

Extract of Executive Board Minutes Relevant to the Employment, Learning and Skills Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 13 DECEMBER 2012

EXB119 - THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ACTION PLAN

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Liverpool City Region Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

The Board was advised that a SEAP had been prepared for the City Region by the Merseyside Advisory Service (MEAS) and consultants, ARUP. The SEAP was officially launched in July 2012 and had been welcomed by both the public and private sectors, including potential investors and energy companies, as it provided a larger scale and more co-ordinated response to the energy agenda for the City Region. The SEAP set out a number of prioritised actions across the City Region to deliver a low carbon economy with potential to add value to a number of investment opportunities and projects, which were outlined in the report.

The Board noted that a benefit of the City Region SEAP Programme was to provide the framework within which Districts could take forward their own energy aspirations. The SEAP was a live document and would be updated periodically as and when required. The report provided details on the governance and reporting arrangements, opportunities for projects across the sub-region and the various stages of development of the low carbon projects within the Borough.

RESOLVED: That

- 1) the Liverpool City Region Sustainable Energy Action Plan be endorsed as the programme and framework for the City Region to advance its sustainable energy actions; and
- 2) the Environment and Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board receive progress reports on the SEAP Programme as and when appropriate.

EXB120 - LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COVENANT OF MAYORS AND CLIMATE LOCAL

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Policy and Resources, on the Liverpool City Region Covenant of Mayors and 'Climate Local'.

The report outlined the benefits and implications of signing up to two climate change commitments. The European Commission launched the Covenant of Mayors (the Covenant) in 2008 to endorse and support the efforts deployed by local authorities in the implementation of sustainable energy policies. The Covenant was a charter of key commitments, outlined in the Adhesion Form attached at Appendix B. It was noted that to date, Liverpool City Council was the only City Region authority to have signed up.

'Climate Local' was launched by the Local Government Association in June 2012 as a replacement to the Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change. This also required the signing of a commitment to address climate change but had a wider scope than the Covenant, as it addressed climate resilience and the management of future impacts of climate change such as extremes of weather. A copy of this agreement was attached at Appendix C.

It was noted that the European Union target was a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2020. The report provided details on the implications for Halton Borough Council, the development of the Council's Carbon Management Plan, Low Carbon Plan and the Sustainable Energy Action Plan. Progress on the latter had been reported elsewhere on this agenda.

RESOLVED: That the Board endorse the Council's signing of the EU Covenant of Mayors 'Climate Local'.