

Progress Overview: the 20 Specific Actions committed to by the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission

Specific Action Ref	Action theme	Refreshed Actions (as approved in March 2023)	Previous Status - Q1 (RAG)	Previous Status - Q2 (RAG)	Previous Status - Q3 (RAG)	Previous Status - Q4 (RAG)	Current Status - Q1 (RAG)	Q1 (April - June) Commentary 2023 Qtrly reflection/updates from Co-Directors
A	On the need for action:	the commission will continually make the case for urgent action on climate and nature whilst providing a positive vision of how such action will make the region a better place to live and work						We are Lead Partner on Yorkshire Sustainability Week, 3- 7 July. Working towards Yorkshire Leaders' Board endorsement for policy principles (probably July) - communications plan to build on this. Co-Director speaking at numerous events, including the PCAN Conference on 19.6.23 and the Public Health Summer School on 27.06.23
B	On equity and inclusion:	transition plan that maps the links between climate change and inequality and that assesses the ways in which action on climate and nature can help to tackle (and certainly not exacerbate) existing inequalities in the region						Commissions Team is exploring developing an equality assessment tool to use across all of our work; some progress is being made, with new connections to leading academics who can inform and support this work. DI session on Cultural Adaptation began exploring ways to engage a variety of people in creating strategic plans for the region. DI session on Health and Wellbeing is focused on health inequalities and how positive climate/ecological action can address existing inequalities.
Ci	On community involvement:	the commission will ensure that its work is transparent and that it is possible for as many people, from all sections of society across the region, to contribute to the discussion in a structured and impactful way.						First faith event has taken place. Second fully planned. Both on line, designed to gather momentum towards a face to face event to be arranged later in the year. Large joint meeting (70+ councils) held with YCLA. Ongoing engagement with branch meetings including east of county (ERNLLCA). Town & Parish Council future sessions in planning stages. Partnerships with Ashden Trust and Carbon Copy in development with focus on sharing practice / encouraging local climate action & engagement Commonplace consultations continue.
D.i	On education and awareness:	awareness: the Commission will explore ways to further integrate climate and nature into the curriculum in schools, colleges and universities						We have written to every Multi Academy Trust in Y&H to ask to sign pledge and highlight education actions in CAP
E	On leadership and capacity buildin	the Commission will develop and launch a Climate Action Pledge to provide a framework for organisations and businesses across the region to develop and deliver ambitious actions that put climate, nature and working towards a just transition at the heart of their decision making processes and provide access to tools and support for increasing positive action.						67 organisations have taken the pledge. Current focus is on targeting NHS and Multi Academy Trusts. Document/tool focusing on climate resilience and business in development in co-operation with CLASP, and will be finalised following DI session in Yorkshire Sustainability Week
F	On jobs and skills:	Work with and consult the regional policy forum, trade unions, business workers and skills providers to support and enable the inclusion of green jobs and skills in local skills improvement plans across the region, with a key focus on promoting a just transition.						Regional Policy Forum 17 July has a 'Local Economic Transformation' theme - currently consulting with several LA and MCA head of strategy/economic development to plan this.
G	On health and wellbeing	work with health professionals to develop an outline strategy on how to address the climate and nature and health and wellbeing agendas in a joined up way to make a tangible difference for the most vulnerable people in our society						A joint statement making public our collaboration with the Association of Directors of Public Health in Y&H has been launched. We received considerable media (radio) interest and a lot of traction on various social media channels Met with representatives of Greener Practice to create the link with primary care providers. Working with Greener NHS to embed wider thinking around adaptation, nature's recovery and a just transition. Working towards ICBe committing to the Climate Action Pledge.
Hi	On innovation and best practice	Under Review: complete an audit of the science and innovation activities related to climate and nature in the region (A)						
Hii	On innovation and best practice	Under Review: and will work to develop a climate innovation network to enable the incubation, demonstration and replication of best practices (B)						
I	On finance and investment:	The Commission will, through consultation, including through the Future Economy Delivering Impact sessions, develop a series of recommendations for how the region can attract investment to enable a just transition, adapt to climate change, achieve net zero and restore nature.						Work engaging with a small group from the FE panel to scope a regional finance and investment platform. UoL has lead the submission of a bid to ESRC to fund a research centre where Yorkshire & Humber would be a 'living lab' to explore and answer the many questions this initiative poses. We hear in July if we have made it through to the next stage.
J	On economic development	The Commission will, through consultation, including through the Future Economy Delivering Impact sessions, develop future economy principles and identify critical mechanisms, highlighting how climate and nature can be fully integrated into economic development activities across the region.						Commissions team currently reflection on how the 'future economy principles' relate to planning policy principles and current work on local economic transformation. We will work with Local Economic Development leads and Mayoral Authorities to develop this.
L.i	On nature and biodiversity	The Commission will through consultation, including through the Land, Water, Nature, Food panel's Delivering Impact sessions to provide a foundation to enable the development of a strategic land use framework for the region. This will outline key principles to guide decision-making that balances potentially conflicting demands on land in the region, enabling the region to contribute to the national '30 by 30' target in a way that promotes net zero, climate resilience, incorporating the principles of a just transition, regenerative agriculture and sustainable food production.						All day panel workshop held to review existing land use frameworks and outline requirements for the region's version. Initial meeting with Defra held to discuss opportunity for a regional land use framework held and further scoping underway Cultural Adaptation DI session held
L.ii	On nature and biodiversity	Raise the profile of local nature recovery networks and explore ways of developing a Yorkshire and Humber Nature Service.						Meeting arranged to explore how Commission can best support LRNs Panel members and a core Commission team member have joined the steering groups for development of the West Yorkshire LRNS Progress being made on GIS data project to support the mapping aspect of LRNS development
N.i	On climate risks and resilience	The Commission will work with our Local Resilience Forums to help incorporate climate risks into wider resilience strategies.						DI session on Emergency Response and Preparedness held in collaboration with regional LRFs and input from national resilience framework representatives. Next steps being actively developed with LRF Secretariats and will be taken to LRF Chairs in due course.
