
Report to: Green Economy Panel

Date: 9 April 2019

Subject: **Panel Work Programme 2019**

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1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To note the business plan for 2019/20 that sets out the services, activities and priorities for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- 1.2 To consider and approve the proposed work programme for the Green Economy Panel.
- 1.3 To suggest topics for future meetings of the Panel.

2. Background

Business plan 2019/20

- 2.1. The Combined Authority continues to focus on its ambitious plans to deliver good inclusive growth for the region. Building on progress in recent years, which has seen the organisation reshaped to best support this aim, the last year has seen good progress on a number of fronts with successes including:
 - Good progress on West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund (WY+TF) schemes, including the regeneration of subways to Wakefield Kirkgate Station, further stages of the A629, consultation on a proposed new station at Elland, rail station park and ride schemes at Fitzwilliam and Mirfield stations and progress at York Central which will enable the development of up to 2,500 homes.
 - Approval for a natural flood management project in the Colne and Calder valleys that will protect 2,071 homes and 1,022 businesses.
 - Improvements through the Better Homes Yorkshire scheme to over 1,320 homes across the City Region to reduce their heating and hot water bills by an average of £300 a year.

- Work has started on the creation of the New Bolton Woods urban village near Shipley that will see 145 new homes created and enabling development bringing 1,000 new homes to the area.
- Securing the regional headquarters for Channel 4, bringing opportunities for the independent production sector across the region and generating a £1 billion economic impact over the next decade.
- Further investments in cycling and walking through the CityConnect programme, including the new Scarborough Bridge pedestrian and cycle crossing and canal towpaths in Bradford and Wakefield.
- Introducing free Wi-Fi at bus stations across West Yorkshire.
- Supporting over 1,000 businesses with free advice and guidance on growing their business.
- Engaging with over 500 businesses as part of the Resource Efficiency Fund, to help them deliver carbon savings.
- Launching the Energy Accelerator.
- Establishing the North East, Yorkshire and Humber Energy Hub.
- Opening the Springfield Centre in Dewsbury, providing high quality vocational programmes for students.

- 2.2. The focus for 2019/20 will continue to be on achieving inclusive economic growth, through improving the number of good quality jobs on offer, improving connectivity and increasing opportunities for young people to progress and for businesses to move to and grow within the City Region. Last year the Combined Authority agreed its three overarching priorities, to which its service provision is aligned – Productivity, inclusive growth and 21st century transport.
- 2.3. Progress has also been made this year on the Strategic Economic Plan objective of a zero carbon economy. This includes the approval in December 2018 of the City Region Energy Strategy and Delivery Plan which commits to reduce carbon emissions in line with the targets set in the Paris Climate Change Agreement by 2036. On 14 February 2019, the Combined Authority also approved ‘Enabling Clean Growth’ as a fourth corporate priority.
- 2.4. Work has been undertaken to produce a detailed business plan for 2019/20, maintaining the focus on its four objectives: Productivity, Inclusive Growth, 21st Century Transport and Enabling Clean Growth.
- 2.5. The full Business Plan is available [here](#) and for each directorate, demonstrating how they deliver against the corporate priorities and objectives and, at a summary level, the resources required to do so. Each directorate has defined key performance indicators to monitor performance throughout the year through regular reporting. These indicators build on current levels of

achievement to provide an element of stretch, as well as demonstrating efficiency and value for money.

- 2.6. A public facing corporate plan is being produced for April, drawing on the business plans and presenting this in an accessible way to show what the Combined Authority and LEP intend to deliver in the coming year.
- 2.7. **Appendix 1** draws out the work within the business plan related to the Panel's major projects and programmes. This is proposed as a work programme for the Panel to consider, review and approve.
- 2.8. The panel should also consider the recommendations in Items 8 and 10, and consider any additional areas of work they would like to explore in 2019/20.
- 2.9. In light of the above, the Panel are asked to review the forward plan for Panel meetings (**Appendix 2**) and suggest future topics for discussion.

3. Financial Implications

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

4. Legal Implications

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

5. Staffing Implications

- 5.1. There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report. Should the Panel want to explore additional objectives then this will be subject to a review of available resources to carry out this additional work.

6. External Consultees

- 6.1. No external consultations have been undertaken.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. The Panel note the 2019/20 business plan for the Combined Authority.
- 7.2. That approval be given to the 2019/20 Green Economy Panel work programme.
 - 1.1. That the Panel suggest topics for future meetings of the Panel.

8. Background Documents

- 8.1. None.

9. Appendices

- 9.1. Appendix 1 – DRAFT Green Economy Panel Work Programme 2019/20.
- 9.2. Appendix 2 – Green Economy Panel Meeting Topics Forward Plan.