals and communities with greater capability and capacity.
- 4.27 The programme aims to target disadvantaged communities to overcome barriers to accessing climate resilience funds, contributing to better physical and mental health at a community level. Although projects can support any type of community, each project must demonstrate some positive impact on at least one disadvantaged community.
- 4.28 Delivery partners will also provide additional support at the application stage to those voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations that require it.

Equality and Diversity Implications

- 4.29 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken for the scheme and equality and diversity impacts taken account of as part of the development of the scheme and the business case development. The EqIA found that the programme will positively impact the majority of protected characteristics, particularly age, sex, and disability.
- 4.30 Following the EqIA, a programme action plan has been created which sets out the need for more engagement with communities as part of project development. The plan also states that case studies will be developed to inform future projects and a communications and marketing strategy will be developed which considers the needs of protected groups.
- 4.31 EDI will also be included in funding agreements between the Combined Authority and each Local Authority.

Risks

- 4.32 The scheme risks include:
- Increases in materials and labour costs mean there is a risk schemes may be financially limited. This is mitigated by using the latest cost estimates throughout business case development, with risk and contingency built in at a project-level, to cover unforeseen increases in costs.
 - Local Authorities experiencing resource and capacity issues which impact on programme delivery timeframes, and the programme being undersubscribed because communities are not engaged, do not know that grants are available or do not have the support they need to apply for grants. This will be mitigated by the partnership approaches that have been agreed with each Local Authority and regular task and finish group meetings. Monitoring and evaluation is also built into the programme so there is flexibility to ensure delivery is maximised.

Costs

- 4.33 The total scheme costs are £2,060,000.
- 4.34 The Combined Authority's contribution is £2,060,000 from the gainshare allocation for IP4.
- 4.35 The Combined Authority will need to enter into a funding agreement with each local authority, for expenditure up to the allocations outlined in the table below.
- 4.36 Each local authority's allocation has been determined based on population and will cover overheads associated with delivering the programme, capped at 10% of its allocation, and grant funding for projects. The Combined Authority will need to enter into a funding agreement with each local authority, for expenditure up to the allocations outlined in the table below:

Bradford	£397,324
Calderdale	£155,475
Kirklees	£310,950
Leeds	£604,624
Wakefield	£259,125
Total	£1,727,498

- 4.37 The remainder of the costs, totalling £332,502, comprise £118,348 for the Combined Authority's programme development and programme management costs, £63,800 for the evaluation, including inflation and a further £150,354 held centrally by the Combined Authority for local authorities to access additional funding where demand exceeds initial district allocations. Allocations from this additional funding will be overseen the programme steering group.

Assurance Pathway and Approval Route

Assurance pathway	Approval route	Forecast approval date
2 (strategic outline case) and 4 (full business case)	Recommendation: Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team Decision: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee	21/03/2023

5 (delivery)	Recommendation: Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team Decision: Combined Authority's Chief Operating Officer	31/12/2024
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Other Key Timescales

- March 2023 - Award contract
- April 2023 - Programme delivery starts
- December 2024 – Programme delivery ends
- November 2024 to March 2025 - Project evaluation

Assurance Tolerances

Assurance tolerances
Combined Authority costs remain within those outlined in this report. Delivery (DP5) timescales remain within 3 months of those outlined in this report.

Appraisal Summary

- 4.38 The scheme has the potential to provide positive improvements to local disadvantaged communities and long-term carbon reductions across West Yorkshire. It is positive to see a climate focussed, grant funding programme being developed and delivered by the Combined Authority.
- 4.39 This programme has strong political support and is being championed by the Mayor of West Yorkshire.
- 4.40 There are concerns over the number of projects that will be delivered as part of this programme. The business case and supporting documentation states the programme aims to fund 32-337 projects, which seems very ambitious for the short delivery timescales. However it is expected that the numbers of projects will be more commensurate with the stated project Outputs.
- 4.41 There are concerns over the value for money position that this programme may offer and how the value of the interventions can be measured. It is however recognised that positive wider social benefits and outcomes are also likely to occur due to this programme.

Recommendations

- 4.42 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee, approves that:
- (i) The Better Neighbourhoods programme proceeds through decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and decision point 4 (full business case) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).
 - (ii) Approval to the Combined Authority's contribution of £2,060,000. The total scheme value is £2,060,000.

- (iii) The Combined Authority enters into a Funding Agreement with each of the West Yorkshire local authorities for expenditure up to the amounts shown below:

Bradford	£397,324
Calderdale	£155,475
Kirklees	£310,950
Leeds	£604,624
Wakefield	£259,125

- (iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

4.43 Conditions:

- (i) For SMART objectives to be provided once project details are available.
- (ii) For robust monitoring and evaluation to be undertaken to capture measurable outputs to be quantified once project details are available.
- (iii) For a full Carbon Impact Assessment (Stage 2) to be undertaken as part of the programme evaluation.

Project Title	Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations
Stage	2 (scheme development)
Decision Point	2 to 4 (business justification)

Is this a key decision?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:		
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Background

- 4.44 The scheme will deliver 233-Kilowatt Peak (kWp) of solar panels to seven West Yorkshire bus stations, located in Batley, Bradford (interchange), Brighouse, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Keighley and Ossett.
- 4.45 The scheme’s objectives are to reduce carbon emissions by a gross figure of 393 tonnes and reduce energy consumption from the national grid, reducing energy costs by £1,700,000, over a 25-year period.
- 4.46 The scheme supports the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) and West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS) Investment Priority 4 ‘Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environment Sustainability’ by reducing the emissions from electricity consumption in the building sector.
- 4.47 The scheme also aligns with the Mayoral Pledge to tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment, by generating renewable electricity for the bus stations which are owned by the Combined Authority.
- 4.48 A summary of the scheme’s business case is included in **Appendix 3**.

Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 4.49 The scheme tackling climate emergency implications are:
- Reducing the Combined Authority’s carbon footprint by 15.72 tonnes of CO2 per year and a gross carbon reduction of 393 tonnes over the 25 years minimum anticipated lifespan of the solar panels.
 - Indirectly, contributes to the reduction of pollution.

- Using the Carbon Impact Assessment Tool, the total net carbon saving over the lifetime is 239 tonnes of CO2 equivalent and the carbon intensity is 502.31 tonnes of CO2 per £1,000,000.

Outputs and Benefits

4.50 The scheme outputs and benefits are:

- Gross carbon reduction of 393 tonnes over a 25-year period.
- Reduce energy consumption from the national grid energy supply, reducing pressure on the revenue budget through energy cost savings of £1,700,000, over a 25-year period
- Reducing the carbon footprint by moving from grid supplied energy to sustainable in house generated energy.
- The benefit cost ratio (BCR) for the scheme is 1:3.86. This is categorised as 'High' value for money.

Inclusive Growth Implications

4.51 The scheme inclusive growth implications are:

- Reduction in energy consumption from the national grid and moving towards more renewable energy sources are expected to contribute to improved environmental conditions.
- Savings made through reducing energy costs, will mean savings can be used to maintain and repair existing bus station and shelter infrastructure, for example such as such as CCTV cameras, tactile signage / wayfinding and help points.

Equality and Diversity Implications

4.52 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken for the scheme and equality and diversity impacts taken account of as part of the development of the scheme and the business case development.

4.53 The scheme equality and diversity implications are limited and difficult to quantify. The impact of the CO2 equivalent emissions will result in improved environmental conditions and air quality nationally.

4.54 Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been completed and no impact on people with protected characteristics has been identified.

Risks

4.55 The scheme risks include:

- Feasibility work being undertaken but it later being determined the scheme is not feasible and cannot be delivered. This will be mitigated by early supplier engagement and using a design and build contract.

- Incomplete information combined with design assumptions impacts design quality which is mitigated by the type of contract with supplier.
- Inflation risk resulting in increased costs which is mitigated by ongoing monitoring of project viability.

Costs

- 4.56 The total scheme costs are £476,203.
- 4.57 The Combined Authority's contribution is £476,203.
- 4.58 Funding for the scheme has initially been identified through the gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4 Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability, this will allow the scheme to progress without delay. However, a review is ongoing to determine whether it would be better funded through another funding stream. This would allow gainshare funding, which can be used more flexibly, to be made available for other activities. However, at this stage it is important to note that Combined Authority funding has been secured for this scheme and the funding source will be determined at the earliest opportunity.
- 4.59 The scheme had already secured £109,893 of development costs from the gainshare allocation for IP4, to develop the business justification case, as part of the CEP Wave 1 portfolio's decision point 1 (strategic assessment) approval. If an alternative funding stream is used, it is the intention that the alternative funding stream will cover the total scheme costs of £476,203.

Assurance Pathway and Approval Route

Assurance pathway	Approval route	Forecast approval date
2 to 4 (business justification)	Recommendation: Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team Decision: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee	21/03/2023
Approval to Proceed	Recommendation: Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team Decision: Combined Authority's Chief Operating Officer	28/04/2023
5 (delivery)	Recommendation: Combined Authority's Programme Appraisal Team Decision: Combined Authority's Chief Operating Officer	31/05/2024

Other Key Timescales

- May 2023 - Start on site
- March 2024 - Completion on site

Assurance Tolerances

Assurance tolerances
Combined Authority costs remain within +10% of those outlined in this report. Delivery (DP5) timescales remain within +6 months of those outlined in this report.

Appraisal Summary

- 4.60 The scheme demonstrated clear alignment with the Strategic Economic Framework, strategies, and policies of the Combined Authority. The support towards tackling climate emergency and carbon reduction has been clearly shown. The target reduction of gross carbon emissions is 393 tonnes over a 25-year period.
- 4.61 The total scheme value is £476,000 and has high value for money with a BCR of 1 :3.86. Governance and project management arrangements have been considered and put in place.
- 4.62 Risks associated with the scheme originate partly from the tight delivery schedule and limited information provided with business justification case submission, for example the site feasibility study has not been completed, the spend profile and budget breakdown and evaluation plan have not been submitted.
- 4.63 Conditions have been set, to address the limited information and inconsistencies, which must be discharged before the scheme can gain approval to proceed to delivery.

Recommendations

- 4.64 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team, approves that:
- (i) The Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations scheme proceeds through decision point 2 to 4 (business justification) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery)
 - (ii) Approval to the Combined Authority’s contribution of £366,310. The total scheme value is £476,203.
 - (iii) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

Projects in Stage 3: Delivery and Evaluation

4.65 There are no schemes to review at this stage.

5 Tackling the Climate Emergency implications

5.1 The Climate Emergency implications have been considered on all projects included in this report as part of their business case development.

6 Inclusive Growth implications

6.1 The inclusive growth implications have been considered on all projects included in this report as part of their business case development.

7 Equality and Diversity implications

7.1 Equality Impact Assessments (EqIA) have been undertaken on all projects included in this report as part of their business case development.

8 Financial implications

8.1 The report seeks endorsement to expenditure from the available Combined Authority funding as set out in this report.

9 Legal implications

9.1 The payment of funding to any recipient will be subject to a funding agreement being in place between the Combined Authority and the organisation in question.

10 Staffing implications

10.1 A combination of Combined Authority and local partner council project, programme and portfolio management resources are, or are in the process of, being identified and costed for within the scheme in this report.

11 External consultees

11.1 Where applicable scheme promoters have been consulted on the content of this report.

12 Recommendations (Summary)

Better Neighbourhoods

12.1 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee, approves that:

- (i) The Better Neighbourhoods programme proceeds through decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and decision point 4 (full business case) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).
- (ii) Approval to the Combined Authority's contribution of £2,060,000. The total scheme value is £2,060,000.

- (iii) The Combined Authority enters into a Funding Agreement with each of the West Yorkshire local authorities for expenditure up to the amounts shown below:

Bradford	£397,324
Calderdale	£155,475
Kirklees	£310,950
Leeds	£604,624
Wakefield	£259,125

- (iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations

12.2 The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team, approves that:

- (i) The Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations scheme proceeds through decision point 2 to 4 (business justification) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery)
- (ii) Approval to the Combined Authority’s contribution of £366,310. The total scheme value is £476,203.
- (iii) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

13 Background Documents

13.1 None as part of this report.

14 Appendices

Appendix 1 - Assurance Framework.

Appendix 2 – Better Neighbourhoods – Business Case Summary.

Appendix 3 - Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations – Business Case Summary.



Project Approvals

Appendix 1 - Assurance Framework

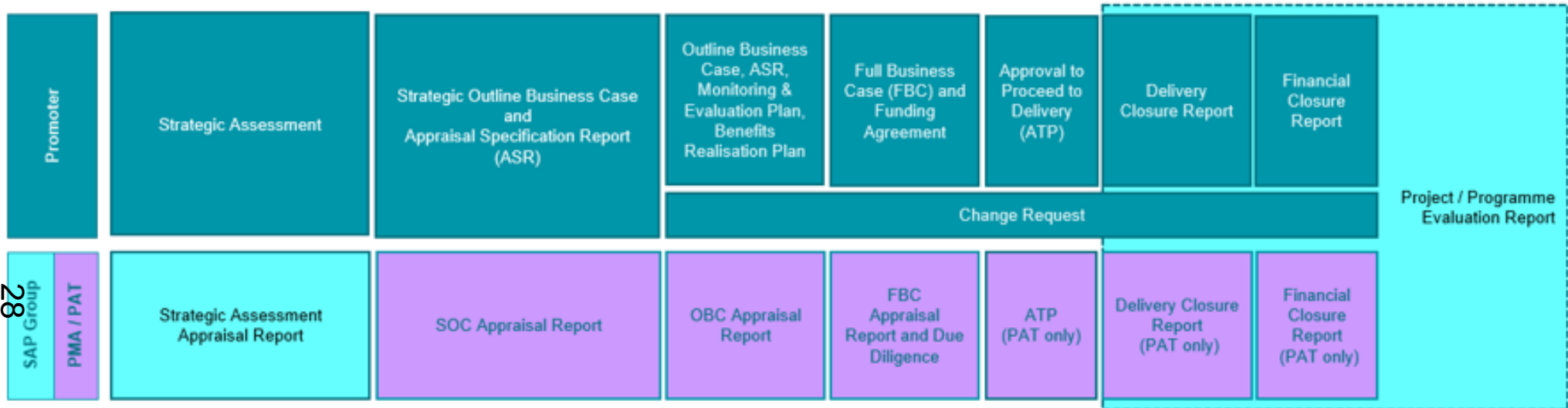
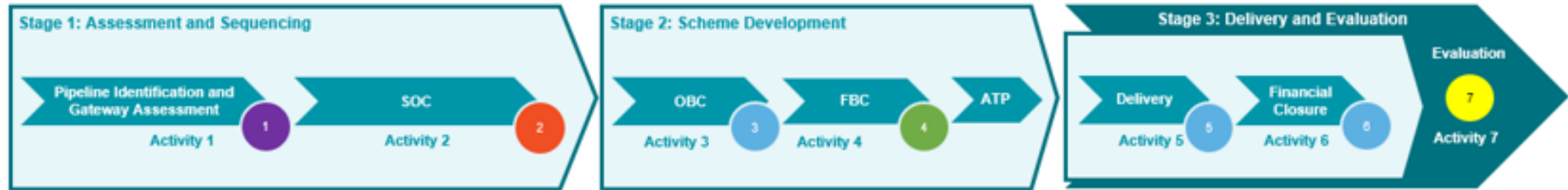
1 Assurance Framework

- 1.1 The Combined Authority's Assurance Framework was developed in 2015 as part of the Growth Deal with Government. Its purpose is to ensure that the necessary systems and processes are in place to manage funding effectively, and to ensure the successful delivery of the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) ambitions and the West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS).
- 1.2 The Framework's focus is to ensure that necessary practices and standards are implemented to provide the Government, Combined Authority, the Leeds Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and local partners with assurance that decisions over funding (and the means by which these decisions are implemented) are proper, transparent and deliver value for money. It covers all projects and programmes funded from Government or local sources that flow through the LEP and Combined Authority and must be reviewed annually, as stipulated by Government.

Assurance Process

- 1.3 The process is flexible, in that each project or programme will be set a bespoke approval pathway and approval route to be followed. This may be to delegate decisions to a Committee, Managing Director (MD) etc. or it may be that certain decision point (activity) approvals are not required, or that bid documents to other government departments can be utilised. Furthermore, development costs can be funded at decision point 1 and beyond.
- 1.4 Approval is required at Combined Authority (CA) for all programmes and projects at least once in their lifetime and this is usually at decision point 2 (Strategic Outline Case). The Assurance Pathway and Approval Route is also set at this point.
- 1.5 At FBC (Decision Point 4), the Programme Appraisal Team (PAT) sets conditions that must be met before full approval of funding is given and the project has Approval to Proceed to Delivery (Activity 5).
- 1.6 In line with the revised Green Book, in assessing value for money, a stronger emphasis can now be placed on the strategic case and how the strategic objectives and priorities of the Combined Authority will be met through the delivery of the project. This might for example include, but not limited to, supporting the climate change and good growth agenda (the Combined Authority aims to achieve net-zero by 2038), supporting an increase in active mode and public transport use and / or supporting / accelerating housing development. The specific approach will be determined on a programme by programme basis as funding and investment streams come forward.
- 1.7 The Assurance Process is set out below:

Assurance Process



KEY: ● Key Decision Point (CA Approval Required) ● Key Decision Point (Committee Approval may be required) ● Decision Point (Committee Approval may be required) ● Decision Point ● Reporting Point

Stage 1: Assessment and Sequencing

- 1.8 Programmes / schemes will start to be developed through an ongoing dialogue with the Region's businesses, third sector and public organisations, in line with the West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS). Schemes will access funding through either a commissioning process or through open calls. Programmes / schemes will be assessed through a Strategic Assessment (an early-stage gateway check and challenge review) to determine if they are eligible to proceed (Decision Point 1).
- 1.9 If approved the scheme will progress to strategic outline case (SOC), where schemes will be expected to demonstrate a strategic fit in terms of project outcomes and set out their proposed approach to establishing value for money (VfM). At this stage, a long list of options will be considered with a shortlist being presented in the SOC. Consultation at this stage will be limited, but will be a key to the next activity, outline business case (OBC) in Stage 2. At this stage, funding may be sought to enable work to progress on the OBC. Schemes will also be required to submit an Appraisal Specification Report (ASR). It is at the end of this stage where the Combined Authority approve the indicative funding, approval pathway and route and tolerance levels (Decision Point 2).

Stage 2: Scheme Development

- 1.10 If approved the scheme will progress to OBC unless the approval pathway set at decision point 2 does not require this. The OBC should revisit the options identified within the SOC to identify the option which optimises public value, confirm the affordability of the scheme, and put in place the arrangements to ensure successful delivery. The OBC should be prepared in accordance with the Green Book five-case model and should include a draft Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and a Benefit Realisation Plan. The economic case must be developed in consistency with the agreed ASR. Guidance will be provided to scheme promoters around the level of detail to be submitted at this stage with regards to proportionality of the business case. The scheme will be presented for approval by the decision-maker (decision point 3) as set out in the approval pathway and route approved at decision point 2.
- 1.11 If approved the scheme will progress to full business case (FBC) which will confirm the contractual arrangements for the preferred option. Affordability of the scheme is reiterated, and the scheme puts in place the final arrangements for delivery and monitoring and evaluation of the scheme. A Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and a Benefit Realisation Plan are mandatory products at this stage. The FBC should also be prepared in accordance with the five-case model and any conditions set at OBC should be resolved. The economic case must be developed in consistency with the agreed ASR. The scheme will be presented for approval by the decision-maker (decision point 4) as set out in the approval pathway and route approved at decision point 2.
- 1.12 The FBC approval will be granted with a condition that the scheme remains within set conditions. Where this condition has been met Approval to Proceed into Delivery (Activity 5) will be granted by the Managing Director (or by an

officer under sub-delegated authority from the Managing Director). If the condition(s) is not met, the project will be required to re-submit the FBC.

- 1.13 A Single Stage Business Case, called Business Justification, has now been introduced for transport and non-transport projects that are either below £2,000,000, low complexity, low risk and / or not novel or contentious. Although this is a single stage approval, replacing decision point 2 (SOC), decision point 3 (OBC) and decision point 4 (FBC), the remainder of the assurance process must still be followed.

Stage 3: Delivery and Evaluation

- 1.14 Once a scheme gains FBC approval and the conditions set have been met, the scheme can progress into Activity 5 (Delivery).
- 1.15 Upon scheme completion, a Delivery Closure Report is required that details how the scheme has performed. This includes whether delivery has remained within the timeframes specified within the business case, has achieved the objectives of the scheme and associated outputs, documents what has been delivered and highlights the overall costs. The Delivery Closure Report will be presented for approval by the decision-maker (decision point 5) as set out in the approval pathway and route approved at decision point 2.
- 1.16 Following completion of Activity 6, the scheme will be required to submit a Financial Closure Report (Activity 6). The Financial Closure Report confirms the final costs for the scheme, ensuring all payments have been completed. The Financial Closure Report will be presented for approval by the decision-maker (decision point 6) as set out in the approval pathway and route approved at decision point 2.
- 1.17 The purpose of the Delivery and Financial Closure Reports is to assess the success of the scheme, identify best practice for future schemes, resolve all open issues and to capture feedback and lessons learnt to inform the development and delivery of future schemes.
- 1.18 Activity 7 (Evaluation) will be managed by the Combined Authority's Research & Intelligence team. This is a reporting point as opposed to the previous decision points in the process and will be undertaken when the scheme is completed for an evaluation of the benefits, outcomes and economic impact compared to the overall objectives set out in the SOC. Insights and learning intelligence from evaluation will also be fed back into policy and strategy in order to inform the design and development of future schemes. Interim evaluations may also be undertaken as required as set out in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

2 Future assurance and approval route

- 2.1 The tables for each scheme in the main report outline the proposed assurance process and corresponding approval route for the scheme. The assurance pathway sets out the decision points which the scheme must progress through and will reflect the scale and complexity of the scheme. The approval route

indicates which committees or officers will make both a recommendation and approval of the scheme at each decision point. A delegated decision can only be made by the Managing Director if this has received prior approval from the Combined Authority.

3 Tolerances

- 3.1 In order for the scheme to follow the assurance pathway and approval route that is proposed in this report, it should remain within the tolerances outlined for each scheme. If these tolerances are exceeded the scheme needs to return to a Committee and/or the Combined Authority for further consideration.

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Project Overview

Project Title	Better Neighbourhoods
Date of combined SOC – FBC Submission	3 January 2023
Scheme Location/Address	West Yorkshire
Applicant Organisation	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Type of Organisation	Mayoral Combined Authority
Main Funding Programme	Gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4
Sub Funding Programme (if applicable)	N/A
Project cost stated at previous Decision Point 1	£2,000,000 - £6,000,000 (as part of wider Climate and Environment Plan (CEP) Wave 1 portfolio approval)
Development cost allocated at previous Decision Point 1	£15,000 funding awarded to the CEP (Wave 1) for a monitoring and evaluation framework, which this programme will benefit from.
Current Forecast Project cost	£2,060,000
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority now	£2,060,000
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	£0.00
Private sector funding amounts and sources	£0.00
Percentage split of cost for all funding sources	Gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4 100%

Business Case Summary

Scheme Description

The Better Neighbourhoods programme forms part of the wider Climate and Environment Plan (CEP) Wave 1 portfolio.

The programme will work with the five West Yorkshire local authority partners, to provide grants of £5,000 to £50,000, to local communities, with a particular focus on those communities considered disadvantaged, to fund projects that will support the transition to net zero carbon.

The programme will provide community level funding to educate and implement climate improvement projects. These projects will increase climate knowledge, accelerate behaviour changes, and deliver infrastructure to improve wellbeing and building efficiency, with a long-term aim of reducing carbon emissions.

Each project must demonstrate a positive impact on at least one disadvantaged community and will aim to reduce West Yorkshire's carbon emissions. Examples include installing bicycle storage to promote sustainable travel or installing solar panels on community buildings, complementing other CEP Wave 1 schemes installing solar panels.

The programme uses the term disadvantaged to describe communities that live in areas within the 10% most deprived in England, according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) - equivalent to more than half a million people, more than one in five people in West Yorkshire - or identify as having one or more of the nine protected characteristics.

The scheme is to be delivered through the Combined Authority's gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4 Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environmental Sustainability.

Strategic Case

West Yorkshire declared a climate emergency in 2019 and has a target to be net zero carbon by 2038 at the latest. Investment Priority 4 will deliver a range of programmes under Wave 1 of the Climate and Environment Plan, which will contribute to the achievement of the net zero carbon target. Better Neighbourhoods is one of those programmes.

More recently, the Combined Authority's 2022-23 Corporate Plan has committed to 'building a sustainable, nature rich and carbon neutral region', continuing support for the Mayor's pledge to 'tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment'.

Ensuring a transition to net zero will be at the heart of the programme, through its prioritisation of disadvantaged communities and focus on behaviour change, engagement education, and inspiration.

The programme will also include engagement with community groups to build capacity for future delivery and funding. Projects funded as part of the Better Neighbourhoods programme will contribute to Investment Priority 4 outcomes.

Better Neighbourhoods also supports the progress under Investment Priority 3: Creating Great Places and Accelerated Infrastructure, through accelerating investment focused on improving places and neighbourhoods.

Economic Case

No benefit cost ratio (BCR) or value for money (VfM) calculations have been undertaken at this stage in programme development. The outputs and benefits of the programme will only be determined once applications for projects have been submitted and funding awarded.

Commercial Case

There are active community organisations in West Yorkshire linked to climate activity, showing there is an interest in neighbourhood activity.

A robust procurement strategy has been developed for the programme. The Combined Authority will seek to procure one supplier for Better Neighbourhoods, to undertake evaluation at the programme level.

Funding for projects will be allocated to Local Authorities via funding agreements.

Financial Case

The total Better Neighbourhood programme costs are £2,060,000, to be solely funded by the gainshare allocation for Investment Priority 4.

Each local authority's allocation has been determined based on population and will cover overheads associated with delivering the programme, capped at 10% of its allocation, and grant funding for projects. The Combined Authority will need to enter into a funding agreement with each local authority, for expenditure up to the allocations outlined in the table above.

Bradford	£397,324
Calderdale	£155,475
Kirklees	£310,950

Leeds	£604,624
Wakefield	£259,125
Total	£1,727,498

The remainder of the costs, totalling £332,502 comprise, £118,348 for the Combined Authority's programme development and programme management costs, £63,800 for the evaluation, including inflation and a further £150,354 held centrally by the Combined Authority to support Local Authorities to access additional funding where demand exceeds initial district allocations. The programme steering group will oversee allocations from this pot.

Management Case

The programme will be funded by the Combined Authority but will be delivered by the West Yorkshire Local Authorities, or in the case of Wakefield and Calderdale, by a third sector organisation.

The Combined Authority will be responsible for programme level activities for example programme level communication and marketing, evaluation and contract management and monitoring. The partner councils will have responsibility for local level activities, including local communications and marketing, the award and distribution of funding including all administration work required and the management and monitoring of the projects in line with funding requirements.

The Climate and Environment Plan Board will be responsible for ensuring the programme delivers its outputs and benefits and will provide oversight and leadership on all CEP projects/programmes.

The Better Neighbourhoods programme level steering group will comprise of senior officers from the Combined Authority and will report progress to the board.

A Task and Finish Group was created with representatives from the Combined Authority and each local authority has also been established to support programme delivery.

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Project Overview

Project Title	Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations
Date of BJC Submission	20 January 2023
Scheme Location/ Address	West Yorkshire (various locations)
Applicant Organisation	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Type of Organisation	Mayoral Combined Authority
Other Delivery Partners and Roles	N/A

Main Funding Programme	Combined Authority funding stream to be confirmed
Sub Funding Programme (if applicable)	N/A
Project cost stated at previous Decision Point 2	£476,203
Development cost allocated at previous Decision Point 1	£109,893
Current Forecast Project cost	£476,203
Funding Applied for from the Combined Authority now	£366,310
Other public sector funding amounts and sources	£0
Private sector funding amounts and sources	£0
Percentage split of cost for all funding sources	The scheme will be 100% funded by the Combined Authority.

Business Case Summary

Scheme description

The Combined Authority Assets Solar Project – Bus Stations forms part of the wider Climate and Environment Plan (CEP) Wave 1 portfolio.

The scheme will deliver 233 Kilowatt Peak (kWp) of solar panels to seven West Yorkshire bus stations, located in Batley, Bradford (interchange), Brighouse, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Keighley and Ossett.

The scheme's objectives are to reduce carbon emissions by a gross figure of 393 tonnes over a 25-year period and reduce energy consumption from the national grid, reducing energy costs by £1,700,000, based on current energy prices, over a 25-year period.

Strategic Case

The scheme supports the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) and West Yorkshire Investment Strategy (WYIS) Investment Priority 4 'Tackling the Climate Emergency and Environment Sustainability' by reducing the emissions from buildings' electricity consumption.

The scheme also aligns with the Mayor's pledge to tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment, by generating renewable electricity for the seven Combined Authority owned bus stations.

Economic Case

The scheme will deliver solar panels at all seven sites and battery storage at sites, where installation is possible, reducing the Combined Authority's carbon footprint by 15.72 tonnes of CO2 per year and a gross carbon reduction of 393 tonnes over the 25 years minimum anticipated lifespan of the solar panels.

The Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) for this scheme has been calculated at 1: 3.86 representing high value for money.

Commercial Case

The procurement of solar panels, battery storage, fixtures, fittings, and cabling will be done through capacity available in one the Combined Authority's existing competitively procured contracts.

Financial Case

The total cost of the scheme is £476,203. Funding for the scheme has initially been identified through the devolution gainshare, this will allow the scheme to progress without delay. However, a review is ongoing to determine whether it would be better funded through another funding stream. This would allow gainshare funding which can be used more flexibly to be made available for other activity.

At this stage it is important to note that Combined Authority funding has been secured for this scheme and the funding stream will be determined at the earliest opportunity.

