



<b>Report to:</b>	Climate, Energy and Environment Committee
<b>Date:</b>	13 February 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Climate and Environment Plan Progress Report &amp; Refresh</b>
<b>Director:</b>	Liz Hunter, Director of Policing, Environment and Place
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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 The purpose of this report is:

1.1.1 to update the Committee on progress in delivering on the actions set out in the Climate and Environment Plan (“CEP”) 2021 – 2024 and to seek views from Committee on the priorities for the final year of the plan’s delivery period;

1.1.2 to seek early views from Committee on the proposed scope for the update of the “CEP”.

## 2. Information

### Delivery of the actions in the CEP 2021 – 2024

2.1 The principal aim of the CEP is to facilitate delivery of the Mayor’s pledge to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2038 across West Yorkshire, with significant progress by 2030. This ambition responds to the declaration of climate and environment emergencies made by the Mayor of West Yorkshire and West Yorkshire leaders. The actions set out in the CEP are also key to promoting climate resilience, a green recovery and ensuring that the transition to net zero carbon is fair and equitable.

- 2.2 Appendix 1 provides a high-level summary of progress and detail on some of the key areas of activity across the period of the plan so far. The full list of actions can be found in the Climate Plan document. Committee's views are sought on the priorities for the final year of the plan's delivery.

#### Updating the CEP

- 2.3 The process of updating the CEP will commence shortly, and will be informed by an updated evidence base. The Combined Authority is working to update the Carbon Emissions Reduction Pathways that underpin the CEP, by developing a single 'complete' pathway to net zero by 2038 (the "Complete Pathway").
- 2.4 The Complete Pathway will comprise the core of the evidence base for an updated CEP, from which an updated action plan will follow – the Committee will have the opportunity to discuss the development of the Complete Pathway in the next item on the agenda.
- 2.5 The Committee's early views are sought on the possible scope of the refreshed CEP. The following are areas for consideration:
- The relationship between the CEP and the climate plans adopted by the five local authorities in West Yorkshire is a key matter for consideration (many of these were not in place when the current plan was finalised). A key question when drafting and engaging on an updated CEP will be how the CEP dovetails with local climate plans. The Committee are invited to provide an update on their local climate plans and associated progress where relevant.
  - The approach to delivery planning and monitoring of progress and against agreed milestones. It is important that learning from implementing the current plan is applied in considering the governance and monitoring of the next plan.
  - Any other aspect of the current CEP that members feel should be changed or approached differently in the updated CEP.

#### Next steps

- 2.6. Taking the committee's feedback on the above points into account and subject to detailed design activity, a high-level plan of the steps for developing the updated CEP would be:
- finalising the draft structure, themes and approach for the updated CEP;
  - content development based on the outputs of the refreshed Carbon Emission Reduction Pathways commission and other sources of evidence as such as the Mayor's Big Climate Chat (for example);
  - public consultation;

- finalisation, adoption and publication.

2.7 Officers are currently developing a plan for delivering the updated CEP, taking into account the expiry of the period of the current CEP at the end of 2024.

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

3.1 Delivery of the current CEP and updating the CEP will drive action to tackle the climate emergency and meet net-zero carbon targets in the region.

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

4.1 It is crucial that transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy reduces inequality in West Yorkshire. It cannot be the cause of further inequality for our most excluded and deprived groups and communities. Furthermore, opportunities for better jobs and quality of life need to be embedded within the transition to net-zero carbon and sustainable economy.

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

5.1 Meeting net-zero carbon and transitioning to a net-zero carbon economy should be equitable. Consultation activities will be developed with equality and diversity as a key consideration. Indicators that support the monitoring and evaluation of equity, participation and inclusiveness of programmes and policies resulting from the Climate and Environment Plan will be considered at the point of scheme development.

### **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are likely to be cost implications associated with updating the CEP update, depending on the scale of consultation undertaken and the scope of the refreshed plan. Officers are currently working to establish the cost estimates associated with this work.

### **7. Legal Implications**

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

### **8. Staffing Implications**

8.1 There are staff in post within the Combined Authority to contribute to delivery of actions in CEP however this is a partnership plan and Local Authorities and other stakeholders / partners have a significant role to play in the plan delivery. There are staff in place within the Combined Authority to lead on the update to the CEP.

### **9. External Consultees**

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken at this stage, however as part of the CEP refresh extensive consultation will be undertaken.

## **10. Recommendations**

10.1 That the Committee notes the contents of this report.

10.2. That the Committee provides its views on:

- the progress made so far on delivery of the CEP 2021-2024
- priorities for the final year of the current plan
- scope of the updated CEP, including its potential relationship with local authority climate plans.

## **11. Background Documents**

The Combined Authority's Climate and Environment Plan 2021 to 2024.

## **12. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Climate and Environment Plan Progress