

Hull and East Yorkshire LEP Board

“HEY on the Road to Net Zero” – COP26 Event Update

Report to the Board, 30th September 2021

Paper G - Report from Jon Brunton, Growth Hub Manager

1. **Summary**

1.1. Strong progress is being made in the planning for the LEP’s COP26 event on Monday 18 October 2021 – “HEY on the Road to Net Zero”.

1.2. An event planning update is provided by this paper.

1.3. A number of planning documents can be found enclosed with this report as the following appendices:

- 1) Event Vision, Aims & Objective
- 2) Event Programme
- 3) Event Floorplan

2. **Recommendations**

2.1. It is recommended that the HEY LEP board:

- Notes the event planning update for the event
- Approves the event programme, event vision aims and objectives and makes any final recommendations on these documents as appropriate

3. **Report**

3.1. **Background**

3.1.1. The LEP was approached by BEIS in June 2021 with an invitation to bid to host a flagship event as part of the COP 26 affiliated “Zero Carbon Tour”. Following a competitive application process, the LEP was informed of the successful outcome of its bid on 21 July, and was given an event date of Monday 18 October, which is the week that the Zero Carbon Tour visits various locations around Yorkshire and the North East.

3.1.2. The tour will see a 100% electric “battle bus” travel the UK to visit regions and localities that can showcase cutting-edge decarbonisation projects and initiatives, taking in a range of activity taking place across business,

the public sector and community groups. The battle bus will carry government representatives and also the social enterprise “Planet Mark”, who provide sustainability accreditation to organisations across the UK. The tour also aims to raise awareness and understanding of the Climate Crises, Net Zero, Clean Growth and COP 26.

- 3.1.3. The LEP has therefore programmed a full day of events in support of the Zero Carbon Tour on 18 October. This incorporates a business-facing event in the Hull City Hall – Mortimer Suite, and a secondary schools event in the Ferens Art Gallery theatre space. Please see the event programme attached at appendix 2.

3.2. Planning Update

- 3.2.1. The event programme has now been agreed and the majority of speakers, exhibitors and breakout facilitators have been confirmed.
- 3.2.2. Both event venues have been confirmed, and a floorplan for the business event has been produced – please see attached at appendix 3.
- 3.2.3. Equipment hire for event furniture and audio, visual and lighting is being progressed in partnership with Marketing Humber. A contractor to provide a livestreaming service for the event has been provisionally confirmed.
- 3.2.4. Costs quotes for refreshments and catering have been obtained and the final order for catering will be submitted the week prior to the event based on confirmed delegate numbers.
- 3.2.5. Risk assessments and Covid-secure measures are currently being worked on and will be confirmed with the venues within the next fortnight.
- 3.2.6. The application form to secure the parking location of the battle bus in Queen Victoria Square, Hull has been submitted to Hull City Council.
- 3.2.7. Invites to LEP VIPs were sent out by Friday 24 September
- 3.2.8. As of Wednesday 22 September, 15 delegates had booked to attend the event, however the HEY Growth Hub is to commence a comprehensive marketing campaign w/c 27 September to engage as many SMEs as possible via its networks.

3.3. Next Steps

- 3.4. The event working group will continue to meet for huddle planning meetings every Tuesday and Friday in the lead up to the event. All of the outstanding actions will be complete not later than Friday 1st October to ensure enough time to deal with unforeseen contingencies.

3.5. As a flagship event host, the LEP is obligated to collate a minimum of 20 “Carbon Story” case studies that can be shared with BEIS, Planet Mark, the Energy Hub, and Carbon Copy. These can be a mixture of written and video case studies and must showcase a variety of themes from the region taken from the following:

- Biodiversity & Nature
- Built Environment
- Circular Economy
- Energy
- Finance
- Land Use, Food & Agriculture
- Transport

The LEP is aiming to have 10 case studies complete in advance of the flagship event and 10 completed prior to the COP26 conference on 31 October.

4. Financial and resource implications

4.1 It is currently anticipated that the total costs for the event will be covered by the £10,000 event budget provided by BEIS. This will include approximately £4,000 for the associated costs of technical support on the day for the audio & visual operation and also for the livestreaming service. Refreshments and catering on the day will also total approximately £1,000. Whilst LEP reserves have been made available for the event it is currently anticipated that these will not be needed.

4.2 A funding agreement from BEIS is still awaited, however the North East, Yorkshire & The Humber Energy Hub have guaranteed that they will underwrite the funds for the event in any case and this has been confirmed in writing.

4.3 Matched funding must be provided on a 100% basis; however, this is currently in hand and will be largely formed by in-kind contributions including venue costs, LEP staff time, and delivery partner contributions in kind (such as the Marketing Humber Waterline session).