Management Case

The scheme will be managed by the Combined Authority and delivery will start in May 2023 following appointment of the sub-contractor.



Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

Subject: **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**

Director: Liz Hunter (Director of Policing, Place and Environment)

Author: Tamsin Constable, policy officer

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1. To provide Committee Members with an introduction to / update on the forthcoming Local Nature Recovery Strategy and to seek feedback.

2. Information

Legislative context

Environment Act 2023

- 2.1. The [Environment Act 2021](#) enacted a commitment to a [Nature Recovery Network](#) made in the government's 2018 [25-year Environment Plan](#) to create a national network of nature-rich places.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRs)

- 2.2. Key to this are Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRs) – a new mandatory system of spatial strategies for nature (including species, habitats, ecosystems, natural processes, and the relationships between them). They will map where local habitat improvement and restoration could improve ecological networks on the ground, establish priorities and map proposals for specific actions to drive nature's recovery. They will also identify opportunities for wider environmental benefits (such as health and wellbeing, nature

connectedness, air quality, access to high quality green space). They might show, for example, whether, should the opportunity arise, it would be best to plant trees to expand existing woodland, extend wildflower meadows to create 'stepping stones' for pollinators to spread into new places, extend wetlands to prevent plant extinctions or improve grassland to improve the condition of soil. They will be periodically updated.

- 2.3. LNRSs will have no status in planning or delivery – they will be 'opportunity maps' that will help identify what action would be most likely to help nature to recover and deliver wider environmental benefits in that place. It is not yet clear how LNRSs will interact with mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain legislation; guidance on these areas is expected.

Policy context

- 2.4. Wider policy areas with the potential to benefit by LNRS include health and wellbeing, culture (nature as a cultural asset), climate resilience, tourism, economic growth, flood risk management, spatial planning, and green and blue infrastructure.
- 2.5. The West Yorkshire Combined Authority has declared a climate emergency and committed the region to be net zero carbon by 2038 at the latest, with significant progress by 2030. The [West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan](#) (CEP) – approved by the Combined Authority in October 2021 – is the Mayor's and Combined Authority response to tackling the climate emergency, protecting the environment and achieving a net zero West Yorkshire. For nature and the environment, the following action areas are most relevant:

Cross-cutting

- CC01 Communications, Engagement and Marketing

Natural environment

- NE01 Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- NE04 Regenerative Nature Recovery Schemes

DEFRA

- 2.6. DEFRA is appointing a responsible authority to deliver each LNRS. The Combined Authority is the provisional responsible authority for the West Yorkshire LNRS, supported by a senior advisor at Natural England.
- 2.7. Five pilots took place in 2021 to test a potential LNRS development process. DEFRA published the [lessons learned here](#).
- 2.8. The DEFRA regulations and guidance are expected to be available by April 2023 so that work on the LNRSs can begin.
- 2.9. The Government has committed to funding all new burdens on responsible authorities relating to the preparation of Local Nature Recovery Strategies.

DEFRA has indicated that the detail of this offer can be expected in the next few weeks.

- 2.10 The Combined Authority's agreement to be provisional responsible authority and response to a formal offer of appointment as responsible authority is subject to the cost of the responsibility being fully met by Government. Should the commitment to fully funding burdens change, the Combined Authority may want to consider whether/how to proceed.

Action to date and next steps

- 2.11. Governance options have been developed in consultation with Natural England and the preferred option agreed in principle following initial officer level council partner engagement. This may change once DEFRA regulations are published (expected April 2023). The LNRS process will be guided by senior officer groups and a dedicated steering group¹, seeking endorsement by this committee for Combined Authority approval. The proposed governance model will include an expert panel to advice on the wider environmental benefits. There will also be wider consultation and engagement with other stakeholders and working groups where appropriate. The proposed governance arrangements are outlined at Appendix 1 for information.
- 2.12. DEFRA expects responsible authorities to consult widely in order better to understand what the LNRS needs to do for people in West Yorkshire and to develop this collaboratively. Natural England has commissioned research into participatory democracy methodologies to steer this process, the results will be available by April 2023.
- 2.13. Next steps include: establish the steering group and expert panel in anticipation of DEFRA requirements; draft a communications plan; understand data mapping/graphic information system (GIS) and specialist ecology expertise requirements and how best to meet those; identify existing data sources; continue to build stakeholder map.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. The LNRSs will identify and prioritise opportunities to restore habitats, connect ecological networks and deliver wider environmental benefits. If acted on, these will increase biodiversity, which in turn helps the natural processes that underpin all life. They also have the potential to support wider measures to help tackle the climate and ecological emergencies. Examples include grasslands or woodlands to engineer and control water storage and flow; plants to filter toxic air; restored peatland to capture carbon; tree canopy cover to cool urban spaces; accessible and biodiverse rich spaces to reconnect people with the rest of nature and boost pro-environmental behaviour.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

¹ Likely to comprise: Senior CA Rep; :A Spatial Planning Rep; DEFRA Rep; LA Ecology Rep; Farmer/Landowner Rep; 3 x Nature Rep; One position TBC

- 4.1. Increased action to recovery nature will increase opportunities for more people, including training, skills and employment in existing and future 'green jobs' directly or indirectly.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. Depleted natural environments have disproportionate impacts on people, sometimes amplifying existing inequality due to the interplay between factors such as differences in the amount / quality of nearby nature available to residents, poverty, disability, education, exposure to toxic air, impact of heatwaves / floods, or infrastructure barriers such as public transport and road danger. The LNRS will identify and prioritise opportunities for ecological equity and wider environmental benefits for more people, such as access to green space, high-quality natural environments to restore relationships with the environment and the health, wellbeing and restorative benefits of the 'natural health service'.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. DEFRA allocated a total of £48,500 seed-funding for LNRS preparatory work and help to develop capacity. This is likely to be spent mostly on securing GIS expertise. DEFRA will allocate further funding, but the amount is not yet known.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1. There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1. Early-stage engagement is underway with key stakeholders such as wildlife and conservation organisations, farmer representatives, local authority ecology leads and researchers.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1. That the Committee:
 - notes the work done to prepare for the launch of the LNRS;
 - advises on governance proposal and its own role;
 - suggests experts / stakeholders from their own areas of expertise;
 - considers whether it wants to suggest a representative to join the LNRS 'Expert Panel'.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

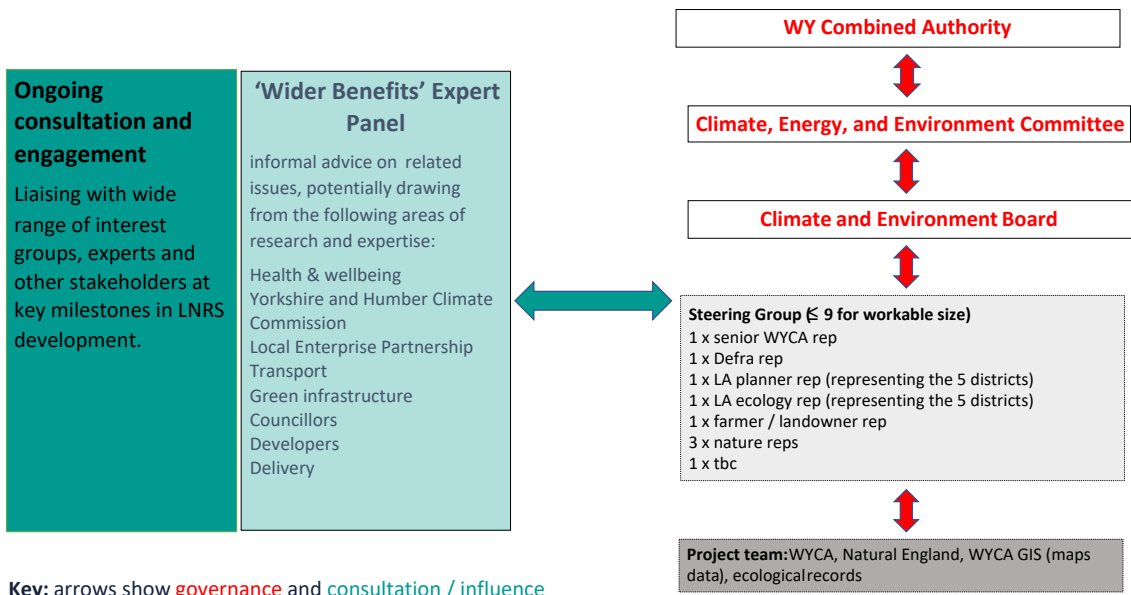
12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed governance structure

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Appendix 1 – Proposed Governance Structure.

Proposed LNRS Governance



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Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

Subject: **West Yorkshire Flood Programme**

Director: Liz Hunter (Director of Policing, Place and Environment)

Author: Justin Wilson (Head of Strategic Networks)

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this report

1. To provide Committee Members with an update on the Combined Authority Flood Risk Management (FRM) Programme and to seek endorsement of the proposed programme prior to progression into the Combined Authority's Assurance Process.

2. Information

Context

- 2.1 Around 5.2 million properties in England (or one in six properties) are at risk of flooding. In West Yorkshire approximately 39,000 residential properties and 13,000 commercial properties in fall within a flood zone. Flooding is likely to become a more frequent occurrence as a result of climate change.

WY Climate and Environment Plan

- 2.2 The Combined Authority has declared a climate emergency and committed the region to be net zero carbon by 2038 at the latest, with significant progress by 2030. The [West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan](#) (CEP) - approved by the Combined Authority in October 2021 - is the Mayor's and Combined Authority response to tackling the climate emergency, protecting the environment and achieving a net zero West Yorkshire.

- 2.3 With regard to FRM, the following critical action areas are identified:
- CR01 Climate Ready Strategy
 - CR02 Embedding Climate Readiness
 - CR03 Flood Risk and Drainage
 - BI01 Business Sustainability Support
- 2.4 The Flood Risk and Drainage critical action area (with a focus upon Natural Flood Management (NFM)) and Business Sustainability Support were prioritised by the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee on [22 March 2022](#).

Combined Authority Capital Infrastructure Flood Programme

- 2.5 The Committee on 19 July 2022 received an update on the Combined Authority's Capital Flood Infrastructure Programme. The Committee endorsed the programme prior to progression into the Authority's assurance process.
- 2.6 The programme comprises 24¹ flood schemes with a total capital value of £245m and a funding gap of £51m, with over 3,700 residential premises and 2,700 businesses premises benefitting from enhanced protection.
- 2.7 The Programme was granted approval to proceed through Decision Point 1 (Strategic Assessment) of the Assurance Process by the Combined Authority at its Meeting on 2 February 2023, including approval of £113,735 development costs to commence work on the development of individual business cases.
- 2.8 Additional approvals by the Authority in relation to the Programme include:
- The principal that £10,000,000 of Combined Authority funding is utilised as 'match funding' in order to engage and leverage funding from other funding sources and that work commences on the development of individual business cases, which will seek approval through the assurance process.
- 2.9 A programme Strategic Outline Case (SOC) is currently under development. Its development will include engagement with partners to refine and review the phasing of the programme.
- 2.10 Appendix 1 outlines the initial programme and phasing for information. This is based on known project deliverability and timescales for scheme and business case development.
- 2.11 The refinement of this programme will be based on a review of project information², availability of Combined Authority match funding and the potential funding envelope for the programme.

¹ Leeds FAS2 is currently on the programme but recently received additional BEIS funding via the Combined Authority. The funding position of this scheme and presence on the programme will be refreshed at the next business case stage

² Including costs, deliverability, funding sources, outputs and outcomes

- 2.12 The team are preparing the SOC for the Combined Authority with the anticipation that project level business cases can then be approved as funding is confirmed.

Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) Phase 2 (Step) 2

- 2.13 The approved Programme included a funding ask to support delivery of Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) Phase 2 (Step 2), which has experienced an increase in costs as a result of significant inflation impacts. However, on 12 January 2023 the Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) committed to fund this ask from the Capital Investment Fund subject to clarification questions. In relation to this Scheme, the Combined Authority (2 February 2023) approved the following subject to confirmation from Government on the funding:
- The Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (Step 2) scheme proceeds through Decision Point 1 to 4 (business justification) and work continues on activity 5 (delivery), subject to assurances on a two outstanding questions from BEIS.
 - Approval to the Combined Authority's contribution of £12,565,000 is given. The total scheme cost is £125,826,000.
 - The Combined Authority enters into a funding agreement with Leeds City Council for expenditure of up to £12,565,000.
 - Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within tolerances outlined in this report.
- 2.14 As a result, the Leeds FAS Phase 2 (Step 2) Scheme will be removed from the Authority's programme pipeline when the above mentioned BEIS funding is confirmed by government.

Natural Flood Management Programme Update and Delivery

- 2.15 The programme included nine Natural Flood Management (NFM) schemes with a total value of £7,100,000. The programme was approved at Strategic Assessment³ stage. Officers are working with partners to further develop the indicative list of projects with a view to submission of Business Justification Cases for consideration.
- 2.16 The proposals are subject to gaining various landowner consents and statutory consents relating to wildlife protection and water management licenses which are being worked up. It is anticipated that the first project, the 'Landscapes for Water' project being developed by the National Trust will be submitted for consideration by Committee in June/July.
- 2.17 Development costs have been approved for the 'Wyke Beck' project to identify options for dealing with a gas pipeline and a grant funding agreement has been issued to the Environment Agency.

³ Included in the Climate and Environment Plan Wave 1 Strategic Assessment

- 2.18 The programme level outputs for the NFM schemes are not fully developed yet but they will include:
- enhanced flood resilience for homes and businesses
 - improved natural process (e.g. soil aeration, peat restoration, carbon sequestration, air toxin removal) for healthier ecosystem services
 - improved and less-fragmented habitats e.g. trees, hedgerows, bogs to support greater abundance and variety of species (biodiversity)
 - improved access to high-quality green space for communities
 - increased opportunities for nature connection / re-connection
 - mutual benefits from tie-in with emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Next Steps

- 2.19 The Combined Authority will work with partners to refresh the Capital Flood Infrastructure Programme leading to a Strategic Outline Case later in the year.
- 2.20 Alongside this work the Authority will develop materials to articulate the benefits, outputs and outcomes of the programme. This will be used as the basis for further engagement with government departments. It is proposed that the £10,000,000 'match funding' provided by Authority is used to leverage further investment from government departments or bodies.
- 2.21 The engagement will not be specifically directed to the Department for Environment, Flood and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). It will be directed to other departments where the wider outputs and outcomes from the programme align with their interests or objectives e.g. Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Department for Transport, Network Rail, Homes England and other regional partners.
- 2.22 The proposed materials will be used as the basis for correspondence and communications with government departments/bodies. The timing of this will be developed but the most impact may be achieved when aligned with programme development milestones, national fiscal events or key ministerial contact/visits.
- 2.23 The Committee are invited to consider the proposed next steps.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 Climate change drives extreme weather events such as storms and prolonged periods of wet weather which cause floods. The programmes outlined in this paper seeks to adapt our communities so that they become more resilient to future flood events.
- 3.2 NFM also provides wider adaptation and mitigation measures by delivering, peat restoration, habitat restoration and wider green infrastructure activities.

These measures offer a mix of benefits including carbon sequestration, biodiversity enhancements water quality improvements and urban cooling.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 Climate change drives adverse weather events such as floods and heatwaves, which significantly affect health and are likely to worsen health inequalities.
- 4.2 The work by partners recognises the importance of the health and wellbeing benefits provided by enhanced flood protection. This is particularly important when considering NFM measures, which can offer wider health benefits when integrated with green infrastructure.
- 4.3 The programme developed with partners will include stages of community engagement and co-development of schemes as they develop.
- 4.4 NFM projects present an excellent opportunity to collaborate across public, private and third sector. As delivery increases there is scope for more focus on engaging with diverse communities and how these projects can develop skills and experience in an emerging sector.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 The impacts of flooding can impact community groups in differing ways, with some more vulnerable communities suffering the most and taking longer to recover. The proposed flood programme will support the wider flood risk partnership efforts to minimise the impact on these communities in the future.
- 5.2 A Stage 1 Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) was developed at Programme level for each element of the flooding work. Project level EqlAs will be developed as part of the project development process and consideration given to promoting inclusivity when consulting on specific schemes.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Many of the FRM schemes in the Environment Agency's pipeline of schemes have significant funding gaps. The Combined Authority has identified some initial match funding to support this programme and is working with partners to engage with government.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1 The programmes are fully costed and have sufficient funding in place to support delivery of the schemes.

9. External Consultees

9.1 The schemes in this programme have been endorsed by the West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire Flood Risk Partnerships.

9.2 West Yorkshire Local Authorities have also been engaged and co-developed the proposed programme.

10. Recommendations

10.1 That Committee Members are asked to:

1. Note the work done with partners to drive delivery of the Combined Authority's flood risk management programme.
2. Consider the proposed methods of engagement with government to address the remaining funding gap in the programme.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Capital Flood Infrastructure Programme (Schemes & Initial Phasing)

Appendix 1: Capital Flood Infrastructure Programme (Schemes and Initial Phasing)

Initial programme phasing based on known deliverability and timescales for scheme and business case development. Programme will be refreshed prior to the next business case stage.

Indicative Phasing	Scheme
Phase 1	<i>Leeds FAS2 (NB: considering the position of this scheme following BEIS funding announcement)</i>
	Erringden Hillside FAS
	Brighouse FAS Phase 1 (fluvial)
	Sheepscar Beck Refurbishment
	Albert Street FAS
Phase 2	Haworth
	Wyke Beck Improvement Phase 2
	Callis Bridge Scheme - Replacement of Wall
	Wortley Beck Improvements, Leeds
	Reservoir Storage (Calderdale)
	Walsden FAS
	Meanwood Beck
Phase 3	South Elmsall FAS - Ea Beck & Langthwaite Beck
	Mirfield and Ravensthorpe Improvements
	Spennings Dale Flood Alleviation Scheme
	Park Road, Elland
	Brighouse FAS Phase 3 (surface water)
	Sowerby Bridge FAS
	Batley Beck Scheme Replacement
	Bradford Beck Flood Alleviation Study (Previously Middlebrook Surface Water Study)
	Keighley and Stockbridge Flood Alleviation
	Horbury FAS
	Todmorden Phase 1 Scheme Replacement
	Mytholmroyd FAS Phase 2

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Report to: Climate, Energy & Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

Subject: **Better Homes Hub Update**

Director: Liz Hunter, Director Policing, Environment and Place

Author: Noel Collings, Head of Energy and Environment

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1. To provide the Committee with an update on the emerging programme of work for the Better Homes Hub and endorse the overarching approach, vision and objectives for the programme.

2. Information

- 2.1. The Combined Authority declared a climate emergency in 2019 and has set an ambitious target to be net zero carbon by 2038.
- 2.2. As part of understanding how the target could be achieved the Combined Authority commissioned [research](#) to understand the different pathways and interventions that would enable net zero carbon to be reached.
- 2.3. The research suggests that to meet net zero carbon 680,000 of West Yorkshire's homes will need to be upgraded to a good level of thermal efficiency (EPC C level or higher) with a similar number requiring some form of low carbon heating system e.g. air source heat pump, to be installed.
- 2.4. The results of this research underpin the Combined Authority's [Climate and Environment Plan](#) (CEP). A key area of delivery reflecting the scale of the challenge in decarbonising the regions homes is out Better Homes Hub (BHH). This is an umbrella programme which encompasses all activity on domestic energy efficiency, both existing properties and new builds.

- 2.5. This report follows on from the update provided to Committee at their last meeting. While that report focussed on summarising the retrofit activity that had taken place in the region to date and providing a high-level overview of the BHH, this report provides more detail on the activities that will be progressed through the programme over the next three years and beyond.
- 2.6. The detail relating to the activities to be undertaken under the banner of the Better Homes Hub is contained at **Appendix 1**.
- 2.7. The Committee are requested to note that their meeting in July 2023 is likely to include requests for funding approval on several projects under the banner of the Better Homes Hub.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. The programmes and projects within the Better Homes Hub respond to the ambition for West Yorkshire to be net zero carbon by 2038 and the Mayoral pledge to tackle the climate emergency.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1. The various schemes within the Better Homes Hub will contribute to the inclusive growth agenda. Fuel poverty affects around 18% of homes in West Yorkshire, higher than the national average, and is a contributing factor in excess winter deaths and affects the ability of people to participate in meaningful and well-paid work. In deprived areas the picture is more acute, owing to income deprivation and poor quality, often older housing.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. Several of the schemes being progressed under the banner of Better Homes Hub are focussed on the social housing sector which tends to have a greater diversity than other tenures. That being said equalities and diversity considerations will be integrated and embedded within all the schemes progressed as part of Better Homes Hub.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Funding for the Better Homes Hub will be provided from the indicative £40 million allocated to Investment Priority 4 by the Combined Authority in February 2022.
- 6.2. In [February 2023](#) the Combined Authority confirmed an indicative potential funding envelope of between £10 million and £13 million for the Better Homes Hub.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1. An internal team has been established to oversee the development and delivery of the Better Homes Hub programme. This is comprised of 4.6 FTEs across the Place and Environment and Economic Implementation Teams.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1. The Better Homes Hub programme is a partnership across several stakeholders and organisations. The development and delivery of the programme has and will continue to be undertaken with stakeholders.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1. That the Committee notes the contents of the report and its associated Appendix, including the intention to bring several funding approvals to the Committee's July 2023 meeting.
- 10.2. That the Committee endorses the overarching approach to the delivery of the programme and its vision and objectives.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Better Homes Hub: Programme Activity

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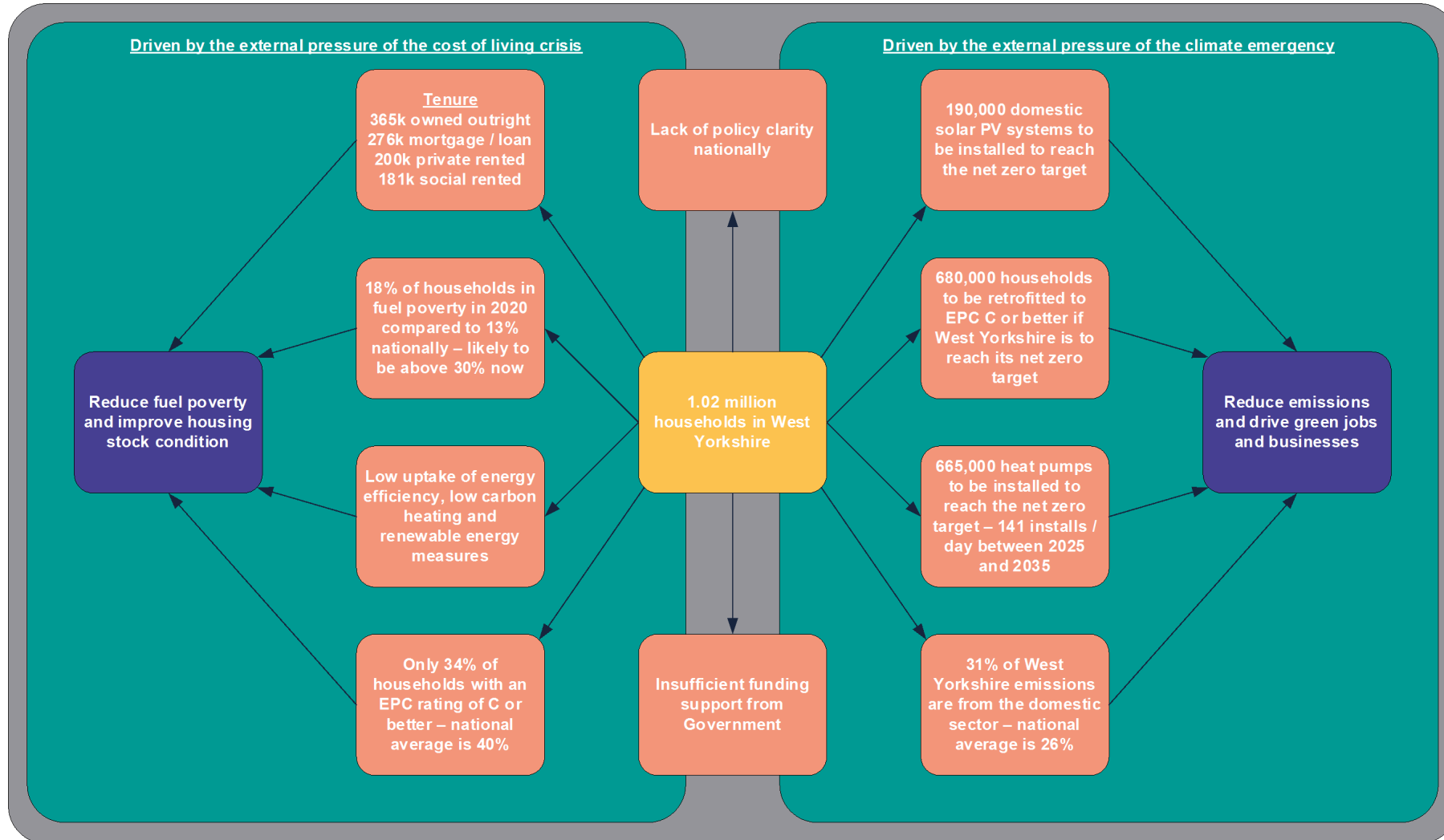
59 **Better Homes Hub**

Emerging programme of activity

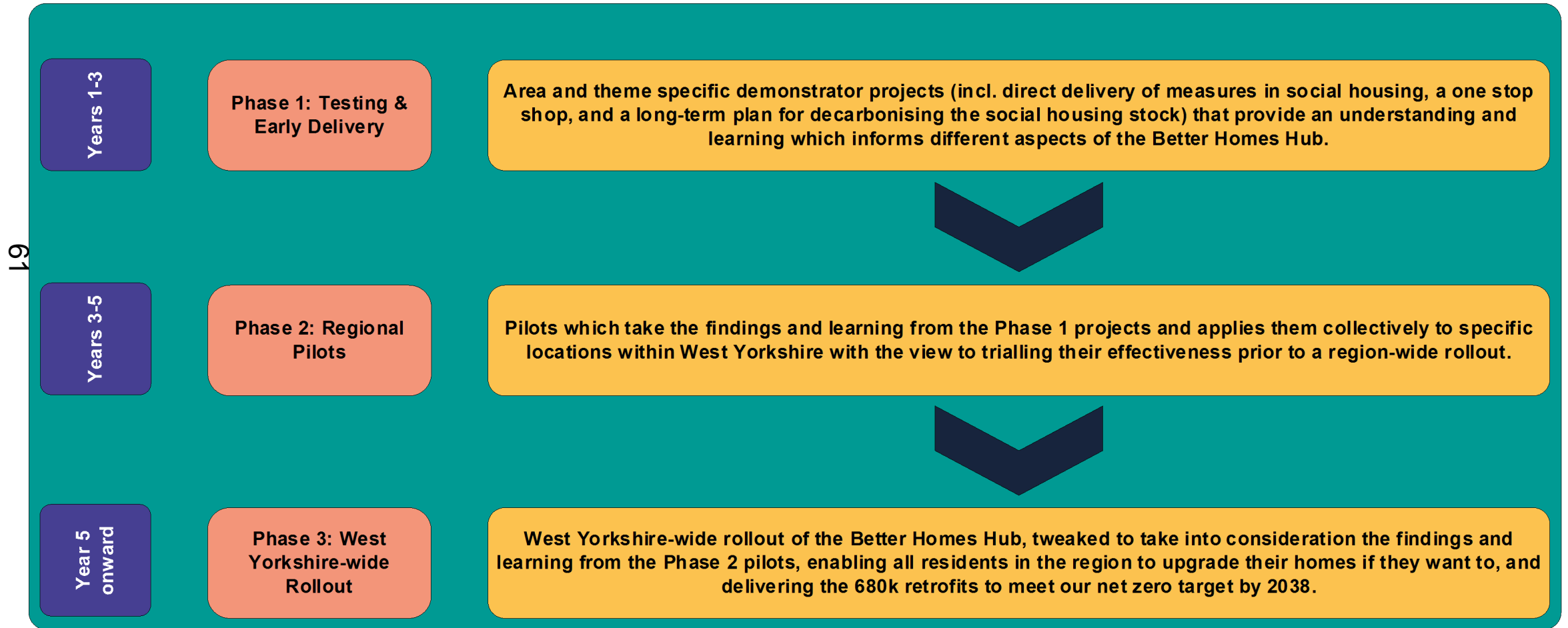
March 2023

Why are we doing this?

