

Public Document Pack

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Chief Officer (Governance)
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



Contact Officer:
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To: Cllr David Evans (Chair)

Councillors: Mike Allport, Mel Buckley, Chris Dolphin, Mared Eastwood, Ian Hodge, Ray Hughes, Richard Lloyd, Mike Peers, Vicky Perfect, Dan Rose and Roy Wakelam

12 April 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF HYBRID MEETING
ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 18TH APRIL, 2023 at 10.00 AM

Yours faithfully

Steven Goodrum
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: Attendance at this meeting is either in person in the Lord Barry Jones Council Chamber, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire or on a virtual basis.

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. The live streaming will stop when any confidential items are considered. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

A G E N D A

1 **APOLOGIES**

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 **MINUTES** (Pages 5 - 10)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2023.

4 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING** (Pages 11 - 18)

Report of Environment and Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator -

Purpose: To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.

5 **HOUSING REGENERATION GRANTS AND LOANS POLICY** (Pages 19 - 30)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) - Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy

Purpose: to ask the Scrutiny Committee to review the draft refreshed Housing Regeneration Grants and Loans Policy and to recommend approval to Cabinet.

6 **COUNCIL PLAN 2023-28 DEVELOPMENT (E&E OSC)** (Pages 31 - 64)

Report of Chief Executive - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To share the Council Plan 2023-28 Part 1 and Part 2 draft content for review/feedback prior to sign off at Cabinet.

7 **NORTH WALES ENERGY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN AND LOCAL AREA ENERGY PLAN** (Pages 65 - 120)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) - Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy

Purpose: Adoption of Regional Energy Strategy & Action Plan and support for development of Local Area Energy Plans

Please note that there may be a 10 minute adjournment of this meeting if it lasts longer than two hours

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ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **7 MARCH 2023**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held on Tuesday, 7 March 2023.

PRESENT: Councillor David Evans (Chair)

Councillors: Mike Allport, Mel Buckley, Chris Dolphin, Mared Eastwood, Richard Lloyd, Mike Peers, Vicky Perfect, Dan Rose, and Roy Wakelam

SUBSTITUTION: Councillors Bernie Attridge for Councillor Ian Hodge and Councillor Teresa Carberry for Councillor Ray Hughes

CONTRIBUTORS:

Councillor Chris Bithell (Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection), Councillor Dave Hughes (Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and the Regional Transport Strategy), Councillor David Healey (Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation), Highways Network Manager, Area Network Manager, Bereavement Services Manager, Biodiversity Officer, Streetscene Supervisor, and Streetscene Maintenance Manager (South and Structures). For Minute No.63: David Matthews, Land and Property Programme Manager, Ambition North Wales.

IN ATTENDANCE: Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officers

60. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Teresa Carberry declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 8: Local Toilet Strategy.

61. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 10 January, 1 February, and 7 February 2023, were submitted.

The minutes were approved as an accurate record as moved and seconded by Councillor Roy Wakelam and Councillor Mike Allport.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

62. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking report. She referred to the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 23 March which would be a joint meeting with the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee to consider parking outside schools, and the items listed for consideration at future meetings. The

Facilitator also drew attention to the workshops on the exceptions criteria for the 20mph legislation implementation to be held on 15 March 2023.

The Facilitator referred to the Action Tracking report which was appended to the report and advised that all outstanding items had been completed.

Members were invited to raise any further items they wished to put forward for inclusion on the Programme.

The recommendations in the report were moved and seconded by Councillors Bernie Attridge and Roy Wakelam.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be approved;
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises; and
- (c) That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions

63. PRESENTATION FROM THE LAND & PROPERTY PROGRAMME MANAGER FOR AMBITION NORTH WALES

The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy) introduced the item to give an update on the current position on the Land and Property Programme projects and the replacement project process. He provided background information and context on the work of Ambition North Wales and introduced David Matthews, Land and Property Programme Manager, Ambition North Wales. Mr Matthews gave a presentation on the North Wales Growth Deal – Land and Property Programme which covered the following points:

- our Partners
- our vision
- principles
- objectives
- investment
- 5 programmes
 - Innovation in high value manufacturing
 - Agri-food and tourism
 - Digital connectivity
 - Land and property
 - Low carbon energy
- Warren Hall, Broughton
- Western Gateway, Wrexham
- former North Wales Hospital, Denbigh
- Parc Bryn Begin Bangor – Advance Light Industrial Development proposal
- Holyhead Gateway, Holyhead

Councillor Bernie Attridge asked for information concerning any investment made by Flintshire County Council in the Land and Property Programme and expressed concerns around the development and impact on

road infrastructure and land in Flintshire and the timelines. The Land and Property Programme Manager responded to the questions and comments raised by Councillor Attridge. The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) provided a further response to the comments regarding the Warren Hall, Broughton, development plan.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

64. STREETSCENE STANDARDS

The Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) presented a report which outlined the intention to review the existing Standards and recommend changes that link more closely to the Council Plan and portfolio Business Plan. She explained that the intention was to ensure that the service continued to meet the needs and expectations of the public and residents whilst making most efficient use of the available resources. The purpose of the report was to illustrate the inadequacies of the existing document and request support from the Scrutiny Committee for Streetscene & Transportation to review and retire the existing Standards. This would create a more robust and relevant suite of performance metrics that could be measured, monitored, and reported more effectively. The Chief Officer referred to the key considerations as detailed in the report.

Councillor Bernie Attridge suggested that a Task and Finish Group be convened to support the review of the Standards and this was supported by the Committee.

Councillor Mike Peers commented on the need to ensure that the Standards were enforced and not ignored. He supported the formation of a Task and Finish Group. In response to the concerns raised by Councillor Peers, the Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) encouraged Members to report any issues or shortcomings in performance directly to Officers, Customer Services or the Contact Centre so that the matter could be logged, recorded, allocated, and appropriate action taken.

Councillor Richard Lloyd raised concerns about the delays experienced by some residents in accessing the services provided by Contact Centres and requested that additional provision was made available in the Saltney ward to enable local residents to pay for services. He also commented on the cleaning of bus shelters and referred to the provision of bus shelters in his ward. Members commented on the need for up-to-date timetable information to be provided at bus shelters and bus timetables to be made available to the public in printed version as well as online.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved by Councillor Bernie Attridge and seconded by Councillor Roy Wakelam.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposal to retire the existing Streetscene Standards document be noted and the intended review to replace them with a revised suite of performance metrics that supported service standards in order to measure

performance against existing statutory obligations, the Council Plan and existing policies be supported;

- (b) That a further report be presented once the review has been completed; and
- (c) That a Task and Finish Group be convened to consider the development of the new Standards.

65. GRASS CUTTING POLICY

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) presented the report to advise the Committee of the revised Grass Cutting Policy following an all-member workshop, which was jointly held in January 2023 by the Streetscene & Transportation and Planning, Environment & Economy portfolios. She provided background information and explained that the purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the work undertaken to date by both portfolios and to consider the opportunities for policy review in the future. In addition, the report also included an update on the performance of the grass cutting operational service during 2022.

The Biodiversity Officer, Highway Network Manager, and Streetscene Supervisor, jointly reported on the main considerations as detailed in the report.

Councillor Bernie Attridge congratulated the Chief Officer and her team on the overall improvements in the grass cutting service. He also commented on some of the remaining concerns he had around tenants gardens and cited grass cutting in small areas belonging to sheltered housing as an example.

In response to the comments and questions raised by Councillor Richard Lloyd around maintenance of areas next to garages, the Chief Officer explained that the maintenance of garage areas belonging to social housing came under the remit of the Housing Service.

The recommendations in the report were moved and seconded by Councillors Bernie Attridge and Mike Allport.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the work undertaken to date and the opportunities to increase biodiversity in managing our road verges and amenity grasslands be supported; and
- (b) That the proposed changes to the grass cutting policy and the targeted reduction in the use of pesticides be supported.

66. LOCAL TOILET STRATEGY

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) provided background information and advised that Flintshire County Council was required to review and provide an 'end of period' progress statement for the local toilet strategy

within a year of each ordinary election for its area. The local government election date in Wales was 5 May 2022, which meant that the latest date for review was by 4 May 2023. The purpose of the report was to provide an overview of the legislative background and set out how the Council intended to review the current strategy.

The Area Network Manager presented the report and referred to the main considerations. The Chief Officer drew attention to the proposed timetable for the review as outlined in paragraph 1.07 of the report. The Highway Network Manager reported on the statutory public consultation exercise to be undertaken.

Councillor Bernie Attridge expressed concerns regarding the provision of public toilets in local communities in the future. He asked if further funding was available from the Welsh Government or alternative funding streams to improve on the facilities currently available. The Highways Network Manager responded to the comments and questions raised by Councillor Attridge and advised that new opportunities were being considered to offer provision across the County.

Councillor Mike Peers commented on facilities available in Town and Community Councils and referred to a proposed development in his ward.

The recommendations as set out in the report were moved and seconded by Councillors Bernie Attridge and Mike Allport.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposed review of the local toilet strategy be supported; and
- (b) That the intended approach and timescales as set out in the report be approved.

67. BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) provided background information and advised that the purpose of the report was to provide an update to members on the existing burial capacity within Flintshire cemeteries and give an overview of the options for reviewing and increasing capacity.

The Transportation Manager presented the report. He invited the Bereavement Services Manager to provide an overview of the remaining burial capacity at both Hawarden No. 2 and Buckley cemeteries, which was at a critical level with only four years left at each cemetery. He advised that two separate projects aimed at providing additional capacity at each of the locations were being progressed and gave an update on developments. He also reported on the alternative solutions, which could assist the current pressures and constraints associated with requirement for burial and the options that offered improved environmental benefits.

The Chair commented on the remaining capacity in Hawarden and Buckley cemeteries and asked how many requests for burial were “new requests” or were connected to existing family plots. Officers agreed to provide the information following the meeting. The Chair asked whether there was sufficient

existing land available in the county to expand provision and expressed concerns around the need to purchase additional land. He referred to the Local Development Plan (LDP) and whether this held any sites.

Councillor Chris Bithell asked if the Council had a policy on 'stacking' burials and the reasons for the preference for burials over cremations. The Bereavement Services Manager also responded to the questions and comments raised by Councillor Dan Rose on provision in neighbouring authorities, funeral costs and promotion of options available, the potential to utilise land in closed cemeteries, long term planning around the impact of demography and new and future housing developments, and timescale on the use of burial plots for family members.

The recommendations in the report were moved and seconded by Councillors Bernie Attridge and Roy Wakelam.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Scrutiny notes the current capacity levels at each of the county's cemeteries and notes the need to increase capacity at critical sites;
- (b) That Scrutiny supports an application for additional capital funding for the progression of Hawarden No. 2 cemetery extension;
- (c) That Scrutiny supports proposals to provide additional burial capacity within Buckley Cemetery and approves the future submission of a capital funding application; and
- (d) That Scrutiny approves the further exploration of alternative burial and cremation options as a means to support future cemetery capacity, subject to available funding.

68. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00am and ended at 12.28 pm)

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Chair



ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	18 April 2023
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking
Report Author	Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The report also shows actions arising from previous meetings of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. Any outstanding actions will be continued to be reported to the Committee as shown in Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.
3	That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?2. Is it an area of major change or risk?3. Are there issues of concern in performance?4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?6. Is the issue of public or Member concern?
1.03	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following a meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back to Overview & Scrutiny Committees, as 'Matters Arising' was not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.04	It was suggested that the 'Action tracking' approach be trialled for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Following a successful trial, it was agreed to extend the approach to all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
1.05	The Action Tracking details including an update on progress is attached at Appendix 2.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	In some cases, action owners have been contacted to provide an update on their actions.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme Appendix 2 – Action Tracking for the Environment & Economy OSC.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee as identified in Appendix 2. Contact Officer: Margaret Parry-Jones Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702427 E-mail: Margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Improvement Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

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Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2022/23

Date of Meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report/Presentation	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible/Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
16 May 2023 10.00 am	Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO's) review	To review the current PSPO's prior to consideration by Cabinet.	Policy Review	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy)	
	Town Centre Loans	To provide an update	Assurance	Niall Waller	
	Communities 4 Work	To provide an update on the closure of the Communities for Work programme across Wales following the end of the European Structural Fund programmes.	Assurance	Niall Waller	
	Integrated Transportation Strategy	To consider the Strategy	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	
13 June 2023 10.00 am	Welsh Government Deposit Return scheme	To receive an update	Assurance	Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation)	
	Low carbon Energy Programme (to be confirmed)	To receive an update on the Low Carbon Energy programme of Ambition North Wales.	Assurance	Facilitator	

ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
APPENDIX 1

Date of Meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report/Presentation	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible/Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
11 July 2023 10.00 am	Council Plan 2022-23 Year-End Performance	To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.	Performance monitoring	Chief Officers	
	Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Transition Plan	To consider the Ultra Low Emission Vehicle Transition Plan	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	

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Items to be added: -

October 2023 - Progress on the implementation of the conversion of the FCC fleet to electric and alternative fuels.

Action tracking from Environment & Economy OSC April 2023

Item/Date	Discussion	Action	By whom	Status
7 March 2023 Streetscene Standards Review 2022/23	A proposal from Cllr Bernie Attridge that a Task & Finish group be convened to contribute to the development of the new standards was supported by the committee.	Task & Finish Group to be set up	Christopher Goddard	Ongoing
7 March 2023 Bereavement Services	The Chair commented on the remaining capacity in Hawarden and Buckley cemeteries and asked how many requests for burial were “new requests” or were connected to existing family plots.	Officers agreed to provide the information following the meeting.	Richard Blake	Ongoing

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Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 18 April 2023
Report Subject	Housing regeneration grants and loans policy
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
Type of Report	Operational.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Housing Regeneration team role has shifted over the years since its creation as funding has become more focussed on carbon reduction in housing and less on wider measures to improve housing conditions in the private sector.

This report provides an update on the work of the team, sets out a series of recommended priorities for the team to focus on in the future, and proposes that the now outdated Private Sector Grants and Loans Policy is replaced with a simple schedule of grants and loans available to householders in Flintshire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the update on the work of the Housing Regeneration team is noted and that the future priorities for the service are supported.
2	That the grants and loans schedule is noted and that the process for amendment is supported with delegated authority given to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Countryside and the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) to vary the schedule as funding availability or requirements change.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE HOUSING REGENERATION GRANTS AND LOANS POLICY
	Background
1.01	The Housing Regeneration service has been in existence for many years, originally located within the Housing Directorate but eventually moving to the Planning, Environment and Economy Portfolio.
1.02	The service was created to improve the condition of housing in the private sector, to improve the energy efficiency of housing in all tenures, and to administer grants for housing improvement.
1.03	Considerable programmes of improvement to private sector housing took place in the years since the publication of the last policy, largely funded by Welsh Government, and Flintshire was successful in securing resources to improve energy efficiency of homes and to modernise old properties through the Group Repair Programme. This included fitting external insulation, replacing windows, doors and roofs, and other “enveloping” works. However, the majority of these programmes have ceased operating and resources for housing regeneration are now limited to Welsh Government funded loans for improvement works, delivered by local government across Wales, for example the Owner Occupier Loan product which funds property renovation.
1.04	The majority of the work of the service is now focussed on improving the energy efficiency of housing in Flintshire to reduce carbon emissions and to contribute to reducing fuel poverty. The service does not receive any Council core funding to support staff costs or deliver services other than a small capital allocation to deliver housing regeneration improvements. The service supports itself through service level agreements with clients (for example the Housing Revenue Account) and through external funding.
1.05	The team currently delivers the following services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the Welsh Government funded housing loans programme which includes a number of interest free loan products to improve private sector housing conditions. • Delivering energy efficiency improvements to the Council’s housing stock including modern gas boilers, air source heat pumps, solar panels, insulation and other energy efficiency measures. • Providing a responsive management service to maintain and replace heating equipment in the Council’s housing stock. • Securing external funding to support vulnerable households to improve the energy efficiency of their homes – in all tenures. • Providing energy efficiency advice and referring households to a broad range of other agencies for support. • Providing a crisis fund to provide emergency support to vulnerable households that are not eligible for any other funding. • Managing the ECO4 checks on behalf of OFGEM which allows contractors to access funding to install energy efficiency measures

	<p>in private homes. The service is delivered in both Flintshire and Denbighshire.</p> <p>The team takes a very person-centred approach to delivering services. Officers spend time with customers to fully understand their household situation in order to recommend the best energy efficiency solutions and to be able to effectively refer them to wider agencies for support. Many customers, due to age and/or vulnerability, are very reluctant to receive support and this approach builds trust and enables them to receive the (sometimes lifesaving) support they need.</p>
1.06	<p>During 2022/2023 the service has provided support to 1,293 households.</p> <p>To better illustrate the work of the service, case studies are provided below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Customer A identified as vulnerable following breakdown of personal relationship and health issues. There was no working heating at the property which also required some further renovation. Following an initial enquiry, a home visit was arranged to help them to get a connection to the gas network. Due to the urgency of the situation a temporary liquid petroleum gas boiler was installed while we waited for the gas connection. Following the gas connection, the team arranged for a gas meter to be installed at the property and the fuel switch was then completed just in time for Christmas. The customer was extremely grateful to have a warm home in time for the holidays. 2. Customer B approached the team due to having no working heating. The customer was identified as extremely vulnerable due to age and serious health conditions which were exacerbated by the cold. The customer had no excess income or savings to fund the boiler replacement. After a telephone triage it was established that customer was spending 19% of his income on energy, putting an extreme strain on his finances and mental health as well as his physical wellbeing. The team was able to secure a survey and quote to the customer within days of the initial enquiry being received. As a result of the new boiler installed at the property his energy costs reduced to 7.88% of his income. 3. Mrs X had replacement windows and doors in 2022 through a housing loan. She had been unable to open her windows for fresh air or to get out of in case of emergency, which made Mrs X feel like she had been “released from prison!” when the new windows and doors were installed. Mrs X was “absolutely delighted” and said that they “look brilliant!” She can “already feel the house is warmer” which is an additional benefit to her given increasing energy prices. 4. Mrs Y has said “We applied for the loan as our existing bedroom was mouldy, cold and damp was causing my husband’s severe health conditions to worsen. The whole application was relatively easy to apply for and our point of contact, Flintshire Council staff (Jill) were really helpful and friendly throughout the whole process... We had the cold/damp/mouldy room demolished and a new

	extension was built, this has since been turned into our lounge and it is so warm, comfortable, safe and secure. It has been a great way of being able to improve our home and my husband's health."
	Grants and loans policy
1.07	The Council policy on private sector housing improvement was last published in 2010. The purpose of the policy was to steer Council private sector home improvement programmes and determine the priorities for action. In addition to setting out a policy framework for housing renewal and regeneration, it also set out a detailed schedule of grants and loans to be offered by the Council to householders to improve their properties, many of which were externally funded.
1.08	The policy is now significantly out of date. This creates two issues for the Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Council officers do not have a clear policy framework to operate within when they are issuing grants and loans; and 2) Interested parties are not able to easily view the grants and loans that the Council is able to offer.
1.09	The last private sector stock condition survey was undertaken in 2016 and found that 12.2% of properties in the County had Category 1 hazards present (those with the greatest potential to cause harm to the occupants) which was a similar level of failure as the national picture. Hazards were twice as likely to be present in the private rented sector as in owner-occupied homes. Excess cold was the main source of failure.
1.10	Fuel poverty is expected to be at an extremely high level due to a combination of rising energy prices, static wages and the country's large stock of relatively energy-inefficient homes. An estimate by the Child Poverty Action Group in August 2022 showed that 60.8% of Welsh households would be in fuel poverty by January 2023 with larger households, retired people and lone parents at particular risk.
1.11	There is little likelihood that significant resources will be available in the future for private sector housing improvement and that the service will remain predominantly focused on domestic energy efficiency. This simpler and smaller range of services does not, it is suggested, require its own policy in the future.
1.12	Any programmes of funding that are available tend to have their criteria set by the funder and the Council delivers the resources to householders in accordance with these criteria. Any external funding available also tends to change regularly. It is therefore suggested that a simple and flexible schedule of grants and loans is used in the future, published on the Council website for clarity, and with changes approved as needed under delegated authority by the Chief Officer and Cabinet Member.
	Priorities for the Housing Regeneration service
1.13	It is proposed that the future priorities for the service are as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with the Housing and Carbon Reduction teams to reduce carbon emissions from the Council's housing stock and reduce the risk of fuel poverty for tenants. • To provide energy efficiency advice to any household that requests it and refer households on to other support agencies as needed. • To access external funding to provide energy efficiency measures and wider housing improvements to any households that are a) vulnerable; b) on low incomes and/or c) at risk of fuel poverty. • To provide energy efficiency installation and management services to other organisations on a full cost recovery basis. • To provide a small-scale crisis fund grant to the most vulnerable households who have no other funding options available to them (when available funding allows).
1.15	The current schedule of grants and loans issued by the service is attached as Appendix 1. The majority of the criteria and requirements are set by Welsh Government and passported by the Council on to applicants. The schedule is subject to change whenever resource available changes, whenever funders change their rules or as new funds become available.
1.16	It is therefore proposed that the schedule is a fluid document that can be amended as needed. It is suggested that delegated authority to approve amendments is given to the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Countryside and the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) and that the current version of the schedule is made available on the Council web site.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None arising directly from this report.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT						
3.01	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">This report recommends a formalisation of existing arrangements rather than new provision.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	This report recommends a formalisation of existing arrangements rather than new provision.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement
Long-term	This report recommends a formalisation of existing arrangements rather than new provision.						
Prevention							
Integration							
Collaboration							
Involvement							
	Well-being Goals Impact						
	Prosperous Wales	Although the work of the service helps to reduce poverty, the report recommends a formalisation of existing provision rather than new provision.					
	Resilient Wales	No impact.					

	Healthier Wales	Although there is a clear link between housing condition and good health, which the work of the service promotes, the report recommends a formalisation of existing provision rather than new provision.
	More equal Wales	Although the work of the service targets support to the most vulnerable households, the report recommends a formalisation of existing provision rather than new provision.
	Cohesive Wales	No impact.
	Vibrant Wales	No impact.
	Globally responsible Wales	Although the work of the service reduces carbon emissions from housing in the County, the report recommends a formalisation of existing provision rather than new provision.
<p>Risk management</p> <p>There are no new identified risks emerging from this report. Rather, the report ensures that the Council offers grants and loans in a more transparent manner, reducing the risk that householders will miss out on support.</p>		

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Schedule of grants and loans

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Niall Waller (Enterprise and Regeneration Manager) Telephone: 01352 702137 E-mail: niall.waller@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p>ECO4 – the latest scheme from OFGEM which places an obligation on energy suppliers to help low income, fuel poor and vulnerable households to heat their homes.</p> <p>Fuel poverty – defined by Welsh Government as spending more than 10% of their income (after housing costs) on energy. More than 20% is classed as severe fuel poverty.</p> <p>OFGEM – Office of Gas and Electricity Markets which is the energy regulator for Great Britain.</p>

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Housing Regeneration service

Schedule of loans and grants

April 2023

Product	Funder	Description	Eligibility criteria	Conditions	Amount	Availability
Owner Occupier Loan	Welsh Government	An interest free home enhancement loan designed to improve substandard properties to be safe, warm and secure.	Applicant must have an owners interest Applicant must pass an affordability check Applicant must have sufficient equity within their property to cover a minimum Loan-to-value ratio of 80% Terms and conditions must specify the purpose for which the loan is required.	Property must be occupied by the applicant as their main residence. On completion of the works, no category 1 hazards should be present. Loans only provided to fully funded schemes, with evidence of alternative funding required if the loan is part funding the work Administration costs, payable to the Council, will be applied to a maximum of £500	Initial loan limit set at £25,000 but can be increased to a maximum of £35,000 subject to eligibility testing and loan assessment Minimum loan of £1,000 The Council holds a share of the property value, to the final cost of the works or the loan value drawn down. Loan is repaid on monthly staged payments up to a maximum loan term of 10 years. Sale or transfer of the property prior to repayments being completed will trigger full repayment of the loan balance. Voluntary early repayment of the entire loan balance may be made at any time with no financial penalties.	Available until 2030.
Owner Occupier Energy Loan	Welsh Government	The loan maximises the use of a loan aiming to encourage uptake of renewable heat technologies amongst householders. The loan will work in conjunction with other funding streams in order to reduce the loan amount. An example would be the governments Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS), The BUS scheme offers people switching from boilers to renewable technologies, such as air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps and biomass boilers, an upfront payment to help towards the capital cost.	Applicant has an owners interest Applicant must pass an affordability check Applicant must have sufficient equity within their property to cover a minimum Loan-to-value ratio of 80% Terms and conditions must specify the purpose for which the loan is required,	Property must be occupied by the applicant as their main residence Administration costs, payable to the Council, will be applied to a maximum of £250	Maximum loan of £7,000 subject to eligibility testing and loan assessment Minimum loan of £1,000 The Council holds a share of the property value, to the final cost of the works or the loan value drawn down Loan is repaid on monthly staged payments up to a maximum loan term of 7 years. Sale or transfer of the property prior to repayments being completed will trigger full repayment of the loan balance. Voluntary early repayment of the entire loan balance may be made at any time with no financial penalties.	Available until 2030.
Owner Occupier Financial Assistance	Welsh Government	An interest free home enhancement loan designed to tackle Housing Health and Safety Risk Assessment (HHSRS) hazards. An example would be, works to remedy serious disrepair, provide modern kitchen and bathroom facilities, improve heating systems and insulation, and to remove any serious hazards which could affect the well-being of the occupier, such as dampness, dangerous stairs or electrical wiring. This loan is not available to applicants eligible for an Owner Occupier or a Landlord Loan.	Applicant must have been assessed for an Owner Occupier loan and failed an affordability check Applicant must have sufficient equity within their property to cover a Loan. Terms and conditions must specify the purpose for which the assistance is required.	Property must be occupied by the applicant as their main residence. On completion of the works, no category 1 hazards should be present. Assistance is provided only to remove HHSRS hazards, no other work is considered. Administration costs, payable to the Council, will be applied to a maximum of £250.	Targeted maximum assistance amount of £25,000, although assistance above the target threshold is available subject to exception circumstances such as extensive disrepair caused through multiple category 1 hazards Minimum loan of £500 The Council holds a share of the property value, to the final cost of the works or the loan value drawn down as a percentage of the value of the property. Quantified on completion of the work as the percentage ratio between the value of the property and the value of the loan for a maximum term of 25 years	Available until 2030 or until fund depleted.

Product	Funder	Description	Eligibility criteria	Conditions	Amount	Availability
			The assistance is offered at the discretion of Flintshire Council on a case by case basis.		Sale or transfer of the property prior to the completion of the 25 year period will trigger full payment of the loan balance. Voluntary early repayment of the entire loan balance may be made at any time with no financial penalties.	
Landlord Loan (operated by Community and Business Protection Service)	Welsh Government	The Landlord Loan will help owners bring empty properties back in to use. This is in the form of an interest free loan to cover works which bring the property up to the Decent Homes Standard. An example would be, works to remedy serious disrepair, provide modern kitchen and bathroom facilities, improve heating systems and insulation, and to remove any serious hazards which could affect the well-being of the occupier, such as dampness, dangerous stairs or electrical wiring.	Applicant has an owner's interest. Applicant must have sufficient equity within their property to cover the loan amount or offer an alternative property with sufficient equity for security. Property to be improved must be long term vacant (over 6 months).	On completion of the works, the property must be habitable and of a lettable standard (no category 1 hazards). Property must be covered by buildings insurance until the loan is repaid and evidence provided. Administration costs, payable to the Council, will be applied to a maximum of £500.	Maximum loan of £25,000 subject to eligibility testing and loan assessment (£150,000 per applicant maximum). The Council holds a share of the property value, to the final cost of the works or the loan value drawn down. Maximum loan term is 2 years for sale and 5 years for rent. Sale or transfer of the property prior to repayments being completed will trigger full repayment of the loan balance. Voluntary early repayment of the entire loan balance may be made at any time with no financial penalties.	Until 2030
Affordable Warmth Crisis Fund Grant	Flintshire County Council	A grant will be made available to households that are living in fuel poverty or are suffering from ill health and are vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold home, towards the cost of any measures that will increase their ability to live in a warm home. This could include new heating systems, insulation, heating controls, and repairs. An appraisal process will be undertaken that assesses household income, the characteristics and energy rating of the property and the medical conditions and age composition of the household.	Applicant has an owner's interest. Applicant is in receipt of a relevant means tested benefit. Vulnerable to the effects of living in a cold house. (As defined by The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence 2015 guidance on excess winter deaths and illness caused by cold homes.) In fuel poverty if more than 10% of total household income is spent on fuel costs. Or Low income households living in energy inefficient housing. SAP below 54 or EPC below an E		Maximum grant of £3,000. Award of funding will be on a sliding scale dependant on fuel poverty score – between 30% fuel poverty at £3,000 to 10% fuel poverty at £500. Eligibility due to exceptional circumstances, such as a life limiting health condition or prolonged exposure to a HHSRS Cat 1 hazard, will be considered at Regeneration Managers discretion, taking into account a residents ability to afford a contribution, or possible qualification for an alternative loan product.	Subject to availability of funding
Whole House Affordable Warmth Fund Grant	Flintshire County Council	Flintshire County Council utilises funding from a number of sources for the purposes of reducing fuel poverty in the county. The grant is available to cover works which will increase the thermal efficiency of a property as well as help to remedy any serious disrepair such as, roofing, double glazing, improve	Applicant has an owner's interest. Applicant is in receipt of a relevant means tested benefit. Property non-decent or has category 2 hazards significantly above the average age of the property.	On completion of the works, no category 1 hazards should be present. A proportion of the grant must be repaid if the property is sold or transferred within 5 years. Repayment will be reduced by 20% for each full year	Targeted maximum assistance amount of £25,000, although assistance above the target threshold is available subject to exception circumstances such as extensive disrepair caused through category 1 hazards. The Council holds a share of the property value, to the final cost of the works or the loan value drawn down for a maximum term of 5 years.	Subject to availability of funding

Product	Funder	Description	Eligibility criteria	Conditions	Amount	Availability
		heating systems and insulation, and to remove any serious hazards which could affect the well-being of the occupier, such as dampness, dangerous stairs or electrical wiring. This grant is not available to applicants eligible for an Owner Occupier Loan.	Applicant with owner's interest having no income. Calculation made based on Housing benefit limit of £16,000 with a calculation on savings between £6k and £16k to determine income and fuel poverty eligibility	elapsed since the completion date Property must be occupied for 5 years.	Sale or transfer of the property prior to completion of the 5 year period will trigger full payment of the loan balance. Voluntary early repayment of the entire grant balance may be made at any time before the 5 year term with no financial penalties. The Council will not hold a share of the property for grant funding below £5,000	

Eligibility testing and loan assessment

The Council will provide property loans to owner occupiers, to improve properties and bring empty properties back into use to house residents.

Applicants are assessed for affordability by comparing household expenditure against income to determine if there is sufficient surplus income to repay the loan.

Risk mitigation measures are to calculate a loan to value ratio to ensure sufficient free equity is available and a land charge is placed against either the property being developed or, as with the case of a Landlord loan, an alternative property can be used to secure the loan.

Appeals and applications falling outside the Policy

Although this Policy will be the primary consideration in determining applications, all such applications shall be dealt with on an individual basis, based on the merits of each particular case.

It is recognised that there will always be exceptional circumstances. Exceptional cases will be considered by the Senior Manager and/or Head of Service.

Any person wishing to make an appeal against a decision made under this Policy, or make an application for assistance outside this Policy, should initially write to the Housing Regeneration Manager, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, CH7 6NF.

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ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 18 th April, 2023
Report Subject	Council Plan 2023-28 Development
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and the Regional Transport Strategy; Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection; and Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy); and Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan for 2023-28 has been reviewed and refreshed to reflect the key priorities of the Council for the five-year term of the new administration.

The 'super-structure' of the Plan comprises of seven priorities and relevant sub-priorities. The seven priorities take a long-term view of recovery, projects and ambitions over the next five years.

The Council Plan 2023-28 will be published in a similar format to previous years, identifying actions aimed at achieving the Well-being objectives, priorities and sub-priorities. National and regional issues/risks which could impact on the achievement of these priorities will be identified and monitored.

Part 2 of the Council Plan will be considered by the respective Overview and Scrutiny committees to ensure full coverage of Part 1 of the Council Plan 2023-28 and its respective measures and their targets.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To support the Council Plan 2023-28 Part 1 and Part 2 documents that outline the actions, measures and risks that underpin the Priorities, Sub-Priorities and Well-being objectives of the Council Plan 2023-28.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	COUNCIL PLAN 2023-28
1.01	<p>It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 for organisations to 'set out any actions to increase the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements.' Plans for organisations should be robust; be clear on where it wants to go; and how it will get there.</p>
1.02	<p>A full review has been undertaken to ensure the appropriateness and relevance of the well-being objectives, priorities, and sub-priorities going forward. This includes a review of the current Council Plan 2022-23 to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • priority actions that continue from 2023 onwards for sustained attention • priority actions which could be removed as they have been completed or become operational (business as usual); and • emerging new priority areas, actions and measures for 2023-28
1.03	<p>The high-level structure of the Council Plan 2023-28 was agreed in October 2022, and consists of seven priorities, well-being objectives, and a number of sub-priorities. The priorities relevant to the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee are detailed below:</p> <p>Priority: Green Society and Environment Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint Sub-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phosphates Mitigation - Net Zero Carbon Council (Previously called Carbon Neutrality) - Climate Change Adaptation - Flood Risk Management Strategy - Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment - Fleet Strategy - Green Environment - Flintshire Forest - Green Access - Renewable Energy* (Removed) - Active and Sustainable Travel Options - Circular Economy <p>Priority: Economy Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling sustainable economic recovery and growth Sub-priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rural Regeneration - Levelling Up* (Removed) - Town Centre Regeneration - Business - Transport Connectivity - Digital Infrastructure - Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spending Money for the benefit of Flintshire* (Removed) - Reducing Worklessness
1.04	A lot of work has taken place within each of the portfolios to identify the actions, measures and risks that sit beneath each of the sub priorities and underpin the Council Plan. The actions, measures and risks for the sub-priorities relevant to the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee are detailed within the Council Plan Part 2 document attached at Appendix 2.
1.05	Following adoption by County Council, the Council Plan 2023-28 will be available as a web-based document published on the Flintshire County Council website.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Resource implications have been considered during preparation of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and Capital Programme and will continue to be monitored during the regular budget monitoring and financial review arrangements.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	To date, all Members have had the opportunity to consider and review the draft Well-being objectives, priorities and sub-priorities before these were agreed in October 2022.
3.02	All Members will have the opportunity to review the Council Plan Part 2 document and scrutinise any actions, measures and/or targets set for 2023-28.

4.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT								
4.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all of their working. A high-level Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken on the Council Plan 2023-28. This will be supported with an overview of the Integrated Impact Assessments that will be carried out to support the actions identified within the Council Plan 2023-28.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td>The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all of their working. A high-level Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken on the Council Plan 2023-28. This will be supported with an overview of the Integrated Impact Assessments that will be carried out to support the actions identified within the Council Plan 2023-28.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement	Prosperous Wales	The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to
Long-term	The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to be aligned to the Sustainable Development Principles across all of their working. A high-level Integrated Impact Assessment will be undertaken on the Council Plan 2023-28. This will be supported with an overview of the Integrated Impact Assessments that will be carried out to support the actions identified within the Council Plan 2023-28.								
Prevention									
Integration									
Collaboration									
Involvement									
Prosperous Wales	The Council Plan 2023-28 continues to								

	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> <td rowspan="6">provide evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More equal Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cohesive Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vibrant Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Globally responsible Wales</td> </tr> </table>	Resilient Wales	provide evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Globally responsible Wales
Resilient Wales	provide evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.							
Healthier Wales								
More equal Wales								
Cohesive Wales								
Vibrant Wales								
Globally responsible Wales								
<p>Council's Well-being Objectives The Council's Well-being objectives have been reviewed as part of this exercise. The refreshed set Well-being objectives is found within this report in section 1.03.</p>								

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1 - Council Plan 2023-28 Part 1: An overview of the Well-being Objectives, Priorities, Sub priorities and their definitions</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Council Plan 2023-28 Part 2: How achievements will be measured - Supporting Actions, Measures and Risks</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Sam Perry, Performance and Risk Management Support Officer Telephone: 01352 701476 E-mail: Sam.perry@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Council Plan: The document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council.</p> <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy: A written strategy which gives a forecast of the financial resources which will be available to a Council for a given period and sets out plans for how best to deploy those resources to meet its priorities, duties and obligations.</p> <p>Council Plan Part 2: The document which underpins the Council Plan, which captures the Actions, Measures, and Risks set out within each priority.</p>

Council Plan 2023/28 – Part 1

Priority Name	Green Society and Environment
Description/ Well-being Objective	Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint
Phosphates Mitigation Definition: Provision of viable and deliverable options to mitigate the impact of phosphates from new development on Special Areas of Conservation protected rivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Producing guidance on viable and deliverable options to mitigate the impact of phosphates from new development on SAC protected rivers – by March 2024
Net Zero Carbon Council (Changed from Carbon Neutrality) Definition: A net carbon zero Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing the procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers – by March 2024 Developing plans towards net zero carbon for our assets in line with Welsh Government guidance – by March 2024 Working with Flintshire's leisure and culture trust partners to reduce carbon emissions – by March 2024 A net zero carbon Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery – by 2030 Aura's Council-owned building assets to contribute towards the wider net carbon zero ambition – by March 2024
Climate Change Adaptation Definition: Be more resilient to the changes that have happened due to climate change and prepare for predicted future change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing the Council's Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment – by June 2023 Reviewing the Council's Flood Risk Management Strategy – by June 2024 Carrying out flood investigations and alleviation works where appropriate – by March 2024 Assessing the feasibility of schemes within land assets for resisting flood and drought while enhancing biodiversity and increasing carbon storage – by March 2024 Ensuring climate change and biodiversity are considered a priority in key decision making across all Council services – by March 2024 Identifying projects to further support climate adaptation ambitions following Welsh Government guidance – by March 2024
Flood Risk Management Strategy Definition:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing the Council's Flood Risk Management Strategy – by June 2024

<p>Refresh the Council's flood risk management strategy to align with the national strategy and identify communities at most risk in Flintshire and the actions required to mitigate this risk</p>	
<p>Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment</p> <p>Definition: Review the Council's Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment in light of the Ministerial letter of November 2021, to prepare for the implementation of revised TAN15 Development and Flood Risk guidance which becomes operational in June 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Council's Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment – by June 2023
<p>Fleet Strategy</p> <p>Definition: Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the environmental impact of Aura's fleet via the wider agreement with the Council – by March 2024 • Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet by transitioning to ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV) – by March 2030
<p>Green Environment</p> <p>Definition: Enhance and increase biodiversity and trees to deliver multiple benefits for people, wildlife, and the environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering an increase in canopy cover as part of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan – by March 2024 • Progressing Ash Dieback Action Plan – by March 2024 • Enhancing the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty – by March 2024 • Developing a strategy to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration on the agricultural estate – by March 2024
<p>Flintshire Forest</p> <p>Definition: Development of a plan to establish a Flintshire Forest that will identify available land assets, budget requirements and a realistic delivery timescale</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a Flintshire Forest Plan – by March 2024
<p>Green Access</p> <p>Definition: The promotion, good management, and protection of our green spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring opportunities to develop the Flintshire Coast Park through the production of a scoping study – by March 2024 • Delivering the Rights of Way Improvement Plan with a focus to ensure improved access for all and the promotions of Walking for Health – by March 2024

<p>to deliver multiple benefits to the environment and our residents and visitors</p>	
<p>Renewable Energy</p> <p>Definition: The promotion and support of renewable energy opportunities across the Council Estate and wider communities</p>	<p>REMOVED - Captured within the Climate Change and Adaptation Sub Priority</p>
<p>Active and Sustainable Travel Options</p> <p>Definition: Create opportunities to increase levels of walking and cycling (active travel) and the use of sustainable public transport options, enabling the undertaking of multi-modal transport journeys to access key destinations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of 20mph national legislation - by September 2023 • Promoting active travel and further develop the County's walking and cycleway network - by March 2028 • Supporting the development of public electric vehicle charging network - by March 2028 • Implementing formalised crossing facilities at existing school crossing patrol sites - by March 2028 • Declassification of hazardous routes across the county where appropriate through the implementation of engineering initiatives - by March 2028
<p>Circular Economy</p> <p>Definition: Support and promote the Welsh Government's strategy to create a sustainable, circular economy in Flintshire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Council's Waste Strategy – by September 2023 • Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets – by March 2024 • Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing recycling initiatives – by March 2024 • Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local Charities or social enterprises – by March 2024 • Developing a Recycling Waste Transfer Station for the deposit and processing of recyclable materials – by March 2025

Priority Name	Economy
Description/ Well-being Objective	Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth
<p>Rural Regeneration</p> <p>Definition: Ensure that Economy interventions consider and meet the needs of rural businesses and individuals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that Economy interventions consider and meet the needs of rural businesses and individuals – by March 2024 • Recruit a Digital Connectivity Officer to support rural communities to access better quality connectivity options – buy June 2023. • Commission a data review for rural Flintshire and hold community consultation to better understand rural community needs – by March 2024.
<p>Levelling Up</p> <p>Definition: Prepare and submit bids to the UK Government Levelling Up Fund programme to invest in projects in deprived coastal communities in Flintshire</p>	<p>REMOVED - The Council was not awarded any funding by UK Government from the Levelling Up Fund programme. Any actions and risks associated with LUF have therefore, been removed</p>
<p>Town Centre Regeneration</p> <p>Definition: Regenerate and re-invent our town centres</p> <p>Linked to Personal and Community Well-being</p> <p>Linked to Affordable and accessible housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions – by March 2024 • Encouraging and supporting investment in town centre properties specially to facilitate more sustainable uses and including improvements to the environment – by March 2024 • Understanding the needs of and supporting community enterprises in town centre locations – by March 2024 • Engaging town centre small businesses and promote support packages available to them – by March 2024 • Libraries and leisure centres are community well-being hubs with social objectives underpinning their operation – by March 2024
<p>Business</p> <p>Definition: Enable business continuity and encourage appropriate investment</p> <p>Linked to Green Society and Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting small and/or local businesses to engage with public sector procurement opportunities – by March 2024 • Supporting recovery of the County’s Street and indoor markets – by March 2024 • Supporting growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects – by March 2024

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry – by March 2024 Increasing the scale and impact of the social business sector – by March 2024 Supporting local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient – March 2024
<p>Transport Connectivity</p> <p>Definition: Develop and promote effective transport connectivity while supporting recovery and economic growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update the Councils integrated transport strategy – by March 2024 Supporting the establishment of CJsCs and delivery of the Joint Regional Transport Plan - by May 2024
<p>Digital Infrastructure</p> <p>Definition: Ensure the digital networks facilitate and support recovery and growth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving digital connectivity across the County for businesses and residents – by March 2024
<p>Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets</p> <p>Definition: Achieve Local Development Plan (LDP) policy objectives for growth, protection, and enhancement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government – by January 2024 Maintaining and update the LDP Housing Trajectory in line with planning decisions made – by March 2024 Making decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted LDP – by March 2024 Referencing the LDP growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP) - by March 2024
<p>Spending money for the benefit of Flintshire</p> <p>Definition: Grow our local economic vitality through social value commitments and procurement strategy</p>	<p>REMOVED - Now business as usual and therefore, does not warrant a specific sub priority within the new Council Plan</p>
<p>Reducing Worklessness</p> <p>Definition: Work with our partners to support individuals to gain employment</p> <p>Linked to Poverty</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-ordinating a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit people from disadvantaged groups – by March 2024 Delivering mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market - by March 2024

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Plan 2023/28

PART 2

How achievements will be measured - Supporting actions, tasks, and measures

Version 6 – March 2023

Performance Achievements 2023/28

Actions, tasks and measures have been set to monitor progress against an activity or plan. Actions are dated according to the target month for achievement. Performance will be monitored by percentage progress against the actions with supporting commentary.

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Phosphates Mitigation	Provision of viable and deliverable options to mitigate the impact of phosphates from new development on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) protected rivers	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- To produce guidance on viable and deliverable options to mitigate the impact of phosphates from new development on SAC protected rivers – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- PE33 - Provision of viable and deliverable options to mitigate the impact of phosphates from new development on SAC protected rivers

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Completion of Flintshire County Council’s Wetlands Feasibility Study Report	N/A	1
Completion of Review of Permits at wastewater treatment works by NRW	N/A	1
Upgrade of Mold and Buckley wastewater treatment works by DCWW	N/A	1

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Net Zero Carbon Council	A net carbon zero Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy AURA

Achievement Actions:

- Reviewing the procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers – by March 2024
- Developing plans towards net zero carbon for our assets in line with Welsh Government guidance – by March 2024
- Working with Flintshire's leisure and culture trust partners to reduce carbon emissions – by March 2024
- A net zero carbon Council by 2030 and supporting wider decarbonisation actions across the County, making this central to Covid-19 recovery – by 2030
- AURA's Council-owned building assets to contribute towards the wider net zero carbon ambition – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- PE11 - Affordability of the Council being able to achieve its net zero carbon goal. Inability to commit or attract sufficient resource to coordinate the programme and deliver on projects, leading to opportunities not being maximised, actions not delivered, and benefits not realised
- PE36 - Risk of new opportunities arising between now and 2030 that we need to respond to support our carbon ambitions. Advances in carbon calculation methodologies and technological improvements could result in updates needed to the Council's targets and trajectory to 2030
- PE37 - Risk of not meeting public expectation on climate change agenda and democratic and reputational damage this could cause

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Reduction in Council greenhouse gas emissions	46,433	33,521 (total emissions not reduction amount)
Percentage of Councilors received carbon related training	N/A	80
Percentage of employees received carbon related training	N/A	5

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of contracts with carbon impact assessed	N/A	10
Percentage of schools accessing the support package	N/A	15
Percentage of Town and Community Councils accessing the support package	N/A	15

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Climate Change and Adaptation	Be more resilient to the changes that have happened due to climate change and prepare for predicted future change	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy
<p>Achievement Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the Council’s Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment – June 2023 • Reviewing the Council’s Flood Risk Management Strategy – June 2024 • Carrying out flood investigations and alleviation works where appropriate – by March 2024 • Assessing the feasibility of schemes within land assets for resisting flood and drought while enhancing biodiversity and increasing carbon storage – by March 2024 • Ensuring climate change and biodiversity are considered a priority in key decision making across all Council services – by March 2024 • Identifying projects to further support climate adaptation ambitions following Welsh Government guidance – by March 2024 		
<p>Associated Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE11 - Affordability of the Council being able to achieve its net zero carbon goal. Inability to commit or attract sufficient resource to coordinate the programme and deliver on projects, leading to opportunities not being maximised, actions not delivered, and benefits not realised • PE36 - Risk of new opportunities arising between now and 2030 that we need to respond to support our carbon ambitions. Advances in carbon calculation methodologies and technological improvements could result in updates needed to the Council's targets and trajectory to 2030 • PE37 - Risk of not meeting public expectation on climate change agenda and democratic and reputational damage this could cause • PE46 - Inability of the Council to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Inability to identify risks associated with the impacts of climate change in order to build a resilient service to resilient communities. 		
Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of homes protected in vulnerable flood risk areas in Flintshire	N/A	TBC ¹
Increase in carbon sequestered (Kg/tCO ₂ e)	N/A	4000 KgCO ₂ e

¹ A target for homes to be protected can only be set once the Flood Risk Management Strategy is completed.

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Flood Risk Management Strategy	Refresh the Council’s flood risk management strategy to align with the national strategy and identify communities at most risk in Flintshire and the actions required to mitigate this risk	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy
<p>Achievement Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing the Council’s Flood Risk Management Strategy – June 2024 		
<p>Associated Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E28 - Risk to service delivery through inability to recruit into vacant posts E34 - Refresh the Council’s flood risk management strategy to align with the national strategy and identify communities at most risk in Flintshire and the actions required to mitigate this risk 		
Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Completion of the Flood Risk Management Strategy by the revised Welsh Government due date (March 2024)	N/A	1

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Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment	Review the Council’s Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment in light of the Ministerial letter of November 2021, to prepare for the implementation of revised TAN15 Development and Flood Risk guidance which becomes operational in June 2023	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Reviewing the Council’s Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment – June 2023

Associated Risks:

- E28 - Risk to service delivery through inability to recruit into vacant posts
- E35 - Review the Council’s Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment in light of the Ministerial letter of November 2021, to prepare for the implementation of revised TAN15 Development and Flood Risk guidance which becomes operational in June 2023

E28 E35

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Percentage compliance with Welsh Government delivery timetable	N/A	100

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Fleet Strategy	Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet	Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation AURA

Achievement Actions:

- Reducing the environmental impact of our fleet by transitioning to ultra-low emission vehicles (ULEV) – by March 2030
- Reducing the environmental impact of Aura's fleet via the wider agreement with the Council – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- Failure of suppliers/contractors to deliver goods, works or services to the agreed costs and specifications
- Loss or suspension of Vehicle Operators Licence or Environmental Permit

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Total number of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles on Fleet	N/A	10

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Green Environment	Enhance and increase biodiversity and trees to deliver multiple benefits for people, wildlife, and the environment	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy
<p>Achievement Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering an increase in canopy cover as part of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan – by March 2024 Progressing Ash Dieback Action Plan – by March 2024 Enhancing the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty – by March 2024 Developing a strategy to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration on the agricultural estate – by March 2024 		
<p>Associated Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE12 - The implications of Ash Die back on finances and reputation of the Council due to the scale of the problem and the ability to make safe Highways and Council amenity land 		
Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of Green infrastructure improvement and planting projects	N/A	6
Carry out baseline site species surveys on our 12 target sites to inform future increase in biodiversity from our interventions	N/A	12

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Flintshire Forest	Development of a plan to establish a Flintshire Forest that will identify available land assets, budget requirements and a realistic delivery timescale	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Developing a Flintshire Forest Plan – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- PE32 - Ability to capture the required information to be able to produce a meaningful Flintshire Forest Plan in a timely manner

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Produce a detailed Plan for delivery, to include sites highlighted for inclusion, identified funding for planting and an Engagement Plan	N/A	1

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Green Access	The promotion, good management, and protection of our green spaces to deliver multiple benefits to the environment and our residents and visitors	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Exploring opportunities to develop the Flintshire Coast Park through the production of a scoping study – by March 2024
- Delivering the Rights of Way Improvement Plan with a focus to ensure improved access for all and the promotions of Walking for Health – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- Bid to Welsh Government Access Improvement Grant is not approved which then impacts on the ability of the service to deliver the improvements

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Utilise external funding to produce management plans and feasibility documents to inform development of the Coast Park	N/A	4 Plans developed
Install Kissing Gates on the network	N/A	40
Surface 1500 metres of footpaths	N/A	1,500m
Remove barriers from the network	N/A	40
Install roadside way markers	N/A	50
Carry out bridleway improvements	N/A	1,200m

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Active and Sustainable Travel Options	Create opportunities to increase levels of walking and cycling (active travel) and the use of sustainable public transport options, enabling the undertaking of multi-modal transport journeys to access key destinations	Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation

Achievement Actions:

- Implementation of 20mph national legislation - by September 2023
- Promoting active travel and further develop the County's walking and cycleway network - by March 2028
- Supporting the development of public electric vehicle charging network - by March 2028
- Implementing formalised crossing facilities at existing school crossing patrol sites - by March 2028
- Declassification of hazardous routes across the county where appropriate through the implementation of engineering initiatives - by March 2028

Associated Risks:

- Damage to reputation resulting in negative media reporting and adverse publicity e.g., 20mph
- Inability to deliver highway network schemes and infrastructure projects due to service skill levels, training, experience, capacity and resilience
- Failure to meet Welsh Government targets for the implementation of public EV charging infrastructure
- Failure to implement the required infrastructure changes as required by the 20mph National Rollout
- Failure to deliver annual Active Travel Core Programme
- Failure to provide resilience to the County's designated school crossing patrol sites through the implementation of permanent infrastructure
- Failure to declassify the County's Hazardous Routes through the implementation of improved infrastructure
- Failure to complete the Councils ongoing speed limit review with the delivery of a County wide Consolidation Order

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of formalised crossing facilities implemented at existing School Crossing Patrol sites	N/A	3

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Implementation of 20mph national change in legislation on the County's restricted roads	N/A – New Measure	1
Number of hazardous routes declassified through the Implementation of Active Travel infrastructure to provide safe routes to schools	1	1

Priority: Green Society and Environment

Well-being Objective: Limiting and enhancing the impact of the Council’s services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Circular Economy	Support and promote the Welsh Government’s strategy to create a sustainable, circular economy in Flintshire	Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation

Achievement Actions:

- Reviewing the Council's Waste Strategy – by September 2023
- Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets – by March 2024
- Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing recycling initiatives – by March 2024
- Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local Charities or social enterprises – by March 2024
- Developing a Recycling Waste Transfer Station for the deposit and processing of recyclable materials – by March 2025

Associated Risks:

- Inability to achieve portfolio objectives and strategic goals due to market or industry changes or wider political, economic landscape
- Risk of withdrawal of revenue support grants and consequential impact on revenue budgets/service delivery e.g., SWMG
- Regulatory risk and the effect of a change in legislation and regulation on responsibilities, costs, resources, service delivery and reputation e.g., enforcement responsibilities, trade waste, bus reform
- Inability to achieve national recycling targets due to increased residual waste tonnages collected
- Inability to influence public behaviours and habits which negatively impact service delivery and income streams e.g., recycling, parking, littering.
- Loss or suspension of Vehicle Operators Licence or Environmental Permit

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	60.08%	70%
Average Recycling rate across Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)	80.02%	80%

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Reduce the tonnage of residual waste collected from residential properties	N/A	10%
Increase the tonnage of food waste collected from residential properties	N/A	15%
Obtain Welsh Government funding to implement a reuse initiative at the household recycling centres	N/A	1
Implement a trial for the delivery of local benefits/local recycling targets initiative	N/A	1
Number of education campaigns on recycling and waste minimisation undertaken to improve recycling performance	N/A	3

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Rural Regeneration	Ensure that Economic interventions consider and meet the needs of rural businesses and individuals	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Ensuring that Economy interventions consider and meet the needs of rural businesses and individuals – by March 2024
- Recruit a Digital Connectivity Officer to support rural communities to access better quality connectivity options – by June 2023
- Commission a data review for rural Flintshire and hold community consultation to better understand rural community needs – by March 2024.

Associated Risks:

- 231 - Ensure that Economy interventions consider and meet the needs of rural businesses and individuals

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Digital Connectivity Officer appointed - June 2023	N/A	1
Rural needs report completed by March 2024	N/A	1

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Town Centre Regeneration	Regenerate and re-invent our town centres	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy AURA

Achievement Actions:

- Monitoring the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions – by March 2024
- Encouraging and supporting investment in town centre properties specially to facilitate more sustainable uses and including improvements to the environment – by March 2024
- Understanding the needs of and supporting community enterprises in town centre locations – by March 2024
- Engaging town centre small businesses and promote support packages available to them – by March 2024
- Libraries and leisure centres are community well-being hubs with social objectives underpinning their operation – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- None identified

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Completion and circulation of town centre performance data analysis report	N/A – New programme of work	1
Completion of initial 3 (of 7) Place Making Plans in partnership with a range of stakeholders	N/A – New programme of work	3
Average number of weekly public opening hours available within leisure centres and library branches in Flintshire towns	536	536

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Business	Enable business continuity and encourage appropriate investment	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Supporting small and/or local businesses to engage with public sector procurement opportunities – by March 2024
- Supporting recovery of the County’s Street and indoor markets – by March 2024
- Supporting growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects – by March 2024
- Supporting recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry – by March 2024
- Increasing the scale and impact of the social business sector – by March 2024
- Supporting local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient – March 2024

Associated Risks:

PECO1 – Unable to sufficiently regenerate Town Centres through implementation of the Town Centre Strategy due to insufficient resources and the national economic trends impacting upon them

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of small or micro businesses receiving support	2,495	150 (Quarter)
Number of social enterprises receiving support	41	12 (Quarter)
Number of local businesses supported to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	10	12 (Quarter)

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)	
Transport Connectivity	Develop and promote effective transport connectivity while supporting recovery and economic growth	Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation	
<p>Achievement Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update the Councils integrated transport strategy – by March 2024 Supporting the establishment of CJsCs and delivery of the Joint Regional Transport Plan – by May 2024 			
<p>Associated Risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to provide adequate local bus services to connect rural communities to the core bus network Failure to adequately represent the County's aspirations within the forthcoming Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP) Failure to deliver annual Active Travel Core Programme Failure to reduce the number of Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) road traffic collisions on the Counties Road Network in line with Welsh Government targets Regulatory risk and the effect of a change in legislation and regulation on responsibilities, costs, resources, service delivery and reputation e.g., enforcement responsibilities, trade waste, bus reform 			
Achievement Measures		Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund		3	3

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Digital Infrastructure	Ensure the digital networks facilitate and support recovery and growth	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Improving digital connectivity across the County for businesses and residents – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- PE24 Failure to deliver the Flintshire element of the Regional Growth Deal will reduce the competitiveness of the County as a business location

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
None identified	N/A	N/A

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets	Achieve LDP policy objectives for growth, protection, and enhancement	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Monitoring overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government – by January 2024
- Maintaining and update the LDP Housing Trajectory in line with planning decisions made – by March 2024
- Making decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted LDP – by March 2024
- Referencing the LDP growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP) – by March 2024

Associated Risks:

- Failure to deliver the Annual Monitoring Report to Welsh Government on time
- AMR shows LDP falling behind its housing trajectory
- The need to consider an early review of the LDP
- Failing to make planning decisions in accordance with the adopted LDP
- Slow progress with Strategic Development Plan fails to set context for LDP 2

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Completion of first LDP Annual Monitoring Report and submission to Welsh Government (January 2024)	N/A	1
Completion of annual review of LDP housing trajectory	N/A	1
Percentage of decision made on planning applications in accordance with officer recommendation	N/A	1
Contribution to the scoping of the form and content of the North Wales Strategic Development Plan	N/A	1

Priority: Economy

Well-being Objective: Connecting communities and enabling a sustainable economic recovery and growth

What we will do:

Sub-Priority	Definition	Lead Officer (s)
Reducing worklessness	Work with our partners to support individuals to gain employment	Chief Officer Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Actions:

- Co-ordinating a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit people from disadvantaged groups - by March 2024 [Linked to Poverty](#)
- Delivering mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market - by March 2024 [Linked to Poverty](#)

Associated Risks:

- Failure to help individuals to move into employment, learning or volunteering outcomes

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2021/22)	2023/24 Target
Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering	153	185
Number of individuals receiving support	367	425

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Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 18th April 2023
Report Subject	North Wales Energy Strategy and Action Plan and Local Area Energy Planning in Flintshire
Cabinet Member	Collective Responsibility
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is in relation to the regional energy planning process and incorporating priorities into strategic actions and intervention. It recommends endorsing the North Wales Energy Strategy and Action Plan and provides information regarding the commencement of Local Area Energy Planning in Flintshire.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To consider and endorse the attached North Wales Energy Strategy and Action Plan.
2	To note the commencement of Local Area Energy Planning in the county.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE REPORT
1.01	<p>North Wales Energy Strategy and Action Plan</p> <p>Each region in Wales has developed its own Energy Strategy and Action Plan. The North Wales Energy Strategy was drafted by Welsh Government Energy Service (WGES) with support and input from the Ambition North Wales (ANW), Welsh Government (WG) and regional</p>

	<p>stakeholders. The supporting Action Plan has been co-developed by ANW and WG with support from regional stakeholders via a Task and Finish group. The Task and Finish group, chaired by WG, comprised of representatives from ANW, WG, the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council, all six local authorities and the Regional Skills Partnership.</p>
1.02	<p>The North Wales Energy Strategy was endorsed by ANW and WG's Minister for Climate Change in March 2021. The Action Plan was approved by ANW in September 2022. Democratic support from each constituent local authority is now being sought.</p>
1.03	<p>The North Wales Energy Strategy identifies key priorities and opportunities to deliver on the region's ambition for decarbonising its energy system. The Strategy sets out the following vision for North Wales:</p> <p><i>'Delivering maximum local economic, social, ecological and wellbeing benefits from transitioning to a net zero economy and becoming a net exporter of low carbon electricity through cross-border and regional cooperation'.</i></p>
1.04	<p>The priorities for achieving the vision are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To harness the abundance of local low carbon resource to become a green powerhouse and diversify the energy mix.</i> • <i>To become a world-leader in offshore wind and marine technologies.</i> • <i>To improve the energy efficiency of the region's housing and accelerate the decarbonisation of North Wales' building stock.</i> • <i>To achieve a shift to lower carbon transport.</i> • <i>To maximise the opportunities for the commercial and industrial sectors to support the energy transition and drive economic growth.</i>
1.05	<p>The Action Plan translates the priorities in the Strategy into strategic actions and interventions. ANW and WG note it will be necessary to progress more detailed work to establish any funding requirements and sources for any un-costed actions. There are a number of actions in the plan where Local Authorities have been identified as the Lead. These have been extracted from the document and collated in Appendix 2 for ease.</p>
1.06	<p>ANW and WG have agreed that the existing Task and Finish Group transitions to a Steering Group / Project Board with a revised Terms of Reference to provide the governance to oversee the completion of actions within the action plan. Membership will be reviewed as an early priority. The Group will meet regularly and will agree arrangements for</p>

	reporting to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, Local Authorities and WG.
1.07	The Strategy and Action Plan provide the strategic context for the development of a more detailed Local Area Energy Plan for Flintshire.
1.08	Local Area Energy Planning Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) is a data driven and whole energy system, evidence-based approach that sets out to identify the most effective route for the local area to contribute towards meeting the national net zero target, as well as meeting its local net zero target.
1.09	LAEP is being funded by WG and involves dedicated plans being prepared within each local authority area in Wales. These plans will be co-developed by the local authority and local stakeholders with support from partners including ANW, WG and external support.
1.10	The work on LAEP commenced in January 2023. The timeline is to be confirmed but it is likely that the Flintshire LAEP should be completed in December 2023.
1.11	It is proposed that annual updates on progress are provided to the Climate Change Committee and Cabinet to secure effective democratic oversight of progress and to influence and decide on actions going forward into future years.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	For certain actions within the North Wales Energy Strategy and Strategic Action Plan, further detailed work on establishing funding requirements and sources has commenced by the Task and Finish Group.
2.02	Many of the actions identified with LAs as the lead are “engage” / “input into” type actions with “no funding required”. This will involve staff time across a range of service areas within FCC including the Climate Change Team, Planning, Energy Management, Public Health, Housing, Property Services, Fleet Management, Procurement, Public Protection, Transport, Communications and Business Support at a time when resource is constrained.
2.03	Local Area Energy Planning is being funded by WG. Consultants ARUP have been appointed by ANW to deliver the LAEP for Flintshire. Three roles have been recruited by ANW to support the delivery of these plans working with the Local Authorities in North Wales and ARUP.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	The likely impact of the LAEP on service areas in the Council are as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Climate Change Team</u>- lead contact for this piece of work or ANW and ARUP, coordinating internal effort and delivering set tasks. • <u>Planning Department and Energy Management Team</u>- input to the data collection and development of the LAEP. • <u>Communications Team and Community Development</u> - input to the data collection and development of the LAEP, identifying stakeholders for engagement workshops. 	
3.02	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact	
Long-term	<p>Positive:</p> <p>Decarbonisation of the Council's activities and services will require long term planning and a long-term vision to ensure systems and services are fit for purpose as the climate changes as well as reducing the impact of harmful climate change through mitigation.</p> <p>Decarbonisation activities such as planting trees and developing renewable energy will have long lasting impacts over tens to hundreds of years. These activities also contribute to the climate change targets set by Welsh Government particularly Wales generating 70% of its electricity demand from renewable energy by 2030 and becoming a net zero carbon nation by 2050.</p>	
Prevention	<p>Positive:</p> <p>In order to avoid the harmful effects of climate change it is necessary for the Council to reduce its carbon emissions and increase the amount of carbon sequestered in its land assets. Carbon emissions caused by human activities are the main cause of climate change.</p> <p>Mitigating climate change will help to reduce impacts such as extreme weather causing flooding / extreme heat, loss of wildlife and habitats, increased pests and diseases, etc.</p> <p>Adapting to the impacts of climate change now will improve sustainability of our communities as the climate changes.</p>	
Integration	<p>Positive:</p>	

	<p>Becoming net zero carbon integrates with the following priorities under the Council Plan; Green Council, Ambitious Council and Supportive Council. It integrates with the public service board objectives in the Environment priority of the Wellbeing Plan as well as the Smart Access to Energy project in the North Wales Growth Deal. It also integrates with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and Welsh Government's decarbonisation of the public sector agenda.</p>
<p>Collaboration</p>	<p>Positive:</p> <p>The climate change programme offers multiple opportunities to work collaboratively both internally and externally – and this collaboration will determine the success of the programme. Collaboration with the following groups is needed to ensure decarbonisation is integrated into everything that the Council and the wider region does and plans for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welsh Government - Other public sector organisations such as local authorities, NRW, health boards, universities. - Private sector - Regional groups such as the North Wales Economic Ambition Board - Local Town and County Councillors - the local communities
<p>Involvement</p>	<p>Positive:</p> <p>If decarbonisation is to succeed and harmful climate change is to be avoided then everyone at a professional and personal level will need to be involved</p>
<p>Well-being Goals Impact</p>	
<p>Prosperous Wales</p>	<p>Positive:</p> <p>Reducing the Council's carbon emissions should enable strategic investment in projects and ways of working that could deliver savings or generate new income streams, therefore supporting delivery of local services. It should also</p>

		facilitate the development of the low carbon economy through infrastructure projects, sustained tree planting, land management etc which can support local businesses and communities.
	Resilient Wales	Positive: Decarbonisation of the Council's activities and services will promote resilience through actions such as: investment in renewable energy infrastructure which helps to reduce reliance on imports from across Europe and the World and the associated price fluctuations, and increasing ecological resilience through enhancing biodiversity particularly on land with low ecological value. By planning for climate change adaptation the Council's services and its communities will also be resilient.
	Healthier Wales	Positive: Decarbonisation requires a shift to active travel, investment in green infrastructure, support for local and sustainable food sources, and development of renewable energy which are likely to promote healthier lifestyles, improved wellbeing and reduced health impacts from poor air quality.
	More equal Wales	Neutral; No impact identified
	Cohesive Wales	Neutral; No impact identified
	Vibrant Wales	Neutral; No impact identified
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive: Reducing the Council's carbon emissions to net zero helps to mitigate climate change and therefore contributes to the achievement of Welsh Government, UK Government and international climate goals.
3.03	Not anticipated to be any negative anti-poverty, equalities, or environmental impacts of the scheme.	
3.04	<p>The Council's Well-being Objectives</p> <p>Decarbonisation of the Council's activities will support the Green Council objective with a key impact of reducing carbon emissions mitigating climate change, for example, through the development of alternative and renewable energy production, promoting active travel, shifting to electric fleet vehicles, engaging with the supply chain and promoting a low carbon economy through the goods and services purchased.</p>	

	It can also contribute towards the success of other Council Wellbeing objectives such as 'An Ambitious Council' and 'A Caring Council' through providing local job creation and apprenticeships and therefore potentially reducing poverty through maximising residents' income and employability.
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4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
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4.01	ANW has shared the draft Action Plan with each proposed lead and enabling organisation identified in the Plan, ANW Energy Programme Board, North Wales Planning Officers Group, North Wales Decarbonisation Group, Welsh Local Government Association, and all workshop attendees (circa 100 individuals representing 60 organisations).
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5.00	APPENDICES
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5.01	Appendix 1 – North Wales Energy Strategy Action Plan (pdf) Appendix 2 – Collation of actions where Local Authorities have been identified as the Lead within the North Wales Energy Strategy Action Plan
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6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
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6.01	1. North Wales Energy Strategy (https://www.gov.wales/regional-energy-strategy-north-wales)
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7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
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7.01	Contact Officer: Alex Ellis – Programme Manager Telephone: 01352 703110 E-mail: alex.ellis@flintshire.gov.uk
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8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
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	None
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North Wales Energy Strategy Strategic Action Plan

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Funded and supported by:



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Developed by:



Uchelgais
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North Wales

Developed in collaboration with:



Gwasanaeth Ynni
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Abbreviations

CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage
DNO	Distribution Network Operator
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
EV	Electric Vehicle
IHP	Innovative Housing Programme
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LA	Local Authority
LAEP	Local Area Energy Plan
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NZIW	Net Zero Industry Wales
OEA	Offshore Energy Alliance
ORP	Optimised Retrofit Programme
PLA	Personal Learning Account
PV	Photovoltaic
RSL	Registered Social Landlords

RSP	Regional Skills Partnership
SME	Small to medium-sized enterprises
SMR	Small Modular Reactor
SPEN	Scottish Power Energy Networks
UK	United Kingdom
ULEVTF	Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicles Transformation Fund
WGES	Welsh Government Energy Service
WHQS	Welsh Housing Quality Standard
WPD	Western Power Distribution

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Acknowledgements: We would like to thank all the stakeholders who made valuable contributions to this work through their participation in workshops, and through additional communication by e-mail. We would also like to thank all members of the Task and Finish Group and the Thematic Leads who provided strategic oversight and direction to this work.

Introduction

This document presents a Strategic Action Plan (hereafter ‘the action plan’) for North Wales. It sets out strategic actions that are required to realise the strategic priorities set out in the [North Wales Energy Strategy](#).

Background

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC’s) Sixth Assessment Report reports that we are already experiencing the widespread impacts and costs of climate change.¹ The IPCC’s Special Report on 1.5 states that unless global warming is limited to close to 1.5°C by 2050, the impacts of climate change will become unmanageable and irreversible for natural and human systems. There is now global acknowledgement of the latest climate science and national commitments made under the Paris Agreement recognise the climate change crisis and the need to act urgently to protect the well-being of current and future generations.² With guidance from the Climate Change Committee³ and evidence published by the IPCC, Wales has recognised the urgency of this issue and, in 2021, legislated to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The Welsh Government’s Net Zero Wales Plan⁴, published in October 2021, provides a comprehensive overview of key policies and proposals across key sectors, and emphasises the importance of a just transition as we move to a low carbon economy. The UK Government’s Energy Security Strategy⁵, published in April 2022, includes targets around increasing offshore wind deployment, solar generation, hydrogen production and several nuclear facilities. Delivering net zero for Wales will require coordinated efforts across many sectors and will require a Team Wales

¹ [IPCC Sixth Assessment Report](#)

² [IPCC Special Report, Global Warming of 1.5°C](#)

³ [The Committee on Climate Change, Sixth Carbon Budget](#)

⁴ [Net Zero Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

⁵ [British energy security strategy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

approach with actions at all levels including Welsh Government, UK Government, the wider public sector, Welsh businesses and industry and the Welsh public (individuals and households).

Achieving Wales' target will require substantial transformation of our energy systems and radical changes in the technologies we use to heat our homes, travel, and generate electricity. Over recent months, the profile of both energy security and energy affordability have risen significantly. Ofgem recently confirmed that the energy market remains highly volatile and as a result they expect further price increases later this year⁶. The impact of rising energy prices on many residents, public bodies, community enterprises and businesses is significant. The cost-of-living crisis has underscored the need to increase supply from the lowest cost forms of energy generation, particularly where they deliver other local benefits (such as skilled jobs) or are owned or led locally. Transitioning to a modern, decarbonised energy system fit for the twenty-first century poses plenty of challenges, but it also has the potential to bring great benefits, both for the environment and for the economic and social wellbeing of our communities.

North Wales has developed a Regional Energy Strategy that outlines its strategic priorities and commitment to decarbonising the energy system to achieve Wales' net zero target. North Wales' Regional Economic Framework further supports this by recognising the intrinsic link between sustainable economic growth and net zero and states the commitment of Welsh Government and Regional Partners to prepare an action plan to deliver the North Wales Energy Strategy.⁷

Significant progress has also been made as part of the North Wales Growth Deal. The North Wales Low Carbon Energy Programme, for example, is one of five programmes included in the Growth Deal and aims to unlock the benefits of developing low carbon energy projects within the region, enhancing the region's status as a leading location for low carbon energy and supply chain investment.

The North Wales Energy Strategy identifies key priorities and opportunities to deliver on the region's ambition for decarbonising its energy system.

Our vision for North Wales is:

Delivering maximum local economic, social, ecological and wellbeing benefits from transitioning to a net zero economy and becoming a net exporter of low carbon electricity through cross-border and regional cooperation.

⁶ [Jonathan Brealey's speech at All Energy event in Glasgow](#)

⁷ [North Wales Regional Economic Framework](#)

Our strategic priorities for achieving this vision are:

1. **To harness the abundance of local low carbon resource to become a green powerhouse and diversify the energy mix.**
2. **To become a world-leader in offshore wind and marine technologies.**
3. **To improve the energy efficiency of the region's housing and accelerate the decarbonisation of North Wales' building stock.**
4. **To achieve a shift to lower carbon transport.**

The development of this **action plan** is the next stage of the energy planning process and is directed at turning the above priorities into tangible actions and interventions.

During the development of the action plan, the Task and Finish Group highlighted the significant importance and contribution of the commercial and industrial sector to achieving the energy vision for the region. The Group agreed that an additional priority focused on the commercial and industrial sector would be included in this action plan.

5. **Maximise the opportunities for the commercial and industrial sectors to support the energy transition and drive economic growth.**

Action Plan content

The action plan presents actions generated from four thematic workshops held with a cross section of sectoral stakeholders from across the region. Workshops were held between November 2021 and January 2022 around the following themes:

1. Domestic energy
2. Power generation
3. Transport
4. Commerce and industry

The strategic actions are set out below and are mapped against the strategic priorities (see Appendix 1: for a summary). Where actions contribute across multiple priorities, they have been defined as cross-cutting actions.

Indicative timescales have been specified against actions where there is enough information available to do so. Where this is possible, the following applies:

- Short term: underway by 2023
- Medium term: underway by 2025
- Long term: underway by 2035

Lead stakeholders or “**Leads**” are suggested against each action. These are organisations considered to be best placed to take responsibility for progressing and coordinating delivery of the specified action. Stakeholders who could play a critical role in facilitating the action’s successful delivery are listed as “**Enablers**”. It is important to note that listed stakeholders were identified in thematic workshops and/or have been proposed because of follow-up discussions to date. It is recognised that the list of stakeholders mentioned will not be exhaustive and that there will be other stakeholders who will play a role in delivering each action.

The draft Action Plan includes the **funding status** of each strategic action. There are actions that require no funding or are already underway or planned through existing programmes or initiatives, whilst others will be progressed subject to the appropriate funding or resources being secured. Where necessary, further work will take place during this year to quantify the resources required to progress implementation of the various actions identified

The **progress status** action provides details on existing and/or planned activities that contribute to the delivery of each action. This has been completed based on feedback from the thematic workshops and gathering available information within the public domain.

Governance

A strong and effective governance structure will be critical for facilitating a co-ordinated effort to deliver the strategic actions outlined in the action plan.

In development of both the Strategy and this action plan, strong governance through both the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and a dedicated Task and Finish Group has ensured regional oversight and direction to the work as it has developed.

The Strategy has already been endorsed by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (March 2021) and by the Welsh Government’s Minister for Climate Change. The Action Plan will now need to be further endorsed by our democratic leaders.

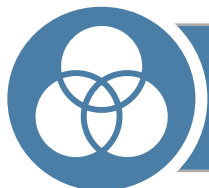
Work is already underway with the Task and Finish Group to agree the most effective arrangements for the future monitoring and oversight of the action plan as we proceed into delivery. It will be important to ensure effective alignment with any existing governance arrangements to make best use of those already operating within the region.

The next step for the region, with support from the Energy Service team, will be to work with stakeholders to develop the governance structure, and identify the role of key stakeholders from across the public, private and third sectors to deliver the strategic actions outlined below. This work will also include identifying areas of collaboration across government and key sectors which are vital to the achievement of each strategic priority.

Monitoring and Reporting

The action plan is intended to be a 'living' document that is regularly reviewed and updated. It will be influenced by emerging local and regional plans, future local area energy planning (LAEP) and other relevant developments and research in the region.

Strategic priorities and actions



Cross-cutting actions

Cross-cutting actions refer to those actions that apply across multiple sectors of the energy system.

Strategic actions

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
Page 82	<p>Ensure effective alignment between local, regional, and national energy strategies, plans and initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The transition should be led by consistent policies at a national level which filter down to regional and local levels. The development of local development plans and strategic development plans should all consider the relevant aspects of the Energy Strategy. 	Short term	Local Authorities	Welsh Government	No funding required	There is already close collaboration across the regional energy strategies and Local Area Energy Plans (LAEP). A National Advisory Group and Regional Groups will be established to ensure effective alignment between existing and emerging energy planning work.
B	<p>Develop Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) within each local authority area to support the development of a route map for decarbonisation of the energy system, taking a multi-vector, whole-system approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify local opportunities to develop energy projects, including solar PV, 	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales	SP Energy Networks (SPEN) Wales and West Utilities (WWU) Welsh Government	Funding in place	A pilot LAEP has already been adopted in Conwy County Borough. Welsh Government have committed funding to the preparation of LAEPs across the remaining five Local Authority areas by March 2024. The development of LAEPs in North Wales will be coordinated by Ambition North Wales with technical support from the Energy Systems Catapult.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
	onshore and offshore wind, nuclear, hydro, and tidal energy.					<i>The Energy Systems Catapult has recently released technical guidance to support the development of LAEPs, which forms part of their appointments as technical advisors to Welsh Government.</i>
Page 83	<p>Lead on developing the skills requirements identified in the Regional Skills Partnership's (RSP's) Green Skills Report and Welsh Government's Net Zero Skills Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the current skills capabilities and capacity to deliver decarbonisation as proposed in Net Zero Wales plan. • Develop a strategy to raise awareness of regional capabilities (including offshore and onshore wind, marine energy, nuclear and solar PV). • Ensure the local supply chains are visible to developers operating within the region. • Provide appropriate training and education to enable people to access green jobs should be embedded across the learning cycle and opportunities for adapting existing jobs should be integrated into career pathways. 	Short term	Welsh Government Regional Skills Partnership	Local Authorities Bangor University / M-Sparc Glyndwr University Further Education institutions SPEN WWU	<i>Funding in place for Skills & Employment Plan. Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>The RSP has commissioned a report into the jobs and skills required across Wales to support the transition to a green economy. The next Regional Skills and Employment Plan will include a detailed Net Zero Skills annexe which will build on findings from ongoing research from Welsh Government, RSP and the Optimised Retrofit Programme's (ORP) Training and Skills Group. The Plan will be developed in early 2023.</i></p> <p><i>The Morlais Skills and Training Working Group has been established to identify and provide solutions for any skills gap presented by the work opportunities from the Morlais Project.</i></p> <p><i>The Offshore Energy Alliance (OEA) is a skills and supply chain cluster established to take advantage of the opportunities offered by offshore energy in North Wales. M-SParc has been supported with financial assistance from Welsh Government to be the accountable body.</i></p> <p><i>There is ongoing Nuclear Skills Decommissioning Skills Pipeline work with Magnox.</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>Experience and learning from recent projects such as Net Zero Gwynedd around decarbonisation of housing involves a partnership between public sector and social enterprises and will inform this action.</i>
Page 84	Input to Welsh Government's consultation on the Public Behaviour Change Engagement Strategy that sets out how society can be involved in the changes individuals and communities can make to help Wales meet net zero.	Short term	Local Authorities	Educational institutions Bangor University Glyndwr University SPEN WWU Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 committed to consulting on a Public Behavioural Change Engagement Strategy during Summer 2022.</i>
E	Develop a strategic approach to support the emerging hydrogen economy, taking account of proposed hydrogen projects across the region. This should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a clear vision on the role of hydrogen in the future regional energy system. 	Medium term	Welsh Government Ambition North Wales	Industry Hydrogen Groups Local Authorities Transport for Wales	<i>Funding Required</i>	<i>The UK Hydrogen Strategy has been published and the Welsh Hydrogen Pathway is expected to follow during 2022. These strategies will provide the UK and Welsh context for a regional hydrogen strategy.</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider opportunities for industrial decarbonisation, transport uses and domestic energy. • Support the development of the hydrogen hubs by Menter Môn in Holyhead and Ambition North Wales. • Explore the role of Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), especially in the context of cross border projects such as Hynet. 			SPEN WWU UK Government Bangor University Glyndwr University		<p><i>Proposals for green hydrogen hubs are being developed by Ambition North Wales and by Menter Môn in Holyhead.</i></p> <p><i>North Wales' Regional Economic Framework sets a commitment for the region to "continue to develop a route map to understand how the opportunity for the deployment of Hydrogen across the North Wales Region can best be delivered, maximising the expertise, assets and benefits that could be derived."</i></p>
Page 85	<p>Continue to explore and support opportunities for smart local energy systems in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore opportunities emerging from the Welsh Government's Smart Living programme. The programme is supporting Welsh Local Authorities to issue challenges to businesses with innovative products, processes, and services. 	Short term	Ambition North Wales	Welsh Government	<i>Funding in place</i>	<p><i>The Growth Deal's Smart Local Energy Project is considering options for how a new funding support scheme could support projects that help decarbonise the energy system in North Wales.</i></p> <p><i>Community Renewal Funding has been secured to deliver feasibility studies into Smart Local Energy Systems.</i></p>
G	<p>Identify a pipeline of regional energy project portfolios which maximise scope for attracting investment.</p>	Medium term	Local Authorities Welsh Government	Ambition North Wales Bangor University Glyndwr University	<i>Funding in place</i>	<p><i>The development of LAEPs in each region will help to inform a pipeline of potential energy projects.</i></p> <p><i>The Growth Deal Smart Local Energy Project will gather information about regional projects that require funding support.</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
				UK Government		
H	Strengthen the link between research, development and innovation and the Energy Strategy priorities.	Medium term	Welsh Government Bangor University / M-Sparc Glyndwr University		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>Ongoing cooperation between the Universities and local authorities through the Ambition North Wales partnership and Growth Deal Programmes. Involvement of both Universities in emerging governance around the action plan will be considered.</i>
Page 86 I	Continue to engage key stakeholders on the development of a long-term plan for the energy networks across the region and Wales.	Ongoing	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	WWU SPEN	<i>Funding in place</i>	<i>The Future Grid for Wales Study is underway by Welsh Government, Energy Network Operators and Ofgem. It will be used alongside LAEPs to develop a Future Energy Plan for Wales by 2024. This project will also inform the future requirements of the Welsh Energy Grid and contribute to the delivery of Future Wales: the National Plan 2040, providing evidence to enable network operators to plan and build the networks that will be required for the Net Zero by 2050 target. SPEN have recently published a Network Development Plan which will help understand the extent of investment and type of infrastructure required across North Wales.</i>



1. To harness the abundance of local low carbon resource to become a green powerhouse and diversify the energy mix



2. To become a world-leader in offshore wind and marine technologies

Strategic actions

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
2A	Engage with Welsh Government to identify and build on opportunities that Ynni Cymru could provide to North Wales.	Medium term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Community Energy Wales	No funding required	There is the potential for the region to feed into the thinking around Ynni Cymru through Welsh Government and Community Energy Wales .
2B	Explore how to improve communication of available funding sources for the development and delivery of a range of low-carbon power generation projects (e.g., onshore, and offshore wind, solar PV, nuclear, and tidal and marine energy).	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Energy Service	Further work required to determine funding requirements	Not started.
2C	Engage with UK Government to support the development of the Wylfa and Trawsfynydd sites for new nuclear projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the asks e.g., site selection process for new sites and updated National Policy Statements. Support regional submissions into the Nuclear Enabling Fund. 	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	UK Government Bangor University	No funding required	Nuclear power has been identified as a priority in the UK Government's Energy Security Strategy. Bangor University hosts the Nuclear Futures Institute , which aims to establish North Wales as a global centre in nuclear technology.

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<p><i>There are advanced plans to establish a National Nuclear Thermal Hydraulics Facility in North Wales.</i></p> <p><i>The Trawsfynydd Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Project is supported through the Growth Deal's Low Carbon Energy Programme.</i></p>
2D	Engage with Welsh Government to determine how increased local ownership of energy projects can be delivered in line with published guidance on local and shared ownership in Wales.	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Guidance on local and shared ownership was published by Welsh Government in June 2022.</i>
2E	Explore the potential of establishing an advice hub to support regional decarbonisation / low carbon energy initiatives.	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities Ambition North Wales		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>The most recent renewable energy deep dive recommends an easy to access advice service. Welsh Government's response is that it needs to progress consultation on the Warm Homes programme, public engagement campaign as part of net zero Wales and a national heat strategy due to be released for consultation in spring 2023 so that it can provide a clearer proposal for an advice service.</i></p> <p><i>Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed.</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>UK Government has recently launched their advice offering with a home energy MOT available through a new online advice service</i>
2F	<p>Maximise opportunities for public procurement to support the acceleration of renewable energy generation and secure local economic and social value.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Ensure that public procurement strengthens local supply chains / local jobs (social value). •Ask the supply chain to deliver against public sector carbon ambitions through procurement frameworks. 	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities Public sector bodies	Welsh Local Government Association Welsh Government Commercial Delivery	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>In June 2022, the Social Partnership and Public Procurement Bill was laid before the Senedd by Welsh Government. The socially responsible procurement duty within the bill will seek to ensure that public spending on goods, works and services is done in a way that benefits everyone and does not only focus on cost. The bill will inform the delivery of this action.</i>
2G	<p>Maximise opportunities for community benefits funds from large energy infrastructure projects to support local and regional decarbonisation initiatives, recognising the need to target those communities and areas most impacted by such developments.</p>	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>There are a range of large energy infrastructure projects planned across North Wales, including offshore wind, nuclear, solar, and tidal.</i>
2H	<p>Support the region's proposed port infrastructure improvements to secure greater regional benefit from planned offshore wind and tidal energy projects.</p>	Short term	Welsh Government Ambition North Wales	Local Authorities	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>There is ongoing work by the Marine Energy Programme and the Growth Deal are exploring options for supporting proposed infrastructure improvements at Holyhead and Mostyn Port.</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
2I	Ensure the marine planning and consenting regimes are fit for purpose and support opportunities for the sustainable growth of marine renewable energy in the region.	Short term	Welsh Government	Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>A Welsh Government review of consenting and supporting evidence and advice has been completed, recommendations are due to report in summer 2022.</i>
2J	Engage with Welsh Government on the development of revenue support mechanisms for marine energy projects.	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Working Group that was formed to follow up the Renewable Energy Deep Dive Recommendations is responsible for reviewing the barriers to financing renewable energy projects, and will establish connections between key stakeholders to inform this work. This is also currently being addressed through Welsh Government's Marine Energy Programme.</i>
2K	Continue to explore the potential for tidal lagoon projects in North Wales.	Medium to long term	Welsh Government Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Marine Energy Wales	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Welsh Government's Tidal Lagoon Challenge has been launched to obtain the appetite for developing proposals. This market engagement exercise is to ascertain if there is interest in any potential competition/procurement in the future to deliver a tidal lagoon capable of generating electricity with the winner(s) possibly receiving financial support from the Welsh Government.</i>



3. To improve the energy efficiency of the region's housing and accelerate the decarbonisation of North Wales' building stock

NB. Actions related to commercial building stock are included under Strategic Priority 5: Maximise the opportunities for the commercial & industrial sector to support the energy transition and drive economic growth.

Strategic actions

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
Page 91 3A	Provide support and incentives for households to install energy efficiency measures and low-carbon heating systems, ensuring such support is targeted at those in fuel poverty and/or in most need.	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government Local Authorities Registered Social Landlords	Ofgem	Further work required to determine funding requirements	<p>NB. There are a broad range of Welsh Government programmes and plans that relate to this action, including Tackling fuel poverty strategy 2021 to 2035, the Innovative Housing Programme (IHP) and Optimised Retrofit Programme (ORP). There is also a commitment to publish a heat strategy for Wales in 2023. The UK Government's Heat and Buildings Strategy will also be relevant here.</p> <p>With regard to Social Housing, drawing on evidence from ORP, the new Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) 2022 will focus on Fabric First principles and seek to bring all social housing as close as feasible to EPC A or equivalent within a decade.</p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<p><i>Initiatives such as the Welsh Government's Nest scheme has provided high-quality advice and information to householders to explore and realise their energy efficiency opportunities.</i></p> <p><i>Registered social landlords will engage and work with Community Housing Cymru (CHC) to progress this action.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government and Clwyd Alyn Housing Association have established of a Zero Carbon Housing Performance Hub to provide a central resource for net zero advice.</i></p> <p><i>An Energy Warden Scheme has already trialled collaboration of North Wales social landlords and learning from such schemes should inform this action.</i></p> <p><i>The Boiler Upgrade Grant provided through the UK Government may help property owners with upfront costs for shifting to low-carbon forms of heating.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) will run between 2022 and 2026 and requires energy suppliers to deliver a target of energy efficiency and heating measures to homes. ECO is</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>focussed on low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households but with a focus on supporting the least energy efficient homes.</i>
Page 93	Review existing and explore new potential financial mechanisms to support owner-occupiers and building owners seeking to undertake energy efficiency retrofit works.	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>For the owner-occupier sector, the Warm Homes Programme is the key delivery mechanism in this area. Since 2011, over £394m has been invested, benefitting more than 67,000 homes. Welsh Government will continue to fund the current programme until at least May 2023⁹.</i></p> <p><i>Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme⁸ ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government will be working with UK Finance, The Development Bank of Wales and sector stakeholders to consider how we can develop and trial alternative finance products to support owner-occupiers undertaking retrofit works⁹.</i></p>

⁸ [Improving home energy efficiency to support a \(gov.wales\)](#)

⁹ [Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 \(2021 to 2025\) | GOV.WALES](#)

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
3C	Ensure PAS 2035 surveys and a clear plan for retrofit measures are prepared for individual social homes, in accordance with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS).	Medium term	Local Authorities (Stock holding) Registered Social Landlords	Welsh Government	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>As part of the WHQS, by 2023 a PAS 2035 survey (the Publicly Available Specification that lays out a consistent assessment for energy retrofit measures) and a clear plan for individual homes will be required.¹⁰</i>
Page 64	Review current support provision to tenants and landlords in the private-rented sector to ensure minimum energy efficiency standards are met. Review enforcement provisions to ensure minimum statutory standards within the sector are achieved.	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The UK Government has completed a consultation on proposals to increase the minimum standard required for any property to be rented in the private-rented sector (PRS) to EPC C or above.¹¹ Current indications are that a formal response, followed by revised regulations will be published toward the end of 2022. Pending outcome of review, Welsh Government will review the support package available to landlords joining PRS Leasing Scheme to ensure it also supports fabric first improvements.</i>

¹⁰ [Welsh Housing Quality Standard: draft \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales)

¹¹ [Improving the energy performance of privately rented homes - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
3E	Keep Permitted Development Rights under review in Wales, to further support domestic renewable energy installations for householders and housing developers.	Short term	Welsh Government		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>This is ongoing as permitted development rights are under regular review.</i>



4. Achieve a shift to lower-carbon transport

NB. Several actions around reducing demand through active travel and increased use of sustainable public transport are included within **Llwybr Newydd – Wales Transport Strategy 2021**¹² which presents the vision for how the transport system can help deliver on the priorities for Wales and put Wales on a pathway to creating a more prosperous, green, and equal society. The strategy makes a commitment to deliver a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from transport by reducing demand, supporting low-carbon services and infrastructure and through modal shift and includes three headline priorities for the next five years. Priority 1: Bring services to people to reduce the need to travel; Priority 2: Allow people and goods to move easily from door to door by accessible, sustainable, and efficient transport services and infrastructure; Priority 3: Encourage people to make the change to more sustainable transport. On this basis, such actions are not replicated below.

Strategic actions

Page Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
96 4A	Ensure alignment between Regional Transport Plans, the Energy Strategy, and emerging Local Area Energy Plans.	Medium to long term	Welsh Government North Wales Corporate Joint Committee	Transport for Wales	No funding required	<i>Regional transport plans will identify local interventions to provide an accessible, sustainable, and efficient transport system, as set out in the Wales Transport Strategy.</i> <i>Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) will develop regional transport plans. These will be aligned with Future Wales - the National Plan 2040 and the emerging strategic development plans.</i>

¹² [Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy 2021 | GOV.WALES](#)

Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to ensuring a joined-up approach to infrastructure investment decisions across Welsh Government and in regional energy planning.</i>
4B	<p>Explore financial incentives across all vehicle types, including public services vehicles, commercial and industrial fleets, and private vehicles, to achieve an increase in uptake of zero emissions vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with UK Government on progress made on a UK-wide development of a national scrappage scheme for older vehicles, supporting circular economy models • Explore options to make zero-emission vehicles more affordable for citizens • Explore options for alternative ownership models for public services vehicles. 	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government	Transport for Wales Local Authorities	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to reducing the cost of sustainable travel through initiatives such as scrappage schemes for older vehicles, grants towards the cost of electric bikes, and by extending concessionary travel schemes to those who most need it.</i>
4C	<p>Collaborate on opportunities to decarbonise the public sector fleet, public service vehicles, and commercial and industrial fleets and the co-ordination of associated infrastructure design and development across local authority boundaries.</p>	Medium term	Local Authorities	Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Many North Wales public bodies have participated in recent fleet reviews and are preparing fleet transition plans. Several local authorities have already installed public electric vehicle charging alongside provision for fleet vehicles.</i>
4D	<p>Work together to deliver the most appropriate electric vehicle public charging infrastructure</p>	Short to medium term	Local Authorities	Transport for Wales SPEN	<i>Further work required to determine</i>	<i>There has been a roll-out of electric vehicle charging points via Welsh</i>

Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
	across the region, aligning with national work being undertaken through Transport for Wales.		Welsh Government		<i>funding requirements</i>	<i>Government funding and SPEN Green Recovery Investment. The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy outlines Welsh Government's vision for electric vehicle charging in Wales, and the Wales Transport Strategy commits to delivering this by 2040.</i>
4E	Review the funding period and the length of contracts associated with the Local Transport Fund.	Short term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Not started.</i>
Page 98 4F	Support greater awareness raising of UK Government funding for development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure such as the on-street residential charging scheme.	Short term	Welsh Government	Local Authorities Welsh Local Government Association	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) have been engaging with local authorities around the availability and accessing of such funding.</i>
4G	Continue to support organisations such as local community car clubs to deliver community-oriented, low-carbon transport infrastructure and services.	Short to medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to moving away from individual vehicle ownership to shared solutions, including car-sharing and car clubs. The growth of such models and services is identified as a priority to be delivered within the next five years. Funding such as the Welsh Government Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation Fund</i>

Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>(ULEVTF) will be used to kick-start such initiatives.</i>
4H	Explore options for investment in a rail freight facility at Holyhead Port as part of the development of the multi-modal logistics and freight plan.	Medium term	Welsh Government	Host Local Authority	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>The Welsh Government is working with the UK Government, the sector and other partners on a Logistics and Freight Plan for Wales.</i></p> <p><i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to integrating freight and logistics into wider transport and land-use planning policy, including co-location of manufacturing, energy, leisure and tourism with ports and freight hubs. Recognising ports and maritime transport as a key facet of wider policy on freight and logistics is identified as a priority.</i></p>
4I	Review existing activities and approaches to decarbonising heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) across the UK, Ireland, and Europe and how this could impact Regional Transport Plans.	Short term	Welsh Government	Ambition North Wales	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>The Welsh Government has committed to supporting the sector to trial new technologies, using financial incentives available from the UK Government. These technologies will seek to align with emerging opportunities to produce clean energy, such as the proposed Hydrogen Hub at Holyhead.</i></p>



5. Maximise the opportunities for the commercial & industrial sector to support the energy transition and drive economic growth

Strategic actions

Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
5A	<p>Establish a North Wales Industrial & Commercial Sector Group focused on supporting the decarbonisation of the commercial and industrial sector. Part of the Group's role will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage with Net Zero Industry Wales and other relevant organisations to better understand emissions hotspots and the level of commercial and industrial decarbonisation required in North Wales, to meet Wales' national net zero target. - Monitor and analyse the progress of ongoing decarbonisation projects within the commercial and industrial sectors to ensure that projected savings achieve the level of decarbonisation required to meet net zero. 	Short term	North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council	Welsh Government Deeside Decarbonisation Forum SPEN	Further work required to determine funding requirements	<p><i>The Business Council runs the regional Net Zero North Wales network for businesses.</i></p> <p><i>The Deeside Decarbonisation Forum has been established to bring together businesses in the Deeside area to help accelerate decarbonisation activity.</i></p> <p><i>The Welsh Government has established Net Zero Industry Wales (NZIW) to work with the South Wales Industrial Cluster initially with a view to extending to the whole of Wales where and when support is required. NZIW will also work in close collaboration with the UK's other leading industrial clusters to ensure Wales has access to best practice.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government has established Net Zero Industry Wales (NZIW), which will work with an existing group of 40 business and academic partners operating within a wide</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timeframe	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding status	Progress status
						<i>range of energy-intensive industries to help them achieve Net Zero. NZIW will also support close collaboration with the UK's other industrial clusters to ensure Wales has access to best practice.</i>
5B	Understand the role that micro-grids and other innovative solutions can play in existing industrial clusters such as those in Deeside and Wrexham.	Medium term	Welsh Government	Host Local Authorities SPEN	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The Future Grid for Wales study is underway and involves Welsh Government, Energy Network Operators and Ofgem.</i>
Page 101 5C	Explore development of support mechanisms for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to encourage uptake of energy efficiency improvements to commercial buildings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Set up a 'one-stop-shop' for advice to support smaller businesses in the net zero transition. This should align with any existing initiatives from Business Wales. 	Medium term	Business Wales		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>Business Wales have launched the net zero carbon start-up grant in February 2022.</i> <i>Business Wales also run the Green Growth Pledge, that helps Welsh businesses take pro-active steps towards improving their sustainability.</i> <i>As part of the UN-supported Race to Zero campaign, the UK Government set-up the UK Business Climate Hub, a one-stop-shop for advice on actions that SMEs can take to measure and manage emissions.</i>

Appendix 1: Strategic Priority Mapping

The table below maps each strategic action to relevant strategic priorities that are outlined in the Energy Strategy. For ease of reference, strategic priorities are abbreviated using the numeric reference:

1. To harness the abundance of local low carbon resource to become a green powerhouse and diversify the energy mix.
2. To become a world leader in offshore wind and marine technologies.
3. To improve the energy efficiency of the region’s housing and accelerate the decarbonisation of North Wales’ building stock
4. To achieve a shift to lower carbon transport.
5. Maximise the opportunities for the commercial and industrial sector to support the energy transition and drive economic growth.

Strategic action	Action ref	Strategic Priority Reference				
		1	2	3	4	5
<p>Ensure effective alignment between local, regional, and national energy strategies, plans and initiatives.</p> <p>The transition should be led by consistent policies at a national level which filter down to regional and local levels. The development of local development plans and strategic development plans should all consider the relevant aspects of the Energy Strategy.</p>	A	+	+	+	+	+
<p>Develop Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) within each local authority area to support the development of a route map for decarbonisation of the energy system, taking a multi-vector, whole-system approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify local opportunities to develop energy projects, including solar PV, onshore and offshore wind, nuclear, hydro, and tidal energy. 	B	+	+	+	+	+
<p>Lead on developing the skills requirements identified in the Regional Skills Partnership’s (RSP’s) Green Skills Report and Welsh Government’s Net Zero Skills Action Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the current skills capabilities and capacity to deliver decarbonisation as proposed in Net Zero Wales plan. 	C	+	+	+	+	+

		Strategic Priority Reference				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Develop a strategy to raise awareness of regional capabilities (including offshore and onshore wind, marine energy, nuclear and solar PV). •Ensuring the local supply chains are visible to developers operating within the region. •Provide appropriate training and education to enable people to access green jobs should be embedded across the learning cycle and opportunities for adapting existing jobs should be integrated into career pathways. 						
Input to Welsh Government’s consultation on the Public Behaviour Change Engagement Strategy that sets out how society can be involved in the changes individuals and communities can make to help Wales meet net zero.	D	+		+	+	
<p>Develop a regional hydrogen route map to support the emerging hydrogen economy, taking account of proposed hydrogen projects across the region.</p> <p>The route map should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provide a clear vision on the role of hydrogen in the future regional energy system. •Consider opportunities for industrial decarbonisation, transport uses and domestic energy. •Support the development of the hydrogen hubs by Menter Môn in Holyhead and Ambition North Wales. •Explore the role of Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), especially in the context of cross border projects such as Hynet. 	E	+	+	+	+	+
<p>Continue to explore and support opportunities for smart local energy systems in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Explore opportunities associated emerging from the Welsh Government’s Smart Living programme. The programme is supporting Welsh Local Authorities to issue challenges to businesses with innovative products, processes, and services. 	F	+	+	+	+	+
Identify a pipeline of regional energy project portfolios which maximise scope for attracting investment.	G	+	+	+	+	+
Strengthen the link between research, development and innovation and the Energy Strategy priorities.	H	+	+	+	+	+

		Strategic Priority Reference				
Continue to engage key stakeholders on the development of a long-term plan for the energy networks across the region and Wales.	I	+	+	+	+	+
Engage with Welsh Government to identify and build on opportunities that Ynni Cymru could provide to North Wales.	2A	+	+			
Explore how to improve communication of available funding sources for the development and delivery of a range of low-carbon power generation projects (e.g., onshore, and offshore wind, solar PV, nuclear, and tidal and marine energy).	2B	+	+			
Engage with UK Government to support the development of the Wylfa and Trawsfynydd sites for new nuclear projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the asks e.g., site selection process for new sites and updated National Policy Statements. • Support regional submissions into the Nuclear Enabling Fund. 	2C	+				
Engage with Welsh Government to determine how increased local ownership of energy projects can be delivered in line with proposed guidance on local and shared ownership in Wales.	2D	+	+			
Explore the potential of establishing an advice hub to support regional decarbonisation / low carbon energy initiatives.	2E	+	+	+	+	+
Maximise opportunities for public procurement to support the acceleration of renewable energy generation and secure local economic and social value. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that public procurement strengthens local supply chains / local jobs (social value). • Ask the supply chain to deliver against public sector carbon ambitions through procurement frameworks. 	2F	+	+			+
Maximise opportunities for community benefits funds from large energy infrastructure projects to support local and regional decarbonisation initiatives, recognising the need to target those communities and areas most impacted by such developments.	2G	+	+			

		Strategic Priority Reference				
Support the region's proposed port infrastructure improvements to secure greater regional benefit from planned offshore wind and tidal energy projects.	2H	+	+			
Engage with the marine consenting review by Welsh Government and identify the implications for regional projects.	2I	+	+			
Engage with Welsh Government on the development of revenue support mechanisms for marine energy projects.	2J	+	+			
Continue to explore the potential for tidal lagoon projects in North Wales.	2K	+	+			
Provide support and incentives for households to install energy efficiency measures and low-carbon heating systems, ensuring such support is targeted at those in fuel poverty and/or in most need.	3A			+		
Review existing and explore new potential financial mechanisms to support owner-occupiers and building owners seeking to undertake energy efficiency retrofit works.	3B			+		
Ensure PAS 2035 surveys and a clear plan for retrofit measures are prepared for individual social homes, in accordance with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS).	3C			+		
Review current support provision to tenants and landlords in the private-rented sector to ensure minimum energy efficiency standards are met. Review enforcement provisions to ensure minimum statutory standards within the sector are achieved.	3D			+		
Keep Permitted Development Rights under review in Wales, to further support domestic renewable energy installations for householders and housing developers.	3E			+		
Ensure alignment between Regional Transport Plans, the Energy Strategy, and emerging Local Area Energy Plans.	4A				+	

		Strategic Priority Reference				
<p>Explore financial incentives across all vehicle types, including public services vehicles, commercial and industrial fleets, and private vehicles, to achieve an increase in uptake of zero emissions vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with UK Government on progress made on a UK-wide development of a national scrappage scheme for older vehicles, supporting circular economy models. • Explore options to make zero-emission vehicles more affordable for citizens. • Explore options for alternative ownership models for public services vehicles. 	4B				+	
<p>Collaborate on opportunities to decarbonise the public sector fleet, public service vehicles, and commercial and industrial fleets and the co-ordination of associated infrastructure design and development across local authority boundaries.</p>	4C				+	
<p>Work together to deliver the most appropriate electric vehicle public charging infrastructure across the region, aligning with national work being undertaken through Transport for Wales.</p>	4D				+	
<p>Review the funding period and the length of contracts associated with the Local Transport Fund.</p>	4E				+	
<p>Support greater awareness raising of UK Government funding for development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure such as the on-street residential charging scheme.</p>	4F				+	
<p>Continue to support organisations such as local community car clubs to deliver community-oriented, low-carbon transport infrastructure and services.</p>	4G				+	
<p>Explore options for investment in a rail freight facility at Holyhead Port as part of the development of the multi-modal logistics and freight plan.</p>	4H				+	
<p>Review existing activities and approaches to decarbonising heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) across the UK, Ireland, and Europe and how this could impact Regional Transport Plans.</p>	4I				+	

		Strategic Priority Reference				
Establish a North Wales Industrial Sector Group focused on decarbonising the commercial and industrial sectors.	5A					+
Understand the role that micro-grids and other innovative solutions can play in existing industrial clusters such as those in Deeside and Wrexham.	5B	+				+
Explore development of support mechanisms for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to encourage uptake of energy efficiency improvements to commercial buildings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Set up a 'one-stop-shop' for advice to support smaller businesses in the net zero transition. This should align with any existing initiatives from Business Wales. 	5C			+		+

Appendix 2: Actions categorised by lead stakeholder

Lead	Strategic priority	Actions
Local Authorities	Cross-cutting	A, B, D, G, I
	1&2	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2I, 2J, 2K
	3	3A, 3B, 3C, 3D
	4	4C, 4D, 4E, 4G
Welsh Government	Cross-cutting	C, E, G, H, I
	1&2	2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 2I, 2K
	3	3A, 3B, 3D, 3E
	4	4A, 4B, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4I
	5	5B
Ambition North Wales	Cross-cutting	B, E, F, I
	1&2	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2H, 2J, 2K
Regional Skills Partnership	Cross-cutting	C
UK Government	3	3A, 3D

	4	4B
Bangor University / M-Sparc	Cross-cutting	H
Glyndwr University	Cross-cutting	H
Registered Social Landlords	3	3C
Business Wales	5	5C
North Wales Corporate Joint Committees	4	4A
North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council	5	5A
Public sector bodies	1&2	2F
Energy Service	1&2	2B

Appendix 3: Challenges identified by stakeholders

During the workshop, participants were asked what the immediate challenges were associated with delivering against each of the strategic priorities outlined in the Regional Energy Strategy. These have been summarised below. It is important to note that this feedback is subject to contributions in the workshop and as such might not reflect all challenges that exist.

(1) To harness the abundance of local low carbon resource to become a green powerhouse and diversify the energy mix + (2) To become a world leader in offshore wind and marine technologies

- The required supporting infrastructure must be developed quickly.
- More investment is required to scale up the necessary technologies.
- Public opposition to large scale infrastructure projects.
- It can be difficult for small projects to be financially viable without subsidies.
- Significant constraints to grid infrastructure.

(3) To improve the energy efficiency of the region's housing and accelerate the decarbonization of North Wales' building stock

- There needs to be more incentives for households to make changes.
- Many homes are not on the gas grid so require alternative solutions.
- There is a regional skills gap, e.g., heat pump providers.
- Low-carbon measures often require high upfront costs for households.
- Most of the housing sector is privately-owned.
- There is a lack of clear communication around the benefits of behaviour change for households.

(4) To achieve a shift to lower carbon transport

- There needs to be an increase in supporting infrastructure, e.g., EV charging, bike, and pedestrian paths.
- Availability of new low-carbon vehicles is limited; it can take up to six months for delivery.
- The cost of low-carbon vehicles can be prohibitive.
- There is uncertainty around the policy direction.
- There is a lack of reliable and affordable public transport services.

Appendix 2

Collation of actions where Local Authorities have been identified as the Lead within the North Wales Energy Strategy Action Plan

Lead	Strategic priority	Actions
Local Authorities	Cross-cutting	A, B, D, G, I
	1&2	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2I, 2J, 2K
	3	3A, 3B, 3C, 3D
	4	4C, 4D, 4E, 4G

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
A	<p>Ensure effective alignment between local, regional, and national energy strategies, plans and initiatives.</p> <p>The transition should be led by consistent policies at a national level which filter down to regional and local levels. The development of local development plans and strategic development plans should all consider the relevant aspects of the Energy Strategy.</p>	Short Term	Local Authorities	Welsh Government	No funding required	<i>There is already close collaboration across the regional energy strategies and Local Area Energy Plans (LAEP). A National Advisory Group and Regional Groups will be established to ensure effective alignment between existing and emerging energy planning work.</i>
B	<p>Develop Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) within each local authority area to support the development of a route map for decarbonisation of the energy</p>	Short Term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales	SP Energy Networks (SPEN)	Funding in place	<i>A pilot LAEP has already been adopted in Conwy County Borough. Welsh Government have committed funding to the preparation of LAEPs across the remaining five Local Authority areas by March 2024. The</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
	<p>system, taking a multi-vector, whole-system approach.</p> <p>Identify local opportunities to develop energy projects, including solar PV, onshore and offshore wind, nuclear, hydro, and tidal energy.</p>			Wales and West Utilities (WWU) Welsh Government		<p><i>development of LAEPs in North Wales will be coordinated by Ambition North Wales with technical support from the Energy Systems Catapult.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Systems Catapult has recently released technical guidance to support the development of LAEPs, which forms part of their appointments as technical advisors to Welsh Government.</i></p>
D	<p>Input to Welsh Government's consultation on the Public Behaviour Change Engagement Strategy that sets out how society can be involved in the changes individuals and communities can make to help Wales meet net zero.</p>	Short term	Local Authorities	Educational institutions Bangor University Glyndwr University SPEN WWU Welsh Government	No funding required	<p><i>Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 committed to consulting on a Public Behavioural Change Engagement Strategy during Summer 2022.</i></p>
G	<p>Identify a pipeline of regional energy project portfolios which maximise scope for attracting investment.</p>	Medium term	Local Authorities Welsh Government	Ambition North Wales Bangor University	Funding in place	<p><i>The development of LAEPs in each region will help to inform a pipeline of potential energy projects.</i></p> <p><i>The Growth Deal Smart Local Energy Project will gather information about regional projects that require funding support.</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
				Glyndwr University UK Government		
I	Continue to engage key stakeholders on the development of a long-term plan for the energy networks across the region and Wales.	Ongoing	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	WWU SPEN	Funding in place	<i>The Future Grid for Wales Study is underway by Welsh Government, Energy Network Operators and Ofgem. It will be used alongside LAEPs to develop a Future Energy Plan for Wales by 2024. This project will also inform the future requirements of the Welsh Energy Grid and contribute to the delivery of Future Wales: the National Plan 2040, providing evidence to enable network operators to plan and build the networks that will be required for the Net Zero by 2050 target. SPEN have recently published a Network Development Plan which will help understand the extent of investment and type of infrastructure required across North Wales.</i>
2A	Engage with Welsh Government to identify and build on opportunities that Ynni Cymru could provide to North Wales.	Medium term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Community Energy Wales	<i>No funding required</i>	There is the potential for the region to feed into the thinking around Ynni Cymru through Welsh Government and Community Energy Wales.
2B	Explore how to improve communication of available funding sources for the development and delivery of a range of low-carbon power generation projects (e.g., onshore, and offshore wind, solar PV,	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Energy Service	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>Not started.</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
	nuclear, and tidal and marine energy).					
2C	<p>Engage with UK Government to support the development of the Wylfa and Trawsfynydd sites for new nuclear projects:</p> <p>Identify the asks e.g., site selection process for new sites and updated National Policy Statements. Support regional submissions into the Nuclear Enabling Fund.</p>	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	UK Government Bangor University	<i>No funding required</i>	<p><i>Nuclear power has been identified as a priority in the UK Government's Energy Security Strategy.</i></p> <p><i>Bangor University hosts the Nuclear Futures Institute, which aims to establish North Wales as a global centre in nuclear technology.</i></p> <p><i>There are advanced plans to establish a National Nuclear Thermal Hydraulics Facility in North Wales.</i></p> <p><i>The Trawsfynydd Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Project is supported through the Growth Deal's Low Carbon Energy Programme.</i></p>
2D	<p>Engage with Welsh Government to determine how increased local ownership of energy projects can be delivered in line with published guidance on local and shared ownership in Wales.</p>	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<p><i>Guidance on local and shared ownership was published by Welsh Government in June 2022.</i></p>
2E	<p>Explore the potential of establishing an advice hub to support regional decarbonisation / low carbon energy initiatives.</p>	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities Ambition North Wales		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>The most recent renewable energy deep dive recommends an easy to access advice service. Welsh Government's response is that it needs to progress consultation on the Warm Homes programme, public engagement campaign as part of net zero Wales and a national heat strategy due to be released for consultation in spring 2023 so that it can provide a clearer proposal for an advice service.</i></p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
						<p>Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed.</p> <p>UK Government has recently launched their advice offering with a home energy MOT available through a new online advice service</p>
2F	<p>Maximise opportunities for public procurement to support the acceleration of renewable energy generation and secure local economic and social value.</p> <p>Ensure that public procurement strengthens local supply chains / local jobs (social value).</p> <p>Ask the supply chain to deliver against public sector carbon ambitions through procurement frameworks.</p>	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities Public sector bodies	Welsh Local Government Association Welsh Government Commercial Delivery	<i>No funding required</i>	<p>In June 2022, the <i>Social Partnership and Public Procurement Bill</i> was laid before the Senedd by Welsh Government. The socially responsible procurement duty within the bill will seek to ensure that public spending on goods, works and services is done in a way that benefits everyone and does not only focus on cost. The bill will inform the delivery of this action.</p>
2G	<p>Maximise opportunities for community benefits funds from large energy infrastructure projects to support local and regional decarbonisation initiatives, recognising the need to target those communities and areas most impacted by such developments.</p>	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p>There are a range of large energy infrastructure projects planned across North Wales, including offshore wind, nuclear, solar, and tidal.</p>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
2J	Engage with Welsh Government on the development of revenue support mechanisms for marine energy projects.	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Working Group that was formed to follow up the Renewable Energy Deep Dive Recommendations is responsible for reviewing the barriers to financing renewable energy projects, and will establish connections between key stakeholders to inform this work. This is also currently being addressed through Welsh Government's Marine Energy Programme</i>
2K	Continue to explore the potential for tidal lagoon projects in North Wales.	Medium to long term	Welsh Government Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Marine Energy Wales	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Welsh Government's Tidal Lagoon Challenge has been launched to obtain the appetite for developing proposals. This market engagement exercise is to ascertain if there is interest in any potential competition/procurement in the future to deliver a tidal lagoon capable of generating electricity with the winner(s) possibly receiving financial support from the Welsh Government.</i>
3A	Provide support and incentives for households to install energy efficiency measures and low-carbon heating systems, ensuring such support is targeted at those in fuel poverty and/or in most need.	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government Local Authorities Registered Social Landlords	Ofgem	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>NB. There are a broad range of Welsh Government programmes and plans that relate to this action, including Tackling fuel poverty strategy 2021 to 2035, the Innovative Housing Programme (IHP) and Optimised Retrofit Programme (ORP). There is also a commitment to publish a heat strategy for Wales in 2023. The UK Government's Heat and Buildings Strategy will also be relevant here.</i> <i>With regard to Social Housing, drawing on evidence from ORP, the new Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) 2022 will focus on</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
						<p><i>Fabric First principles and seek to bring all social housing as close as feasible to EPC A or equivalent within a decade.</i></p> <p><i>Initiatives such as the Welsh Government's Nest scheme has provided high-quality advice and information to householders to explore and realise their energy efficiency opportunities. Registered social landlords will engage and work with Community Housing Cymru (CHC) to progress this action.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government and Clwyd Alyn Housing Association have established of a Zero Carbon Housing Performance Hub to provide a central resource for net zero advice.</i></p> <p><i>An Energy Warden Scheme has already trialled collaboration of North Wales social landlords and learning from such schemes should inform this action.</i></p> <p><i>The Boiler Upgrade Grant provided through the UK Government may help property owners with upfront costs for shifting to low-carbon forms of heating.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) will run between 2022 and 2026 and requires energy suppliers to deliver a target of energy efficiency and heating measures to homes. ECO is focussed on low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households but with a focus on supporting the least energy efficient homes.</i></p>
3B	Review existing and explore new potential financial mechanisms to	Medium term	Welsh Government		<i>Further work required to</i>	<i>For the owner-occupier sector, the Warm Homes Programme is the key delivery</i>

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
	support owner-occupiers and building owners seeking to undertake energy efficiency retrofit works.		Local Authorities		<i>determine funding requirements</i>	<i>mechanism in this area. Since 2011, over £394m has been invested, benefitting more than 67,000 homes. Welsh Government will continue to fund the current programme until at least May 2023. Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme⁸ ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed. Welsh Government will be working with UK Finance, The Development Bank of Wales and sector stakeholders to consider how we can develop and trial alternative finance products to support owner-occupiers undertaking retrofit works⁹.</i>
3C	Ensure PAS 2035 surveys and a clear plan for retrofit measures are prepared for individual social homes, in accordance with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS).	Medium term	Local Authorities (Stock holding) Registered Social Landlords	Welsh Government	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>As part of the WHQS, by 2023 a PAS 2035 survey (the Publicly Available Specification that lays out a consistent assessment for energy retrofit measures) and a clear plan for individual homes will be required.¹⁰</i>
3D	Review current support provision to tenants and landlords in the private-rented sector to ensure minimum energy efficiency standards are met. Review enforcement provisions to ensure minimum statutory standards within the sector are achieved.	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The UK Government has completed a consultation on proposals to increase the minimum standard required for any property to be rented in the private-rented sector (PRS) to EPC C or above.¹¹ Current indications are that a formal response, followed by revised regulations will be published toward the end of 2022. Pending outcome of review, Welsh Government will review the support package available to landlords joining PRS Leasing</i>

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						<i>Scheme to ensure it also supports fabric first improvements.</i>
4C	Collaborate on opportunities to decarbonise the public sector fleet, public service vehicles, and commercial and industrial fleets and the co-ordination of associated infrastructure design and development across local authority boundaries.	Medium term	Local Authorities	Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Many North Wales public bodies have participated in recent fleet reviews and are preparing fleet transition plans. Several local authorities have already installed public electric vehicle charging alongside provision for fleet vehicles.</i>
4D	Work together to deliver the most appropriate electric vehicle public charging infrastructure across the region, aligning with national work being undertaken through Transport for Wales.	Short to medium term	Local Authorities Welsh Government	Transport for Wales SPEN	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>There has been a roll-out of electric vehicle charging points via Welsh Government funding and SPEN Green Recovery Investment. The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy outlines Welsh Government's vision for electric vehicle charging in Wales, and the Wales Transport Strategy commits to delivering this by 2040.</i>
4E	Review the funding period and the length of contracts associated with the Local Transport Fund.	Short term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Not started.</i>
4G	Continue to support organisations such as local community car clubs to deliver community-oriented, low-carbon transport infrastructure and services.	Short to medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to moving away from individual vehicle ownership to shared solutions, including car-sharing and car clubs. The growth of such models and services is identified as a priority to be delivered within the next five years. Funding such as the Welsh Government Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation Fund</i>

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						<i>(ULEVTF) will be used to kick-start such initiatives.</i>