



# **Climate & Environment Plan Wave 1 Actions – Scope of Draft Proposals**

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**Climate Energy & Environment Committee  
19 July 2022**

# Background

- West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan (CEP) was approved by the Combined Authority in October 2021.
- Mayor and Combined Authority's response to addressing the climate emergency, protecting the environment and achieving a net-zero carbon West Yorkshire.
- Highlights the critical action for the next three years to cut emissions, support nature recovery and be ready for the impacts of a changing climate.
- Framed around eight themes across 39 proposals over the period up to 2024.
- Multiple proposals are being taken forward with use of existing resource including exploring our approach to biodiversity net gain and nature recovery and the opportunity for hydrogen in West Yorkshire.
- Multiple funding streams are being used to maximise our impact including the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) and Zero Emission Bus Region Area Fund (ZEBRA).
- £40m has been allocated by the Combined Authority, via Gainshare, over the next three years to accelerate activity where there are limited other options to fund activity.
- 2-stage prioritisation exercise carried out to prioritise the 39 proposals, resulting in 15 proposals being identified for Gainshare funding.
- Further scoping and project development activity taking place during 2022/23 in 3-waves.
- Wave 1 actions progressing at pace through Combined Authority's assurance processes aiming to achieve approval at Activity 1 (Strategic Assessment) and 2 (Strategic Outline Case) by October 2022 as a minimum. Waves 2 and 3 will follow Wave 1 actions through the same process.

# Better Homes Hub

## Scope

- Regional retrofit one-stop-shop service providing residents with information, advice, and whole house planning services.
- Ambition to enable 7,000 – 13,000 net-zero ready retrofits and medium-term improvement plans to 2038.
- A refresh of Better Homes Yorkshire Partnership and route to market for retrofit including technologies installers and construction services.
- Medium term neighbourhood retrofit demonstrators across each Local Authority.
- A linked Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund bid with West Yorkshire Housing Partnership by October 2022.
- Aligned and complementary green skills programme (slide 11 Green skills and Training).

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- Direct carbon savings will be achieved through demonstrator projects.
- 7,000 to 13,000 retrofits would generate carbon savings of 12,236 – 22,724 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> each year upon completion.

# Better Neighbourhoods

## Scope

- Programme providing support in disadvantaged communities to implement:
  - Local, clean, renewable community energy
  - Healthy, affordable and efficient buildings
  - Walking, cycling and public transport measures to increase uptake of active travel and public transport
  - Improving access to green space and climate resilience (e.g. natural flood management)
- Targeting at least one community in each of the five West Yorkshire districts.
- Utilises existing local authority networks and connections.
- Support could take the form of officer support for project development, bid submission, upskilling local people.

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- Outcomes to be determined through detailed programme scope but likely to target community-level gains in inclusivity and access to energy efficiency, health, transport, climate resilience and natural environments.

# Business Sustainability

## Scope

- Measure plan act approach: focus on diagnostic, planning and support for resource/energy efficiency, transport, circular economy and waste, and climate readiness.
- Broader sector access with flexible solution-based approach.
- Clean growth diagnostics, carbon foot-printing, net zero and climate ready plans, brokerage to external support.
- Increased delivery team.
- Increase in the number of businesses supported with ability to support more deeply where needed.
- Larger capital grants pot managed by a specialist team.
- Includes business flood resilience grants package linked to IP3 (£2.5-5m).

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- Outputs: 500 businesses supported with decarbonisation plans and carbon foot printing, 250 – 300 businesses receiving detailed sustainability audits and 100 businesses supported with flood adaptation grants.

# Communications, Engagement & Marketing

## Scope

- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Coordinated approach to the development of the overarching narrative to clearly communicate the aims, objectives and benefits of regional work to tackle the climate and environment emergency.
- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Targeted media, digital marketing and engagement support for both Wave 1 and existing programmes.
- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> A market research project to benchmark and measure public attitudes.
- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> A multi-channel behaviour change campaign encouraging people and businesses to make small changes.
- <sup>35</sup><sub>17</sub> Support to help people take ownership of their own impact and engage younger audiences.

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- Outcomes will include awareness raising and behaviour change enabling wider engagement and education around carbon saving activities.

# Flooding & Drainage

## Scope

Programme of funding to address the funding gaps for 9 strategic Natural Flood Management projects to deliver:

- Flood resilience.
- Carbon reduction.
- Tree planting.
- Biodiversity and habitat improvement e.g. hedgerows, soil aeration.
- Improving access to green space.

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- Carbon sequestration from the Natural Flood Management programme (tree planting and peat restoration), amount to be calculated ahead of SOC submission.

# Green Skills & Training

## Scope

- An online Green Jobs Gateway for employers looking to offer greener roles, and individuals looking to access these roles and/or develop green skills.
- Engagement of young people in the design of future interventions, e.g Young Persons Climate Convention.
- Careers inspiration and information for all ages.
- Learner support to access green skills training.
- Employer skills support to identify and implement green employment and skills opportunities in their business.
- Employer incentives to create green jobs and/or offer training opportunities, including apprenticeships and paid internships.
- A development plan and fund to support FE colleges to train staff and develop the curriculum to provide training.

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- ~ 6,000 visits to the FutureGoals website each month and 1,000 well paid, skilled, green jobs for young people.



# Solar PV & Storage

## Scope

- 11 – 15.8 MW of solar installed.
- 50 x Solar for Schools installations.
- Solar & batteries on 1,000 – 2,000 social homes working with the West Yorkshire Housing Partnership.
- Launch a Solar Together group buying scheme for West Yorkshire residents.
- Solar on 8 of the CA's bus stations and a solar farm at Owlett Farm.
- Develop a finance offer for residents and businesses.
- Solar opportunity mapping.
- Explore solar on warehousing.

## Carbon savings / Outputs

- 1,500 – 2,500 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> each year (based on estimated electricity generation from 11 – 15.8 MW of solar and the current carbon intensity of the national grid).

# Wave 1 Prioritisation Funding

## Wave 1

- £42.5m to £61m range of funding identified as being required.
- Minimum ask is for £40m of Gainshare funding.
- Overprogrammed to reflect likelihood that project development activity will refine cost estimates and some projects will fall away.
- Will seek alternative funding sources to reduce the Gainshare burden e.g. Public Sector Decarbonisation Fund, Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, private sector contributions.
- Wave 1 development ask £3.6m covering:
  - Budget allocation for additional human resources.
  - Project development support for economic and financial cases.
  - Evidence building studies to support the business justifications / OBCs / FBCs.

# Next Steps

- Strategic Assessment Prioritisation (SAP) Group provided decision to proceed to next stage (SOBC) at their 16 June meeting.
- Activity now ongoing to generate the SOBC aiming for submission to the Programme Appraisal Team (PAT) by beginning of August.
- Detailed investigation and conversations into how a fully funded programme can be taken forward e.g. via additional Gainshare allocation, private sector contributions, Government funding.
- Targeting approval of SOBC in October from Combined Authority.
- Activity to develop and gain approval for individual OBCs, FBCs or business justifications completed by end March 2023.
- Project development of Waves 2 and 3 to begin late summer with intention to have at least gaining SOBC approval by end March 2023.