60



Five year development process



Framed within an overarching vision and three objectives

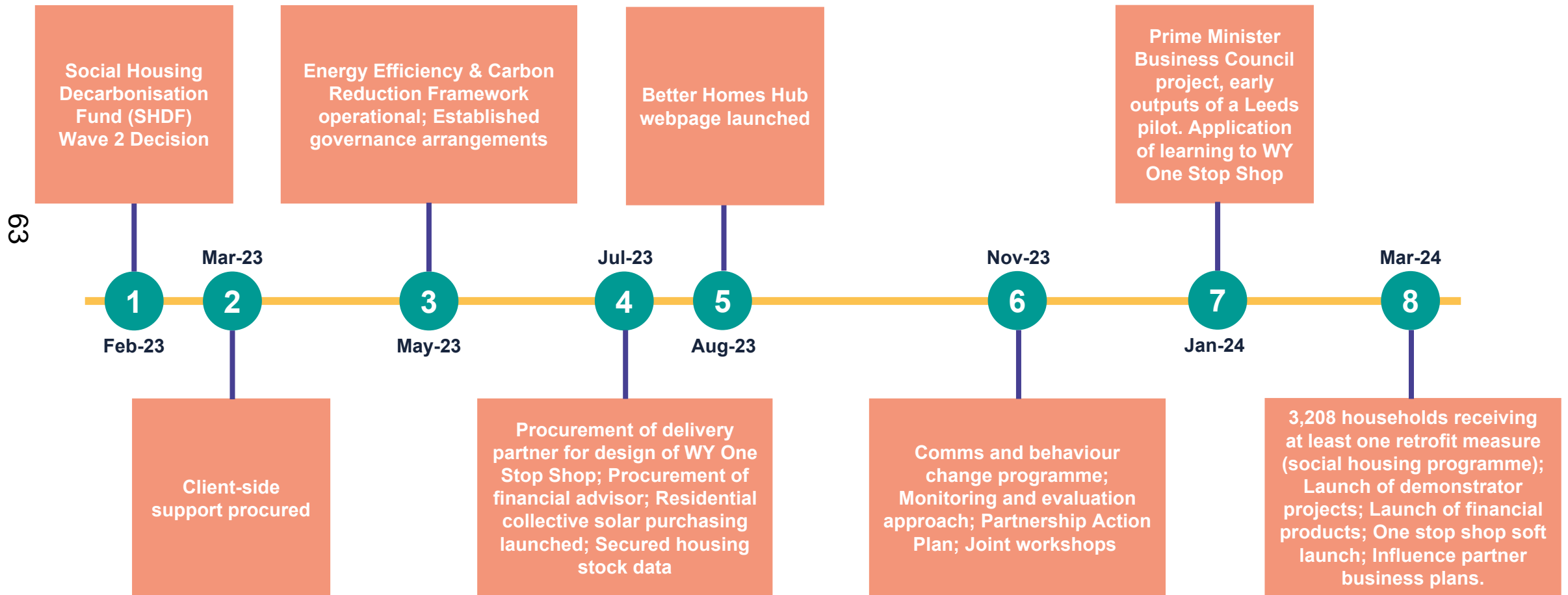
Vision:
Everyone in West Yorkshire can live in a warm, comfortable and low carbon home

Objective 1:
Build consensus on
retrofit priorities

Objective 2:
Directly deliver
retrofits (incl. direct
delivery of social
housing retrofits)

Objective 3:
Establish a trusted
retrofit service

Activity 2023/24



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Report to: Climate, Energy & Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

Subject: **Pledge Delivery Update**

Director: Liz Hunter, Director Policing, Environment and Place.

Author: Noel Collings, Head of Energy and Environment Policy

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an overview of selected activity to deliver against the mayoral pledge to tackle the climate emergency¹.

2. Information

Background

- 2.1 The Mayor has several pledges which she would like to see delivered against during her term in office. One of these pledges is related to tackling the climate emergency.
- 2.2 This report summarises selected activity that is currently taking place to deliver against the pledge. It represents activity from across the eight themes on which the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan is framed.

Net Zero Region Accelerator

Overview

- 2.3 The Net Zero Region Accelerator (NZRA) programme addresses an identified barrier to the progression of net-zero projects, principally the ability for project

¹ Where updates have been provided as part of other agenda items this information has not been duplicated.

sponsors to create robust business cases and investment models that address issues of scale, longevity and confidence that can attract private finance. It also aims to address the issue that there are insufficient investment-ready projects in a single coordinated pipeline.

Progress to date

- 2.4 A key deliverable of the NZRA programme is the design and development of an online prospectus that showcases the net zero investment opportunities in the region. A procurement exercise has recently been completed to appoint a contractor to design the prospectus with the aim of launching the prospectus with a limited number of investment opportunities at UKREiIF in May 2023.
- 2.5 In addition to the prospectus four projects have recently come forward with requests for funding from the NZRA. The projects are:
- Calderdale Garden Communities Smart Local Energy System Feasibility Study (Calderdale and Kirklees Districts)
 - Victoria Theatre, Heath Campus and Halifax Borough Market Decarbonisation Feasibility Study (Calderdale District)
 - Blanket Bog Restoration Project (Calderdale District)
 - Kirklees Renewable Energy Feasibility Study and Options Appraisal (Kirklees District)
- 2.6 In total funding of £236,200 has been granted to the above projects.

Resource Efficient Business

Overview

- 2.7 REBiz provides energy and resource efficiency audit and grant funding support to Small & Medium sized Enterprises (SMEs) across the Leeds City Region footprint. It also provides consultancy support to SMEs investigating circular economy business opportunities. It is funded in part through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and runs from January 2020 to June 2023.
- 2.8 REBiz originally included the non-overlap areas of North Yorkshire, but support in these areas ceased in mid-2021 due to lack of engagement.

Progress to date

- 2.9 In terms of resource efficiency, REBiz has engaged with 557 SMEs and commissioned 319 audits as of 31 January 2023. In the same time period, 89 businesses have engaged on the circular economy and 47 businesses have received at least the first stage of support.
- 2.10 The key ERDF targets for the programme are businesses receiving a minimum of 12 hours non-financial support or a grant of at least £1,000 (237), and annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction (2,064 tCO₂e).

- 2.11 At 31 January, the project had met or exceeded these targets with 237 businesses assisted and 2,823 tCO₂e saved.
- 2.12 The programme has just successfully completed an external Article 125 audit with no issues or recommendations.
- 2.13 The business sustainability package was approved in October 2022 and is in development for launch in April 2023. This programme replaces ReBiz.
- 2.14 The Energy Price Emergency Grant fund, which was approved as part of this, has had 575 expressions of interest, resulting in 229 applications as of 21 February 2023. The fund is on track to meet the £1 million grant spend target with 22 projects currently approved and a current project spend pipeline of over £1.2 million in submitted applications.

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy

Overview

- 2.15 The UK Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy, published in March 2022, sets out a requirement for combined authorities to develop local charge point strategies, setting out policies to remove charging infrastructure barriers and accelerate the pace of adoption.
- 2.16 West Yorkshire has made great progress in recent years to increase the number of publicly accessible charge points and has more rapid chargers than of any city region outside of London. There are currently 792 publicly accessible charge points in West Yorkshire, with 268 of these rapid chargers. However, government figures predict over 10,000 may be needed by 2030 to meet demand.
- 2.17 A West Yorkshire Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy is planned, developed in collaboration with District Partners to establish the objectives for public electric vehicle infrastructure roll out as well as principles for investment and action plan for accelerating deployment. The purpose of the document is to guide investment decisions for future funding opportunities as well as provide design guidance for charge points to ensure provision meets the needs of those who live and work in West Yorkshire and ensure equity of access across region.

Progress to date

- 2.18 A draft strategy has been developed in collaboration with District Partners. These include draft strategic principles have been development to guide the future expansion of publicly accessible electric vehicle charge points in West Yorkshire. These are designed to support investment decision making on the development of a public funded network, as well as set out our requirements for private investment into the network. Work is ongoing to review and finalise this draft strategy ready for publication later in 2023.
- 2.19 In June 2022, a West Yorkshire bid was submitted to the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Pilot fund to accelerate the rollout of electric vehicle

charging for residents without access to off-street parking. Although not successful for the first round of funding, on the 21st February Department for Transport announced an expansion of the funding and the West Yorkshire bid was the successful areas for the second round of funding with grant funding of £1.5m awarded for West Yorkshire.

2.20 The West Yorkshire LEVI Pilot Scheme will see between £1.5m of government funding alongside private investment to significantly accelerate charging infrastructure in West Yorkshire. The scheme will look to leverage between £1.5m and £4.5m of private investment to deliver 150 - 520 charge points across West Yorkshire. The aims of the West Yorkshire pilot scheme are to:
The aims of the scheme:

- Accelerate and maximise delivery of ‘close to home’ charging through partnerships with charge point providers;
- Strive for equality of access in EV charging, levelling up coverage across West Yorkshire and supporting a good customer experience for all; and
- Ensure EV charging infrastructure meets the needs of local communities that continues to contribute positively to our local areas and streets.

Zero Emission Buses

Overview

2.21 The Zero Emission Bus Programme currently in delivery will help to increase this to closer to between 14% and 19%. This programme includes:

- Phase 1: £56.2million project to introduce 111 zero emission buses and charging on routes in Bradford, Leeds, and Wakefield districts funded through Department for Transport’s Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) funding.
- Phase 2: £4 million project to introduce 8 zero emission buses and charging to routes in Calderdale and Kirklees funded through Gain Share, with a focus on exploring the impact of hilly landscape on the running of electric buses, and how the Combined Authority can work with smaller operators running tendered services to encourage a switch to zero emission buses.
- Phase 3: £21million project to introduce between 60 and 126 zero emission buses and charging (number of vehicles subject to delivery model). This will be funded through City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS).

Progress to date

2.22 Delivery of Phase 1, the ZEBRA scheme, is now underway with bus operators, planned for completion in 2024. Phases 2 and 3 are currently being explored and work to plans for the transition of the remaining bus fleet is underway.

Local Transport Plan

Overview

- 2.23 A Local Transport Plan (LTP) is a transport strategy for an area, setting out a vision, policies, a delivery programme as well as metrics to gauge success and overall performance in the delivery of its objectives. The West Yorkshire Transport Strategy 2040 is our current LTP adopted by the Combined Authority in August 2017.
- 2.24 The Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008, introduced a statutory requirement for local transport authorities to produce a LTP every five years and to keep it under review. As the Local Transport Authority for West Yorkshire, the Combined Authority has a statutory duty to produce and keep under review a LTP on behalf of West Yorkshire.
- 2.25 In addition to discharging the Combined Authority's statutory duties, an updated LTP is also required to deliver on the objectives of our Corporate Plan and facilitate the scale of change needed to decarbonise the transport sector and deliver the ambition contained within the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan, the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), and our Mass Transit Vision.
- 2.26 LTPs are also used to bid for, prioritise and allocate funds, and provide the strategic narrative and rationale for specific schemes and interventions. The Mayor's WYLTP will form the basis for future delivery programmes including future City Region Sustainable Transport Settlements (CRSTS) plus other funding bids.

Progress to date

- 2.27 In February 2023 Transport Committee approved development of a new West Yorkshire LTP (WYLTP) in line with the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan target of net zero by 2038, noting delay to anticipated government update to LTP Guidance and the implications this has on delivering an updated Plan by early 2024 in line with the expectations that Department for Transport's previously indicated.
- 2.28 An emerging overarching narrative, vision, modal priorities and place-based approach is being developed, working closely with district partners to ensure the Mayor's new WYLTP will match our partners vision and ambition for transport locally and reflect the challenges and opportunities of our diverse geography. Th emerging overarching narrative, vision and ambitions were presented to Transport Committee as part of the report in February 2023.

Solar PV & Storage Programme

Overview

- 2.29 This programme forms part of the Wave 1 Actions to tackle the Climate and Environment Plan. The Combined Authority is working with District partners and the West Yorkshire Housing Partnership to develop several solar PV and storage initiatives including the installation of solar panels on schools, community buildings and homes and the Combined Authority's own assets.

Progress to date

- 2.30 The Solar on Combined Authority assets projects is presented to this Committee for approval under the agenda item on project approvals. Funding is being sought to install solar panels on several Combined Authority assets such as bus stations.
- 2.31 Project development activities continue to be progressed for the other elements of the programme e.g. Solar on Schools and Community Buildings; Collective Solar Purchasing; and working with the West Yorkshire Housing Partnership to install solar and battery storage in their properties.

Hydrogen Strategy

Overview

- 2.32 All pathways in the West Yorkshire Carbon Emissions Reduction Pathways study indicate a role for hydrogen in contributing to the West Yorkshire's decarbonisation aims and reducing emission in several high emitting sectors like transport, domestic heating, industry, and power. Nevertheless, there is a little understanding on the value proposition and strategy for the deployment of hydrogen technologies within West Yorkshire.
- 2.33 A clear strategy, action plan and policy position on hydrogen is planned with the view of understanding the use case and projected demand of hydrogen in West Yorkshire as well as examining the key drivers and constraints for hydrogen deployment and hydrogen infrastructure development. The strategy will also help in relevant stakeholder engagement for hydrogen deployment as well as understanding where the relevant supply chain assets and infrastructure currently exists and could potentially be developed in the future, allowing new site opportunities to be identified.

Progress to date

- 2.34 Proposals for a use case proposition study for hydrogen for west Yorkshire is currently being developed; the study will give the evidence of the use case and value proposition of hydrogen in West Yorkshire. The study will produce a high-level, credible and region-specific pathway which can serve as the basis of future project development and delivery activities. It will also help inform as well as engage a rich mix of crucial stakeholders in the region to develop collaborative thinking and support around the hydrogen opportunity.

Green Skills

Overview

- 2.35 The Green Jobs Taskforce was established to position West Yorkshire as a leader and set out recommendations, underpinned by evidence, to deliver the skills and jobs needed to address the climate emergency and achieve the mayoral pledge to create 1,000 well-paid (real living wage), green jobs for young people (aged 18-30).

Progress to date

- 2.36 The final meeting of the Green Jobs Taskforce took place in February 2023, where taskforce members provided feedback on a set of recommendations (Appendix 1). Recommendations provide high level regional ambitions to support the creation of the jobs and skills needed to become net zero.
- 2.37 The Employment and Skills Committee will be invited to adopt the recommendations in March 2023, following this an action plan will be developed and a formal launch of the report and recommendations will take place in Summer 2023.
- 2.38 The emerging recommendations have been informed by multiple stakeholders, including employers, public sector colleagues, educators and young people and a range of evidence and research including:
- Task and finish groups with stakeholders from across the region
 - Commissioned research from WPI Economics
 - A commissioned West Yorkshire Green Skills Youth Programme delivered by Ahead Partnership
 - Community Renewal Funded projects, including 'Go Green Curriculum' in Wakefield and Retrofit Hub in Bradford.
- 2.39 Recommendations have been mapped across different strategies and policies across the organisation, such as the Employment and Skills Framework and the Climate and Environment Action Plan
- 2.40 Recommendations are split into key priorities and themes:
- Individuals - easy access to 'green' career advice, training options and jobs
 - Educators - support for the education sector to respond to the green skills demand
 - Businesses - support for businesses to decarbonise via upskilling and retraining
- 2.41 Recommendations support the mayoral pledge to create 1000 well paid green jobs for young people. To date 1009 jobs have been pledged by businesses and 256 green jobs have been created.
- 2.42 Interventions are being worked up as part of the Combined Authority's assurance process and will aid the progress of the recommendations and actions. They will prepare the local economy, education and labour market to become net-zero by 2038. Interventions include support for employers, curriculum development and careers and inspiration. Delivery of projects will take place from September 2023.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 The activity outlined in this report is directly linked to the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan and will assist in addressing the climate emergency and meeting net-zero carbon in the region.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 It is crucial that transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy reduces inequality in West Yorkshire. It cannot be the cause of further inequality for our most excluded and deprived groups and communities. Furthermore, opportunities for better jobs and quality of life need to be embedded within the transition to net-zero carbon and sustainable economy.
- 4.2 Inclusive growth goals and outcomes are considered within the items that are included in this paper.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 Meeting net-zero carbon and transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy should be equitable and not be at the expense of any groups or communities. Indicators which support the monitoring and evaluation of equity, participation and inclusiveness of programmes and policies resulting from Climate and Environment Plan will be included in the final framework.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 That the Committee note the contents of this report.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

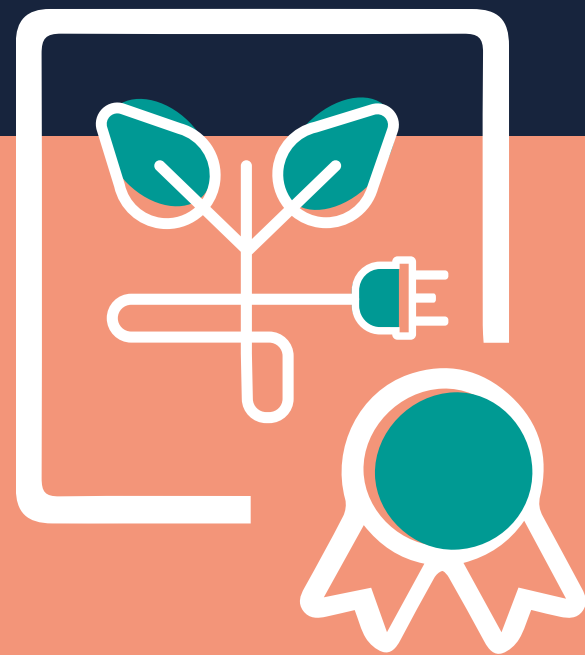
Appendix 1 – Taskforce recommendations

Green Jobs Taskforce Recommendations



Inspire

To inspire and inform young people, from key stages 1 & 2 onwards, about opportunities and career pathways within the green economy.



Support

Support education and training providers to build a curriculum that responds effectively to the needs of businesses transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy; including building capacity to attract, develop and retain expert staff.



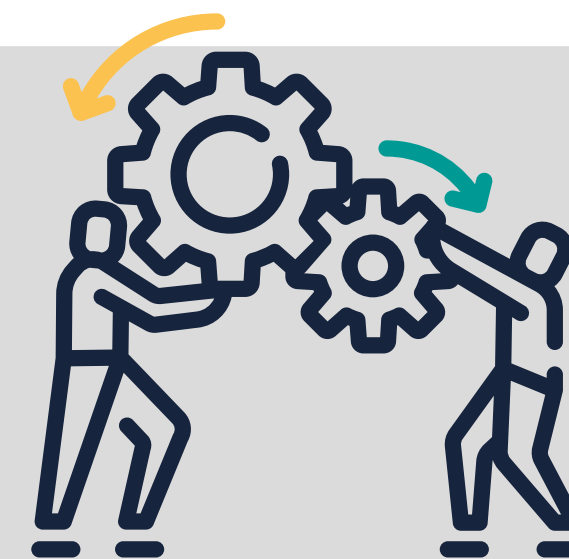
Facilitate

Facilitate easy access to green skills and job information, career pathways and job opportunities for young people and adults to make informed decisions.



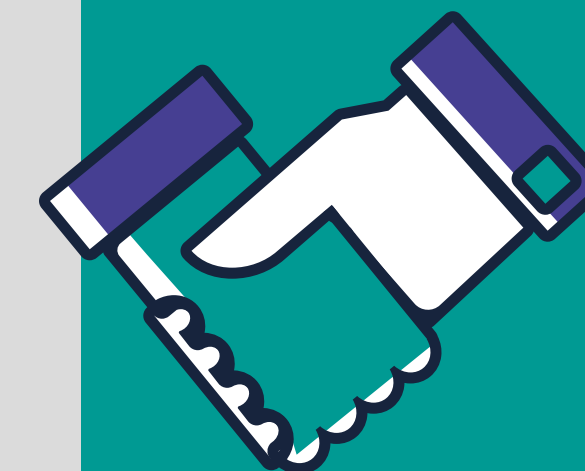
Equality, diversity and inclusion

Any interventions put forward must have ambitious targets addressing Equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI); particularly around attracting more women and people from Black, Asian ethnic minority (BAME) backgrounds towards careers within the green economy and the workforce most exposed by a transition to net-zero.



Enable

Enable businesses to access support to decarbonise and attract, develop and retain talent to enable a just transition.



Embed

Embed engagement of the target group when designing initiatives e.g. young people for the development of careers, education, information advice and guidance (CEIAG); workforce for reskilling/upskilling initiatives to support decarbonisation.



Strengthen

Strengthen current and potential West Yorkshire specialisms to stimulate demand and create green jobs, exploring opportunities in manufacturing, green finance and retrofit in the first instance.

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Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 21 March 2023

Subject: **Climate and Environment Monitoring Indicators and Response to Crisis**

Director: Alan Reiss, Director of Strategy, Communications and Intelligence

Author: Peter Glover, Economic Evidence Manager

Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for call-in by Scrutiny?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information or appendices?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, state paragraph number of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, Part 1:	
Are there implications for equality and diversity?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 To present the latest position on the State of the Region monitoring indicators relating to Climate and the Environment.

2. Information

Monitoring Arrangements

- 2.1 At its meeting on the 27 March 2022, the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee agreed a new approach to monitoring and reporting. The Committee approved a set of indicators relevant to its remit and agreed to receive regular reporting against these indicators, with this topic becoming a standard item on the Committee’s agenda. These are the key regional indicators that measure the outcomes that the work of the committee is seeking to improve. **Indicators will be reported on by exception i.e. when fresh data becomes available for each indicator, allowing the analysis to be updated.**
- 2.2 The indicators have been incorporated into State of the Region 2022 report, the Combined Authority’s annual stock-take of West Yorkshire’s socio-economic performance. The State of the Region indicators are intended to provide a high level, strategic picture of performance against this priority rather than a detailed examination of operational performance of specific projects.

2.3 In future, our approach to reporting to the Committee against the State of the Region indicators will evolve with the implementation of the monitoring and evaluation framework developed by Genecon (see item 6). An integrated approach will be taken to provide a coherent picture of progress against the full range of indicators.

The Indicators

2.4 The core indicators agreed by the Committee are set out below. A headline overview of performance against these indicators is provided in **Appendix 1**.

- Greenhouse gas emissions (ktCO2 equivalent)
- Greenhouse gas emissions (ktCO2 equivalent) by sector
- Greenhouse gas emissions intensity ratio
- Building energy efficiency
- Premises at risk of flooding
- Households in fuel poverty
- Access to greenspace

2.5 The following table shows the indicators which have **been updated since the last meeting of the Committee** on January 10, 2023. The updated analysis can be found in appendix 1 to this report.

Indicator	Status
Greenhouse gas emissions (ktCO2 equivalent)	Unchanged
Greenhouse gas emissions (ktCO2 equivalent) by sector	Unchanged
Greenhouse gas emissions intensity ratio	Unchanged
Building energy efficiency	Updated with Q4 data (figure 5 of appendix)
Premises at risk of flooding	Unchanged
Households in fuel poverty	New estimates of prevalence of fuel poverty in WY (figure 7 of appendix)
Access to greenspace	Unchanged

2.6 For building energy efficiency, the proportion of all Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) for dwellings in West Yorkshire with a rating of C or higher has increased and is now 35%, a small increase on the 34% that was recorded in the most recent State of the Region report. The proportion of EPCs with a rating of C is increasing over time based on an analysis of each quarter EPC lodgements.

2.7 For households in fuel poverty the proportion of households affected in West Yorkshire is projected to increase to 33% in April 2023. This assumes that the level of the Energy Price Guarantee increases to £3,000 in April, as currently expected.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 The indicators and monitoring arrangements enable us to assess West Yorkshire's progress in tackling the climate emergency.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 The indicators feature several with direct implications for inclusive growth, including those relating to fuel poverty, energy efficiency and access to green space.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 State of the Region report brings out equality and diversity implications across all indicators, where availability of data allows, for example the impact of fuel poverty on different communities.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 The schemes detailed in the report will be delivered or managed by existing teams within the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

9. External Consultees

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1 That the Committee notes the headline analysis of the indicators.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1: Indicator report

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Appendix 1: Indicator Report

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**Climate and Environment Committee, 21 March
2023**

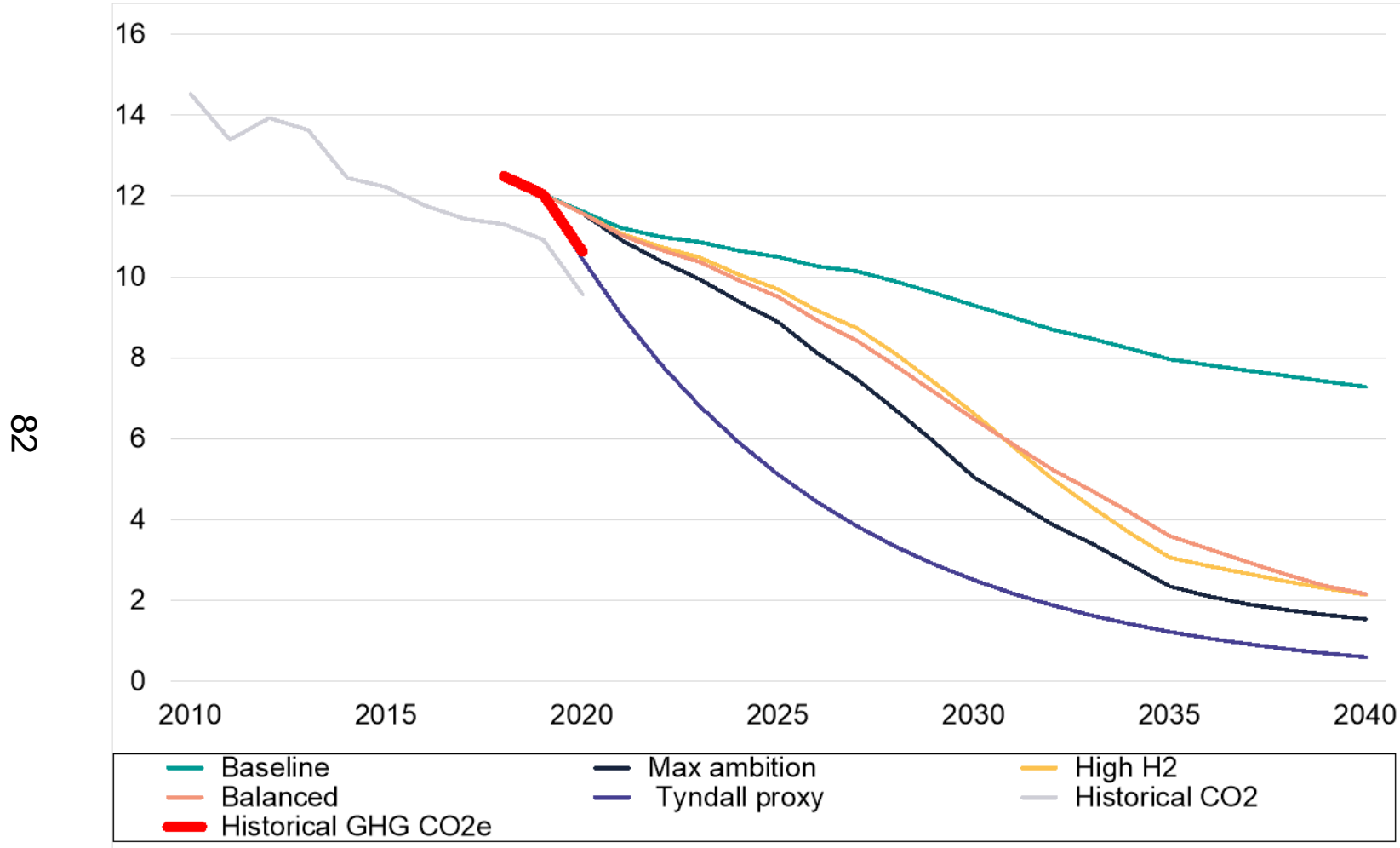
Introduction

- The following slides provide an overview of West Yorkshire's performance and progress against the headline indicators for State of the Region
- A subset of indicators has been presented, reflecting those most directly relevant to the Climate and Environment agenda.
- For some indicators there has been no change in the available data since the last meeting (see covering paper for details of updates) but the latest figures are contained in the pack for consistency.

State of the Region indicators

Emissions fell sharply during 2020, reflecting the impact of the pandemic but this is unlikely to be sustainable

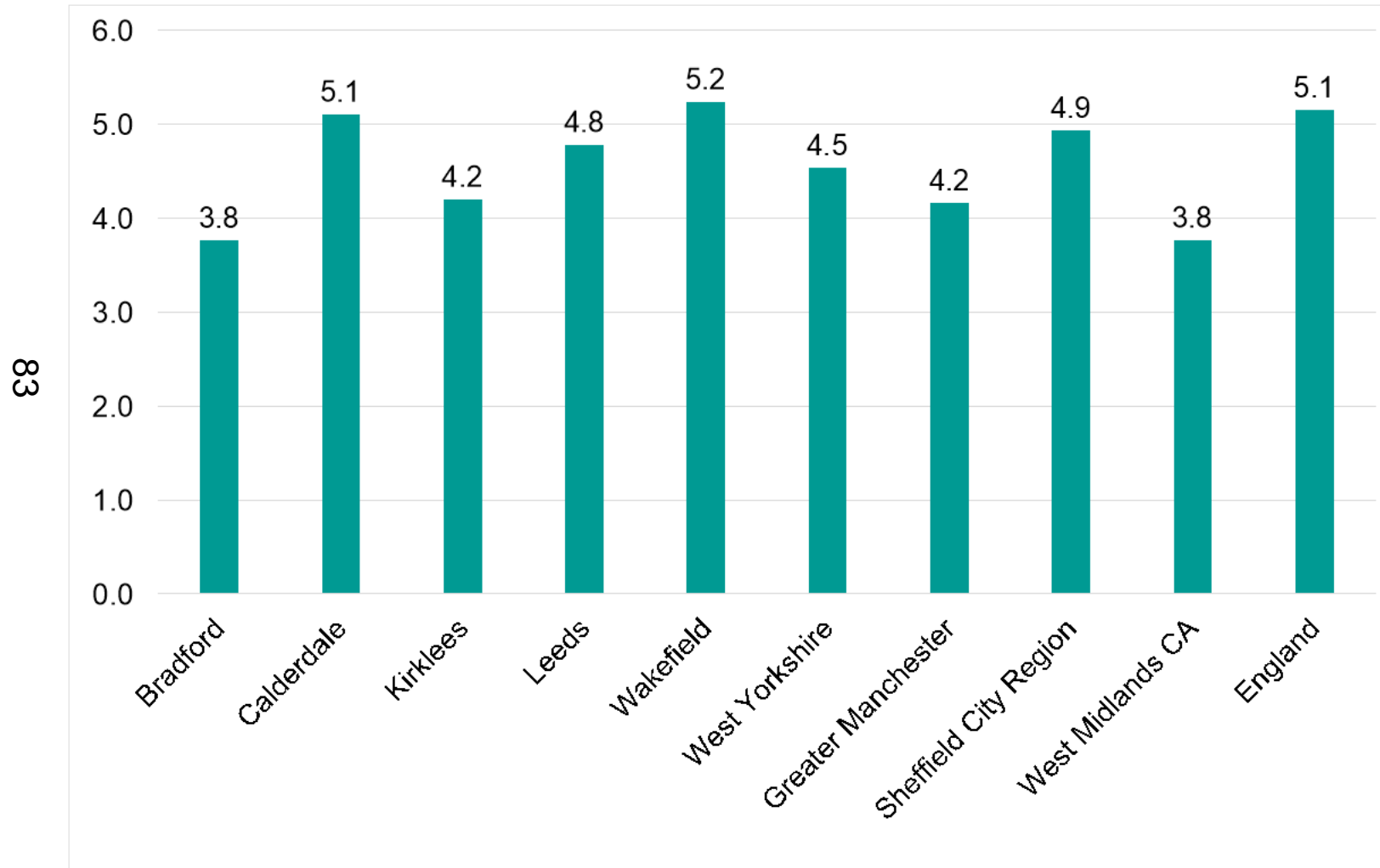
Figure 1: Trend in greenhouse gas emissions vs carbon reduction pathways (MtCO₂e)



