



Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)

Time and Date

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 14th April 2021

Place

This meeting will be held remotely. The meeting can be viewed live by pasting this link into your browser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Gc-alUmk0c>

Public Business

1. **Apologies and Substitutions**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 16)
 - (a) To agree the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2021
 - (b) To agree the Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Business, Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) and the Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) held on 24th March 2021
(Note: these minutes will also be submitted to the next meeting of the Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1))
 - (c) Matters arising
4. **Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership** (Pages 17 - 32)
Briefing Note of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership
5. **Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Update** (Pages 33 - 62)
Briefing Note of the Director of Property Services and Development
6. **Work Programme 2020/2021** (Pages 63 - 66)
Report of the Scrutiny Co-ordinator
7. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

Private Business

Nil

Julie Newman, Director of Law and Governance, Council House, Coventry

Tuesday, 6 April 2021

Note: The person to contact about the agenda and documents for this meeting is Michelle Salmon, Governance Services, Tel: 024 7697 2643, Email: michelle.salmon@coventry.gov.uk

Membership of Board:

Councillors R Ali, G Hayre, M Heaven, T Jandu, R Lancaster, P Male, C Miks (Chair), E Ruane and B Singh

By invitation:

Councillor J O'Boyle - Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration

Councillor K Maton – Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

Michelle Salmon

Governance Services

Tel: 024 7697 2643

Email: michelle.salmon@coventry.gov.uk

Agenda Item 3

Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)
held at 2.00 pm on Wednesday, 3 March 2021
(This meeting was held remotely)

Present:

Members: Councillor C Miks (Chair)
Councillor R Ali
Councillor M Heaven
Councillor T Jandu
Councillor R Lancaster
Councillor P Male
Councillor E Ruane
Councillor B Singh
Councillor C Thomas (substitute for Cllr Hayre)

Cabinet Member: Councillor J O'Boyle - Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration

Invited:

Representatives on the
West Midlands Combined
Authority Transport
Delivery Committee:

Councillor P Akhtar
Councillor L Bigham

Employees (by Service):

Law and Governance G Holmes, M Rose

Business, Investment and
Culture J Norton, P Singh, S Weir

Transportation and
Highways J Seddon

Apologies: Councillor G Hayre

Public Business

25. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

26. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2021 were agreed as a true record.

27. **Support for Small Businesses**

The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) received a briefing note regarding the support the Council had been giving to businesses and how the Authority had worked alongside local business support partners including Coventry & Warwickshire (CW) Chamber of Commerce, CWLEP Growth Hub and Coventry & Warwickshire Reinvestment Trust (CWRT) to adapt the business support offer to changing economic, social and health conditions and ensure local businesses were supported through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The nature of support services provided to businesses had changed due to changing economic circumstances. Coventry & Warwickshire entered 2020 as the fastest growing LEP area economy in England since the 2008/09 recession in terms of economic output. However, the COVID-19 outbreak in March 2020 forced some sectors of the economy to close and social distancing restrictions limited the output of sectors remaining open. The impact had been severe, with UK economic output (measured by GDP) falling by over 21% in the first two quarters of 2020 alone and contracting by 9.9% in 2020 as a whole (the largest contraction of any G7 nation). The West Midlands encountered the highest fall in economic output of any English region during the Spring 2020 lockdown, and the UK economy remained 7.4% smaller than pre-pandemic levels.

Due to many businesses needing to close temporarily and/or unable to generate sufficient income, some 49,200 posts in Coventry were furloughed in June 2020 (30%) and the claimant count (numbers on unemployment related benefits) in Coventry increased to 16,695 (6.7%) in October 2020. Because of the cashflow challenges facing many businesses and the need to minimise further job losses, business support activities had broadened in 2020 to support local businesses to access Government grants and loans to mitigate against the impact of COVID-19 and help ensure their survival, as well as continue delivery of our business support programmes and Inward Investment service.

The Economic Development Service (EDS) worked to deliver the aims of promoting the growth of a sustainable economy and improving the quality of life for local people. Coventry's businesses play an integral role in creating wealth and employment. There were nearly 10,000 businesses in Coventry, many of which were Small or Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which create significant employment opportunities and contribute to local business rates. The Service had remained active in ensuring that local businesses (particularly SMEs) were given the best chance of succeeding with the support available. Coventry's SMEs continued to need advice, access to finance and infrastructure, and support to fulfil their growth potential.

The briefing detailed the ongoing support for businesses which this year included COVID-19 support and EU Exit and Funding of Business Support. Officers discussed furlough, EU funding programmes, grants and anticipated future announcements.

The Board questioned officers, received responses and discussed the following issues:

- The Apprenticeship Levy and LEP's
- Level up funding

- Promoting benefits of how being the City of Culture has supported the local economy using Key Performance Indicators
- Freeports and their competitiveness
- Furlough
- Brexit
- Support for BAME communities

The Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration assured the Board that he had participated in regular briefings about grants and Coventry had worked hard and been successful in supporting businesses through the pandemic. He discussed changing government policies, furlough, freeports, Brexit and impacts of being the City of Culture.

The Board requested further information regarding:

- discussions with the LEP to encourage diverting Apprenticeship Levy funding if it cannot be spent by individual businesses
- the Levelling Up fund and the Shared Prosperity fund
- government policy on Freeports and what this means for Coventry

The Board requested that as there had been significant investment into the City of Culture, Key Performance Indicators on jobs and businesses should be available to scrutiny.

RESOLVED that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) requested further information regarding Apprenticeship Levy use, Levelling Up Fund and Shared Prosperity Fund, Freeports and City of Culture Key Performance Indicators on jobs and businesses.

28. **Bus Provision and Innovation in Coventry**

The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) received a briefing note which provided an update on Bus Provision and Bus Innovation in Coventry, which had been considered by Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee (SCRUCO) at their meetings on 5th and 19th February 2020 (minutes 50/19 and 56/19 refer). On the 16th February 2021, Cabinet agreed recommendations in a report on All Electric Bus City and Enhanced Partnership Plan, (their minute 69/20 refers) which was attached to the briefing note considered by the Board.

The Department for Transport (DfT) launched the All Electric Bus Town fund in February 2020, with £50 million in grant funding made available to allow one town or city within England to make the transition to a bus network operated fully by electric powered buses. The West Midlands Combined Authority, as the strategic transport authority for the West Midlands, submitted an Expression of Interest for Coventry. The Expression of Interest was developed by the City Council in partnership with Warwickshire County Council and Transport for West Midlands and covered all public bus services operating within the city and in surrounding areas of Warwickshire.

