
Report to: Green Economy Panel

Date: 29 January 2019

Subject: Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan Update

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1. To provide an update on the progress and next steps for the Leeds City Region Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan (ESDP).

2. Information

Background

- 2.1. The new and ambitious ESDP was adopted by the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Board on 22 November 2018 and West Yorkshire Combined Authority Board on 13 December 2018.
- 2.2. The City Region's Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) has been a leading strategy on tackling climate and creating clean growth. The SEP sets out an ambition 'to become a resilient zero carbon energy economy underpinned by high quality green infrastructure'. To understand how the City Region could achieve the SEP energy ambition the ESDP was commissioned, with support from the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- 2.3. Appendix 1 is a summary of the ESDP. It includes five priorities:
 - Resource efficient business and industry;
 - New energy generation;
 - Energy efficiency and empowering consumers;
 - Smart grid systems integration; and
 - Efficient and integrated transport.
- 2.4. The ESDP includes an initial 36 actions that form the basis of this strategy's delivery plan, the top ten of which are included in Appendix 1.

- 2.5. In agreeing this progressive strategy and delivery plan, the Combined Authority and LEP discussed their ambition for Leeds City Region to be one of the first UK city regions to meet a regional carbon reduction target in line with the International Paris Climate Change Agreement of limiting temperature rise to below 2°C.
- 2.6. The ESDP currently sets out, at a high-level, a carbon emission reduction trajectory that the City Region would need to deliver against to comply with the Paris Climate Change Agreement.
- 2.7. To allow the City Region to be one of the first UK city regions to commit to a carbon reduction target in line with Paris Agreement, the LEP and Combined Authority are now keen to understand in greater detail what would be required and agreed to explore this further. This includes holding a regional summit (see below). The findings of this work will then return to this Panel, the LEP and Combined Authority for formal endorsement of a carbon reduction target for the region (see below).
- 2.8. Meeting a Paris Agreement target could take the City Region a long way towards the SEP's and partners' ultimate goal of becoming a zero-carbon energy economy, as well as add £11 billion to the region's economy and create 100,000 extra jobs through investment in clean energy.

Recent work

- 2.9. Since adoption of the ESDP an assessment of potential project delivery routes has been completed. This work aimed to identify projects in the ESDP which are suitable for delivery through the Energy Accelerator and North East, Yorkshire and Humber Energy Hub (Energy Hub). It also identifies projects that do not fit into these programmes.
- 2.10. Work is now ongoing to:
 - Develop detailed work plans with Partners for the projects identified in the ESDP, including feeding some projects immediately into the Accelerator and Energy Hub for support.
 - Explore further a regional carbon reduction target in line with the Paris Climate Agreement (or similar).
 - Organise a Leeds City Region Summit to explore with regional stakeholders how to potentially meet a regional carbon reduction target in line with the Paris Climate Agreement (or similar).
 - The work above will be shaped and guided by the existing ESDP Steering Group. This informal group is made up of West Yorkshire Combined Authority Officers, Green Economy Panel members and BEIS representatives.
- 2.11. The table below outlines the next steps for the ESDP over 2019.

Action	Timescale
1. Devise with Partners detailed work plans for prioritised actions within the ESDP	Jan – Dec 2019
2. Suitable actions from the ESDP to be immediately fed into the Energy Accelerator and new Energy Hub	Jan – March 2019 and then on an ongoing basis as new opportunities arise.
3. Carry out further work to explore the proposed Paris Climate Agreement target for the City Region.	Jan 2019 - Spring 2019
4. Hold a Leeds City Region Summit	By Summer 2019
5. LEP and Combined Authority approval for meeting a regional carbon reduction target in line with the Paris Climate Agreement (or similar) and subject to the outcomes of action 3 & 4 above.	By Autumn 2019

2.12. In addition to the work above, the Combined Authority's Senior Management Team has recently approved the development of a new corporate approach to clean growth tackling issues such as reducing carbon emissions and a wider suite of environmental impacts. This will complement the ESDP to ensure the Combined Authority can play its part in leading delivery of the regional zero carbon ambitions and ensure that, as an organisation, it delivers clean growth throughout its operations and services.

2.13. The corporate approach will include:

- Adopting a new Policy and set of principles.
- A new Action Plan covering resource efficiency, integrated decision making (through the Combined Authority's Assurance Processes), and integration into a range of corporate operations and services.

The full programme will be developed over 2019.

3. Financial implications

- 3.1. Given the scale of the projects identified in the ESDP and new Corporate Policy and Action Plan, there are likely to be financial implications for the Combined Authority. Further work will be undertaken to understand the scale of the financial ask, and this will be reported at a future Panel meeting.
- 3.2. The proposed Summit is also subject to the Combined Authority securing funding in 2019/2020 and / or securing external sponsorship.

4. Legal implications

- 4.1. No legal and compliance implications have been identified.

5. Staffing implications

- 5.1. No staffing implications have been identified.

6. External consultees

- 6.1. None.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. That the Panel note the progress and next steps for the ESDP.

8. Background documents

- 8.1. None.

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of the Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan