



West London Economic Prosperity Board

17 February 2021

Title	Update on approach to Green Recovery
Report of	Paul Walker, Corporate Director – Community, London Borough of Harrow and Chair of West London Environment Directors' Board
Status	Public
Sponsor	Cllr Julian Bell, Leader, LB Ealing (and sponsor of green recovery strand of Build and Recover work)
Urgent	No
Enclosures	Annex One: Presentation on Update on Approach to Green Recovery
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Summary

This report and the accompanying presentation set out progress on elements of the green recovery strand of the Build and Recover plan.

Recommendations

Leaders are asked to:

1. **Note** and **comment on** the progress presented on the green recovery strand of the Build and Recover plan.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 'Green recovery; is a discrete strand of the work sitting under the Build and Recover plan but it also cross-cutting in nature, with activity under various other themes of work supporting it. This report and the accompanying presentation set out, following an initial presentation of the general approach to the West London Economic Recovery Taskforce, updates on specific

elements of this strand of the Build and Recover plan to ensure this Board is abreast of its development.

2. BACKGROUND TO GREEN RECOVERY THEME

2.1 The specific activities which West London boroughs committed to work on collectively as part of the green recovery strand include:

- Encourage investment in green skills;
- Enable take-up of Green Homes Grant supporting retrofitting;
- Support Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme
- Accelerate shovel-ready infrastructure projects
- Explore increasing carbon offset rates;
- Enhance low carbon procurement policies;
- Redefine town centres as low carbon hubs

2.2 In addition to the specific activities outlined above, the cross-cutting nature of green recovery as a theme is reflected in various other strands of the Build and Recover plan.

3. PROGRESS TO DATE

3.1 The presentation accompanying this report sets out in more detail progress in delivering specific elements of the green recovery work highlighted by the West London Economic Recovery Taskforce for further exploration. These include:

- Developing a clear narrative for green recovery and its links across the themes of the Build & Recover plan;
- Emerging thinking on an approach to reskill and develop routes into work in the green economy;
- Considering how best to shape work on green innovation and links to growth sectors work;
- Exploring how best to work with NHS partners on linking green recovery to well-being and wider determinants of health.

3.2 Wider progress beyond this and across the strands of activity highlighted under point 2.1 above include:

- Exploring how best to secure social value from Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery funding to retrofit homes in the private rented sector e.g. through local recruitment or use of local supply chains
- Sharing best practice across boroughs' procurement teams to develop tools and materials in order to drive both carbon reductions and green growth via our supply chains.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The progress update presented in the accompanying presentation is for this Board's information and comment only.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

5.1 N/A

6. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Informed by any comments / input received from this Board officers will continue to deliver the activity set out under the green recovery theme of the Build and Recover plan, reporting back to this board as appropriate.

7. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

7.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- This report relates directly to the delivery of the agreed West London Build & Recover economic recovery strategy.

7.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- It is anticipated that work to take forward activities under the green recovery theme of the Build and Recover plan will be undertaken at this point through existing, funded officer time, both within the core West London Alliance team and with relevant officers in West London authorities including the West London Environment Directors' Board and Climate Emergency Officers' Group.

7.3 Social Value

- There is potential to use activity e.g. the Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Fund funding to secure social, including in relation to skills and employment benefits.

7.4 Legal and Constitutional References

- This work falls within the following sections of the WLEPB's Functions and Procedure Rules:
 - Representing the participating local authorities in discussions and negotiations with regional bodies, national bodies and central government on matters relating to economic prosperity for the benefit of the local government areas of the participating authorities.
 - Representing the participating authorities in connection with the Greater London Authority, London Councils and the London Enterprise Panel, for the benefit of the local government areas of the participating authorities, in matters relating to the economic prosperity agenda.
 - Representing the participating local authorities in discussions and

negotiations in relation to pan-London matters relating to economic prosperity.

- The Joint Committee's role and purpose on behalf of the Participating Boroughs relates to ensuring appropriate, effective and formal governance is in place for the purposes of delivering the West London Vision for Growth and advancing Participating Boroughs' aspirations for greater economic prosperity in West London, including promoting "the Economic Prosperity Agenda", in partnership with employers, representatives from regional and central government, and education and skills providers.
- The purpose of the Joint Committee will be collaboration and mutual cooperation and the fact that some functions will be discharged jointly by way of the Joint Committee does not prohibit any of the Participating Boroughs from promoting economic wellbeing in their own areas independently from the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee is not a self-standing legal entity but is part of its constituent authorities. Any legal commitment entered into pursuant of a decision of the Joint Committee must be made by all of the Participating Boroughs.

7.5 Risk Management

- This report will support the West London Economic Prosperity Board to oversee successful delivery of the Build and Recover plan and its aims.

7.6 Equalities and Diversity

- There are no specific equalities and diversity implications to the update report provided but as part of the wider Build and Recover plan delivery of the green recovery strand will consider inclusion as a central part of its delivery as it mobilises.

7.7 Consultation and Engagement

- 7.8 The presentation accompanying this report was presented to the West London Economic Recovery Taskforce at its February meeting for their input and steer.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Annex One: Presentation on Update on Approach on Green Recovery