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## CLIMATE EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Meeting to be held in Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR on  
Monday, 20th March, 2023  
at 1.00 pm

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### MEMBERSHIP

#### Councillors

B Anderson  
D Blackburn  
J Bowden  
N Buckley  
P Carlill  
K Dye (Chair)  
A Garthwaite  
C Hart-Brooke  
H Hayden  
O Newton  
M Shahzad  
E Thomson  
P Truswell  
J Tudor  
P Wadsworth

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Note to observers of the meeting - To remotely observe this meeting, please click on the 'View the Meeting Recording' link which will feature on the meeting's webpage (linked below) ahead of the meeting. The webcast will become available at the commencement of the meeting. [Council and democracy \(leeds.gov.uk\)](https://leeds.gov.uk/council-and-democracy)

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**Agenda compiled by:**  
**Cassie Sivapalan**  
**Governance and Scrutiny Support**  
**Telephone: 0113 37 83136**

# A G E N D A

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p><b>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	
2			<p><b>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report.</li> <li>2) To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information.</li> <li>3) If so, to formally pass the following resolution:-</li> </ol> <p><b>RESOLVED –</b> That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
3			<p><b>LATE ITEMS</b></p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes)</p>	
4			<p><b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b></p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any interests in accordance with Leeds City Council's 'Councillor Code of Conduct'.</p>	
5			<p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence from the meeting.</p>	
6			<p><b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b></p> <p>a) To approve the minutes of the last formal meeting of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee held 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 as a correct record; and</p> <p>b) To receive and note the meeting notes of the Consultative meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.</p>	5 - 16
7			<p><b>OPEN FORUM</b></p> <p>At the discretion of the Chair, a period of up to 15 minutes may be allocated at each ordinary meeting for members of the public to make representations or to ask questions on matters within the terms of reference of the Committee. No member of the public shall speak for more than five minutes in the Open Forum, except by permission of the Chair. Please note: Members of the public are asked to submit a video of their question or statement to <a href="mailto:climate.emergency@leeds.gov.uk">climate.emergency@leeds.gov.uk</a> by 5.00 pm on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</p>	

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
8			<p><b>WORKING GROUPS UPDATE</b></p> <p>To receive a verbal update on the progress of the Committees' working groups to date.</p>	
9			<p><b>DIRECTORS UPDATE</b></p> <p>To receive a verbal update from the Director Children and Families.</p>	
10			<p><b>CLIMATE EMERGENCY ANNUAL REPORT</b></p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Resources which provides an overview of the Climate Emergency Annual Report, to be considered by the Executive Board on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.</p>	17 - 148
11			<p><b>UPDATE ON CLIMATE-RELATED COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS</b></p> <p>To consider the report of the Director of Resources and presentation providing an update on the use of communications and engagement to support the council's climate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the city.</p>	149 - 150
12			<p><b>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>To note the next meeting will be held in the 2023/24 Municipal Year – date to be confirmed.</p>	

### **Third Party Recording**

Recording of this meeting is allowed to enable those not present to see or hear the proceedings either as they take place (or later) and to enable the reporting of those proceedings. A copy of the recording protocol is available from the contacts named on the front of this agenda.

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- a) Any published recording should be accompanied by a statement of when and where the recording was made, the context of the discussion that took place, and a clear identification of the main speakers and their role or title.
- b) Those making recordings must not edit the recording in a way that could lead to misinterpretation or misrepresentation of the proceedings or comments made by attendees. In particular there should be no internal editing of published extracts; recordings may start at any point and end at any point but the material between those points must be complete.

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## Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Thursday, 23rd June, 2022

**PRESENT:** Councillor K Dye in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, D Blackburn,  
J Bowden, N Buckley, P Carlill,  
A Garthwaite, O Newton, M Shahzad,  
E Thomson, P Truswell, J Tudor and  
P Wadsworth

### 1 **Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals against the refusal of inspection of documents.

### 2 **Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

The agenda contained no exempt information.

### 3 **Late Items**

There were no late items of business.

### 4 **Declaration of Interests**

No declarations of interest were made.

### 5 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Hayden and Councillor Hart-Brooke.

### 6 **Minutes of Previous Meetings**

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That the minutes of the last formal meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 be agreed as a correct record
- b) That the notes of the Consultative meeting of Members of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee held 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be noted.

### 7 **Open Forum**

Two matters were raised under the Open Forum:

Climate Action Leeds (CAL) - Mr T. Hermann made a short representation on the £2.5 million programme to reach a zero carbon and nature friendly city for Leeds by 2030. The organisation's work is based on the doughnut economics model.

Five organisations support the work as delivery partners: Voluntary Action Leeds, CAG consultants, Together4Peace and Leeds Tidal. CAL provides a two day a week support worker for local groups and will start new recruitment drive to secure additional resource. Several local community groups are part of the programme, including:

- Eco-friendly Garforth
- Our Future Beeston
- Otley 2030

- **Climate Action Seacroft**  
The Chair thanked CAL for their submission and encouraged the local groups to attend future CEAC meetings and Mr Hermann confirmed this will be communicated to the groups.

Medact Leeds – The Group submitted a video outlining their campaign, 'Health for a Green New Deal' which can be viewed [here](#). Due to the World Health Organisation describing climate change as the biggest challenge facing human health, this is the group's focus, along with loss of biodiversity. The Group is specifically focusing on the impact of air pollution and the effects on children, and the presentation acknowledged Ella Kissi-Debrah, the first person ruled to have pollution included in her death certificate. The Group is campaigning in Leeds for cheaper zero emissions, segregated bike lanes especially near schools and to improve air quality.

The Chair thanked the Group and confirmed the submission would be provided to relevant officers in City Development (Highways and Transportation) for consideration.

## **8 Forward Plan 2022/23**

The Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) submitted a report which set out the proposed meeting schedule for 2022/23 attached as Appendix 1 and suggested amendments to the Committee's working groups for discussion.

The Committee considered the different approaches to growth, including doughnut economics. The Big Leeds Climate Conversation findings showed that more than three quarters of respondents believe that tackling climate change is either more (63.5%) or much more (14.7%) important than maintaining current levels of economic growth. There will be a workshop on doughnut economics for Members, possibly to take place through the working groups.

The Chief Officer clarified that any Councillor may apply to join the CEAC working groups, not just Members of the Committee.

The Chair confirmed that there will be an ongoing programme of visits to CEAC by the Director of each directorate during the municipal year.

**RESOLVED:** The committee confirmed the work programme, including committee dates.

## **9 Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan**

The Chief Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) submitted a report providing a summary on the range of activity which had taken place since the last meeting of the Committee to progress plans to build the city's resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Members noted the intention for a climate audit to be undertaken with LCC services to identify how service provision and service users may be impacted by the effects of climate change.

Members noted the many areas of the city susceptible to flooding and highlighted the need for the Plan to consider smaller incidents on tributaries to the Aire, Wharfe and Calder which impacted on local residents and the local economy.

Members also considered the concept of corporate responsibility amongst partners noting a comment regarding sale of woodland for residential development.

Officers agreed to feedback the above comments to the relevant partners.

Members noted a request for the Plan to separate and identify those risks and smaller actions which will have an immediate positive short term impact from the long term aims of the Plan. The Committee noted work being undertaken with partners to translate aspects of the Plan into scenarios to present to Service areas which will inform discussions on their own policies to support change.

#### **RESOLVED –**

- a) That the update provided on activity taking place across the Council to address the current, future and expected impacts of climate change be noted.
- b) That the leading role the Council is playing in the work on resilience and adaptation across the region in conjunction with the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission be noted.
- c) That the Committee support the approach to undertake a service-led climate risk assessment, including the delivery of a series of workshops, which will inform council-wide reviews of business continuity plans and the corporate risk register.
- d) That the Committee support enhanced city-wide engagement with every community in Leeds over the next 12 months to raise awareness of, and receive feedback on, the Council's activity to support climate mitigation and adaptation.
- e) To support the proposal for the involvement of the Committee's working groups in this work moving forward.

#### **10 Leeds Local Plan Update**

The Director of City Development submitted a report in support of a presentation given to the Committee providing an update on the development of the Leeds Local Plan.

Martin Elliot, Head of Strategic Planning, delivered the presentation highlighting how the Leeds Local Plan 1 (LPU1) will be a statutory plan which, once adopted, developers will be required to have regard to, as such it will provide developers with a steer on the type of development the city wishes to see.

The presentation focussed on the five key themes intended to support the city to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure the delivery of sustainable development:

**Carbon reduction** – Existing policies will be revised to introduce the concept of a “whole life cycle” assessment of a development, from the building materials proposed, re-use of materials, sustainable construction methods, demolition or new build to the final use of the development to help consider carbon useage. The focus on zero carbon developments will seek to go further than existing policy by setting out a focus on the fabric of buildings to withstand other energy technology that can be included within the development. Policies will also be prepared which identify broad locations for development of wind turbines and solar farms.

**Place making** – LPU1 has regard to the need to improve housing quality, and through stronger emphasis on design, housing density and links to the Connecting Leeds Strategy, it seeks to identify what quality developments in Leeds will look like and the concept of a “20-minute neighbourhood”.

**Flood Risk** – LPU1 will update Leeds’ assessment of flood susceptibility based on the latest evidence such as climate change allowances/ temperature change. Developments will be required to take the policy into account, the aim being to avoid development in high risk flood areas especially functional flood plains. Previously, the Local Authority operated an ‘exceptions test’ which balanced development with sustainability but the revised policy will start a conversation on whether that is the balance to strike for the future and whether flood plain development should be further restricted.

**Green Infrastructure** – LPU1 aims to present a better understanding of green infrastructure, particularly the movement of plants and animals and active travel considerations for people. The update to green space policies will ensure quality green spaces, which are functional and support Leeds health and wellbeing agenda.

**Sustainable infrastructure** – LPU1 will review digital connectivity for modern society, set out strategic support for mass transit schemes and policies on Leeds station update, HS2 and consider the airport policy.

Members were advised of the timetable for implementation, with a further report proposed to the October CEAC meeting as part of the formal consultation the Plan proposed for October to November 2022. Additionally the Committee noted the intention for work on a further Local Plan Update 2 to follow later in 2002, to potentially include issues such as housing, employment and town and local centres.

In discussions, the following comments were made:

Protection of garden areas as a city-wide strategy (for biodiversity, absorption of carbon by trees and hedges and for localised flood alleviation). Members

noted that paving over garden space is allowed under “permitted development”, the LPA can influence the type of paving/hard surface (permeable) and the amount of area to be lost. An Article 4 direction can be used to remove permitted development rights but this is not intended for city-wide use, however the LPA could remove permitted development rights on new build permissions in order to preserve good green and blue infrastructure.

The promotion of blue infrastructure for active travel and movement of goods. Members heard that an existing policy protects wharfs and barges were being used to transport sand and gravel. LPU1 would seek to improve the quality of green infrastructure and link it with blue infrastructure where appropriate to improve amenity and alternative habitats.

Plans Panel considerations – National Guidance on emerging policies and plans provides that once a Plan is out for consultation, then the Local Planning Authority (LPA) can start to give weight to the policies within it during consideration of planning applications. If a proposed policy has not attracted objections, further weight can be given, but their consistency with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) must also be considered – where an LPA proposes measures beyond any set out in the NPPF then the proposed policies are likely only to be considered once the full Plan has been formally adopted.

Microgeneration proposals – Members noted a comment seeking further consideration of microgeneration in the Plan, and it being implemented at the build stage with consideration to roof profiles and south facing roofs, rather than retro fitting to older properties which may not support new technologies. It was reported discussions had been held with developers, the outcome being that the Plan was not overly prescriptive, but would provide flexibility for developers to meet the targets – the policy will consider site layout, seek south facing developments, seek consideration of the energy hierarchy to be implemented and then how a development will be heated and powered. The National Grid which is proposed to be de-carbon already, but additional microgeneration in Leeds will further support the zero carbon target. Consideration was also being given to whether a mechanism for contributions can be established where developments with unaccounted-for carbon can generate funds to be used to undertake retro fitting elsewhere in the city.

Promoting the re-use of grey water – A comment promoting the inclusion of the use of grey/roof water in residential developments as is the case in industry and hotels was noted and it was agreed that this would be reviewed in the Plan.

20 Minute Neighbourhoods – Discussion noted that new developments in outer areas could more easily deliver 20 minute neighbourhoods and there was some concern over how the city centre would adapt to this and how the LPA could encourage developers to develop new centres and amenities for existing communities. Additionally, consideration of pedestrian routes into the city was needed as there were several residential areas on the outskirts of the

city centre where residents could walk into the city but were prevented by barriers. A further consideration was highlighted relating to provision of schools within the 20 minute neighbourhood concept in order to dissuade parents and older students driving to school. Members noted that the Local Plan Update 2 proposed for later in 2022 would consider housing, transport and how the LPA will respond to the strategic carbon policies and how they apply to housing distribution.

Transport – Consideration of transport infrastructure in the medium term was key, as implementation of the mass transit solution was proposed for 2040. The LPU is intended to sit alongside the Transport Strategy and Transport Supplementary Planning Document, the Plans Panels will ensure a development layout is accessible and aim for development close to transport interchanges so the aim is to set a policy that can deliver mass transport aligned with neighbourhood policy.

Acknowledging risk to the aims of the LPU – The Committee acknowledged that changes to Central Government policy and Guidance could present a constraint on the ability of the LPA to set local policy to achieve zero carbon if the LPA did not have the power to mandate or condition measures. Additionally the impact of development Viability Assessments in the consideration of planning applications was noted. The NPPF stipulates that in order for a Plan to succeed at Examination, the Plan should be sound - a test of soundness is deliverability. Members heard that a workshop had been held with developers on the proposals within the draft LPU and it was felt that developers locally were more aware of sustainable development funding, the realisation that their customers sought efficiency especially for energy use and were open to the proposals in the LPU. The inclusion of examples of community led housing and microgeneration in the LPU would provide positive encouragement to developers on what could be achieved.

The Committee also revisited the issue of car engine idling outside schools at school drop-off/pick-up times and noted that the banners previously supported by the Committee had been delivered to over 20 schools who wished to participate in the communications scheme. Members would receive further details directly in due course.

**RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report and presentation and the comments made during discussions on the Leeds Local Plan be noted.

#### **11 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED** – To note the date and time of the next meeting as Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at 2.00 pm

**CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF MEMBERS OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, 23RD JANUARY, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Councillor K Dye in the Chair

Councillors B Anderson, D Blackburn,  
J Bowden, P Carlill, C Hart-Brooke,  
H Hayden, D Jenkins, M Shahzad,  
P Truswell, J Tudor and P Wadsworth

**31 Apologies for Absence**

The Committee received apologies from Councillor Garthwaite and Councillor Buckley. Councillor Thomson sent apologies, and Councillor Jenkins attended as her substitute.

**32 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**33 Notes of the Previous Meetings**

**RECOMMENDED:** The notes of the previous Consultative Meetings of Members of the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were agreed as correct records.

**34 Open Forum**

There were two submissions to the Open Forum, made in writing ahead of the meeting.

**Environmental Considerations of Planning Decisions**

The first submission was regarding the lack of environmental consideration given to planning decisions in a recent development within their local area, and the need for local needs to be met to reduce car emissions. As the next meeting of the Infrastructure working group was due to discuss the Local Plan Update, the Committee agreed to discuss this issue in greater depth there.

**Plastic Free Fields**

The second submission was from the group Plastic Free Fields Leeds, a group of community members from south and east Leeds. The group's submission was regarding the installation of plastic sports grounds on natural spaces in Leeds. The submission explained the impact that black crumb can have on both animals and humans. The Committee agreed to raise concerns about the issue of black crumb surfacing with Sports England.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the issues raised be noted and referred to relevant Directorates for consideration.

**35 Working Groups Update**

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Date Not Specified

The Chairs of the Working Groups (WG) provided updates on progress made since the meeting of the Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

**Biodiversity, Food & Waste:** The topic of the last WG was Circular economy with guest speakers Rob Greenland of Zero Waste Leeds and Cat Hyde from Seagulls Reuse. The discussion focused on how these concepts can be better applied both within the council and in communications to residents. Updates on this work will be provided to the working group

**Infrastructure, Planning & Building:** The WG had received an update on the Net Zero housing plan. There were discussions regarding the West Yorkshire Combined Authorities Better Homes hub and the retrofit hub. An interactive map to showcase work in this area has been developed, and the group discussed how accessibility and engagement work could ensure that the tool was useful for the public to use in case of the tool being made public. The Committee noted some relevant mapping on the Leeds Live website. The Local Plan Update and green jobs were also discussed.

There have been proposals for new national guidelines to phase out gas boilers. The WG will receive a full briefing note at the next session, where a fuller conversation will take place.

The WG intended to distribute information about the Eco Plus government scheme within their wards. The scheme will provide low cost measures within houses to improve energy efficiency.

**Community & Business Engagement:** The WG examined how businesses can be supported. A number of schemes were examined including sustainable and active travel, smaller business schemes, climate ready plans as well as communication. The Committee noted the availability of the schemes would be communicated to local businesses.

**RECOMMENDED:** That the verbal updates from the working groups be noted.

## 36 **Director's Update**

The Director of City Development, Martin Farrington, provided an update to the Committee regarding how the Directorate has responded to the Climate Emergency. This was a part of a year long programme of visits to the Committee by each of the Leeds City Council's Directors.

The City Development directorate includes the service areas of asset management & regeneration, culture & economy, highways & transportation, planning & sustainable development and operations; and Active Leeds.

Some of the key work undertaken within the City Development Directorate included;

### **Economy & Culture**

Draft minutes to be approved at the meeting  
to be held on Date Not Specified

There has been work to integrate the climate emergency agenda into economic development within the city. The Inclusive Growth Strategy refresh, which has a prominent focus on environmental issues was presented to the Committee in November 2022 by the Head of Economic Policy. The strategy will have an emphasis on climate change and mitigation.

Leeds Innovation Vision has developed partnerships across the city to support business adaptation to net zero.

The Destination Marketing and International Relations plan (approved by Executive Board in October 2022) has laid out a strategy for ensuring sustainability within the hotel sector, whilst promoting the city as a tourist destination.

The Sustainable Arts in Leeds (SAIL) has been funded by Leeds City Council as a not-for-profit member's network to help deliver the Net Zero carbon emission and Zero Waste ambitions within the cultural and creative industries.

The Leeds 2023 Year of Culture will have its Sustainable Action Plan monitored over the course of the year. Highlights include a sustainable music event planned for the summer. The programme will explore the theme of climate change and sustainability and continue to exchange best practice with key international partners.

### **Green Skills**

The Future Talent Plan launched in September 2022 and has recruited a green skills lead. The lead will map existing and future needs of the sector to identify gaps within provision. The series of ambitions contained in the plan will support people to develop and maintain the skills required for economic and environmental resilience within the city.

As part of the mayoral pledge to create green jobs for unemployed people, there have been a number of Gainshare funded programmes, working with Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building, LCC Sustainable Energy, businesses, WYCA and skills providers to develop skills provision in the city.

### **Regeneration**

The Our Spaces Strategy key strategic document was adopted in March 2020 to support the delivery of new greening proposals. Green spaces developed include Aire Park, Playhouse Gardens, Meadow Lane, Corn Exchange, Wellington Place, Cookridge Street, Sovereign Square and David Oluwale Bridge and City Square.

### **Housing Growth**

The specifications for the 1200 new build homes programme included the delivery of new homes with no gas boilers with some including Electric Vehicle charging points. Technologies utilised have included Air source and Ground Source Heat Pumps and solar PV panels. The programme has delivered it's first set of homes to be granted an EPC A rating.

## **Highways & Transportation**

The Director noted that the following item on the agenda was regarding Mass Transit, as well as new governance arrangements within this area. This included the establishment of a Climate Emergency Task Group, creation of a Climate Emergency Officer role and a Climate Adaptation Plan. The Council aim is for Leeds to be a city where people do not need to own cars.

Following the presentation, the Director and Members of the Committee discussed the following details.

Carbon reduction will be factored into not only large-scale projects and contracts. A series of frameworks for smaller contracts have been developed to ensure that this work is embedded across the supply chain.

There was discussion regarding the carbon benefits of improving existing council buildings against replacing them, such as at leisure centres. The Fearnville Leisure centre was cited as an example of a building which needs replacing entirely.

The timescales for new build social housing programme were noted as being over a five-year period with further details to be provided.

Further detail on the greening of the city centre were provided, as part of a long-term strategic approach. The priorities were identified as being the quality, quantity and distribution of green spaces. This provided the basis for works such as those around the former Tetley Brewery, including the David Oluwale bridge and Aire Park.

The Committee discussed the prospect of congestion charges being introduced, with the current Council position being stated of there being no current plans to introduce this.

The Committee noted that one of the benefits for cities with mass transit systems is that the revenue created can be invested in the bus system should any surpluses from the fair-box arise.

**RECOMMENDED:** The Committee thanked the Director for attending the Committee and noted the verbal update.

### **37 West Yorkshire Mass Transit Update**

The Committee received the report of the Chief Officer, Highways and Transportation which provided a briefing regarding the Climate Emergency planning of the West Yorkshire Mass Transit Programme. The Programme is being promoted by West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA), with Leeds City Council (LCC) as a strategic partner. The report included details of the background and the LCC response to the statutory consultation, 'West Yorkshire Mass Transit Vision 2040'.

The Committee received a presentation on the Programme by Director of Mass Transit at WYCA, Kevin Murray, and LCC Officer Sabby Khaira, Programme Executive Manager of Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme. The presentation briefed the Committee on the current position of the Programme. The Programme has been involved in a number of consultations, alongside the West Yorkshire Connectivity Infrastructure Plan, alongside strategies for a number of transport options including rail, bus, walking, cycling, future mobility and case for change reports. Together these propose a meaningful alternative to car ownership, helping Leeds towards the 2030 deadline to achieve Net Zero Carbon.

The Vision has the following emphasis;

- 1) Focus on public good: people & prosperity
- 2) Evidence led development
- 3) Bold and ambitious investment for future generations

The intention is that for short journeys the default option will be walking or cycling. Buses will remain the heart of the transport system and rail will provide connectivity between centres. The new Mass Transit system will fill gaps within the current provision and compliment the other modes of transport.

The four design principles referenced are;

- 1) People first
- 2) Environmental responsibility
- 3) Better connected
- 4) Celebrating West Yorkshire

The Vision intends to build environmental responsibility into the work by considering biodiversity, the natural landscape and placemaking of the West Yorkshire region.

The Committee discussed a number of issues relating to the Vision, focusing on the environmental aspects of the proposals.

Route planning priorities were discussed, and it was noted that there is balance between prioritising areas with low car ownership and areas with high car ownership and congestion. The intention is to implement routes in the most high demand areas to begin with, learning lessons from cities such as Manchester where the focus was on the simpler areas to implement mass transit, with the more complicated areas developed later on. The Committee considered the impact that a city centre focus has on carbon emissions, such as reducing length travel routes, ease of movement and making public transport an attractive alternative to car ownership. The Committee's views on route planning were noted.

The Committee requested information on the ownership and operation of the Vision, with the likely model being for the system to be publicly run and largely publicly funded, but some potential for private funding may be a part of the funding solution.

The Committee discussed future-proofing, and the need to focus on technology which is deliverable within the short term, whilst allowing developing technology to be integrated when feasible.

The Committee noted that the Net Zero ambition is for 2030, whilst the Mass Transit completion target is 2040.

**RESOLVED:** The Committee thanked Officers from Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and noted the contents of the report, in conjunction with the report published under agenda item 14 from the Leeds City Council Executive Board meeting held on the 14th December 2022 titled 'West Yorkshire Mass Transit Vision 2040 Consultation - LCC Response'.

**38 Date and Time of the Next Meeting**

**RESOLVED:** The Committee noted that the date and time of the next meeting is 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 1.00pm.

## Climate Emergency Annual Report

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Report of: Director of Resources

Report to: Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### Brief summary

In 2019 the council declared a climate emergency with a target of achieving net zero emissions for the city by 2030. This report provides the annual update against this target at both a council and city level. It also updates and reflects on wider changes relevant to the city's decarbonisation that have happened both regionally and nationally

The Climate Emergency Annual Report provides an update on the progress being made at both a Council and a city level towards the target set by the Council when declaring a climate emergency in 2019 of achieving net zero emissions for the city by 2030. The report also reflects on wider changes relevant to the city's decarbonisation that have happened both regionally and nationally.

### Recommendations

- a) To note the Climate Emergency Annual Report was submitted to the Executive Board on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- b) To note and provide comments on the content of the Climate Emergency Annual Report

### **What is this report about?**

- 1 This report is our annual review of the work undertaken in response to the declaration of a Climate Emergency in March 2019.

### **What impact will this proposal have?**

- 2 It is requested that an annual update is provided on the progression towards net-zero

### **How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?**

Health and Wellbeing       Inclusive Growth       Zero Carbon

- 3 The Annual Report evidences the progression towards the net-zero ambition.

### **What consultation and engagement has taken place?**

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?       Yes       No

- 4 The report has been to Scrutiny Board Environment Housing and Communities, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

### **What are the resource implications?**

- 5 There are no direct resource implications as a result of this report.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

- 6 There are no specific risk management implications as a result of this report.

### **What are the legal implications?**

- 7 There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

#### **What other options were considered?**

- 8 Not applicable

#### **How will success be measured?**

- 9 Not applicable

#### **What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?**

- 10 Not applicable

### **Appendices**

- None

## Background papers

- None

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# Climate Emergency Annual Report

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Report of: Director of Resources

Report to: Executive Board

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

## Executive Summary

- In 2019 the council declared a climate emergency with a target of achieving net zero emissions for the city by 2030. This report provides the annual update against this target at both a council and city level. It also updates and reflects on wider changes relevant to the city's decarbonisation that have happened both regionally and nationally.
- In 2022 Leeds City Council was recognised as one of 122 city authorities across the world leading the way on climate action as part of a list published by renowned international authority, the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). Leeds joins the likes of New York, Paris, Melbourne, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, and Cape Town on the organisation's 2022 A List. Of more than 1,000 global cities that received a rating this year only 12% received an 'A' grade. Leeds was among those cities being celebrated for showing that urgent and impactful climate action—from ambitious emissions reduction targets to building resilience against climate change—is achievable at a global level. However, this action will need to go further and faster in future years for Leeds to retain this 'A' grade.
- The council continues to achieve a high level of success in its grant applications, totalling over £100m since 2019. Around £35 million is being won every year to support areas such as electric charging infrastructure, housing retrofit, public building decarbonisation and the expansion of the district heating PIPES network. Future funding for 2023/24 is expected to continue at this level.
- Despite our successful track record on bidding, we know that to achieve net zero that we need to access significantly more funding. Much of this funding will have to be provided by the private sector, with government grants focused on areas such as technological developments or housing retrofit for those living in fuel poverty. As a result the council has invested significant time in 2022 working with the private sector to identify a model to unlock greater levels of funding, based on self-financing business cases as well as working with the Green Finance Institute to support the work that they are undertaking to develop property linked finance, which is seen as a key way to speed up housing retrofit in the owner occupied market.
- The council's climate emissions have two key sources:
  - The energy that it uses to power and heat its facilities;
  - The fuel that it uses to operate its vehicles fleet.

- The council had previously set itself the target to reduce its own operational emissions by 50% by 2025 and this report demonstrates the actions that it is taking to ensure that it will meet this first target.
- The council will continue to reduce the energy it uses by investing in technologies such as solar PV panels, LED lighting, and alternative heating sources. This work shall build on the success of 2021 which saw £25 million of funding secured to retrofit 40 of our buildings with renewables, energy efficiency improvements and decarbonised heating. A further £4 million of upgrades to 10 more buildings was announced in September 2022. The LED streetlighting programme roll out has also continued at pace, further reducing energy usage.
- Comparing the forecast 2022/23 figures with those for 2018/19, just ahead of the declaration of the climate emergency for Leeds, over 23,000 tonnes per annum, or a 37% reduction, in CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions from the council's energy usage has been achieved during this time.
- The council continues to seek to complement the energy reduction and decarbonisation measures outlined above by changing how it procures its energy through direct investment in localised major renewables schemes such as large scale solar, and the use of corporate power purchase agreements enabling investment in large scale renewables potentially outside of Leeds.
- In terms of fleet the council already has what is believed to be the largest electric vehicle fleet of any local authority in the UK, with 384 electric vehicles and its first electric Refuse Collection Vehicles due to arrive on fleet this year.
- Last year was the first year that we started to expand the annual climate emergency report's focus beyond mitigation to adaptation and resilience. In 2022 the first report about the development of the adaptation and resilience plan was taken to executive board and we held our first cross council workshop focused on how we prepare specifically for extreme heatwaves and flooding.
- In 2022 we also focused on food and its emissions, with a draft food strategy published in the autumn, consultation into the new year and the amended food strategy presented for adoption at today's Executive Board.
- The district's emissions continue to show progress towards net zero but, without further action, the pace of change is not currently sufficient to ensure net zero will be achieved by 2030. Where the council has the funding and the powers to enable or deliver change itself it has made good progress, however there are key areas where further support from national government is essential to overcome key barriers, e.g. private housing retrofit and transport. The council is regularly engaging with national policymakers to ensure their awareness of these barriers and challenges.
- There is a particular focus within this report on the challenges that we face to decarbonise the city's housing stock, a sector that contributes 26% to our emissions and in particular the work to accelerate the retrofit of privately owned housing.
- The council has a good track record for securing funding to support cross-tenure housing retrofit works.

- During financial year 2021/2022, the council secured £19.5 million of national government funding for programmes delivering a range of low-carbon heating, energy efficiency, or renewable energy technologies benefiting more than 1,500 domestic properties. During financial year 2022/2023, the council has bid for £19.7 million from national and regional government funding sources to deliver even more low-carbon heating, energy efficiency, or renewable energy technologies benefiting at least 1,100 domestic properties. The council is expecting the outcome of these bids to be publicly confirmed before the end of the financial year. £0.2 million was also secured this year as part of the Government’s “Heats Pump Ready” project to explore the feasibility and viability of networked heat pumps at an inner city location.
- In addition to securing external funding, the council has also previously committed more than £100 million towards the delivery of social housing decarbonisation projects as part of its Capital Housing Investment Programme—incorporating a mix of external and Housing Revenue Account funding—with around 5,000 council properties currently expected to benefit. A more detailed programme update was presented to Executive Board in March 2022. Delivery of this programme is continuous, with several projects delivered or progressed in 2022.
- With regards to the wider built environment, we have seen many other public sector partners connect to our £49 million low carbon district heating network, which continues to expand rapidly. Like the council, many of the city’s other large organisational emitters are also taking significant actions to reduce their own impact on the environment—supporting the city’s journey to become the UK’s first net zero city. The University of Leeds, one of the city’s other largest emitters, has published a detailed Climate Plan and committed to invest more than £150 million to work towards achieving net zero emissions by 2030.
- Planning plays a key role in supporting the standard of new build across the city and ensuring retrofit will not be required. In July 2021 the council carried out initial statutory public consultation on a Local Plan Update, which will update planning policies for carbon reduction, flood risk, green infrastructure (including biodiversity), place making and sustainable infrastructure. More recently, the proposed policies were developed and consulted between October and December 2022.
- Transport contributes around a third of the city’s emissions and needs significant investment to make the changes required. The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy has decarbonisation as one of its central pillars. The strategy outlines the key steps to deliver the changes needed in Transport to meet the city’s 2030 target of making Leeds Carbon neutral. Its key aims are:
  - Reducing carbon emissions from transport to achieve net zero by 2030, as per the goal of the council’s declaration of a climate emergency is acknowledged to be highly challenging in the transport strategy. A goal for a 43% reduction in CO2 emissions is the level that will be achieved if the modal split targets are achieved by 2030.
  - Reducing the need for travel and the number of car journeys, especially at peak times. The total distances travelled on our roads were still lower in 2021 than pre-pandemic in 2019. With a 13% reduction shown in Indicator 1. LGV (+2%) and HGV (5%) traffic though was higher in 2021 than in 2019. This highlights the importance of the freight strategies.
  - Encouraging and leading the uptake of zero emission vehicles in freight, public and private transport. The uptake of zero emission vehicles showed encouraging signs in the

last year. The number of publicly available EV charging points increase by 129 from October 21 to reach 418 in October 22. First buses now have 21 electric buses operational in Leeds, an increase of 12 on the previous year, First have 32 additional electric vehicles on order with electric charging facilities also planned to be installed at Bramley depot.

- Encouraging people to choose active travel and public transport. Due to the pandemic reliable and meaningful data on mode share is less readily available. However, a comparison is possible of travel into the city centre and changes between 2019 and 2021. From this we see the proportion of trips into the city centre by car in the morning peak increased from a just over half (51.5%) to over two-thirds (69.2%). It has not been possible to obtain rail figures so the full modal split cannot currently be reported. The mode split targets are one of the main metrics to monitor success however there are still challenges accessing some of the required datasets and the ongoing impact of Covid-19 makes it difficult to provide meaningful annual trends. Further review of the current methodology is needed to maintain accuracy. The current data is only available for 2019 and 2021 with 2022 data still to be finalised and published. Further work with internal LCC data count teams is needed to develop a more robust dataset and timeline for publishing to ensure this aligns with quarterly and annual reporting by the Transport Strategy service.
- The cost of delivering our long-term ambition in the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy to become net-zero by 2030 is still significantly beyond the level of funding currently available.
- Leeds City Council approved the city's new Connecting Leeds transport strategy in 2022. In the year since, a record amount of infrastructure and policy work has been completed to improve the city's connectivity and transport networks, some of which is summarised below. A more detailed annual update report was presented to Executive Board in February 2023.
  - Development on Freight Policy – Increased focus on decarbonisation of freight (rail, road, cargo bike, waterborne, last mile, future zero emission technology (robots))
  - Local plans and development of '20 min neighbourhoods' planning, mobility hubs, multi modal interchange.
  - Streetscape road space reallocation policy – This new policy prioritises space on Leeds' streets for sustainable transport. It will be used by all highways scheme designers to ensure the principles of the transport strategy are embedded on Leeds' streets.
  - Future Mass Transit (implications) and planning.
  - WYCA commissioned future Park & Ride studies (road/rail)
  - Parking policy (pay display charging at LCC owned sites)
  - Continued development of LCWIP and ATN (Active Travel fund and Active Travel England support) - CC3/TCF cycle network expansion
  - Travel behaviour campaigns – Walk it / Ride It successfully launched and School initiatives The LCC influencing travel behaviour team each year deliver to more than 10,000 children and young people in Leeds 'Bikeability' training
- The last year has also seen the completion of the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP): an unprecedented £270 million investment into the Leeds transport network delivered in partnership with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, bus operators

and other transport stakeholders. The LPTIP programme has delivered significant improvements to the bus network, enhanced facilities for pedestrians and cyclists, and transformed the public realm.

