Main Commission Meeting
23 October 2024 15.00
Online

Minutes

1	**Welcome, Introductions & Thank you's** Apologies from Kate Josephs, Damian Allen, Rob Hall, Simon Pringle, Oliver Harmar, Amandeep Maan, Sarah Clark, Steven Forrest. - New Commissioner, Dr Steven Forrest, was welcomed. Steven represents higher education and joins as Regional Picture and Evidence Group Chair. Steven was also an active member of the Phase 1 Climate Adaptation and Resilience Panel. - The new Public Health Co-Commissioners were welcomed; Debs Harkins and Steve Turnbull. - New Commissioner Niki Roach was welcomed. Niki is Co-Chair of the Public Affairs Steering Group. - Thanks were given to Councillor Jack Hemingway for his contribution to the Commission. Jack was a founding Vice Chair and has been Co-Chair of the Regional Policy Forum from its inception 3.5 years ago. - Thanks were given to Kate Josephs. Kate has been the Y&H Chief Execs Lead for Climate and Co-Chair of the Regional Policy Forum since April 2023, and has strengthened our profile with the YH CXs forum, and, with Jack, has left a clear and ambitious plan for the Regional Policy Forum. Kate has taken on the role of Chair of the Core Cities Group. - Damian Allen was welcomed as the new Co-Chair for the Regional Policy Forum and is the Yorkshire & Humber Chief Executive for Climate, taking over from Kate. Damian is already the South Yorkshire lead Chief Executive for Climate and Net Zero. - We hope to be able to welcome our new West Yorkshire Vice Chair at our January meeting. **Today's session & Forward Look** - Today's session has a just transition focus. - January's meeting will be face to face in York with a focus on understanding the political levers and opportunities in the region, based on some research commissioned by YH Councils and undertaken by Y-PERN (the Yorkshire Policy Engagement Research Network) which has involved interviewing all the CXs, leaders and mayors in the region.

	- In April, we will be online and will have a primary focus on reviewing progress and steering our work to support and shape a just transition.
2	**Minutes from the last meeting** - A new action log has been started. - The minutes were approved.
3	**Communications Update** Purpose: information & awareness Presentation slides were shared during the meeting. Key comments – During the application process, a number of Commissioners opted in to be a media spokesperson for the Commission and to undertake media training. **Action:** Media training for Commissioners to be provided and completed by June 2025.
4	**The implications and opportunities of recent government announcements for the Humber** Relevance to Climate Action Plan: Outcome G Purpose: To inform, maintain a balanced focus on the Humber as well as Yorkshire, and enable the Commission to explore the current issues and determine if and how to support <u>Just transition considerations for Humber Industry</u> Sam Perry, Commissioner, shared an update on the rapidly evolving situation at the Scunthorpe Steel Works, which has been covered in the media recently. Sam shared that decarbonisation needs are being cited as a significant contributor to the risk to jobs at the steelworks, and therefore through the wider direct supply chain in the area. The Commission asked questions that related to the just transition impacts and considerations, and also about the manufacturing processes and technological changes that are being considered. The Commission were informed about the scale of the impact to both the local and national economy. **Actions:** - Sam to follow up with Rosa, as Commission Director, to share further developments. - Rosa to work with the Commissions Team and the Public Affairs Group to develop an appropriate approach, in light of the Commission's system level and regional perspective. <u>Energy related investment plans for the Humber</u> Jonathan Oxley, Commissioner, presented. The key messages were:

