

Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 19 July 2022

Subject: **Climate and environment monitoring indicators**

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

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 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

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 27th 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 will also be incorporated into the next iteration of State of the Region report, the Combined Authority's annual stock-take of West Yorkshire's socio-economic performance, to be published later this year. 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.

The indicators

- 2.4 The core indicators that were agreed at 27 March meeting of the Committee are as follows (see appendix for full metadata):
- CO2 emissions (including per capita ratio)
 - CO2 emissions by broad sector of the economy
 - Emissions intensity ratio (ratio of CO2 emissions to output of economy)
 - Access to green space
 - Building energy efficiency
 - Premises at risk of flooding (business and residential)
 - Fuel poverty (included under the Inclusive Growth priority).
- 2.5 A headline overview of performance against these indicators is provided in Appendix 1. This analysis is interim pending publication of the full State of the Region report. Refreshed analysis is available for the following indicators at the current time:
- CO2 emissions (ktCO2)
 - CO2 emissions (ktCO2) by sector
 - Emissions intensity ratio
 - Building energy efficiency
 - Premises at risk of flooding
 - Households in fuel poverty
 - Access to greenspace– analysis pending.
- 2.6 Analysis of the emissions indicators focuses on carbon dioxide emissions only. However, data on emissions for a wider range of greenhouse gases is now available at local level for the first time and we are considering how this can be incorporated into future reporting.
- 2.7 At the meeting on March 27 the Committee requested that analysis of emissions trends be presented in the context of a clearer picture of the required rate of progress to achieve West Yorkshire's net zero commitments. Work is currently underway on this and we will be in a position to present actual emissions against a carbon budget for the main State of the Region report. The carbon budget will be derived from the Climate Emergency Reductions Pathway analysis and we will report against the majority of greenhouse gases rather than just carbon dioxide.
- 2.8 It was also agreed at the last meeting of the Committee that **an assessment of the number of jobs in West Yorkshire sustained and created by the net zero and environment economy would be provided to the Committee**, based on a programme of evidence work overseen by the Mayor's Green Jobs

Taskforce. This work is still in train and the results will be shared with the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

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. The growth of the green economy presents potential inclusion issues. Future reporting on the green economy will bring out inclusive growth implications.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 State of the Region report will bring out equality and diversity implications across all indicators, where availability of data allows; for example the impact of fuel poverty on different communities and access to green jobs across different population groups.

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 direct staffing implications directly arising from this report. However, the Committee should note our plans to increase capacity in this area.

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 metadata
Appendix 2: Indicator report