The Department for Transport subsequently confirmed that the Coventry and Warwickshire bid had been shortlisted alongside a second bid from Oxfordshire County Council based on Oxford. In the Budget Statement on 25th November 2020, Government increased the amount of funding available for the All Electric

Bus Town competition, and the Department for Transport confirmed to the Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority, that the Coventry/Warwickshire proposal would be funded subject to the submission of a satisfactory Full Business Case.

The Full Business Case would be presented to the West Midlands Combined Authority Board at its meeting on 19th March 2021 for approval. City Council officers had taken a lead role in the preparation of the Full Business Case and, if successful, the bid would see around 297 new electric buses come into operation in Coventry over the next four years. This meant that by Winter 2025 every public bus service in the city would be operated by a zero-emission electric vehicle, supporting the Council's objectives of a green economic recovery through the decarbonisation of the city's transport network, with an estimated annual emissions saving of around 24,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide and 55 tonnes of nitrogen dioxide.

Information was detailed on the application process to the All Electric Bus Town fund, the areas covered as well as the accountable body. The report also provided information about the Enhanced Partnership Plan for the West Midlands area, which provided a strategic context for joint working between bus operators and local authorities that could be beneficial for the All Electric Bus Town scheme.

The Cabinet Member highlighted the economic and environmental opportunities that would be experienced in Coventry as a conversion was made to electric buses.

The Board congratulated those involved so far in this fantastic opportunity and discussed the following issues:

- Ensuring that the opportunity is taken to revolutionise travel and influence the design of buses, having consideration for people with disabilities using the service, as is the case in other European Cities.
- Air Quality
- The bid process for the funding
- The impact on roads of the new buses, their reliability and performance
- Engaging with bus users
- Deregulation of buses and improvements to encourage passengers onto buses in the city

The Board welcomed Councillors P Akhtar and L Bigham, the City Council appointed representatives on the West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Delivery Committee. Councillor Bigham reassured the Board that the views of passengers with a disability would be raised.

The Cabinet Member thanked the Board for supporting the report and agreed that it would be a positive addition to discussions to go beyond compliance with the requirements of the Disability Act.

The Board requested information on how bus users could feed into the Bus Performance Board.

RESOLVED that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) recommended to the Council representatives on the West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Delivery Committee that, consideration of disabled passengers is taken when the design of the new electric buses are commissioned to ensure there is sufficient space internally as well as meeting accessibility requirements.

29. **Outstanding Issues**

There were no outstanding issues.

30. **Work Programme 2020/2021**

The Board noted the Joint Meeting with Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) was scheduled for 24th March 2021 to consider Apprenticeships.

The Board requested that digital connectivity be included with the item on digital skills in 2021- 2022.

RESOLVED that the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) notes the Board's Work Programme for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2020/2021 and requests that digital connectivity be included with the item on digital skills, to be considered at a future meeting of the Board at the relevant time.

31. **Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved**

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 3.40 pm)

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Coventry City Council
Minutes of the Meeting of Joint Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise
Scrutiny Board (3) and Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) held at
2.00 pm on Wednesday, 24 March 2021
(This meeting was held remotely)

Present:

Members: Councillor Miks (Chair)
Councillor J Blundell
Councillor G Hayre
Councillor M Heaven
Councillor T Jandu
Councillor R Lakha
Councillor R Lancaster
Councillor C Miks
Councillor E Ruane
Councillor T Sawdon
Councillor R Singh

Other Members (by invitation):

Councillor R Brown – Cabinet Member for Strategic Finance and Resources
Councillor K Maton – Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Councillor J O'Boyle - Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration

By invitation:

A Barbour – Severn Trent
G Gathercole – Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Employees (by Directorate):

Education and Skills

K Mawby, G Smailes

Human Resources

S Newing (Director of Human Resources), G Haynes, A Hyland

Legal and Governance

V Castree, G Holmes, M Salmon

Apologies:

Councillor F Abbott
Councillor R Ali
Councillor R Auluck
Councillor B Gittins
Councillor B Singh (Retrospective)

Public Business

1. Election of Chair

A proposal was received from Councillor R Lancaster that Councillor C Miks be elected as Chair of the Joint meeting. The proposal was seconded by Councillor R Singh.

RESOLVED that Councillor Miks be appointed as Chair of the Joint meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise (3) and Finance and Corporate Resources Scrutiny Board (1).

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosable pecuniary interests.

3. Citywide and Council Apprenticeship Update

The Joint Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) and Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) received a briefing note of the Director of Education and Skills and the Director of Human Resources that provided an update on Citywide and Council Apprenticeships. A report that had been prepared in partnership between the City Council's Employment and Skills Service and the Organisational Development Team was attached as an Appendix to the briefing note. Further Appendices provided the Council's Apprenticeship Strategy; Data on Trends, Age, Gender, Equalities and WMCA Levy Transfer; and Case Studies.

Apprenticeships combined hands-on work with the opportunity to train and obtain qualifications: 'Earning whilst you learn, with 20% of an apprentice's paid working time set aside for classroom based and/or online learning. 700 apprenticeship standards were available with traditional and employed apprenticeships offered. Overall, since 2016/17 apprenticeship starts for England had fallen 34% with higher-level apprenticeships increasing by 125% since 2016/17. Covid-19 had impacted on apprenticeship starts for all levels in 2019/20 with varying impacts across age, gender and sector. Coventry followed a similar trend to England but with 200% growth of higher-level apprenticeships.

There had been a series of apprenticeship regulatory reforms since 2016/17 that had impacted on apprenticeship delivery, including a minimum of 20% off the Job Training, a change from Apprenticeship Standards to Frameworks, and increased course costs. In addition, in April 2017 an Apprenticeship Levy was introduced for all employers paying a wage bill of more than £3 million per year (approx. 3% of UK businesses), requiring them to pay 0.5% of their payroll each month as a levy tax. The levy had resulted in increased numbers of apprentices with large employers and an increase in higher-level apprenticeships.

Statistically, compared to national figures, Coventry had a higher proportion of female apprentices, in particular, in intermediate and higher-level apprenticeships and had slightly lower levels of 19-24-year-old learners. National data suggested apprenticeships were broadly representative of population in ethnicity.

Traineeships had helped bridge the gap for lower level learners including those with learning difficulties/disabilities into apprenticeships with limited success. Numbers of traineeships were down nationally partly due to the pandemic and also the Government adding in grants of £2000 per trainee for businesses who supported Traineeships for Academic Year 2020/21 and a further increase in this grant to £3000 per trainee, announced in the 3rd March 2021 Spring Budget.

Supported Internships could be a good alternative to Apprenticeships for those with learning disabilities, with learners supported through skilled Job Coaches for their work experience placements. The City Council's Employment and Skills Service had been successfully running Supported Internships in partnership with Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust for the last 5 years and this had recently expanded to include Warwick University, with further plans for the Council itself to act as a host employer.

The Apprenticeship and Early Careers Team within the Council's Organisational Development Section were responsible for managing the Council's Apprenticeship Programme and delivering the actions set out in the Council's Apprenticeship Strategy. The team engaged with managers across the Council to identify opportunities to create new apprenticeship roles and provide support with recruitment, identifying suitable apprenticeship standards and providing advice and guidance to managers and apprentices to ensure the quality of placement was maintained. The Team also worked with Local Authority maintained schools. At 1st March 2021 the Council had 70 traditional apprentices in post. Apprenticeship starts had decreased in the last 12 months compared to the same period a year before, mirrored nationally, with the main factor in the decrease due to the challenges associated with the Coronavirus Pandemic. Support to existing apprentices throughout this challenging time had continued, by working closely with training providers to transition to online/remote delivery for continuity of apprenticeships. The Council has also been able to successfully support its apprentices that have come to the end of their apprenticeships during this period into positive destinations. 81% of all apprentices that finished between 01/03/20 – 01/03/21 went into a positive destination, this is up from 78% in the previous year.

The Authority has continued to utilise the Apprenticeship Levy funding to support the training and development of the existing workforce with a total of 49 different types of apprenticeship being undertaken, from service/role specific apprenticeships through to corporate offerings such as Project Management.

Further, the Authority had been a training provider (The Adult Education Service - Coventry Adult Education trained 308 apprentices) providing apprenticeship training for Coventry City Council and City Council Maintained schools. In addition, it provided apprenticeship training for Private Sector Nurseries and to Academy Schools. The Education and Skills Team also provided support to schools to help them promote Apprenticeships as part of their statutory duties to provide careers guidance.

The Council's Employment and Skills Service encompassed the Job Shop, Employer Hub, Adult Education, the Youth Hub and Disability Employment Support and it sat within the Education & Skills Service. It had a strategic influencing role for skills provision across Coventry and this included Apprenticeships. The Job Shop had developed an Employer Hub which engaged

with hundreds of the City's employers to offer high quality and free recruitment support and to recruit Apprentices.

Kickstart was a Department for Work and Pensions scheme that provided funding for employers to create six-month paid job placements with a minimum of 25 hours per week for those aged 16-24 and claiming Universal Credit. The Authority was an Employment and Skills Service Kickstart Gateway support and provider.

In respect of future plans for City Council Apprenticeships, the Authority:

- Were currently finalising plans to increase apprentice recruitment in the coming months to bring numbers back up to pre-Covid levels with an ambition to recruit 100 apprentices in the next 12 months.
- In line with the Apprenticeship Strategy 2020-2022, planned to revise the process of recruiting corporate apprentices to include a workforce planning approach, promote diversity, inclusion and social mobility by building on the changes to practice in attraction, recruitment and selection that had been implemented in corporate recruitment to ensure apprentices recruited were reflective of the communities served.
- Through workforce planning meetings with Heads of Service, would identify new opportunities to utilise apprenticeships to upskill the Council's workforce.
- Would evaluate all apprenticeships to ensure they remained fit for purpose and added value to the needs of the employee and organisation.
- Would work with the Economic Development Service to allocate the remaining Levy transfer allowance to support Coventry residents and businesses.

In respect of future plans for Citywide Apprenticeships:

- The Employment & Skills Service would build on its strong partnership base, ensuring the Skills Board and Labour Market Intelligence Group responded to the needs of residents and employers.
- Continue to widen employer networks, including working alongside the Economic Development Service, and building relationships with growing sectors and Anchor Institutions.
- Support planned widening of apprenticeships as set out in the Government's Skills for Jobs: 'Lifelong Learning for Opportunity and Growth' White Paper, January 2021.
- Continue working with colleagues to look to establish the City Council as a Supported Internship host employer.

The Board questioned officers, received responses and discussed the following issues:

- Apprenticeships would be considered for all capital projects being undertaken in the City
- The Job Shop, Schools and Colleges all provided advice to students on future career paths which included apprenticeship opportunities
- Apprentices were a vital element to the future workforce of the City
- Severn Trent, a major employer in the City, anticipated 50 apprenticeship starts in 2022/21, a number of which had been from social mobility cold spots

- Government data was used to identify target areas such as social mobility cold spots. Work was undertaken to ensure inclusivity and the representation of all groups with further work to be done in this area and good practice planned for the future
- The effects of the pandemic had had a detrimental effect on the usual number of apprenticeship starts in the last 12 months, in particular there were lower numbers at the intermediate level
- Supported internships provided opportunities to those from special schools, Hereward college and those with disabilities requiring support. Links to the labour market were in place with regular meetings to these links
- Levy transfer had benefitted 43 Small and Medium Enterprises (SME's) both within the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) and non-constituent members of the Authority (in the surrounding area)
- It was important that the Apprenticeship Levy transfer to the Combined Authority was prioritised for re-distribution to SME's within the seven metropolitan boroughs of the WMCA
- The Council was a gateway provider for Kickstart applications. 297 Kickstart placement applications had been made and were making good progress
- There were varying levels of apprenticeships at the Council, this included 31 employees on degree level apprenticeships and 18 employees on MA level apprenticeships
- There were 65 vacant apprenticeships across a number of sectors and levels in the City. Work was being undertaken on levels of apprenticeships for the future to ensure the skills needs of employers were met
- It was important to promote apprenticeships with employers and also to target work with Coventry children, especially those with disabilities where there was currently a low level of take-up.
- The supported internships were positive routes for those with learning difficulties
- The lack of take-up of apprenticeships by Coventry residents at the Severn Trent Headquarters in Coventry, was a concern
- Youth employment was greater in Coventry than in other areas, before and after the impact of the pandemic. It was important to reach the 19-24-year-old age group as much as possible including through schools, colleges and youth hubs and that the City Council maximised its offer of employment opportunities to young people
- A Government White paper issued in January 2021 included a £2.5billion investment in apprenticeships. Future announcements were expected
- A recent change in standards had resulted in Level 2 apprenticeship numbers dropping as some had now become level 3 and others hadn't met the standards
- It was important to understand the work of the Coventry Skills Board and the Labour Market Intelligence Group and how they linked
- The Authority would continue to monitor sectors and levels of City Council apprentices and the number of apprentices who were Looked After Children on the Authority's Apprenticeship Programme
- The City of Culture Panel would be requested to recommend that the City of Culture Trust considered increasing the number of apprenticeship opportunities they offered and also offering opportunities with the Kickstart Scheme.

The Board requested that they be provided with the following:

- 1) Information on the current number of apprentices who were Looked After Children on Coventry City Council's Apprenticeship Programme
- 2) Details of the sectors and levels of vacancies that made up the 65 vacant apprenticeships
- 3) Information on the work of the Coventry Skills Board and the Labour Market Intelligence Group and how they linked
- 4) Details of sectors and levels of City Council apprentices

The Board also requested that Severn Trent investigate why apprentices at the Coventry Office of the organisation were not Coventry residents.

RESOLVED that the Joint Meeting of Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) and Finance and Corporate Services Scrutiny Board (1) agreed:

- 1) **To continue to recognise the achievement of the Organisational Development Team in continuing to run successful apprenticeship schemes in challenging circumstances and in successfully using the Apprenticeship Levy and Levy Transfer Scheme to drive up apprenticeship numbers for Coventry.**
- 2) **To continue to recognise the Employment and Skills Service key strategic role in supporting Apprenticeship Training Providers and Employers.**
- 3) **To support the aims of the Organisational Development Team - in line with the Council's Apprenticeship Strategy 2020-2022, to increase Traditional Apprentice numbers to pre-Covid levels whilst maintaining a focus on quality and diversity.**
- 4) **To support the expansion of the Employment and Skills Service Supported Internship programme with the City Council acting as a host employer.**
- 5) **That the following recommendations be submitted to the appropriate Cabinet Member:**
 - a) **The Apprenticeship Levy transfer to the Combined Authority is prioritised for re-distribution to SME's within the seven metropolitan boroughs of the WMCA.**
 - b) **The City Council maximise their offer of employment opportunities to young people.**

6) To recommend that the City of Culture Panel request that the City of Culture Trust:

a) Consider increasing the number of apprenticeship opportunities they offer.

b) Consider offering opportunities with the Kickstart Scheme.

4. Any other items of public business which the Chair decides to take as matters of urgency because of the special circumstances involved

There were no other items of public business.

(Meeting closed at 3.40 pm)

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Coventry City Council

Briefing note

To: Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3)

Date: 14th April 2021

Subject: Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To introduce a presentation on the work of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP)

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) are recommended to:
 - 1) Consider the content of the presentation at the Appendix.
 - 2) Identify any recommendations for the Council's representative on the CWLEP.

3 Background and Information

- 3.1 The presentation attached at the appendix provides a review of the work of CWLEP
- 3.2 The presentation also covers the impact of Covid-19 and plans for recovery.,

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Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership

Presentation to Coventry City Council - Business, Economy, and Enterprise Scrutiny Board 14 April 2021

Kate Hughes, Head of Strategy and Engagement, CWLEP

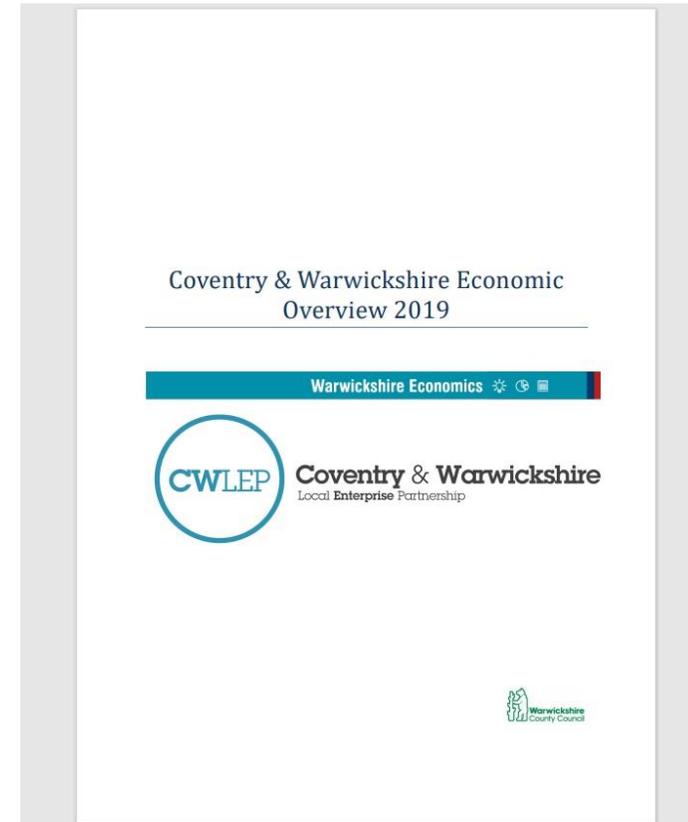
*Cllr Jim O'Boyle, CWLEP Board Member and Chair, CWLEP Transport &
Infrastructure Business Group*



Coventry & Warwickshire's economy – pre-Covid

Where we were in March 2020, when we last presented to the Scrutiny Board.....

- Over the previous decade CW economy had **grown at a rate unsurpassed by any other LEP** area in the country
- Economic growth, measured by total GVA and productivity, **both grew by 45%**
- Manufacturing, showed outstanding performance as the fastest growing sector in the country, **growing over 110% over the decade**
- CW employment rate stood at 75.9%, and **grew by 5.4% since 2014, faster than growth seen** in the WMCA area (4.2%) and England (3.8%)
- **Unemployment rate of 3.8%**, was lower than the regional (5.1%) and national rates (4.1%)
- Average workplace earnings in 2018 were **£30,2713, having grown 12.6% since 2014**. This growth was higher than any of the other LEP areas
- **CW held a top 10 growth position since 2014 (15.5%) amongst all LEP areas** on proportion of people aged 16-64 with an NVQ Level 4 or above, at 38.2%



Covid-19 in the city – 12 months on



Currently **19,600 jobs furloughed in Coventry**, 12.5% of all jobs.



A cumulative **56,600 Coventry jobs furloughed at some point** since the start of the pandemic, 36.3% of all jobs.



Govt. loans to support business – **6,750 CBILS and BBLS, worth £262.7m**, issued in Coventry.



Govt. grants to support business – **7,416 grants, worth £57.9m**, issued in Coventry.



Centre for Cities estimate **footfall in Coventry city centre currently a quarter** of its pre-pandemic level, whilst **spending is currently around one fifth** of pre-Covid times.

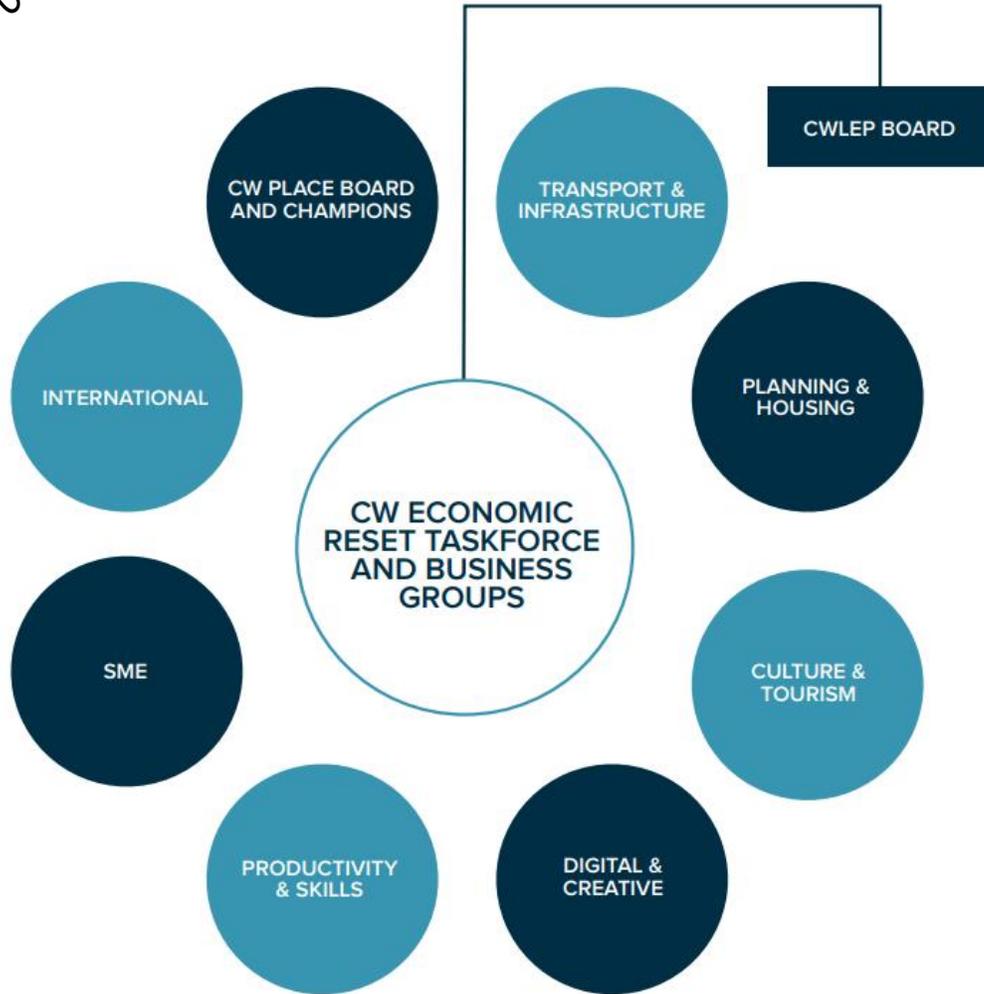


Claimant Count in Coventry **jumped from c7,000 in March 2020 to c17,000 by July**. It has remained around this level since then.



CW Employment Solutions: Since launching in Nov 2020 the site has had over **26,500 visits, with 6,300 users**. Currently nearly **3,500 vacancies are on the site**.

CWLEP Reset Strategic Framework



Our approach has needed to be responsive and agile to adapt to the rapidly changing nature of the economic recovery

Our Objective and Reset Principles, and Pillars

CW as a safe and highly attractive place to live, study, work, and invest

Fundamental
reset of the
economy

Every business
as a new
business

Build on
existing sector
strengths

Recalibrated
priorities for
capital
infrastructure
and revenue/
enabling
support

Longer-term
priorities
reflected in
robust project
pipeline for
future
investment and
funding

Re-
imagination of
productivity.
Embedded
approaches to
workforce
health &
wellbeing

A green and
sustainable
reset and
recovery

Good jobs &
levelling-up
opportunities

Leading
innovation

Green sustainable
future

Bold approaches to
enterprise

Re-imagining our
communities,
forging global
connections

Transforming
infrastructure

Implementation Plan - Priorities and Progress 2021

LEP Business Group	Business Group Priorities & Implementation Plan Progress
Productivity & Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redundancy and Youth Unemployment – targeted support to help with stark differences across CW. <i>FindItinCW Employment Solutions</i> for job vacancies launched
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apprenticeships – figures for take-up have been low during the pandemic. Launch of <i>Ladder for Apprenticeships</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills for Jobs White Paper – upskilling and reskilling for key sectors in local areas across CW
SME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expecting further business closures and redundancies over coming months as Govt. business support measures end. <i>CW Growth Hub Peer to Peer Networks launched</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity around recovery timeline, end of lockdown, loosening of restrictions on business activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the level of business debt across different sectors of the local economy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of the business support ecosystem to handle the big increase in the enquiries coming in for help. <i>Repurposed Duplex Fund</i> delivered through CWRT
Transport & Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing the pipeline of CW projects, and tie-ing in with the Reset Strategy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many transport projects continue with good progress across Coventry despite the pandemic
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding secured for the <i>All Electric Bus Fleet</i> project – impact on all future buses in Coventry.
Place Board & Champions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Electrification Taskforce</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Projects – inc. <i>Coventry precinct, Coventry Station, A46 Stoneleigh Junction, VLR</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership remains healthy – during the pandemic new Champions have joined
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent Livestream – 30th March at the new <i>Telegraph Hotel, Coventry</i>

LEP Business Group	Business Group Priorities & Implementation Plan Progress
Culture & Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Culture – launch date on 15th May. <i>Completing the Cultural Capital and Commonwealth Games Economic Legacy at the Ricoh Arena</i> projects
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digitalisation – particularly around ticketing, and promoting amongst smaller local tourist attractions. Develop consistent ticketing platform to assist venues for <i>City of Culture 2021</i> and Commonwealth Games
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted Campaigns – to support across the culture and tourism sectors in Coventry
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Solutions – How people move around safely and sustainably around Coventry as re-opening happens. Projects such as <i>Transport Innovation Showcase 2021</i> to promote visitors to Coventry
Digital & Creative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freelancer Gap – work progressing. Looking at future business support for creative freelancers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative Spaces re-engagement. <i>CW Champions livestreamed</i>. Looking to help businesses with upskilling, and also develop new business models and networks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire Tech Challenge. Using technology to support high streets getting new technology ideas engaging businesses as re-opening happens
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximising opportunities for 5G in Coventry via the <i>Sherbourne Digital Network</i>
Planning & Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buoyant local logistics property market currently in CW, pressure on supply of industrial premises. Assessing role of future high streets and town centres, as well as future of workspaces
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retail re-purposing project – how retail premises can be reused for other purposes. Planning legislation changing to allow for this and make it easier to deliver
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Power Generation Study – phase 2 commissioned to identify shared solutions.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Register – improving the information for potential inward investors to CW
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of website to host <i>comprehensive planning and infrastructure information for Coventry & Warwickshire</i>.

Bold = Business Group Priority

Case Study 1 – Completing the Cultural Capital in Coventry

Series of linked projects to help Coventry get ready for City of Culture, including; an innovative, large-scale digital gallery; repurposing of buildings at FarGo Village; Transforming St. Mary's Guildhall; new Visitor Information facilities; and Heritage visitor attraction at the 14th century Charterhouse.

**£6.1M GETTING BUILDING
FUND ALLOCATED**

Current Status; In Delivery



Case Study 2 – Coventry Station Masterplan

Page 26

The regeneration of Coventry Station to provide increased capacity, including a new entrance facility, car parking, bay platform passenger facilities and bus facilities.

**£27.5M GROWTH DEAL
FUNDING ALLOCATED
TOWARDS £86.9M PROJECT**

Current Status; In Delivery



Case Study 3 – Coventry Very Light Rail

Coventry Very Light Rail project will see an electric powered, zero-emissions, lightweight, rail-based public transport system arrive in Coventry, and will transform how people move around the city in the future.

**£2.46M GROWTH DEAL
FUNDING AND £1.76M
GETTING BUILDING FUND
ALLOCATED**

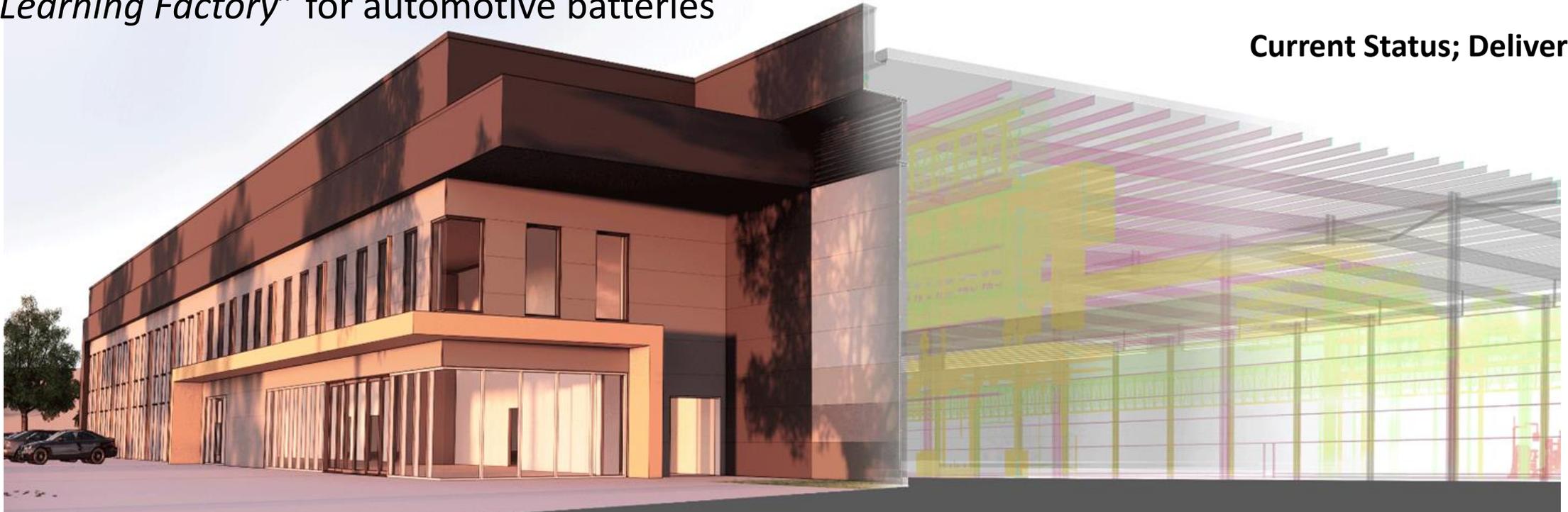
Current Status; In Delivery



Case Study 4 - UK Battery Industrialisation Centre

- Page 28 £129m facility funded by Government and WMCA
- 20,000m² manufacturing research facility located close to Coventry Airport
- “Learning Factory” for automotive batteries

Current Status; Delivered



2017

2018

2019

2020

Q4

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

UKBIC announced
WMG, CCC,
CWLEP

UKBIC Ltd
company
established

Jeff Pratt,
Managing
Director joins

Site planning
permission
granted

1st equipment
orders placed
(Electrode, cell
assembly)

Ground-
breaking on
site

UKBIC Board
convened

Internal
building
fit-out
commences

1st equipment
arrives on site

UKBIC team
moves to site

Machinery
installation
continues

Practical completion
on site and
commissioning

Looking Ahead....Electrification

CWLEP IS PLAYING A LEADING ROLE IN DRIVING THE UK'S ELECTRIFICATION REVOLUTION

Ground-breaking battery technology and future mobility are at the core of the Electrification Taskforce that CWLEP has set-up to ensure greater connection between sectors as well as recognising the need for upskilling for the future of the economy.



Imagine Britain when a Green Industrial Revolution has helped to level up the country. You cook breakfast using hydrogen power before getting in your electric car, having charged it overnight from batteries made in the Midlands. Around you the air is cleaner; trucks, trains, ships and planes run on hydrogen or synthetic fuel.

Financial Times: Wednesday 17th November, 2020



Where next?