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2020, BEIS

West Yorkshire has lower emissions per capita than the national average

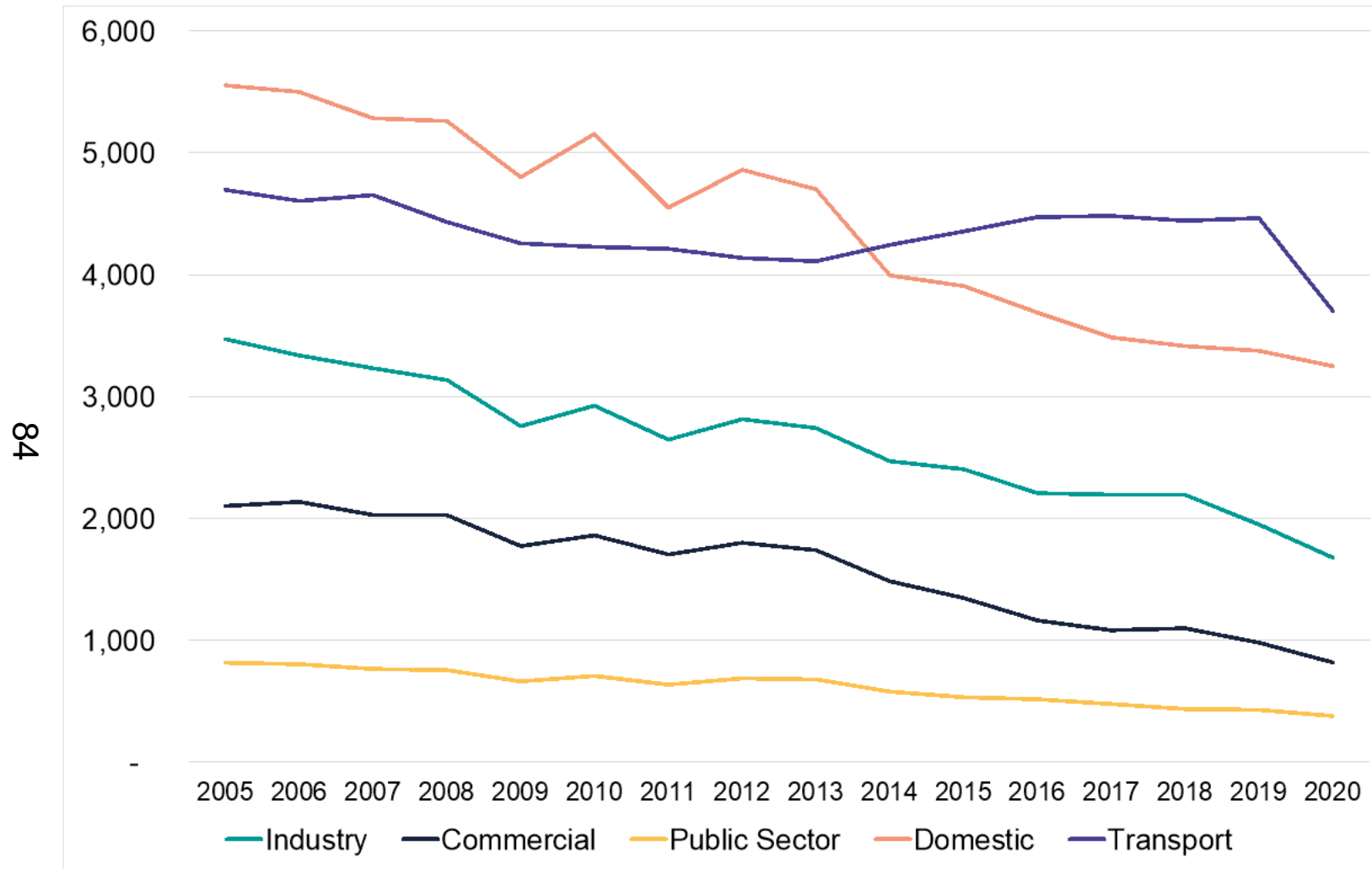
Figure 2: Per capita greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes CO2e per resident), 2020



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2020, BEIS

All sectors of the economy saw an emissions reduction in 2020, including a sharp fall for transport

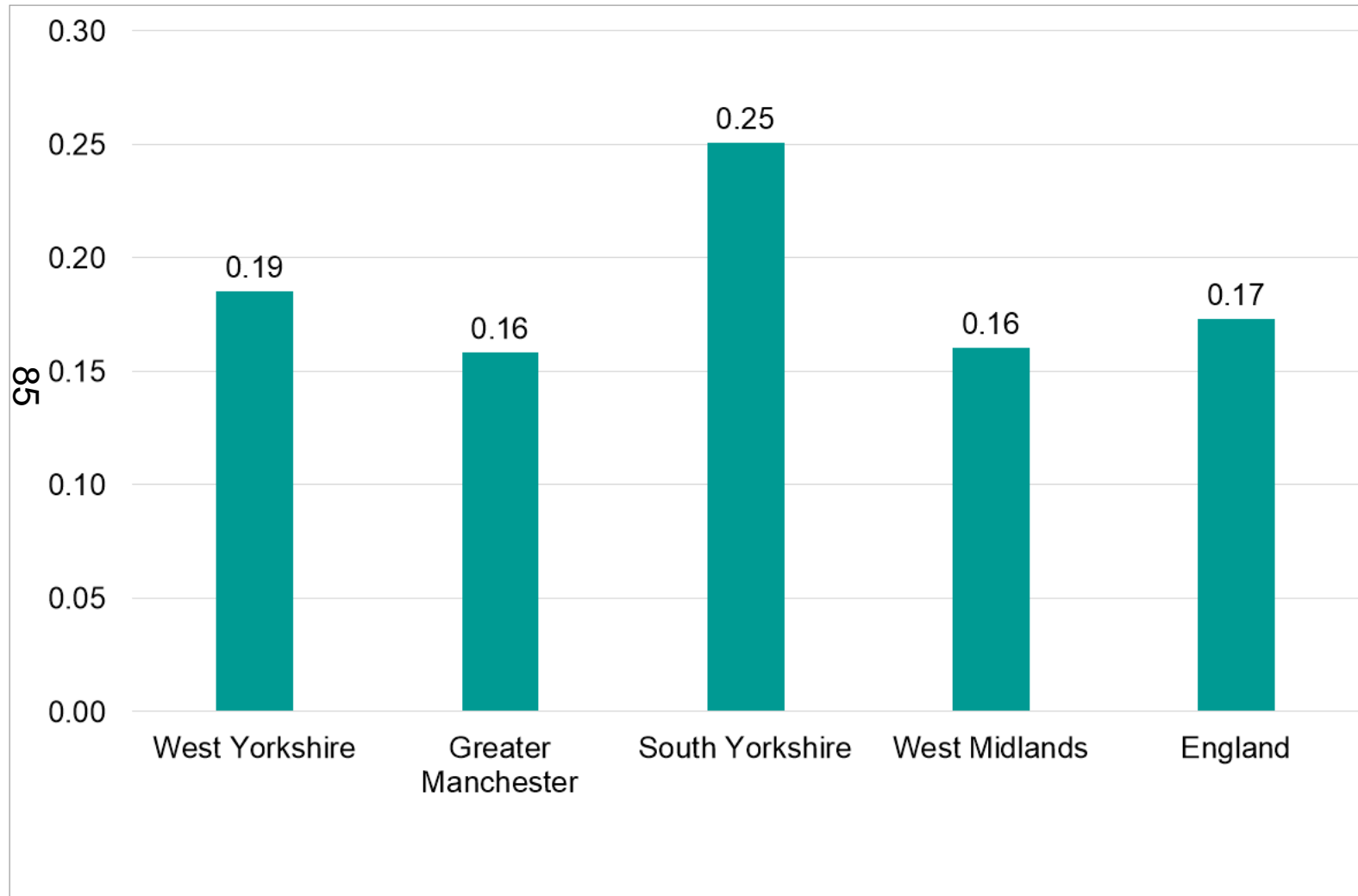
Figure 3: Trend in greenhouse gas emissions by sector, (ktCO₂e), West Yorkshire



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2020, BEIS

West Yorkshire's emissions intensity is above the national average

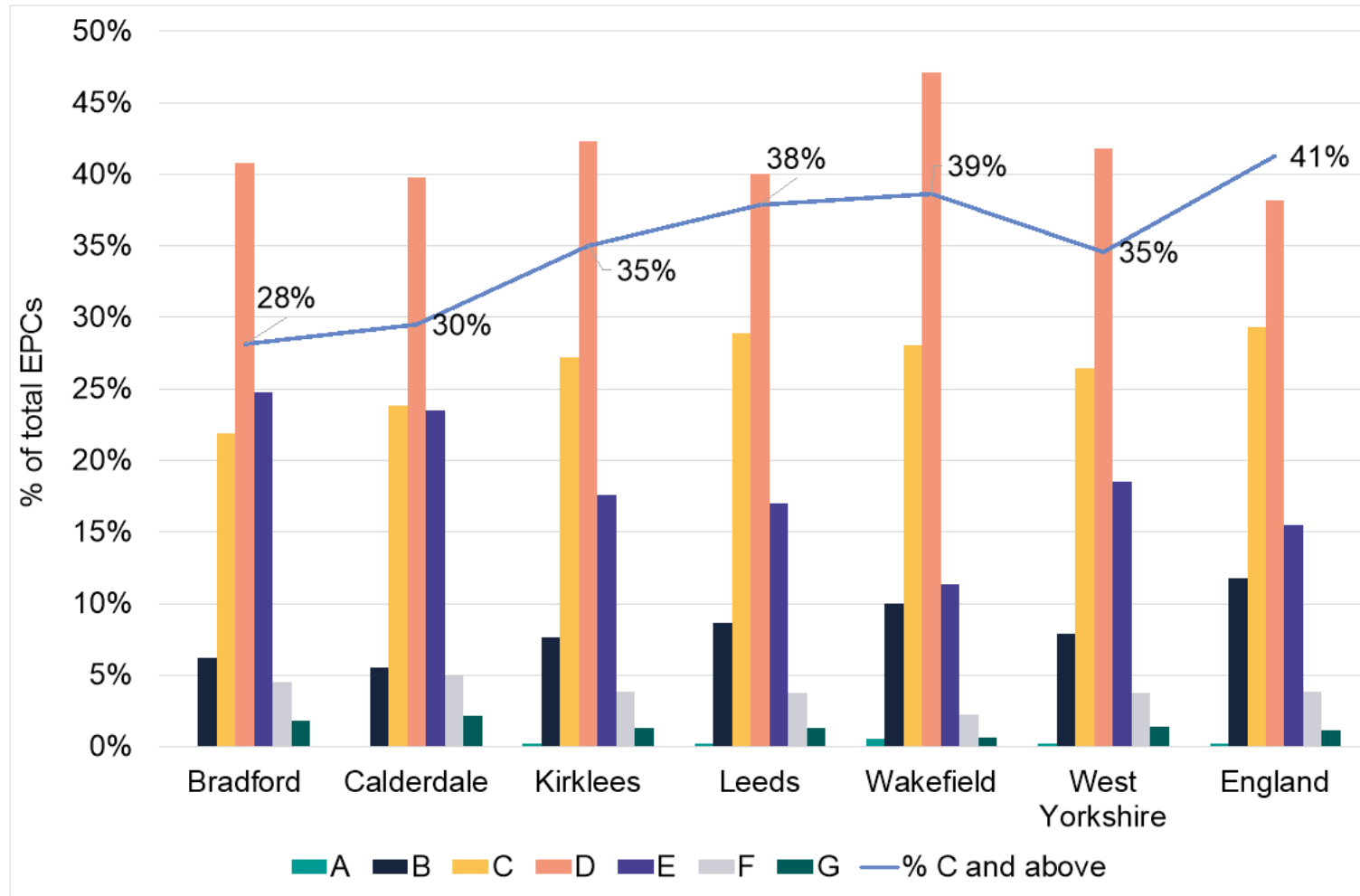
Figure 4: Greenhouse gas emissions intensity (ktCO₂e per £m gross value added), 2020



Source: UK local authority and regional greenhouse gas emissions national statistics, 2005 to 2020, BEIS

West Yorkshire dwellings with an EPC are less likely to have an energy efficiency rating of C or above compared to national average

Figure 5: Profile of Energy Performance Certificates by local authority and Energy Efficiency Rating, as of Q4 2022



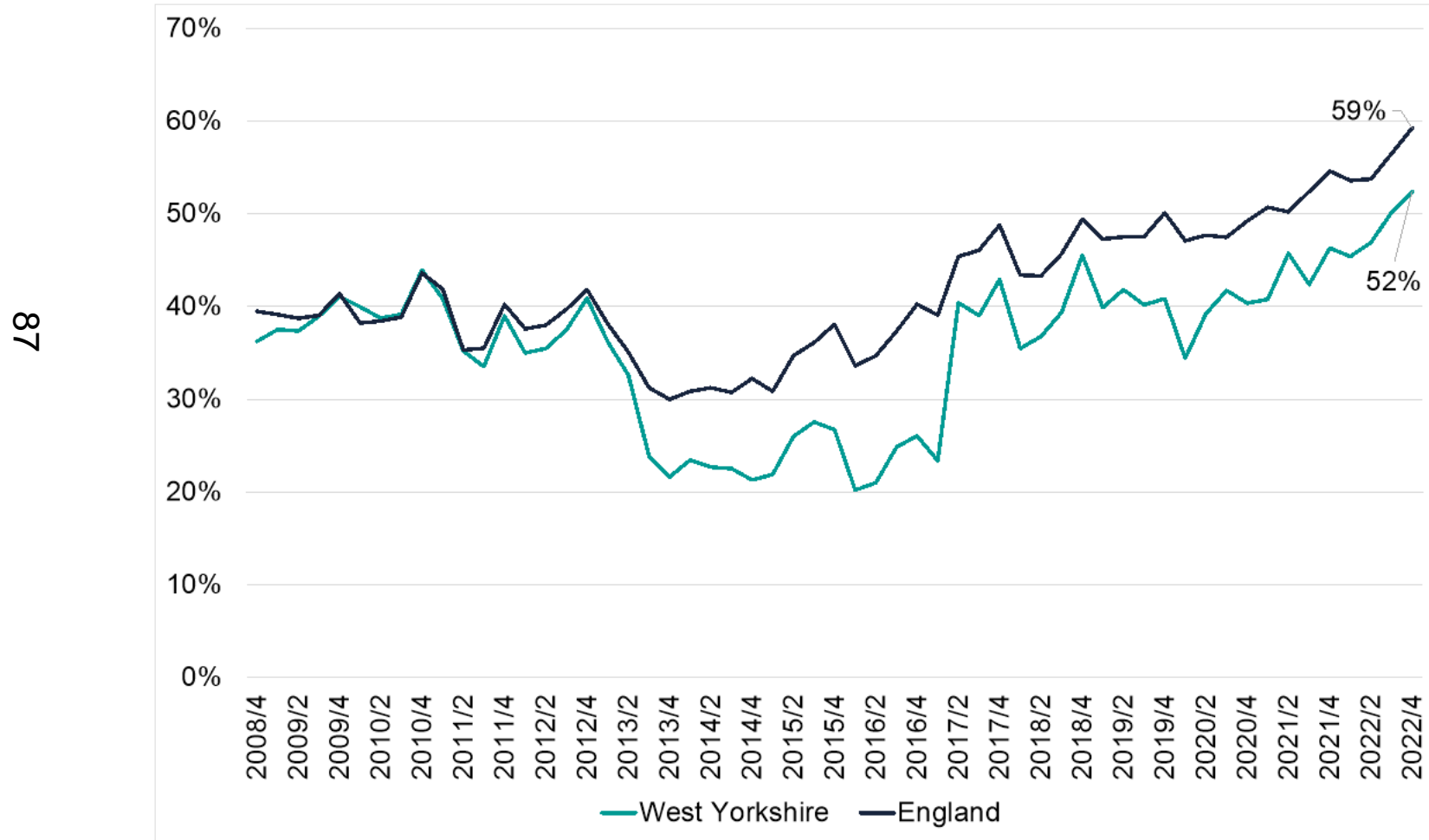
These figures relate to the total stock of EPCs lodged from Q4 2008 up to Q4 2022.

