

**West Midlands Combined Authority – Decisions taken by the Environment & Energy Board on Thursday 7 March 2024**

<b>Agenda Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
2.	Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rob Clinton (Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council) and Councillor Jim O’Boyle (Coventry City Council).
5.	Minutes - 21 December 2023	<p>The minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment on page 3, paragraph 5, that incorrectly noted the Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council scheme Wildlife Waste Project to be amended to Wildlife Ways Project.</p> <p><b><i>Minute Item no 15. Local Investment in Natural Capital Programme</i></b>            Councillor Hughes raised a matter arising from the minutes on page 3, paragraph 2, that noted that the Executive Director of Strategy, Economy and Net Zero would e-mail a list of the membership in terms of the governance arrangements for the Local Investment in Natural Capital Programme that Councillor Hughes did not recall receiving. The Head of Environment apologised and said that the list had been circulated to the Local Authority Net Zero Directors and would ensure that board members receive following the meeting.</p>
6.	Local Nature Recovery Strategy	<p>Resolved:</p> <p>(1) The Responsible Authority role of the West Midlands Combined Authority in the delivery of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy was endorsed.</p> <p>(2) The progress of the West Midlands Combined Authority’s work on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy was noted.</p>
7.	Local Area Energy Planning and the Planning Regional Infrastructure in a Digital Environment Project Update	<p>Resolved:</p> <p>(1) The formation and work of the Local Area Energy Plan Co-ordination Group was welcomed.</p>

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		<p>(2) The proposed regional approach to Local Area Energy Planning in the West Midlands was endorsed.</p> <p>(3) That the region will likely need to feed into further OfGEM consultations later this year, on the geography of the future Regional Energy Strategic Planning function for the Midlands area and how the region wishes to organise itself to feed into a future model of Regional Energy Strategic Planning was noted.</p>
<b>8.</b>	Heat Networking Zoning Consultation Update	<p>Resolved:</p> <p>(1) The emergence of heat network zoning and endorse the proposed next steps to develop a West Midlands Combined Authority heat network programme was acknowledged.</p>
<b>9.</b>	Local Net Zero Accelerator Progress Update	<p>Resolved:</p> <p>(1) The verbal update was noted.</p>