- Reset of the economy whilst we live with Covid-19 and its impacts – implementation of our One Coventry & Warwickshire Strategic Reset Framework across jobs, skills, innovation, and net zero agendas
- Continued impact and implications of the end of EU Transition
- Electrification.....securing a Gigafactory in Coventry & Warwickshire
- Budget – Levelling-up Fund, UK Shared Prosperity Fund; Review of LEPs
- Maintaining Delivery ... delivery ... delivery in the final year of Local Growth Fund, and delivering the local Getting Building Fund projects
- Increasing already strong role in strategic projects including City of Culture and Commonwealth Games

Continued Collaboration and Influence



One Coventry & Warwickshire



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Briefing note

To: The Business, Economy and Scrutiny Board

Date: 14th April 2021

Subject: Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Update

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 This briefing note has been prepared on the request of the Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) to provide an update on the progress of the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) project since Cabinet and Council approved the proposals on 9th December 2020 and 16th December 2020 respectively.
- 1.2 The final value of the PSDS Bid 1 grant of £6,052,216 was confirmed on the 11th January 2021 and included 120 eligible measures across 29 Coventry City Council owned and operated properties.
- 1.3 The Director of Finance in consultation with legal and property colleagues accepted the grant on the 19th February 2021 and work to take the approved projects to the delivery stage.
- 1.4 The Council were informed by BEIS on the 25th February 2021 that a further grant allocation for the maintained education portfolio could also be funded and a provisional offer of a second grant for £2,486,827 for Coventry City Council educational properties was made. Due to timing constraints this grant was accepted by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills and Director of Law and Governance, under emergency powers on the 25th February 2021.
- 1.5 Approval for the delivery of grant funded decarbonisation projects on the education estate was approved by Cabinet and Council on the 9th March 2021 and 16th March 2021 respectively. The reports can be found at Appendix 2 and 3.
- 1.6 The Council has now begun the process of delivering the projects that secured funding with a deadline of 30th September 2021 to complete the works.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Business, Economy and Enterprise Scrutiny Board (3) are recommended to:
 - 1) Note the work undertaken to date to secure funding under the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Grant Award
 - 2) Support the progress made in delivery of the initiatives for which funding has been secured.

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 The UK Government committed to provide financial support to help stimulate the economy following the economic downturn caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. They have established a number of funding schemes aimed at supporting the wider agenda of "Building Back Better" through supporting green job growth.

- 3.2 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) launched the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme on 1st October 2020. The Grant Scheme was delivered by Salix Finance and aimed to allocate up to £1bn of grant funding to encourage green investment aligning with the Government's Net Zero and clean growth goals.
- 3.3 Two Cabinet Reports have been approved and contain further information about the background to the grant scheme as well as PowerPoint slides These are attached as appendices to this report.

Appendix 1: Presentation: Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

Appendix 2: Cabinet Report: Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme – CCC Public Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit

Appendix 3: Cabinet Report: Maintained Schools Energy Efficiency Retrofit Grants

Name: Lowell Lewis
Job Title: SHEQ Manager
Contact Details: Lowell.Lewis@coventry.gov.uk

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

Scrutiny Board 3

14/04/2021

PSDS Overview

- ▶ £1bn Grant Fund for Public Sector Building Retrofit
- ▶ Run by BEIS through Salix Finance LTD.
- ▶ Aims to encourage “green growth” through public sector energy efficiency projects.
- ▶ Funds up to 100% of “eligible measures”.
- ▶ Funding bids by 11th January 2021.
- ▶ Project delivery by 30th September 2021.

PSDS Overview Cont.

- ▶ “Eligible Measures” focus on 4 categories:
 - ▶ Category 1 - Low Carbon Heating
 - ▶ Category 2 - Energy Efficiency Measures
 - ▶ Category 3 - Non-Efficiency Measures that Support Decarbonisation
 - ▶ Category 4 - Fossil Fuel replacement of Oil and Coal
- ▶ Funding aims to support measures that do not meet traditional “Financial Payback” criteria.
- ▶ No match funding is required as long as projects meet the PSDS criteria of £500 per tonne CO2 saved in the project lifetime.
- ▶ No maximum Grant Value.
- ▶ Very prescriptive definition of what was eligible as a “Public Building”. (Eg. Not Charity or Voluntary Organisation operated)

Coventry City Council's Bids

- ▶ Initial review of the potential deliverable pipeline of eligible projects indicated a grant request of ~£6m for Corporate Properties. (Bid 1)
- ▶ A further desktop review by Greener Energy Futures indicated an additional ~£2.4m for primary school improvements may be possible (Bid 2)
- ▶ Both applications were submitted by 11th January 2021 deadline to be assessed for Phase 1.
- ▶ PSDS Phase 1 had £2.4bn of bids submitted.
- ▶ CCC were initially told Bid 1 was successful but Bid 2 was unsuccessful.
- ▶ Due to unclaimed grants CCC were subsequently awarded Bid 2 grant as part of new Local Authority Grant Process.

Bid 1 Overview

- ▶ Coventry City Council Corporate Properties
- ▶ 29 Locations
- ▶ 127 “Eligible Measures”
- ▶ £6.052m Grant
- ▶ Target Carbon Saving - 473 tCO2/yr
- ▶ Target Financial Saving - £59k/yr

Eligible Measure	Number of Projects	Grant Value
Electric Heating	1	£ 11,357
Heat Pump	9	£ 2,029,000
Double Glazing	2	£ 111,520
Draught Proofing	14	£ 59,990
Hand Dryers	6	£ 15,874
Heating Controls	14	£ 277,161
Lighting Controls	1	£ 3,575
Lighting Replacement	17	£ 398,326
Loft Insulation	4	£ 52,598
Pipework Insulation	10	£ 17,914
Secondary Glazing	3	£ 582,601
Solar PV	4	£ 184,609
Wall Insulation	2	£ 210,971
Battery Storage	17	£ 1,338,948
Battery Storage (with PV)	2	£ 254,421
Heat Metering	2	£ 186,676
Thermal Comfort Monitoring	12	£ 85,675
Supply Upgrade	7	£ 231,000

Bid 2 Overview

- ▶ Coventry City Council Maintained Schools
- ▶ 7 Locations
- ▶ 49 “Eligible Measures”
- ▶ £2.486m Grant
- ▶ Target Carbon Saving - 317 tCO₂/yr
- ▶ Target Financial Saving - £88k/yr

Eligible Measure	Number of Projects	Grant Value
Low Carbon Heating	2	£ 1,021,473
Double Glazing	3	£ 313,500
Heating Controls	5	£ 60,775
Lighting Replacement	2	£ 151,425
Loft Insulation	1	£ 22,000
Pipework Improvement	1	£ 55,000
Pipework Insulation	7	£ 41,401
Roof Insulation	1	£ 176,000
Solar PV	7	£ 576,471
Wall Insulation	3	£ 249,862
Battery Storage	7	£ 277,541
Supply Upgrade	3	£ 66,000
Thermal Comfort Monitoring	7	£ 108,296



Cabinet
Council

1st December 2020
8th December 2020

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration – Councillor J O’Boyle

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Property Services and Development

Ward(s) affected:

All Wards

Title:

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme – CCC Public Building Energy Efficiency Retrofit

Is this a key decision?