The figure for the cumulative proportion of WY dwellings with an EPC rating of C and above has increased slightly, according to latest figures, to 35% (from 34% reported in State of the Region). National average has increased from 40% to 41% for same period.

Source: Energy Performance Certificate data, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

The proportion of EPCs with a rating of C and above in WY is increasing over time, reaching 52% in lodgements for Q4 2022

Figure 6: Trend in proportion of Energy Performance Certificates with Energy Efficiency Rating of C and above based on each quarter's EPC lodgements



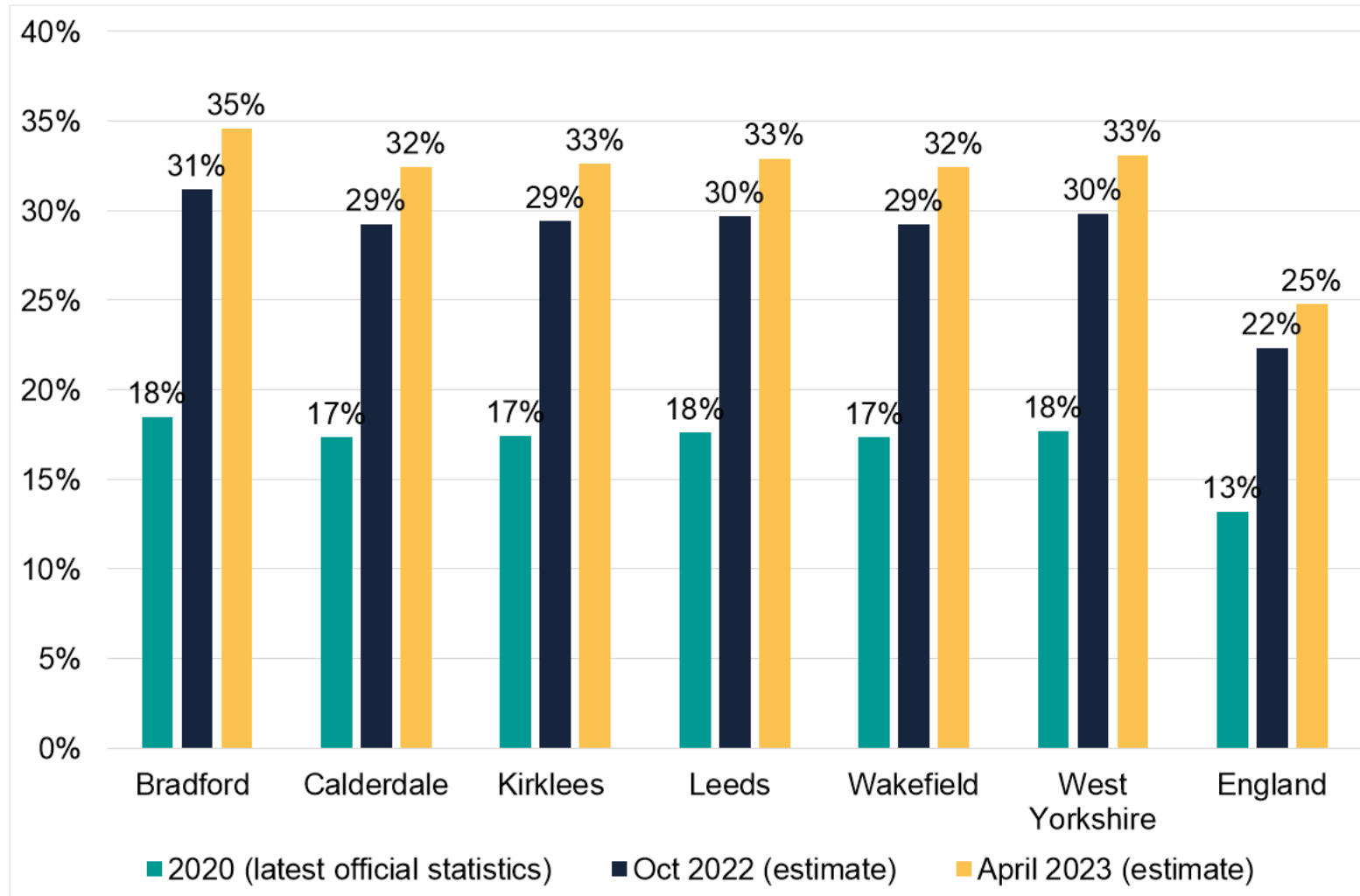
These figures relate to EPC lodgements in each quarter.

Although the proportion of EPC's with a rating of C and above in West Yorkshire is increasing, suggesting a contribution to improved energy efficiency performance, it is still lower than the national average.

Source: Energy Performance Certificate data, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Prevalence of fuel poverty is projected to increase further in April 2023

Figure 7: Proportion of households in fuel poverty

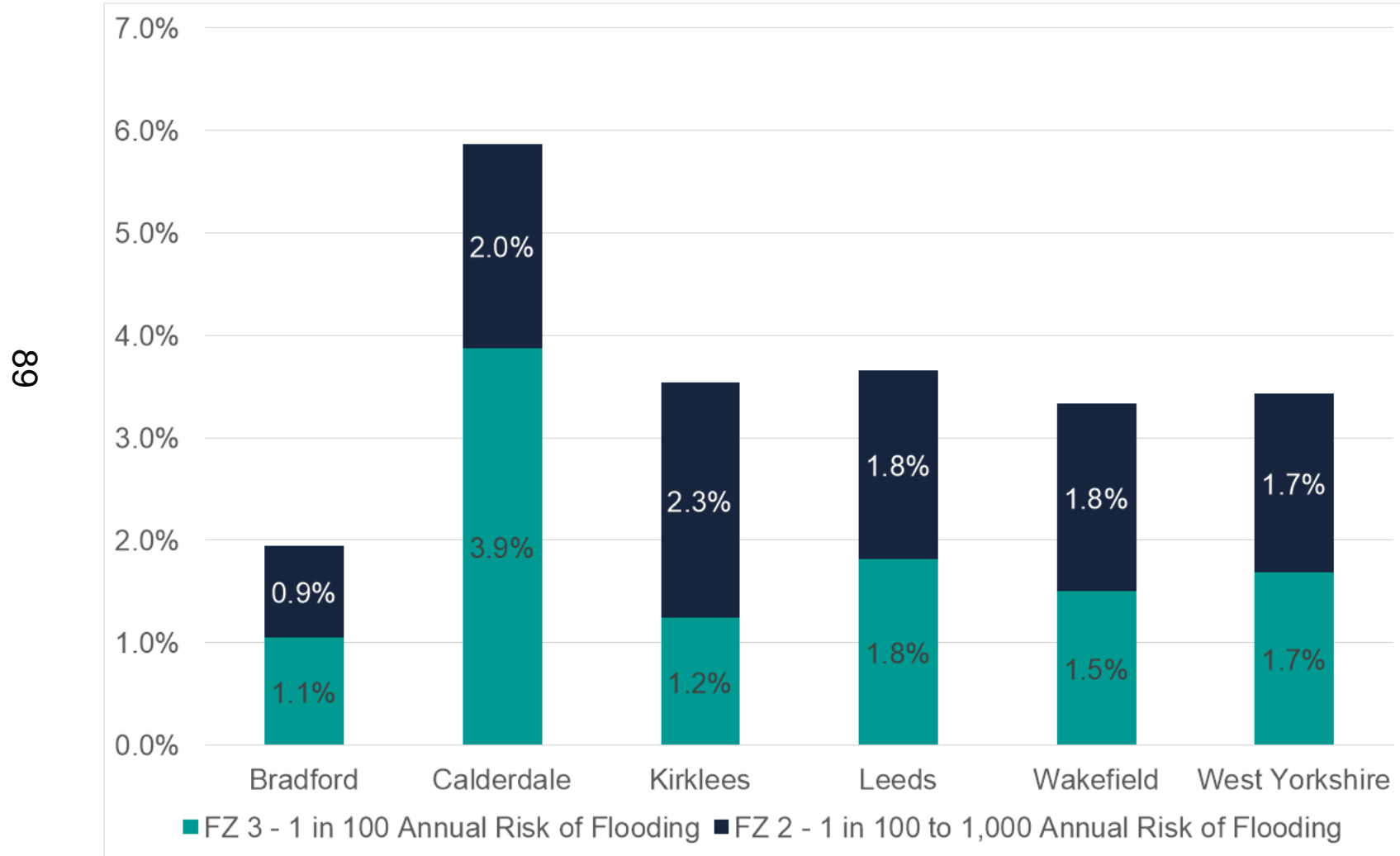


Based on calculations by the End Fuel Poverty Coalition, a third of households in West Yorkshire are projected to be in fuel poverty by April of this year. This assumes that the level of the Energy Price Guarantee increases to £3,000 in April, as currently expected.

Source: Sub-regional fuel poverty statistics, BEIS; End Fuel Poverty Coalition

3% of residential properties in West Yorkshire fall within a flood zone, rising to more than 6% in Calderdale

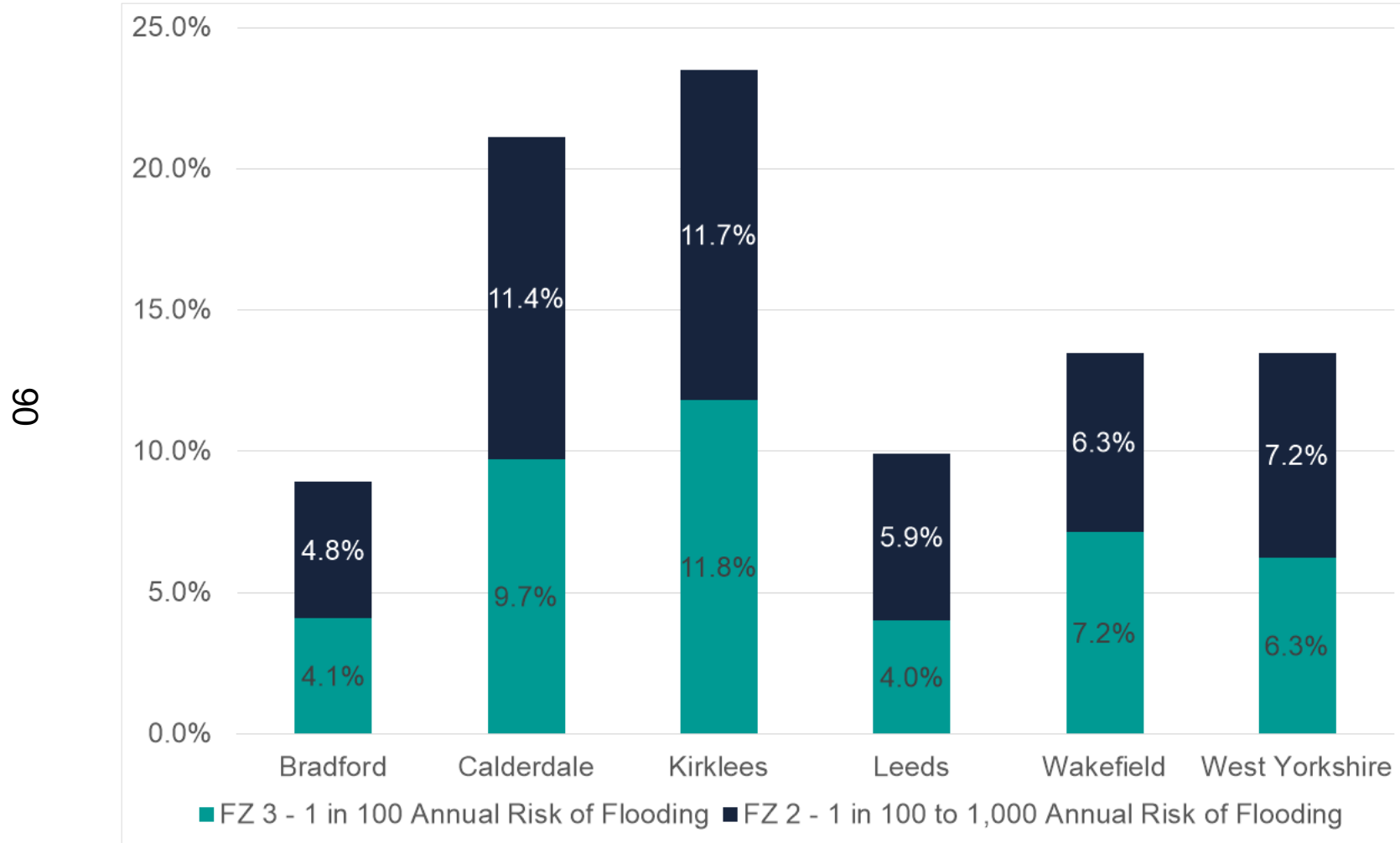
Figure 8: Proportion of residential properties in flood zones



Source: Environmental Agency, ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates

13% of commercial properties in West Yorkshire fall within a flood zone, rising to 24% in Kirklees

Figure 9: Proportion of commercial properties in flood zones



Source: Environmental Agency, ONS Mid-Year Population Estimates