

Report to: Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee

Date: 5 January 2023

Subject: West Yorkshire Plan

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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 provide members of the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee with an overview of the West Yorkshire Plan and its fit with the wider policy framework of the Combined Authority.

2. Information

Background to the Plan

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Plan will provide an overarching strategic framework for the region. The plan will reflect major changes including, the devolution deal and election of the first Mayor of West Yorkshire, the ongoing impact of the cost of living and doing business crisis, and plans for further devolution. The primary audience for the plan is government and regional partners, residents are a secondary audience.
- 2.2 The purpose of the West Yorkshire Plan is to:
- Explain who West Yorkshire is and what we want to do.
 - Set the trajectory for the longer-term up to 2040.
 - Ensure that government and wider local and national stakeholders are clear on the priorities and ambitions of the region and how these align with the new government's plans for economic growth.
 - Ensure that all regional partners speak with one strong voice.

- Continue to develop shared endeavour between the Combined Authority and the local authorities.

2.3 The first stage of this work has been to draft a vision and narrative. Research was undertaken to look at what other places, who have historically been better at telling their collective story than West Yorkshire, have produced. Initial ideas for the content were generated during in-depth strategic planning sessions. Building on this work, a draft of the plan's narrative was completed. The draft has had input from nominated representatives from each local authority and has been shared with chief executives, leaders and the mayor who have provided comments. Wider engagement with key stakeholders and partners is now being undertaken. The first draft of the vision and narrative is included in **Appendix 1**.

2.4 The West Yorkshire Plan will strengthen the existing policy framework of the Combined Authority. At present, the Strategic Economic Framework (SEF) provides an overarching vision for the region and is supported by a suite of policies and strategies this includes for example the West Yorkshire Climate and Environment Plan.

2.5 The vision and narrative will ultimately sit at the top of a revised and refreshed SEF with newly agreed regional priorities and targets with the collective suite of documents known as the West Yorkshire Plan. Work is ongoing to ensure that the West Yorkshire Plan aligns with new strategy development including the current development of an Economic Strategy for the region.

2.6 The intention of the plan is to be aspirational and represent an ultimate ambition for the region. Tackling the Climate Emergency is one of three regional priorities that cut across all aspects of the plan. The plan includes draft ambitions currently, but these will be updated once the narrative has been agreed. State of the Region reporting will continue to provide the monitoring framework underpinning the West Yorkshire Plan and wider policies and strategies of the Combined Authority.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

3.1 Tackling the climate emergency is one of the proposed regional priorities and will be a key driver of activity arising from this work. Becoming a net zero economy by 2038 remains a target for the region.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 Growing an Inclusive Economy is one of the proposed regional priorities and will be a key driver of activity arising from this work.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 Enabling Equality, Diversity and Inclusion is one of the proposed regional priorities and will be a key driver of activity arising from this work.

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 The draft vision and narrative have been produced in partnership with a grouping of local authority colleagues and has been discussed by chief executives, political leaders and the mayor. Consultation is now underway with colleagues across the Combined Authority including attendance at all senior management meetings and directorate sessions. All committees will receive a presentation with request for comments along with members of the LEP Board, and the Business Communications Group. Following feedback, a further draft of the narrative will be produced for sign-off by the Combined Authority in March.

10. Recommendations

10.1 That the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee consider the draft of the vision and narrative of the plan and agree the proposed next steps, with a particular focus on:

- Content
- Language used
- Anything missing / needs to be removed

11. Background Documents

There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Draft West Yorkshire Vision and Narrative