



West Midlands
Combined Authority

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.