N.ii	On climate risks and resilience	Promote the development and spread of best practice in adaptation and the wider application of new approaches to climate risk assessment, management and communication through facilitating an Innovative Climate Adaptation Programme for Local Authorities across the region.						Weather narratives in progress, creating a practical tool for LAs to interpret potential climate scenarios and what we need to prepare for in the region.
O.i	On net zero targets	recommend the adoption of five-yearly carbon budgets and that the regional climate target is expanded to include emissions from aviation and shipping						Regional carbon mapping project scoped and contract being procured.
O.ii	On net zero targets	Introduce a transparent monitoring framework and bi-annual reports on progress towards net zero.						Regional carbon mapping project scoped and contract being procured. Outputs will be developed and shared with YH CXs and a way forward agreed.
P.i	On energy	seek resources to develop a regional area energy plan (or a nested set of local plans)						
P.ii	On energy	work with others to support the development of smart, flexible energy networks, wider adoption of community energy initiatives, and the adoption of the highest sustainability standards for all energy sources.						C&E panel held open meeting on community energy and report written Andrew working with North Leeds Community Energy (informal network) to increase influence on planning policies and outcomes
Q.i	On homes and buildings							
Q.ii	On homes and buildings	Develop, consult on, and promote best practice on retrofit delivery mechanisms across tenure types, with a key focus on enabling a just transition, and including the retrofit of heritage buildings.						Several strands of work progressing well, some led by the Commissions team via Delivering Impact work and some by Commissioners. Martyn Broadest is leading an ambitious project within his social housing trust and we look forward to sharing insights with the Commission in due course.
Q.iii	On homes and buildings							
Q.iv	On homes and buildings							
Q.v	On homes and buildings	promote the application of the highest whole-life standards for new buildings						Part of ongoing new build consultation and associated promotion
R.i	On transport	spread best practice on active travel, public transport and low emissions vehicles						DI session held on 10 May
R.ii	On transport	explore how we can adopt behavioural interventions that shape transport choices (including on aviation) across the region						New research coming from the UoL (Prof Greg Marsden) on behaviour, will inform recommendations following the DI session held on 10 May
S	On lifestyles and consumption	develop and publish consumption-based carbon accounts and to develop a menu of options on how we can best address our consumption-based carbon and ecological footprint						This work has been developed through the PCAN (Place Based Climate Action Network) work lead by LSE, supported by UoL. Findings for the region are being finalised and will be shared with the Commission in due course.
T.ii	On research and evidence	Work with Yorkshire Universities to develop a brokerage network between communities and universities, enabling students to help solve local environmental sustainability challenges, including on specific topics set by the Commission.						Work is underway with the R&E Panel to develop a proposal for how the Panel could facilitate this more in the future. We have worked alongside Yorkshire Universities to set a challenge for students in the region to tackle as part of the UPP Foundation £20,000 funding. Applications are set to open to students in late June. The challenge will relate to action 7 from the CAP 'Advance education and engagement', how to integrate climate and nature into the curriculum.
U.i	On collaboration	work to identify and map the organisations and collaborations that have critical roles to play in responding to the climate emergency						This work has been slowed due to reduced capacity within the Commissions team and a need to prioritise the Delivering Impact session programme. We do intend to deliver, once the bulk of the DI papers have been produced.
U.ii	On collaboration	enable the Commission to build new collaborations where they are needed and to support and strengthen existing relationships						Although we don't have the baseline position product from Action U1, we have started tracking the new collaborations that we are aware of as a result of the Commissions work, and of course, the ones we are directly involved in, like our partnership formed with ADPH on health and climate, and with Secret Events Service, on Yorkshire Sustainability Week.
V	On regional policy and planning	work with combined and local authorities across the region to explore how best practices in policy and planning can be consistently developed and applied across the region.						Planning policy principles are on course to be endorsed by Yorkshire Leaders' Board in July, and work is now under way to extend the process into economic development. There is a just transition 'risk' emerging around transport/modal shift and urban/rural/coastal differences.
W	On national policy	press national government for the policies that we need to deliver on our regional climate ambitions, for example on planning and new build standards, on policies for (net zero and resilience facing) retrofits, on policies for agriculture and land management and on the need for a national aviation strategy that is consistent with the 6th Carbon Budget.						National level consultation work continues - currently on Environmental Outcomes Reporting and need to look at Transport National Policy Statement too (both with early June deadlines). We've engaged PCAN-a network on this to look at how to use our national reach to add weight to consultations. Formative plan with Kate Josephs (Lead YHCX) to develop national relationships (eg with civil servants) - sense this will be more impactful at present than a high level national 'forum'. Signs that the OFGEM/Grid issue is shifting under our feet - not clear if/how to influence it just yet. Maybe convene a meeting of our contacts. The CCS/Drax issues have a national significance too, and are explored in our draft ViewPoint paper being considered by the Commission on 21.06.2023.