

LOW CARBON HUB BOARD

Date: 2 March 2018

Subject: 'Fit for the Future 2 Report'

Report of: Mark Atherton, Assistant Director Environment

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To advise the Board of two national reports which assess the relative performance of LEPs and Combined Authorities on leadership and delivery on climate change and sustainability. The independent assessment was conducted by Sustainability West Midlands and funded by BEIS.

The GMCA and GM LEP are both ranked overall #1 in their individual assessments.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report be noted.

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1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Fit for the Future II reports, can be viewed via the link:

<http://www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/resources/fit-for-the-future-ii-2/>

1.2 These reports are aimed at those working for or with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), combined authorities and core cities at the local and national level, to integrate climate adaptation, mitigation and the low carbon economy into the economic strategies and the billion pounds worth of investments over the next five years.

1.3 The research represents the first national review of all combined authorities and core cities and the second national review of all 38 LEPs' commitments to tackling climate change and embracing the low carbon economy, based on information from their latest key strategies and interviews with key individuals. There are two separate reports reflecting this work that include league tables, case studies and recommendations.

1.4 A short summary, extracted from each report, is provided in the attached Annexes. However, if members wish to read more detail, the key pages are 18-26 in the LEP report and pages 49-55 in the CA report. Greater Manchester also has been cited as good practice in both reports.

ANNEX 01 - SUMMARY OF LEP RANKINGS (EXTRACTED FROM THE FIRT FOR THE FUTURE 2 LEP REPORT)

0% - 16.49% Minimal Evidence	16.5% - 49.9% Some evidence	50.0% - 83.0% Good evidence	83.1% - 100% Leading evidence
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Figure 4a: Overall league table reflecting LEP commitments to all of climate adaptation, mitigation and the low carbon economy.

	Rank chg 2015-2017	LEP	% - 2017*	% chg 2015- 2017
1	+2	Greater Manchester	64.1	-3.8
2	-1	New Anglia	59.0	-14.8
3	-1	Leeds City Region	59.0	-9.1
4	+12	Tees Valley	55.1	+6.4
5	+7	Oxfordshire	53.8	+4.0
6	+9	Greater Lincolnshire	53.8	+4.9
7	-1	Humber	52.6	-5.2
8	+19	Greater Cambridge & Peterborough	51.3	+7.6
9	-4	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	51.3	-9.1
10	+14	Liverpool City Region	50.0	+5.7
11	-3	Worcestershire	50.0	-2.9
12	-5	Leicester & Leicestershire	50.0	-5.9
13	-9	D2N2	47.4	-18.1
14	+9	Heart of the South West	47.4	+3.1
15	+16	Sheffield City Region	43.6	+1.5
16	+12	North East	43.6	+0.2
17	-7	Cheshire & Warrington	42.3	-9.1
18	-	Cumbria	42.3	-5.1
19	+15	Gloucestershire (GFirst)	42.3	+1.7
20	+6	Enterprise M3	42.3	-1.4
21	-12	York, North Yorkshire & East Riding	42.3	-10.5
22	+8	West of England	41.0	-1.9
23	+9	Greater Birmingham & Solihull	39.7	-1.8
24	-10	Black Country	39.7	-9.8
25	-4	London Enterprise Panel	38.5	-7.1
26	-9	Coventry & Warwickshire	37.2	-11.1
27	+6	Coast to Capital	37.2	-3.6
28	+7	South East	34.6	+5.8
29	-10	Stoke and Staffordshire	34.6	-12.0
30	-10	Hertfordshire	33.3	-13.0
31	-18	South East Midlands	32.1	-17.8
32	-3	Swindon & Wiltshire	32.1	-11.0
33	-11	Solent	29.5	-15.1
34	-9	Dorset	25.6	-18.0
35	-24	The Marches	25.6	-25.7
36	+2	Lancashire	24.4	-2.2
37	-1	Thames Valley Berkshire	21.8	-7.1
38	-1	Buckinghamshire Thames Valley	20.5	-7.6

* Where scores are level, the total scores for A, M and LCE are added and whichever LEP has the highest total is ranked above the other.

ANNEX 02 - SUMMARY OF COMBINED AUTHORITY RANKINGS (EXTRACTED FROM FIT FOR FUTURE 2 CA AND CORE CITY REPORT)

The table below provides a summary of the criteria and the ranking of each combined authority on sustainability. This uses broader social, environmental and economic criteria than our Core City and LEP benchmarking, however, there are many of the same low carbon and climate change metrics included within the assessment.

KEY	Poor evidence 0-15%	Some evidence 16-49%	Good practice & evidence 50-82%	Leading practice & evidence 83-100%
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Table 5: Summary benchmarking of sustainability leadership, strategy and delivery activity reported across all CAs

COMBINED AUTHORITIES	Sustainability Criteria for Combined Authorities (%)					Overall Score (Ranking of CA)
	Social Health inequality, fuel poverty, air quality	Environment Carbon emissions, green infrastructure, biodiversity, natural capital, climate resilience	Business, Low carbon economy, business support, buildings, resource efficiency	Energy Energy systems, renewables, district heating, energy efficiency	Transport Public transport, cycling/ walking, low emission vehicles and infrastructure	
CAMBRIDGE & PETERBOROUGH	14	6	8	8	17	11 (9)
GREATER MANCHESTER	64	75	64	61	78	68 (1)
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION	44	42	44	58	60	49 (3)
NORTH EAST	19	7	23	41	50	28 (6)
SHEFFIELD CITY REGION	15	36	42	30	36	31 (5)
TEES VALLEY	11	25	39	33	19	27 (7)
WEST OF ENGLAND	11	8	19	14	19	14 (8)
WEST YORKSHIRE	39	45	33	36	52	41 (4)
WEST MIDLANDS	56	44	50	42	70	52 (2)

Greater Manchester CA is the highest performer, not just on overall sustainability, but also on the low carbon aspects with strong commitments across areas such as fuel poverty, carbon emissions, low carbon business support, renewables and low carbon transport. Other strong performers include the West Midlands CA, Liverpool City Region CA and West Yorkshire CA.

ANNEX 03 - DEMONSTRATION OF BEST PRACTICE (CASE STUDY)

6.1 Carbon emissions and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority



Leadership

The GMCA has strong leadership on carbon emissions with a clear existing target to reduce carbon emissions by 48% by 2020 from 1990 levels supported by the new Mayor Andy Burnham. In addition, the Mayor is driving for accelerated progress.

"Within a year of the election, we will host a Mayor's Green Summit to declare a new, accelerated ambition for Greater Manchester on the green economy and carbon-neutrality"
- Mayoral Manifesto.

This leadership is then clearly supported by a Board member, staffing and partnership structures.

"Leader of Stockport Council Cllr Alex Ganotis will lead on Greater Manchester's efforts to improve and protect the environment, green spaces and air quality. He will also bring forward plans for a Green Summit, bringing together environmentalists, experts and others to set a new ambition for carbon neutrality across Greater Manchester" - GMCA Website.

"The CA's work is centred on our Low Carbon Hub, run by a board of public, private, voluntary, university and government representatives. The hub combines business innovation with a special interest in a green, sustainable environment. There are 16 members of the LCH Board, including senior representatives from LAs, Wildlife Trust, University, Housing association, BBC, Siemens, Viridor, EA, Arup, New Economy Manchester, Electricity NW. Staff contact: Mark Atherton, Director of Environment" - GMCA Website.

Strategy

The GMCA has an overall strategy, '*Stronger Together*,' which sets out the carbon reduction target. This is then cascaded and referred to within a range of other supporting strategies such as the GMCA Growth and Reform Plan and the GM Climate Change and Low Emission Strategy. The GMCA has the largest number of supporting plans and strategies of any CA, with good integration in the delivery of the overall carbon reduction target within the plans, although the number of plans can sometimes be difficult to navigate.

Delivery

There is also clear monitoring against the target in the annual review and across all activity.

"The new plan indicates that, from a 2013 baseline, 2.5 million tonnes CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalents) of savings will be delivered by 2020 if all of the existing and planned actions of this plan are fully implemented. There will be a further 1.2 million tonnes of cuts associated with background (national) activities on grid supply decarbonisation, appliance and vehicle efficiencies. This leaves at least 0.5 million tonnes of savings to be identified between now and 2020 beyond the proposed programme" - Annual Review.

"The various targets around air pollution, renewable energy and in particular the overarching carbon targets ensures that all activity undertaken by the GMCA considers whether it will contribute to these wider sustainability objectives. The Low Carbon Hub is led by senior individuals within organisations that make up the GMCA; this can ensure sustainability aspects are dealt with across all programmes" - GMCA Website.

GMCA is one of the few CA's that has an Annual Report which is very transparent about progress and provides a 'Red Amber Green' rating on whether projects have been delivered or not; this includes several low carbon and sustainability projects.

Within the devolution deal the Government has committed to working with GMCA to consider how the design and delivery of national climate/energy policies and programmes can be better aligned and integrated to support delivery of GMCA priorities. In addition, Government officials sit on the GM Low Carbon Hub Board, attend quarterly Board meetings to review progress, unblock barriers, identify future opportunities and enhance cooperation between national and local government. There are ongoing discussions about areas such as energy efficiency, community energy and business energy tax reform.



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