

Report to: Climate, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 19 July 2022

Subject: **Carbon Impact Assessment – Assessment Results**

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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 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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

1. Purpose of this Report

- 1.1. To provide an update to the members of the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee about progress on the carbon impact assessment project. A presentation will be delivered to the Committee at the meeting.

2. Information

- 2.1 The aims of the carbon impact assessment project were to:

- Develop methodologies for assessing the carbon impact of proposals at the different stages of the assurance process
- Incorporate these methodologies onto the assurance process so that decision makers are informed about the carbon impact of proposals.
- Use these methodologies to carry out an assessment of the carbon impact of a selection of existing projects which are currently going through the assurance process

- 2.2 The Committee was provided with an update on the project and the assessment methodologies developed at the meeting on 22 March. A workshop with members of the Committee was also held to discuss the technical detail covered by the methodologies on 23 June.

- 2.3 Since then progress has been made in incorporating carbon impact assessment methodologies into the Combined Authority's assurance process. Training sessions in carbon impact assessment for promoters, representatives (consultants) and other interested officers has been carried out. Sessions have been held on carbon impact assessment at both Stage 1 (16 May) and Stage 2 (14 June).
- 2.4 The third aim of the carbon impact assessment project was to assess the carbon impact of a selection of schemes currently being developed. These assessments were carried out both to understand the carbon impact of these schemes, but also to help in the development of the methodologies described above. These assessments are due to be presented to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on 22 July. A presentation which explains the results of these assessments, what they mean and how they have influenced the development of the carbon impact assessment methodologies will be provided to members of the Committee at the meeting.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. The carbon impact assessment project should help decision makers to understand the implications of their decisions for carbon emissions and the climate emergency. The assessments of the carbon impacts of existing projects were carried out to inform the Combined Authority about the carbon impact of a selection of current projects.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1. The carbon impact assessment project should help decision makers consider carbon impact when making decisions about proposals which will have inclusive growth implications. Carbon impact is one aspect of inclusive growth which needs to be taken into account alongside other factors.
- 4.2 As for equality and diversity implications, the methodology for assessing the potential carbon impact of schemes at the early stages of project development (Stage 1 in the assurance process) should ensure these are considered in project design alongside inclusive growth implications.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. The carbon impact assessment project does not have any direct impacts on equality and diversity. However, the methodology developed for assessing the carbon impact of schemes should help decision makers take this into account in decisions which might affect equality and diversity. Any measures necessary for addressing the climate emergency will need to be considered in terms of their impacts on equality and diversity and the work on carbon impact assessment described in this report should help decision makers to do this.
- 5.2. The methodology for assessing the potential carbon impact of schemes at the early stages of project development (Stage 1 in the assurance process)

should help to guide the development of schemes and ensure project design incorporates carbon mitigation alongside equality and diversity implications.

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 have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1. That the members of the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee note the contents of this report, receives the presentation on the carbon impact assessments carried out, note the content and provide any questions.

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

None