

# SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE ENERGY SUB COMMITTEE

6<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## Report of the Chief Executive

**Report Title: Delivery of Local Area Energy Planning in South West Wales**

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To advise the committee on the progress of delivery of the local area energy plans within the region.
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	That the committee note the progress made to date and forthcoming key milestones.
<b>Report Author</b>	Vic Camp, Welsh Government Energy Service
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Chris Moore
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Craig Griffiths

**Introduction / Background:** Welsh Government have funded the development of Local Area Energy Plans (“LAEP”) for every local authority within Wales. This follows several local authorities being pilot locations, including Pembrokeshire. The local area energy plans are being delivered by City Science in the South West Wales region for Swansea, Neath Port Talbot & Carmarthenshire.

The programme of work will see final LAEPs being delivered for local authority cabinet consideration towards the end of the 2023-2024 financial year (March 2024).

Following the completion of the LAEPS there will be an exercise undertaken by the technical advisors to Welsh Government to align and consolidate the findings. This will then inform the further development and strategic direction of regional actions, and lead to the creation of a Wales wide National Energy Plan.

Additional points to note:

- Whilst plans are local, they have been developed using regional collaboration and themes aligned with regional energy work, with stakeholder workshops arranged on a thematic and regional basis to ensure collaboration and a regional approach to development, whilst still maintaining a local focus.
- Whilst some of the scenarios and levers are local, others are regional (e.g. skills, transport and infrastructure) and so ensuring the LAEPs remain connected and coherent with regional governance structures is also vital.

**Financial Impacts:** None

**Integrated Impact Assessment:** These will be completed when the LAEPs are ready for local cabinet decision making.

**Workforce Impacts:** Welsh Government have funded the recruitment of 3 new officers into the region to support development and delivery of the Local Area Energy Plans. These officers are not employed by the CJC but are being funded under lead local authority arrangements.

**Legal Impacts:** None

**Risk Management Impacts:** Risks arising as part of the LAEP process are managed as part of programme delivery by ES Catapult.

**Consultation:** A wide range of stakeholders are consulted as part of the development of the LAEPs, further details included in the presentation.

**Implementation of Decision:** N/A

**Appendices:** Appendix 1 – SW Wales LAEP Programme Update Slides

**List of Background Papers:** City Science LAEP presentation.