

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| Meeting date: | 3 rd August 2023 | | | | |
| Agenda Item: | 7 | | | | |
| Item Subject: | Local Area Energy Plan Update | | | | |
| For: | Discussion | | Decision | | Information x |

Purpose of the Paper:

To update the board on progress on development of Local Area Energy Plan for the Marches.

Summary of Recommendations:

The Board is asked to note the contents of the report.

Main points

At the March meeting, the Board noted that the 2018 Marches Energy Strategy would be built upon to develop a Marches-wide Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) in line with Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) guidance. This would help the LEP ensure that it is continuing to support partners in developing a flexible, reliable and secure energy generation and supply system which is fit for the future and underpins the move to a net zero economy. It is proposed that this LAEP will secure senior level support within each local authority area and demonstrate commitment to Marches-wide activity to meet local, regional and national priorities.

What is a Local Area Energy Plan?

A LAEP sets out the change required to transition an area's energy system to net zero in a given timeframe. It is a data driven and whole energy system, evidence-based approach to understanding and managing energy generation and demands. The LAEP will result in a fully costed and spatial plan that identifies the change needed to the local energy system. It will also identify near-term actions and projects, providing stakeholders with a basis for taking forward activity and prioritising investments and action.

Brighton and Hove Energy Services Co-op (BHESCo) won the contract to carry out this piece of work. BHESCo are progressing well with this piece of work and to date have:

- Reviewed all relevant reports that have been published.
- Updated a GIS database for EPC data, wind speed data, substation data and non gas map data, socio-economic data (deprivation tables).
- Met with energy network operators.
- Met with stakeholders including Energy Steering Group members and Councils.
- Received updates from community energy project at Bishop's Castle Heat Network from Sharenergy and Carbon Alternatives and the Shrewsbury hydro project.
- Begun reviewing transport data, including EV charging points.
- Looked at all renewable energy planning applications that have been submitted for the region.

BHESCo are on track to complete this on time at the end of October.

Financial implications:

None

Legal implications:

None

Risks, opportunities and impacts:

None

Equality implications:

None

Additional information:

None

Report Author:

Tim Yair

Background papers/documents: