

**Report to:** Climate, Energy & Environment Committee

**Date:** 19 October 2021

**Subject:** **Mayoral Pledges**

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|---|---|
| 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 brief the Committee on the Mayor of West Yorkshire's manifesto pledges.

## 2. Information

2.1. The West Yorkshire Mayor has identified 10 pledges that will be prioritised for delivery over the Mayoral term:

- **Create 1,000 well paid, skilled jobs** for young people.
- **Prioritise skills and training** to ensure everyone in West Yorkshire has the skills they need to secure work.
- **Support local businesses** and be champion for our regional economy.
- **Lead a Creative New Deal** to ensure our creative industries are part of the broader recovery strategy.
- **Appoint an Inclusivity Champion** to work to ensure that the region's recovery benefits us all.
- **Recruit 750 more frontline police officers** and staff to fight crime.

- **Put women and girls at the heart of the Mayor’s policing plan.**
- **Bring buses back under public control**, introduce simpler fares, contactless ticketing and greener buses.
- **Build 5000 affordable and sustainable homes.**
- **Tackling the climate emergency** and protecting our environment.

2.2. The Climate Emergency pledge is underpinned by several specific commitments, including

- Creating a road-map to ensure West Yorkshire reaches net zero carbon by 2038.
- Supporting the work of Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission, work to accelerate investment in hard flood defences and natural flood management.
- Encourage investment in the development of new technologies which will contribute to a green recovery.
- Support projects to develop a hydrogen economy which could provide zero carbon solutions for heavy vehicles and heating.
- Work with large fuel retailers to provide electric vehicle charging points and deliver a network of thousands of electric vehicle charging points around the region. Ensure that motor manufacturers and energy suppliers take action alongside the Combined Authority’s public investment, to deliver their fair share of the infrastructure.
- Work with partners to restore our peatlands and conserve moorland.
- Support the creation of a White Rose Forest across the region.

2.3. The wider pledges also contain commitments, relevant to the work of this committee, including:

- Spearhead a campaign to make West Yorkshire a **Living Wage Region**, boosting the number of businesses paying the real living wage.
- Spearhead a **Digital Academy**, to ensure our young people have the skills required to be the entrepreneurs, innovators, engineers and creatives of the future.
- Establish a West Yorkshire **Digital Skills Partnership** to develop digital skills programmes and tackle digital exclusion.
- Ensure there are the relevant **Green Courses** on offer for young people to get the skills to support the delivery of a sustainable, net zero region, with particular emphasis on construction and engineering skills.
- Establish a **Manufacturing Task Force**, to ensure young people have the skills to become the engineers and designers of the future.

2.4. Updates on the mayor’s plans will be provided at future meetings.

### **3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications**

- 3.1 The West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan is the primary document setting out the regional approach to addressing the climate and environment emergency and achieving a net zero region economy by 2038, with significant progress made by 2030.

### **4. Inclusive Growth Implications**

- 4.1 Programmes to deliver the pledges are emerging, in collaboration with local partners, and will address inclusive growth implications.

### **5. Equality and Diversity Implications**

- 5.1 The Mayor has committed to ensuring that equality and diversity is a cross-cutting priority for the Combined Authority, with a requirement that all policies and programmes address equality and diversity needs and improvements are made. Tackling inequality is at the heart of the delivery planning for the pledges.

### **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 are required and have been undertaken arising from this report.

### **10. Recommendations**

- 10.1 The Committee is asked to comment on the Mayor's pledges and consider how it can support the pledges, ensuring links to its wider work are maximised.

### **11. Background Documents**

None.

### **12. Appendices**

None.