- Climate Emergency Task group - A project has been launched to develop and shape Highways & Transportation's response to the climate emergency through establishing processes and best practice workstreams which consider whole-life carbon assessments to ensure our infrastructure and communities are resilient and satisfy commitments made as part of our climate emergency declaration to respond to climate change. Focus on Network Management, Maintenance and Street Lighting
- The changes required to transition the city towards a net zero economy will not be possible without widespread public support and behaviour changes from residents and organisations alike. Public communications and engagement has three fundamental roles: enabling the successful delivery of projects, explaining climate policy, and engaging the public on the changes that they can take (whether individual or organisational) to help accelerate climate action. In addition to targeted, project-specific communications support the council continues to work with partners to engage citizens and businesses through a range of approaches. A dedicated monthly e-newsletter highlights regular updates and opportunities for climate action to nearly 7,000 subscribers.

## **Recommendations**

The Executive Board is requested to approve the following recommendations:

- a) Adopt the net zero housing plan for the council (appendix 1)
- b) Note the food strategy consultation responses and approve the adoption of the updated food strategy (appendices 2 and 3)
- c) Approve Leeds City Council becoming a signatory of the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission's 'Climate Action Pledge'
- d) Support the submission of the next Annual Report to Executive Board in September 2024 (and every 12 months thereafter) to improve transparency by aligning the Annual Report with the council's Carbon Disclosure Project submission.

## **Main Report**

### **Why is the proposal being put forward?**

- 1 This report is our annual review of the work undertaken in response to the declaration of a Climate Emergency in March 2019.

### **2 Introduction**

- 3 Our climate has changed already and the impacts of this are already being felt locally, nationally, and globally. The climate will continue to change until global net zero is reached—meaning that the greenhouse gas emissions of every territory are either reduced or removed from the atmosphere by natural or man-made means. The planet is already 1.2 degrees Celsius warmer on average than in pre-industrial times as a result of human-caused climate change, according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service.

- 4 2022 was the warmest year on record for the UK according to Met Office figures with the top 10 warmest years on record having each occurred since 2003. All four seasons of 2022 were

within the top ten warmest since the Met Office began recording in 1884. Leeds experienced the hottest day ever recorded in July. 2022 was also among the driest on record requiring many water companies, including Yorkshire Water, to declare a drought and issue a hosepipe ban to help maintain supplies.

- 5 These weather events are becoming more likely as a result of climate change. A recent study conducted by Met Office scientists has concluded that the UK's annual temperature in 2022 would have been considered a 1-in-500-year event in a natural climate where human influences are removed. It is now likely to occur every three to four years.
- 6 Initial analysis by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) shows that across the 5-heat periods in the summer of 2022, the estimated total excess mortality (excluding coronavirus (COVID-19) in England was 2,803 for those aged 65 and over. This is the highest excess mortality figure during heat-periods observed since the introduction of the Heatwave plan for England in 2004. Additionally, the impacts of the heatwaves this summer caused widespread disruption to travel, workplaces, and many council services.
- 7 2022 has been another landmark year for climate diplomacy with COP27 taking place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. In recognition of the past, current, and future impact of climate change the convention ended with a historic decision to establish and operationalize a new 'loss and damage' fund, particularly for nations most vulnerable to the climate crisis. Additionally, the Prime Minister reiterated the UK's own commitment to reducing emissions by at least 68 per cent by 2030 when speaking at the conference as part of a "global mission for new jobs and clean growth".
- 8 This year also saw an independent review launched by the government into the delivery of net zero climate commitments, with a focus on ensuring that the UK's Net Zero Strategy maximises economic growth while increasing energy security and affordability for consumers and businesses. The outcomes of this Net Zero Review were published in January 2023 with 129 recommendations made to Government on how to take economic advantage of the transition to net-zero. It reaffirmed that the Government's timeline to achieve net-zero was still appropriate, however identified 'net zero is creating a new era of opportunity, but government, industry, and individuals need to act to make the most of the opportunities, reduce costs, and ensure we deliver successfully'
- 9 The council's own climate vision supports the vision set out in the government's Net Zero Strategy but recognises the city's ambition to achieve net zero emissions significantly earlier as far as this is practically possible.
- 10 In 2019, councillors from all parties in Leeds voted to declare a 'climate emergency' and work towards achieving citywide net zero emissions by 2030. Since then, Leeds City Council has delivered climate-related schemes worth hundreds of millions of pounds, published a plan to halve the authority's own carbon footprint by 2025, and begun updating some of the authority's most significant policy documents (such as the Connecting Leeds transport strategy, Housing Strategy, skills strategy, and Local Plan) to ensure they support work to mitigate and adapt to the changing climate.
- 11 Leeds City Council was recognised in 2022 as one of 122 city authorities across the world leading the way on climate action as part of a list published by renowned international authority, the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). Leeds joins the likes of New York, Paris, Melbourne, Tokyo, Buenos Aires, and Cape Town on the organisation's 2022 A List. Of more than 1,000 global cities that received a rating this year only 12% received an 'A' grade. Leeds was among those cities being celebrated for showing that urgent and impactful climate action—from ambitious emissions reduction targets to building resilience against climate change—is achievable at a global level. However, this action will need to go further and faster in future

years for Leeds to retain this 'A' grade.

12 The council's most recent submission to the CDP (included as appendix 4 to this report) was prepared in July and has been publicly available online since December 2022. Participation in the CDP requires cities to disclose annually—typically before the end of each July. Given the range and depth of detail that this includes and the submission's complementary nature to this annual report, it is recommended that the council should bring future versions of this report into alignment with the timescales for the CDP submission. Alignment will improve transparency by enabling Executive Board and Leeds citizens to review the city's submission months earlier than it would otherwise be publicly available. The change will also mean that future versions of the Annual Update report will be accompanied by, and will provide a narrative explaining, more detailed data and a fuller picture of the city's climate action progress.

### 13 National and Regional Context

14 The council can take a wide range of actions to achieve net zero operations as an organisation and as a local authority can contribute significantly to the city's progress towards its net zero target. Nevertheless, neither the council nor the city exists independently of national policy. The transition from natural gas, the shift to a net zero electricity grid, and the removal of fossil fuels from transport are three profound changes to which the council can contribute but where the principal levers lay at a national level.

15 With regards to scope 3 emissions, pertaining to those associated with consumption of goods and services, again the council can make some inroads but issues which determine the degree to which the citizens of Leeds are dependent on imported goods produced and transported with carbon are bound up with national industrial strategy and trade policy.

16 The council can play two roles with regard to impacting on the national agenda. First, the council can and has been acting as a pathfinder for low carbon and zero carbon development. A constructive engagement with government is helping to develop district heating as a viable alternative and pioneering retrofit in multi storey buildings, as two examples. This engagement will help the city achieve reductions in carbon faster but also help prove the case for its implementation at a national level. Secondly, the council can engage national policymakers, communicate the local challenges and opportunities of net zero, and work with them—and with other partners including the LGA, UK100, Core Cities, and other authorities—to address barriers and ultimately improve national policy.

17 Foremost among the immediate financial asks is funding for the delivery of a transformative public transport system. Going beyond the specific asks, however, is a call for greater consistency both of funding and of policy. It is through a long-term commitment to funding that the council can establish comprehensive programmes of work and industry can have the confidence to invest in the long term in technology, training and jobs. The retrofitting of housing has been a particular example of stop start funding but which can turn into a huge opportunity to reduce carbon quickly, reduce bills and create meaningful well paid work. Lastly, there is a need for a comprehensive review of local government powers to ensure they are consistent with the government's own commitment to net zero, ensuring that in key areas such as planning, waste, housing and transport they are properly aligned.

18 Beyond funding and policy, a key issue remains of public awareness, which is both crucial to individual decision making but also to the acceptability of some of the policy changes likely to be required. Local government, central government, industry and the third sector will need to work collectively on this issue in the years to come, often promoting the associated wider

benefits of carbon reduction actions to ensure public buy in. The broad political consensus in the UK regarding the reality of climate change are a crucial advantage and foundation for this.

- 19 There have been some positive steps forward at a national level with the recent publication of the Environmental Improvements Plan 2023 which sets out a five-year delivery plan to restore nature and improve the environmental quality of the air, waters, and land. Key highlights of this include:
- a) for the government to publish the third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3) in 2023 that will set out a five year strategy to build the UK's climate resilience
  - b) investment in active travel, with a vision for half of all journeys in towns and cities to be cycled or walked by 2030. £35 million funding has already been committed this financial year
  - c) minimising waste through the introduction of banning the supply of single use plastics from October 2023, working with businesses to implement packaging extended producer responsibility from 2024 and introducing a deposit return scheme for plastic and metal drinks containers from October 2025
  - d) challenging local authorities to improve air quality more quickly by assessing their performance and use of existing powers, while supporting them with clear guidance, funding, and tools. The government have committed to reduce population exposure to PM2.5 by 35% compared to 2018 levels by the end of 2040

The government has also committed to publishing a new Green Finance Strategy, building on the first strategy, published in 2019. It will set out in more detail the steps the government are putting in place to leverage in private finance to deliver government's environmental goals.

- 20 The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission (Y&HCC) was also established in 2021 – an independent advisory body set to bring representatives from the public, private and third sector together to support and guide ambitious actions across the region with four inter-related aims:
- a) To foster climate resilience and adaptation to climate risks and impacts
  - b) To support rapid progress towards net zero carbon emissions
  - c) To encourage a just and inclusive transition and climate actions that leave no one and nowhere behind
  - d) To promote sustainability and climate actions that also protect nature and biodiversity
- 21 As part of COP26 the Y&HCC launched their climate action plan, comprising of 50 actions. In early 2024 the council will assess itself against the actions identified and use it to strengthen its own action plan.
- 22 The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Action Pledge was launched on the 15th November 2022, with 24 organisations including local authorities, health and education sectors, third sector and private sector businesses signing up to the pledge after the launch.
- 23 The Pledge has four areas of focus: working towards net zero, adapting to future climate impacts, enhancing nature and biodiversity and working with people, places and partners to create more impact.
- 24 In signing the Climate Action Pledge, we are reaffirming our commitment to these four goals and continuing to show our residents, staff and businesses throughout Leeds that we are a responsible organisation determined to make a positive difference.
- 25 Organisations will be categorised into one of three tiers:

**Signatories:** those who have signed and pledged to take action

**Achievers:** Those who already have a plan in place for one or more of our four areas of focus

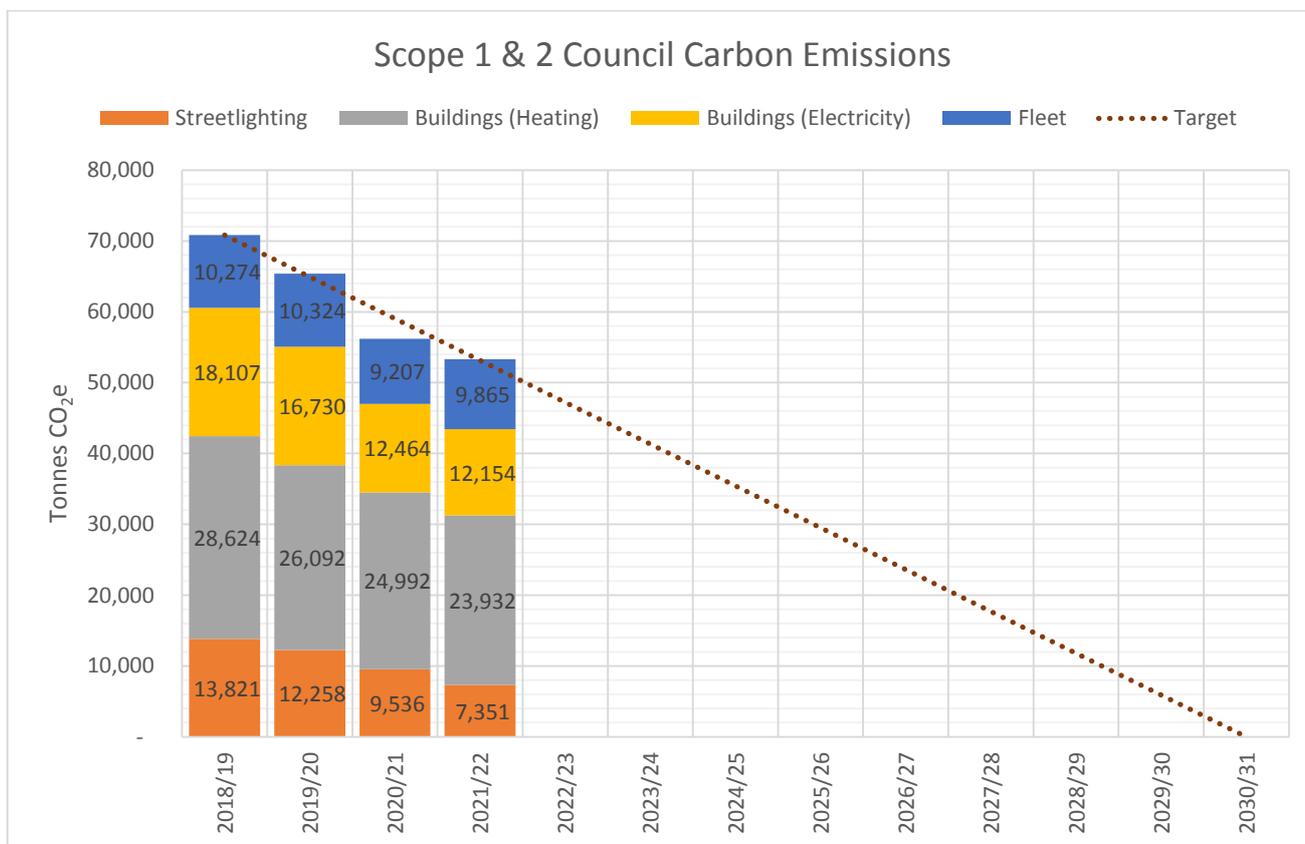
**Leaders:** During 2023, businesses and organisations that appear to be most advanced will be chosen to develop criteria for Climate Leaders.

26 Businesses and organisations that declare that they have a plan in place for at least one of these areas are categorised as 'Achievers' Within the region, Hull City Council, Kirklees Council and Harrogate Borough Council have already signed the pledge, declaring their position as 'Achievers.'

27 It is recommended that Leeds City Council sign the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Pledge declaring their position as an 'Achiever' and provide an update to the next Climate Emergency Annual Update Report on the progression of their commitments.

### Council Emissions - Overview

28 The chart below illustrates how these figures correspond to the trajectory required to achieve the net zero ambition. This shows the council to be on track, noting that the range of measures being implemented by the council as summarised in the sections below will need to be supported by major national policy, infrastructure and funding measures if this rate of progress is to be maintained.



29 The biggest challenges to removing the remaining emissions by 2030 for the council will be the transition of the remainder of our buildings from gas as the current cost of replacing an existing gas heating system with an air source heat pump is multiple times higher than if we were to replace with another gas boiler and will often result in higher running costs. There may also

remain some technological challenges with regards to our fleet replacement, especially in connection with our more specialist fleet where the low volume requirement means that the same level of product development hasn't taken place to find a zero emissions alternative.

30 As well as looking at scope 1 and 2 emissions, the council is committed to looking at how it can reduce its scope 3 emissions<sup>1</sup>. With an annual external spend of almost one billion pounds, there is significant potential to use our buying power to reduce wider emissions associated with council services. Measuring scope 3 emissions accurately is very challenging and labour intensive. However, we have started to capture more accurate data for some of our spend categories as shown in the table below and this will enable us to monitor specific areas and develop action plans to reduce scope 3 emissions. Food emissions will be calculated every 3 years rather than annually due to the level of resource required to undertake this exercise.

	Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2018/19		Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2019/20		Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2020/21		Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2021/22
Grey Fleet (car mileage claims)	1,232		1,246		587		858
Business Travel (other)	173		199		24		56
Water	n/a		229		158		156
	Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2018/19 <sup>2</sup>	Food weight (Tonnes)	Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2019/20 <sup>5</sup>	Food weight (Tonnes)	Tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> e 2020/21 <sup>5</sup>	Food weight (Tonnes)	Not calculated
Food total	8,671	2,741	7,535	2,494	4,990	2,138	

## Energy Strategy

31 With energy usage accounting for over 80% of the council's carbon emissions, and with the council having adopted a new energy strategy in February 2022, work has continued across all key areas to reduce energy related carbon impacts and costs. The ongoing global energy crisis has created major budget pressures, although the council's exposure to these costs has been managed through the implementation of its energy purchasing strategy approved by Executive Board in March 2022.

32 The table below illustrates the progressive year-on-year reductions in gas and electricity consumption since the declaration of the Climate Emergency in March 2019 and the associated carbon emission reductions.

LCC energy consumption				
	Gas (kWh)	Elec (kWh)	Total kg CO <sub>2</sub> e	% CO <sub>2</sub> e reduction (compared to 18/19)
2018/19	155,185,026	123,951,177	62,626,120	
2019/20	150,975,376	128,138,426	59,688,728	
2020/21	147,653,416	106,961,797	51,431,690	
2021/22	140,519,929	104,264,513	47,309,569	25%

<sup>1</sup> Scope 3 emissions are those emissions that the organisation is indirectly responsible for from buying products or services from its supplier or mileage completed by employees in their own vehicles.

<sup>2</sup> The CO<sub>2</sub>e emission factors for Food items vary between sources, so the figures presented above are best estimates using the averages of min/max values. For some products, emission factors have had to be defaulted to the BEIS generic food/drink emission factor and for other products the most likely food equivalent has been used.

- 33 Action and progress since the last annual update can be summarised under the following key areas:
- 34 **Reducing energy consumption** – the council has continued its work to ‘right size’ the corporate estate in response to new ways of working and changes to models of service delivery, as well as ongoing work to raise awareness amongst building managers, staff and service users of the impacts of energy usage, and the improved use of data to understand where further energy savings can be achieved through better energy management. In addition to the programme led by Strategic Asset Management, a dedicated Energy Reduction Team has been established to ensure focused action to reduce energy consumption. Measures have included a range of asset disposals, permanent and temporary closures of buildings, concentration of staff into specific areas of buildings to enable partial shutdowns, adjustments to building and facility heating settings, development of site-specific action plans at high-consuming sites and enhanced staff engagement and awareness raising on energy usage issues.
- 35 **Improving energy efficiency** – the programme of work to secure grant funding and deliver energy efficiency, low carbon heating and renewables generation measures across the corporate estate and schools has continued, with a further 10 schemes delivered in 2022, totalling 47 since the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) opened in September 2020. A bid has been submitted for further funding of £10.3m, which would enable a further 21 sites which are planned to be delivered by March 2024. Schemes include the installation of heat pumps, building energy management systems, insulation, LED lighting, solar PV and a range of other energy efficiency measures. Work has also been undertaken to review how the crematoria can be made more energy efficient and reduce gas use by adopting common operational practise used by other local authorities whilst ensuring that the Council continues to respect the guidelines set out by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management. In addition to this, the wholesale conversion of the city’s street lighting to LED has progressed rapidly, providing substantial reductions in electricity consumption.
- 36 **Increasing renewables** – In terms of the council’s target to move to 100% electricity provided by green sources, although corporate power purchase agreements (PPA’s) with major renewables generators continue to be explored and remain a key part of the strategy, market energy price increases have meant that these are currently less favourable and the council has therefore prioritised feasibility work to itself bring forward local large-scale solar renewables generation sites within Leeds—building on the 8.3 MW of solar generation capacity that council schemes have already delivered in recent years. Alongside work on the Local Plan Update to identify potential ‘opportunity areas’ for renewables across the district, work has also been progressed to assess technical feasibility and the financial business case of large-scale solar, and ongoing site selection work to evaluate needs and constraints, assessing potential brownfield prior to consideration of greenfield sites, and non-Green Belt before Green Belt. In support of the delivery of future schemes a report was presented to the Executive Board in December 2022 to agree the required capital funding injection and the proposed procurement and commercial arrangements for solar schemes. An increased target to deliver 30% of the Council’s electricity demand through locally based renewables generation by 2025/26 was also agreed, representing a substantially increased commitment over the previous 10% target.

### 37 **Streetlighting**

- 38 One of the council’s main users of energy is streetlighting, accounting for around 30% of electricity consumption. As noted above, a four-year programme to transfer the city’s streetlighting to run on LEDs by October 2023 was commenced in 2019 at a rate of around 1,900 new lanterns installed per month. Once complete it is expected that this scheme will

reduce CO<sub>2</sub> annual emissions from streetlighting by over 4,573 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e and reduce the council's electricity consumption by around 24,400 MWh per year. Further measures to provide the ability to dim street lighting where this can be safely delivered have been assessed and are currently expected to be implemented progressively from March 2023.

### **39 Existing Buildings**

40 In March 2021, the council was successful in securing over £25m grant funding to invest in decarbonising its estate through the first round of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. This funding was used to install a range of low carbon technologies at 40 sites representing a variety of different building types (such as homes for older people, leisure centres, offices, schools, heritage sites, etc):

41 Technologies include:

- District Heating connections
- Air Source Heat Pumps
- Solar Panels
- LED lighting
- Insulation / Glazing

42 All works were completed by 30 June 2022, with a total carbon saving of 3,857 tCO<sub>2</sub>pa.

43 During the delivery of the above, the council then successfully applied for a further £4.3m funding to install similar works at ten additional buildings, with a further carbon saving of 684 tCO<sub>2</sub>pa. These schemes are currently being delivered.

44 The council has since submitted two further bids totalling £10.3m to decarbonise a further 21 buildings comprising schools, corporate and heritage buildings, to be delivered by March 2024. Beyond this it is anticipated that Central Government will put out further calls for funding applications throughout the coming years. The council continues to undertake assessments of buildings in partnership with its appointed contractor so we can be ready to submit further decarbonisation funding applications as and when funding is made available.

45 The use of buildings will change over time as service requirements develop and evolve. This may open up opportunities for buildings to be used for different purposes which may necessitate more comprehensive refurbishment schemes being brought forward to remodel the building and address backlog maintenance requirements. In these situations, the council will take the opportunity to explore the potential to further improve the energy efficiency and performance of the building through implementation of a range of retrofit measures.

### **46 New Buildings**

47 Ensuring that any new Council assets contribute to the overall reduction of the Council's carbon footprint is essential in achieving the ambition for the Council and City to be Net Zero by 2030.

48 Over the past year, specialist support has been engaged to consider how Net Zero is embedded within the design principles of all new-build projects across both construction and for subsequent operation. The technology included within the fabric of buildings and heat supply systems are specified to future proof buildings and minimise their carbon footprint. Designs are subject to review at the end of each RIBA Design Stage, with sustainability appraisals undertaken to ensure that all possible options have been considered to minimise the buildings' carbon footprint, including methods to support additional energy generation or other carbon reduction interventions. This approach has led to the delivery of Council housing being built without gas boilers as a standard part of our latest specification and the new offices and depot at Newmarket House achieving BREEAM Excellent, which includes solar panels over both the car park and roof to meet the buildings electricity needs.

49 In addition, the Council has recently consulted on ambitious new policies as part of the Leeds Local Plan Update which once adopted will provide the formal policy context and requirements for all new build development, and will require significant improvements to carbon emissions, through net zero policies and other sustainable construction requirements, in addition to national updates to Building Regulations. Planning policies and Building Regulations guide the new-build requirements and all projects will meet these requirements as a minimum in order to obtain consent and exceed them where technical and financial feasibility allows.

## 50 Fleet

51 The council's fleet of electric vehicles is currently 380, believed to be the largest zero emission fleet of any local authority in the country. There are currently 121 depot charging points and 117 charge points at employee homes and work has been completed to future proof both the new Waste and Seacroft Ring Road depots to enable additional charge points to be installed when required. Work to develop the fleet replacement programme continues to seek to identify opportunities to transition heavier, more specific purpose vehicles to EV or alternative fuel options. This remains challenging, we worked with the Energy Savings Trust in 2022 to look at the fleet and continue to engage with EST as well as other key stakeholders to identify opportunities for replacement of vehicles with zero emission alternatives. The key barriers to delivery of this change remain lack of availability of suitable zero emission vehicles, as well as the cost of the vehicles when they are available with the additional need to develop the required fuelling infrastructure to support them. The government, whilst planning to end the sale of conventional engine cars and vans in 2030, has set a later date of 2035 and 2040 for HGV's (depending on size) which means that the market in heavier vehicles is some way behind and the horizon for price parity will also be later for HGVs than for cars and vans.

52 Following an exercise to establish total cost of ownership models, the council is now in the process of purchasing 3 electric refuse collection vehicles, with the capital now approved for this. These will replace outgoing diesel vehicles in the refuse fleet. The council continues to develop a fleet replacement strategy that best aligns the decarbonisation and air quality priorities with service need. The long-term aim is to identify dates for when vehicles will be available in alternative fuel models but also when there will be better price parity (taking into account the potential revenue savings associated with alternative fuel vehicles) as for vehicle types that are new to market, the alternative fuel option is proving unaffordable.

## 53 Scope 3

54 Over the last year the council has continued to focus on emissions relating to food. The Leeds Food Strategy was launched, in draft format, in October 2022 and approved for consultation at Executive Board. The strategy was open to public consultation until December 2022 and a summary of the consultation and an updated version of the strategy can be found at appendix (2 and 3) for adoption by Executive Board.

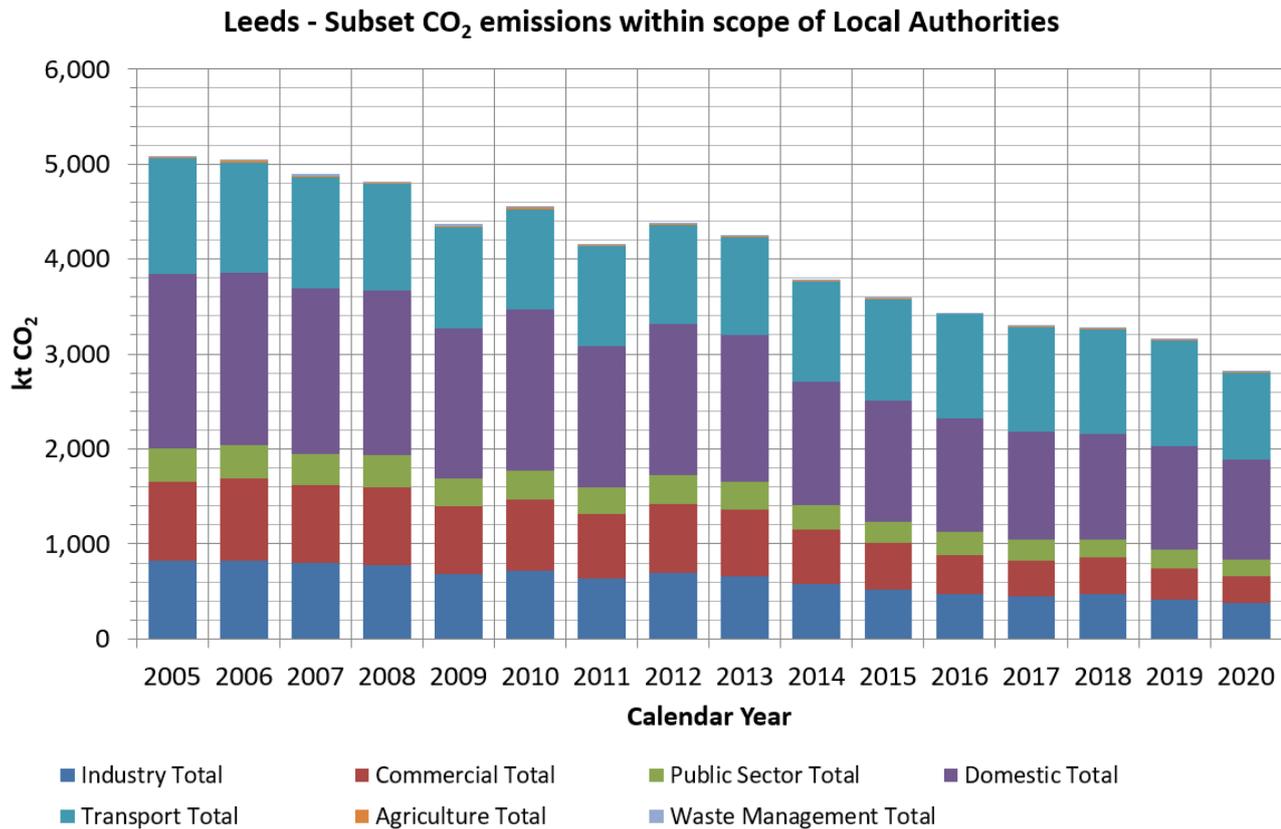
55 The consultation on the Leeds Food Strategy lasted for 8 weeks and comprised of an online survey as well face to face/virtual meetings and sessions. Food Wise Leeds, the city's food partnership delivered the consultation alongside LCC. A total of 307 individuals and 28 businesses/organisations completed the online survey and a further c.700 people were verbally updated about the consultation at face-to-face/virtual meetings.

56 The overarching vision for the strategy is that "Leeds has a vibrant food economy where everyone is able to access local, healthy and affordable food, produced in a way which improves our natural environment and embraces innovation". This was written and agreed by a group of almost 100 stakeholders at an event that launched the strategy work in January 2022. In the recent consultation, 90.7% of those that completed the survey agreed with the vision statement.

- 57 The Leeds Food Strategy follows three themes, which align with the three pillars of Leeds City Council's Best City Ambition: health and wellbeing, food security and economy, and sustainability and resilience. The final theme sets out 5 objectives which will contribute to work relating to reduction of food related emissions in Leeds until 2030. In the recent consultation, 89.2% of those that completed the survey agreed on focusing on these three themes.
- 58 The 5 objectives within the sustainability chapter are (ranked in order from most important to least important according to consultation):
- a) Tackle waste by reducing, redistributing, and utilising surplus food.
  - b) Empower residents to choose healthy diets by raising awareness of choices that are good for the planet.
  - c) Encourage and enable innovative and community-led food production.
  - d) Support local farmers to transition to resilient and profitable agriculture which improves the environment.
  - e) Champion environmentally sustainable and resilient procurement.
- 59 Agreement with the above objectives ranged from 85-95% with objective 'a' above being the most agreed to and objective 'b' above being the least. Overall this is high level of agreement and the focus of work will move to delivery from now until 2030.
- 60 Comments from respondents were largely positive with high levels of agreement in the vision, themes and objectives of the strategy. Current affairs such as the cost of living crisis, featured heavily within responses.
- 61 It was highlighted that some of the language used was not fully inclusive and made it difficult to understand. Additionally, it was felt that allotments, waste food packaging and cultural food were not mentioned enough throughout the strategy.
- 62 As a result, the following changes have been made to the Leeds Food Strategy:
- Amendments to the language used within the document to ensure it is accessible by all
  - Re-ordering of the objectives to reflect what the residents, businesses and organisations feel is the most important priorities for Leeds
  - The topics that were felt to be undermentioned have been acknowledged and highlighted in the updated strategy
- 63 Leeds currently holds the 'Sustainable Food Places' Bronze award and next year will, alongside Food Wise Leeds, apply for the Silver award.
- 64 Over the last year the council has worked with the University of Leeds to develop a new carbon footprint calculator that can be used to calculate the carbon impact of school meals provided by Catering Leeds and shows the breakdown of contributing carbon per ingredient. Catering Leeds are in the early days of implementing the tool, using it to inform them at the menu design stage and intend to use the outputs of the calculator to advertise the carbon impact of different menu options. The calculator will also hopefully be tested across LCC cafes next year, giving consumers more information about the carbon impact of a meal which will help them make more conscious decisions. In the strategy consultation when asked 'Would knowing that a food or menu item has a high carbon footprint influence your food choice?', 26.2% of people answered 'definitely' and 40.7% of people answered 'probably'. Including carbon labelling on school menus and LCC café outlet menus could see more consumers make a lower carbon meal choice—contributing to the council's target to halve the carbon footprint of the average meal served by 2030.

- 65 In October 2022, Executive board noted the introduction of the Leeds City Council's Food Procurement Guidelines. A cross-council group worked together to create a set of guidelines that should be referenced whenever council officers procure food or whenever a new food supplier is being chosen. This includes ensuring that the ban on air-freighted food and importance of buying locally is reflected in all new council contracts, as well as placing more emphasis on contractors to provide data that allows more accurate carbon assessments to be undertaken.
- 66 In 2020/21, Leeds City Council spent an estimated £4,718,809 on food. The 2,133 tonnes of food purchased amounted to a carbon footprint of 4,990 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, hence the importance of the implementation of these procurement guidelines. The Leeds Food Strategy consultation suggests that residents are supportive of action to reduce the council's scope 3 emissions from food: 91.7% of respondents to the online consultation stated that it is important that Leeds City Council considers the impact of the food it purchases on the environment.
- 67 As well as the very targeted work that is being undertaken on food, there are key steps that can be taken to consider the Climate Emergency in procurement and delivery of commissioning of works and services. The team are working across directorates to support this work, with some notable examples of key services taking a strong lead on this.
- 68 The Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (LFAS2) is taking a proactive approach to tackling the embedded carbon (the emissions from extracting raw materials through to construction) that is part of this type of project delivery. LFAS2 aims to reduce flood risk to communities and businesses along the River Aire corridor between Leeds Rail Station and Apperley Bridge. The scheme will provide a 1-in-200-year level of protection against flooding in the LFAS2 area. Once delivered, the scheme will reduce flood risk and provide better protection for 1,048 homes and 474 businesses. LFAS2 will also raise the level of protection across the LFAS1 area in the city centre from 100yr to 200yr which covers another 3000 homes and 500 businesses.
- 69 The construction, operation and decommissioning of assets is a major source of greenhouse gases (GHGs). To address the carbon impact of the scheme, LFAS established a carbon baseline – the quantity of carbon that would be emitted because of the scheme without additional mitigation. The baseline emissions associated with the construction of LFAS2 are estimated to be approximately 23,600 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e). In the commissioning of the work they are now working closely with engineers and contractors on the project to reach the targets set out below identifying alternative, lower-carbon approaches and materials.
- 70 Most of the baseline emissions are expected to arise from the use of materials. LCC has set a **20%** carbon reduction target from the use of materials. If this target is reached, this would reduce scheme emissions by approximately 3,200 tonnes. Just under 25% of the carbon baseline is associated with fuel and electricity use during construction. LCC has set a reduction target of **10%** for the carbon from construction energy use. If this target is reached, this would reduce scheme emissions by over 500 tonnes. This process of identifying the carbon baselining of such schemes therefore demonstrates the ability to target reductions through careful selection of processes and materials used in delivery of schemes, an approach that Highways are seeking to utilise across all their construction schemes. Some of those measures include use of HVO in plant machinery use, utilisation of Eco Sheet piles (a material used as part of flood defence) that are manufactured from scrap material and are re-usable and recyclable and use of electric vehicles by teams and contractors working on the project.

## 71 City Emissions - Overview



72 The breakdown of this data against sub-categories is detailed below:

	Mega (i.e. million) tonnes CO <sub>2</sub>
Industry, Commercial, Public Sector, Agriculture & Waste Management	0.8558
Domestic	1.503
Transport	0.9160
Total	2.8221

## 73 Housing

74 The council has made good progress this year on improving home energy efficiency, despite a lack of long-term support from government. The focus has been on delivering grants already secured, attracting new income, strategic development and lobbying for additional support.

75 The council has delivered home improvements with support from:

- a) The Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery funding (LAD) from BEIS which supports primarily private sector homes, with strict requirements to only support low-income households in the oldest and coldest homes, all within a funding cap. This was funded by government in 3 phases, each with different requirements, with delivery between late 2020 and summer 2022. More than 900 homes benefited from these schemes in total. 558 homes were fitted with 1.7 megawatts of rooftop solar panels which produce free electricity during daylight hours, helping to reduce electricity bills. External wall insulation was the second most popular upgrade with 238 households now benefitting from the technology.

Once fitted to the outside of a building, the insulation helps lock in heat without sacrificing indoor space. The project also installed loft and roof insulation, heat pumps, new windows and doors and even connected some homes to district heating.

- b) The Getting Building Fund from the Ministry of Communities, Housing and Local Government's to deal with disrepair and provide external wall insulation, room in roof insulation, new windows, doors, heating systems and repair work for private homes in Holbeck.
- c) The Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) from BEIS, which funds innovative whole house improvements to council homes.
  - i. SHDF Demonstrator is improving council homes in Holt Park, installing super insulation to walls and roofs, high performance windows and doors and air source heat pumps and solar panels. The contractor is focussing on high quality detailing to minimise cold bridging and heat loss.
  - ii. SHDF wave 1 funding for external wall insulation and other energy efficiency improvements within the Lovells, Naseby Grange and Parkways multistorey flats.
- d) The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funding from the EU which supports a variety of low carbon projects.
  - i. The initial Lincoln Green work was completed in 2021, with c1700 flats connected to district heating and external wall insulation on 3 blocks. The project was extended in 2022 and now includes leasehold flats using LAD funding and an additional 170 council flats using TIBB underspend. It will also provide insulation to another block.
  - ii. The Transformational Insulation in Back to Backs (TIBB) project was designed to install innovative external wall insulation on 750 council owned back-to-back homes but has stalled due to supply chain issues. It will now complete 150 homes with underspend moved to other projects.
  - iii. The Fitting the Future (FtF) project has been reshaped in agreement with ERDF using TIBB underspend and now focusses on whole house insulation for 300 homes, with an offer of electric vehicle charging points for 50 homes.
  - iv. The Clustering for Warmth (CfW) project is delivering innovative Ground Source Heat Pumps to 845 council flats in 18 blocks. We are now working with the contractor to extend the offer to leasehold flats.

76 Key metrics from these existing grants are provided in the table below:

Name	Grant income	Total value	Homes complete	Homes yet to be completed	Status
LAD 1a, 1b & 2	£9.3m	£9.5m	930	0	Complete
GBF	£3m	£4.52m	146	0	Complete
SHDF Demonstrator	£4.1m	£9.8m	190	0	Complete
SHDF wave 1	£9.59m	£24.9m	0	630	August 2023
ERDF Lincoln Green	£9.1m	£20.2m	1180	170	June 2023
ERDF TIBB	£1.07m	£2.15m	22	128	March 2023
ERDF FtF	£3.6m	£7.2m	0	300	June 2023
ERDF CfW	£7.4m	£14.8m	728	196	June 2023
Total	£44.16m	£93.07m	3196	1424	

## 77 Additional funding

- 78 In addition to the capital programmes outlined above, the council has also bid for £3.07m of SHDF wave 2 funding. If secured, this will be used to connect the 3 Lovells blocks to district heating and install ground source heat pumps in the 2 Claytons blocks, with a total project value of £8.4m.
- 79 As part of the Levelling Up bids for the city, the council has asked for further funding which, if successful, would allow us to undertake Holbeck phase 3 to provide whole house insulation to around 240 back-to-back homes.
- 80 We continue to be concerned that the funding outlook is very limited, with current support focussed on social housing and off-gas grid low-income private sector properties, despite the cost-of-living crisis now affecting many households. This leaves a huge amount of unmet need in Leeds, particularly low-income Victorian terraced areas and more affluent areas requiring more expensive improvements.
- 81 Government is currently consulting on ECO+ which is designed to extend eligibility to the least efficient properties in council tax bands A-D. While this is welcome, we are concerned that it only allows a single measure to be installed in each home, rather than taking a whole house approach, which is widely recognised as the best and most efficient approach.

## 82 Strategic

- 83 The council has prepared a Net Zero Housing Plan which is published alongside this report. This is designed to outline the size of the problem in Leeds and summarise the key actions that need to be taken to accelerate housing decarbonisation within both new and existing homes.
- 84 During 2022, the council has been very active at regional and national levels, developing plans to accelerate housing decarbonisation, particularly amongst non-fuel poor homes, which have been overlooked for many years.
- 85 The council has worked closely with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on plans for a Better Homes Hub. The Better Homes Hub is designed to provide a regional structure that will support the home retrofit industry to grow rapidly to meet future demand. This will initially use gainshare and other grant funding to create projects that stimulate demand, whilst building the retrofit infrastructure needed over the long term. Key elements approved at the Strategic Outline Business Case stage include:
- a) Funding for demonstrator projects within each local authority;
  - b) Creation of a one-stop-shop that hand-holds customers through the retrofit journey;
  - c) Creation of a financial product that is available to all so that retrofit is within everyone's reach;
  - d) Coordinated regional branding, marketing and advice services;
  - e) A training and skills package to support the industry to grow.
- 86 The council has also been working with the Prime Minister's Business Council since summer 2022 to jointly find solutions to accelerate retrofit under the banner of the Local Retrofit Accelerator (LRA). We deliberately chose to address able-to-pay private households for two reasons:
- a) The able-to-pay market has been overlooked since the end of the Green Deal, despite representing 60%+ of the retrofit market and having the lowest EPC rating of all sectors;

- b) Fuel poor homes and social housing require grant funding but where this is provided (i.e. SHDF, GBF, Levelling Up Fund) it is relatively easy to achieve near 100% take up rates.

87 The LRA therefore aims to address three challenges which are slowing down energy efficiency retrofit amongst non-fuel poor private householders. These challenges are a complex customer journey, a fractured supply chain and an unattractive financial proposition.

88 Work continues in 2023 to take the learning from this work and establish a one stop shop to take this work forward.

89 The council has also been very active in bidding for smaller amounts of funding to help put in place some of the support needed to accelerate retrofit. This includes:

- a) £50k from the MCS Charitable Foundation to build capacity within the team;
- b) £200k from the Green Homes Finance Accelerator project in partnership with Lloyds and Arup (which could lead to a c£2m demonstrator phase) to create new financial products;
- c) £75k from the UKRI Pioneer Places research project in partnership with UKGBC and MCS Charitable Foundation (which could lead to an £8m implementation phase) to focus on whole place decarbonisation.

## 90 Business/ Commerce

91 2022 was another successful year of growth for the Leeds PIPES district heating network, with works ongoing across the city to connect new customers and extend the main spine network. Six customers have been connected to the network in 2022, bringing the total number of customers connected to ten, with two further customers due to start taking heat by April 2023, and a significant number of potential customers in the pipeline currently. The table below shows key metrics for the network since it commenced operations, with projections up to 24/25.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23 (forecast)	2023-4 (forecast)	2024-5 (forecast)
Heat supplied to customers (MWh)	11,757	15,454	24,000	32,000	38,000
Number of non-domestic customers	1	4	12	13	18
Number of domestic customers	c1600	c1700	c1800	c1900	c2100

92 Volatility in the gas and electricity markets has improved the already strong Leeds PIPES commercial offer when compared to counterfactuals of gas and heat pumps, and the network continues to prove its reliability to customers. The Phase 3 extension to the spine network started on site in September 2022 and will continue into summer 2023, whilst the project team will continue to develop business cases for additional extensions to feed into funding applications later in the year.

93 The majority of connections to the network so far have been public sector customers, but we anticipate that the next phase will primarily connect commercial non-domestic customers. This will raise the profile of the network, and prove the viability and benefits of DHN connections for commercial customers.

- 94 This is particularly important given the government's plans to introduce a District Heating Zoning Policy by 2025. This will make it mandatory for certain buildings, including new developments, in specific zones to connect to district heating. The council anticipates that this policy will accelerate growth in the coming years and we continue to work closely with government on the details of the policy, including participating in several pilot projects which may see Leeds become the test-bed ahead of a national policy roll-out.
- 95 One of these pilots is seeking to develop practical zoning delivery plans for several of the most promising zones in the city. We anticipate that these will focus on the existing Leeds PIPES area in the city centre, the planned SSE network around Skelton Grange and some demand or supply-led zones. In parallel, the council is continuing to develop plans for a network in the South Bank, given its position as one of Europe's largest city centre regeneration schemes. Two phases of feasibility have completed to date, with positive engagement with potential customers. The council has submitted a funding application to BEIS to undertake Detailed Project Development prior to submitting a capital funding application to the Green Heat Network Fund later this year.
- 96 In December, the Mayor of West Yorkshire launched a new £1 million fund to help businesses struggling with energy bills which offers up to £5,000 to help individual businesses with practical solutions to reduce costs, including help to buy a more efficient boiler or install low-energy lighting. The scheme is part of a multimillion-pound package of measures from the West Yorkshire Mayor to help people and businesses with the escalating cost of living crisis whilst accelerating climate action. A new £10.6 million West Yorkshire Business Sustainability Programme, led by the LEP, will launch in April to help small and medium sized firms to reduce their bills by being more energy efficient and sustainable. It builds on the LEP's current ReBIZ programme which has helped more than 600 SMEs to date. It will provide a one-stop-shop for businesses and non-profits wishing to better understand and reduce their impact on the environment, offering support with resource efficiency, carbon footprinting, a peer network, and grants. The council will support the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to promote the scheme in Leeds.
- 97 Like the council, many of the city's other large organisational emitters are also taking significant actions to reduce their own impact on the environment—supporting the city's journey to become the UK's first net zero city. Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2040. The trust has so far invested more than £13.7 million on projects related to energy efficiency, low carbon heating, low energy lighting or renewable energy and has become the first 'Carbon Literacy' accredited NHS trust in the UK. Arla, one of the world's largest dairy producers, is also one of the largest emitters in Leeds. It aims to have reduced its carbon footprint from production, logistics and energy usage by 63% before the end of 2030. To achieve this, the company has pledged to convert to 100% green electricity across all its production sites and is transitioning its fleet of vehicles to use greener fuels such as biodiesel, biogas and electricity.
- 98 The council also regularly supports and showcases examples of business and other organisational sustainability initiatives to encourage best practice. This includes a regular spotlight featuring different case studies in its popular #LeedsClimate e-newsletter which has grown to 6,892 subscribers. Recent examples of business action celebrated this year include Sulzer, a global pump manufacturing company based in Leeds which has taken steps to support plant and animal life at its Leeds site by developing a wildlife garden complete with butterflies, bees, trees, shrubs and a pond. Similarly, HEART Headingley was featured earlier in the year after it installed a range of carbon-saving measures including solar panels, a cleaner cooker, a greywater recycling system, light sensors, and a building management system which controls heating throughout the building.

## Transport

- 99 The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy has decarbonisation as one of its central pillars, in line with the council's own priorities. The Strategy states: "Our vision for Leeds is to be a city where you don't need a car. Where everyone has an affordable and accessible zero carbon choice in how they travel. We want to Connect Leeds, Connect Communities, and Connect Businesses together in the most sustainable ways."
- 100 Transport is also the main contributor to carbon emissions in Leeds with the Council making a commitment to a long-term air quality strategy in order to help ensure compliance with legal limits of emissions to bring about further air quality improvements and associated health benefits. Everybody needs to work together in order to drive change if we are to achieve our ambitious targets by 2030.
- Reducing the need for travel and the number of car journeys, especially at peak times
  - Encouraging people to choose active travel and public transport
  - Improving the efficiency of the transport network and making better use of our road space
  - Encouraging and leading the uptake of zero emission vehicles in freight, public and private transport.
- 101 A Streetscape Reallocation Policy has been adopted in 2022, which prioritises space on our streets for sustainable transport. It will be used by all scheme designers, with training and best practice shared, to ensure the principles of the Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy materialise on our streets.
- 102 Since September 2022 bus passengers in Leeds have benefited from lower and more consistently priced fares. Thanks to two new Mayor's Fares, single journeys capped at £2 and the MCard DaySaver at £4.50, reduced from £5.50 – an almost 20% saving on the current price.
- 103 Early data analysis at a West Yorkshire level would suggest that bus patronage in September increased by 5% compared with June 22. Bus travel by adult paying passengers in September 22 was around 10% higher than average monthly patronage in 2022.
- 104 The implementation of schemes on Park Row, The Headrow, Corn Exchange and Meadow Lane have transformed these areas, provided improved bus reliability, safe and more accessible cycle facilities and enhanced public spaces including Cookridge Street and the first phase of Aire Park.
- 105 Building on these successful schemes, significant works are ongoing in the city centre at City Square, Leeds Station, and Crown Point Road to create a world class city centre where people want to live, work and visit.
- 106 Armley Gyratory improvements are on site, which complements the work being undertaken by National Highways on the M621 and follows the successful completion of Regent Street Bridge to provide appropriate routes for strategic traffic around the city centre.
- 107 The city centre cycle network continues to expand with the Western Gateway scheme on site and followed shortly by improvements on Crown Point Bridge and key links in the south of the city centre from Dewsbury Road to Neville Street. Funding from CRSTS has been secured to continue this network expansion with feasibility work underway ahead of public consultation next year
- 108 The LPTIP programme successfully finished delivery in 2022. A highlight was the world class gateways to the city centre as described above.
- 109 Three new segregated cycle routes completed as part of City Connect 3; Dewsbury Road, Elland Road, and Clay Pit Lane.
- 110 Active travel encouraged through the creation of safer cycle lanes. Pedestrians will benefit from new walking routes and safer crossings. All of which is a bid to make sustainable travel more appealing by improving walking, and cycling connections

- 111 The package of public transport improvements was informed by the Transport Conversation and schemes delivered aspirations in line with the Leeds Transport Strategy. Key was increased use of public transport in a manner which contributes to carbon reduction by encouraging modal shift away from the private car and supporting inclusive growth by making it easier to access education, employment, and public services.
- 112 Extensions of the 2 Park & Ride (P&R) sites at Temple Green (388 space expansion taking capacity to 1388 spaces) & Elland Road (570 space expansion taking capacity to 1358 spaces) in addition to the new award winning Stourton site (1200 spaces), with solar power generation and electric buses, has increased the capacity to nearly 4000 spaces.
- 113 Patronage levels continue to grow post pandemic, and the service continues to get excellent customer feedback. P&R provision has supported the city centre commuter parking planning policy to reduce the number of temporary city centre car parks and encourage development of these sites.
- 114 Full details of achievements of the LPTIP schemes and P&R are contained in the LPTIP programme report for Executive board of the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023.
- 115 To encourage rail travel, a new White Rose Station is on site and development work continues to be progressed by the Combined Authority and Network Rail for new stations at Thorpe Park and LBA Parkway
- 116 As part of last mile delivery decarbonisation, a trial agreement has been approved with Starship Technologies to provide a new and innovative last mile delivery service using zero emission autonomous personal delivery droids (PDDs). The trial was launched on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and will run for 3 months with the option to continue if successful. During the trial period residents in the participating area will be able to use the Starship delivery service to order groceries via an online app from two CO-OP stores located within the trial area. The service operates with 20 delivery droids (10 at each location).
- 117 The Council continue to support the development of Mass Transit with the Combined Authority. A well connected, low-carbon transport alternative is only possible with a modern, integrated transport system, of which Mass Transit is an integral part. An updated Mass Transit Vision document has been published for consultation and significant development funding has been secured through the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS). The West Yorkshire Mass Transit 2040 plan has recently been out for public consultation which ran until January 2023.
- 118 Decarbonisation of the freight sector is an essential part of the Leeds Transport Strategy which currently has not been measured in full. Leeds City Council have played a key role in the development of the Combined Authority rail freight study which is part of the wider Rail Strategy. A draft has been produced and will be published shortly. LCC have also fed into work on identifying potential new rail freight interchange sites across Leeds and West Yorkshire.
- 119 **Development of public electric vehicle charge infrastructure.**
- 120 The electric charge infrastructure in the city has continue to grow in line with the increased prevalence of plug-in vehicles in the city. From 129 public charge points in the city in October 2021, there are now 418 as at October 2022, with the number increasing constantly.
- 121 This provision includes further charging installed using Residential Charge Scheme grant funding that has delivered 30 fast charge points across 6 locations in Leeds, with further funding secured that is enabling 54 fast charge connections across 9 locations in Leeds to be completed in early 2023. These installations are designed to support residential areas where housing typically lacks off street parking and therefore households whose residents have been unable to utilise the home charge grant, that has now been ceased.

- 122 City scale infrastructure will need to be delivered collaboratively and utilising the various levers the council, and central government has, recognising that commercially viable and sustainable, well maintained and reliable networks are likely to be best managed by the private sector who operate at regional, national and international levels with the back office, maintenance, customer service operations and purchasing power to be able to deliver best value to customers in a competitive charge point environment. A regional strategy to deliver infrastructure is being developed between WYCA and the five local authorities.
- 123 As well as working on development of this strategy, a regional framework is also being developed for use by the five West Yorkshire districts. This framework will allow the councils to call off suppliers from the framework to deliver either grant funded projects, or work with the operators to deliver projects that are either fully or part funded through their own investment. Significant work with the sector over the last year has found that there is a clear appetite for commercial investment in delivery of charge infrastructure in the city and wider region, so that in line with the electric vehicle charge point infrastructure strategy agreed in 2022 we can act as a facilitator and active partner in ensuring that the growth of zero emission driving can continue. The West Yorkshire EV Strategy is expected to be agreed in spring 2023, with the framework established in time to be utilised to support a regional bid for funding from the governments Local Electric vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) grants that are expected to be announced in mid 2023.
- 124 **EV Trials**
- 125 The EV Trials Scheme completed in Spring 2022. Leeds launched the first local authority electric vehicle trial scheme in 2020, providing vans to businesses, public sector and third sector organisations for 2 months, or cars licensed for private hire use for up to one month. The scheme allows participants to gain valuable experience of driving electric vehicles as well as getting insight into their economic benefits. By the close of the scheme over 230 trials were completed, with almost 400,000 zero emission miles travelled, savings approximately 35 tonnes of CO2 emissions. 52% of van trial participants plan to purchase an EV following the trial, with 39% of private hire drivers planning to purchase an EV. By the time of writing the project evaluation report in mid 2022/3 42 EV's had been purchased by participants of the trial scheme with many projecting purchases of EV as their next vehicles when due to replace fleet
- 126 Leeds City Council successfully secured £100,000 of funding for E-Cargo bikes to support transition of last mile delivery to zero emission mode. These E-Cargo bikes were purchased in 2022, with the vehicles being made available to business to trial through the Influencing Travel Behaviour team. The funding has enabled the purchase of 27 E-Cargo bikes in a range of different styles and sizes to enable best fit for different operational uses. As well as making these available to business, public and third sector trialists internal services to LCC will also trial these bikes. Evaluation of the E-Cargo trials will be undertaken with GPS tracking systems being procured to enable effective data analysis of miles, usage and range, so that their use can be best evaluated and promoted. We are also working with the Energy Savings Trust and Leeds University's Institute for Transport Studies on a project to establish whether E-Cargo provides opportunity for modal shift for commuters, or as part of household use.
- 127 **White Rose Forest**
- 128 The council's Woodland Creation Scheme is continuing to work towards its target of planting 50 hectares of trees per year on council land. The planting objective is to capture and store carbon to contribute to the net zero ambitions. The White Rose Forest have helped the council secure funding to support the annual target of 50 hectares of planting and are continuing to support with securing the funding for delivery of this in subsequent years.

- 129 As well as planting, the Woodland Creation Scheme continues to include a successful tree seed collection campaign run in schools and other council facilities and an educational pack for schools.
- 130 The council is currently strengthening its policies in relation to planning policy through the Local Plan Update in terms of planting more trees in association with new development. Planners continue to advocate for trees as part of the planning process, however currently legislation does not allow for protection of trees on the basis of carbon capture, only on the basis of amenity.
- 131 The council is also promoting tree planting to businesses, farmers, landowners, institutions and residents. The White Rose Forest team have worked with the council on development of processes and communication materials to support engagement with those stakeholders. A web page and leaflet have been launched and distributed to stakeholders as well as land agents and auction marts in the sector. Those interested in planting trees are referred to the WRF Joint Venture team who engage partners such as Groundwork and the Woodland Trust who help with the planning, funding and planting as well as maintenance of the new woodland.
- 132 The council is also liaising with faith organisations to look at the potential for planting on areas around places of worship and other land held by these institutions. Work is on-going with Leeds Community Health Trust to look at planting on clinical sites and the team is also working with Northern Power Grid to consider planting at substation sites. Funding and planning support will again be provided through White Rose Forest and Joint Venture.
- 133 In 2022 the council successfully applied for Tree City Of The World status, this is an award run by the Arbor Foundation in the US and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. The award recognises the council's commitment to the planting, maintenance and planning for trees.
- 134 The council will launch the partnership with Trees for Streets in 2023, this is a web-based scheme to secure sponsorship for trees located in streets and parks, providing residents and businesses with the ability to contribute to planting specific trees in their neighbourhood or beyond. Development of this scheme for Leeds is at an advanced stage, with match-funding secured from the White Rose Forest and process for delivery agree with the Highways service.
- 135 **Green Jobs and Skills**
- 136 Adapting and mitigating climate change also brings with it the opportunity to create new, green jobs, as well as developing existing roles to ensure people have the relevant skills needed to complete their job in the future. Examples of this include gas engineers moving from the installation of gas networks to ground source heat pumps.
- 137 To address this need in the city, the Council has appointed a dedicated Green Skills lead to work across the sector to drive the work forward, mapping existing, and future needs of the sector, based upon current provision, to identify gaps in the agenda and and to identify the priority areas of focus.
- 138 Collaborative working with Leeds City College, Leeds College of Building and various government departments has provided opportunity to develop skills provision in the city for current and future generations. Other partnerships include working with WYCA and other Local Authorities to develop programmes to support unemployed individuals into Green Jobs and with Ahead Partnership to promote careers in the Green Energy and Low Carbon sectors.
- 139 In September 2022 the Future Talent Leeds Plan was launched having been developed with stakeholders in the city. The plan provides a set of ambitions to improve Talent and Skills across Leeds and supports people to develop and maintain the skills that make them, alongside

businesses, resilient to change. A spotlight focus on Green, Digital, Manufacturing and Creative/Cultural sectors were identified as where key growth opportunities exist in the labour market.

140 Moving forward the focus of Green Jobs and Skills will be on developing the Employment and Skills 'Green Skills Plan' to support the transition to net-zero by 2030 and adapting to climate change. The plan will look to:

- **Inspire, Inform and Develop** the talent of the next generation. Facilitate green skills activities, inspiration opportunities, events, CPD and resources to support school engagement
- **Facilitate** easy access to green skills, job information/opportunities, career pathways and to enable young people and adults to make informed choices. Develop targeted green skills/employability/innovation initiatives to support those furthest from the labour market, economically inactive, in low-paid/insecure work to develop skills required to access further learning/employment within low carbon growth sectors. Help to support the delivery of transition for those currently in jobs at high risk of not upskilling
- **Collaborate** with businesses and partners to understand and bridge skill gaps. Develop collaboration opportunities between key growth/transition sectors, businesses and partners with a focus on current/pipeline skills demands. Map the skills needed in key growth/transition sectors to identify opportunities and gaps
- **Support** businesses to develop green jobs, attracting, developing and retaining staff. Facilitate access to skills support for Leeds businesses and raise aspirations for a more inclusive workforce by targeting under-represented groups to gain employment/upskilling opportunities. Support the delivery of a just transition – supporting those currently in jobs at high risk to prosper through the transition
- **Communicate** Green skills campaign. Develop communication/promotional campaign/s to promote and accelerate the take up of skills provision for Leeds residents and businesses. Communicate ongoing partner local, regional, national green skills and developments/opportunities.

#### 141 **Climate Resilience and Adaptation**

142 Climate adaptation is broadly defined as referring to any activity that minimises the impact of current, expected, and potential climate change and its effects. Climate change poses a threat to lives, livelihoods and the local environment. Climate related risks will continue to increase—even if the global commitments of the Paris Agreement succeed in limiting warming to well below 2°C—until global net zero carbon emissions are achieved. The UK is already experiencing changes to its weather with a climate already 1.1°C warmer than pre-industrial levels.

143 In July 2022, the council's Executive Board approved the development of a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan based upon the approach outlined within a report to the Board that month. The council will build on and strengthen existing risk management, business continuity, and severe weather planning arrangements as part of this work. The Climate Emergency Action Committee (CEAC) will provide oversight of this work.

144 It will be important that the city's services, infrastructure, and systems that residents and businesses rely on are robust and resilient so they can continue to operate and provide effective outputs long into the future. The Committee on Climate Change has identified a number of specific risks that residents and businesses will face as a result of climate change that the council's adaptation and resilience plan will need to consider.

145 The Emergency Planning and Resilience Team have robust arrangements in place for responding to severe weather events and to understand, as well as manage, the short and long-term risks. These risks will be monitored and developed with services to ensure they are ready for the increased likelihood and impact of those risks relating to climate change.

- 146 Climate-related hazards that Leeds is increasingly likely to experience can be grouped into four themes: extreme and prolonged **heat, flooding, drought,** and **cascading impacts** resulting from climate impacts elsewhere. In 2022, Leeds experienced the effects of several of these hazards first-hand. In July, heatwaves through the UK saw Leeds' highest recorded temperature. This was a weather event which directly impacted the way many council services had to operate.
- 147 While a whole council response will be required as part of the climate adaptation and resilience plan, some teams with relevant experience or expertise will work together to facilitate workshops and support services in other ways. Officers from teams including: Resilience & Emergencies, Sustainable Energy & Air Quality, and Flood Risk Management have been meeting regularly to progress this work.
- 148 In December 2022 the first internal Climate Adaptation and Resilience Workshop was held. More than seventy council officers from every directorate met to learn more about—and consider how to mitigate—the future impacts of local climate change on services and service users. Over the course of the morning, officers heard presentations from several speakers about how much more likely severe weather events like flooding and heatwaves are expected to become in Leeds by 2050 and what this means for the council's risk management, business continuity, and emergency responder responsibilities. Attendees participated in various activities and discussed the short, medium, and long-term actions that individuals, services, and teams should be considering going forward. Engaging more services will provide opportunities to build an action plan highlighting actions that services have identified based on their expertise and increased awareness of the need to adjust to a changing climate. Climate Emergency Action Committee (CEAC) will provide check and challenge of this work.
- 149 Following this workshop services will continue to be supported and encouraged to develop their own service-led action plans to take long-term actions that mitigate the risks from climate change. Services will be encouraged to consider three different types of adaptation actions (the “three P’s” framework):
- Actions that **prevent** some hazards from occurring
  - Actions that **protect** the city from harm and damage, by reducing exposure to a hazard
  - Actions that **prepare** for an effective response to mitigate the harm and damage caused by a hazard by reducing the vulnerability of the people and places exposed.
- 150 The council is clear that this work is complementary of, not instead of, the council's commitment to working towards becoming a net zero carbon city as quickly as possible. Becoming a net zero city (climate change mitigation) and preparing for the predicted impacts of climate change (climate change adaptation) are considered equally important strategic goals of the council's climate action work.
- 151 Leeds City Council will be one of 13 Local Authorities participating in the Yorkshire & Humber Climate Commission Climate Adaption Programme Pilot, from January to December 2023. The programme aims to support Local Authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region to develop strategies, plans, procedures and actions as part of their climate adaption. Participation within this pilot will allow the Council to continue developing its own action plan and ensure work is joined up across the wider region.
- 152 **Local Plan Update**
- 153 The Local Plan Update went out to consultation from 24<sup>th</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The five key focus topic areas for the local plan are:

- Dramatically reduce the carbon emissions of new buildings and increase the provision of renewable energy
- Better protect the green spaces and biodiversity we already have, and increase the quality of what is created in the future
- Make it harder to cut down trees and require far more trees to be planted as replacement where it's unavoidable
- Improve our resilience to flooding and make space for water in new developments
- Improve new places by requiring that they incorporate the highest standards of design and maximise opportunities to create healthier environments

154 In the meantime, officer guidance and Member training will continue to highlight ways we can use current Development Plan and national policy in the determination of planning applications; whilst encouraging developers to prepare for policy change, and positively welcome those who go further, in light of the trajectory of the LPU. At draft policy stage it may be possible to use our new policies as a material consideration, in advance of their adoption, depending on the level and extent of objection that we receive on them.

**What impact will this proposal have?**

<b>Wards affected: All</b>		
Have ward members been consulted?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

155 This plan covers a wide range of both policy and projects, all of which are designed to reduce the carbon emissions of the city and work towards our net zero by 2030 target.

156 Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration assessments have been undertaken for both the food strategy and the net zero housing strategy (appendices 5 and 6).

**What consultation and engagement has taken place?**

157 Significant consultation, communication, and engagement on climate change and related schemes has continued to take place this year.

158 The council recognises that changes required to transition the city towards a net zero economy will not be possible without widespread public support and behaviour changes from residents and organisations alike. The council's public communications and engagement has three fundamental roles: enabling the successful delivery of projects, explaining climate policy, and engaging the public on the changes that they can take (whether individual or organisational) to help accelerate climate action.

159 Alongside targeted project-specific communications support, the council continues to work with partners to engage citizens and businesses through a range of approaches. Members of the cross-party Climate Emergency Advisory Committee's 'Community & Business Engagement' working group receive regular updates about relevant engagement work in the region and provide constructive oversight.

160 The council has used a number of 'owned' channels to provide updates and engage residents, including both general channels with a broad audience and climate-specific channels. Some of these specific channels include:

- a) A dedicated monthly ‘Leeds Climate’ newsletter highlighting updates, opportunities for residents and businesses, and spotlighting best practice is currently sent to more than 6,800 subscribers every month
- b) the council’s climate focused Twitter account has 3,139 followers and typically reaches over 7,500 users per month
- c) the council’s climate change strategy page on the council website was downloaded more than 3,000 times in 2022

161 Across the year the council published 65 news releases on its newsroom related to projects and announcements related to the council’s efforts to tackle or adapt to climate change—securing significant coverage from local, regional, specialist, and national media that reached a wide audience.

162 Given the breadth of actions required by the city’s climate action plans, a wide range of proactive communications and engagement work has been undertaken, typically on a project-by-project basis. For example, a range of communications helped ensure the successful delivery of schemes to reduce energy costs for low-income homeowners by installing funded solar panels and/or insulation. A mix of targeted social media activities, online and offline stakeholder engagement activities, significant press coverage, and targeted mail drops resulted in more than 2000 residents signing up for the scheme—which ultimately led to more than 900 households passing strict eligibility and feasibility criteria and benefiting from the scheme.

163 The Council’s Connecting Leeds team regularly consults with residents and wider stakeholders regarding major highways improvements schemes and also smaller schemes which will bring benefits to local communities. Emphasising the importance of meeting the council’s climate objectives such as reducing carbon emissions is often central to the case for making such improvements, and the Connecting Leeds team strives to ensure that those potentially affected by such works are given the opportunity to have their say, with feedback used where appropriate to finalise scheme designs.

164 Another key area of work to engage on climate-related policy this year is work to engage residents on proposed changes to the city’s Local Plan. The Local Plan Update 1 – ‘Your Neighbourhood, Your City, Your Planet’ – was consulted on from October 2022 to December 2022, with residents and businesses encouraged to have their say on a raft of proposed policies designed to help the council meet its climate emergency commitments. Consultation in 2022 focused on more detailed proposals which were initially consulted on in 2021. A targeted multi-platform campaign was delivered to raise awareness of the consultation, delivering over a million impressions across the campaign driving awareness of the consultation and related webinars and drop in events. Ten webinars and six drop in sessions were delivered by the Local Plan team to engage with communities across Leeds, developing awareness of the proposals that were being consulted upon. The drop in events were supported by the digital campaign to ensure local communities were aware of consultation events in their area. The webinars were also promoted online with a specific focus on engaging young residents aged between 16-24 and residents living in inner Leeds. Overall there were 546 consultation responses, with 421 of those being online responses. 86% of people surveyed said that they found the survey material engaging.

165 The council continues to progress work to better communicate and engage residents on the 'vision' for Leeds' net zero and climate adaptation ambitions by publishing an interactive 'Climate Action Plan' early in 2023. The online Plan will bring together a summary of all of the work taking place across the council to decarbonise every sector and adapt to future climate hazards—recognising that the council's breadth of work is spread across multiple service areas and strategies. This interactive document will also identify actions that others can take to accelerate climate action and explain how local action in Leeds fits into the national Net Zero Strategy and National Adaptation Programme. Once this has been published, the council intends to use Leeds' Climate Action Plan as a tool to help engage with every community in Leeds on climate change and the city's progress so far.

166 Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) is a cross party advisory committee authorised to consider and make recommendations regarding climate change, progression towards net-zero and sustainability. The main committee has continued to host open forum, allowing members of the public to present on issues that they wish the committee to consider via video link, via pre-recorded video, or submitted text. This is considered an important aspect as it provides an opportunity for public engagement. The CEAC Working Groups allow elected members to explore issues in more depth, often hearing from external speakers as well as officers from across the council. These are beneficial in providing a forum to scrutinise the progress against a number of key themes and supporting the development of policy and allows opportunity to input collectively into local and national consultation responses.

### **What are the resource implications?**

167 In terms of energy strategy, particularly in light of current energy prices and the expected increasing costs of fossil-fuel based energy generation, the proposed measures to reduce energy consumption, improve energy efficiency and increase the level of energy consumed from renewables or low-carbon sources will all serve to minimise the cost impacts to the council. Grant funding will continue to be sought from government in support of the ongoing expansion of decarbonisation measures across the council's buildings, the city's housing stock and transport infrastructure.

### **What are the legal implications?**

168 No specific legal implications.

### **What are the key risks and how are they being managed?**

169 One of the key risks to reaching net zero is access to finance as many of the measures that have a short payback such as LED lighting or solar panels have already been implemented and the measures that are left such as the transition from gas heating are significantly more costly to install than an equivalent gas boiler and can also be more costly to run. In the heat and building strategy the government has signalled that its intention is to make heat pumps as cheap to run and buy by 2030 – however this will make a net zero by 2030 target challenging to achieve. To help mitigate this risk the council will continue to explore how private finance can support the delivery of net zero.

170 Many of the actions that need to be taken to meet net zero are not within the direct control of the council. Using the example of owner occupied housing, the council can support home owners to make the right decisions and work is on-going to try and establish a housing retrofit

hub (see paragraph 85) but ultimately the council has no powers to force home owners to take the required action. This means that national policy has a key role to play in using levers available to encourage swifter action by homeowners.

171 As many of the barriers to change sit outside of the direct control of the council, one of the key ways to manage the risks is to work with national government and to highlight the challenges that will prevent the city reaching net zero. The council will continue to highlight the key barriers to progress, working with partners such as LGA, UK100, core cities as well as with local authorities at a regional level.

172 Should the council be seen to be falling behind in planning and delivery of charge infrastructure the recent government consultation suggests there could be a risk of government mandating plans or applying a statutory obligation onto councils to plan and deliver charging. This may not be as flexible or appropriate as our own planning and delivery would be, so it is important to mitigate against such an imposition of this duty by being pro-active.

### **Does this proposal support the council's three Key Pillars?**

Inclusive Growth       Health and Wellbeing       Climate Emergency

173 In summary, responding to climate change is central to the overall vision for the future of Leeds as set out in the Best City Ambition.

174 The council intends to achieve net zero and adapt to climate change in a fair way that improves standards of living in all the city's communities and is supportive of our economy. Reducing poverty and improving the health and wellbeing of residents is also key to reducing vulnerability of climate-related hazards.

175 Although this report primarily focuses on the council's approach to the climate emergency, much of the work undertaken provides multiple co-benefits. The council and partners have delivered climate action related schemes worth more than half a billion pounds in recent years, helping to create and support many hundreds of local jobs.

176 This work also supports the city's health and wellbeing priority. We will reduce fuel poverty and cold-related illness by making our buildings more energy efficient; enable physical activity and public safety by improving our transport infrastructure; promote healthier and lower carbon diets; increase life expectancy by transitioning to cleaner energy, heating and transport; and improve access to green spaces which are proven to have clear benefits to both mental and physical wellbeing.

177 Further detail about the specific impacts on health and wellbeing and inclusive growth of our climate action are highlighted in previous reports focused on particular policies or programmes.

### **Options, timescales and measuring success**

#### **What other options were considered?**

178 As this report provides a general update on progress this section is not considered relevant.

#### **How will success be measured?**

179 Success will be measured by the reduction in carbon emissions at both a council level but also at a city level.

## **What is the timetable for implementation?**

180 This report provides an update on general progress rather than details on specific actions.

## **Appendices**

181 Appendix 1 – Net Zero Housing Plan

182 Appendix 2 – Overview of the consultation responses (food strategy)

183 Appendix 3 – Final Food Strategy

184 Appendix 4 – Carbon Disclosure Project Submission

185 Appendix 5 – EDCI assessment (Food Strategy)

186 Appendix 6 – EDCI assessment (Net Zero Housing Plan)

## **Background papers**

187 None

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## Net Zero Homes Plan – Summary Version

This is a truncated version of the net zero housing plan summarising the main points and actions the council will take. The full version is available on request.

### Executive Summary

The Net Zero Housing Plan sets out how Leeds City Council will accelerate the transition to net zero across housing of all tenures so that all Leeds residents can benefit from healthy, comfortable and affordable home as quickly as possible. It supports the high level aims and targets contained in the Best City Ambition and the Housing Strategy.

It focuses on practical steps that are needed to improve the quality of all housing in Leeds. It embraces technical upgrades that increase energy efficiency, reduce the carbon intensity of heating and hot water and increase the amount of renewable energy our homes generate. The plan also considers how these physical upgrades are best financed and delivered, how people can be motivated and supported to choose net zero, together with analysis of the gaps and barriers that need to be addressed.

The key actions that we will take to accelerate housing decarbonisation are:

#### 1. **Creating a retrofit hub and financial mechanism for the 'able to pay' sector**

To decarbonise all housing in Leeds, it is essential to create programmes that support everyone. This includes owner occupiers in larger homes with higher carbon emissions, who have been overlooked for support in recent years.

*By the end of 2023 the Better Homes Hub will be established, and Leeds will have commenced delivery of an able to pay demonstrator within one community.*

*By the end of 2024 there will be a property linked finance product available in Leeds to provide a means to invest in homes without an upfront cost.*

#### 2. **Engaging and motivating people to choose low carbon retrofits**

To increase uptake of retrofit measures it is important to understand household motivations for investing in decarbonisation and how we can influence them. This will be particularly important for the success of the proposed retrofit one stop shop which will need to recruit customers and then retain them through every stage of the retrofit process.

*To draw together learning from research and previous projects to create an engaging and motivating package of communications materials to support the delivery of the retrofit one stop shop.*

#### 3. **Upscaling area renewal investment, using social housing investment to kick start work on all tenures in neighbouring homes.**

There are communities in Leeds that have suffered the scourge of fuel poverty for too long. These communities require significant investment in both housing and social infrastructure via a grant programme delivered over the medium term.

*Subject to securing Levelling Up Funding, deliver Holbeck phase 3 to improve a further 240 back-to-back properties by 2025.*

*Undertake surveys on properties in additional priority neighbourhoods to create a business case to take to government with the aim of securing funding to start work during 2024 on a scaled-up area based retrofit programme.*

**4. Improving our planning framework and engaging with the industry to ensure new homes reach net zero standards.**

New build homes produce significantly less carbon than existing homes, but any new development that is not zero carbon simply adds to the total amount of carbon emitted by Leeds, making our net zero ambitions harder to achieve. We must accelerate the point at which all new homes are operationally net zero (in terms of how they are heated and powered) and consider how to offset the carbon emitted from any new homes which are not net zero. We will also set a framework to move towards reducing the whole life cycle carbon of homes through construction.

*To consult, refine, adopt and implement the Local Plan Update to ensure that new housing in Leeds is operationally net zero and that we move towards whole life cycle net zero for construction.*

We will also undertake enabling actions to help deliver carbon reductions over the medium term:

**5. Zoning the city, to indicate the most suitable fabric investments and heating solutions by neighbourhood.**

Decarbonising homes does not have a one size fits all solution. Different homes require different technical solutions; different income levels will need different mixtures of grants and financial products; and different people are motivated by diverse factors.

*By 2025, the council will develop an interactive GIS map which divides the city's housing into zones and sub-zones according to their characteristics and the local demographics to allow us to plan effective retrofit intervention programmes.*

**6. Expanding green jobs, skills and supply chains to meet demand.**

A workforce with the right skills is essential if we are to meet the challenges of net zero, both when it comes to building new homes and retrofitting existing stock. If we are proactive, this becomes an opportunity to create good long-term local jobs and improve workforce skills.

*To ensure that the Green Skills Plan aligns with planned work to decarbonise new and existing homes and supports the retrofit and construction industry to train and recruit staff at all levels to deliver the net zero ambition.*

Finally, the plan also identifies the key gaps, barriers and policy conflicts that stand in the way of these actions and recommends changes needed at regional or national level to overcome them.

## **Appendix 2 - Overview of the consultation responses (Leeds Food Strategy)**

### **Overview**

The consultation on the Leeds Food Strategy lasted for 8 weeks (October 24<sup>th</sup> – December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022) and comprised of an online survey, face to face/virtual sessions, and community engagement. Food Wise Leeds, the city’s food partnership delivered the consultation alongside Leeds City Council (LCC), with a focus on sessions in the community.

A total of 307 individuals and 28 businesses/organisations completed the online survey and approximately 700 people were verbally updated about the consultation at the face to face/virtual sessions.

### **How the consultation was promoted**

A communications campaign was undertaken to raise awareness of the consultation and encourage residents, organisations in Leeds, and other stakeholders to have their say on the draft Leeds Food Strategy—either by reading the strategy document and filling in a questionnaire or by sharing feedback at a consultation event.

Key messages included inviting respondents to “help create a better food future for Leeds” and “have [a] say on council policy” whilst emphasising that “we want to hear from as many voices as possible”. The hashtag #LeedsFoodStrategy was used across social media platforms and the draft strategy and consultation questionnaire was hosted at [www.leeds.gov.uk/foodstrategy](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/foodstrategy). Due to council-wide spending restrictions in place during the consultation period, the communications campaign had no dedicated budget beyond existing resources, so the approach was taken to maximise ‘owned’ digital channels and earned promotion. This included promoting the consultation via corporate and climate council social media channels, internal and external email newsletters, a press release, promotion on the council’s intranet homepage, and an email signature added to all internal and external council emails. The council engaged with a variety of stakeholders to secure promotion across their own channels. Several face-to-face engagement opportunities were also held to provide an opportunity to engage residents in an offline setting.

The Leeds Food Strategy webpages were loaded a total of 2,368 times throughout the consultation period.

### Results from the online survey

307 individuals completed the online survey in total.

Compared to the Leeds population (based on the most recent census data), respondents were overrepresented by over 45-year-olds (68.4%), females including trans females (59.5%), and people who identify as English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British ethnic origin (83.4%).

Face-to-face community engagement was carried out within many of the communities which were underrepresented demographically in the online consultation responses to try and ensure that feedback received was as reflective of the Leeds population as feasibly possible.

The following tables show the age and gender of respondents to the online questionnaire:

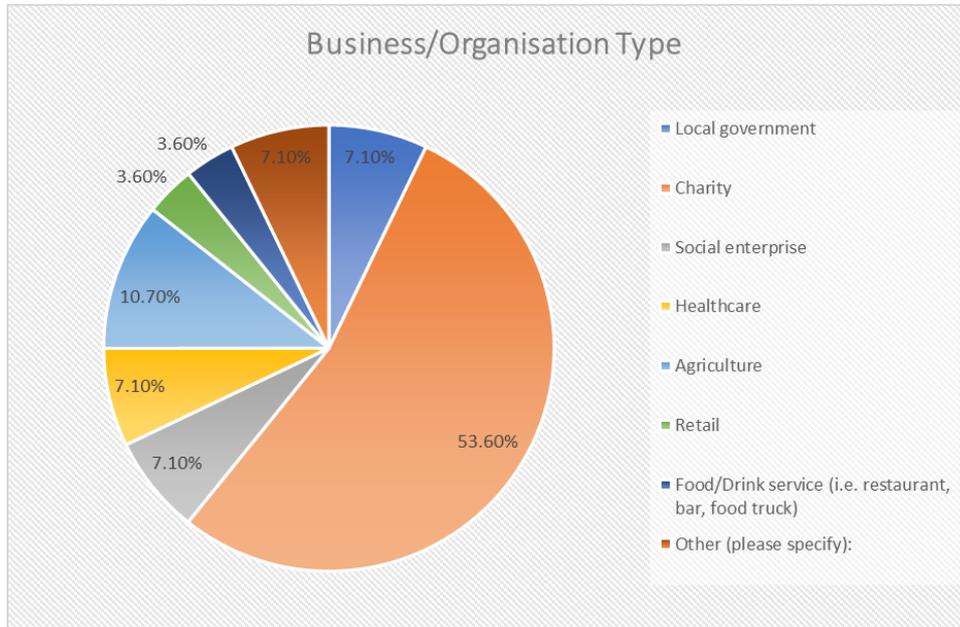
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Respondents as a %</b>	<b>Leeds Baseline Data Population as %</b>
Under 18	0.0	20.9
18 - 29	6.3	19.2
30 - 44	21.6	20.9
45 – 64	43.5	23.2
65 +	24.9	15.6
Prefer not to say	3.7	-

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Respondents as a %</b>	<b>Leeds Baseline Data as %</b>
Male (including Trans Male)	30.6	49.0
Female (including Trans Female)	59.5	51.0
Non-Binary	1.0	0.11
Prefer not to say	3.7	-
Other	5.3	0.06

28 respondents completed the online survey in an organisational capacity. Most of these represented charities or social enterprises in the third sector (60.7%). Just over a fifth (21.4%) of these responses were from the private sector, whilst 4 (14.3%) of the organisational responses came from the public sector. The table and chart below provide more information about the size and types of organisations that responded.

<b>Sector</b>		<b>Number of employees</b>	
Public sector	4	0-19	13
Private sector	6	20-49	7
Third sector	17	50-249	4
Unknown	1	250+	4

<b>Total</b>	28		28
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Postcode data shows most respondents were located across the north and north-eastern areas of the city region.

### Vision

The overarching vision for the proposed strategy was that:

“Leeds has a vibrant food economy where everyone is able to access local, healthy and affordable food, produced in a way which improves our natural environment and embraces innovation”

90.7% of those that completed the survey agreed with the vision statement (62.3% strongly).

### Themes

The Leeds Food Strategy follows three themes, which align with the three pillars of Leeds City Council's Best City Ambition:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Food Security and Economy
- Sustainability and Resilience

89.2% of those that completed the survey agreed on focusing on these three themes (61.4% strongly).

### Health and Wellbeing

Below are the Health and Wellbeing objectives ordered as ranked by survey responses. Besides each objective is also the percentage of people that agreed with that objective:

1. Ensure people of all ages know how to access and eat food that supports their health and wellbeing - 94% agree
2. Champion community food initiatives that support healthier eating - 91% agree
3. Change our city environment to help make healthier food more available and appealing - 89% agree
4. Offer targeted support that helps people most likely to develop diet-related diseases - 90% agree
5. Develop a skilled local workforce that works collaboratively to advocate for healthier eating and changes which enable it - 83% agree

Overall there is high level of agreement to all the objectives.

The most popular order to rank the objectives based on survey responses was the same as previously in the draft strategy except what previously was Objective 4 has now been pushed up to number 2. Objective 5 has the lowest agreement percentage (and the largest portion of "neither agree or disagree" of the 5 objectives), although a significant majority of respondents were supportive of the objective.

## Food Security and Economy

Below are the Food Security and Economy objectives ordered as ranked by survey responses. Besides each objective is also the percentage of people that agreed with that objective:

1. Tackle the root causes of food insecurity – 92% agree
2. Improve access to, and inclusivity of, emergency and affordable food initiatives to help more people in need of support, e.g. food banks, food pantries, community shops – 87% agree
3. Continue to build a strong partnership approach across all sectors and with the people of Leeds – 87% agree
4. Support inclusive growth within Leeds' food economy – 80% agree
5. Promote Leeds as a vibrant food city—celebrating our independent food, drink, events, and culture – 79% agree

Overall there is high level of agreement to all of the objectives.

The most popular order to rank from the survey responses is that same as previously in the draft strategy. Relatively speaking, Objectives 4 and 5 have low levels of agreement in comparison to the others. These objectives relate to economy rather than food security—suggesting that respondents people feel that actions tackling food security should be prioritised.

## Sustainability and Resilience

Below are the sustainability and resilience objectives ordered as ranked by survey responses. Besides each objective is also the percentage of people that agreed with that objective:

1. Tackle waste by reducing, redistributing, and utilising surplus food – 95% agree

2. Empower residents to choose healthy diets by raising awareness of choices that are good for the planet – 85% agree
3. Encourage and enable innovative and community-led food production – 91% agree
4. Support local farmers to transition to resilient and profitable agriculture which improves the environment – 93% agree
5. Champion environmentally sustainable and resilient procurement – 90% agree

Overall there is high level of agreement to all of the objectives.

Respondents to the survey suggested changing the order of the objectives compared to the draft strategy. Objectives 2 and 5 in the draft strategy were ranked as more important and have become objectives 1 and 3 respectively in the above list. Objective 3 in the draft strategy was ranked as lowest priority in the above list and has become objective 5. Whilst being ranked as the second most important objective for this section by respondents, "Empower residents to choose healthy diets by raising awareness of choices that are good for the planet" was the objective with the lowest level of agreement—suggesting a greater range of public views than some of the other objectives.

Overall key themes throughout were:

- **The cost of living crisis** strongly influenced comments with highlights of increasing consumer costs, a perception that many people can only afford 'unhealthy' food, an awareness that food banks can only share what is donated and available to them, etc.
- **A partnership and rounded approach with policies and strategies that consider the relationship between dietary choices and both physical and mental health.** It was also highlighted the need for accessible services to support those on low household income
- **The importance of education** was highlighted as vital in terms of ensuring public understanding of these issues before people can be supported or empowered to make changes. Suggestions that further education was needed included regarding: awareness of how and where to access affordable and

nutritious food, and knowing how to cook and prepare meals—taking account of the seasonality and convenience (speed of preparation etc) of different foods.

- **The importance of free will and availability were** also highlighted. Many people felt that they should have a range of foods available to them, even where a plant-based diet is encouraged.
- **Cultural food/ dietary requirements** were highlighted as not being sufficiently highlighted in the draft strategy.
- **Advertising of ‘unhealthy’ food** was perceived by many as too prevalent and a concern for children's health. Many respondents had strong views and felt that the council should lead by example and not allow the advertising of ‘unhealthy’ food.
- **Suggestions for local policy** included comments about how LCC should use its local influence and decision making to be “brave” regarding:
  - the use of spare land for supporting additional allotments, grow your own, or other community food initiatives,
  - utilising the planning and licencing approval processes to reduce the number of takeaway food outlets (especially in areas where many already exist) and to encourage use of local produce and reduced waste,
  - the introduction of policies restricting advertising in the city of ‘unhealthy’ foods,
  - some respondents felt the draft strategy was too “big brother” and didn’t like feeling “preached” to.
- **Suggestions for national policy** raised by respondents included bans on ‘unhealthy’ food advertising and more interventions to tackle the sources of food insecurity to reduce the underlying need for food banks. This included calls for an improved welfare system and policies to ensure adequately paid jobs so that nobody was ‘working poor’ or having to choose between ‘eating and heating’.

- **Allotment** users and supporters felt that the full benefits of allotments across all the strategy's missions were not felt to be recognised in the document.
- **Support for growing and selling produce locally** featured throughout, including sharing surplus food at an individual level. This included individual actions such as households sharing pre-packaged quantities of vegetables with friends and neighbours if it is too much for them to use, as well as calls for surplus produce from allotments, food producers, and supermarkets to be used within communities/ food banks/ community cafes (eat as you feel) etc.
- **The importance of reducing food waste** was frequently mentioned by respondents. This included comments about how food waste could be tackled at the source (such as preventing overproduction), through to how packaging is used. There were also calls for kerbside collections of food waste in more than one area of the city, composting options being made available locally, and for more ways to deal with takeaway waste and littering.
- **Partnerships** with food businesses including large retail supermarket chains (based locally) to seek their buy-in and commitment to support sustainability and reduce food waste.

### **Results from the face-to-face and virtual sessions**

FoodWise Leeds, the city's food partnership, delivered the face to face/virtual sessions alongside the council. FoodWise Leeds hosted workshops in the community whereas the council's in-person engagement included presenting at stall events and public meetings.

Over the 8-week period of the consultation a total of 40 sessions/meetings were held, engaging approximately 700 people.

Throughout these sessions, there was a generally positive response towards the draft strategy. A variety of themes were discussed in comments, however those views that reoccurred were the following:

- **Language.** Some felt that language used within the strategy could be more inclusive or was currently too difficult to understand. Some examples given included terms such as: inclusive growth, food security, and safe food.
- **Availability of unhealthy food.** Some respondents believed that fast food and unhealthy foods are currently too widely advertised and too available in Leeds.
- **Allotments.** It was suggested that the role of allotments was not mentioned enough throughout the strategy, and that allotments can play a role in supporting all three of the strategy's missions.
- **Impact of food insecurity/the rising cost of living.** The importance of addressing food security and the rising costs of food was stressed by respondents, with many explaining how they were being impacted. Respondents were concerned that they are having to buy lower quality and less nutritious food out of necessity, rather than choice. Some residents said that, due to rising costs, they are having to shop around different stores which takes more time and increases stress. Others remarked on the time and energy costs associated with cooking meals and how in response they are cooking quicker, simpler meals (such as ready meals) to minimise energy costs whilst being aware that these are typically less nutritious. Respondents worried about the effects of food insecurity on their mental as well as physical health and wellbeing. One person shared her experience of food insecurity as a child saying that: "it stays with you always; you don't forget it".
- **Lack of capability to cook meals.** Respondents commented that people are generally time poor and often lack cooking skills, and therefore rely on ready meals rather than cooking from scratch. This reliance contributes to the increased cost of food as well as having impacts on health, nutrition, and obesity. Most people want to see more cooking being taught in schools and through other means but did not believe that they had a role in sharing cooking skills. However, respondents felt that some groups (especially older people) typically have a lot of food skills including cooking, growing, and preserving. They value food and know how to get the most from it.
- **Changes to emergency food provision.** People recognise that there has been a dramatic rise in emergency food provision. However, many

complained that the food available from this provision doesn't meet their health or cultural requirements. Respondents commented that food banks and other providers are struggling to meet demand for food, noting that donations have decreased as there's not as much surplus food around. Respondents felt that food pantries provided more choice and dignity than food parcels, and therefore more support should be available to organisations who are providing pantry offers rather than parcels. Respondents believed that nutritious food must be a priority in all emergency food provision.

- **Role in tackling climate change.** Most people generally believe that issues such as improving food access or food security are of greater importance than food's role in responding to climate change. However, respondents would welcome more education about the links between food and environmental impacts within school settings as well as wider community education. Respondents noted that many people are now eating less meat for cost reasons rather than to reduce their carbon footprint, e.g. by adding lentils to meat dishes. Most people see food waste as a big issue, especially younger people. There is a general awareness of surplus food redistribution but many respondents want to see more done by organisations and businesses so that less is wasted. There was interest in composting and community composting initiatives.

## **Results from other consultation routes**

### Inbox

The team also received comments during the consultation period to the Leeds Food Strategy inbox. Comments mentioned via this route were:

- Allotments being undermentioned in strategy
- Babies and breastfeeding missing from strategy
- Plastic food packaging missing from strategy
- Prioritise tackling primary school aged obesity
- Access to cultural food important to mention

- Good wages for jobs in food sector
- Importance of community growing

### Community Interviews

Colleagues from Public Health also undertook community engagement over the consultation period. They spoke to 100 people living in the Harehills and Chapeltown areas. The survey sample of 100 was selected from communities which were likely to be poorly represented on the online consultation.

Interviews were face to face and took place in a variety of sites including the post office, hairdressing salon, local café, Polish Centre, Bangladeshi Centre, Compton Centre and cashpoint machine.

Interviewees expressed a keen interest in food related topics especially healthy eating and the cost and availability of fresh food. Many expressed concerns over the rising cost of food items and had made changes to their shopping habits. Other topics of discussion included food waste and the use of food banks.

The language used in the strategy was found to be an obstacle, both for those British born as well as migrant groups. No respondent understood the term 'procurement'. Likewise, few understood the phrase 'Leeds food economy' or 'community led food production' and many were uncertain of the objective 'Continue to build a strong partnership approach across all sectors and with the people of Leeds'.

By way of contrast, the respondents showed familiarity with and understanding of key terms such as sustainability and resilience.

In respect of results the first ranked objectives for each theme were as follows:

- Health & Wellbeing - Change our city environment to make healthier food more appealing and available.
- Food Security & Economy - Improve access to, and inclusivity of, emergency and affordable food initiatives to help more people in need of support e.g. food banks, food pantries, community shops.

- Sustainability & Resilience - Encourage and enable innovative and community led food production.

The conclusion to be drawn from conversations with these 100 people is that the consultation is not 'community friendly' in some of its language. This will need to be looked at in the final draft to increase accessibility.

### **Proposed changes to draft Leeds Food Strategy**

Overall, the response to the draft strategy was largely positive, with high levels of agreement in the vision (90.7%), themes (89.2%), and objectives (79-95%), therefore these will remain in place for the final version.

The order of objectives within each chapter will be altered to reflect that of the ranking proposed in the consultation (both the online survey and the community engagement) to reflect that which residents, businesses and organisations believe to be the most important for Leeds.

It was highlighted within the consultation that some of the language used across the strategy is not fully inclusive and could not be understood by people living in the city. As part of the strategy update to the final version, the phrases highlighted in the consultation as being hard to understand will be reviewed and better explained or updated. This will also include the wording of some objectives.

A number of comments were received in relation to the under mentioning across the three strands of the strategy of:

- Allotments
- Waste food packaging
- Cultural food

These comments have been heard and they will be highlighted in the updated version.

## **Action Plan**

As well as updating the draft food strategy wording to create a final document, the food strategy team will also create the first annual action plan to support the strategy. This will include actions underneath each of the 15 objectives of the strategy, which will be continually monitored and reviewed annually with Food Wise Leeds. The strategy will be edited according to ensure it is in alignment with any changes to government policy.

## Appendix 3 - Leeds Food Strategy

Our plan to work towards a better food future for all



### About the Leeds Food Strategy

The Leeds Food Strategy sets out our vision for the future of how we produce, consume, and dispose of food across the local authority district.

**At the heart of this strategy is our vision for Leeds to have a vibrant food economy where everyone can access local, healthy, and affordable food that is produced in ways that improve our natural environment and embrace new techniques and technologies.**

This means that we believe the foods that we eat should reflect our rich and diverse culture, nourish our social connections, enhance our physical and mental well-being, and make our lives better. It means that our food system should enable people, producers, and our planet to prosper. The Leeds Food Strategy sets out what the local authority area can do to work towards this better food future for all.

We will work towards our vision by focusing on three core missions. These missions have been designed to complement our [Best City Ambition](#), whilst also demonstrating how Leeds will work collaboratively to support the aims of the [Government Food Strategy](#) and [independent National Food Strategy](#).

# Achieving our vision: our food missions

## Health and wellbeing



Helping people to improve their health and wellbeing through eating well.

[Find out more about our plan around health and wellbeing](#)

## Food security and economy



Working to give everyone in Leeds access to nutritious food as part of a diverse, inclusive, and vibrant food economy.

[Find out more about our plan around food security and economy.](#)

### **Sustainability and resilience**



Ensuring Leeds' food system is fit for the future and supports our climate action plan.

[Find out more about our plan around sustainability and resilience](#)

### **Why we need a Leeds Food Strategy:**

An introduction by Cllr. Abigail Marshall-Katung, Food Champion at Leeds City Council & Gareth Batty MBE FRSA, CEO at FareShare Yorkshire.

“Wherever you go in the city, you’ll see that food is central to life in Leeds.

“Food sustains both lives and livelihoods. It nourishes and reflects our rich and diverse culture. No matter where in the world you come from, you’ll be able to enjoy a taste of home here in Leeds. Whether you’re looking for Michelin-recommended fine dining or a little-known independent gem of an eatery, Leeds has a lot of good things on the menu.

“Food plays an important role in our economy too. Thousands of Leeds businesses employ tens of thousands of local workers in the production, selling, and serving food. The city’s vibrant food sector

supports our thriving visitor economy. It's really no wonder that we've sometimes been called [the Foodie Capital of the North](#).

"Yet while we have plenty to celebrate, we must acknowledge that too many people in Leeds struggle to put good food on the table. Everybody should be able to access and afford nutritious food. Nobody should ever have to choose between heating or eating, yet this is the grim reality sadly facing many people that we work with today. Across the UK, the number of people in relative poverty is increasing and has been for more than 10 years. Even before the pandemic, it is estimated that 174,000 Leeds residents lived in relative poverty. Industry data shows that food prices are inflating faster than wages and that those on the lowest incomes are being hit the hardest. Non-financial barriers (like living far away from places that sell affordable, nutritious food) also make the problems of food insecurity worse for many. Paradoxically, however, we collectively throw huge amounts of good food away—enough to almost fill one in three rubbish bins collected by the council.

"When good food is affordable and conveniently available, our health and wellbeing thrives. By helping more people in Leeds to eat a healthy, nutritious diet that aligns with the [NHS recommended EatWell guidelines](#), we can save lives and improve quality of life for thousands of people. And because foods that are good for us tend to be better for the planet too, doing so will accelerate our journey to become a net zero city.

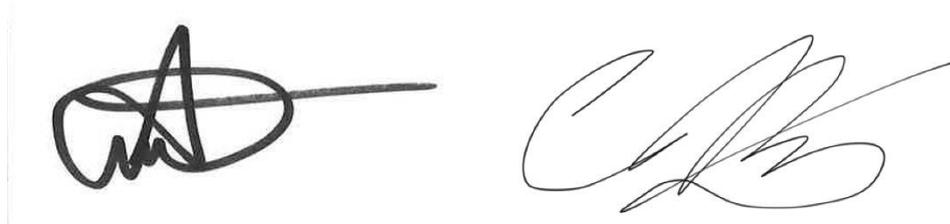
"Until the causes of global warming are addressed worldwide, our climate will continue to change and impact harvests everywhere. Climate change will therefore make our economic and health challenges harder to address unless we grow and source foods in a more sustainable and resilient way. British farmers will continue to produce most of the food we eat in the future, but they must be supported as they transition to more sustainable and climate-resilient practices. Leeds City Council has pledged to, by 2030, reduce the carbon footprint of the food it sells or serves in half, and is the first local authority in the country to make any carbon related food commitments. Leeds City Council has also signed the [Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration](#), reiterating its commitment to taking local action on food and climate.

"Local efforts are already making a real difference. Organisations like FareShare Yorkshire help: in the last year they provided more than 4.2 million meals across the region, preventing nearly 1,800 tonnes of food from going to waste and helping families. But FareShare Yorkshire is just one of many fantastic charities and community groups. Since 2017, FoodWise Leeds has brought together many of these local charities and policy makers to address some of the city's big challenges and to pursue a better food system. Their amazing efforts—supported by the council—has already seen Leeds given the [Sustainable Food Places 'Bronze' Award](#).

"All of these issues that we've mentioned above are challenges which this ambitious Leeds Food Strategy seeks to address. This strategy includes policies and initiatives to build on our past successes and move towards a local food system that is better for people, producers, and our planet. It's laid out across three, mission-driven, interlinked sections that tackle each challenge in turn.

“Across the whole document, you’ll see our commitment to abide by three fundamental principles: collaboration across the city’s food system, use of local insight and evidence as the basis for solutions, and the transparent monitoring and evaluation of our work.

“We believe that the Leeds Food Strategy is a recipe for success, but we’ll need the support of the whole city to turn our ambitious vision into a reality. We hope you’ll join us.”



**Cllr. Abigail Marshall-Katung** | Official Food Champion, Leeds City Council

**Gareth Batty MBE FRSA** | Chief Executive Officer, Fareshare Yorkshire

## **Delivering the strategy:**

The Leeds Food Strategy has been co-developed by Leeds City Council and FoodWise Leeds.

FoodWise Leeds formed in 2017 as the city’s food partnership to create a healthy, sustainable, and fair food system for everyone in Leeds. The partnership is made up of representatives from the third sector, academia, business, and the council.

Leeds City Council and FoodWise Leeds will work in partnership to oversee the review and development of the annual Leeds Food Action Plan that will be key to the strategy’s delivery from now until 2030. They will also share and present an update detailing the Plan’s progress every year at a public meeting of Leeds City Council.

## **How this strategy was developed:**

The Leeds Food Strategy has been co-produced with individuals and representatives from third sector organisations, business, academia, the public sector and the council to create a shared vision for putting healthy, sustainable, and fair food as central to the city’s success.

More than 70 stakeholders from the local food system gathered in 2022 to share their knowledge and collectively develop a vision for what our local food system should look like to help address some of

the city's biggest challenges. Attendees also celebrated Leeds' many successes such as community gardens and farming initiatives, the support of community food aid projects, the vibrant independent food businesses, and the support for children and families offered through the [Healthy Holidays programme](#).

Following this meeting, working groups were set up, each co-chaired by both an independent organisation and a council representative, to represent and develop each of the three strategic 'missions' of the strategy into the format you see today.

Organisations that contributed to the Leeds Food Strategy steering group include:

- [Fareshare Yorkshire](#)
- [Food Aid Network](#)
- [FoodWise Leeds](#)
- Leeds City Council
- [Rethink Food](#)
- [University of Leeds](#)

The Leeds Food Strategy also incorporates the [six key issues assessed as part of the Sustainable Food Places award scheme](#). Our aim is for Leeds to achieve the Silver award in 2023 and the Gold award in subsequent years.

A public consultation was held between October and December 2022 which incorporated an online questionnaire, public meetings, and face-to-face engagement. More than 90% of respondents to the questionnaire agreed with the vision and missions of the strategy.

Even though we are no longer consulting on the Leeds Food Strategy, we are always interested to hear feedback and suggestions. Further comments can be submitted by emailing [LeedsFoodStrategy@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LeedsFoodStrategy@leeds.gov.uk)

## **Get involved:**

We believe that the Leeds Food Strategy is a recipe for a better local food system, but we'll need the support of communities, businesses and decision makers across the city to turn our vision into a reality. Every action counts.

**Take action to make our food system better**

Whether you're a Leeds resident, a food business owner or part of a local organisation, discover easy ways to become FoodWise and take action to help us create a healthy, sustainable and fair food system for our city, that tackles social, economic and environmental issues. There's plenty of ways for you to [take action and be more FoodWise](#).

**Talk to someone about this strategy**

The more people know about the Leeds Food Strategy, the bigger an impact that it can have. If you think that our approach is interesting, we'd love you to share this strategy with your friends and networks—and encourage more people to get involved.

# Leeds Food Strategy: Health and wellbeing

Our mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in our city through eating well.



## Why it is important

Food is essential for health and wellbeing.

Eating good, healthy, and nutritious food helps to keep us well, protecting both our physical and mental wellbeing.

Knowing and understanding what to eat, along with the practical skills needed to prepare healthy and balanced food are all skills that we believe should be universal.

There are many influences that affect what we eat daily. Evidence shows that our environment and living conditions are key to this. Good food might be less visible, harder to afford or access. These conditions are not equally experienced and are often related to existing inequalities present in our city.

We can improve health and wellbeing by working together to find solutions, remove barriers, improve quality of life, become more socially connected and less lonely through food.

By supporting and creating the conditions that allow more of us to eat healthy, nutritious and tasty food the Leeds Foods Strategy aims to give children in Leeds the best possible start and help everyone to live healthy, independent lives for longer.

Food choices that are good for us tends to be better for the planet too. Meeting these objectives will accelerate our city's journey to net zero—reducing the future health impacts that we know climate change will cause.

## **Our plan:**

### **Objective 1: Ensure people of all ages know how to access, prepare, and eat food that supports health and wellbeing.**



The first step to eating well is understanding what to eat, how much of it, and having the practical skills required to buy and prepare good food. This understanding also needs to be tailored to an individual's culture, faith, income, community, and stage of life.

The NHS-recommended Eatwell guide shows how much of different food groups are needed to achieve healthy, and balanced eating—except where a health professional has advised otherwise. Other tools, such as the [School Food Plan](#) and [5 A Day campaign](#), also exist. Understanding and having an awareness of these recommendations are some of the first steps to eating healthier. This will need to be considered across the different stages of life. For example, the importance of promoting breastfeeding and nutrition in the early years.

We will work across sectors to create more opportunities to develop and learn the skills needed to eat healthier. This could include meal planning, budgeting and food preparation. We can raise awareness of how to access support for healthier eating across our city, enabling the opportunity and capability to achieve EatWell guide recommendations.

#### **Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Working across sectors to improve knowledge and awareness of Eatwell recommendations and adapting these to individual lives.
- 2) Working across sectors to give people the skills and opportunities to overcome barriers to buying, preparing, and eating healthy, nutritious, and affordable food.

### **Objective 2: Champion community food initiatives that support healthier eating**



Alongside working with partners, community-led initiatives will have a vital role to play in furthering the objectives of the Leeds Food Strategy.

They enable people to develop cooking skills, grow food, and share food as part of activities like cooking skills, luncheon, and family clubs. They also bring people within communities together, which has huge social benefits.

There are already many great community-led initiatives taking place across Leeds. Further collaboration and community involvement will be key to building on these initiatives as we move forwards. We will work together to identify new funding opportunities and learn from what has worked well.

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Raising awareness of, and celebrating, community-led food initiatives in Leeds and the impact they have.
- 2) Supporting community-led food initiatives to identify new funding opportunities
- 3) Encouraging and enabling better co-ordination and sharing of best practice between groups.

**Objective 3: Change our city environment to help make healthier food more available and appealing**



Our environment influences what we eat. There are many opportunities to improve our environment to make healthy eating easier and more accessible. For some of us, good food is less visible and might be harder to access. It is important that we all have opportunities to eat well and diversely in our daily lives. Healthy food options should be readily available and affordable wherever we live, work, study, and relax.

Organisations and businesses advertising, providing, or selling food have a role in promoting and offering affordable, healthy, and nutritious food more prominently—creating more demand for good food. Those buying, making, or serving food could adopt the best practice [Government Buying Standards for Food](#) to make their food healthier, higher quality, and more sustainable.

Workplaces—where many of us spend a lot of our time—should also recognise their key role. In many workplaces, information and access to healthy food can be limited and this impacts people’s ability to consume a healthier diet.

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Work with interested businesses and organisations that provide or sell food to encourage them to prepare and promote healthy and nutritious food more prominently. Leeds City Council will lead by example within its own venues.
- 2) Work with employers to recognise their role in helping to create a food environment that improves access to, and encourages, healthy eating.
- 3) Explore opportunities to advertise and promote healthier and sustainable eating.

**Objective 4: Offer targeted support to those of us who are most at risk**



Healthy eating is important for everyone, but some of us are more at risk of developing health conditions and require additional support. Malnutrition is a major driver of diet-related health conditions including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease (heart diseases), stroke, and some

cancers. Living with these conditions can be life changing and lead to premature death. Managing them costs our NHS more than £6 billion per year.

We can reduce diet-related deaths, improve the quality of life for those diagnosed, and save NHS resources by offering targeted support to help people most likely to develop these diseases. These 'at risk' individuals include those experiencing food insecurity or who live in a more deprived area.

**Actions to support this objective:**

1) Continuing to invest in prevention and treatment programmes that reduce the impact of diet-related ill health in the people most at risk.

## **Objective 5: Develop a skilled local workforce who advocate for healthier eating**



Many organisations in Leeds already promote information on eating well, but this can sometimes be complex due to the variety of information sources available. We also need to ensure the wider influences on healthy eating such as culture, income, and environment are always considered and addressed.

By developing a local workforce with all the skills necessary to advocate for, promote, and support healthier eating, we can empower professionals to have an even greater impact.

We believe that workforce development should include providing consistent information and support which is tailored to their audience and appropriate for their role.

Training opportunities shouldn't be provided in isolation. Workers should also be equipped to identify and support opportunities that influence behaviour such as changing the food environment where they work.

**Actions to support this objective:**

1) Providing a range of training opportunities that enable the local workforce to deliver consistent, holistic, and evidence-based support on healthier eating.

## Leeds Food Strategy: Food security and economy

Our mission is to ensure we can all access affordable, nutritious food as part of a diverse, inclusive, and vibrant food economy.



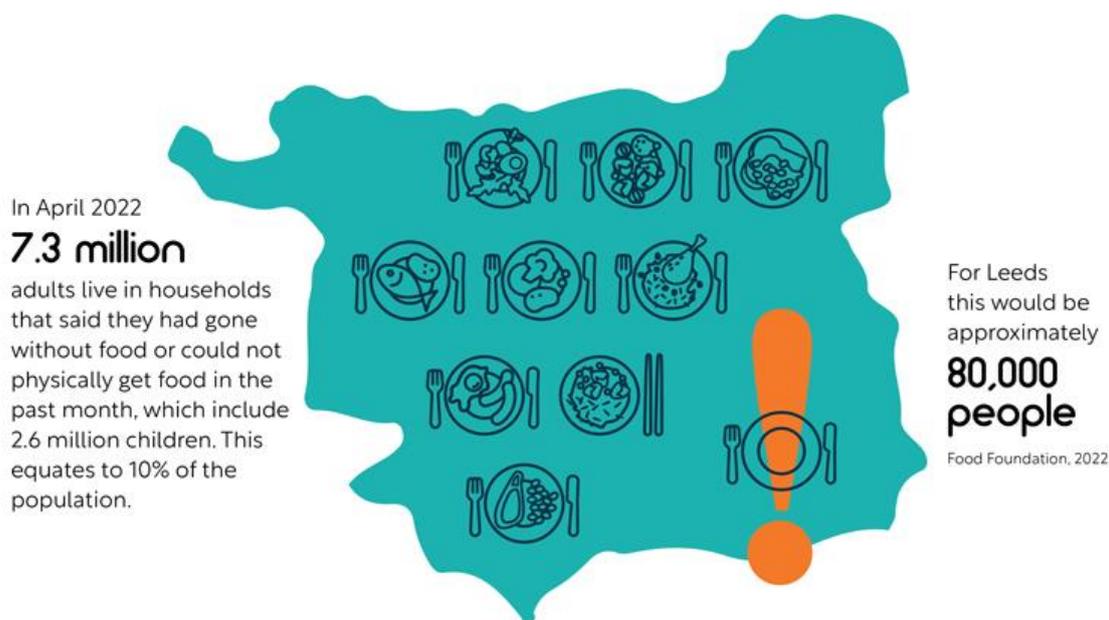
### Why it is important

Food security is our ability to access food, pay for it, and prepare nutritious meals.

Having food security allows us to contribute economically, environmentally, socially, and culturally to society. It is essential to the foundations of a healthy, inclusive, and sustainable economy. Tackling

poverty, inequality and improving the quality of life for all of us is at the heart of the Leeds Food Strategy.

Increasing numbers of us are experiencing poverty, and Leeds is no different, too many of us struggle to put food on the table. Local charities, community groups together with the council are already making a real difference every day to help those most in need.



Despite this, food bank use is currently at an all-time high after an unacceptable and unsustainable year-on-year increase. Programmes to distribute food aid and give emergency food parcels will continue offering a lifesaving service, but we shouldn't have to rely on these services to get by.

Ultimately we need to tackle the causes of food insecurity and not just its impacts. This means helping to ensure that more of us can and know how to physically access, afford, and prepare healthy nutritious food—without compromising our ability to meet other basic needs.

As part of this mission, we also need to do everything we can to help more of us become financially secure and independent. We can support our vibrant food sector (every business and organisation involved in the growing, production, cooking, serving, or selling of food in Leeds) to grow and help them to embrace new and better ways of producing, selling, and serving food. By choosing local and regional food producers more often for what we eat, we help local businesses to create more jobs and keep more money within Yorkshire. A successful, innovative, and diverse economy is one that it is fair, pays well, and works for all of us. By choosing local and regional food producers more often for what we eat we help local businesses to create more jobs and keep more money within Yorkshire.

By working together with partners across the city to reduce food insecurity and grow an inclusive food economy, the Leeds Food Strategy aims to improve the quality of life and financial resilience of Leeds households. We're proud that Leeds has some of the best food in the country and with our plans,

many more of us will be able to enjoy more of it.

## **Our plan:**

### **Objective 1: Tackle factors limiting people's ability to afford the food they need.**



Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, pay hadn't been keeping up with the rising cost of living and many people had little job security. Currently around 20% of Leeds employees earn below the real living wage.

On top of that, public sector funding cuts and welfare reform has reduced much of the support available to people in poverty. Barriers including a lack of awareness or difficulties accessing financial support prevents some residents from receiving what they do qualify for.

All of these factors combine to mean that fewer people can afford good food, which is the biggest expenditure for households after housing, fuel, and energy. Official statistics show that low-income households spent much more of their earnings (18%) on food than the average household (13%) in 2021, and this trend is expected to have worsened since.

To tackle the root causes of food insecurity, we need to reduce poverty and economic inequalities. We need to encourage more organisations to pay the real living wage and help businesses (including in our food sector) to create good new jobs that mean more people can live happier and healthier lives.

#### **Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Championing actions and initiatives that help address poverty and food insecurity, including fair wages and financial support.
- 2) Raising awareness of how residents can increase their incomes, including helping them to access

any financial support they may qualify for.

3) Developing and sustaining programmes that improve access to healthy food for people on low incomes.

4) Ensure food security and poverty are considered when developing local plans and policies.

## **Objective 2: Help those in need of support to access affordable and inclusive food initiatives**



With more people experiencing food insecurity and sometimes having to choose between heating and eating, rising numbers of people are turning to food aid services.

Local organisations are making a real difference to help those most in need, often working in partnership with the council. Leeds has a wide range of food aid provision available including emergency support via food banks, the [Local Welfare Support Scheme](#), food pantries, and community cafes. In 2021, it is estimated that more than 64,000 food parcels were distributed via food aid providers.

We believe that food aid provision could be even more helpful if providers in Leeds were better connected with each other and with financial advice or support services. We could also improve these services if they were made more inclusive of cultural and dietary requirements.

### **Actions to support this objective:**

1) Working together with partners to improve, and make more inclusive, affordable food initiatives so that everyone can access the help they need.

2) Connecting food aid providers with other free, impartial, and confidential support services to help residents access information and support to prepare and afford healthy meals.

3) Developing and promoting a new Leeds Food Aid Charter setting out consistent key principles and best practice for local food aid providers to follow.

**Objective 3: Continue to build a strong partnership approach across all sectors and with the people of Leeds.**



Leeds prides itself on its well-established partnership approach to tackling food insecurity. Currently this includes Leeds Food Aid Network which brings together a wide range of food aid organisations—including FareShare Yorkshire, Rethink Food and FoodWise Leeds—all working in collaboration with the council, universities, businesses and the third sector.

This partnership approach increases awareness, efficiency, and effectiveness of all the good work being done across the city. It was crucial throughout the COVID-19 pandemic when Leeds providers experienced an unprecedented demand for emergency food aid.

We need to continue building and strengthening this collaborative, partnership approach across every sector and with the people of Leeds to unite efforts towards the missions of the Leeds Food Strategy.

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Developing the Food Aid Network and Leeds Food Insecurity Taskforce to raise awareness of our approach to food aid and improve citywide coordination and collaboration.
- 2) Ensuring public participation in, and engagement with, the Leeds Food Strategy.
- 3) Work with organisations to promote goods and services from local producers.
- 4) Working in partnership with the public, voluntary, education and private sector to collaborate on actions that further the objectives of the Leeds Food Strategy.

**Objective 4: Support and unlock opportunities for local food businesses and workers.**



By supporting retail, food and drink, and social entrepreneurs to start-up and grow successful businesses we can facilitate inclusive growth within our local economy. This means creating new and better jobs, contributing towards reduced poverty and inequality in the city, and nurturing the food culture we want.

We can support businesses by connecting them to relevant advice and help entrepreneurs to start up, grow, and develop innovative businesses. We can also explore and support new opportunities for innovative and sustainable food production.



**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Helping food businesses grow and support jobs by connecting them to relevant support and advice.
- 2) Working to create and expand pathways to market for locally produced food.
- 3) Promoting opportunities for recruitment, workforce development, and apprenticeships in the local

food sector.

4) Supporting innovation and research that promotes the viability of local food enterprises.

### **Objective 5: Promote Leeds as a vibrant food city—celebrating our independent food, drink, events, and culture.**



Leeds offers one of the best independent restaurant, café and bar scenes in the country.

We enjoy a diverse and innovative food hospitality sector featuring everything from world-class fine dining to mouth-watering street food. You can enjoy familiar cuisines from all over the world or sample something new here in Leeds. We're proud of our impressive food heritage too.

This varied food offer supports Leeds' thriving visitor economy by helping to draw people and investment into the city and supporting inclusive economic growth. In turn, this generates opportunities for creative, enthusiastic food and drink entrepreneurs to launch and grow their businesses in the city. The many independent food businesses in Leeds help keep money circulating within our local economy.

Food is widely celebrated in Leeds through a variety of festivals and community led events. All across the city, food pop-ups, farmers markets, cookery classes can be enjoyed throughout the year. We will continue to build on what Leeds already does well to support the city's local food economy. We will proudly celebrate our food culture, heritage, and diversity, and work to raise the city's profile as a vibrant food city.

#### **Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Working with the food sector to increase visitor demand for local food and drink across the city.
- 2) Celebrating the culture and diversity of Leeds by promoting the local food offer available in different parts of the city.
- 3) Champion the economic, social, and environmental benefits of consuming locally and sustainably produced foods to residents, businesses and institutions.

# Leeds Food Strategy: Sustainability and Resilience

Our mission is to ensure the way Leeds produces, consumes, and disposes of food is fit for the future and supports our climate action plan.



## Why it is important

Our climate is changing. Warmer temperatures, changing rain patterns, and more extreme weather events are already affecting food security across the world—and will increasingly do so until global climate action means that the amount of planet-warming gases in our atmosphere begins to decrease.

Leeds has declared a climate emergency and, as part of [our climate action plan](#), the council's ambition is to achieve net zero carbon emissions as quickly as possible and to boost our city's resilience to the changing climate.

Yet as well as being vulnerable to the impacts of climate change our food system is also partly responsible, currently accounting for around one-fifth of all the emissions in our national carbon footprint.

We can enable the transition to a more sustainable food system by wasting less food, making healthier food choices, and producing food in better and more environmentally friendly ways. Leeds is one of the biggest cities in one of the world's richest countries. We can't change the food system alone, but we can have real impact if we lead by example. Every action counts.

Energy used to transport and process our food contributes to the food sector's carbon footprint, so we will reduce these emissions by transitioning to zero emission transport and power as part of other strategies. However, most greenhouse gas emissions from food are released before produce even leaves the farm gates because of factors like fertiliser use, the methane emissions from livestock, and converting environmentally important land like peat bogs and rainforest into farms. We must consider what foods are grown and how they are grown—not just how far foods have travelled.



Food production is essential, and the agricultural community in the UK has made great strides in reducing its impact on the environment. However, farming uses a lot of land and, dependent on how it is done, can be detrimental to nature. This includes the very bees and other pollinators that play a vital role to make foods more affordable and abundant.

The growing of food across the globe will be increasingly impacted by our changing climate, damaging harvests that disrupt supplies and raise food prices. We need to create a more resilient food system by considering the changing climate when we plan which foods to grow where, and by sourcing produce from many different places and suppliers. By doing this we can reduce the impact of supply disruption when it occurs—especially for those experiencing food insecurity.

Ultimately, ensuring the way we produce, consume, and dispose of food is fit for the future and supports our climate action plan is not only necessary and beneficial long-term, but will also help us to improve the quality of life for everyone across the district right now.

## **Our plan:**

## Objective 1: Tackle waste by reducing, redistributing, and utilising surplus food



It doesn't matter what kind it is, throwing any food away contributes to climate change and wastes land, water, money and energy. 25 million tonnes of carbon emissions every year are emitted from the food wasted by households and businesses in the UK. Meanwhile, many families in Leeds experience food insecurity and depend on food aid.

Did you know that the average household in Leeds threw away around 190kg of food in 2021? By buying only what we need and using our leftovers, we could reduce the largest source of post-farm gate food waste. Together we can all do a little more and make a big difference.

Households in  
Leeds throw away  
**3.76 kg**  
of food waste  
in their bins  
each week



Retailers, manufacturers, and food growers all have a big part to play in tackling food waste across the system too. For example, supermarkets and their suppliers can help consumers to reduce food waste through better product information, packaging, and portioning.

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Promoting ways to reduce food waste, working with partners including organisations and businesses.
- 2) Redistributing surplus food to those in need, working with partners including organisations and businesses.
- 3) Expanding food waste collections (in line with national policy and dependant on government funding) and community composting initiatives to more areas of the city.

**Objective 2: Raise awareness of how we can eat nutritious foods that are good for the planet.**



Every meal we eat is an opportunity to make a difference. Some types of food will always be more resource intensive to produce than others. Yet most of us are unaware of the impact our food choices have on the environment. Many foods that are better for the environment can be better for our budget too—such as using local and seasonal ingredients.

Organisations and food businesses can also help by making it easier for us all to choose healthier, more sustainable foods. For example, they could introduce some form of ‘carbon labelling’ highlight the contribution of different food items on global warming—similar to how many manufacturers and venues display the calories in their foods.

The types of food we eat is our own choice. Some of us may prefer to eat mostly or all plant-based foods. Others may prefer to also include meat, fish, or dairy too. But as a population, our collective health and the health of the planet would improve if we ate a balanced diet consistent with the NHS-recommended [Eatwell guidelines](#). For some of us, this may mean eating less (but better quality)

animal products and more plants. Simply adopting the Eatwell guidelines is estimated to reduce the average person's carbon footprint from food by almost a third.

Finally, while it cannot be assumed that reducing meat and dairy intake will lead to substitution with healthier foods, if half of UK meat and dairy consumption were replaced with fruits, vegetables and cereals, diet-related GHG emissions could be reduced by 19% and roughly 37,000 premature deaths from cardiovascular disease and cancer averted each year

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Introducing carbon labelling at council food venues, such as on school and café menus.
- 2) Raising awareness of the environmental impact of different food choices.

### **Objective 3: Encourage and embrace new ways of producing, selling and serving food within local communities**



Like many cities, Leeds collectively consumes far more food than we produce. This fact might not be surprising as a large and populous district. However, this fact could make the city more vulnerable to future food price rises and supply chain issues. Going forwards, we will work to make the difference between production and consumption as small as possible.

Fortunately, food growing doesn't have to be limited to farms. Allotments, gardens, balconies, windows, greenhouses, urban farms, community spaces and innovative systems can all contribute to Leeds' food security, improve community wellbeing, and help to create employment opportunities.

**Action to support this objective:**

- 1) Promoting 'grow your own', community, and urban growing.
- 2) Work with partners to raise awareness of, and support, cutting-edge innovative food production.

## **Objective 4: Support local farmers to transition to resilient and**

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Serving more quality, sustainable, regional produce that is certified to higher production standards in Leeds City Council venues and services.
- 2) Working with suppliers to better understand—and reduce—the environmental impact of the food purchased by Leeds City Council.
- 3) Encouraging the city's biggest organisations to join Leeds City Council in their procurement commitments.

## **profitable agriculture which improves the environment.**



British farmers already produce some of the most environmentally friendly and highest animal welfare food in the world and they are now on a journey to become even more sustainable as part of the national [Agricultural Transition Plan](#).

It is important that we support local farmers as they transition to more sustainable agricultural practices that are profitable and suited to our changing climate as quickly as possible. Yorkshire's farmers have a proud history and their future success is essential for our food security.

**Actions to support this objective:**

- 1) Work with national, regional, and local partners to support best farming practice by engaging

policymakers and decision takers, helping to remove barriers to the agricultural transition faced by farmers in Leeds.

2) Explore opportunities to influence land use planning policies to enable the better use of land for agriculture.

3) Help local farmers get a fair price for quality products bought by the council and partners.

4) Explore ways to make it easier for local farmers to sell produce locally.

## **Objective 5: Champion environmentally sustainable and resilient food buying**



We can all help shape the way that food is made and sold for the better by voting with our wallets to raise standards, cut carbon, and support local producers.

Organisations can make an even bigger difference than those who buy only for their family. For example, Leeds City Council bought more than two thousand tonnes of food in 2021. The council has produced a set of food buying guidelines to be followed to ensure that any food purchased by the council is aligned with the commitments made in this strategy

Buying local also supports higher animal welfare and quality agriculture, keeps money in our Yorkshire economy, and boosts the resilience of our food system.

### **Actions to support this objective:**

1) Serving more quality, sustainable, regional produce that is certified to higher production standards in Leeds City Council venues and services.

2) Working with suppliers to better understand—and reduce—the environmental impact of the food purchased by Leeds City Council.

3) Encouraging the city's biggest organisations to join Leeds City Council in their procurement commitments.

Taking time to find out where food comes from is important. Even if you don't buy local all the time,

simply choosing to buy foods that are seasonal to the place they're grown can be cheaper and can make a positive environmental difference.

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## Governance

## 0. Governance

(0.1) Provide details of your jurisdiction in the table below.

## Response

**Administrative boundary of reporting government^**

Metropolitan area

**Next highest level of government**

National

**Next lowest level of government**

Sub-municipal district

**Land area of the jurisdiction boundary (in square km)^**

551.7

**Percentage range of land area that is green space**

21-30%

**Current (or most recent) population size^**

798786

**Population year^**

2020

**Projected population size**

838027

**Projected population year**

2030

**Select the currency used for all financial information reported throughout your response^**

GBP Pound Sterling

(0.2) Provide information on your jurisdiction's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities and how these issues have impacted your jurisdiction's planning.

Green Economy Policy Work Update.pdf

Leeds-Inclusive-Growth-Strategy-FINAL.pdf

LEEDS-TALENT-AND-SKILLS-PLAN-final-consultation-publication.pdf

Capital Programme Cover Report Appendices 310122.pdf

## Response

**Select the processes that reflect your jurisdiction's oversight of climate-related issues**

Council (or equivalent) is informed by relevant departments, committees and/or subcommittees about climate-related issues

Relevant departments, committees and/or subcommittees are informed by management about climate-related issues

Climate-related issues are considered by government when undertaking plans and/or strategies

Climate-related issues are considered by government when undertaking budgeting and/or major capital expenditures

Climate-related responsibilities are assigned to management-level positions in government

### **Provide further details on your jurisdiction's oversight of climate-related issues**

We have a dedicated Executive Member for Infrastructure and Climate who has oversight of all activity relating to climate change, sustainable energy and carbon reduction, sustainable development, sustainable housing growth, highways and transportation, flood and water management, active travel, planning services, and clean air. All key decisions in Leeds which result in the authority spending or saving over £500,000, or is likely to have a significant effect on communities living or working in an area of one or more wards, are considered by Executive Board, community committees, or by officers given delegated responsibility. As set out within the Officer Delegation Scheme as part of the council's constitution, the Director for Resources is authorised by the Executive to discharge the following functions to the Chief Officer for Sustainable Energy and Air Quality:

Climate Change including:-

- a) Establishment, implementation, monitoring and review arrangements to minimise and mitigate the impact of climate change;
- b) Promotion of local co-operation arrangements to reduce the impact of climate change and
- c) Engagement with communities in relation to climate change.

Sustainable Energy and Carbon Reduction including:-

- a) Formulation and implementation of sustainable energy and carbon reduction policies for the city; and
- b) Formulation and implementation of clean air policies for the city

Climate change (including mitigation and adaptation) is one of the main corporate risks on our risk register. It is reviewed quarterly and an update is provided annually to Executive Board.

Executive Board receives an Annual Report on progress following the declaration of a climate emergency in 2019. All formal decisions must evidence impact on our net zero ambitions as one of three key strategic aims through our corporate report template. The council also established a cross political group Climate Emergency Advisory Committee (CEAC) in 2019, which advises the council and Executive Board on climate related matters. The work output of CEAC is then reviewed annually at Full Council. Various aspects of our climate mitigation work are also reviewed by scrutiny committees. The Environment, Housing and Communities Scrutiny Board also has oversight functions relating to executive decisions and other matters of interest in regard to climate change, providing checks and balance to the city's journey to net-zero.

### **Describe how climate-related issues have impacted your jurisdiction's master/development planning**

The Best City Ambition is our overall vision for the future of Leeds. At its heart is our mission to tackle poverty and inequality and improve quality of life for everyone who calls Leeds home. We will achieve our mission by focusing on improving outcomes across the Three Pillars of the Best City Ambition - Health and Wellbeing, Inclusive Growth and Zero Carbon. The Three Pillars capture the things that will make the biggest difference to improving people's lives in Leeds – and many of the big challenges we face and the best opportunities we have relate to all three - [https://www.leeds.gov.uk/plans-and-strategies/best-city-ambition?](https://www.leeds.gov.uk/plans-and-strategies/best-city-ambition?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

The Leeds Core Strategy sets out the spatial planning framework for the District. Central to its preparation has been the development of an approach which seeks to manage growth in a sustainable way, in balancing the overall, scale, distribution and phasing of development. Population increase, climate change, and the global economy are all huge challenges facing Leeds. Within this context and in planning for growth within the District, there are key links between longer term economic prosperity, environmental quality, local identity and distinctiveness - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/adopted-local-plan/core-strategy-introduction>

The Local Plan sets out development principles for our area and are used to determine planning applications. Our Leeds Local Plan is being updated to reflect climate mitigation and adaptation, specifically focusing on carbon reduction, flood risk, green infrastructure, placemaking and sustainable infrastructure - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-update>

### **Describe how climate-related issues have impacted your jurisdiction's financial planning**

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, and in light of other pressures such as the national cost of living crisis, we are experiencing a significant lack of financial resource, which is the biggest challenge facing local authorities in long term financial planning.

The council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy provides a robust, consistent and sustainable approach to establishing and maintaining a stable and prudent financial basis on which the Council's services are delivered - in line with the council's three pillars as set out in the Best City Ambition, including Zero Carbon. The Capital Programme (attached) clearly sets out financial investment in net-zero and resilience/adaptation measures. This is reported on annually to Executive Board.

Work is being undertaken to review the council's approach to new build. A key principle of this work is to consider whole life costs to ensure that buildings are resilient to the changing climate. The principle of whole life costing when addressing the climate emergency is well established in many schemes. The Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme will have saved more money than the capital costs of building it if it prevents just a single Storm Eva (2015) level of flooding .

The authority operates both an Invest to Save Fund (used for service improvements or transformational projects where a proof of concept has already been delivered and an initial revenue investment would directly generate cost reductions or income for the Council) and an Innovation Fund (designed to provide pump-priming investment for those more conceptual schemes which need to be developed further). In both cases a Business Case must be completed which specifically includes a section highlighting any implications of the proposal on the climate emergency agenda.

The council have formally asked the West Yorkshire Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuels to minimise climate risk, and actively look to divest into alternative, cleaner investments with comparable returns.

### **Describe the risks to your jurisdiction related to the transition to a low-carbon economy**

With the size of the financial challenge that we are facing to meet net zero, it is well recognised it can only be achieved through greater investment by the financial sector as opposed to total reliance on grant funding, which is often time-limited, low value and inflexible. We are also concerned that the funding outlook at present for building retrofit is very limited, with support focussed on social housing and off-gas grid low-income private sector properties. This leaves a huge amount of unmet need in Leeds, particularly low-income Victorian terraced areas and more affluent areas requiring more expensive improvements. National policy has a key role to play in using financial levers available to encourage swifter action for homeowners and commercial property owners.

Yorkshire and the Humber has long been one of our most important industrial powerhouses. Even since the decline of UK manufacturing, the region has continued to produce materials crucial to our economy: steel, cement, chemicals, glass and more. The Investing in a Just Transition Initiative highlighted that Y&H accounts for 6.4% of UK GDP but 10% of carbon emissions (almost half coming from just 25 industrial sites) and it forecast that 22.2% of jobs across the region could be affected by a transition to a greener economy. 360,000 people in the region — 15% of all jobs - work in industries with high carbon emissions. This presents a high risk to our local economy. The impacts to the local economy sit within the broader context of a just transition to sustainable living for our communities. With living costs rising at their fastest rate for 30 years in the UK, and the average household fuel bill increasing by £693 a year, we must ensure that sustainable changes required to our homes, diets and lifestyles to reach net-zero do not exacerbate the problem, but rather act as tools to improve quality of life.

Our Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy (attached) sets out how Leeds City Council, the private sector, universities, colleges and schools, the third sector and social enterprises in the city will work together to grow the Leeds economy ensuring that everyone in the city contributes to, and benefits from, growth to their full potential. It sets out how the city intends to promote a positive, outward looking image on the global stage seeking to increase inward investment, exports and tourism. This will be refreshed in 2023 and the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee will be consulted on the draft version in Autumn 2022.

It sets out 12 "big ideas" that act as an action plan to encourage inclusive growth in the city, these are focused on supporting people, places and productivity. One of the big ideas is '21st Century Infrastructure' and sets out the vision to coordinate plans and leveraging investment to improve infrastructure including:

- Transport
- Smart cities
- Low carbon energy - electricity, hydrogen and water networks
- Flood protection
- Green infrastructure

The council's Talent and Skills Plan 2017 (attached) sets out how as a city we can collectively improve the supply of skills that our residents need to play a full and more productive part in the labour market, and that our businesses need to thrive, helping to create a more inclusive economy in a compassionate city. In order to generate action around supporting skills development in emerging areas of the economy such as green, as well targeting employment and skills support towards high carbon transition sectors, a refresh of the 2017 plan, now titled the 'Future Talent Plan' is currently in development, that will be owned and updated by stakeholders in the city, supporting people to develop and maintain the skills that make them and our businesses resilient in the face of change. Please find attached the Green Economy Policy Work Update, which provides detail on recent work with Centre for Progressive Policy to look at the areas of risk within the Leeds economy as a result of the transition to Net Zero.

### **(0.3) Report how your jurisdiction assesses the wider environmental, social and economic opportunities and benefits of climate action.**

#### **Response**

#### **Does the jurisdiction assess the wider opportunities/benefits of climate action?**

Yes, wider opportunities/benefits are assessed for all climate actions

#### **Outline how your jurisdiction quantifies the impact of these wider opportunities/benefits**

Wider opportunities/benefits are considered at the action planning stage

Wider opportunities/benefits are considered at post-implementation monitoring and evaluation stage

Wider opportunities/benefits are quantitatively assessed

Wider opportunities/benefits are qualitatively assessed

#### **Describe the wider opportunities/benefits of climate action the jurisdiction has identified**

Zero Carbon is one of the three pillars of the Best City Ambition. To realise this ambition, Team Leeds will focus on:

- Delivering a low-carbon and affordable transport network which encourages people to be physically active and reduces reliance on the private car, helping people get around the city easily and safely.
- Promoting a fair and sustainable food system in which more produce is grown locally, and everyone can enjoy a healthy diet.
- Addressing the challenges of housing quality and affordability, tackling fuel poverty and creating vibrant places where residents have close access to services and amenities.
- Joining with local communities, landowners and partners to protect nature and enhance habitats for wildlife.
- Investing in our public spaces, green and blue infrastructure to enable faster transition to a green economy while improving quality of life for residents.

Leeds City Council Equality Improvement Priority for 2021/22 - To ensure that work to deliver the City's climate ambition of net zero provides opportunities for and is inclusive of all communities, including those characteristics protected by law under the Equality Act 2010.

#### **Outline if and how your jurisdiction ensures the equitable distribution of climate action opportunities/benefits**

Yes, the jurisdiction is engaging with frontline communities most impacted by climate change

Yes, the jurisdiction is designing or implementing climate actions that address the needs of frontline communities most impacted by climate change

#### **Please provide evidence and/or more details of how your jurisdiction is ensuring inclusive/equitable climate action**

Please see attached internal submission - Equality Improvement Priority Storyboard 2021-22

Equality Improvement Priority Storyboard 202122.docx

**(0.4) Report on your engagement with higher and/or lower levels of governments regarding your jurisdiction's climate action.**

**Climate component**

Climate action plan

**Level of governments engaged in the development, implementation and/or monitoring of component**

National-level government

**Outline the purpose of this engagement**

To facilitate information sharing across different levels of government

**Comment**

We regularly engage with Government departments regarding development of local climate policy and write correspondence on behalf of senior councillors detailing lobbying asks. We have formally responded to a range of national consultations including waste and resource efficiency, air quality management policy and electric vehicle charge points. We have also worked with government, advising and supporting national schemes following successful projects in Leeds, such as advising on spatial work around the government's Electric Vehicle strategy.

As part of our membership of the national Inclusive Growth Network, earlier this year we engaged the Centre for Progressive Policy to undertake some initial work looking at the areas of risk within the Leeds economy as a result of the transition to Net Zero. This has highlighted a number of key takeaways, but we would like to know more – in particular about how to capitalise on existing opportunities and on opportunities that could arise in the future. Therefore, Leeds City Council will be commissioning a partner to help us explore what the transition to Net Zero means for the Leeds economy, including what it means for specific sectors; how we understand the risks and opportunities associated with this; and what can be done practically to support businesses and employers make the transition and become climate resilient.

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**Climate component**

Climate action plan

**Level of governments engaged in the development, implementation and/or monitoring of component**

State/Regional-level government

**Outline the purpose of this engagement**

To facilitate capacity building across different levels of government

**Comment**

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) brings together the local authorities of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield, working in partnership with the Local Enterprise Partnership and the City of York. Leeds City Council support the delivery of WYCA's climate action plan, including working with the Mayor of West Yorkshire to improve bus services and deliver mass transit that reflects our Connecting Leeds transport strategy and wider best city ambitions. We also work with WYCA around EV and our Solar Farm feasibility study to deliver key programmes regionally.

In Leeds, we represent the city on seven key work programmes at West Yorkshire level:

- Communications, engagement and marketing campaigns
- Green skills and training
- Better neighbourhoods
- Better Home Yorkshire Hub
- Business sustainability support / energy efficiency and renewables / circular economy, waste and material efficiency
- Solar PV and storage
- Flood risk and drainage

We have representation on the WYCA Green Jobs Taskforce, which brings together experts from across West Yorkshire to review the landscape for green jobs and determine how to deliver the skills needed to address the climate emergency, including the development of the Mayoral Green Jobs Gateway, which is expected to create 1,000 well paid, skilled green jobs for young people and ensure the region has the talent needed to reach its target of becoming a net-zero.

WYCA have also recently commissioned work aiming to gain a clear picture of West Yorkshire's Green economy, including its jobs, skills requirements and relevant supply chains. WYCA would like clear recommendations for Green economy activity to support its plan to deliver on its Net Zero and broad sustainability ambitions and have underlined the importance of aligning this activity with a Just Transition. The work with the Centre for Progressive Policy outlined above will therefore complement the regional work by specifically focusing upon the Leeds economy, as well as providing further insight into the practical actions that can be taken to support Leeds businesses and employers in particular, with less specific focus on the Skills agenda alone.

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**Climate component**

Other, please specify (Heat Network Zoning Pilot )

**Level of governments engaged in the development, implementation and/or monitoring of component**

National-level government

**Outline the purpose of this engagement**

To collect data and/or feedback from other levels of government to inform its development

**Comment**

The Leeds PIPES District Heating Network (DHN) delivers low carbon, sustainable energy to residents and businesses of Leeds including key Leeds City Council buildings. District heating is likely to continue to grow rapidly, with government announcing their intention to bring in a district heating zoning policy by 2025, which will make it mandatory for certain buildings to connect to district heating. The council is one of a handful of authorities participating in a pilot of the methodology that will be used to identify the zones. The spikes in wholesale gas prices have also made district heating more commercially competitive which is driving interest and many organisations are also attracted by the very low carbon content of the heat that we provide. These factors, should help secure additional customers and growth over the coming decade.

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**(0.5) Report your jurisdiction's most significant examples of collaboration with government, business, and/or civil society on climate-related issues.**

**Primary entity collaborated with**

Civil society	Academia
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**Mechanisms used to collaborate**

Collaborative initiative  
Knowledge or data sharing

**Areas collaboration focused on**

Emissions reduction  
Adaptation  
Resilience  
Energy  
Transport (Mobility)  
Building and Infrastructure  
Industry

**Description of collaboration**

The Leeds Climate Commission was established in 2017 and was the very first climate commission, providing a blueprint for the growing number of other climate commissions that have developed since. It is an independent voice in the city, providing authoritative advice on steps towards a low carbon, climate resilient future so as to inform policies and shape the actions of local organisations and stakeholders. It monitors progress towards meeting the city’s carbon reduction targets, celebrates success stories and recommends actions to keep the city on track. Leeds City Council is a key partner and our Executive Member for Infrastructure and Climate is the Vice Chair of the Commission.

In 2019, Leeds City Council and the Leeds Climate Commission to undertake a large citywide engagement piece called the 'Big Leeds Climate Conversation'. This involved consulting around 8,000 citizens on a range of proposals related to carbon mitigation, both online and at nearly 80 public meetings or events. As part of the work, a representative Citizens' Jury was convened and jurors were asked to consider the question: "What should Leeds do about the emergency of climate change?" They produced a list of 12 recommendations, covering transport, housing, communications, finance, green spaces, aviation, a proposal for a Leeds Green New Deal, plastics, recycling and political co-operation. A response to each of the recommendations was provided via the Climate Emergency Advisory Committee shortly after.

**Other entities collaborated with**

Residents  
NGO and associations  
Education sector  
Health care  
Industrials  
Real Estate

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**Primary entity collaborated with**

Civil society	Academia
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**Mechanisms used to collaborate**

Collaborative initiative  
Knowledge or data sharing  
Capacity development  
Development of local/regional adaptation plans, National Adaptation Plans and/or National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs)

**Areas collaboration focused on**

Emissions reduction  
Adaptation  
Resilience  
Energy  
Transport (Mobility)  
Waste  
Building and Infrastructure  
Industry  
Agriculture  
Forestry  
Landscape and jurisdictional approaches  
Ecosystem restoration  
Food  
Water  
Public health

**Description of collaboration**

Leeds City Council is part of the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission (the first regional group of its kind), which brings together key public, private and third sector partners to plan and accelerate climate mitigation and adaptation. The partnership evolved from the work of the Leeds Climate Commission, of which the council is a lead partner. The commission also hosts a regional policy forum and several different working groups - all of which Leeds representatives attend. The Chief Officer for Sustainable Energy and Air Quality is a commissioner, representing West Yorkshire. The Commission published it's Climate Action Plan for the region in November 2021, which can be found here - <https://yorksandhumberclimate.org.uk/climate-action-plan>

The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission have also set up a task and finish group, led by Environment Agency and Leeds City Council representatives, to develop a programme for local authorities to support adaptation and resilience planning. This will ensure joined up thinking across the region and allow the council to play a leading role in piloting and developing the knowledge, skills and tools all local authorities will need to develop their own adaptation plans.

**Other entities collaborated with**

Neighboring local government  
Academia  
Residents  
NGO and associations  
Education sector  
Energy  
Financials

Health care  
Industrials  
Real Estate  
Utilities

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#### Primary entity collaborated with

Government	Local government within country
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#### Mechanisms used to collaborate

Collaborative initiative  
Knowledge or data sharing

#### Areas collaboration focused on

Emissions reduction  
Adaptation  
Resilience  
Energy  
Transport (Mobility)  
Waste  
Building and Infrastructure  
Industry  
Agriculture  
Forestry  
Food  
Water

#### Description of collaboration

We are a member of the UK100 (network for UK local leaders focused solely on climate) and Core Cities UK (association of 11 largest UK cities) - we regularly share advice and insight with other local authorities based on our experience of delivering climate action. Sit on policy forum for UK100 - policy working group.

#### Other entities collaborated with

Local government within country

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## Assessment

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### 1. Climate Risk and Vulnerability

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#### (1.1) Has a climate risk and vulnerability assessment been undertaken for your jurisdiction? If not, please indicate why.

Yes, a climate risk and vulnerability assessment has been undertaken

#### (1.1a) Provide details on your climate risk and vulnerability assessment.

##### Assessment attachment and/or direct link<sup>^</sup>

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment  
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Oct 2007.pdf

##### Confirm attachment/link provided to assessment

The assessment has been attached

##### Boundary of assessment relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

##### Year of publication or approval<sup>^</sup>

2007

##### Factors considered in assessment

Assessment considers vulnerable populations  
Assessment considers water security  
Assessment considers nature  
Assessment considers transition risks  
Assessment includes a high-emissions scenario  
Identified hazards have been incorporated into the jurisdictions overall risk management framework  
A process has been established for prioritizing identified hazards

##### Primary author(s) of assessment<sup>^</sup>

Dedicated team within jurisdiction

##### Please explain

In May 2021 Leeds City Council appointed AECOM to update the Leeds Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The updated SFRA will be a Level 1 document only but will include additional modelling work around the Leeds FAS and limited breach analysis. This additional modelling and breach analysis work is intended for internal use only, is provided in response to the declaration of the climate change emergency, and is to revise and inform both flood risk and general policy updates. However, an important distinction is that the update is not to inform the current Local Plan and the list of allocated sites. This will take place at the next Local Plan review when a Level 2 SFRA will have to be commissioned. This is likely to be within the next 18-24 months.

The SFRA update is now at a very advanced stage with a meeting on 28 July for the final document review. After this there will be consultation with professional partners, Local Plan update, internal governance and sign-off, and Member consultation including Development Plan Panel and Scrutiny Board.

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**Assessment attachment and/or direct link<sup>^</sup>**

Corporate Risk Assurance - Climate Change 2022  
Climate Change Corporate Risk Assurance 2022.docx

**Confirm attachment/link provided to assessment**

The assessment has been attached

**Boundary of assessment relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>**

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Year of publication or approval<sup>^</sup>**

2022

**Factors considered in assessment**

Assessment considers vulnerable populations  
Assessment considers water security  
Assessment considers nature  
Assessment considers transition risks  
Assessment includes a high-emissions scenario  
Identified hazards have been incorporated into the jurisdictions overall risk management framework  
A process has been established for prioritizing identified hazards  
A process has been established to update the assessment at least every five years

**Primary author(s) of assessment<sup>^</sup>**

Relevant department within jurisdiction

**Please explain**

We have risk management arrangements in place which feed into a corporate risk register. The register houses the most significant, cross-cutting risks that could impact on the outcomes we aim to deliver as set out in the Best Council Plan. These risks can be internal or external facing.

Internal risks relate to the organisation itself and cover areas such as finance, staff and business continuity.

External risks are those that could affect the city – its people, communities, businesses and infrastructure – where we have a role, often in partnership, to mitigate them.

We update the corporate risk register each quarter and then publish the Corporate Risk Map – a diagram that shows the various risks and their ratings based on a combined assessment of their probability (how likely the risk is to occur) and potential impact.

We also produce a more detailed annual corporate risk report that provides assurance on how we and our partners are managing the key corporate risks (to be updated by July 27th) - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/performance-and-spending/performance/annual-corporate-risk-report>

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**Assessment attachment and/or direct link<sup>^</sup>**

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan  
Climate Adaptation Resilience Plan Report Appendix A 080722.pdf  
Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan.pdf  
Climate Adaptation Resilience Plan Report Appendix C 080722.pdf  
Climate Adaptation Resilience Plan Report Appendix B 080722.pdf

**Confirm attachment/link provided to assessment**

The assessment has been attached

**Boundary of assessment relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>**

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Year of publication or approval<sup>^</sup>**

2022

**Factors considered in assessment**

Assessment considers vulnerable populations  
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Identified hazards have been incorporated into the jurisdictions overall risk management framework  
A process has been established for prioritizing identified hazards  
A process has been established to update the assessment at least every five years

**Primary author(s) of assessment<sup>^</sup>**

Dedicated team within jurisdiction  
Relevant department within jurisdiction

**Please explain**

This report sets out a range of activity that has taken place to date across the council, and with our partners, to better understand and begin to deliver on the city's ambition to strengthen our resilience to the impacts of climate change locally, in line with the government's National Adaptation Programme (NAP) and the latest UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA). This report also details future work to undertake a deeper council-wide climate risk assessment to further prevent and protect against climate impacts.

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**Assessment attachment and/or direct link<sup>^</sup>**

<https://www.paolasakai.uk/projects/tool-to-assess-climate-opportunities>

**Confirm attachment/link provided to assessment**

The assessment can be accessed (unrestricted) on the link provided

**Boundary of assessment relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>**

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Year of publication or approval<sup>A</sup>**

2021

**Factors considered in assessment**

Assessment considers vulnerable populations  
Assessment considers water security  
Assessment considers nature  
Assessment considers transition risks  
Assessment includes a high-emissions scenario

**Primary author(s) of assessment<sup>A</sup>**

Other, please specify (Dr Paola Sakai, University of Leeds)

**Please explain**

A climate vulnerability index formulated for the city by a university colleague

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**(1.2) Provide details on the most significant climate hazards faced by your jurisdiction.**

**Climate-related hazards<sup>A</sup>**

River flooding

**Vulnerable population groups most exposed**

Women and girls  
Children and youth  
Elderly  
Indigenous population  
Marginalized/minority communities  
Vulnerable health groups  
Low-income households

**Sectors most exposed<sup>A</sup>**

Agriculture  
Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  
Conservation  
Construction  
Accommodation and food service activities  
Real estate activities  
Education  
Human health and social work activities

**Describe the impacts on vulnerable populations and sectors<sup>A</sup>**

Six years ago, Storm Eva devastated homes and businesses in Leeds costing the city an estimated £36.8 million. The risk will continue to increase as the climate changes —however we are taking significant action to alleviate flood risk.

**Proportion of the population exposed to the hazard**

Please select

**Did this hazard significantly impact your jurisdiction before this reporting year?**

Yes

**Current probability of hazard<sup>A</sup>**

Medium

**Current magnitude of impact of hazard<sup>A</sup>**

High

**Expected future change in hazard intensity<sup>A</sup>**

Increasing

**Expected future change in hazard frequency<sup>A</sup>**

Increasing

**Timeframe of expected future changes<sup>A</sup>**

Medium-term (2026-2050)

---

**Climate-related hazards<sup>A</sup>**

Urban flooding

**Vulnerable population groups most exposed**

Women and girls  
Children and youth  
Elderly  
Indigenous population  
Marginalized/minority communities  
Low-income households

**Sectors most exposed<sup>A</sup>**

Agriculture  
Forestry  
Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities  
Waste management  
Construction  
Accommodation and food service activities  
Financial and insurance activities  
Real estate activities

Education

**Describe the impacts on vulnerable populations and sectors^**

The frequency of flooding events in Leeds has increased in recent years. Winter months have seen excessive rainfall over an extended period of time causing the rivers to exceed their capacity. Summer months have seen an increase in prolonged dry periods where the ground becomes baked and impenetrable followed by short intense downpours which run off quickly leading to surface water flooding. Local rainfall data shows that since July 2019 Leeds has generally been experiencing higher rainfall than the East and North East England average. There has been a rise in purpose built accommodation for people who are especially vulnerable, such as elderly and disabled. These people may be less able to cope with the impacts of flooding and the effects can be devastating for them.

**Proportion of the population exposed to the hazard**

<10%

**Did this hazard significantly impact your jurisdiction before this reporting year?**

Yes

**Current probability of hazard^**

Medium

**Current magnitude of impact of hazard^**

High

**Expected future change in hazard intensity^**

Increasing

**Expected future change in hazard frequency^**

Increasing

**Timeframe of expected future changes^**

Medium-term (2026-2050)

**Climate-related hazards^**

Extreme heat

**Vulnerable population groups most exposed**

Children and youth  
Elderly  
Vulnerable health groups  
Low-income households  
Outdoor workers

**Sectors most exposed^**

Agriculture  
Forestry  
Fishing  
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
Water supply  
Waste management  
Administrative and support service activities  
Conservation  
Construction  
Transportation and storage  
Accommodation and food service activities  
Education

**Describe the impacts on vulnerable populations and sectors^**

Leeds is increasing experiencing multiday periods of excessively hot weather (often combined with high humidity) which can be harmful to health resulting in increased hospital admissions for heat- related illness, as well as cardiovascular and respiratory disorders. Some populations are more vulnerable and at higher risk such as low-income urban residents, those with underlying health conditions, people living alone, young children and older people. This is resulting in more proactive action to issue alerts and advice to the public on how to stay safe in hot weather.

**Proportion of the population exposed to the hazard**

Data is not available

**Did this hazard significantly impact your jurisdiction before this reporting year?**

Yes

**Current probability of hazard^**

Medium

**Current magnitude of impact of hazard^**

Medium

**Expected future change in hazard intensity^**

Increasing

**Expected future change in hazard frequency^**

Increasing

**Timeframe of expected future changes^**

Medium-term (2026-2050)

**Climate-related hazards^**

Drought

**Vulnerable population groups most exposed**

Marginalized/minority communities  
Outdoor workers

**Sectors most exposed^**

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Fishing
- Manufacturing
- Water supply
- Sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
- Waste management
- Construction
- Accommodation and food service activities
- Human health and social work activities

**Describe the impacts on vulnerable populations and sectors^**

Drought is a naturally occurring phenomenon when rainfall levels are lower than normal, resulting in low river, reservoir and groundwater levels. This can lead to water supply problems for domestic and commercial use and potentially harm the environment. Droughts have occurred in the past and are likely to be experienced in the future. In Yorkshire, we experienced drought conditions in 1929, 1959, 1976, 1995 and 2018. We are still preparing for worse events than those in the historic record, as climate change may lead to a reduction in flows. Agriculture can be particularly vulnerable as their farming practices require increased water use during times of drought when their own private supplies may also be depleted. Agriculture can be particularly vulnerable as their farming practices require increased water use during times of drought when their own private supplies may also be depleted.

**Proportion of the population exposed to the hazard**

Data is not available

**Did this hazard significantly impact your jurisdiction before this reporting year?**

Yes

**Current probability of hazard^**

Low

**Current magnitude of impact of hazard^**

Low

**Expected future change in hazard intensity^**

Increasing

**Expected future change in hazard frequency^**

Increasing

**Timeframe of expected future changes^**

Medium-term (2026-2050)

**(1.3) Identify and describe the most significant factors impacting on your jurisdiction's ability to adapt to climate change and indicate how those factors either support or challenge this ability.**

Factors that affect ability to adapt^	Degree to which this factor challenges/supports the adaptive capacity of your jurisdiction^		Describe how the factor supports or challenges the adaptive capacity of your jurisdiction^
Budgetary capacity	Challenges	Significantly challenges	There are significant costs associated with investing in adaptations to mitigate the risk of flooding and extreme heat that cannot be covered by council budgets without additional support.
Housing	Challenges	Significantly challenges	Many of the changes required to adapt to rising temperatures involve installation of efficiency or other technological measures in existing housing, especially with regards to the private rental sector. National support and policy is needed.
Government capacity	Challenges	Significantly challenges	Challenge associated with elements of adaptation that fall outside of our jurisdiction
Community engagement	Challenges	Moderately challenges	Buy-in from communities, helping communities to make sustainable changes to their behaviour and lifestyles
Inequality	Challenges	Moderately challenges	Climate vulnerability is higher in most deprived areas of the city, due to lack of resources to protect homes and health inequalities

**2. Emissions Inventory**

**Emissions Inventory Methodology**

**(2.1) Does your jurisdiction have a community-wide emissions inventory to report?**

Yes

**(2.1a) Provide an attachment (in spreadsheet format) or a direct link to your community-wide emissions inventory. In addition, select the inventory year and report the jurisdiction's population for that year.**

	Community-wide inventory attachment (spreadsheet) and/or link (with unrestricted access)^	Status of community-wide inventory attachment and/or direct link	Inventory year^	Population in inventory year^	Comment
Response	See attached "SCATTER_leeds_Inventory_2019.xlsx" file SCATTER_leeds_Inventory_2019.xlsx	The emissions inventory has been attached	2019	793139	Population estimates (2019) taken from <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/</a>

**(2.1b) Provide the following information regarding your latest community-wide GHG emissions inventory.**

**Boundary of inventory relative to jurisdiction boundary^**

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Primary methodology/framework to compile inventory**

Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories (GPC) reported in the format of GCoM Common Reporting Framework (CRF)

**Tool used to compile inventory**

SCATTER

**Gases included in inventory^**

CO2

CH4

N2O

**Source of Global Warming Potential values**

IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (2007)

**Has the inventory been audited/verified?**

<Not Applicable>

**Overall level of data quality**

<Not Applicable>

**Has the methodology and/or boundary used for this inventory changed when compared to the previously reported inventory?**

<Not Applicable>

**Additional documentation and comments**

<Not Applicable>

**Emissions Inventory Data**

**(2.1d) Provide a breakdown of your community-wide emissions in the format of the Common Reporting Framework.**

	Direct emissions (metric tonnes CO2e)^	If you have no direct emissions to report, please select a notation key to explain why^	Indirect emissions from the use of grid-supplied electricity, heat, steam and/or cooling (metric tonnes CO2e)^	If you have no indirect emissions to report, please select a notation key to explain why^	Emissions occurring outside the jurisdiction boundary as a result of in-jurisdiction activities (metric tonnes CO2e)	If you have no emissions to report that are occurring outside the jurisdiction boundary as a result of in-jurisdiction activities, please select a notation key to explain why	Please explain any excluded sources, identify any emissions covered under an ETS and provide any other comments^
Stationary energy > Residential buildings^	826902	Please select	302767	Please select	159107	Please select	
Stationary energy > Commercial buildings & facilities^	113564	Please select	211572	Please select	46937	Please select	
Stationary energy > Institutional buildings & facilities^	92701	Please select	45938	Please select	19029	Please select	
Stationary energy > Industrial buildings & facilities^	294736	Please select	257734	Please select	88828	Please select	
Stationary energy > Agriculture^	6368	Please select	1	Please select	1516	Please select	
Stationary energy > Fugitive emissions^	112034	Please select	0	NE	0	NE	
Total Stationary Energy	1446304	Please select	818012	Please select	315417	Please select	
Transportation > On-road^	1515226	Please select	0	IE	589343	Please select	Electricity
Transportation > Rail^	13943	Please select	0	IE	3318	Please select	Electricity

	Direct emissions (metric tonnes CO2e)^	If you have no direct emissions to report, please select a notation key to explain why^	Indirect emissions from the use of grid-supplied electricity, heat, steam and/or cooling (metric tonnes CO2e)^	If you have no indirect emissions to report, please select a notation key to explain why^	Emissions occurring outside the jurisdiction boundary as a result of in-jurisdiction activities (metric tonnes CO2e)	If you have no emissions to report that are occurring outside the jurisdiction boundary as a result of in-jurisdiction activities, please select a notation key to explain why	Please explain any excluded sources, identify any emissions covered under an ETS and provide any other comments^
Transportation > Waterborne navigation^	3422	Please select	0	IE	0	IE	All UK waterborne
Transportation > Aviation^	42346	Please select	0	IE	437894	Please select	Electricity
Transportation > Off-road^	15126	Please select	0	IE	0	NE	Electricity
Total Transport	1590063	Please select	0	Please select	1030556	Please select	
Waste > Solid waste disposal^	125695	Please select	0	IE	0	IE	
Waste > Biological treatment^	0	NO	0	NO	0	IE	
Waste > Incineration and open burning^	3869	Please select	0	IE	0	IE	
Waste > Wastewater^	14394	Please select	0	NO	0	NO	
Total Waste	143958	Please select	0	Please select	0	Please select	
IPPU > Industrial process	250733	Please select	0	Please select	0	NE	
IPPU > Product use	0	NE	0	NE	0	NE	
Total IPPU	250733	Please select	0	NE	0	NE	
AFOLU > Livestock	31203	Please select	0	NE	0	NE	
AFOLU > Land use	-19669	Please select	0	Please select	0	NE	
AFOLU > Other AFOLU	0	NE	0	Please select	0	NE	
Total AFOLU	11535	C	0	C	0	NE	
Generation of grid-supplied energy > Electricity-only generation^	0	NO	0	NO	0	NO	
Generation of grid-supplied energy > CHP generation^	596	Please select	0	NE	95	Please select	
Generation of grid-supplied energy > Heat/cold generation^	0	NO	0	NO	0	NO	
Generation of grid-supplied energy > Local renewable generation	96	Please select	0	NO	0	NO	
Total generation of grid-supplied energy	693	Please select	0	Please select	95	Please select	
Total Emissions (excluding generation of grid-supplied energy)	3443286	Please select	818012	Please select	1346068	Please select	SCATTER inventory spreadsheet has a breakdown of kWh for Space heating & hot water... so I've combined that with the Electric Grid Mix of fuels from 2019 to fill in the % of heating/cooling question.

### 3. Sector Assessment Data

#### Energy Data

(3.1) Report the total annual electricity and heating and cooling consumption data (in MWh) and the percentage breakdown of this consumption by energy type for your jurisdiction.

## Electricity consumption

### Total annual jurisdiction-wide consumption in MWh

3033637

### Data source used to provide percentage breakdown of consumption by energy type

National-level data

### Percentage of total consumption from coal

1.7

### Percentage of total consumption from gas

37.7

### Percentage of total consumption from oil

0

### Percentage of total consumption from nuclear

15.3

### Percentage of total consumption from hydropower

1.1

### Percentage of total consumption from bioenergy (biomass and biofuels)

6.7

### Percentage of total consumption from wind

21.9

### Percentage of total consumption from geothermal

0

### Percentage of total consumption from solar (PV and thermal)

3.9

### Percentage of total consumption from waste to energy (excluding biomass component)

### Percentage of total consumption from other renewable sources

### Percentage of total consumption from other non-renewable sources

11.5

### Year data applies to

2021

### Comment

2021 Generation Mix from National Grid, 'Other' sources consist of Imports (10.3%), Storage (0.6%) and Other (unspecified) (0.6%):

<https://data.nationalgrideso.com/carbon-intensity1/historic-generation-mix#>

2020 Total Consumption from BEIS: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/regional-and-local-authority-electricity-consumption-statistics>

## Heating and cooling consumption

### Total annual jurisdiction-wide consumption in MWh

122412141

### Data source used to provide percentage breakdown of consumption by energy type

Other data source, please specify (SCATTER inventory Space & Hot Water data, combined with 2019 Electric Generation mix from <https://data.nationalgrideso.com/carbon-intensity/1/historic-generation-mix#>)

### Percentage of total consumption from coal

0.6

### Percentage of total consumption from gas

88.9

### Percentage of total consumption from oil

0.5

### Percentage of total consumption from nuclear

<Not Applicable>

### Percentage of total consumption from hydropower

<Not Applicable>

### Percentage of total consumption from bioenergy (biomass and biofuels)

5.6

### Percentage of total consumption from wind

<Not Applicable>

### Percentage of total consumption from geothermal

### Percentage of total consumption from solar (PV and thermal)

0.3

### Percentage of total consumption from waste to energy (excluding biomass component)

### Percentage of total consumption from other renewable sources

1.8

### Percentage of total consumption from other non-renewable sources

2.3

### Year data applies to

2019

### Comment

SCATTER inventory includes kWh for Space heating, cooling & Hot water for Domestic, Commercial & Institutions. This can be combined with the Electric Grid Mix to calculate the % values.

As Nuclear (1.5%), Hydropower (0.1%) & Wind (1.7% are greyed out these have been included in the 'Other' sections, along with the total of Electric Imports & Storage (0.8%).

Note that the SCATTER total MWh is much higher than the area's Heat demand taken from the UK CHP Heat map (4,617,966 MWh):

<https://chptools.decc.gov.uk/developmentmap>

### (3.2) For each type of renewable energy within the jurisdiction boundary, report the installed capacity (MW) and annual generation (MWh).

	Installed capacity (MW)	Annual generation (MWh)	Year data applies to	Comment
Solar PV	38.11	38321.198	2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a>
Solar thermal			Please select	
Hydropower	0.56	2064.772	2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a>
Wind	12.37	35657.025	2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a>
Bioenergy (Biomass and Biofuels)	2.34	5222.4	2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a>
Geothermal			Please select	
Other	30.6	60910.509	2020	<a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics</a> Anaerobic Digestion (1.603 MW - 8,846.636 MWh) Landfill Gas (13.829 MW - 52,063.873 MWh) Municipal Solid Waste ( 15.165 MW - unknown MWh)

### (3.3) Report the following energy access related information for your jurisdiction.

Indicator and metric used	Indicator value	Year data applies to	Comment
Average unit price of electricity (Currency unit as specified in 0.1) Residential unit price per kWh	0.1830572554	2021	£/kWh average price for Yorkshire. <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/annual-domestic-energy-price-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/annual-domestic-energy-price-statistics</a> In addition there is an average annual standing charge of £92.28
Access to electricity Percentage of households with access to electricity	100	2022	
Access to clean cooking fuels and technologies Percentage of households within the jurisdiction with access to clean cooking fuels and technologies (%)	100	Please select	

**(3.4) How many households within the jurisdiction boundary face energy poverty? Select the threshold used for energy poverty in your jurisdiction.**

	Indicator used to quantify energy poverty	Percentage of households or total population within the jurisdiction boundary that face energy poverty	Threshold used for energy poverty	Comment
Response	Percentage of households within the jurisdiction boundary that face energy poverty	17.6	Other, please specify (LILEE (Low Income Low Energy Efficiency) See: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics</a> )	Government publish Fuel Poverty at LSOA (lower layer super output area) geographies:- <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics">https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fuel-poverty-sub-regional-statistics</a>  Data is published two years in arrears. Under the LILEE (Low Income Low Energy Efficiency) methodology a household is considered to be fuel poor if it has a fuel poverty energy efficiency rating (FPEER) of band D or below AND if they were to spend their modelled energy costs, they would be left with a residual income below the official poverty line.

## Transport Data

**(3.5) Report your jurisdiction's passenger and/or freight mode share data.**

**Please complete**

**Passenger mode share data to report**

Jurisdiction does not have passenger mode share data

**Passenger mode share: Walking**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Cycling**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Micromobility (including e-scooters)**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Buses (including Bus Rapid Transit)**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Rail/Metro/Tram**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Ferries/ River boats**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Taxis or shared vehicles (e.g. hire vehicles)**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Private motorized transport**

<Not Applicable>

**Passenger mode share: Other**

<Not Applicable>

**Total passenger mode share reported**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share data to report**

Jurisdiction does not have mode share data for freight transport

**Freight mode share: Motorcycle / Two wheeler**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Light Goods Vehicles (LGV)**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Medium Goods vehicles (MGV)**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Heavy Goods vehicles (HGV)**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Rail**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Inland water transport**

<Not Applicable>

**Freight mode share: Other**

<Not Applicable>

**Total freight mode share reported**

<Not Applicable>

**Comment**

Yorkshire & Humber region data from Department for Transport statistics (2020) - National Travel Survey: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-travel-survey-statistics>

## Waste Data

**(3.7) Report the following waste-related data for your jurisdiction.**

	Data availability	Response (in unit specified)	Comment
Amount of solid waste generated (tonnes/year)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	340278	The waste data provided in this section is for financial year 21/22. It includes all Household Waste and any trade waste within the Council's control. Trade waste includes fly tipping and waste brought to the HWRCs by traders which is weighed over the weighbridge. Essentially it is Municipal Solid Waste within the Council's control.
Percentage of the solid waste generated that is diverted away from landfill or incineration (%)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	37.4	
Percentage of the diverted solid waste generated that is recycled (%)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	36	(this includes composting of garden waste). This difference to the % above is reuse (0.8%) and because certain waste is essentially 'recycled' but does not legally classify as government defined recycling. If the question is purely about 'recycling' rather than officially defined recycling, then the answer should be 36.6%.
Percentage of the diverted solid waste generated that is utilized for waste to energy (%)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	61.7	
Percentage of the diverted solid waste generated that is reused (%)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	0.8	Via our reuse shops and various streams of waste at Household Waste Sites
Percentage of waste collected where separation at source is taking place (%)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	37.5	This percentage shows all waste that is not classed as residual waste, however, 100% of our residual waste goes for further sorting, albeit not at source, prior to energy from waste or landfill
Total annual amount of food waste produced in the jurisdiction (tonnes/year)	Reporting jurisdiction-level data	67196	This is based on a recent compositional analysis showing the amount of food in the kerbside bin service, both residual and recycling bins, as a percentage of overall kerbside tonnages for these bins. We do not hold any reliable data showing what food might be disposed of as residual waste at Household Waste Sites
Volume of wastewater produced within the jurisdiction boundary (megalitres/year)	This data is not available to report	<Not Applicable>	
Percentage of wastewater safely treated to at least secondary level (%)	This data is not available to report	<Not Applicable>	

Public Health Data

**(3.8) Report on how climate change impacts health outcomes and health services in your jurisdiction.**

**Health area affected by climate change**

Health systems

**Identify the climate hazard(s) that most significantly impact the selected health area**

Extreme heat

Drought

Urban flooding

River flooding

Infectious disease

**Identify the health issues driven by the selected climate hazard(s)**

Heat-related illnesses

Vector-borne infections and illnesses

Water-borne infections and illnesses

Exacerbation of non-communicable disease symptoms - respiratory disease

Mental health impacts

Direct physical injuries and deaths due to extreme weather events

Food and nutrition security

Disruption to water, sanitation and wastewater services

Disruption to health service provision

Overwhelming of health service provision due to increased demand

Lack of climate-informed surveillance, preparedness, early warning and response

Damage/destruction to health infrastructure and technology

Disruption of health-related services

**Timeframe of impact**

Long-term (after 2050)

**Identify which vulnerable populations are affected by the selected health issue(s)**

Women and girls

Children and youth

Elderly

Marginalized / minority communities

Vulnerable health groups

Low-income households

Outdoor workers

**What factors affect your jurisdiction's ability to address the selected health issues**

Lack of financial capacity

**Comment**

Leeds is increasing experiencing multiday periods of excessively hot weather (often combined with high humidity) which can be harmful to health resulting in increased hospital admissions for heat-related illness, as well as cardiovascular and respiratory disorders. Some populations are more vulnerable and at higher risk such as low-income urban residents, those with underlying health conditions, people living alone, young children and older people. This is resulting in more proactive action to issue alerts and advice to the public on how to stay safe in hot weather.

There is an appreciation that the infectious diseases challenges of today will be amplified by the extensive movement of people caused by climate change, making pandemics more likely and which will require an increased state of preparedness.

The Leeds health protection system have robust arrangements in place to prevent and manage all infectious disease outbreaks of concern including those that are new and emerging. Health risks linked to climate change are identified on the council's risk register and embedded throughout multiple existing strategies and governance arrangements, rather than as a standalone document or committee.

Leeds City Council is investing in flood alleviation measures to mitigate the long-term public health risk from flooding as part of our Flood Risk Management strategy. Short-term extreme weather events are monitored and mitigated proactively by the council's resilience and emergency management teams.

The council has recently consulted on its Local Plan to strengthen planning policies to help manage the risk of climate change in the long-term. The proposed local plan update includes policies to reduce flood risk, and encourage green and sustainable infrastructure among other themes.

The council's air quality strategy has protecting the health of citizens in Leeds from pollution at its heart, with a clear action plan demonstrating how we aim to improve air quality to meet WHO targets for ambient air quality.

The council has also made commitments to procure more food served and sold by the local authority from Yorkshire and its surrounding regions. As well as reducing the carbon emissions from food transportation, this commitment will also support regional food producers—helping to improve the resilience of our food system from climate-related shocks, e.g. shortages and increased prices relating to global supply chain disruption.

**(3.9) Provide information on the current impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on climate action in the jurisdiction.**

**Response**

**Impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of climate action policies in your jurisdiction**

No change on emphasis on climate action

**Impact of COVID-19 economic response on jurisdiction's budget for financing climate action in your jurisdiction**

Reduced finance available for climate action

**Climate-related impact of COVID-19 recovery interventions**

Recovery interventions that focus on employment opportunities in green sectors

**Comment**

Despite the significant impacts of covid-19 on the council's financial position, the council has continued to prioritise the climate emergency. The council has dedicated resource to maximise the money secured through different recovery schemes made available by national government.

We have secured approximately £25 million of funding through the government's green recovery schemes for completing energy efficiency works in both the domestic sector and public sector estate as well through the Heat Network Investment Programme. This will complement the £24 million that had already been secured from European funding and will improve over 5,000 domestic properties as well as all of our city centre estate and will support the extension of our district heating network.

The council is also conducting a broader review of the city's economic and skills strategies in light of the need for post-pandemic recovery and the changed economic landscape. Ensuring a 'just transition' will be a key focus of this work.

**(3.10) Report the following air pollution data for the jurisdiction.**

Air pollution metric	Value	Weblink to air pollution data from monitoring site(s)	Comment
Particulate Matter PM2.5 concentration (annual average) level (ug/m3)	12	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report</a>	<a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143</a>
NO2 concentration (annual average) level (ug/m3)	35.2	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report</a>	<a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143</a>
Number of days exceeding air quality guidelines/standards (times/year)	0	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report</a>	<a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143</a>
Other air pollution metric, please specify (Particulate Matter PM10 concentration (annual average) level (ug/m3))	16	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/clean-air/air-quality-annual-report</a>	<a href="https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143">https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/aqma/local-authorities?la_id=143</a>

**(3.11) Provide details of the household access to water, sanitation services and water consumption in your jurisdiction.**

**Response**

**Data availability**

Data is available for the percentage of households with access to safely managed drinking water services

**Percentage of households with access to safely managed drinking water services**

100

**Percentage of households with access to safely managed sanitation services**

<Not Applicable>

**Household water consumption (litres/capita/day)**

<Not Applicable>

**Comment**

**Food data**

**(3.12) What percentage of your population is food insecure and/or lives in a food desert?**

	Data availability	Percentage of population that is food insecure	Percentage of population that lives in a food desert	Comment
Response	Data available for the percentage of population that is food insecure	9	<Not Applicable>	The Food Foundation estimate that nationally 9% of the population live in food insecurity, for Leeds this would equate to approximately 72,000 people

**(3.13) Report the total quantity of food that is procured (in tonnes) for government-owned and/or operated facilities (including municipal facilities, schools, hospitals, youth centers, shelters, public canteens, prisons etc.). If available, please provide a breakdown per food group.**

	Total quantity of food procured (tonnes)	Breakdown of procured food by food group	Year data applies to	Comment
Response	2138	Please see attached Food data breakdown.png		2020/21

**Water Data**

**(3.14) Report the sources of your jurisdiction's water supply, volumes withdrawn per source, and the projected change.**

Source of jurisdiction's water supply	Are you able to report volumetric data for this source?	Annual volume of water withdrawn per source (in megalitres)	Projected level of change over next 5-10 years	Comment
Jurisdiction does not have this data	<Not Applicable>	<Not Applicable>	<Not Applicable>	Yorkshire Water are responsible for the water supply to the region

#### 4. Adaptation Goals

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**(4.1) Does your jurisdiction have an adaptation goal(s) in place? If no adaptation goal is in place, please indicate the primary reason why.**

Yes, our jurisdiction has an adaptation goal(s)

**(4.1a) Report your jurisdiction's main adaptation goals.**

**Select a reference ID for the goal**

Adaptation goal 1

**Adaptation goal^**

Increased flood alleviation and urban cooling by increasing tree cover in the district from 17% to 33%.

**Climate hazards that goal addresses^**

Extreme heat  
Urban flooding  
River flooding

**Base year of goal (or year goal was established if no base year)^**

2020

**Target year of goal^**

2050

**Description of metric / indicator used to track goal^**

The White Rose Forest Strategy for Leeds aims to significantly increase the existing 17% tree canopy cover across the District to 33% by 2050 in partnership with business, residents, institutions, communities, landowners and farmers. It will build on the substantial work that the Council already carries out around the planting and management of trees as well as encouraging planting and protection of trees through the planning process.

Scientists from the University of Leeds have used the Committee on Climate Change's methodology to calculate the increase in Leeds' tree canopy cover that is required for Leeds to make a contribution to the national tree planting effort in proportion to its greenhouse gas emissions.

When looking at potential planting areas the Systematic Conservation Planning Tool which is currently under development by Leeds University will be used to give an overall planting approach to an area. It combines different data stored on map layers such as land ownership, biodiversity and open space, areas of multiple deprivation and uses an algorithm to provide a map of potential optimal planting sites.

<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AllId=80827>

**Comment**

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**Select a reference ID for the goal**

Adaptation goal 2

**Adaptation goal^**

Reduced flood risk using a mix of traditional engineering and natural flood management.

**Climate hazards that goal addresses^**

River flooding

**Base year of goal (or year goal was established if no base year)^**

2022

**Target year of goal^**

2024

**Description of metric / indicator used to track goal^**

In March 2022, work began on the Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2 (FAS2). Leeds FAS2 combines catchment-wide natural flood management and traditional engineering that stretches for 14km along the River Aire between Leeds Train Station and Apperley Bridge. When it is complete in Autumn 2023, Leeds FAS2 will reduce flood risk to a 0.5% probability of occurring in any given year (a 1-in-200-year level of flood protection) for 1,048 homes and 474 businesses as well as the area protected by FAS1. Like FAS1, FAS2 also includes an allowance for climate change up to 2069. Once completed, FAS2 will protect against flood events similar to the Boxing Day floods in 2015. The climate change allowance is achieved through nature-based measures across the whole catchment that will mature and offer increased protection over time by reduce peak flows in the catchment by 5-10%.

**Comment**

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**Select a reference ID for the goal**

Adaptation goal 3

**Adaptation goal^**

To ensure that all service level business continuity plans consider the current, expected and future impacts of climate change

**Climate hazards that goal addresses^**

Heat stress  
Extreme heat  
Extreme cold  
Snow and ice  
Drought

Water stress  
Increased water demand

**Base year of goal (or year goal was established if no base year)^**

2022

**Target year of goal^**

2023

**Description of metric / indicator used to track goal^**

The council has an overarching business continuity management arrangement as well as individual business continuity plans (BCP) for services identified as being 'critical'. The BCPs outline the steps required to recover service delivery to an agreed level following a disruptive incident. The council's BCPs already include some arrangements for workforce planning and service delivery following a severe weather event, however as part of our adaptation plan, we will work with services across the council to review service level BCPs to ensure that they consider the potential impacts of future climate change, such as the potential for an increased frequency and extent of impacts. This review will take place over the coming year.

**Comment**

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## 5. Mitigation Targets

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**(5.1) Does your jurisdiction have an active greenhouse gas emission reduction target(s) in place? If no active GHG emissions reduction target is in place, please indicate the primary reason why.**

Yes, our jurisdiction has an active greenhouse gas emissions reduction target(s)

**(5.1a) Provide details of your emissions reduction target(s).**

**Select a reference ID for the target**

Target 1

**Target type<sup>^</sup>**

Fixed-level target

**Boundary of target relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>**

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Emissions sources covered by target<sup>^</sup>**

Target covers direct emissions (Scope 1) and indirect emissions from grid-supplied energy (Scope 2) included in jurisdiction inventory

**Are carbon credits currently used or planned to be used to achieve this target?<sup>^</sup>**

Yes, this target will be achieved using carbon credits but the number of credits required has not been quantified

**Percentage of target to be met using carbon credits generated from outside jurisdiction or target boundary<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Year target was established**

2019

**Covered emissions in year target was established (metric tonnes CO2e)**

4261298

**Base year<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Covered emissions in base year (metric tonnes CO2e)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Emissions intensity figure in base year (metric tonnes CO2e per capita or GDP)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Target year<sup>^</sup>**

2030

**Estimated business as usual emissions in target year (metric tonnes CO2e)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Percentage of emissions reduction (including offsets and carbon dioxide removal)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Net emissions in target year (after offsets and carbon dioxide removal) [auto-calculated]**

<Not Applicable>

**Net emissions in target year (after offsets and carbon dioxide removal) (metric tonnes CO2e)<sup>^</sup>**

0

**Projected population in target year**

838027

**Specify if target is considered a science-based target (SBT) and the SBT methodology it aligns to**

Yes, our jurisdiction considers the target to be science-based (select applicable methodology)	Other, please specify (Place-Based Climate Action Network (PCAN))
--	---

**Covered emissions in most recent inventory (metric tonnes CO2e)**

4261298

**Is this target the jurisdiction's most ambitious target?**

Yes

**Alignment with Nationally Determined Contribution**

This target is more ambitious than the Nationally Determined Contribution

**Select the conditional components of your emissions reduction target**

Target is conditional on mitigation in emissions sources that are controlled by a higher level of government

Target is conditional on mitigation in emissions sources that are controlled by private entity outside of direct control of jurisdiction administration

Target is conditional on complete implementation of legislation, regulation and/or policy set by a higher level of government

Target is conditional on additional state or regional/national legislation, regulation and/or policy

Conditional on the provision of national funding for infrastructure (e.g., renewable energy generation, energy efficiency measures etc.)

Target is conditional on the decarbonization of the electricity grid that is outside the direct control of jurisdiction administration

Target is conditional on the implementation of carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology

Target is conditional on a reduction in emissions from air travel that is outside the direct control of jurisdiction administration

**Please explain<sup>^</sup>**

The PCAN team, working with other researchers from Queen's University Belfast, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Leeds, have developed the Leeds Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap - [https://www.leedsclimate.org.uk/sites/default/files/Net-Zero%20Carbon%20Roadmap%20for%20Leeds\\_0.pdf](https://www.leedsclimate.org.uk/sites/default/files/Net-Zero%20Carbon%20Roadmap%20for%20Leeds_0.pdf)

Scope 1 and Scope 2 figures are taken from the SCATTER.

Many of the actions that need to be taken to meet net zero are not within the direct control of the council. Our new climate action plan will set out what we need from central government, businesses and communities to help us reach this goal.

## 6. Sector Targets

(6.1) Provide details of your jurisdiction's energy-related targets active in the reporting year. In addition, you can report other climate-related targets active in the reporting year.

### Target type

Transport target	Modal share targets
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### Target description

The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy sets out our vision for Leeds to be a city where you don't need a car, where everyone has an affordable, low carbon, healthy and accessible choice in how they travel.

The targets for the Transport Strategy are set out as follows:

- o Net-zero Carbon emissions by 2030
- o Vision Zero (target of zero people seriously killed or injured)
- o Modal shift (increase rail travel by 100%, walking by 33%, cycling by 400%, bus travel by 130%, and decrease car use by 30%)

£270m investment in public transport and active travel infrastructure. The predicted reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from modal shift resulting from the scheme equates to 15,947 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e (43%). Additional benefits include more reliable and attractive bus services, improved health from cleaner air and physical activity, reduced congestion and a better connected city. Carbon reduction figure includes carbon saved as a result of expected modal shift only.

### Boundary of target relative to jurisdiction boundary

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

### Year target was established

2021

### Base year

2021

### Metric used to measure target (renewable energy or energy efficiency target)

<Not Applicable>

### Metric used to measure target

Tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e

### Metric value in base year

15947

### Target year

2030

### Metric value in target year

### Metric value in most recent year data is available

### Percentage of total energy that is renewable in target year

<Not Applicable>

### Is this target publicly available?

Yes, provide link/attachment (<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ielssueDetails.aspx?IId=118903&PlanId=0&Opt=3#AI86757>)

### Comment

### Target type

Air Quality	Target to reduce PM <sub>2.5</sub> concentrations (annual/24 hour)
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### Target description

Through implementation of the Air Quality strategy we aim to continue reducing pollution levels in the city. Reducing levels of pollution will enable us to achieve the following objectives:

- To remain legally compliant with emissions of NO<sub>2</sub> and through further actions that we take we will reduce emissions further as far as possible.
- To eliminate Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) in the city.
- To achieve and continue to meet compliance with the WHO targets for PM<sub>2.5</sub> and maintain compliance with the WHO targets for PM<sub>10</sub>.
- To take pro-active action to address other harmful emissions.
- To work citywide, helping to reduce health inequalities.
- To ensure that citizens and other stakeholders are well informed about indoor and outdoor pollutants and how to mitigate exposure and reduce their own contribution.
- To use data to select the right interventions.

### Boundary of target relative to jurisdiction boundary

Same - covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

### Year target was established

2021

**Base year**

2021

**Metric used to measure target (renewable energy or energy efficiency target)**

&lt;Not Applicable&gt;

**Metric used to measure target****Metric value in base year****Target year**

2030

**Metric value in target year****Metric value in most recent year data is available****Percentage of total energy that is renewable in target year**

&lt;Not Applicable&gt;

**Is this target publicly available?**Yes, provide link/attachment (<https://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/documents/s223876/Leeds%20Air%20Quality%20Strategy%20Cover%20Report%20120721.pdf>)**Comment**

## Planning

## 7. Planning

## Climate Action Planning

**(7.1) Does your jurisdiction have a climate action plan or strategy?**

Yes, our jurisdiction has a climate action plan or strategy

**(7.1a) Report details on the climate action plan or strategy that addresses climate mitigation and/or climate adaptation (resilience) in your jurisdiction.****Climate action plan type<sup>^</sup>**

Standalone climate mitigation plan

**Attachment/link and name of plan<sup>^</sup>**Climate Emergency Annual Report  
Climate Emergency Annual Report.pdf**Confirm attachment/link provided to plan**

The plan has been attached

**Boundary of plan relative to jurisdiction boundary<sup>^</sup>**

Same (jurisdiction-wide) covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Processes for monitoring evaluation and updates of plan<sup>^</sup>**

Monitoring: Information on progress of plan is monitored and publicly reported annually

Evaluation: Evaluation of plan takes place annually

Update: Updates to the plan are published annually

**Funding sources and financial instruments to finance plan**

Jurisdiction's own resources

Regional funds and programmes

National funds and programmes

**Stakeholders engaged<sup>^</sup>**

State/regional government(s) and/or agencies

Local government (s) and/or agencies

Citizens

Vulnerable population groups

Academia

Business and private sector

**Describe if and how climate-related scenarios have informed the plan**The attached report is based on the Government's Net-Zero Strategy, the Net-Zero Carbon Roadmap for Leeds (<https://www.leedsclimate.org.uk/leeds-carbon-roadmap>) and the Yorkshire and Humber Action Plan. It brings together a range of work taking place across the council, as well as sector specific strategies set out at 7.3**Primary author(s) of plan<sup>^</sup>**

Dedicated team within jurisdiction

**Assessment of co-benefits, trade-offs, and synergies of actions included in plan<sup>^</sup>**

Plan assesses co-benefits of actions

Plan assesses trade-offs of actions

Plan assesses synergies of actions

**Year of formal approval of plan<sup>^</sup>**

2019

**End year of plan**

2030

**Total cost of implementation of plan (in currency specified in 0.1)**

13644975134

**Sectors covered by action plan**

Agriculture  
 Forestry  
 Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
 Waste management  
 Transportation and storage

**Comment**

Leeds City Council is developing a more detailed formal climate action plan based on the above document and Leeds Climate Commission roadmap.

**Climate action plan type^**

Standalone adaptation plan

**Attachment/link and name of plan^**

Leeds Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan (plus 3 appendices)  
 Appendix C - Cascading impacts of climate change.docx  
 Exec Board Adaptation and Resilience Plan report v3.0.docx  
 Copy of Appendix A Mapped CCRA3 Risks.xlsx  
 Appendix B - Climate change by warming scenario.docx

**Confirm attachment/link provided to plan**

The plan has been attached

**Boundary of plan relative to jurisdiction boundary^**

Same (jurisdiction-wide) covers entire jurisdiction and nothing else

**Processes for monitoring evaluation and updates of plan^**

Monitoring: Information on progress of plan is monitored and publicly reported annually  
 Evaluation: Evaluation of plan takes place annually  
 Update: Updates to the plan are published annually

**Funding sources and financial instruments to finance plan**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
 Regional funds and programmes  
 National funds and programmes

**Stakeholders engaged^**

Local government (s) and/or agencies  
 Academia

**Describe if and how climate-related scenarios have informed the plan**

This approach has been informed by the Local Partnerships Climate Adaptation Toolkit, a resource specifically designed for local authorities to use to develop a climate adaptation and resilience plan. which includes a risk generator. Next steps include working with academic partners to quantify the risks to Leeds.

**Primary author(s) of plan^**

Dedicated team within jurisdiction

**Assessment of co-benefits, trade-offs, and synergies of actions included in plan^**

Plan assesses co-benefits of actions  
 Plan assesses trade-offs of actions  
 Plan assesses synergies of actions

**Year of formal approval of plan^**

2022

**End year of plan****Total cost of implementation of plan (in currency specified in 0.1)****Sectors covered by action plan**

Agriculture  
 Forestry  
 Manufacturing  
 Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
 Water supply  
 Sewerage, wastewater management and remediation activities  
 Waste management  
 Administrative and support service activities  
 Public administration and defence; compulsory social security  
 Conservation  
 Transportation and storage  
 Information and communication

**Comment**

This document sets out plans to build the city's resilience and adapt to the impacts of climate change, in line with the government's National Adaptation Programme and latest UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA). This report summarises some of the activity that has taken place to date, along with plans to undertake a council-wide climate risk assessment and further develop the city's resilience to climate change over the year ahead and beyond.

Whilst there is significant work taking place across the council to address the impacts of climate change and robust arrangements in place for dealing with severe weather and planning for potential economic shocks, there is a need to undertake a comprehensive climate risk assessment of all council services to identify any gaps and opportunities to 'future proof' and enhance existing policy. Following an initial audit of service plans, the Sustainable Energy and Air Quality team will deliver a series of

workshops with council teams, with support from academic partners, to identify climate related risks to individual services, what activity is already taking place to address such risks, and how teams can build further resilience within their own policies and frameworks. This will include a full review of service level business continuity plans.

An update will be provided in 12 months time.

## Sector Action Planning

### (7.2) Report details on the other climate-related plans, policies and/or strategies in your jurisdiction.

## Consumption Emissions Planning

### (7.3) Does your jurisdiction have a strategy for addressing emissions from consumption of the most relevant goods and services?

	Response	Provide a link and/or attachment to the strategy addressing emissions from consumption of the most relevant goods and services	Highlight any specific action the jurisdiction is implementing to address emissions from the consumption of goods and services in this category
Food	Yes	Developing a Food Strategy for the city, to be published Autumn 2022	In January 2022, the Leeds Food Strategy began with an online event that was attended by about 100 people, where we came up with the strategy's working vision:  "Leeds has a vibrant food economy where everyone is able to access local healthy and affordable food, produced in a way which improves our natural environment and embraces innovation."  Since then work has been progressing under 3 working groups that follow the 3 areas the strategy will cover: 1. Sustainability 2. Health & Wellbeing 3. Food Security & Inclusive Growth
Construction and demolition	Yes	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-update">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-update</a>	In July 2021, the council carried out initial statutory public consultation on a Local Plan Update, which will update planning policies for carbon reduction, flood risk, green infrastructure (including biodiversity), place making and sustainable infrastructure.
Transportation	Yes	Connecting Leeds Strategy and Action Plan published in 2021 6 Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy Action Plan.pdf 5 Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy.pdf	The Connecting Leeds Transport Strategy has decarbonisation as one of its central pillars, in line with the council's own priorities. The Strategy states: Our vision for Leeds is to be a city where you don't need a car. Where everyone has an affordable and accessible zero carbon choice in how they travel. We want to Connect Leeds, Connect Communities, and Connect Businesses together in the most sustainable ways.  Across Connecting Leeds projects, all future contracts and frameworks that are procured will have a requirement for Contractors and Suppliers to deliver schemes and services with reduced climatic impact, these will include:  - Carbon targets to be imposed and monitored - Use of local labour - Use of local supply chain - Use of local SME's - Use of lower carbon materials - Use of sustainable drainage with climate change uplifts - Recycling material and minimising site trips
Clothing and textiles	No	<Not Applicable>	
Household appliances and electronics	No	<Not Applicable>	
Aviation	No	<Not Applicable>	
Waste management	Yes	<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/waste-strategy">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/bins-and-recycling/waste-strategy</a>	Refreshed strategy, with climate change as a central theme, to be published in Autumn 2022.
Other	Yes	Energy Strategy and Action Plan 2022 Energy Strategy and Action Plan.pdf	Energy Strategy and Action Plan, published 2022. Energy use contributes around 83% of the council's carbon emissions and it is therefore recognised that measures are needed to reduce consumption across its services, increase the volume of energy from low carbon sources and to act as an exemplar in promoting a reduction in the impacts of energy consumption across the city. The scope of this strategy is primarily focused on the council's own energy usage. A separate 'Better Homes' strategy, linked to the council's Housing Strategy, is currently being developed to address the decarbonisation of housing within Leeds.

## Finance

**(7.4) Describe any planned climate-related projects within your jurisdiction for which you hope to attract financing.**

**Project area**

Renewable energy

**Project title**

Solar farm development

**Stage of project development**

Scoping

**Status of financing**

Project not funded and seeking full funding

**Identified financing model**

Grants

Loans from commercial banks

Loans from International Financial Institutions

Public finance - own budget

**Project description and attach project proposal**

Initial feasibility study has been undertaken which has indicated that a solar farm could generate 35% of the council's energy provision and site selection has commenced in July 2022, with procurement to take place between November 2022 and May 2023. Design, planning and ground conditions to be established by January 2024 when construction will begin.

**Total cost of project (in currency specified in 0.1)**

44000000

**Total investment cost needed if relevant (in currency specified in 0.1)**

44000000

**(7.5) Report the factors that support climate-related investment and financial planning in your jurisdiction.**

**Response**

**Mechanisms used by jurisdiction to access finance for climate-related projects**

Jurisdiction's own funds and budgetary means

Jurisdiction accesses finance from national government funds, grants etc.

Jurisdiction accesses finance from public-private partnerships

**Comment**

Where the council has the funding and the powers to enable or deliver change it has made progress but there are key areas such as private housing retrofit for higher income home-owners or transport where the support of national government is essential to overcome some of the key barriers.

The council has a good track record for securing funding to support cross housing tenure retrofit works. In 2021/22 the council has been working with a number of different funding streams, including Green Homes Grant, Getting Building Fund, European Funding and Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund to deliver measures such as external wall insulation, solar panels, room in roof insulation to both social and private housing. The funding comes with many stipulations that are challenging to meet such as the SAP rating of the house, the income of the house owner or the caps on the cost of measures. Despite this, measures will be delivered in circa 1,200 private homes. Investment in our own social housing continues at pace with projects such as the installation of ground source heat pumps in our multi storey flats or the work in Holbeck to make 190 council homes net zero being two very noteworthy examples. The Holbeck scheme was also supported financially via contributions from private landlords.

**Credit rating of jurisdiction**

**Comment**

**Decarbonising jurisdiction's investments**

Jurisdiction has taken steps to decarbonise the investments held by the jurisdiction retirement funds by divesting from fossil fuels

**Comment**

The council have formally asked the West Yorkshire Pension Fund to divest from fossil fuels to minimise climate risk, and actively look to divest into alternative, cleaner investments with comparable returns.

**Actions**

**8. Adaptation Actions**

**(8.1) Describe the outcomes of the most significant adaptation actions your jurisdiction is currently undertaking. Note that this can include those in the planning and/or implementation phase.**

**Action^**

Engineered and built environment actions	Flood defence, such as flood levees and culverts
--	--

**Climate hazard(s) that action addresses^**

Urban flooding  
River flooding

**Action description and web link to further information^**

The Councils Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been updated to reflect the latest government climate change allowances and impacts. This will inform future development (planning application and site allocations) ensuring that all new developments are safe and resilient against flooding in line with the current national planning policies. The SFRA update will also promote the increased use of SuDS, thus increasing the bio diversity and ecological benefits alongside reducing flood risk within the City.

A combination of traditional engineering methods and Natural Flood Management (NFM) will be used to reduce flood risk in Leeds, in partnership primarily between Leeds City Council and the Environment Agency but many other partners are also involved.

\*Completed work\* replace with FAS1 and NFM scheme completed

Work to help protect Leeds city centre from the risk of flooding has been completed. Improvements included:

- Work was done to create moveable weirs at crown point and Knostrop. These will help to reduce flooding by up to one metre.
- The canal and river have been merged by removing the land known locally as Knostrop Cut island. This means the river can now hold more water and will help to lower water levels during a flood.
- Flood defence walls have been constructed along Hol beck. Low level embankments have increased the level of protection in Woodlesford.

\*Current work\*

We're working with the Environment Agency on our Flood Alleviation Scheme Phase 2 (FAS2) to help protect 1,048 homes and 474 businesses. We're focusing mainly on the developed areas along the River Aire, upstream of Leeds Train Station and Apperley Bridge.

FAS2 provides a one in a 200 year level of protection against flooding. This means flooding will be reduced to a 0.5 per cent chance of occurring in any given year, including an allowance for climate change. Once the scheme is completed, it will help protect against similar flooding to Storm Eva.

Natural flood management and traditional engineering will be used to help reduce flood risk. This will also create new habitats for wildlife and reduce the impact of climate change. The amount of rainwater going into the river will be reduced. The ground will also be able hold more water during floods. Different interventions we are looking at include:

- creating new woodland
- reducing the flow of the water during heavy rain in different ways
- having new storage ponds
- rechanneling the river to slow down the flow

Traditional engineering methods include building flood defence walls, creating new flood storage areas and making improvements to existing structures.

**Sectors adaptation action applies to^**

Forestry  
Water supply  
Sewerage, wastewater management and remediation activities  
Conservation  
Construction

**Co-benefits realised^**

Job creation  
Reduced natural resource depletion  
Reduced disruption of energy, transport, water or communications networks  
Fewer or no households and businesses forced from homes/places of work  
Reduced disaster/disease/contamination-related health impacts  
Increased/improved green space  
Protected/improved biodiversity and ecosystem services

**Timeframe for which increased resilience is expected to last**

Long-term (after 2050)

**Proportion of the total jurisdiction population with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

<10%

**Hectares (ha) of natural systems with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation complete in the reporting year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

170000000

**Action^**

Engineered and built environment actions	Municipal water efficiency retrofits
--	--------------------------------------

**Climate hazard(s) that action addresses^**

Extreme heat  
Drought

**Action description and web link to further information^**

We have set a standard for water efficiency in new residential development in the Core Strategy as follows:

**POLICY EN2: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

Non-residential developments of 1,000 or more square metres (including conversion) where feasible are required to meet the BREEAM standard of 'excellent'.  
Residential developments of 10 or more dwellings (including conversion) where feasible are required to meet a water standard of 110 litres per person per day.

Also in the Natural Resources and Waste Local Plan:

**WATER 1: WATER EFFICIENCY**

All new developments should include measures to improve their overall water efficiency where appropriate. This will be achieved through a mixture of measures to use less treated water and reduce wastewater such as:

- Sustainable urban drainage systems,
- Rainwater collection and storage,
- Grey water recycling and storage systems, and
- More absorbent surfaces for water drainage.

For SuDS this is included in the surface water run off policy which states:

**WATER 7: SURFACE WATER RUN-OFF**

All developments are required to ensure no increase in the rate of surface water run-off to the existing formal drainage system. Development will be expected to incorporate sustainable drainage techniques wherever possible.

- On previously developed sites peak flow rates must be reduced by at least 30%
- On sites which have not previously been connected to the drainage infrastructure, or watercourse, surface water run off rates will not exceed the 'greenfield' run-off rate (i.e. the rate at which water flows over land which has not previously been developed).

Separately, we use rain gardens for surface water capture and storage to manage flood events. These are built in underground as part of any tree pits/planting schemes for public realm works.

**Sectors adaptation action applies to^**

Water supply  
Sewerage, wastewater management and remediation activities  
Construction

**Co-benefits realised^**

Reduced costs  
Reduced natural resource depletion  
Reduced disruption of energy, transport, water or communications networks  
Increased water security  
Reduced disaster/disease/contamination-related health impacts

**Timeframe for which increased resilience is expected to last**

Long-term (after 2050)

**Proportion of the total jurisdiction population with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

I do not have this data

**Hectares (ha) of natural systems with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

**Funding source(s)**

Other, please specify source(s) (No funding requirement)

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Action in operation (jurisdiction-wide)

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

0

**Action^**

Engineered and built environment actions	Resilience and resistance measures for buildings
--	--

**Climate hazard(s) that action addresses^**

Extreme heat  
Urban flooding  
River flooding

**Action description and web link to further information^**

Leeds will ensure that new developments are located and designed to avoid, reduce and mitigate flood risk, increase biodiversity and reduce the carbon footprint of risk reduction schemes through natural flood solutions.

Our current Local Plan has many effective policies for flood risk and through flood alleviation schemes the council is working with partners and investing in infrastructure to help protect communities. But with the impacts of climate change worsening, it's important that we consider options for improving policies on flood risk.

We want to:

- ensure that all new developments are located and designated to avoid, reduce and mitigate flood risk
- reduce the speed of surface water run-off through increased use of sustainable and natural drainage systems
- ensure our policies reflect up to date evidence, guidance and best practice to help manage flood risk

The areas of policy affected include:

- sustainable drainage systems
- enhanced resilience
- porous materials
- functional floodplain

**Sectors adaptation action applies to^**

Construction

**Co-benefits realised^**

Reduced disaster/disease/contamination-related health impacts

**Timeframe for which increased resilience is expected to last**

Long-term (after 2050)

**Proportion of the total jurisdiction population with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

I do not have this data

**Hectares (ha) of natural systems with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

**Funding source(s)**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
National funds and programmes

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Please select

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

---

**Action^**

Engineered and built environment actions	Resilience and resistance measures for buildings
--	--

**Climate hazard(s) that action addresses^**

Extreme heat

**Action description and web link to further information^**

100m investment in housing retrofit

**Sectors adaptation action applies to^**

Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply  
Construction

**Co-benefits realised^**

Job creation  
Reduced costs  
Increased energy security  
Reduced fuel poverty  
Increased security/protection for poor/vulnerable populations  
Increased social inclusion, equality and justice  
Improved mental wellbeing/quality of life  
Improved air quality  
Reduced health impacts from extreme heat or cold weather  
Reduced health costs  
Reduced GHG emissions

**Timeframe for which increased resilience is expected to last**

Long-term (after 2050)

**Proportion of the total jurisdiction population with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

<10%

**Hectares (ha) of natural systems with increased resilience due to adaptation action**

**Funding source(s)**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
Regional funds and programmes  
National funds and programmes  
International (including ODA)

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in more than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

---

**(9.1) Describe the outcomes of the most significant mitigation actions your jurisdiction is currently undertaking. Note that this can include those in the planning and/or implementation phases.**

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Stationary energy	Energy efficiency/ retrofit measures addressing existing commercial, residential and/or municipal buildings
-------------------	---

**Action description and web link to further information^**

38 civic buildings, leisure centres, primary schools, children’s centres, homes for older people and offices across the city will benefit from a range of low carbon heat and energy upgrades carried out by the council and partners. Air source heat pumps, new connections to the district heating network, solar photovoltaic panels, LED lighting, and double glazing will all be installed. Installation of green measures is well underway and has completed on most buildings. The project is due for completion in the next few months.

**Start year of action**

2021

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured^**

- Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action
- Estimated annual energy savings due to action
- Estimated annual renewable energy generated due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

3951

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

20538

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

2168

**Co-benefits realised^**

- Job creation
- Reduced costs
- Increased energy security
- Improved air quality

**Funding source(s)**

National funds and programmes

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in less than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

25300000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Stationary energy	LED / CFL / other luminaire technologies
-------------------	--

**Action description and web link to further information^**

The council approved plans to replace the city’s street lamps with LEDs in December 2018. Since then more than 25,000 lights have been converted to LED, resulting in a 3.9 million kWh electricity consumption reduction and a saving of 909 tonnes of CO2. Moving forward a further 1900 lanterns will be replaced every month until completion.

**Start year of action**

2019

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

Please select

**Impact indicators measured^**

- Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action
- Estimated annual energy savings due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

7050

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

31000

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

- Reduced costs
- Reduced noise/light pollution

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in less than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

25400000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Stationary energy	LED / CFL / other luminaire technologies
-------------------	--

**Action description and web link to further information^**

Woodhouse car park lighting replacement. An interest free loan was secured to deliver the work in 2020. Work was completed in December 2020.

**Start year of action**

2020

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured^**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

Estimated annual energy savings due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

65

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

3900

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Reduced costs

Reduced noise/light pollution

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation complete in the reporting year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

241000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Transportation	Improve fuel economy and reduce CO2 emissions from motorized vehicles
----------------	---

**Action description and web link to further information^**

'Try before you buy' electric van and private hire vehicle scheme for local businesses, public sector organisations, charities and private hire drivers. The scheme helps organisations understand the detailed business case for switching to zero emission vehicles. It is expected that many participants will switch to zero emission vehicles after participating in the scheme. More than half of participants have said that they would consider switching to electric vehicles after taking part in the scheme.

Carbon saving figure based on replacing emissions per mile from an 'average' EU van with an electric vehicle multiplied by the number of miles trial vehicles are expected to have been driven when scheme concludes in March. Figure doesn't include carbon savings from participants who switch to an EV after taking part in the scheme.

**Start year of action**

2021

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2022

**Impact indicators measured^**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

19

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Reduced costs

Improved mobility and access

Improved education and public awareness

Improved air quality

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in less than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

2300000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Transportation	Other, please specify (Multiple actions - set out below)
----------------	--

**Action description and web link to further information^**

We have an ambitious vision for Leeds: to create a world-class city that allows for seamless travel not just within the city, but regionally, nationally and internationally. We want to build a smart city that embraces innovative technology to help us use space efficiently, and manage and maintain our public transport network.

We want Leeds to be a great place for everyone who lives in, works in or visits the city, with well-connected neighbourhoods and an accessible, attractive city centre.

We also want to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, which will encourage people to walk, cycle and be more active.

The Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme (LPTIP) comprises of 8 packages which cover:

- 1) Programme management: resources for a dedicated team for the overall management and delivery of the programme
- 2) Bus Priority Corridors: investment in a number of key corridors to improve bus service reliability and reduce bus journey times
- 3) Bus Park and Ride: new park and ride facilities to be developed to the north and south of the City with further expansions at Elland Road
- 4) City Centre: redesigning road layouts to reduce congestion and improve the pedestrian environment
- 5) Rail: develop three new rail stations across the city at proposed sites of Leeds Bradford airport, Thorpe Park and White Rose, with accessibility improvements at Cross gates, Morley and Horsforth.
- 6) Bus Delivery: support real-time improvements and review connectivity throughout the Leeds district
- 7) Mass Transit: develop a long term mass transit approach
- 8) Bus Delivery Board: a series of measures to improve the bus service offer

The predicted reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from modal shift resulting from the scheme equates to 15,947 tonnes of CO2e. Additional benefits include more reliable and attractive bus services, improved health from cleaner air and physical activity, reduced congestion and a better connected city.

Carbon reduction figure includes carbon saved as a result of expected modal shift only.

**Start year of action**

2017

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured^**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

15947

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Increased labour productivity

Increased economic production

Reduced disruption of energy, transport, water and communications networks

Improved mobility and access

Improved road safety

Improved air quality

Improved preparedness for health service delivery

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in more than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

270000000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Stationary energy	Energy efficiency/ retrofit measures addressing existing commercial, residential and/or municipal buildings
-------------------	---

**Action description and web link to further information<sup>^</sup>**

The Leeds PIPES District Heating Network (DHN) delivers low carbon, sustainable energy to residents and businesses of Leeds including key Leeds City Council buildings. Almost 2,000 properties have now been connected, along with Leeds Civic Hall, Leeds Town Hall, Leeds Museum and Leeds Art Gallery/Central Library along with council-owned St George House.

Currently saving an estimated 4,379 tonnes of CO2 per annum, however can save a potential 11,700-20,600 tonnes CO2 per annum depending on the heating systems being replaced.

**Start year of action**

2017

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured<sup>^</sup>**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)<sup>^</sup>**

11700

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised<sup>^</sup>**

Job creation  
 Revenue generation  
 Reduced costs  
 Increased energy security  
 Reduced disruption of energy, transport, water and communications networks  
 Reduced fuel poverty  
 Improved air quality

**Funding source(s)**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
 Regional funds and programmes  
 National funds and programmes  
 International (including ODA)  
 Public-private partnerships  
 Private partnerships (e.g., a combination of private investments)

**Status of action in the reporting year<sup>^</sup>**

Implementation underway with completion expected in more than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan<sup>^</sup>**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

47000000

**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type<sup>^</sup>**

Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use	Other, please specify (Multiple actions - Set out below)
------------------------------------	--

**Action description and web link to further information<sup>^</sup>**

Launched last year, the Woodland Creation Initiative will see 5.8 million trees planted on council land over the next 25 years.

Tree planting is proven to benefit the wellbeing of communities, support wildlife, and help tackle the climate emergency. The project will support the White Rose Forest in Leeds strategy, the council's plan to increase tree canopy cover from 17% to 33% by 2050.

In the first year since the schemes launch, approximately 200,000 trees were planted on council land and planning is well underway to plant another 25 hectares for the 2021 planting season.

The Initiative will cost £350,000 inclusive of £50,000 external funding in its first year. The cost of delivering the scheme will remain similar in future years but a greater share of funding is expected to come from external sources after the initial year.

Emissions reduction figure based on carbon savings of planting trees and 50 years of growth.

**Start year of action**

2020

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured<sup>^</sup>**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)<sup>^</sup>**

250000

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)<sup>^</sup>**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Enhanced climate change adaptation  
Improved preparedness for health service delivery  
Protected/improved biodiversity and ecosystem services

**Funding source(s)**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
Regional funds and programmes  
National funds and programmes

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in less than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

8500000

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**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Waste	Other, please specify (Multiple actions - set out below)
-------	--

**Action description and web link to further information^**

RERF is fully operational and receiving the city's entire waste.

Includes emissions avoided as a result of recycling captured through mechanical pre-treatment, avoided emissions from fossil-fuel based grid power generation through export of electricity from RERF on to grid, through capture of ferrous metals for recycling from ash, through capture and recycling of ash for construction applications.

**Start year of action**

2016

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

2051 or later

**Impact indicators measured^**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

39688

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Increased energy security  
Reduced fuel poverty

**Funding source(s)**

Jurisdiction's own resources  
National funds and programmes  
Public-private partnerships

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Action in operation (jurisdiction-wide)

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

139270000

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**Primary emissions sector addressed and action type^**

Transportation	Improve fuel economy and reduce CO2 emissions from motorized vehicles
----------------	---

**Action description and web link to further information^**

Installation of at least 30 dual rapid charge points at public locations across Leeds. Most are operational already and all will be by October 2021.

Funding was secured through a joint application between the 5 West Yorkshire Councils and the WYCA that ensured the Office for Low Emission Vehicle's (now OZEV's) Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Taxi Scheme provided £1.9m of funding towards delivery of a rapid charge network across the region to support the uptake of EV in the taxi & private hire sector. The project secured additional local transport plan funding as well as securing significant additional funding from ENGIE who won the open competitive tender process to act as supplier, installer and operator for the network. This also included the provision of renewable energy to the network free of charge to users until the end of October 2021.

Carbon saving figure based on current monthly usage and is likely to be somewhat conservative of true emission saving.

**Start year of action**

2019

**Year for which mitigation is expected to last**

End year not known/not applicable

**Impact indicators measured^**

Estimated annual emissions reductions due to action

**Estimated annual emissions reductions (metric tons CO2e/year)^**

366

**Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Estimated annual renewable energy generation (MWh/year)^**

<Not Applicable>

**Co-benefits realised^**

Improved air quality

Reduced disaster/disease/contamination-related health impacts

Reduced noise/light pollution

**Funding source(s)**

Please select

**Status of action in the reporting year^**

Implementation underway with completion expected in less than one year

**Inclusion in climate action plan and/or jurisdiction development/master plan^**

Action is included in climate action plan and/or development/master plan

**Total cost of action (in currency specified in 0.1)**

**Further Information**

(10.1) Use this field to provide any additional information or context that you feel is relevant to your jurisdiction's response. Please note that this field is optional and is not scored/assessed.

N/A

**Submit your response**

Please provide the following details about the amendments you have made to your response.

**Question number**

2.1

**Reason for change**

Updated information has become available, which was not available when submitting

**Updated response**

- IPPU > Product use
- Total IPPU
- Total AFOLU

**Question number**

9.1

**Reason for change**

Updated information has become available, which was not available when submitting

**Updated response**

Added 'Estimated annual energy savings (MWh/year)'^ –

**What language are you submitting your response in?**

English

**Please read and accept our Terms and Conditions**

I have read and accept the Terms and Conditions

**Please confirm how your response should be handled by CDP.**

Public or non-public submission	
I am submitting my response	Publicly (recommended)

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## Appendix 5: Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) impact assessment

As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration. In all appropriate instances we will need to carry out an equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impact assessment.

This form:

- can be used to prompt discussion when carrying out your impact assessment
- should be completed either during the assessment process or following completion of the assessment
- should include a brief explanation where a section is not applicable

<b>Directorate: Resources</b>	<b>Service area: SEAQ</b>
<b>Lead person: Claire Dalton Nobbs</b>	<b>Contact number:</b>
<b>Date of the equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impact assessment: 06/03/2023</b>	

<b>1. Title: Draft Leeds Food Strategy</b>
Is this a:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy / Policy</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Service / Function</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b>
<b>If other, please specify</b>

### 2. Members of the assessment team:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Role on assessment team For example, service user, manager of service, specialist</b>
Claire Dalton Nobbs	Leeds City Council	Officer

**3. Summary of strategy, policy, service or function that was assessed:**

A revised draft Leeds Food Strategy is being taken to Executive Board in March. The strategy will be hosted on the Leeds City Council website following public consultation and the final version published in Spring 2023. The strategy follows the 3 pillars of the Best City Ambition: health and wellbeing, inclusive growth (as food security and economy), zero carbon (as sustainability and resilience), with 5 objectives identified through partner collaboration against each.

**4. Scope of the equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impact assessment** (complete - 4a. if you are assessing a strategy, policy or plan and 4b. if you are assessing a service, function or event)

**4a. Strategy, policy or plan**  
(please tick the appropriate box below)

The vision and themes, objectives or outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/>
The vision and themes, objectives or outcomes and the supporting guidance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A specific section within the strategy, policy or plan	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Please provide detail:**

**Our vision for Leeds to have a vibrant food economy where everyone can access local, healthy, and affordable food that is produced in ways that improve our natural environment and embrace new techniques and technologies.**

**Health and Wellbeing**  
Objective 1: Ensure people of all ages know how to access, prepare, and eat food that supports health and wellbeing.  
Objective 2: Champion community food initiatives that support healthier eating  
Objective 3: Change our city environment to help make healthier food more available and appealing  
Objective 4: Offer targeted support to those of us who are most at risk  
Objective 5: Develop a skilled local workforce who advocate for healthier eating

**Food Security and Economy**  
Objective 1: Tackle factors limiting people’s ability to afford the food they need.  
Objective 2: Help those in need of support to access affordable and inclusive food initiatives.  
Objective 3: Continue to build a strong partnership approach across all sectors and with the people of Leeds.  
Objective 4: Support and unlock opportunities for local food businesses and workers.

Objective 5: Promote Leeds as a vibrant food city—celebrating our independent food, drink, events, and culture.

**Sustainability and Resilience**

Objective 1: Tackle waste by reducing, redistributing, and utilising surplus food

Objective 2: Raise awareness of how we can eat nutritious foods that are good for the planet.

Objective 3: Encourage and embrace new ways of producing, selling and serving food within local communities

Objective 4: Support local farmers to transition to resilient and profitable agriculture which improves the environment.

Objective 5: Champion environmentally sustainable and resilient food buying

Objectives have been amended and reordered following consultation feedback. For the consultation feedback report see Appendix 2 Overview of the consultation responses (Leeds Food Strategy) and for the full content of the proposed Leeds Food Strategy see Appendix 3 of the executive board report.

**4b. Service, function, event**

please tick the appropriate box below

The whole service (including service provision and employment)	<input type="checkbox"/>
A specific part of the service (including service provision or employment or a specific section of the service)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Procuring of a service (by contract or grant)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please provide detail:</b>	

**5. Fact finding – what do we already know**

Make a note here of all information you will be using to carry out this assessment. This could include: previous consultation, involvement, research, results from perception surveys, equality monitoring and customer/ staff feedback.

(priority should be given to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration related information)

The Leeds Food Strategy is a strategy for every community in the city. It sets out broad objectives to inform the work of the council and its partners to support a consistent and vision-driven approach. It is not a document written to tell people what to do. Leeds has a diverse population and this strategy does not aim to focus on any community in particular. Nevertheless, many of the objectives in the strategy will have the effect of reducing health and economic inequalities if implemented.

The Leeds Food Strategy was created by a cross-council team alongside numerous partners, ensuring maximum knowledge and expertise. The council team included staff from SEAQ, Public Health, Financial Inclusion and Economic Development. Partners include stakeholders with sector knowledge of health, sustainability, and financial inclusion from the private, public and the third sector. The strategy was developed in collaboration with these partners and then updated in line with consultation feedback to ensure that it has been informed by a diversity of ideas and viewpoints. This process endeavoured to produce a set of inclusive objectives.

All of the strategy’s objectives have been created considering both international/national and local data, therefore the decisions about where work should be focused is evidence-based.

The public consultation for the Leeds Food Strategy took place throughout Autumn 22, aimed at all residents, businesses and organisations of Leeds. This consultation sought feedback and was conducted via three methods to improve accessibility:

- 1) A survey hosted online. There was a risk that this format could potentially exclude those that struggle with literacy, or where English is a second language, or people with vision related disability. These accessibility risks were mitigated to an extent by working to make sure that the website and other online content met digital accessibility standards and could be accessed by screen reader and translation software. Additionally, people with English as a second language were a target for face-to-face consultation with support from third sector partners.
- 2) Attendance at a variety of meetings to ensure engagement from key stakeholders, i.e., focus groups, presentations, and group discussion. Methodology was agreed with each partner to meet individual needs.
- 3) Face-to-face focus group consultation conducted by FoodWise Leeds reaching out to several public consultation groups across Leeds communities. This included the Leeds BiteBack 2030 Youth Board to represent the views of young people in the city.

The questions to support the consultation were developed by the cross-council strategy team and were tested by Leeds City Council’s consultation team to ensure accessibility.

For the consultation feedback provided high levels of overarching support for the Leeds Food Strategy across the vision and themes for the report see Appendix 2.

**Are there any gaps in equality and diversity information**

**Please provide detail:**

The team leading the consultation ensured that all equality characteristics are considered and this will remain so as the strategy is adopted and the action plan developed.

**Action required:**

Development of an action plan, considering the EDCI impacts of each action.

**6. Wider involvement – have you involved groups of people who are most likely to be affected or interested**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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**Please provide detail:**

The document issued for wider public consultation in October 22 was created in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders from a variety of sectors from across the city.

Through this process, viewpoints from many different people in the city have been considered and insights from a variety of community groups have been shared. Participants ranged from large organisations to community groups.

Stakeholders that have contributed so far, include: [The National Farmers Union](#), [The University of Leeds](#), [FareShare Yorkshire](#), [Rethink Food](#), [Incredible Edible](#), [Feed Leeds](#), [Climate Action Leeds](#), [Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust](#), [Flourishing Families](#), [Give a Gift](#), [Zest](#), [Trussell Trust](#), [Zero Waste Leeds](#), [Voluntary Action Leeds](#), [Growing Better](#), [Leeds Food Aid Network](#), plus many more.

The document has been updated and amended in line with consultation feedback. This wide range of partners and community groups will continue to be involved in the work of the strategy through the action plan development and implementation as it is adopted.

**Action required:**

Ongoing public engagement of the strategy and action plan.

**7. Who may be affected by this activity?**

please tick all relevant and significant equality characteristics, stakeholders and barriers that apply to your strategy, policy, service or function

**Equality characteristics**

**Age**

**Carers**

**Disability**

**Gender reassignment**

**Race**

**Religion  
or Belief**

**Sex (male or female)**

**Sexual orientation**

**Other**

(Other can include – marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, and those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being)

**Please specify:** The strategy has the potential to influence the food consumed by all communities in Leeds. Nevertheless, the strategy acknowledges that food culture and experiences of food differs between individuals and communities. The strategy aims to reduce food security and improve health outcomes from food which will benefit individuals with some characteristics more than others due to existing disparities.

**Stakeholders**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Services users	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employees	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Unions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	Members	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Suppliers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other please specify				

**Potential barriers**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Built environment services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Location of premises and
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Information and communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Customer care
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stereotypes and assumptions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consultation and involvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Financial exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employment and training
<input type="checkbox"/>	specific barriers to the strategy, policy, services or function		

**Please specify**

Some of the strategy objectives may face barriers of cost and community financial insecurity, however access and affordability have been considered throughout the development of the strategy.

**8. Positive and negative impact**  
Think about what you are assessing (scope), the fact-finding information, the potential positive and negative impact on equality characteristics, stakeholders and the effect of the barriers

**8a. Positive impact:**

Delivery of the strategy aims to improve health outcomes and tackle food security, which if successful would have the effect of contributing to reduced economic and health inequalities in Leeds.

Negative impacts on stakeholders and different groups has been mitigated through a collaborate and consultative approach to developing the strategy (explained above).

This approach has meant that the final strategy has been informed by a diversity of viewpoints and experiences.

The action plan will be hosted on the council website but managed and monitored by a third sector partner with input and work undertaken by a wide range of partners as well as the council to support the positive impact and ongoing community engagement.

**Action required:**

Development of an action plan with EDCI impacts considered in further detail.

**8b. Negative impact:**

Although the approach used to create the draft strategy took views from many stakeholders, there will still be groups that we underrepresented unfortunately. The 10 week consultation period endeavoured to ensure any of these group's views were captured at this time and considered.

Across the three methods for consultation all members of the community had the opportunity to contribute. Ensuring a consultation plan is in place should help the steering group to monitor consultation engagement across key groups.

It will be necessary to ensure work is ongoing with community groups to support ongoing engagement of the strategy, development and implementation of actions to support everyone in Leeds across the themes.

**Action required:**

Ensure action plan is monitored.

**9. Will this activity promote strong and positive relationships between the groups/communities identified?**

Yes  No

**Please provide detail:**  
The work of the Leeds Food Strategy aims to bring together a number of stakeholder and community groups around an agreed, co-produced vision to promote more collaborative work and deliver the objectives identified within the strategy.

**Action required:** Continued engagement with groups and communities across the city by partners and interested groups.

**10. Does this activity bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other? (for example, in schools, neighbourhood, workplace)**

Yes  No

**Please provide detail:**

To deliver the objectives of the strategy, from now until 2030 there will be a number of actions each year. Due to the collaborative nature of the objectives of the strategy, it is likely that actions will require increased contact between groups with joint visions. These activities will be designed to be as inclusive as possible to maximise impact and cohesion.

**Action required:** Engagement with groups and communities across the city by partners and interested groups.

**11. Could this activity be perceived as benefiting one group at the expense of another?** (for example where your activity or decision is aimed at adults could it have an impact on children and young people)

Yes

No

**Please provide detail:**

As stated in the vision of the strategy...

Our vision for Leeds to have a vibrant food economy where **everyone** can access local, healthy, and affordable food that is produced in ways that improve our natural environment and embrace new techniques and technologies.

**Action required:**

<b>12. Equality, diversity, cohesion and integration action plan</b> (insert all your actions from your assessment here, set timescales, measures and identify a lead person for each action)			
<b>Action</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Measure</b>	<b>Lead person</b>
Development of an action plan	March 2023 – September 2023	Actions identified and EDCI impacts identified in further detail	Claire Dalton Nobbs
Wider public awareness of adopted strategy document	March 2023-2030	Communications developed with accessibility in mind, e.g. an accessible online strategy document and action plan, face-to-face sessions held to support development and implementation of actions.	Claire Dalton Nobbs
Action plan is monitored	September 2023-August 2024	This will be undertaken by FoodWise Leeds, with actions undertaken by partners and stakeholders across the city. EDCI impacts will be considered as part of this monitoring.	Claire Dalton Nobbs
Action plan is revised, updated and approved	March 2024-September 2024	Annual report to Executive Board of update and progress as well as any adopted revisions necessary due to progress or changes at a national and/or local level.	Claire Dalton Nobbs

**13. Governance, ownership and approval**

State here who has approved the actions and outcomes from the equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impact assessment

Name	Job title	Date
Polly Cook	Chief Officer SEAQ	06/03/2023
<b>Date impact assessment completed</b>		<b>06/03/2023</b>

**14. Monitoring progress for equality, diversity, cohesion and integration actions** (please tick)

- As part of Service Planning performance monitoring
- As part of Project monitoring
- Update report will be agreed and provided to the appropriate board  
Please specify which board
- Other (please specify)

**15. Publishing**

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions** or a **Significant Operational Decision**.

A copy of this equality impact assessment should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
- The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.
- A copy of all other equality impact assessments that are not to be published should be sent to [equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk) for record.

Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached assessment was sent:

For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to <b>Governance Services</b>	Date sent: 06/03/2023
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent:

## Appendix 6: Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision**. Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions.

Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being or has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

<b>Directorate: Resources</b>	<b>Service area: Sustainable Energy and Air Quality</b>
<b>Lead person: Tom Cowen</b>	<b>Contact number: 0113 378 8795</b>

### 1. Title: Net Zero Housing Plan

Is this a:

**Strategy / Policy**
                         
  **Service / Function**
                         
  **Other**

**If other, please specify**

### 2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The Net Zero Housing Plan sets out how Leeds City Council will accelerate the transition housing of all tenures towards net zero so that residents benefit from healthier and more comfortable homes that are cheaper to heat. It supports high level aims and targets contained in the best city ambition and housing strategy and supports the priorities to tackle fuel poverty and achieve net zero.

Its primary focus is on six practical actions that the council will take to achieve this transition. These are:

- 1) Creating a retrofit hub and financial mechanism for the able to pay sector
- 2) Engaging and motivating people to choose low carbon retrofit
- 3) Upscaling area renewal investment, using social housing investment to kick start work on all tenures in neighbouring homes

- 4) Improving our planning framework and engaging with the industry to ensure new homes reach net zero standards
- 5) Zoning the city to indicate the most suitable fabric investments and heating solutions by neighbourhood
- 6) Expanding green jobs, skills and supply chains to meet demand for green construction employment

### 3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies and policies, service and functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater or lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are.

When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?	X	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?	X	
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?		X
Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li> <li>• Advancing equality of opportunity</li> <li>• Fostering good relations</li> </ul>	X	

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7**

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4**.
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5**.

### 4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality,

diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

- **How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?** (think about the scope of the proposal, who is likely to be affected, equality related information, gaps in information and plans to address, consultation and engagement activities (taken place or planned) with those likely to be affected)

The plan builds on existing work to tackle fuel poverty and sets out how we will expand our efforts to meet the challenge of net zero.

A household is considered to be in fuel poverty if they have a low income and their home has low energy efficiency. So in general terms, reducing fuel poverty promotes inclusion as it must necessarily target low-income households by definition.

The issue of fuel poverty has equalities implications beyond this and we can look to a solid body of evidence<sup>123</sup> that sets out how fuel poverty disproportionately affects certain groups more than others. Ethnic minority households, households in which the oldest person is aged 16-24 and people with disabilities are more likely to be in fuel poverty than those in other groups.

The impacts of fuel poverty are also elevated amongst certain groups, with elderly, very young, pregnant or disabled people all at higher risk of negative health outcomes from cold homes.

These same groups are also vulnerable to the effects of extreme heat, which is becoming more likely due to climate change. Insulating a home doesn't just help keep it warmer in the winter, it also keeps excess heat out in the summer. It therefore reduces the risks of extreme heat, helping with the city's efforts to adapt to climate change.

- **Key findings**

(think about any potential positive and negative impact on different equality characteristics, potential to promote strong and positive relationships between groups, potential to bring groups/communities into increased contact with each other, perception that the proposal could benefit one group at the expense of another)

The Net Zero Homes Plan contains proposals that will enhance the council's fuel poverty work and therefore will have a positive effect on reducing the inequalities described above. Some of the plan's proposals will have more impact than others. Those with the greatest benefit are:

[Upscaling area renewal investment](#)

This action proposes to expand the retrofit-led-regeneration approach successfully

1

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/966509/Annual Fuel Poverty Statistics LILEE Report 2021\\_2019\\_data .pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/966509/Annual_Fuel_Poverty_Statistics_LILEE_Report_2021_2019_data.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk/housing/housing-conditions/fuel-poverty/latest>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.instituteofhealthequity.org/resources-reports/fuel-poverty-cold-homes-and-health-inequalities-in-the-uk/read-the-report.pdf>

undertaken in the Holbeck Group Repair scheme. This scheme targeted inefficient, small, terraced properties in an area with some of the worst housing conditions in the city. IMD 2019 data indicates the area is among the most deprived and disadvantaged in the city displaying some of the greatest inequalities in trends of health, life expectancy, housing quality and neighbourhood. The project greatly improved the quality of these homes and made them cheaper to heat, improving health outcomes and saving households money, whilst making the neighbourhood more attractive.

It provides a model to improve homes and secure wider neighbourhood regeneration in some of the most deprived areas of the city where inequalities are greatest. Successfully scaling up this approach to more and larger areas will therefore have a highly positive effect on inequalities.

#### Creating a retrofit hub

Because this action targets able to pay households, it could be perceived as undermining efforts on fuel poverty, since it will benefit households with greater wealth and access to capital than those in fuel poverty. It is important to note that this is additional to fuel poverty efforts and will not displace any existing or planned future fuel poverty focused schemes, so will not dilute their impact.

The role of the hub is not to subsidise this group, instead it will seek to create financial mechanisms to reduce upfront costs and provide advice and support and them to these households, encouraging them to invest their own money over a much long period of time than is possible at present.

The high upfront cost for able to pay homes has been identified as a key barrier to retrofit, particularly for younger households who have not had the opportunity to build up savings that could potentially be spent on low carbon upgrades.

Furthermore, retrofit of buildings is an essential part of the city's plans to achieve net zero carbon to prevent Leeds further contributing to climate change and experiencing further climate change related impacts which we know will exacerbate existing inequalities.

#### Green jobs and skills

The Government's green jobs taskforce identified that there is poor representation of ethnic minorities and women in key green sectors. The Green Skills Plan presents an opportunity to address these issues through diversity and inclusion schemes, training programmes and other actions to promote inclusivity.

#### • **Actions**

**(think about** how you will promote positive impact and remove/ reduce negative impact)

To understand the impact of our fuel poverty initiatives and make sure that they are providing the most benefit to disadvantaged groups we intend to monitor the characteristics of those who benefit from them. This will feed into the design of future schemes and will enable us to take corrective action if we can see that particular groups are underrepresented on individual schemes.

The design of communications programmes and activities will be informed by the evidence around the groups that are most affected by fuel poverty. We will evaluate the penetration and effectiveness of communications activities on the groups most affected by fuel poverty.

Many of the actions in the net zero housing plan cut across the work of other council services. When working with these teams we will ensure that the disproportionate equalities impacts of fuel poverty are understood and fully considered in the design of projects and that outcomes are monitored and evaluated wherever possible.

**5. If you are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you will need to carry out an impact assessment.**

Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment (Include name and job title)	

**6. Governance, ownership and approval**

Please state here who has approved the actions and outcomes of the screening

Name	Job title	Date
Polly Cook	Chief Officer, SEAQ	06/03/23
<b>Date screening completed 06/03/23</b>		

**7. Publishing**

Though **all** key decisions are required to give due regard to equality the council **only** publishes those related to **Executive Board, Full Council, Key Delegated Decisions** or a **Significant Operational Decision**.

A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:

- Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.
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<b>Governance Services</b>	
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>	Date sent:
All other decisions – sent to <a href="mailto:equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk">equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk</a>	Date sent:

## Update on climate-related council communications

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Report of: Director of Resources

Report to: Climate Emergency Advisory Committee

Will the decision be open for call in?  Yes  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?  Yes  No

### Brief summary

In 2019 the council declared a climate emergency with a target of achieving net zero emissions for the city by 2030. Communication has a key role to play in progressing the city's climate action by enabling successful council projects, explaining the council's policy, and engaging communities and businesses on the changes needed.

This report introduces a presentation update on the use of climate-related communications and engagement over the previous 12 months.

### Recommendations

- a) To consider the report by the Senior Policy & Communications Officer (Sustainable Energy and Air Quality) that introduces a presentation providing an update on the use of communications and engagement to support the council's climate action.
- b) To note and provide comments on the content of presentation.

### What is this report about?

- 1 This report introduces a presentation providing an update on the use of communications and engagement to support the council's climate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the city.

### What impact will this proposal have?

- 2 It was requested that an update is provided on the use of communications and engagement to support the council's climate mitigation and adaptation strategies for the city. This proposal will enable members to constructively discuss, check, and challenge this work.

## How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing

Inclusive Growth

Zero Carbon

- 3 Communication has a key role to play in progressing the city's action on climate mitigation and adaptation by enabling council projects, explaining the council's policy, and engaging communities and businesses. Many of the work that will be referenced in this update have overlapping co-benefits that support all three pillars of the Best City Ambition, e.g. communications that led a significant uptake of funded retrofit measures also addresses fuel poverty and reduces negative health impacts from air pollution and cold-related illness.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

- 4 No consultation has taken place regarding the report itself, however the content of the presentation to the Committee will focus on engagement.

## What are the resource implications?

- 5 There are no direct resource implications as a result of this report.

## What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

- 6 There are no specific risk management implications as a result of this report.

## What are the legal implications?

- 7 There are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.

## Options, timescales and measuring success

### What other options were considered?

- 8 Not applicable

### How will success be measured?

- 9 Not applicable

### What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

- 10 Not applicable

## Appendices

- None

## Background papers

- None