

## Mayoral Combined Authority Board

24 January 2022

### The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission Action Plan

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<b>Is the paper exempt from the press and public?</b>	No
<b><i>Reason why exempt:</i></b>	Not applicable
<b>Purpose of this report:</b>	Discussion
<b>Is this a Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Has it been included on the Forward Plan?</b>	Not a Key Decision

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**Director Approving Submission of the Report:**

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**Executive Summary**

This report presents the Climate Action Plan that has been prepared and published by the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission. The Commission published the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Action Plan in November 2021. The Action Plan calls for meaningful climate leadership from larger institutions in government and the public and private sectors to deliver “significant, tangible contributions” to help tackle the climate and ecological emergency.

**What does this mean for businesses, people and places in South Yorkshire?**

Climate change is impacting our homes and communities, our infrastructure, our agriculture, our water supplies, and our natural environment in South Yorkshire, and it will do so with increasing frequency and intensity in the years ahead. The impacts to our society and our economy will be profound. We all have a role to play and both co-operation on use of resources and collaboration at regional level will be of great benefit.

**Recommendations**

Members of the MCA Board are asked to note the YHCC action plan’s publication, and the ongoing work to assess its alignment to local plans.

## Consideration by any other Board, Committee, Assurance or Advisory Panel

None

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### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission (YHCC) is an independent advisory body set up to bring key partners from the public, private and third sectors together to support and guide ambitious climate actions across the region. The Commission has four inter-related aims:
- to foster climate resilience and adaptation to climate risks and impacts.
  - to support rapid progress towards net zero carbon emissions.
  - to encourage a just and inclusive transition and climate actions that leave no-one and nowhere behind.
  - to promote sustainability and climate actions that also protect nature and biodiversity.
- 1.2 The Commission published the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Action Plan on Wednesday 10 November 2021. The document was developed by the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission with the help of more than 500 people from across the region.
- 1.3 It was presented at the Yorkshire Post Climate Change Summit in Leeds, also on Wednesday 10 November 2021. The event can be watched online via the Summit website.
- 1.4 The Action Plan calls for meaningful climate leadership from larger institutions in government and the public and private sectors to deliver “significant, tangible contributions” to help tackle the climate and ecological emergency. Fostering shared responsibility, moving from targets and planning to action, and putting climate and nature at the heart of all areas of decision making are three of the key recommendations from the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission, which also commits to undertake a range of ambitious actions.
- 1.5 The Action Plan stresses the need for Yorkshire and Humber to be “climate ready” to face increasing risks from climate change, stating that not acting with the required urgency and ambition will both prolong the region’s contribution to the problem and worsen local impacts.
- 1.6 The Plan consists of 50 distinct actions split into 3 broad themes:
- A Framework for Change
  - Climate Resilience,
  - Net Zero.
- 1.7 Following initial feedback, a more detailed exercise is underway to assess alignment of the YHCC plan to existing local plans. This exercise will be led by the Yorkshire and Humber Leaders group who aim to identify which of each of the 50 actions are already embedded within existing local strategies, plans and delivery programmes.

## **List of Appendices Included**

A Yorkshire and Humber Climate Action Plan