



Report to:	Climate, Energy and Environment Committee
Date:	13 February 2024
Subject:	Green Jobs Taskforce and Skills
Director:	Felix Kumi-Ampofo, Director Inclusive Economy, Skills & Culture
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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 with an overview and update on skills activity following the publication of the Green Jobs Taskforce final recommendations and seek their views on the next stages of the green skills action plan.
- 1.2 To invite Members to attend the local launch of the report.

2. Information

- 2.1 Members have received regular updates and provided guidance on the development of the work of the Green Jobs Taskforce and subsequent green skills action plan, including in the [Climate Pledge Update](#) paper on 24 October 2023.
- 2.2 This paper will be accompanied by a presentation at Committee and seeks to consolidate previous updates and provide a complete overview of the Green Jobs Taskforce workstream as well as the next steps (Appendix 1).

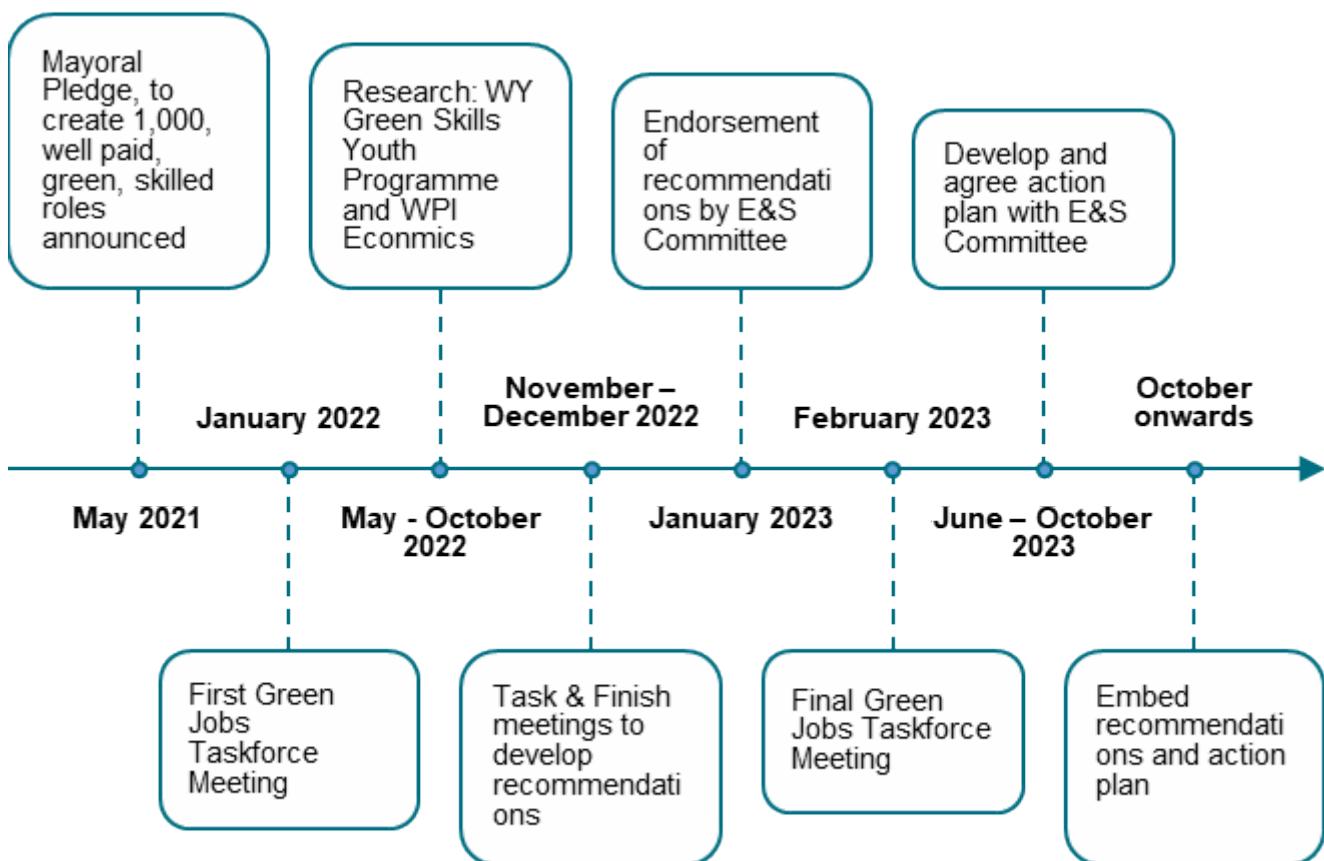
Background

- 2.3 The Combined Authority has declared a climate emergency and has set an ambitious target for the region to be net-zero carbon by 2038, with significant progress by 2030.



2.4 In August 2021, Mayor Tracy Brabin announced early action to drive the structural changes required to transition to a net zero carbon economy and deliver inclusive, sustainable growth with the creation of a Green Jobs Taskforce. Key partners from business, education and training and the third and public sectors worked together to position the region as a leader and set out recommendations, underpinned by evidence and actions, to deliver the skills for the jobs needed to address the climate emergency.

2.5 A summary timeline of Taskforce activity can be seen below.



2.6 Based on the commissioned research as well as a number of task and finish groups with wider partners and stakeholders, the Green Jobs Taskforce created a set of ambitious recommendations and identified policy interventions for action to support businesses, individuals, educators and to maximise opportunities and minimise identified challenges of our future green economy.

2.7 Key to achieving the Taskforce's recommendations will be a package of Digital Skills, Green Skills and Skills Support for Businesses interventions approved by the [Combined Authority in June 2023](#) to support:

- Individuals – to access green careers advice and training options and job information, opportunities, and pathways.
 - Educators - support for the Further Education sector to build capacity and respond to the green skills demand.
 - Businesses - support for businesses to decarbonise via upskilling and reskilling.
- 2.8 A local celebratory event is being planned to launch the report and showcase the work of the Taskforce. West Yorkshire is the first region in the UK to create a Taskforce prioritising green jobs, skills, and training, enabling stakeholders to identify their role and to work in partnership and collaboration to achieve our ambitions for a net-zero economy. Members are invited to join the celebration event at ITV Studios on 21 February 2024 at 3.30pm. Please [complete the registration form](#), to ensure we can cater to your needs on the day.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 The Green Jobs Taskforce report outlines proposed interventions that will develop the skills and employment needs of individuals and businesses in West Yorkshire to tackle the climate emergency and support the ambition to achieve net zero by 2038.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 Prioritising future ready skills and supporting businesses to decarbonise and benefit from the opportunities the green economy brings are vital to achieving a fair and just transition for the region.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 The final report by the Green Jobs Task Force has a specific recommendation and actions addressing specific challenges around EDI. An EqIA Stage I and II have been prepared as part of the package of support for green skills that will support delivery of the Taskforce's recommendations.

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 Small, medium and large business organisations, Local Authority senior officers, independent training providers, colleges and universities and young people were involved in the development of the Green Jobs Taskforce report.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 Members are requested to provide views on the next stages of the green skills action plan, in particular in relation to the package of support on green skills for individuals and employers.
- 10.2 To invite Members to attend the launch event of the report.

11. Background Documents

Climate, Energy and Environment Committee 24 October 2023: [Climate Pledge Update & Green Jobs Taskforce Report](#)

Combined Authority 22 June 2023: [Project Approvals – Investment Priority 2 – Skills and training for people](#)

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Presentation on green jobs and skills