



Environment Board

Date: Friday 8 February 2019

Time: 2.00 pm **Public meeting** Yes

Venue: Room 116, West Midlands Combined Authority, 16 Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3SD

Membership

Councillor Qadar Zada (Chair)
Councillor Khurshid Ahmed
Councillor Tony Dickey
Councillor Steve Evans
Councillor Louise Harrison
Councillor David Hosell
Councillor Jim O'Boyle
Councillor Waseem Zaffar

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
City of Wolverhampton Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Coventry City Council
Birmingham City Council

Quorum for this meeting shall be the Portfolio Lead for the Environment and at least three other members separate constituent councils

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact:

Contact Dan Essex, Governance Services Manager
Telephone (0121) 214 7505
Email dan.essex@wmca.org.uk

AGENDA

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
Items of Public Business			
1.	Apologies for Absence	Chair	None
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests they have in an item being discussed during the course of the meeting. In addition, the receipt of any gift or hospitality should be declared where the value of it was thought to have exceeded £25 (gifts) or £40 (hospitality).	Chair	None
3.	Chair's Remarks (if any)	Chair	None
4.	Minutes - 10 September 2018	Chair	1 - 4
5.	Environment Board Action Plan - Update on Progress	Simon Slater	5 - 8
6.	Environment Board Action Plan - Update on Regional Targets	Simon Slater	9 - 12
7.	Update on Developing a Low Emissions Strategy - Air Quality and Carbon Emissions	Simon Slater	13 - 16
8.	Developing a West Midlands Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme	Simon Slater	17 - 20
Date of Next Meeting			
9.	Friday 7 June 2019 at 1.00pm	Chair	None



**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

Environment Board

Monday 10 September 2018 at 2.30 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Patrick Harley (Chair)
Councillor David Hosell

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Item No.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tony Diccio (Solihull), Councillor Jim O'Boyle (Coventry), Councillor Karen Shakespeare (Dudley) and Councillor Waseem Zaffar (Birmingham).

2. Inquorate Meeting

The Governance Services Manager reported that, in accordance with the WMCA's constitution, the meeting was inquorate. The recommendations contained within the minutes would be submitted to the WMCA Board on 9 November 2018 for formal approval and adoption.

3. Terms of Reference and Dates for Meetings September 2018 - June 2019

The board considered a report from Simon Slater, Interim Head of Environment, setting out the terms of reference and the dates of future meetings for the Environment Board.

At its meeting on 8 September 2017, the WMCA Board agreed its environment priorities and the ambition to become a 'best in class' combined authority in its approach to sustainability over the next two years. At its meeting on 20 July 2018, it approved the establishment of an Environment Board to take oversight and drive forward its environmental agenda. The report set out the terms of reference of the board, along with the dates of meetings for the remainder of 2018/19.

It be recommended to the WMCA Board that:

- (1) The terms of reference for the Environment Board be approved.
- (2) Future meetings of the Environment Board be held on 1 February 2019 and 1 June 2019.

4. WMCA Environment Board Action Plan September 2018/19

The board considered a report from Simon Slater, Interim Head of Environment, setting out the progress to date and future action plan of the Environment Board.

A set of environmental priorities were developed from the policies contained within the Strategic Economic Plan, the Mayor's Renewal Plan, stakeholder consultation and established good practice activity. These priorities had been developed into an Environment Action Plan, which was approved by the WMCA Board at its meeting on 20 July 2018.

Simon Slater reported that the Action Plan set out the nine workstreams that would be progressed over the next 12 months, along with when progress made against these would be reported in to meetings of this board. A key role for this board would be to monitor the delivery of the Action Plan. Councillor David Hosell stressed the value of setting out delivery targets against which progress could be measured at future board meetings.

The Chair noted that this was a new area for a number of members and therefore it was important for board members to get up to speed with the work of the environment portfolio.

It be recommended to the WMCA Board that:

The Environment Board Action Plan for September 2018/19 be approved.

5. Update on Developing a West Midlands Low Emission Strategy

The board considered a report from Simon Slater, Interim Head of Environment, on the work undertaken to date developing a West Midlands Low Emission Strategy and seeking approval to begin strategy development.

Informal consultation with internal and external stakeholders had demonstrated a clear appetite for the West Midlands to develop a strategic approach to air quality and a low emissions strategy, similar to the approach undertaken by Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and London. This would ensure the region took a co-ordinated approach to reducing the negative economic and health effects of poor air quality. It was intended that a draft Low Emissions Strategy and Action Plan would be considered by this board at its meeting on 1 February 2019, followed by its submission for approval by the WMCA Board at its meeting on 8 March 2019.

Patrick White, Director of Industrial Strategy, reported that the development of a WMCA Low Emission Strategy would complement the work being undertaken by constituent authorities and would avoid duplication. Councillor David Hosell noted the positive impact that a bus rapid transit network across the region could have, and welcomed the work being taken forward in this regard by Transport for West Midlands. The Chair reported that the WMCA should also be looking at best practice within combined authorities across the country in developing its Low Emissions Strategy.

It be recommended to the WMCA Board that:

The scope and direction of the development of a West Midlands Low Emission Strategy be approved.

6. Local Industrial Strategy Update

The board received a verbal update from Patrick White, Director of Industrial Strategy, on the development of a West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy. The region would be one of the first two in the country to develop such a strategy, which was expected to be consulted upon during October for submission to the WMCA Board for approval early in 2019. Patrick White provided further detail on the local opportunities that could be realised through the development of a Local Industrial Strategy. He expected the strategy would guide future central government investment decisions made within the region.

Councillor David Hosell enquired as to the involvement of the universities sector in this work. Patrick White explained that significant work was being done with the universities in the region, who had all shown a willingness to be involved in the production and delivery of the strategy.

It be recommended to the WMCA Board that:

The update briefing be noted.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Friday 1 February 2019 at 1.00pm

The meeting ended at 4.05 pm.

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Environment Board

Date	8 February 2018
Report title	Environment Board Action Plan - Update on Progress
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Qadar Zada – Environment
Accountable Chief Executive	Jan Britton, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council email: jan_britton@sandwell.gov.uk
Accountable Employee	Simon Slater, Head of Environment, WMCA email: simon.slater@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	WMCA Environment Delivery and Advisory Group – 21/11/2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Environment Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note progress on the Environment Board Action Plan and forward plan.
- (2) Provide ideas from their own experience of how they have influenced other portfolios and activities to deliver environmental outcomes that could be explored with the role of this Board and the wider WMCA.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To update the Board on high level progress of the agreed Environment Board Action Plan linked to the immediate priorities of air quality, clean growth, green infrastructure, and green buildings. To allow members to ask questions about progress and the forward work plan to help guide the new WMCA Environment Team with implementation.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 At the 10 September 2018 the Environment Board agreed the Annual Action Plan.
- 2.2 In October 2018 the Annual Sustainability Benchmark of Combined Authorities was published. We were 2nd on how we had integrated environment within our leadership, strategies and delivery within the publicly available information published on our website. We therefore ensured the recommended improvements provided by Sustainability West Midlands were prioritised within our existing plan, so we can reach our target of being a leading CA in this area.
- 2.3 In November 2018 through meetings with the new portfolio holder and the Mayor we ensured their emerging priorities were clear in the existing Action Plan. The Environment Board Annual Action Plan was then formally approved by the WMCA Board.
- 2.4 The current portfolio holder has requested that the following issues are prioritised in the Annual Action Plan.
- Reporting progress against the top priorities of Clean Growth, Air Quality, Green Infrastructure, and Green Buildings.
 - Working towards quantifying the health and jobs benefits of proposed interventions over time.
 - Ensuring relevant local authority officer groups are involved with the Environment Delivery and Advisory Group that supports the work programme.
 - For the WMCA Environment Team to go and brief individual Environment Board members to build the collective understanding of local priorities and where the CA can add value.
 - Explore ways on how to clearly influence other WMCA workstreams.
- 2.5 There is a more detailed work plan available to members on request.

3.0 Action Plan Progress Highlights – September 2018 – February 2019

Clean Growth

Worked with Green Alliance, Sustainability West Midlands, and other partners to raise profile of Clean Growth opportunities in the region and how to make the new Local Industrial Strategy – the UK's first Clean and Inclusive Growth one.

Air Quality

Worked with a range of local partners to develop and agree a regional approach to developing a Low Emission Strategy to tackle air quality and carbon emissions (see later Agenda item)

Green Infrastructure

Worked with a range of local and national partners to develop and agree a regional approach to developing a Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme (see later Agenda item)

Green Buildings

Early stages of supporting the Sustainable Housing Action Programme and their networks and partners to support the WMCA Housing and Regeneration Team.

Internal WMCA activity and Communications

Reviewed WMCA funding and investment system and have agreed an internal improvement plan to integrate revised environmental criteria across all our funding.

Secured budget and created new WMCA Environment team in October 2018 to help support Environment Board Action Plan and scale up good practice with partners, and attract more investment within region.

4.0 Action Plan Forward Highlights – February 2019 - June 2019

Clean Growth

Launch of Local Industrial Strategy and securing funding for Clean Growth Challenge to stimulate business in this area.

Identify in more detail the local clean growth opportunities within each LEP and local authority area to help the WM Growth Company and local business support.

Air Quality

Development of Low Emission Strategy and Action Plan – with recommendations back to Environment Board in June.

Green Infrastructure

Securing funding from partners and getting partnership team together to launch strategy consultation in July and other external investment opportunities.

Green Buildings

Developing standards for new homes and buildings funded by WMCA and delivered by local partners.

Internal WMCA activity and Communications

Continue to implement improvements to funding system and communications.

Complete visits to WMCA member authorities and commission review of good local practice to scale up.

Ensure appropriate links are built and supported with officers groups to strength capacity and good practice sharing across WMCA area on key environmental priorities.

Launch internal environment strategy for WMCA. Explore producing external document to highlight work of WMCA on Environment and the role of the Board.

5.0 Wider WMCA Implications

This activity helps strengthen the reporting of the WMCA delivery of the environment and the delivery of key Manifesto, SEP, and annual plan commitments.

6.0 Financial Implications

The WMCA will provide support through the new WMCA Environment Team and seek to influence other WMCA programmes, and secure external funding from partners and investors for other activities.

7.0 Legal Implications

None at this stage.

8.0 Equalities Implications

The proposal to work to quantify the impact of these work streams, especially around health, will help begin to tackle some of the issues around access to a good quality environment.

9.0 Inclusive Growth Implications

See above.

10.0 Geographic Implications

This covers the CA geography covered by the SEP.



Environment Board

Date	8 February 2018
Report title	Environment Board Action Plan - Update on Regional Targets
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Qadar Zada – Environment
Accountable Chief Executive	Jan Britton, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council email: jan_britton@sandwell.gov.uk
Accountable Employee	Simon Slater, Head of Environment, WMCA simon.slater@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	WMCA Environment Delivery and Advisory Group – 21/11/2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Environment Board is recommended to:

- (1) Approved approach on Regional Environment indicators and targets linked to Environment Board Plan Priorities
- (2) Agree to receive future update and further quantification of the impact these targets will have on increasing healthy lives and jobs.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To update the Board on a dashboard of regional indicators and targets linked to the monitoring of the Environment Board Action Plan and the immediate priorities of air quality, clean growth, green infrastructure, and green buildings. Then to agree future areas for improvement and feedback to the Board.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 At the 10 September 2018 Environment Board it was requested to do a stocktake of existing targets and set them against the Environment Board Action Plan Priorities so that progress could be measured. Other portfolio holders have also developed a similar approach or 'dashboard'. This is an action within the Board Action Plan.
- 2.2 This has been undertaken by reviewing the Environment Board priorities against existing or proposed targets within existing WMCA or partner strategies and testing this with partners and advisors on the WMCA Environment Delivery and Advisory Group.
- 2.3 These targets and indicators will be reported on annually to the Board. Where possible these will:
- include a regional indicator and breakdown by local authority area to reflect the diversity of the region and the need to target support to different geographies
 - show progress against a target
 - include interim targets and indicators to cover important areas while partners are developing a better understanding and metrics over time
- 2.4 Apart from our internal improvement target, the other indicators and targets are region wide and what the CA and local authorities can work together on to influence.

3.0 The latest indicators and targets

Environment Board Priority	Outcome	Target	Status
Clean Growth and Air Quality	Emissions	Carbon (total and per capita): "40% reduction from 2010 to 2030"	Existing
		Air Quality: "Reduction to 1 day breached by 2030"	Existing
	Efficiency of Economy – Business growth and carbon reduction	"By 2030, Increase Total GVA by 100% whilst Reducing Total Carbon Emissions by 50%"	Existing

		"Emissions Intensity Ratio of 106 tonnes/£ million by 2030"	Existing
		<i>TBC growth of green business and jobs</i>	<i>New</i>
	Waste Recycling	"60% of household waste recycled by 2030"	<i>New – based on similar CAs</i>
		"60% of non-household waste recycled by 2030"	<i>New – based on similar CAs</i>
	Clean Energy	<i>Being developed</i>	<i>New</i>
Green Buildings	Fuel Poverty	"50% reduction of homes in fuel poverty from 2011 to 2030"	<i>New – would bring us in line with best performing CA.</i>
Green Infrastructure	Natural Environment	"60% of sites in Positive Conservation Management by 2030"	<i>Interim - likely indicator will be replaced</i>
	Water Quality	<i>Being developed</i>	<i>New</i>
	Flood Risk	<i>Being developed</i>	<i>New</i>
Internal Improvements of CA across clean growth, air quality, buildings, and green infrastructure.	Internal Strategy	"Score of 83% or higher on national CA sustainability benchmark by September 2020"	Existing

3.1 These targets are under continuous review. See following for a list of key future developments that may affect them:

- Committee on Climate Change report on carbon targets, April
- WMCA regional Air Quality Strategy, June
- Housing Strategy with Fuel Poverty targets, date unknown
- New developments on Govt. waste targets with "Resources and waste strategy for England" (2018), date unknown
- Natural Capital Strategy and targets for Natural Environment, date unknown
- Regional review of Clean Businesses, date unknown
- Internal Environment Strategy targets, April

3.2 Over the year we will also be looking at how can improve quantification around these indicators in terms of the business case for achieving them to help inform funding programmes and other portfolio holders. Where possible this will be in outcomes such as number of healthy lives increased, and jobs created.

- 3.3 At a future Environment Board we will provide a full 'Environment' dashboard and progress in quantifying the impact of improvements within the region if these were achieved.

4.0 Wider WMCA Implications

This activity helps strengthen the reporting of the WMCA delivery of the environment and the delivery of key Manifesto, SEP, and annual plan commitments.

5.0 Financial Implications

The WMCA will provide support to the production of the indicators and monitoring and will work with partners to develop and monitor the new proposed ones.

6.0 Legal Implications

None at this stage.

7.0 Equalities Implications

The proposal to work to quantify the impact of these targets and indicators, especially around health, will help begin to tackle some of the issues around access to a good quality environment.

8.0 Inclusive Growth Implications

See above.

9.0 Geographic Implications

This covers the WMCA geography covered by the SEP.



Environment Board

Date	8 February 2018
Report title	Update on Developing a Low Emissions Strategy - Air Quality and Carbon Emissions
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Qadar Zada – Environment
Accountable Chief Executive	Jan Britton, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council email: jan_britton@sandwell.gov.uk
Accountable Employee	Simon Slater, Head of Environment email: simon.slater@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	WMCA Overview and Scrutiny – 16/1/2019

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Environment Board is recommended to:

- (1) To note the progress on the development of the strategy and action plan.
- (2) Comment on additional region wide actions to be considered by the strategy development workshop with stakeholders in March.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This paper is linked to the Environment Board priorities of Clean Growth and Air Quality. It updates the Board on progress, prior to them reviewing draft recommendation to approve at the June Board. It also provides an opportunity for additional ideas to be fed into to be considered at a stakeholder workshop in March.

2.0 Progress to date

- 2.1 The WMCA Board approved the production of the West Midlands Low Emission Strategy and Action Plan in July 2018 and delegated the draft scope to the WMCA Environment Board to approve in September 2018. Comments on this draft scope at the Environment Board meeting and from the steering group members of TfWM, the Local Authority air quality officers' network and the WMCA Environment Board advisory group, were then incorporated into the final scope. This has included a re-emphasis on local 'added value', sharing of good practice, and local ownership raised previously by the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.2 To raise awareness and further ownership in November and December the WMCA Environment Team have presented to officers and councillors as part of regional public health and transport events on air quality and the West Midlands Environment Pollution officers network.
- 2.3 The Environment Team also presented progress to the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16th January 2018. They raised the following additional issues for consideration:
- Focus on longer term health outcomes and roadmap to drive change and certainty for investors, rather than just short-term targets.
 - Coordination and scaling up of good local practice.
 - Focus on a selection of region wide actions that will accelerate local action e.g. region wide policy and rollout by local authorities and TfWM sites on charging points.
 - Have clear annual success factors
- 2.4 A steering group has been appointed which met on 21st January to finalise the development and implementation plan. This group is made up of representatives from the WMCA constituent councils covering air quality and low emission issues, who will also liaise with non-constituent councils. The group also includes representatives from industry, public health, and Transport for West Midlands, and is led by the new WMCA Environment team. The group has finalised the scope and development plan for the strategy which is available on request.
- 2.5 The original timescales have changed to allow time required for the approval process by the Environment Committee and Board and feedback from partners. The latest indicative timescales are:

- March – Regional Stakeholder Workshop
- April / May – Meeting of Steering Group to finalise draft actions / recommendations
- June 7th – WMCA Environment Board agree final actions and recommendations within strategy for adoption by WMCA Board.
- July – WMCA Board approval of strategy
- August/September – formal launch of strategy and action plan.

3.0 Wider WMCA Implications

This activity helps strengthen the WMCA delivery of the environment and the delivery of key Manifesto, SEP, and annual plan commitments.

4.0 Financial Implications

The WMCA will provide support to the production of the Strategy and Action Plan.

5.0 Legal Implications

None at this stage.

6.0 Equalities Implications

Part of the WMCA sustainability review and benchmarking focused on the health inequalities agenda between the gap between the worst and best performing areas with the WMCA SEP area, and by gender. This work will support partners improving air quality and the creation of jobs which help begin to address these inequalities.

7.0 Inclusive Growth Implications

See above.

8.0 Geographic Implications

This covers the WMCA geography covered by the SEP.

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Environment Board

Date	8 February 2018
Report title	Developing a West Midlands Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Qadar Zada – Environment
Accountable Chief Executive	Jan Britton, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council email: jan_britton@sandwell.gov.uk
Accountable Employee	Simon Slater, Head of Environment, WMCA email: simon.slater@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	WMCA HS2 Growth Board – 22/1/2019

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Environment Board is recommended to:

- (1) To approve the approach of developing a West Midlands Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme.
- (2) To suggest local green and blue spaces that could be considered as pilots or case studies within the strategy and programme.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This paper is linked to the Environment Board priorities of Green Infrastructure and Green Buildings. The paper seeks to outline the proposed approach on the development of a Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme.

2.0 Background

- 1.2 Natural capital is defined as the elements of nature that directly or indirectly produce value to people, including ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, minerals, the air and oceans, as well as natural processes and functions. It underpins all other types of capital – manufactured, human and social – and is the foundation on which our economy, society and prosperity is built (Natural Capital Committee, 2014).
- 1.3 “The total value of the World’s ecosystem services (benefits humans gain from the natural environment) amount to twice as much as global aggregate GDP – up to \$124.8 trillion per year”. (Global Environmental Change
- 1.4 In practice this is taking many different forms:
- Environmental accounts for public and private companies to understand how they are improving their environmental assets, such as land, and the wider value this brings.
 - Net gain – where new development has to offset the value of land to nature built on and pay for this to be created elsewhere.
 - Attracting a range of new ‘green finance’ to improve the environment from sources such as carbon offsetting and biodiversity credits from UK companies, air industry, and the Government, or water quality and flood and drainage improvement from the Environment Agency and Water Companies.
 - Spatial strategies to identify where natural environment improvements, such as woodlands and recreation areas, and linking them up as cycling and walking routes, can bring the biggest health and economic benefits.
 - In Greater Manchester they have combined a range of these activities into a spatial plan to show where the environmental improvements are required, and then a set of tools to build business cases and attract ‘green finance’ for improvements.
- 1.5 In the West Midlands we have a range of existing activity operating in this area.
- The WMCA HS2 Growth Programme has piloted a range of approaches to help integrate natural capital and ‘net-gain’ within the workstreams, such as landscape and river corridor improvements.
 - The WM Natural Capital Roundtable, led by the Wildlife Trusts and partners, has supported the HS2 Growth Board, and the WM Environment Board to identify how to develop a more strategic approach to Natural Capital.
 - The WMCA Corporate plan and Environment Board work plan have commitments to produce a Natural Environment Investment Strategy.

- The WMCA Local Industrial Strategy has a strong emphasis on natural capital and net-gain.
- Other partners such as Birmingham City University, are promoting the concept of a 'national park'.
- The WMCA has supported Birmingham City Council on a £1m bid for a natural environment innovation programme based on existing tools they have developed, so it can be shared across other local authorities.
- The Black Country have already developed a spatial plan identify key 'environmental pinch points' that environmental investment would help with environmental, health, and economic improvements.

3.0 Proposed Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme.

3.1 Following advice from Greater Manchester and the WM Natural Capital Roundtable we are proposing a strategic approach to help coordinate and scale of the existing activity, attractiveness to investors, and impact of activity. To do this we will:

- Work with the WM Natural Capital Roundtable, supported by the Wildlife Trusts, to strengthen this partnership with other businesses, utilities and investors to help develop and oversee the production of the Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme.
- The Strategy will scale up the work of the Black Country and others to provide a spatial plan of areas of green and blue space to improve and link up.
- The Programme will look at key tools to deliver this strategy, building on existing pilot work by HS2 programme around net-gain tools, and building a pipeline of business cases for investment from the WMCA, partners, and new sources of 'green finance'.
- The Programme will also look at existing mechanisms the WMCA could use to deliver this such as the standards around our projects, housing, creating community gardens and greenspace around local train and bus stations etc.
- Given the complexities of the subject, thought will also be given on how to communicate the opportunities, and the type of capacity and skills required within partners to build business cases and access 'green finance'.

3.2 Proposed Implementation timescale

- February - Approval of approach by Environment Board
- March – Finalising of detailed scope and development timetable with WM Natural Capital Roundtable.
- April – Agree financial support by partners for strategy, and supporting a pipeline of existing projects going to the HS2 Growth Board.
- May/June – Appoint team to develop strategy and programme.
- July – Launch of consultation of development of strategy and programme with partners.
- September – Approval of Final Strategy and programme by Environment Board.

4.0 Wider WMCA Implications

This activity helps strengthen the WMCA delivery of the environment and the delivery of key Manifesto, SEP, Local Industrial Strategies and annual plan commitments.

5.0 Financial Implications

The WMCA will provide some support to the production of the Natural Capital Investment Strategy and Programme through staff time from the WMCA Environment Team , but will need to secure funding from other partners and pilot projects to scale this up across the whole WMCA area.

6.0 Legal Implications

None at this stage.

7.0 Equalities Implications

One of the prioritisation criteria in the strategy and programme will be how environmental improvements on key sites can ensure better access to a high-quality environment, with the associated health, and jobs benefits.

8.0 Inclusive Growth Implications

See above.

9.0 Geographic Implications

This covers the WMCA geography covered by the SEP.