Yes - the proposals have financial implications in excess of £1m per annum.

Executive Summary:

Approval is sought for acceptance of PSDS grant funding of c£6m to support the delivery of energy efficiency retrofit measures on public buildings owned and operated by Coventry City Council.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has launched the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). The Grant Scheme will allocate £1bn of grant funding to encourage green investment aligning with the Government’s Net Zero and clean growth goals. The Grant Scheme is available for up to 100% of costs for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings. The funding is available until 11th January 2021 with delivery of projects required by no later than 30th September 2021.

An initial pipeline of eligible projects, with a combined estimated pre-tender value of up to £6m, has been identified that could be delivered under this grant scheme. CCC has submitted this pipeline of projects to the PSDS for consideration in principle. If accepted, CCC would then move onto the next stage of obtaining firm costs for the projects. These would need to be submitted by the end of November with the final grant award expected in early December.

Within the project pipeline there are two major procurements proposed, one for Low Carbon Heating solutions and one for Battery Storage solutions. Both of these contracts would potentially be greater than £1m in value. The remaining projects could be delivered using existing internal services or term contractors.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is asked to:

- 1) Approve the proposal for the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Building Retrofit Works with a value of £6m as set out in the report (“the Project”)
- 2) Approve the proposal to spend the grant award on the delivery of the Project as set out in the report.
- 3) Approve the conclusion of any necessary procurement exercises and following completion, to award such contracts to the preferred supplier.
- 4) Request that officers continue to pursue further funding opportunities that may be offered to support further decarbonisation of Coventry’s public buildings in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration.

Cabinet is asked to recommend that Council:

- 5) Approve the proposal for the Council to act as Accountable Body and, if the Council’s grant bid is successful, the acceptance of the PSDS grant funding offer from Salix Finance Ltd to support delivery of the Project.
- 6) Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and the Director of Project Services and Development following consultation with Director of Law and Governance to finalise the terms and conditions of the PSDS grant and any other legal agreements required to facilitate delivery of the Project, and incorporate the awarded grant within the approved Capital Programme as necessary.

Council is requested to:

- 1) Approve the proposal for the Council to act as Accountable Body and, if the Council’s grant bid is successful, the acceptance of the PSDS grant funding offer from Salix Finance Ltd to support delivery of the Project.
- 2) Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and the Director of Property Services and Development following consultation with Director of Law and Governance to finalise the terms and conditions of the PSDS grant and any other legal agreements required to facilitate delivery of the Project and incorporate the awarded grant within the approved Capital Programme as necessary.

List of Appendices included:

None

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Guidance Notes

https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/sites/default/files/Public%20Sector%20Decarbonisation%20Scheme%20Guidance%20Note%20-%20September%202020%20V1.0_8.pdf

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 8th December 2020

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 The UK Government has committed to provide financial support to help stimulate the economy following the economic downturn caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. They have established a number of funding schemes aimed at supporting the wider agenda of “Building Back Better” through supporting green job growth.
- 1.2 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has launched the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. The Grant Scheme will be delivered by Salix Finance and will allocate £1bn of grant funding which strongly aligns with BEIS’ mission and priorities: fighting coronavirus, backing business, unleashing innovation and tackling climate change. The scheme will encourage green investment aligning with the Government’s Net Zero and clean growth goals.
- 1.3 The Grant Scheme will be available for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings including central government departments and arm’s length bodies in England.
- 1.4 Eligible projects fall into 4 categories:
 - Category 1 – Low Carbon Heating
 - Category 2 – Energy Efficiency Projects
 - Category 3 – Enabling Technologies
 - Category 4 – Oil & Coal Replacement Projects
- 1.5 The PSDS funding is open for applications from 1st October to 11th January with projects required to be delivered no later than 30th September 2021. Priority will be given to projects that support the decarbonisation of building heating that are otherwise difficult to finance (for example those that have a long financial payback)
- 1.6 The UK has a 2050 net zero target and the public sector will be required to make a major contribution to enabling the UK to reach this target. Coventry City Council is part of the wider West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area who have recently pledged for the region to achieve a more ambitious target of reaching net zero by 2041. To do this will require significant investment in retrofitting existing buildings to improve energy efficiency and support the transition away for fossil-fuel use.
- 1.7 Significant progress has been made to date with emissions reductions exceeding all previous targets, however without further interventions Coventry City Council is likely to fall behind the requirements of Net Zero in the next couple of years. Our buildings currently contribute towards approximately 1/3 of Coventry City Council’s overall direct energy related carbon emissions however these emissions will need to further reduce by approximately 10-13% year on year to meet the requirements of the regions targets and future Climate Change Strategies that are in development.
- 1.8 Due to significant improvements in the carbon intensity of the UK’s grid electricity, CCC has seen its use of gas heating becoming an increasingly significant proportion of our emissions. Tackling these hard to transition emissions will be a priority over the next decade.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 Options considered in relation to the retrofit of low carbon measures to public buildings.

2.1.1 Option 1 – Do Nothing and rely on UK grid improvement (Not Recommended)

2.1.1.1 This option would not enable Coventry City Council to meet the national or regional ambitions in relation to Climate Change action.

2.1.1.2 Whilst the UK electrical grid has seen significant improvement in its carbon intensity over the past 5 years and is expected to continue to fall into the future, the impact of “green” gas into the national supply has shown very little impact to date.

2.1.1.3 Currently there are pilots being undertaken in relation to the blending of hydrogen into the gas supply however this approach is limited in terms of the maximum decarbonisation it can offer before existing natural gas appliances would have to be changed.

2.1.2 Option 2 – Undertake Fabric/Efficiency Only Measures (Not Recommended)

2.1.2.1 The PSDS scheme allows for Category 2 & 3 measures to be funded independently as long as they meet the required grant eligibility criteria and a written commitment to undertake further actions, in the form of a Decarbonisation Plan, is submitted for the buildings receiving the measures.

2.1.2.2 The measures identified from these Categories include:

- Loft and Wall Insulation
- Heating Control Improvements
- