



***SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT  
COMMITTEE - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SUB-  
COMMITTEE***

***10.00 AM THURSDAY, 20 APRIL 2023***

***VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS***

**All mobile telephones to be switched to silent for the duration of the meeting**

This meeting will be recorded for broadcast via the Council's Internet Site. By participating you are consenting to being filmed and the possible use of those images and sound recordings for training purposes.

1. Welcome
2. Chairs Announcements
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (*Pages 3 - 6*)
5. Correspondence from the Scrutiny Committee to the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee (*Pages 7 - 12*)
6. South West Wales Strategic Development Plan (*Pages 13 - 24*)
7. South West Wales Energy Strategy Update (*Pages 25 - 132*)
8. Forward Work Programme
9. Urgent Items

Any urgent items (whether public or exempt) at the discretion of the Chairperson pursuant to Section 100B (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 1972

**K.Jones**  
**Chief Executive**

**Civic Centre**  
**Port Talbot**

**Friday, 14 April, 2023**

**Committee Membership:**

**Chairperson: R.Sparks**

**Vice  
Chairperson: T.Bowen**

**Councillors:** R.Davies, S.Pursey, D.Howlett, M.John,  
M.Tierney, R.James, E.Schiavone, P.Black,  
M.White and W.Lewis

## South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee - Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee

(Via Microsoft Teams)

**Members Present:**

**23 February 2023**

**Chairperson:** Councillor R.Sparks

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor T.Bowen

**Councillors:** R.Davies, D.Howlett, M.John, M.Tierney and P.Black

**Officers In Attendance** C.Griffiths, O.Enoch, D.Griffiths, J.Jones, S.Jones, S.Davies and C.John

---

1. **Welcome**

The Chair introduced and welcomed the Committee.

2. **Chairs Announcements**

There were none.

3. **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

5. **Draft Corporate Plan 2023-2028**

Members were updated verbally and received a PowerPoint presentation on the operational progress relating to the development of the Draft Corporate Plan. This was also an opportunity for members of scrutiny to feed in to the 6-week consultation exercise, as detailed within the circulated report.

The Chair commended officers on the progress made in terms of publishing the Draft Corporate Plan for public consultation. It is understood that South West Wales will be the first Corporate Joint Committee in Wales to produce a Corporate Plan.

Members commented that within future reports that the inclusion of any relevant documents such as policy's or strategy's be included as appendices and not detailed as links within the report.

Discussions took place around the potential response rate in relation to the ongoing consultation process. Officers explained that the response rate to date could be considered as modest in numerical terms, however the detail of the responses received was proving to be interesting and useful.

Reference was made to the programme of publicity and the approach undertaken to raise awareness of the consultation. Members felt that future consultations needed a widened approach and more communications around the consultation to ensure a greater response rate is secured.

Members discussed the budget restrictions. It was noted that the Corporate Plan needs to be both aspirational and deliverable. The chosen wellbeing objectives have been aligned to the powers and duties that Corporate Joint Committee have. Members will have an opportunity to review the progress being made on delivering the well-being objectives on an annual basis.

It was noted that the appendices of the Draft Corporate Plan details aspirational dates which can prove difficult when measuring the progress. It was noted that benchmarks would need to be included to enable scrutiny to undertake its functions when scrutinising these performances.

Members noted the report and welcomed the fact that they will receive Annual Reports on the progress being made to deliver the Corporate Plan's well-being objectives.

It was noted that the responses from today's meeting would be recorded and included within the consultation responses. Along with a letter from the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee-Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee to the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee.

Following scrutiny, the report was noted.

## 6. **South West Wales Economic Delivery Plan**

Members were updated on the progress being made to deliver the South West Wales Regional Economic Delivery Plan and provided an overview of those wider initiatives taking place within the region.

Members discussed the hydrogen and electrical vehicle feasibility study detailed within the Earth programme and queried why the hydrogen feasibility study had been commissioned. Officers provided an overview of the reasoning's as to why hydrogen vehicles would be required. It was noted that a report would be brought back to committee at a future date detailing further information in relation to this programme.

Members queried the process on receiving the funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Officers explained that the funding had been secured locally and regionally and there was no match funding.

Further discussions took place around alternative funding required to support the Corporate Joint Committee in delivering the Economic delivery plan.

Scrutiny queried the purpose of the Corporate Joint Committee in the involvement in bidding for funding. Following discussions members were concerned that the majority of funding applications were being processed through individual authorities and not the Corporate Joint Committee as a whole.

Following scrutiny, the report was noted.

## 7. **Regional Transport Plan 2025 - 2030**

Members were updated on the progress to deliver a Regional Transport Plan for the five-year period 2025 to 2030, as detailed within the circulated report.

Discussions took place around resources that would be required to develop the regional Transport Plan. It was clear from discussions that there was a lack of resources and funding. It was noted that there hadn't been a commitment from Welsh government on providing any resources to help support this plan. Officers provided reassurance to members that they will continue lobbying Welsh

Government to provide funding to support the Regional Transport Plan.

Following discussions, members were concerned around the approach and lack of resources to support this plan. Therefore, it was agreed that the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee, would have delegated authority to write a letter to the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee, detailing the committee's views and concerns that have been raised within the three subjects that have been discussed at today's meeting.

Following scrutiny, the report was noted.

8. **Forward Work Programme**

Members noted the Forward Work Programme.

9. **Urgent Items**

There were none.

**CHAIRPERSON**

## **SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

20<sup>th</sup> April 2023

### **Report of the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

**Report Title: Correspondence from the Scrutiny Committee to the  
Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee**

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To inform scrutiny members of the correspondence that was shared with the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee, from the Scrutiny Chair on behalf of the views of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
<b>Recommendation</b>	That the correspondence be noted.
<b>Report Author</b>	Charlotte John
<b>Finance Officer</b>	
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Craig Griffiths

#### **Background:**

Following a previous meeting of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Committee that was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023. Members highlighted their views and concerns and requested that delegated authority be provided to the Chair of the Scrutiny Committee to share these concerns via letter to the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee (attached at appendix 1).

Attached at appendix 2 is the correspondence received from the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee received on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

**Financial Impacts:**

No Implications

**Integrated Impact Assessment:**

There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for information purposes.

**Workforce Impacts:**

No implications.

**Legal Impacts:**

No implications.

**Risk Management Impacts:**

No Implications.

**Consultation:**

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item

**Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

To inform the Scrutiny Committee of the correspondence shared between the Chairs of Scrutiny and the Corporate Joint Committee.

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Letter from the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Appendix 2 – Letter from the Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee

**List of Background Papers:**

None

**Officer Contact:**

Charlotte John

Senior Scrutiny and Project Management Officer

c.l.john@npt.gov.uk – 01639 763745



Cllr. Rob Stewart  
Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee

Dear Cllr. Rob Stewart

**Re: Corporate Joint Committee**

I am writing to you in your capacity as Chairperson of South West Wales (SWW) Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) at the request of the membership of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee in my capacity as Chairperson of said Sub-Committee.

In the last two meetings of our Sub-Committee members have expressed their frustration and lack of clarity about the purpose and benefit of the new regional structure. The CJC appears to be attempting to formalise existing excellent relationships between the member organisations. However, our local authorities have a proven track record of joint working and the duties of the new CJs appear to be a costly and unnecessary burden which is costing our residents at a time when budgets could not be under more pressure from the ongoing cost of living crisis, brought on by the consequences of several factors including Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

In our last meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, the substantive items on the agenda 5, 6 and 7 were the Draft Corporate Plan 2023-2028, The SWW Economic Delivery Plan 2025-2030 and the Regional Transport Plan 2025-2030. In each of them officers and members both noted that the work of the CJC appears to be superfluous since the member organisations already work together on these projects.

We appear to have been forced into this by Welsh Government and there is concern that the necessary levels of bureaucracy that the CJC requires does not offer a clear benefit. Whilst future benefits might be in the offing in the future, they are not clear now. At the very least we suggest that we should have more clarity from Welsh Government and if they will insist on this structure, we recommend that they fund the costs directly rather than creating additional burdens on local authorities.

I would kindly request that you note our sub-committee's frustration and I ask you to pass this onto the members of SWW CJC and in your ongoing engagement with Welsh Government and Ministers.

Yours faithfully,

Cllr. Russel Sparks

---

**Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee – Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee**

Councillor Russel Sparks  
Chair of the Corporate Joint Committee  
Overview and Scrutiny Sub Committee

*Please ask for:* Councillor Rob Stewart  
*Direct Line:* 01792 63 6366  
*E-Mail:* [cllr.rob.stewart@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.rob.stewart@swansea.gov.uk)  
*Our Ref:* RS/CM  
*Your Ref:*  
*Date:* 13<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**BY EMAIL**

Dear Councillor Sparks

Thank you for your letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

I share your view that the South West Wales region has a strong track record of successful collaborative working – the Swansea Bay Growth Deal a case in point.

In setting up the Corporate Joint Committee for the region, we have been careful not to disrupt the effective regional mechanisms already in place but to use these arrangements as a foundation for exercising the new powers and duties.

Officers have quantified the costs that accompany the new statutory planning duties as part of the set-up phase and I can assure the Joint Scrutiny Committee that I, along with the Chairs of the other three Corporate Joint Committees are pressing Ministers to fully fund the policy.

I would also advise that Welsh Ministers have been clear that they will be allocating future investment to support economic growth on the basis of the new Corporate Joint Committee model. I am seeking clarity from Welsh Ministers as to the level of investment likely to be made available over the coming years whilst ensuring we are well positioned to draw down such investment. You will have noted from the information presented to the Joint Scrutiny Committee that arrangements made by the UK Government to replace EU funds remains unsatisfactory and that is a further factor that is frustrating the early work of all Corporate Joint Committees.

Should you find it helpful for me to engage directly with the Joint Scrutiny Committee on these points I would be very happy to attend a future meeting.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Stewart', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**COUNCILLOR ROB STEWART  
CHAIR  
SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE**

## SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**Report Title: South West Wales Strategic Development Plan**

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To update Members on the key components and stages of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP); the options for delivering the work programme; the current issues and risks; and an overview of the collaborative evidence base studies undertaken across South West Wales.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that Members note the current position in respect of the issues, risks and progress made in respect of the South West Wales SDP.
<b>Report Author</b>	Ceri Morris
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Chris Moore
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Craig Griffiths

#### Introduction

1. Future Wales – The National Plan 2040, the new Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) Regulations together set the framework for the formation and preparation of Strategic Development Plans (SDPs).
2. With specific regard to the strategic planning function, each CJC has a statutory duty to prepare an SDP – this is a mandatory function. For the purpose of preparing an SDP, National Park Authorities (NPAs) will have a member on the CJC, with voting rights, wherever the CJC encompasses either part, or the whole of the NPA area. This means that Pembrokeshire Coast NPA and Brecon Beacons NPA (part of) will be within the South West SDP. Furthermore, it is noted that the CJC approved its Corporate Plan 2023-2028 in March 2023 and that well-being objective 3 contained therein focuses upon the delivery of the SDP for South West Wales (refer to paragraph 48 of this report).

#### Brief Overview of Key Components of SDPs

3. SDPs should only focus on those issues, topics or places, which are key to delivering wider than local issues. SDPs should not be concerned with naming all places within their boundary, rather focus on those places, which are critical in responding to the key drivers of change. This can cover issues such as major centres for economic growth, housing (including new settlements) or conversely broad areas for protection including Green Belts and Strategic Green Infrastructure.

4. SDPs must express a vision and a strategy to deliver the vision for the region as a whole. In addition, it should also express sub-regional strategies for either an individual Local Planning Authority (LPA) or combinations of LPAs to enable LDP Lite's or Joint LDP Lite's to be progressed at a later date. SDPs must set the scene and enable LDPLs/JLDPLs to be prepared which align and deliver the strategy of the SDP.
5. The fundamental elements of LDPLs/JLDPLs such as the strategy, scale of housing and identification of key settlements will need to be clearly stated in the SDP where they can be evidenced and tested through the public examination. This means that an SDP must expressly state and include the following:
  - A clear and deliverable vision for the SDP area and for each constituent LPA.
  - A coherent, overarching strategy with clearly defined roles for places both on a regional and sub-regional basis.
  - A clearly expressed settlement hierarchy based around the role and function of places, focused on those places key to delivering the plan.
  - Sustainable development and Placemaking embedded as the overarching principles.
  - Identify an overall housing provision and requirement for the SDP and for each constituent LPA/LDPL, set out in dwellings.
  - Identify an overall employment provision for the SDP and for each constituent LPA/LDPL.
  - Identify spatial areas to accommodate growth above a set threshold.
  - Establish the Gypsy and Traveller need for the SDP area and each LPA/LDPL on a consistent methodology, with coordination between LAs and their duties under the Housing Act.
  - A regional retail hierarchy.
  - A broad delivery trajectory for homes and jobs aligned to the implementation of infrastructure to support change.
  - Identify infrastructure capacity pinch points and headroom alongside future requirements necessary to support growth.
  - Identify broad areas of affordable housing need and links to viability to demonstrate delivery.
  - Assess and quantify the capacity of public and private transport infrastructure and opportunities to increase a modal shift away from the private car.
  - A coordinated approach to environmental designations, including green belts, ecological assets and biodiversity.
  - A coordinated approach to energy, minerals and waste related designations.
6. Like LDPs, the policy framework presented in SDPs will need to be fully justified and based on sound evidence. The evidence gathered will need to be relevant, proportionate and focused, and ideally front-loaded to inform the Preferred Strategy stage.

## Strategic Development Plans Manual

7. On 9<sup>th</sup> September 2022 an informal ‘SDP Draft Manual’ setting out the scope and range of SDPs was issued to all 25 Local Planning Authorities, including the WLGA. Members will note that the CJC considered the Draft Manual as part of a wider presentation on the SDP at its December 2022 meeting. It is expected that a more formal consultation will take place for a 12-week period over the Summer/Autumn 2023, with publication anticipated by the end of 2023.
8. The aim of the manual is to provide a practical resource for CJCs and others involved in the SDP process – it will set out practical guidance on how to prepare, monitor and revise a SDP. The manual follows the same format as the current Local Development Plan (LDP) manual.

### Key Stages of SDP Production

9. The SDP Manual proposes that SDPs should be capable of being prepared and adopted in approximately 5 years (refer to Table 4.6 below). Members will note that the stages to be navigated mirror that of a Local Development Plan, with the first stage requiring the preparation of a Delivery Agreement (including a Community Involvement Scheme). The Delivery Agreement must be approved by resolution of the CJC before submission to Welsh Government.
10. Notwithstanding the above, Welsh Government has indicated within published advisory notes that they will take a pragmatic approach to the early SDPs in recognition of the complexities involved in delivering the regional plan. It is generally accepted therefore that it is reasonable and prudent to assume that the production and adoption of SDPs is likely to take a period in excess of 5 years.

**Table 4.6: The Timetable**

Key Stage		Timescales
<b>Definitive</b>		
<b>Stage 1</b>	<b>Delivery Agreement</b> Preparation and submission	Up to 4 weeks for WG approval (Usually shorter)
<b>Stage 2</b>	<b>Pre-Deposit</b> Preparation and involvement	Approximately 3 years
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Preferred Strategy</b> Public consultation	
<b>Stage 4</b>	<b>Deposit plan</b> Public consultation	Approximately 1 year
<b>Stage 5</b>	<b>Submission</b>	
<b>Indicative</b>		
		Approximately 12 months in accordance with Planning Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) Procedural Guidance
<b>Stage 6</b>	<b>Examination</b>	
<b>Stage 7</b>	<b>Inspector's Report</b>	
<b>Stage 8</b>	<b>Adoption</b>	
		<b>Total plan preparation time</b> <b><u>5 YEARS</u></b>

## Potential Options for Delivering the SDP

11. An assessment of the options available to formulate the 'SDP Preparation Team' that is capable of delivering the required outputs is underway – the following provides a brief overview of the options being considered.
12. **Regional 'Full' SDP Team employed by the CJC** – a separate team outside of existing Local Authority Strategic / Forward Planning departments is created, administered, recruited and managed independently. This will require a senior level operational lead/manager for the SDP – a separate post to any existing local authority senior management structure, supported by a team of officers with the sole purpose to deliver the SDP.
13. **Regional 'Co-ordinating' SDP Team employed by the CJC** – rather than a dedicated team, the arrangement would draw on the existing expertise and resources from within the region. A 'skeleton' team including an SDP lead and support staff, to be employed by the CJC, would co-ordinate officers within existing LPAs who would be required to provide significant inputs, potentially through secondment. In this regard, specific authorities would be nominated to lead on specific areas of SDP production (Housing, Employment, Retail etc.) and would be overseen by the SDP implementation team who would coordinate the process.
14. **Regional Strategic Planning Restructure / Merger** – a formal restructure incorporating the strategic planning policy function of all LPAs in the region into one Regional Strategic Planning Service. This service would be responsible for the delivery of all matters relating to Development Plan preparation, adoption and monitoring across the whole region, as well as a broader strategic planning agenda.
15. **Creation of 'Full' Regional SDP Team within existing Local Authority** – a dedicated SDP Preparation Team would be positioned within an existing local authority Strategic/Forward Planning department. This would make use of existing senior manager arrangements within one authority who would oversee a new dedicated team to deliver the SDP for the region. The core team would be led by a dedicated team leader who would report to existing senior management who would be the interface with the CJC Planning and Land Use group. Within this structure a small core team reporting to existing senior management could drive forward the SDP. Being within an existing authority will benefit from close working and correlation with officers working on emerging Replacement LDP's and ensuring that both plan tiers align being under the same management structure. The team could be supported by new posts or through the secondment of officers for the duration of the SDP work. Such secondments would not necessarily need to be for the full terms of the SDP but rather to deliver specific areas of work.
16. **Creation of 'Co-ordinating' SDP Team within existing Local Authority** – this would see existing senior management within a chosen Local Authority to oversee the preparation and delivery of the SDP. One or two core officers within that strategic planning section would coordinate delivery of the process. The team leader would report to existing senior management who would sit on the Planning/Land Use Group. Rather than secondments, service level agreements would be put in place with existing strategic planning departments within the region who would take the lead in particular



areas of work to feed into the SDP. Where the expertise or resource is not available, and it is considered more resource efficient to procure consultants than the core team would lead on the procurement of specific commissions utilising the standing orders of one local authority.

17. Each of the options summarised has its advantages and disadvantages. The analysis of existing staff, skill sets, areas of expertise and capacity to accommodate work streams is important to inform requirements for the SDP Preparation Team – a pan-Wales assessment of staff resources has been undertaken.

### Current Issues and Risks

18. There are a number of factors currently preventing progress on the South West Wales SDP. Firstly, there is no substantive budget/funding allocated that would enable the ‘SDP Preparation Team’ to be established (*as per options above*) and the detailed work programme to commence. Members will note that the CJC agreed a ‘Continuity Budget’ for 2023/24 at its January 2023 meeting. The Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee also considered the budget at its meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023.
19. Moreover, there are no existing staff resources or capacity within the respective LPAs across the region to divert from existing work streams in order to deliver the SDP. Local Authorities are also not in a position to delay work bringing forward their respective Replacement LDPs not least as this could result in LDPs reaching their ‘drop-dead’ dates.
20. It should also be noted that there are ongoing and significant recruitment and retention issues being experienced across the Planning profession. These challenges will be no different when seeking to recruit experienced officers to become part of the SDP Preparation Team.
21. In light of these issues, it will be important over the next 12 months to maintain an ongoing dialogue with Welsh Government concerning the expectations around SDP development, the future timescales for delivery and more importantly the potential for future funding to assist and facilitate the delivery of the SDP programme across Wales.
22. Members will note that the CJC has established 4 sub-committees, with the terms of reference for each of these agreed in October 2022. The below sets out the structure of these sub-committees. The consideration of how the respective duties (including the SDP) can be progressed and action planning formulated will become clearer as the sub-committees are ‘stood up’ over the coming months.

Sub Committee	Lead Chief Executive	Political Lead
Regional Transport Planning	Swansea	Carmarthenshire
Economic Well Being – regional economic development	Carmarthenshire	Swansea
Strategic Development Planning	Pembrokeshire	Neath Port Talbot
Economic Well Being - regional energy strategy	Neath Port Talbot	Pembrokeshire

## **Cross-Boundary Collaborative Work – Developing a Common Evidence Base**

23. Whilst substantive progress on the SDP is likely to be delayed pending the resolution of the financing and resourcing issues, it is important for Members to note that a great deal of collaborative cross-boundary work has and is being undertaken across the region.
24. Bringing together different LPAs into a wider regional structure through CJsCs will inevitably mean that there could be some variations in how evidence has previously been collated for plan making. However, there is now both an opportunity and necessity to rationalise and standardise methodologies for evidence gathering in order to prepare an SDP.
25. The ‘South West Wales Strategic Planning Group’ is well-established and comprises the four SWW authorities plus Brecon Beacons National Park and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. A number of collaborative initiatives and studies have already been progressed – these work streams will not only inform reviews of individual LDPs but will also contribute positively providing a baseline and ‘building blocks’ for the SDP. The following provides a brief overview of the recent joint work undertaken.
26. **Joint Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (October 2020)** – covers the Mid and South West Wales regions (i.e. Brecon Beacons NPA, Carmarthenshire County Council, Ceredigion County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Pembrokeshire Coast NPA, Pembrokeshire County Council, Powys County Council, City and County of Swansea). The region commissioned Opinion Research Services (ORS) consultants to produce an overarching Regional Housing Report (Main Report) and several Sub Area Reports for each of the Local Authorities within the regional group.
27. The LHMA considers the state of the whole housing market, including assessment of the need for affordable homes of different tenures (such as social rent, affordable rent, low-cost home ownership, and specific local needs for affordable housing) and the differing needs of communities such as the housing requirements of older people, students, people with disabilities, and local housing needs for market housing.
28. The LHMA serves a number of purposes, including informing:
  - The development and review of LDPs and local housing strategies;
  - Decision-making in terms of negotiating the level, type and mix of affordable housing and other tenures;
  - The provision of affordable homes of different tenures; and
  - Housing issues that are relevant to the authority’s duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
29. **Regional Viability Study** – covers the Mid and South West Wales regions (i.e. Brecon Beacons NPA, Carmarthenshire County Council, Ceredigion County Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Pembrokeshire Coast NPA, Pembrokeshire County Council, Powys County Council, City and County of Swansea). The region commissioned Burrows-Hutchinson Ltd consultants to produce the following core elements:

- Produce a Regional Viability Model and High Level Viability Assessment;
  - Deliver Site Specific Viability Testing Tool: the 'DVM' Development Viability Model – there is one for Residential and one for Commercial – LPAs are using these to assess the viability of candidate sites and planning applications (and charging a fee);
  - Deliver a structured training programme for officers across the region; and
  - Provide support services to enable LPAs to produce Financial Viability Reports for their administrative areas – based on findings of the above and using skills/capabilities developed in the training.
30. **National Growth Area Refinement Study** – using EARTH programme funding (WEFO European Social Fund), the authorities across South West Wales (Neath Port Talbot, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Swansea) appointed Turleys to refine the boundary / spatial extent of the Swansea Bay and Llanelli National Growth Area (SBLNGA) to inform the preparation of each Replacement LDP prior to the final delineation of the boundary by the CJC SDP Team.
31. The study presented a refined spatial extent of the geographical area defined in Future Wales for the SBLNGA in a spatial description and illustrated using a non-defined/fuzzy boundary. This recognises that the development of the SDP evidence base will build upon this research and apply any refinements necessary to accommodate additional detail around the definition of local growth areas, opportunity sites and potential constraints.
32. **South West Wales – Stage 1 Strategic Flood Consequence Assessment (SFCA) (November 2022)** – the South West Wales region's Planning Authorities (Carmarthenshire Council, Neath Port Talbot Council, Swansea Council, Pembrokeshire Council, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority) commissioned JBA Consulting to undertake a broad assessment of potential flood risks across the entire study area from all sources of flooding.
33. The study identifies areas at potential high risk from flooding as well as providing details of historical flood events and any details of any flood risk management structures or procedures present.
34. The SFCA also provides information on the opportunities to slow and store water as part of natural flood management schemes as well as guidance on implementing TAN 15 and managing flood risk in a development site.
35. **Nutrient Credit Trading Scheme & Toolkit Feasibility Study** – was commissioned by the South West Wales region (Carmarthenshire, NPT, Swansea and Pembrokeshire Councils) funded through the EARTH programme.
36. In January, 2021 Natural Resources Wales (NRW) published new targets to reduce river phosphate levels in Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) across Wales. In South West Wales the Afon Teifi, Afon Gwy, Afon Tywi, and Afon Cleddau are designated as SACs and are affected by these guidelines. Development in proximity to these rivers will be unable to connect to the public sewerage system and alternative solutions must

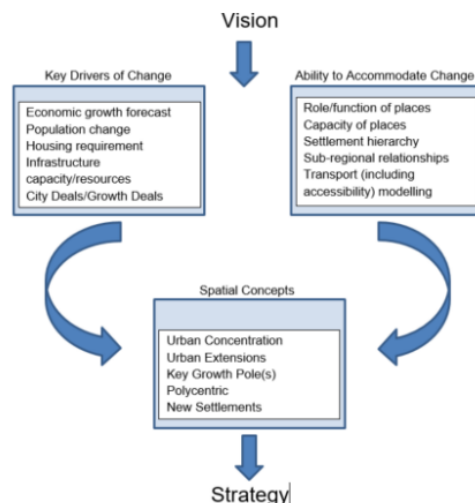
be found which comply with the new targets being phosphate neutral or bettering phosphate levels.

37. Arup, Wheatley Young Partners and the University of Exeter were therefore commissioned to undertake the study to outline the requirements of successfully implementing a Nutrient Credit Trading system that would facilitate transference of mitigation benefit to developers in a simple and effective way, and to create a 'toolkit' to be implementable throughout Wales.
38. **Joint Economic & Housing Growth Assessment for Swansea and Neath Port Talbot** – has recently been commissioned by Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Councils. Turley, SQW and Edge Analytics were tasked with undertaking an assessment of future household growth and levels of housing need, accounting for demographic trends, and the scale of labour force change required to support the presented forecasts of job growth.
39. Due to other Authorities within the South West Wales region being at different stages of their plan preparation it was not feasible to widen the study, however the methodology used can be applied at a regional scale for future SDP work.

### Developing an integrated approach to CJC functions

40. Whilst this report has focused on the CJC's regional land use planning function, there are clear and strong linkages across both the 'regional transport' and 'economic development and energy' functions too.
41. The SDP will be both shaped by (*refer to Diagram 3.1 below*) and will influence all functions of the CJC. Building an integrated approach to the CJC's 'mandated functions', regional plans and programmes will be key to maximising the ability to deliver on the joint ambition. The embedding of the importance of the delivery of the SDP from a cross cutting and integrated perspective is reflected in its eminence within the CJC's Corporate Plan 2023-2028. Appendix 1 of this report captures the action/steps measures for well-being objective 3 (i.e. the delivery of the SDP) as set out within the Corporate Plan.

Diagram 3.1: Key Aspects Shaping an SDP



## **Timescales**

42. This report sets out an overview of the activity across the region, all of which offer the potential to align and contribute to the Corporate Objectives of the CJC as outlined within its Corporate Plan 2023-2028.

## **Financial Impacts**

43. There are no new financial impacts related to this report. The main activity scheduled for 2023/24 will be to engage with Welsh Government to ensure a comprehensive and 'fit for purpose' SDP Manual is prepared and published. A budget of £20,000 has been allocated to the strategic planning sub-committee. Also, a sum of £140,000 is allocated to a planning and programme management budget – this is seen as a suitable means of ensuring that the CJC is in a position to respond to any requirements emerging during the year – e.g. publication of the Regional Transport Plan (RTP) and/or SDP guidance. It should be noted in this regard that the RTP guidance has been published already and as such it is likely that a notable level of the planning and programme management budget will be allocated to the RTP in 2023/2024 as opposed to the SDP.
44. There will be continued discussions between the SWW CJC and Welsh Government regarding the need for additional resources to be agreed to fund the necessary staff and associated costs to advance the SDP. Members should note that in the absence of sufficient resources being agreed, there is unlikely to be any substantive work undertaken to progress key stages of the South West Wales SDP.

## **Integrated Impact Assessment**

45. The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
  - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
  - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
  - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
46. It is not considered that an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) is required for this report as it does not seek a substantive policy decision from Members. The CJC approved its Corporate Plan 2023-2028 in March 2023 and this includes an equality objective. This is set out below for ease of reference:

*‘To deliver a more equal South West Wales by 2035 by contributing towards:*

*(a) The achievement of the Welsh Government’s long-term equality aim of eliminating inequality caused by poverty;*

*(b) The achievement of the Equality statement set out in Llwybr Newydd which is to make our transport services and infrastructure accessible and inclusive by aiming to remove the physical, attitudinal, environmental, systemic, linguistic and economic barriers that prevent people from using sustainable transport; and*

*(c) The achievement of the Welsh Government’s long-term equality aims of cohesive communities that are resilient, fair and equal and where everyone is able to participate in political, public and everyday life. There will be no room for racism and / or discrimination of any kind.*

## **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (and CJC Corporate Plan and its identified well-being objectives)**

Alignment with CJC Corporate Plan 2023-2028 and the identified CJC Well-being objectives:

47. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the ‘well-being goals’.
48. The CJC approved its Corporate Plan 2023-2028 in March 2023. Members will note that the formulation of the Corporate Plan has allowed for the identification of well-being objectives for the CJC. It is considered that this report aligns to the corporate policy framework of the CJC, most notably in terms of Well-being Objective 3 which is outlined below for Members ease of reference:

*‘To produce a sound, deliverable, co-ordinated and locally distinctive Strategic Development Plan for South West Wales which is founded on stakeholder engagement and collaboration and which clearly sets out the scale and location of future growth for our future generations’.*

### **Workforce Impacts**

49. There are no new workforce impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

50. There are no specific legal impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

### **Risk Management Impacts**

51. There are no specific risk management impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

**Consultation**

52. There is no requirement for consultation in respect of this report.

**Recommendation – For Noting**

53. To ensure that the Committee is fully aware of the current position in respect of the issues, risks and progress made in respect of the South West Wales SDP.

**Appendices**

54. Appendix 1 – SDP Action steps as set out in Corporate Plan 2023-2028.

**List of Background Papers**

55. There are none.

## Appendix 1 – SDP Action steps as set out in Corporate Plan 2023-2028

Priority	Actions	Impact Measures
<b>Engage with Welsh Government</b>	<p>Engage with Welsh Government Officers on the draft SDP Manual to ensure the final version of that guidance serves to help facilitate an SDP that can deliver on CJC, Council and National Parks corporate objectives.</p> <p>Further engage with Welsh Government regarding the resource requirements to develop the SDP.</p>	Any issues addressed in final guidance
<b>Prepare Delivery Agreement</b>	Work collaboratively across the region to undertake key studies that will form an evidence base for the SDP.	Ensures early key stage work benefit from alignment with latest underpinning evidence and is aligned with replacement LDPs being produced.
<b>Develop SDP</b>	Deliver a number of SDP key stages with engagement and consultation of stakeholders – (including Community Involvement Scheme, the ‘Call for’ Strategic Locations and Sites/Areas, Preferred Strategy.	Compliant SDP.



## SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**Report Title: South West Wales Energy Strategy Update**

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	Appraise Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members of developments across the regional energy agenda, in line with the CJC Corporate Plan (Action Plan) adopted March 2023.
<b>Recommendation</b>	It is recommended that Members note the current position regarding developments across the regional energy agenda.
<b>Report Author</b>	Steven P Jones
<b>Finance Officer</b>	
<b>Legal Officer</b>	

#### Introduction and context

1. Whilst not specifically referenced as a ‘mandatory function’ in the Local Government and Elections Act 2021, there has been widespread support for the energy agenda to be acknowledged as a complementary workstream (under the economic well-being objective/‘mandated function’) across the South West region.
2. Indeed, and as outlined in the report to the SWWCJC Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 23 February 2023, a key mission of the Regional Economic Delivery Plan (endorsed by the SWWCJC on 15 March 2022) is:  
  
‘To establish South West Wales as a UK leader in renewable energy and the development of a net zero economy: taking forward the region’s major energy related projects and driving the benefits through the region (via industrial decarbonisation, supply chain opportunities, university-linked innovation, etc). (Mission 1.)’
3. Aligning the **regional** economic and energy agendas has a strong logic as industrial South Wales is recognised as the second highest CO<sub>2</sub> emitting region in the UK. Indeed, the South Wales Industrial Cluster (SWIC) was established to focus specifically on decarbonising ‘heavy’ industry – from steel to refineries, LNG, power, chemical and nickel manufacturing.

The SWIC ambition is to create the World’s first net zero emissions industrial zone by 2040. The key metrics for this are:

- c.16m metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>/year
- 113,000 industrial and manufacturing jobs preserved/secured
- c. 5,000 new, skilled jobs in clean energy to be created
- c. £2-4bn per annum of inward investment.

The SWIC 'Plan for Clean Growth' was launched in February 2023 and focusses on the following core objectives:

- energy and resource efficiency
- fuel switching (electrification, hydrogen)
- clean growth hubs
- carbon capture and utilisation
- carbon capture and storage.

4. At **national** level the UK Government's 'Powering up Britain' energy security and net zero strategies, launched 27 March 2023, also highlights the economic and energy alignment issue. Of particular note is support for nuclear, floating off-shore wind, hydrogen and the emerging importance of carbon capture and storage (CCS), albeit critics argue that this may provide 'cover' for continued fossil fuel use, in particular new gas and oil fields in the North Sea.

In terms of floating off-shore wind (FLOW), the strategy launch included the re-announcement of the £160m port infrastructure funding scheme, with a particular emphasis on the "substantial pipeline of potential projects in the Celtic Sea"; see section on Celtic Freeport below.

With regards to hydrogen the UK Government's ambition for 10 GW of hydrogen production by 2030 was supported by a £240m net zero Hydrogen fund, with specific support for a Hydrogen Valley and (separate) H2 Energy projects in Pembrokeshire.

5. At Welsh Government level the 'Net Zero Strategic Plan' (September 2022) follows on from the climate emergency declaration in 2019.

The Net Zero Strategic Plan sets out 54 initiatives – from promoting communications and training, to retrofitting the Welsh Government's estate, electric vehicle charging network and procurement – that will be assessed and reviewed in 2025 and 2030.

As part of the Welsh Government's plan there is a collective 2030 Welsh Public Sector net zero target that all local authorities are participants in, and against which Audit Wales have recently undertaken a national report. Their 'Public sector readiness for Net Zero Carbon by 2030' report included five calls-for-action from public 'bodies'.

- Strengthen leadership and demonstrate collective responsibility through effective collaboration
- Clarify the specific direction and increase the pace of implementation
- Get to grips with the finances that are required
- Know the skill gaps and increase capacity, and
- Improve data quality and monitoring to support decision making.

6. In summary, and from the global to the local, the ‘energy’ agenda has emerged as a key – perhaps the key – dimension impacting on civilisation, countries, companies, communities and citizens. From the CJC perspective it is important to acknowledge that whilst the scale and dynamic nature of the energy agenda can sometimes feel overwhelming, there is a hierarchy of plans (at regional and local level), significant opportunities and additional support and resources that will, over-time, help the region to transition to a low carbon economy.

### **Regional and local plans**

7. The South West Wales Regional Strategy (RES) was endorsed as the regional energy strand of the work programme at the meeting of the South West Wales Joint Committee on 15 March 2022. The RES is supported by an energy and economic modelling analysis, and the baseline assessment (as of 2017) identified that:
  - South West Wales consumes around 36% of all energy in Wales, more than its 22% share of the population, partly due to the concentration of very large industrial sites in the region (see para. 3.)
  - The region’s total energy demand is dominated by the commercial and industrial sector, which makes up 68% of the total demand (with domestic demand accounting for 17% and transport accounting for 15%)
  - Renewable assets located in South West Wales currently generate the equivalent of 44% of the region’s energy consumption
  - South West Wales hosts 27% of Wales’ renewable energy capacity
  - 46% of renewable generation in South West Wales is from on-shore wind projects and 45% from solar photovoltaics.
8. The RES vision for South West Wales is as follows:

*‘Harnessing the region’s low carbon energy potential across its on and off-shore locations, to deliver a prosperous and equitable net zero carbon economy which enhances the well-being of future generations and the region’s eco-system at a pace which delivers against regional and national emissions reduction targets by 2035 and 2050.’*
9. The RES priorities for delivering this Vision are as follows:
  - Energy efficiency
  - Electricity generation
  - Smart and flexible systems
  - Decarbonise heat
  - Decarbonise transport, and
  - Regional coordination.

### **Local Area Energy Plans**

10. In addition to the regional energy strategy, the Welsh Government have supported i.e. funded consultants, to develop local area energy plans (LAEPs) at the local authority footprint level.

11. LAEPs are supported by a comprehensive (seven stage – see Appendix A) process designed to identify the most effective pathway(s) to decarbonising the local energy system. LAEPs are led by local authorities and developed collaboratively with defined stakeholders.
12. Pembrokeshire was identified as a UK wide pilot authority for LAEPs and completed its plan in summer 2002. Consultants City Science are currently working with Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea to produce tailored plans that are also aligned and consistent with the regional energy strategy.
13. Both the regional and local area energy plans have been supported by the Welsh Government Energy Service (WGES). The intention is to complete the jigsaw of plans next year within a national energy plan.

### **Emerging opportunities**

14. The synergy between the regional economic and energy agendas is now clearly demonstrated through a number of major projects such as the Celtic Freeport programme that was recently jointly announced by the UK and Welsh Governments.
15. The Celtic Freeport is a consortium that covers the ports of Milford Haven and Port Talbot and Neath Port Talbot Borough Council and Pembrokeshire County Council. The Celtic Freeport bid is based around accelerating plans for off-shore wind in the Celtic Sea, alongside developing hydrogen and sustainable fuels, and carbon capture and storage.

The Celtic Freeport bid submission identified the potential to create 16,000 new jobs and £5.5bn of new inward investment. Roger Maggs, Chair of the Consortium, has commented “the Celtic Freeport Consortium provides access to a huge development footprint, a skilled workforce and a network of local, regional and global partners capable of enabling the rapid growth of the floating off-shore wind sector and a flourishing hydrogen economy in Wales”.

The Celtic Freeport will include 600 hectares of designated Tax Sites (across the two local authority port areas) that are designed to stimulate new investment, as opposed to displacement. The scale and the geographic/spatial footprint of the Celtic Freeport will create supply chain and job opportunities across the whole of the south west region.

16. At the regional level the Swansea Bay City Deal programme includes a number of projects that are also aligned with the regional energy agenda, most specifically the Pembroke Dock Marine project, the Homes as Power Stations project and the Supporting Innovation and Low Carbon Growth project.

A recent ‘Portfolio Carbon Reduction Assessment’ report (February 2023) provided by the SBCD Portfolio Office, identified a range of contributions:

- Estimated 80,000 sq m of BREEAM excellent floor space
- 5,000 jobs across renewable and energy sectors

- Estimated 6,000 skills and talent opportunities for the energy and decarbonisation sectors
  - A regional centre of excellence in the renewable energy sector
  - Growing the supply chains in the installation, marketing and operations of blue and green technologies.
17. Other major projects that will have a regional (and national) impact include the Global Centre of Rail Excellence (UK's first net zero railway), the Blue Eden tidal lagoon project, the proposed South West Wales hydrogen pipeline ('HyLine Cymru') and the (RWE) Pembroke Net Zero Centre.
  18. Underpinning this programme of pan-regional energy projects is a series of smaller scale local and regional projects – from ULEV roll-out (in the transport sector) to local authority and broader public sector net zero (2030) programmes (public buildings, street lighting, fleet mileage etc) through to collaborative Public Service Board and community schemes that support the decarbonisation, climate change and nature emergency agenda.
  19. At local authority footprint level there is evidence of 'emerging opportunities' across the region; from the proposed c.100 hectare Eirlys Solar Farm west of Mynydd Morgan in Port Talbot, through to a new circular economy hub and centre of excellence at Nant y Caws, Carmarthen, and a hydrogen production scheme at Milford Haven, building on the recent UK Government funded 'Energy Kingdom' project.

### **Managing the regional agenda**

20. As outlined in the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee Corporate Plan (approved March 2023) the Joint Committee has already adopted the Regional Energy Strategy and agreed to create a separate Energy Sub-Committee.
21. The lead Chief Executive Officer responsibility for the Energy Sub-Committee rests with Neath Port Talbot, whereas the political lead is Pembrokeshire County Council.
22. To support the Energy Sub-Committee the region has a well-established structure for coordinating energy activities and interventions. A regional Energy Core Group (local authorities, Welsh Government Energy Service and SBCD Portfolio office) meets regularly and is supported and informed by a wider stakeholder advisory group of representatives from across the energy spectrum. Critically, the local authority representation involves senior officers from both economic and energy disciplines, with support also being provided by the EARTH (regional institutional capacity building) team. A copy of the Regional Energy Core Group Terms of Reference is attached at Appendix B.
23. The Energy Core Group work programme is delivered through four 'Task' groups – Domestic energy; Renewable energy generation; Transport and active travel and Commerce and Industry – and a dynamic action planning

process that maps activities and interventions across the region. A copy of the Action Plan – which is under development – is attached at Appendix C.

24. Additional capacity has recently been confirmed following a Welsh Government award of £350k to recruit staff to help accelerate both local and regional energy plans and coordinated delivery. Furthermore, a recent application to the UK Innovate Launchpad programme will, if successful, provide a grant pot (c£6m) to assist small businesses in the region who are involved in the renewable energy space. Further support for local and regional energy businesses and projects should also be available from the Shared Prosperity Fund.
25. Another, and more recent, funding application has been submitted to the Innovate UK ‘Net Zero Living – Fast Followers’ programme. If successful the project would fund a Net Zero Innovation and Delivery Officer to assist the regional SBCD Homes as Power Stations project.
26. In a crowded policy landscape one of the key challenges is to effectively engage with ‘influencers’ and agencies who can both promote the regional energy agenda and contribute to its delivery. To support this socialisation process the regional Energy Core group is producing a ‘Regional Energy Strategy Communication Plan’, see draft at Appendix D.

Whilst the Communication Plan is still under development it is anticipated that the increased resource capacity (para. 24 refers) will provide support for the increased awareness and adoption needed for the strategy to become embedded in the region’s agenda.

27. In terms of SWWCJC Corporate Plan, the approved action plan for the regional energy strategy (Objective 1) is set out below:

Appendix 2 – Well-being objective 1 - action/steps, timescale and impact measures (Regional Energy Strategy).

## 2 Regional Energy Strategy (Well being Objective 1)

### To deliver the RES, we will take the following steps 2023-2028:

Priority	Actions	Impact Measures
<b>Map available resources and identify resource gaps.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake an evaluation exercise to determine that the correct level of resource and expertise is embedded within each Council for the effective delivery of activity and programmes within each specific thematic theme of the strategy:</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Domestic energy</li> <li>2. Renewable energy generation</li> <li>3. Transport and active travel</li> </ol>	<p>Establish regional delivery team.</p> <p>Alignment to existing programmes.</p>

	4. Commercial and industrial	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Local Area Energy Plans</li> </ul>	
<b>Formulate implementation programmes alongside our partners, including private industry.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop prioritised action plans for the four programme themes</li> <li>• Enable and facilitate programme and project implementation</li> <li>• Align projects (and benefits) with Regional Economic Delivery Plan low carbon objectives</li> <li>• Ensure Well-being objective informs Regional Transport Plan.</li> </ul>	Local Authority Energy Plans aligned with Regional Energy Strategy benefits realised.

28. As outlined at the Corporate Joint Committee meeting on the 30 March 2023 delivery of the Corporate Plan is conditioned by the Committee's decision to both approve the 'Option 2 – Continuity' budget for 2023/24, and to prioritise the statutory requirement to progress both the development of a Regional Transport Plan and a Regional Land Use Strategic Development Plan.

29. Accordingly, the actions and impacts outlined on the table above reflect the limited resource capacity currently available within the four local authorities; note also para. 24. above.

30. That said, the primary role of the local authorities in the region is one of enabling and facilitating the regional energy strategy, rather than direct delivery.

Whilst local authorities have specific delivery requirements to meet the Welsh Government's public sector 2030 net zero target, as outlined in the attached regional Energy Action Plan (Appendix C), the delivery of the regional energy strategy will require the combined effort of a multiplicity of organisations and 'actors' including UK and Welsh Governments, Registered Social landlords, South Wales Industrial Cluster, Haven Energy Cluster, Port Authorities, further and higher education institutes, utility companies, National Grid, Ofgem, Transport for Wales, National Parks, etc.

31. Helpfully, the majority of the above organisations have been involved in the development of the Regional Energy Strategy and continue to be engaged via the regional advisory group; see Appendix B - Terms of Reference.

32. And in addition to the 'impact measures' outlined in the above table, the regional action plan includes a list of measures/indicators that, it is hoped, will also provide data on delivery over the next few years.

### Conclusions

33. As set out in the introduction to this report, the energy agenda is undergoing a rapid period of transition and growth. From the global to the local there are commitments, targets, policy initiatives, funding streams, plans, proposals and projects.

Whilst mapping this activity is challenging there is Welsh Government support to produce a suite of local and regional energy plans that will align with a (forthcoming 2024) National Energy Plan. The presumption is that a “planned approach” will reduce nugatory activity and help address major obstacles such as grid capacity and skills. *(A recent study of the ‘skills gap’ in Milford Haven identified gaps in awareness and understanding, in main-streamed institutional support, and in associated social infrastructure such as housing.)*

34. Across the South West region there is a generational opportunity to support a coordinated approach to the renewable energy and industrial decarbonisation agendas. The ability to optimise this is predicated, in part, on developing an integrated approach to economic development, transport and land use planning.

The South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee has a key role to play in facilitating this.

### **Timescales**

35. This report sets out an overview of the activity across the region, all of which offer the potential to align and contribute to the Corporate Objectives of the CJC as outlined within its Corporate Plan 2023-2028.

### **Financial Impacts**

36. There are no new financial impacts related to this report. A budget of £20k has been allocated to the Energy Sub-committee. Whilst resourcing levels to support the energy agenda across the four local authorities are limited, the report sets out additional funding support from the WG to bolster staffing over the next two years.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment**

37. The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
  - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
  - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.
  - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.
  - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
  - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.



38. It is not considered that an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) is required for this report as it does not seek a substantive policy decision from Members. The CJC approved its Corporate Plan 2023-2028 in March 2023 and this includes an equality objective. This is set out below for ease of reference:

*‘To deliver a more equal South West Wales by 2035 by contributing towards:*

*(a) The achievement of the Welsh Government’s long-term equality aim of eliminating inequality caused by poverty;*

*(b) The achievement of the Equality statement set out in Llwybr Newydd which is to make our transport services and infrastructure accessible and inclusive by aiming to remove the physical, attitudinal, environmental, systemic, linguistic and economic barriers that prevent people from using sustainable transport; and*

*(c) The achievement of the Welsh Government’s long-term equality aims of cohesive communities that are resilient, fair and equal and where everyone is able to participate in political, public and everyday life. There will be no room for racism and / or discrimination of any kind.’*

### **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (and CJC Corporate Plan and its identified well-being objectives)**

#### Alignment with CJC Corporate Plan 2023-2028 and the identified CJC Well-being objectives:

39. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the ‘well-being goals’.
40. The CJC approved its Corporate Plan 2023-2028 in March 2023. Members will note that the formulation of the Corporate Plan has allowed for the identification of well-being objectives for the CJC. It is considered that this report aligns to the corporate policy framework of the CJC, most notably in terms of Well-being Objective 1 which is outlined below for Members ease of reference:

*‘To collaboratively deliver the Regional Economic Delivery Plan and Regional Energy Strategy thereby improving the decarbonised economic well-being of South West Wales for our future generations.’*

### **Workforce Impacts**

41. There are no new workforce impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

42. There are no specific legal impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

### **Risk Management Impacts**

43. There are no specific risk management impacts for Members to be concerned with in relation to this report.

### **Consultation**

44. There is no requirement for consultation in respect of this report.

### **Recommendation – For Noting**

45. To ensure that the Committee is fully aware of the current position in respect of the regional energy agenda.

### **Appendices**

46. Appendix A – LAEP Programme Overview  
Appendix B – Draft ToFR – Regional Energy Core Group  
Appendix C – Draft regional energy Action Plan  
Appendix D – Draft regional Communications Plan

### **List of Background Papers**

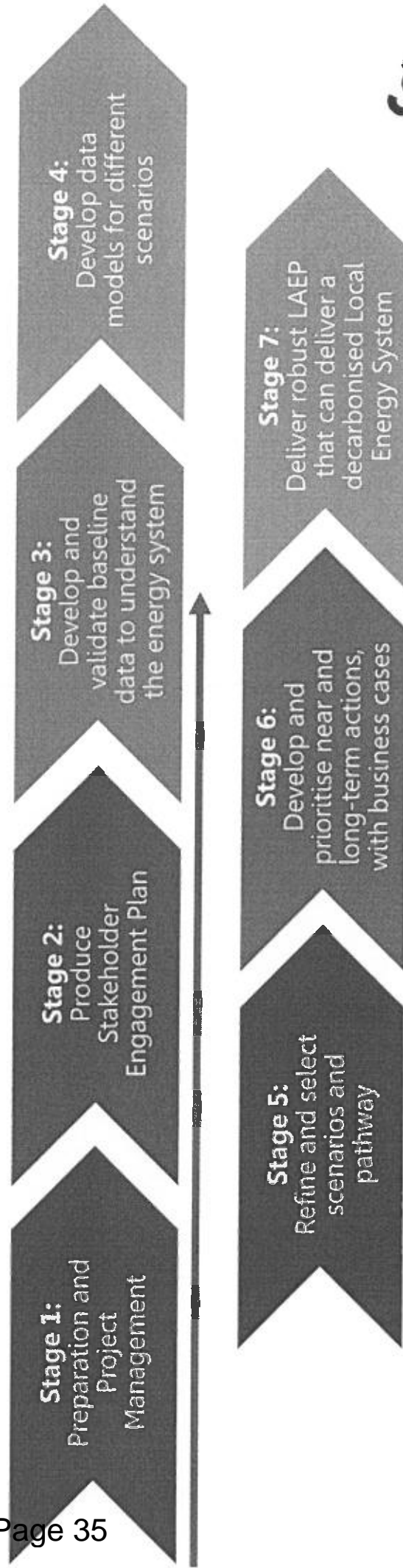
47. There are none.

# TROSOLWG O'R RHAGLEN / PROGRAMME OVERVIEW PROGRESS THROUGH THE STAGES OF THE LAEP

**Stage 1:** Held regional and local inception meetings and produced regional and local inception report.

**Stage 2:** We have held Stakeholder Engagement Planning Workshops and produced the resulting Stakeholder Engagement Plans.

**Stage 3:** We have completed a policy review, have conducted most of the local area interviews, and are in the process of consolidating and analysing baseline data so that we can understand the local energy system. We will present this to the steering groups on the 13<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> April.





# South West Wales Energy Sub Group: Terms of Reference (DRAFT)

February 2023

## Purpose:

- To plan and co-ordinate a joined up strategic approach to energy across South West Wales, including development of the Regional Energy Plan, with a specific focus on decarbonising the energy system across the region.
- To facilitate and support the delivery of strategic interventions, including relevant City Deal projects and Local Area Energy Planning regional interventions.
- To receive regular updates from the thematic Task & Finish Groups on delivery of the agreed actions.
- To report to the Regional Directors' group (from Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire and Swansea) on progress, performance, outcomes and funding issues.
- To act as the Regional Steering group for the Local Area Energy Planning work being undertaken in the region
- To provide 6 monthly updates to the SW Wales Corporate Joint Committee Energy Sub-Committee on progress with Regional Energy Planning and support of the sub-committees aims:
  - Monitor and review the delivery programme to include financial and risk management
  - Make Recommendations to the CJC on development and delivery of REP consistent with Sub-Committees objectives
  - Assist in development of regional response to WG energy consultation documents

## Relationship with Regional Directors' Group:

- The Chair of the Energy Sub-Group will be invited to meetings of the Regional Directors to report on progress, performance and outcomes.
- The Energy Sub-Group will require relevant updates from Task & Finish Leads, Regional Project Manager and any other attendees in relation to regional and relevant Low Carbon Energy projects.
- The Regional Directors' Group will ensure sufficient resources are allocated to allow the Energy Sub Group to fulfil its purpose.

## Membership:

The core membership of the Energy Sub-Group (Core Group) will comprise the individuals listed below. The Energy Sub-Group (Core Group) will meet on a bi-monthly frequency with meetings lasting one hour.

Agenda and minutes for the meetings will be circulated by the Secretariat Carmarthenshire at least 5 days in advance of the meeting. Meetings will be held virtually by MS Teams unless otherwise agreed.

The Lead Authority (Pembrokeshire) will be responsible for providing a Chair.

The Chair will rotate on an annual/bi-annual basis but remain from within the Lead Authority to maintain consistency.

Organisation	Name	Title
Carmarthenshire County Council	Rhodri Griffiths	Head of Place & Sustainability
	Kendal Davies	Sustainable Development Manager
Neath Port Talbot Council	Nicola Pearce	Director of Environment and Regeneration
	Simon Brennan	Head of Property and Regeneration
	Chris Jones	Energy Manager
Pembrokeshire County Council (Lead Authority)	Dr Steven Jones (Chair)	Director of Community Services
	Rachel Moxey	Head of Economic Development and Regeneration
	Steve Keating	Sustainable Development & Energy Manager
Swansea City Council	Geoff Bacon	Head of Property Services
	Antony Moss	Energy Manager
Secretariat	Rhian Phillips	Funding Manager
Welsh Government	Huw Lewis	Energy Delivery Manager
Welsh Government Energy Service	Victoria Camp	Strategic Lead
	James Moore	Development Manager
SW Wales Corporate Joint Committee	Owain Enoch	Corporate Joint Committee
Swansea Bay City Deal	Jonathan Burnes/Peter Austin	Swansea Bay City Deal
Carmarthenshire County Council	TBA	Regional LAEP Project Manager

#### Advisory Panel:

The Core Group will be supported by an Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel will be constituted of the organisations listed below, and others from time to time as the Core Group sees fit. The Advisory Panel will attend a Core Group meeting once every 6 months to share information and learning about programmes of activity related to the Core Groups main function. The Core Group will also extend invitations to the Advisory Panel to take part in the Task & Finish Working Group Activity.

Organisation	Title
Community Energy Wales	Business Development Manager
Health sector	Assistant Director of Operations/Head of Property Performance
Higher Education sector	Head of Sustainability and Staff Wellbeing – Swansea University
Institute of Welsh Affairs (IWA) (Facilitating the Future/Active Building Centre)	Consultant (Director /Advocacy Manager)
Marine Energy Wales	Marine Energy Programme Manager
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	Operations Manager
Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum	CEO

Pembrokeshire Coast NPA	Building Project Officer/Director of Countryside, Community and Visitor Services
Port of Milford Haven	Director of Energy Development/Estate Efficiency Manager
Renewable UK Cymru	Head of Renewable UK Cymru
South Wales Industrial Cluster (SWIC)	Tata/Costain
Swansea Bay City Deal	Programme Director
Wales & West Utilities	Future of Energy Manager
Welsh Government Housing	Consultant
Western Power Distribution	Primary System Design Team Manager
Transport for Wales	Sustainable Development Manager
Net Zero Industry Wales	Chief Executive
Pembrokeshire PSB	
Carmarthenshire PSB	
Swansea PSB	
Neath Port Talbot PSB	

### Working Groups

The Regional Energy Strategy identified 4 themes:

1. Domestic Energy
2. Renewable Energy Generation
3. Transport & Active Travel
4. Commerce & Industry

Task and finish groups will be required under each of these headings to meet monthly, supported by the lead for each theme in support of delivery. The task and finish groups will be required to provide information on progress and any challenges to the bi-monthly Regional Energy Core Group, which will then onwards report progress to the CJC and Regional Directors Group on a bi-annual basis.

Task and finish groups may also require input from various other key internal and external stakeholders to be determined by the lead for each group. Additional stakeholders may include:

#### **Substitutions**

The lead member from each authority will be able to nominate representatives to attend in their place from time to time.

Other people may attend the meetings as observers with the agreement of the Chair of the Core Group.

#### **Conflict of Interest:**

To allow the Group to undertake all its functions, a clear distinction will be drawn between those involved in specific project development and those preparing recommendations on those projects to the Regional Directors Group. A robust system of declaration of conflict of interest will be put in place.

#### **Secretariat:**

Administrative support for the Sub-Group is provided by Carmarthenshire County Council. This includes:

- Ensuring the Sub-Group is established and meets regularly;
- Preparing the agenda and papers for meetings;
- Inviting participants and managing attendance.

**Review:**

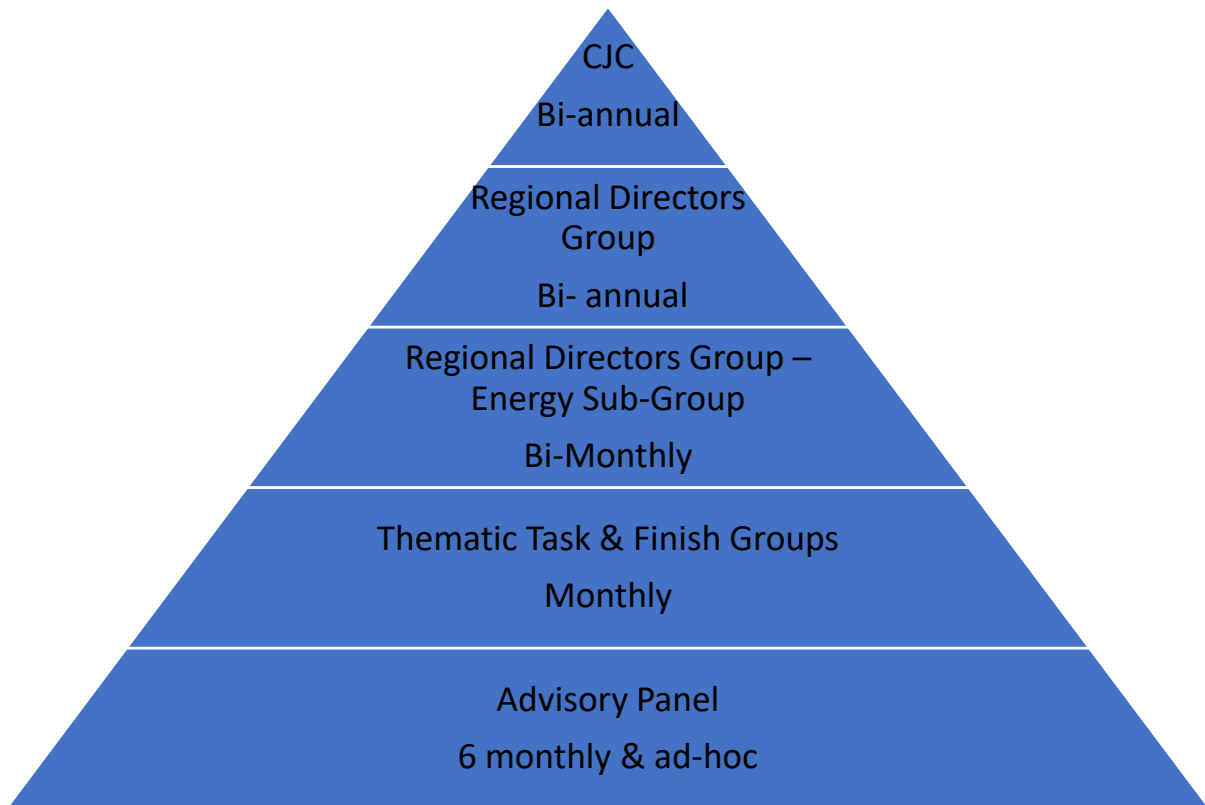
Terms of reference will be reviewed annually.

DRAFT



## Appendix 1

Diagram showing interrelationship of the groups



This page is intentionally left blank

UI	Primary strategic priority supported
0.1	<i>Cross-cutting</i>
1.1	Energy Efficiency
1.2	Energy Efficiency
1.3	Energy Efficiency
1.4	Energy Efficiency
1.5	Energy Efficiency
1.6	Energy Efficiency
1.7	Energy Efficiency

2.1	Electricity Generation
2.2	Electricity Generation
2.3	Electricity Generation
2.4	Electricity Generation
2.5	Electricity Generation
2.6	Electricity Generation
2.7	Electricity Generation
2.8	Electricity Generation
2.9	Electricity Generation
2.10	Electricity Generation
2.11	Electricity Generation

3.1	Smart and flexible systems
3.2	Smart and flexible systems
3.3	Smart and flexible systems
3.4	Smart and flexible systems
4.1	Decarbonise Heat
4.2	Decarbonise Heat
4.3	Decarbonise Heat
4.4	Decarbonise Heat
4.5	Decarbonise Heat
4.6	Decarbonise Heat
4.7	Decarbonise Heat

<b>5.1</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.2</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.3</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.4</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.5</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.6</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.7</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.8</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>5.9</b>	Decarbonise Transport
<b>6.1</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.2</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.3</b>	Regional Coordination

<b>6.4</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.5</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.6</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.7</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.8</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.9</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.1</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.11</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.12</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.13</b>	Regional Coordination
<b>6.14</b>	Regional Coordination

## Strategic action description

***Develop Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) within each local authority area to inform future regional and local development planning, taking a whole-system multi-vector approach.***

*-Use LAEP to explore opportunities for decentralised energy generation in the region and investigate effectiveness/feasibility of distributed electricity supply models (local flexibility markets).*

***Provide financial support to households (private and public sector owned) to enable uptake of low carbon measures:***

- Support adoption of heat pumps and retrofits***
- Provide support for potential large disruptions associated with retrofits***

***Increase accessibility of low carbon measures for households through clear guidance and information***

- Improve communication of existing support, include easy-to-understand eligibility criteria, and use diverse channels of communication***

***Regional stakeholders to raise concerns around the use of EPC as a measure for household efficiency, and to support the transition to a new measure***

***Set building regulations in line with minimum standards required to achieve decarbonisation objectives***

- Monitor the performance of buildings against these standards and support action to address performance gaps***

***Monitor the commercial and industrial sector and its progress to support efficient, evidence-based investment***

***Establish National capacity mechanisms for efficiency measures***

***Implement and enforce regulation to ensure that new buildings in the commercial and industrial sector are built to high enough standards***



<b>Investigate and analyse the roles for blue hydrogen and carbon shipping as stepping stones to a zero-carbon future within the region</b>
<b>Welsh Government to explore and lead a coordinated approach to attract turbine OEM to the region on the back of the FLOW development potential</b>
<b>Continue to matchmake industrial off-takers with renewable developers</b>
<b>De-risk and promote floating offshore wind (and other marine technologies)</b>
<b>Clear communication to the commercial and industrial sector on what is required and by when, and support these requirements through providing educational resources</b>
<b>Additional port infrastructure to be funded and built to unlock supply chain opportunities for floating offshore wind</b>
<b>Region to build on and implement learnings from the Welsh Government Future Energy Grids for Wales project (expected to conclude 2023)</b>
<b>Facilitate public investment in grid infrastructure (electricity and gas) upgrades, port infrastructure, and renewable energy generators for a return on investment</b>
<b>Continue to engage Universities in work around how the electricity grid capacity can be increased to accommodate the additional renewable electricity that we need for the transition</b>
<b>Standardisation of equipment and infrastructure</b>
<b>Encourage community buy-in at an earlier stage to support licencing processes</b>

<b>Support Homes as Power Stations objectives and initiatives to encourage ambition across the supply chain, including incentives for homeowners and developers</b>
<b>Carry out research to assess joint procurement options for EV and hydrogen</b>
<b>SWIC to continue exploring new technologies and transition opportunities</b>
<b>Explore the opportunity for small-scale generation linked to local storage across sectors</b>
<b>Explore new financing options to support the decarbonisation of homes</b>
<b>Support framework approaches to projects to bring supply chains together, avoiding fragmentation</b>
<b>Procure low carbon technologies (e.g. heat pumps) in bulk to facilitate a joined-up approach and work with supply chains</b>
<b>Work with WGES and CADW to improve and promote improved understanding of traditional and older buildings, alongside a retrofitting programme for buildings pre-1919 construction</b>
<b>Support increased understanding of the impact of the transition on fuel poor households across the region. Research should inform messaging and communications to ensure low carbon measures are accessible to and appeal to households living in fuel poverty</b>
<b>Ensure that billing methodologies account for changes in the future energy system and do not disadvantage the region (gas billing)</b>
<b>Work with Wales &amp; West Utilities to ensure that the required gas network investment is captured in time for the end of the current Ofgem price control period (2026). Work with Ofgem to ensure expectations are managed.</b>

<b>Public organisations, e.g. Local Authorities, to lead by example by setting targets and transitioning fleets</b>
<b>Include accessible hydrogen and EV charging at new bus depots</b>
<b>Support and enable a fast scale up of hydrogen filling stations/infrastructure and EV charging facilities across the region</b>
<b>Prioritise ease and convenience for users to facilitate multi-modal journeys e.g. South West Wales Metro</b>
<b>Continue to directly involve communities in identifying barriers and proposing solutions through the Local Transport Community Plans</b>
<b>Facilitate demand reduction for energy-intensive modes of transport</b>
<b>Ensure Welsh Transport Strategy feeds down to local level and that funding is provided to support this</b>
<b>Build the servicing of chargers into commercial deals for chargers for public car parks - ensuring that downtime is minimal</b>
<b>Carry out an assessment to explore the opportunity for road charging at popular tourist destinations</b>
<b>Review and assess existing funding streams to ensure it is coordinated and focused in the right places</b>
<b>Establish, clearly define and communicate the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders to facilitate a collaborative, joined-up and aligned approach.</b>
<b>Provide an advice service for stakeholders across the supply chain. Review and assess resources that exist and identify gaps.</b>

<b>Carry out a public engagement campaign to support buy-in across sectors and encourage behaviour change from citizens</b>
<b>Recognise and build on ongoing work and consultations into financial support and incentives for businesses</b>
<b>Welsh Government to work with higher education and further education institutions to introduce a renewable or “net zero” curriculum from the top down</b>
<b>Identify high value targets and voids in the supply chain that represent the greatest opportunity for the region and target these for development, building on ongoing SWIC work</b>
<b>Continue to create a “buzz” that attracts (and grows) companies to the region, promoting the region and associated opportunities</b>
<b>Engage and utilise the SBCD Skills and Talent Programme to develop a skilled workforce that meets the needs of the transition across all sectors.</b>
<b>Welsh Government and BEIS to continue ongoing support for SWIC as some partners are already looking towards a Final Investment Decision (FID) in late 2022.</b>
<b>Act on the opportunity and ambition around the Port of Milford Haven</b>
<b>Mitigate investment risk through feasibility and demonstrations using whole system approaches</b>
<b>Obtain political buy-in regionally. Welsh and UK Governments to promote the potential of the region with a joined-up plan and clear priorities.</b>
<b>Create regional support for companies looking to develop and grow in the renewable energy sector</b>

Related Strategic Priorities	Theme (Thematic Lead/Task and Finish Group)
1,2,3,4,5,6	N/A
4	Domestic Energy
4	Domestic Energy
	Domestic Energy
4	Domestic Energy
	Commercial and Industrial
	Commercial and Industrial
4	Commercial and Industrial

	Renewable Energy Generation, Commercial and Industrial
	Renewable Energy Generation
	Renewable Energy Generation, Commercial and Industrial
	Renewable Energy Generation, Commercial and Industrial
	Renewable Energy Generation, Commercial and Industrial
	Renewable Energy Generation, Commercial and Industrial
	Renewable Energy Generation
	Renewable Energy Generation
	Renewable Energy Generation
	Renewable Energy Generation
	Renewable Energy Generation

	Domestic energy
	Transport and active travel
	Commercial and industrial
	Commercial and industrial
	Domestic Energy
	Domestic Energy, Commercial and Industrial
	Domestic Energy, Commercial and Industrial
	Domestic Energy
	Domestic Energy
	Domestic Energy, Commercial and Industrial
	Domestic Energy

	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Transport and active travel
	Cross-Cutting Commercial and Industrial
	Cross-Cutting Commercial and Industrial
	Cross-Cutting



	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting Commercial and Industrial
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Cross-Cutting
	Renewable energy generation
	Renewable energy generation

- 1 = idea
- 2 = strategic
- 3 = outline
- 4 = in development
- 5 = launch

Development stage	
4	
4	
1	
2	
1	
1	
1	

1
2
2
1
1
1
3
1
4
1
3

2
1
1
1
3
1
1
2
3
2
2

5
1
1
1
1
2
1
1
1
4
4
1

5
1
5
2
2
2
TBC
3
2
3
2

(Short-term=underway by 2023; Medium-term=underway by 2025; Long-term= underway by 2035)	
<b>Time-scale</b>	<b>Potential lead(s)</b>
<i>Short-term</i>	<i>City Science</i>
Medium-term	
Short-term	
Short-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
?	
Medium-term	WG Energy Policy

Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Short-term	
Long-term	
Long-term	
Long-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	



Medium-term	
?	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	

Short-term	
Long-term	
Long-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Short-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	

Short-term	
Short-term	
Short-term	
Short-term	
Short-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Long-term	
Medium-term	
Medium-term	
Long-term	

Potential enabler(s)
<i>Wales &amp; West Utilities; SP Energy Networks; Western Power Distribution</i>
<i>Welsh Government UK Government Local Authorities RSLs</i>
<i>Welsh Government UK Government Local Authorities RSLs HAPS/SBCD</i>
<i>UK Government Welsh Government ABC</i>
<i>Welsh Government ABC HAPS/SBCD WSA</i>
<i>SWIC Milford Haven Waterway Future Energy Cluster (MHWFECC) CJC (TBC)</i>
<i>UK Government Welsh Government SWIC</i>
<i>Welsh Government</i>

SWIC MHWFEC CJC USW
Welsh Government CJC SWIC MEW
SWIC CJC Local Authorities
MEW MHWFEC Welsh Government UK Government (CfDs)
Welsh Government Local Authorities SWIC HE/FE
Welsh Government Port Authorities CJC UK Government
CJC WPD WWU
CJC WPD WWU
CJC SWIC HE
SWIC Local Authorities WPD WWU
Local Authorities CJC CEW WGES

<p><i>SBCD/HAPS</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>SWIC</i> <i>WPD</i> <i>WWU</i> <i>HE</i></p>
<p><i>SWIC</i> <i>HE</i></p>
<p><i>SWIC</i> <i>WPD</i> <i>Welsh Government</i></p>
<p><i>ABC</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>RSLs</i></p>
<p><i>SBCD/HAPS</i> <i>SWIC</i> <i>CJC</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>Local Authorities</i> <i>RSLs</i> <i>NPS</i> <i>SBCD/HAPS</i></p>
<p><i>ABC</i> <i>CADW</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>RSLs</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>Welsh Government</i> <i>WPD</i> <i>WWU</i></p>
<p><i>SWIC</i> <i>WWU</i> <i>Ofgem (requires further dialogue)</i> <i>Energy suppliers</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government</i> <i>WWU</i> <i>Ofgem</i></p>

<p><i>Local Authorities</i> <i>Public bodies</i></p>
<p><i>TfW</i> <i>Bus operators</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>CJC</i> <i>WPD</i></p>
<p><i>TfW</i> <i>Other transport operators</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>SBCD</i></p>
<p><i>Local Authorities</i> <i>CEW</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government (Llwybr Newydd)</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>Local Authorities (Planning)</i></p>
<p><i>Local Authorities</i> <i>Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority</i> <i>Brecon Beacons National Park Authority</i></p>
<p><i>CJC</i> <i>Welsh Government</i> <i>Local Authorities</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>CJC</i></p>
<p><i>Welsh Government</i> <i>Local Authorities</i> <i>NPS/CCS</i> <i>Actual supply chain</i></p>

<i>Welsh Government</i>
<i>SWIC SBCD CJC</i>
<i>Welsh Government HE/FE</i>
<i>SWIC</i>
<i>SWIC CJC SBCD</i>
<i>SBCD HE/FE</i>
<i>Welsh Government BEIS/UK Government SWIC</i>
<i>SWIC Welsh Government Port of Milford Haven MHWFEC Pembrokeshire CC</i>
<i>SWIC HE Local Authorities WPD</i>
<i>Welsh Government Local Authorities CJC SBCD</i>
<i>Welsh Government Local Authorities SBCD</i>



Is there budget available or available finance addressing the general policy area for this action?

<b>Funding status (high level)</b>
<i>Funding in place</i>









## Status

*The Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) has been appointed to deliver LAEPs for The objective is to have LAEPs completed for Neath Port Talbot, Swansea and Carmarthenshire local authorities by March 2024; City Science have been assigned as the consultants delivering the plans.*

*The Energy Systems Catapult has released technical guidance on developing LAEPs, which forms part of their appointment as the programme's technical advisors.*

*Both these measures are likely to require significant expenditure required. Heat pumps currently attract a £5,000-£6,000 subsidy, reducing costs of a new system by 30%-40%. Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire have high levels of oil heating systems - these should be targeted first due to their high carbon impact (versus natural gas).*

*The Welsh Government is currently being supported by Carbon Trust and Regen to develop the Welsh Heat Strategy; this will provide policy that the Welsh Government is implementing.*

*Capacity mechanism and renewable mechanism, there's a need for something similar to FIT (feed-in tariffs) to develop energy efficiency measures and to de-risk these projects. WG and SWIC have a role in lobbying as this sits outside the control of WG mandate.*

*Building standards and how do we achieve these standards; some of this might be driven by National Resources Wales (energy performance permits etc). Energy Policy seems t right home for this - consultation on new Part L regulations covers commercial.*

Central funding is required to derisk. Port infrastructure in milford haven and a lot need to done in NPT. An enterprise zone could be supported to overcome challenges which money, grid and consents. Energy network and port infrastructure and no direct access.
<u>Milford Haven - CX left and Chair MH Port Authority Leading these projects (leading on the MH</u>
There's a need for transparency and clarity on what the Welsh Government expects from the Industrial sector. Exploring how knowledge sharing could be improved should be the main target in this area as there has been some barriers.
Bit of everybody - including WGES and everyone to work collaboratively. Small grid infrastructures

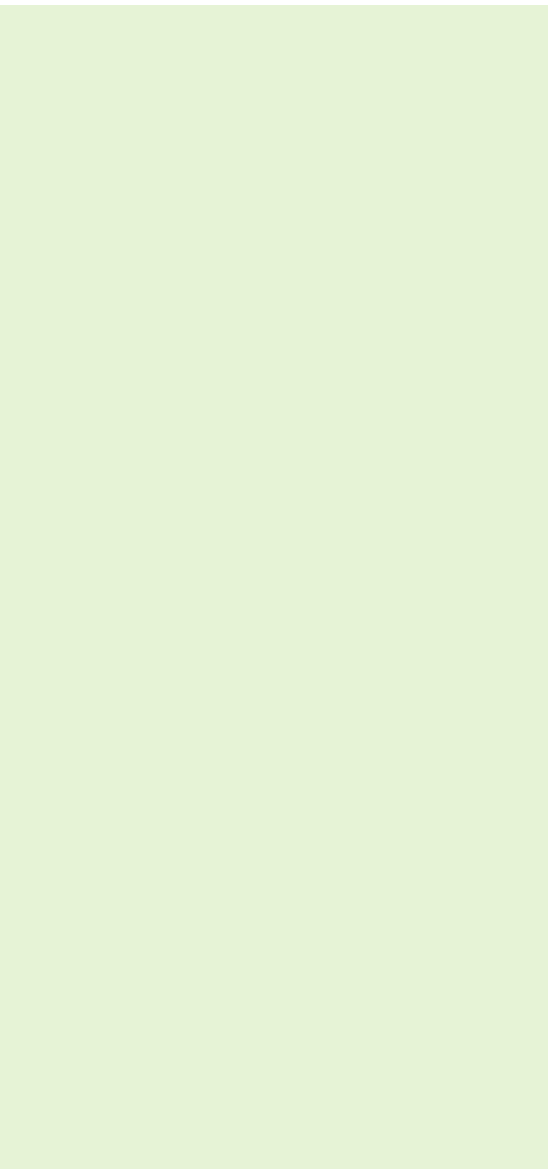








<b>Progress update (RAG)</b> <i>(Summarise progress based on interventions)</i>	<b>Last updated</b>
<span style="background-color: green; color: white; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	20/12/22
<span style="background-color: orange; color: white; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	21/12/22
<span style="background-color: #d9ead3; color: #555; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	
<span style="background-color: #d9ead3; color: #555; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	
<span style="background-color: #d9ead3; color: #555; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	
<span style="background-color: #d9ead3; color: #555; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	
<span style="background-color: #d9ead3; color: #555; display: inline-block; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></span>	





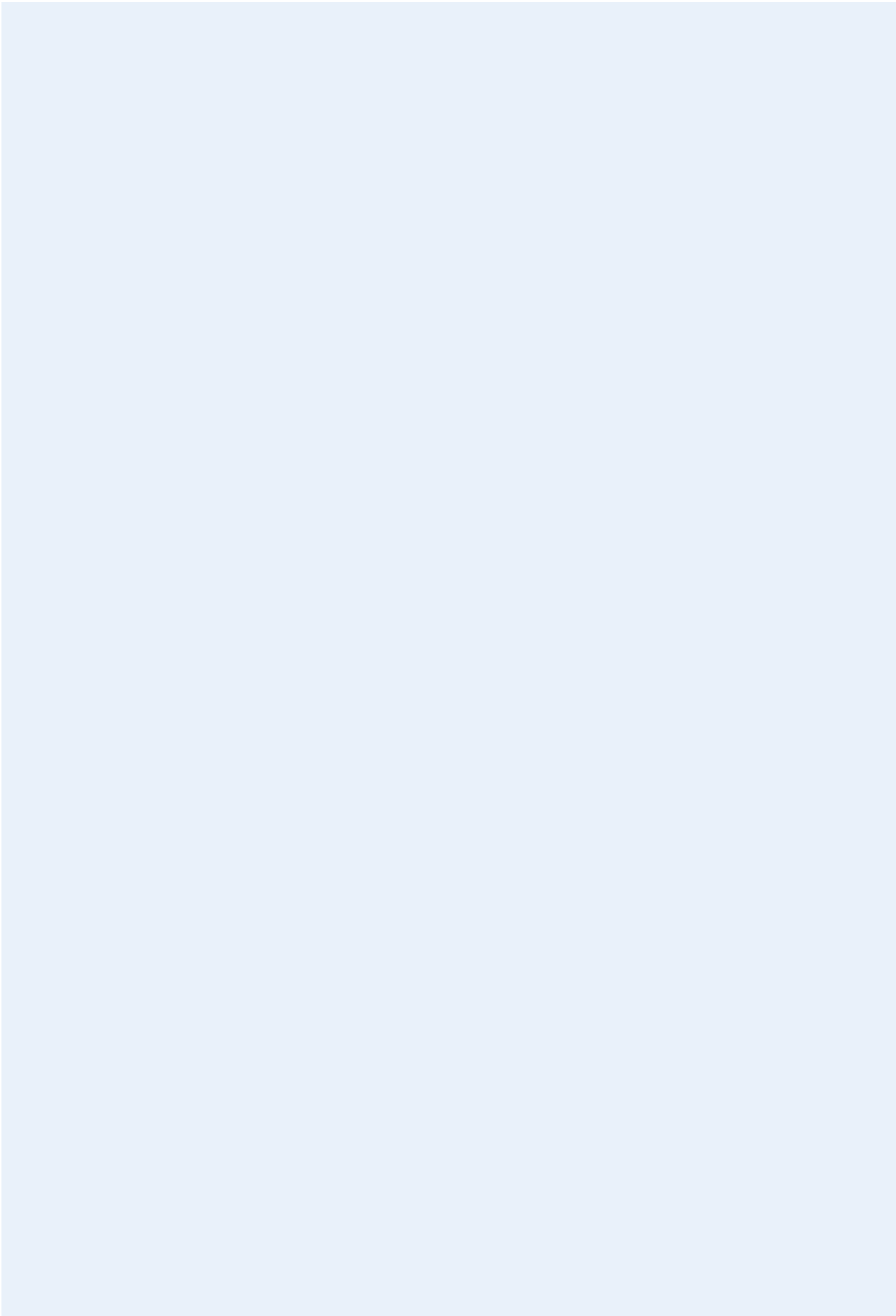










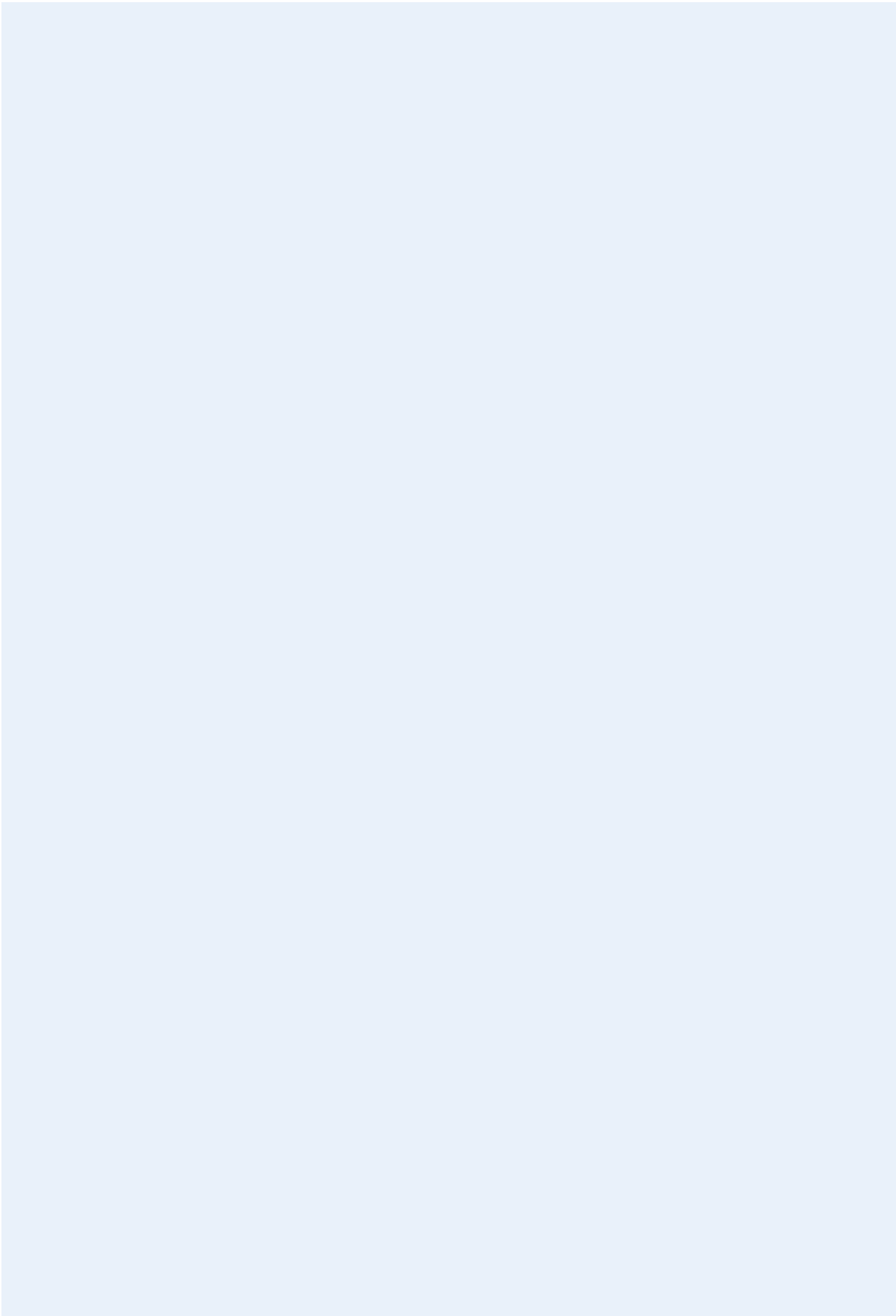










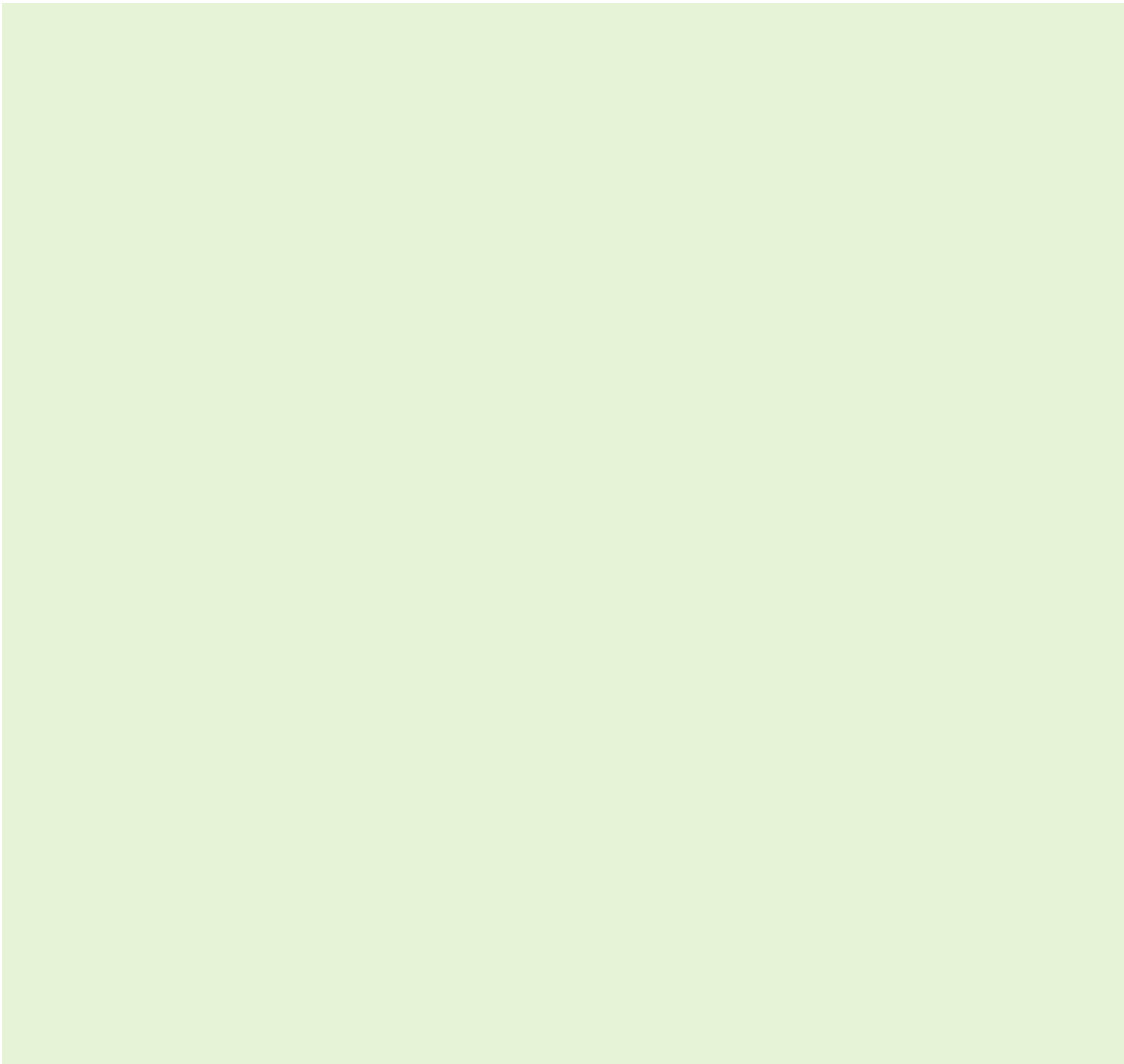


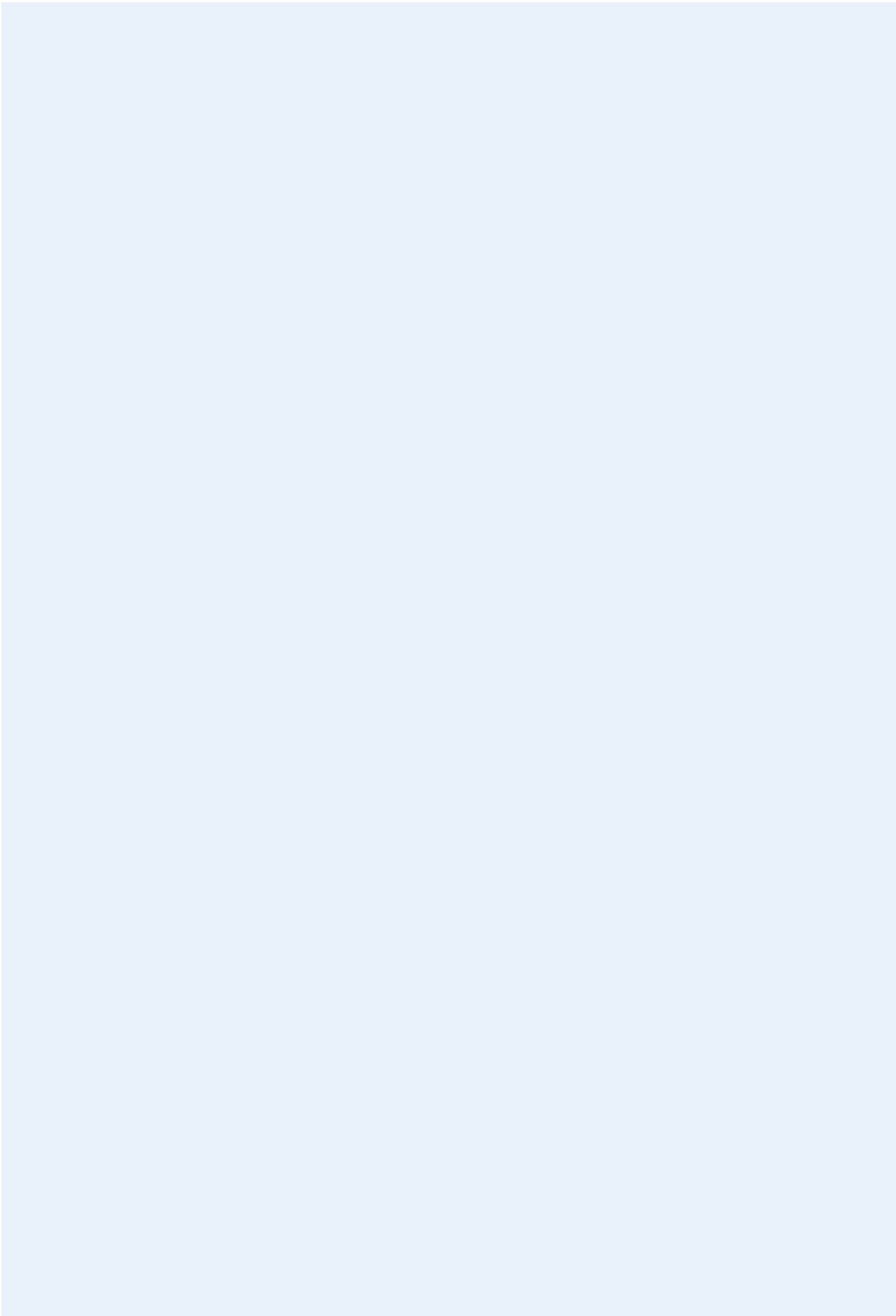








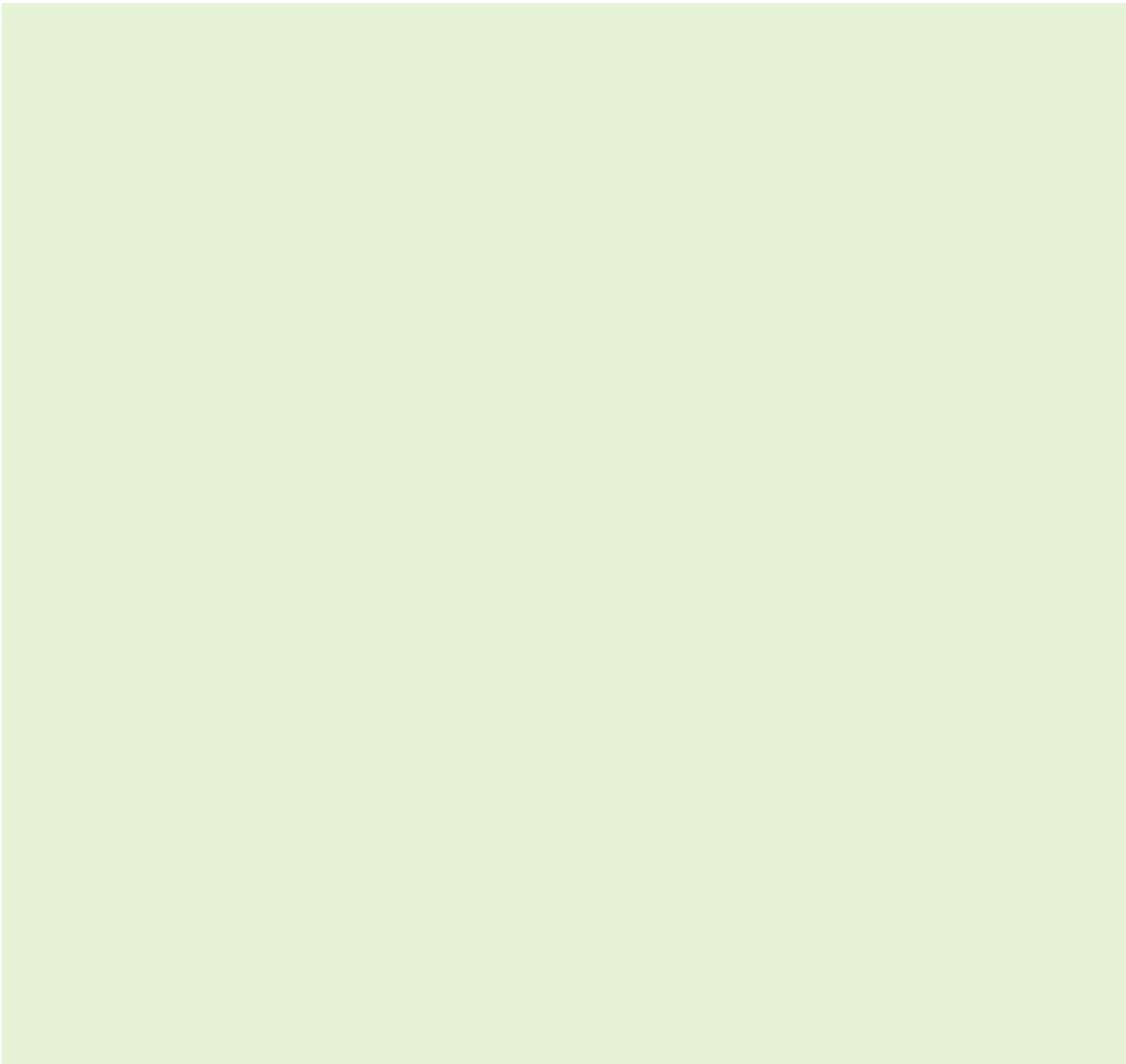


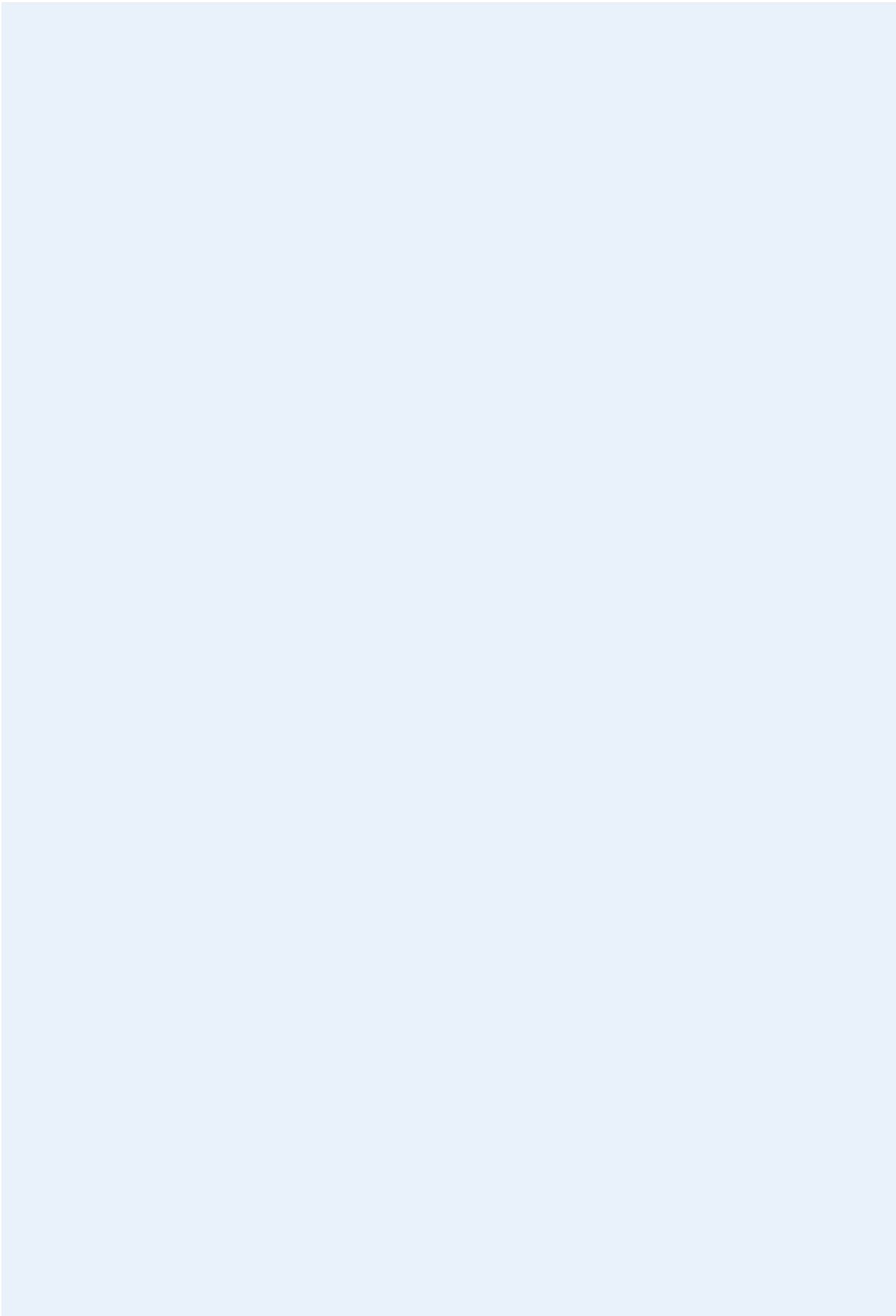










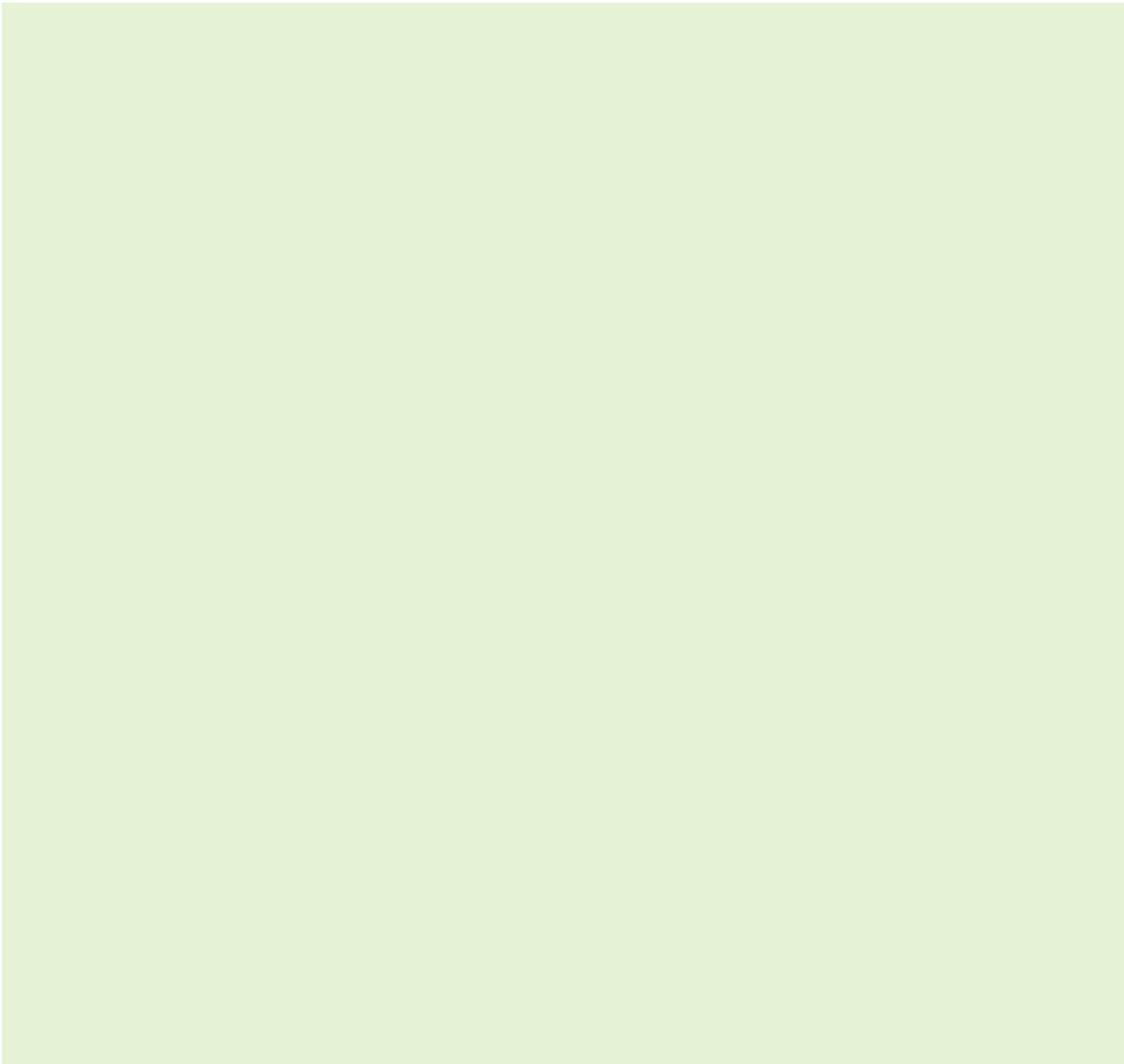


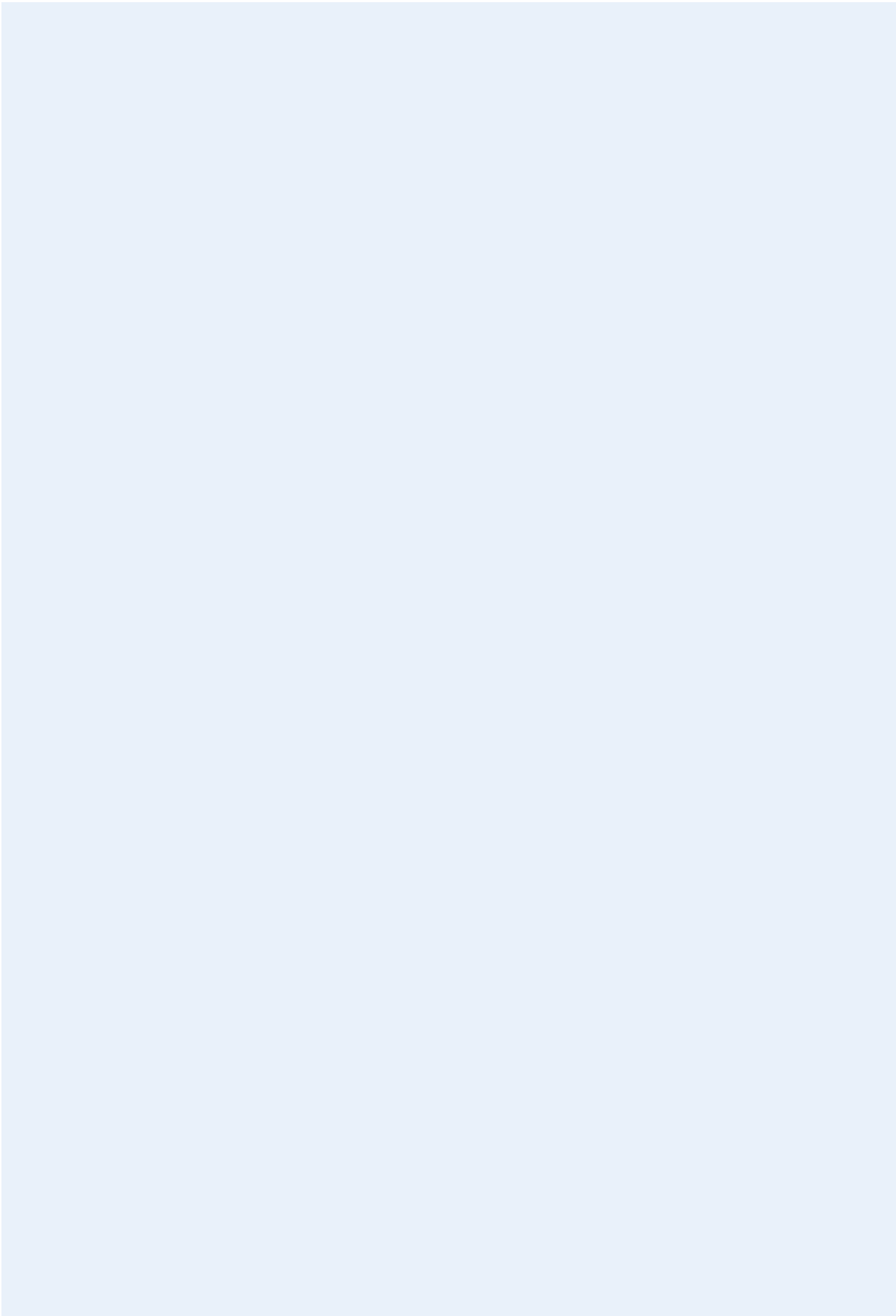










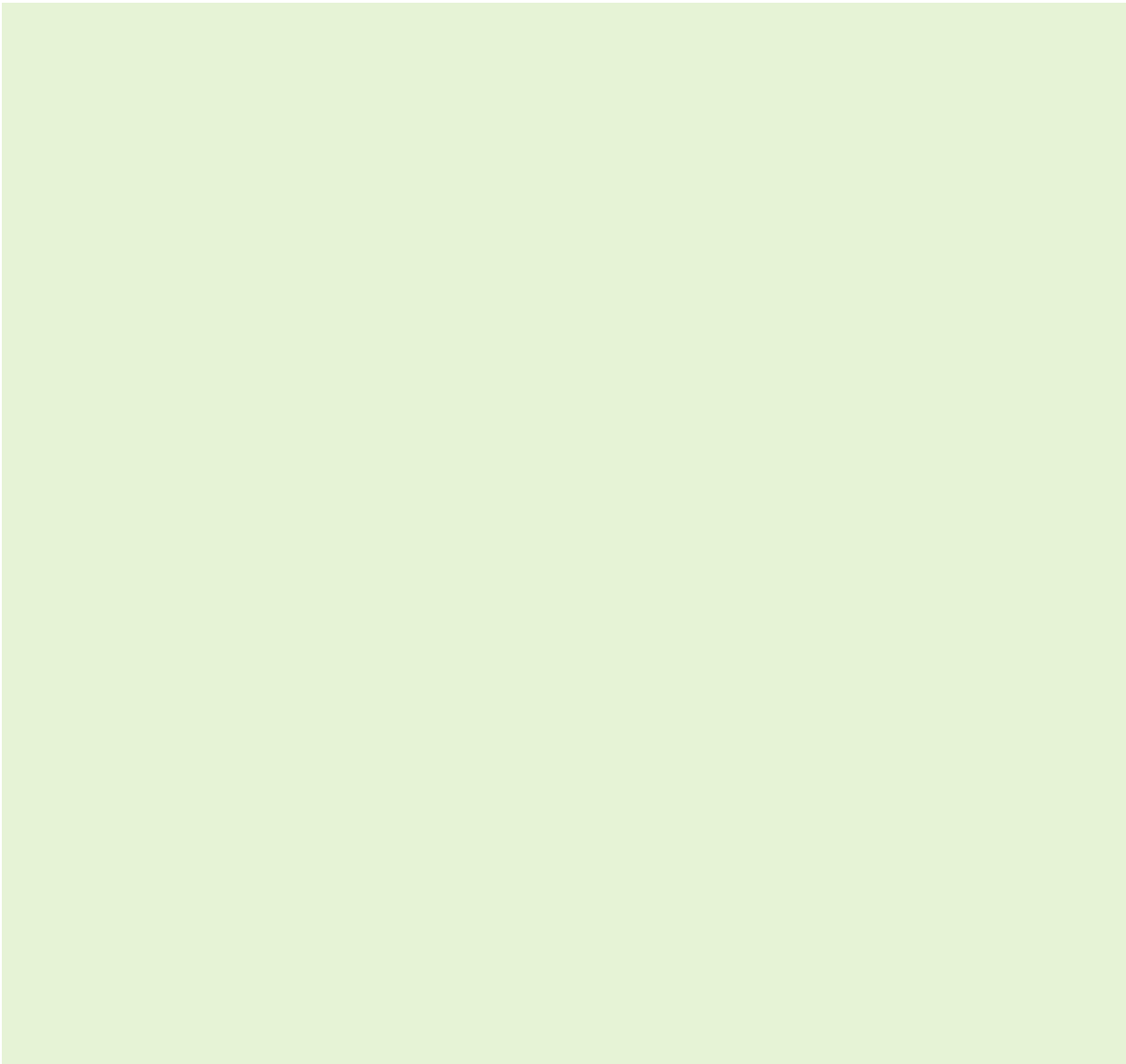


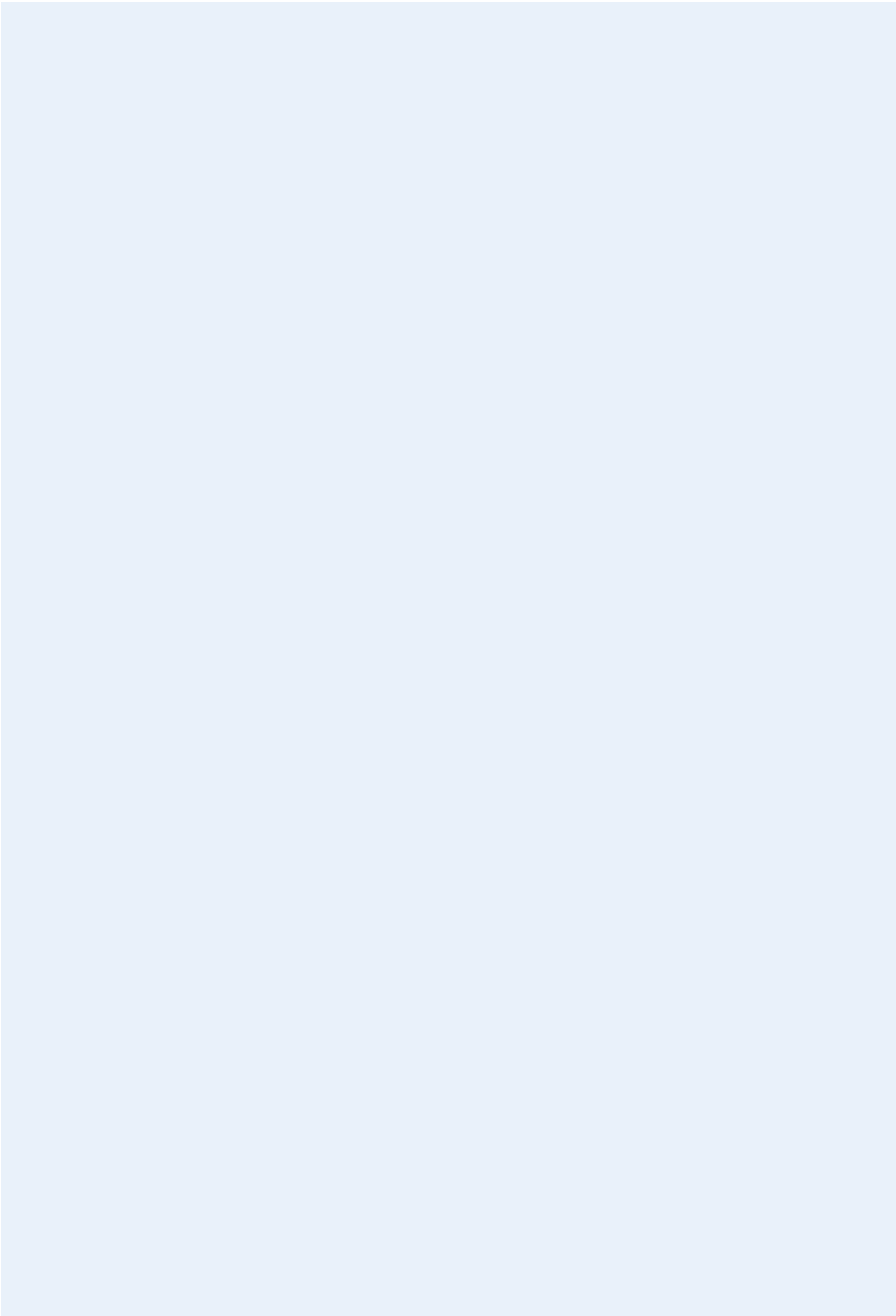








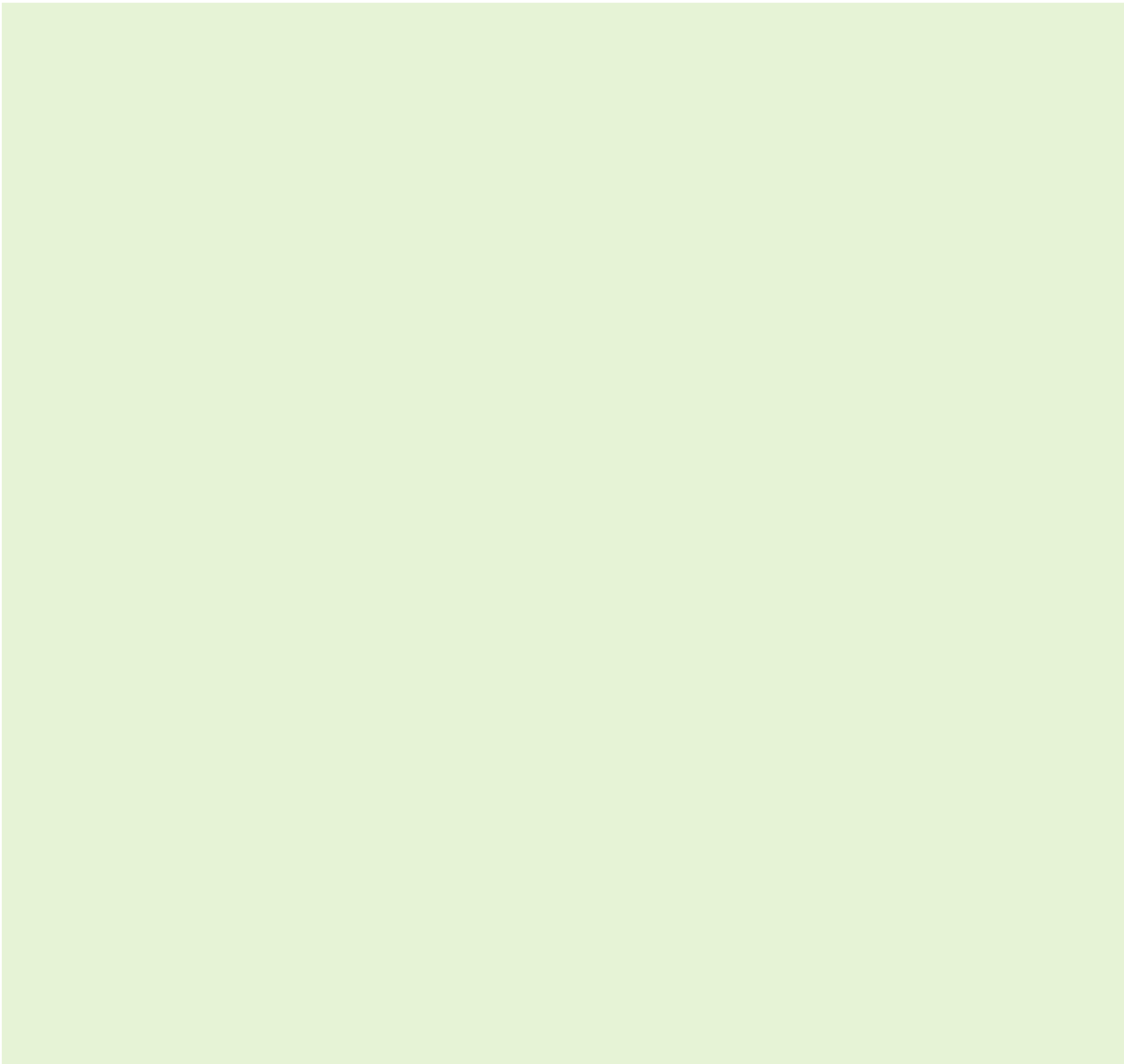


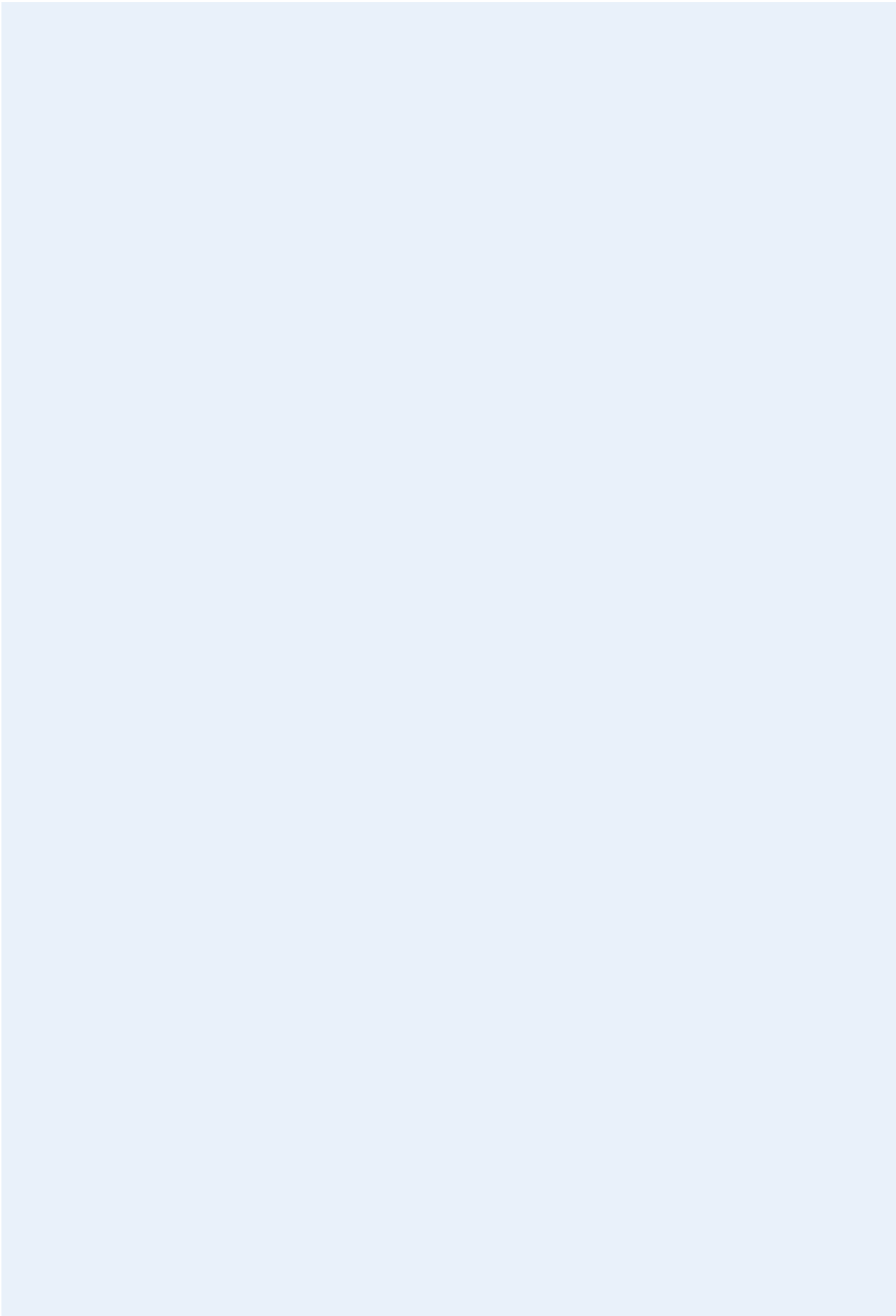










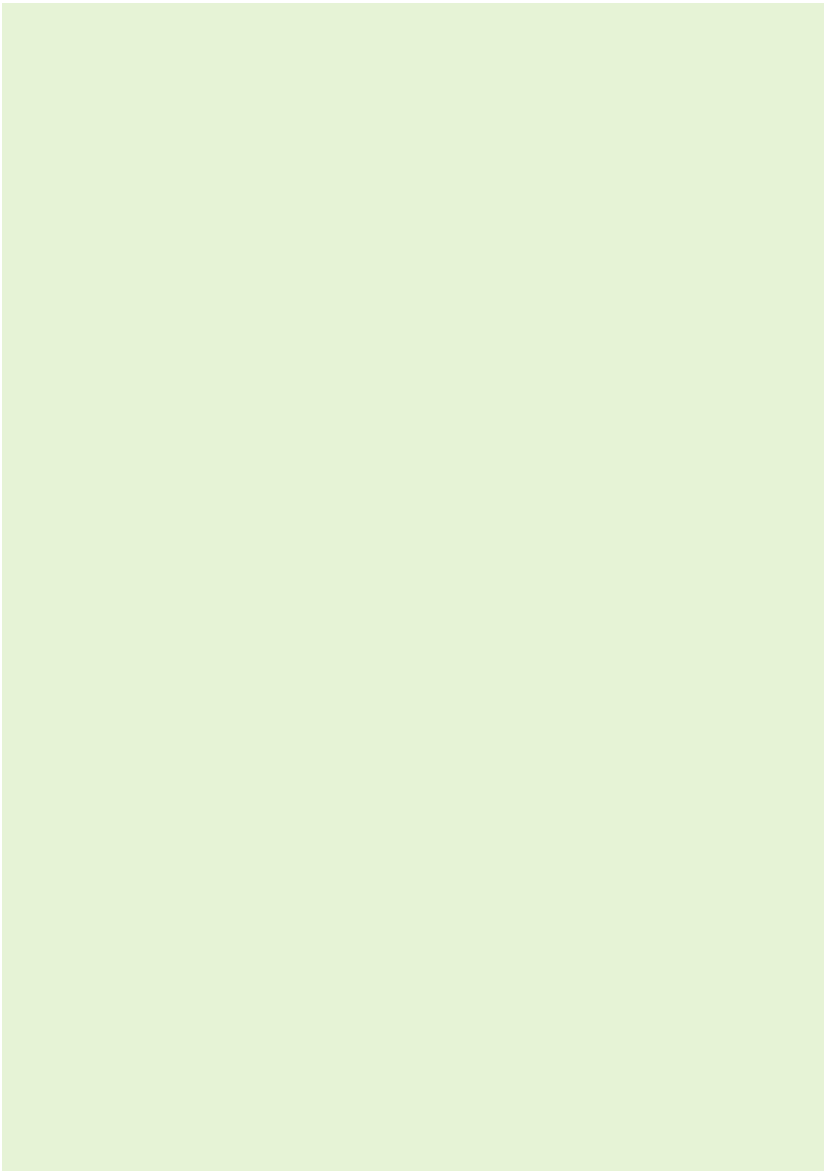


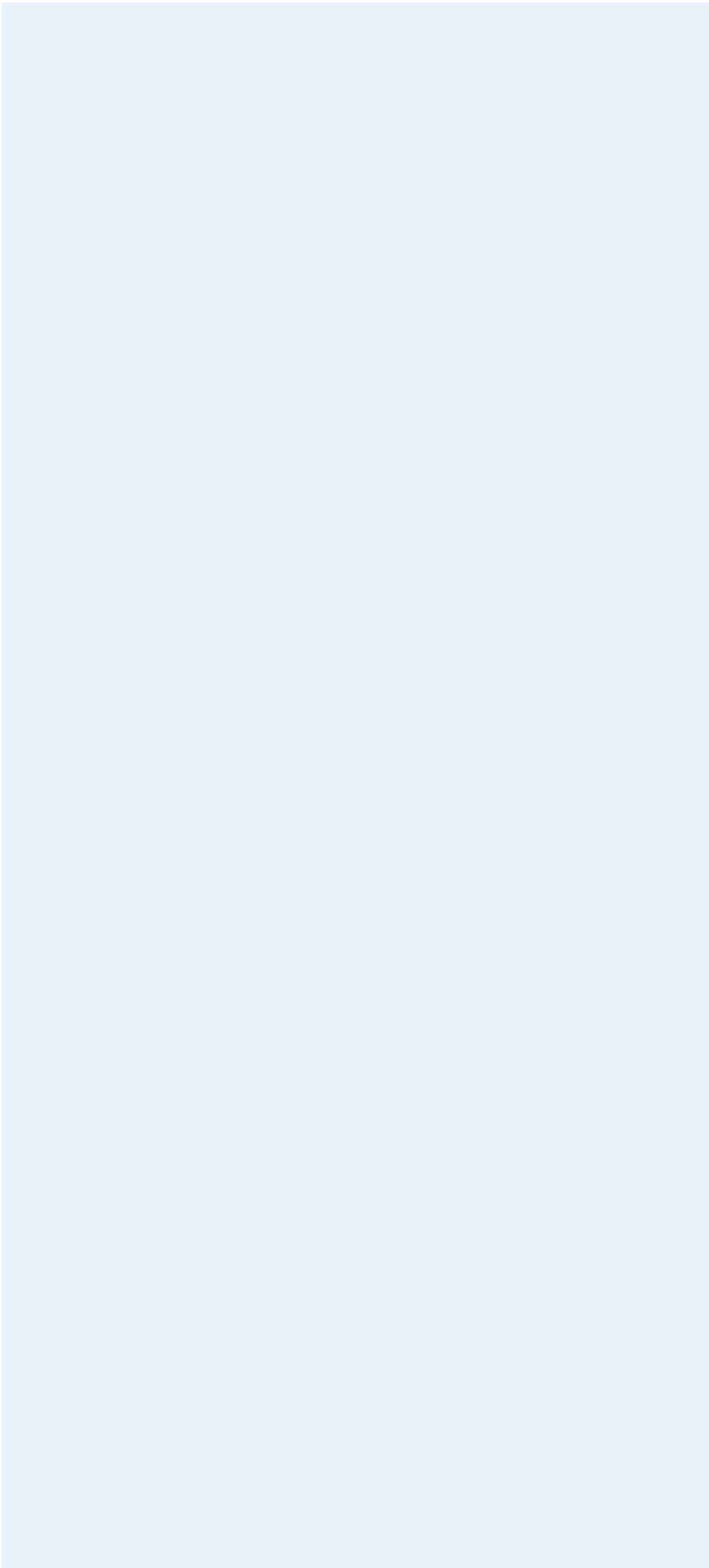












# Regional Energy Strategy Communication Plan (Draft)

South West Wales

Oct 2022

## Contents

1. Purpose of this document.....	2
2. Background.....	2
3. Stakeholders.....	3
4. Engagement schedule.....	3
5. Communication Material / production schedule .....	4
6. Roles and Responsibilities.....	5
7. Stakeholders listing.....	6

# 1. Purpose of this document

The objectives of this communication plan are to:

- Ensure that LAs, PSB, SBCD and Corporate Joint Committee buy-in to the energy strategy in order to move forward with broader socialisation.
- Achieve wide scale awareness and adoption of the vision and targets by organisations and companies within the region.
- Publicise the strategy to all residents within the region.

## 2. Background

The South West Wales Region has developed a regional energy strategy identifying key interventions to deliver on the region's ambitions for decarbonising its energy system. It has been developed by the South West Wales Energy Core Group, a sub-group of the Regional Directors' forum from the four local authorities in South West Wales, with additional input from an Advisory Panel and other regional stakeholders, and is being supported by the Welsh Government Energy Service.

Our vision for South West Wales (SWW) is: *Harnessing the region's low carbon energy potential across its on and offshore locations, to deliver a prosperous and equitable net zero carbon economy which enhances the well-being of future generations and the region's ecosystems, at a pace which delivers against regional and national emissions reduction targets by 2035 and 2050.*

The priorities for achieving this vision are:

1. Energy efficiency
2. Electricity generation
3. Smart and flexible systems
4. Decarbonise heat
5. Decarbonise transport
6. Regional coordination

A copy of the strategy and supporting documents can be found [here](#)

### 3. Stakeholders

Which stakeholders shall we be communicating with and how will we communicate with them?

A stakeholder’s register shall be established and updated periodically. The register will note which stakeholders are engaged first, prior to wider engagement with the other stakeholders.

The register will note the method of engagement to be employed and the stakeholders shall be grouped according to their function and sector. A sample stakeholders register can be found in section 7 of this document.

The communication method will comprise of the following activities:

- General Press releases to local media / social media
- One to one communication with keys stakeholders (priority 1 stakeholders)
- Presentations/webinars to all the stakeholders. Due the high number of stakeholders and their geographic spread a short video presentation should be considered. A link to the video could be hosted on the web sites of key stakeholders, e.g SBCD, Local Authorities.

### 4. Engagement schedule

Sequence	Activity	Date	Audience	Responsibility
1	Press Release	Q1 2023	Everyone	
2	1:1 Webinar	Tbc	Priority1 stakeholders	
3	Recorded Webinar	Tbc	Priority 1 & 2 Stakeholders	
4	Social media	tbc	Everyone	

What is the plan to engage the stakeholders to achieve the objectives?

Key thoughts: what should be the sequencing of these engagements? Does the question of governance arrangements affect these?

## 5. Communication Material / production schedule

Communication Material	Format	Deadline	Owner	Notes
Press Release	Word document			
1:1 Webinar	Mix of power point and other graphics	Tbc		
Recorded Webinar	Recorded version of the 1:1 webinar	Tbc		
Social media	Facebook, twitter etc based on press release document	tbc		

Schedule for materials required to communicate the strategy

- Where and when will the strategy be located and available for viewing – publicly available online?



- How are comments / enquiries going to be handled? Will WGES have a role or will nominated individuals in the regions? Will there be enquiry deadlines or opportunities for rolling commentary? Do we need to set up an enquiry email account rather than individuals?
- Who will deal with press / media?
- How will we / who will deal with version control and document management?
- - How and who will manage social media / tweets / wider publication? How can we use WGES twitter / WG platforms etc to amplify messages?
- - Who from WGES is needed to support and on what sections? Likewise for WG.

## 6. Roles and Responsibilities

### Addressing comments and questions:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Process:

Notes:

Actions:

### Communicating with the Media:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Notes:

Actions:

### Delivering 1:1 Webinars:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Notes:

Actions:

### Distribution of Webinar:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Notes:

Actions:

### Managing social Media:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Use of WGES twitter and platforms to amplify message:

Notes:

Actions:

### WGES support:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Support needed from WGES:

Notes:

Actions:

### WG support:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Support needed from WG:

Notes:

Actions:

### Document Management and Version Control:

Owner(s)	
----------	--

Process:

Notes:

Actions:

## 7. Stakeholders listing

Sample listing of possible stakeholders based on PCC LAEP / MHEK activity, other LA to add their listings

Priority
<b>1</b>
<b>Corporate Joint Committee</b> Corporate Joint Committee
<b>Energy Core Group</b> Energy Core Group
<b>SBCD</b> SBCD
<b>2</b>
<b>Academia</b> Pembrokeshire College Swansea University University of South Wales University Trinity St Davids
<b>Community Group</b> Awel Aman Tawe CARE Community Energy Pembrokeshire Eco Dewi
<b>Consultant</b> Afallen Arup Catapult Welsh H2 Association
<b>Industry</b> Blue Gem Celtic Seas cluster DP Energy ERM Port of Milford Haven Prosperity Energy RWE RWE Pembroke Net Zero Centre Statkraft SWIC Valero
<b>Industry Groups</b> Haven Waterway Enterprise Zone Board (represent LNG, Valero, Puma, RWE etc)

Marine Energy Wales

**Local Authority**

Carmarthen County Council

Neath Port Talbot

Pembrokeshire County Council

Swansea County Council

**Utilities**

National Grid

WPD

WWU

**WG**

Hywel Dda NHS Trust

TFW

Venn

WG

WGES

**tba**

FLEXIS

Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum

Pembs Coast National Park

**Grand Total**

This page is intentionally left blank