	- The investment announced by the government was the same money as was previously announced and the affirmation has been very welcome by the CCS sector. - It is less than 0.1 % of the funding needed to take Carbon away by 2028/2029. It will fund 3 onshore carbon capture projects. There were additional projects in the original announcement that weren't ready and now are not included. - Nothing has been announced for Y&H but Teeside will be connected to Yorkshire and Humber. The Government has said there is more to come for the Humber and Scotland. Bruce Heppenstall, Commissioner, presented. The key messages were: - Important to note that £21.7 billion funds a handful of projects and the pipelines. There are other track 2 projects including 5 in Liverpool that are getting up to £80 billion. - This shows the scale of investment needed to get to net zero. It is genuinely a leading step towards carbon capture. - The Humber Energy Board is launching its roadmap for industrial decarbonisation next month, which clearly sets out the levels of investment needed. Brief update on work on BECCS Kat Armstrong presented on the DI paper, highlighting why this consultation was important, encouraging Commissioners to share the consultation with their networks, and to ensure that they join the second DI session on this topic if possible. **Action**: Date for second DI session to be set. [Completed: date set for 5th December, 3pm – 5.30pm]
5	**Core Group Update**: Regional Policy Forum Purpose: to inform and seek additional steers from the Commission *Relevance to CAP: Outcome A* Due to time invested in the discussions in item 4, there was not time to brief the Commission on the paper. The paper clearly sets out a brief review of the successes and learnings from 2023/24, and the annual plan for 2025. In recognition of how important our work on policy is, particularly with regards to our role enabling a just transition, Rosa asked all Commissioners to review the paper and to provide any comments to Andrew Wood as a priority. **Action**: Commissioners to review the Regional Policy Forum paper and provide comments and reflections to Andrew Wood before mid-December 2024.
6	**Community Energy Sector Insights post July 2024** Purpose: to inform and enable the Commission to support promoting Community Energy in Y&H effectively *Relevance to CAP: Action G6* Emma Bridge, Chief Executive of Community Energy England (CEE) presented. The slides from the presentation are circulated with the minutes.

7	**OFGEM Regional Energy Strategic Plan Consultation Response** Purpose: to inform and ensure Commission are sighted on our response and aware of key messages *Relevance to CAP: Outcome G* Kat Armstrong presented on Paper 3, drawing out the key messages for the Commission to be aware of and to advocate for through their networks.
8	**Focus Session**: Climate Service Ethics and how it can help us support a fair and just transition Purpose: to increase our collective understanding of climate service ethics, and to prioritise and shape our contribution towards realising a just transition. Please see the proposal in Paper 4. Relevance to CAP: Just Transition Pillar & Outcome A – Making Good Decisions Easier Jillian's presentation was recorded and the recording will be made available to Commissioners for a short period after the meeting, particularly for those that were not able to attend this section of the meeting. Commissioners discussed the three products proposed in four breakout groups and the notes from these discussions have been condensed and shared with the minutes.
10	**Date of the next Commission meeting**: Wednesday 29 January 2025, 15.00 - 17.30 in person, in York (venue tbc)

Attended

Chair
Liz Barber

Vice Chairs
East Yorkshire - Cllr Paul West, Cabinet Member, East Riding (& chaired first hour of meeting)
South Yorkshire – Cllr Ben Miskell, Chair of the Transport, Regeneration and Climate Policy Committee, Sheffield City Council

Director
Rosa Foster, University of Leeds

Senior Officer Nominees
Ian Floyd, City of York Council
Martin Budd, Hull City Council
Lisa Croft representing Damian Allen, Doncaster Council

Commissioners
Alice Sweeting, YBS
Andy Gouldson, University of Leeds
Bruce Heppenstall, Drax
Charlee Bewsher, RYCA
Deborah Harkins, Calderdale Council (sharing Commissioner role with Steve Turnbull)
Dr Jatinder Singh Mehmi, Sikh Alliance Yorkshire
Dr Peter O'Brien, Yorkshire Universities
Emma Bridge, Community Energy England
Helen Slinger, Accounting for Sustainability (A4S)
Jonathan Oxley, CBI

Martyn Broadest, Connect Housing Association
Mike Dugher, Environment Agency
Niki Roach, Blue and Green Consulting Limited
Peter Cole, Transport for the North
Rachael Bice, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
RIchard Beardsworth, University of Leeds
Roz Davies, Green Estate
Sajalu Dahal, Northern Gas Networks
Sam Perry, TUC
Simon Bowens, Yorkshire and the Northeast Friends of the Earth
Siobhan Barton, Northern Power Grid
Stuart Strathdee, Greenhead College

Commissions Team

Jane Stanbury, Commissions Team Coordinator
Kathryn Lock, Policy and Communications Manager
Amelia Duncan, Leeds Climate Commission Programme Manager (YHCC = emissions pathway lead & Climate Action Pledge)
Kat Armstrong, Engagement and Impact Officer (Skills, Health & Energy)
Sam Herbert, Engagement and Impact Officer (Regional Picture & Evidence; Land use, Food, Water and Nature; Climate Action Pledge)
Jon Kedward, Engagement and Impact Officer (Communities & Engagement)
Andrew Wood, Senior Engagement and Impact Officer (Policy)
Muriel Bonjean Stanton, Engagement and Impact Officer (Adaptation & Resilience)
Matt Gibbons, Communications Officer
Catherine Homoky, Communications Officer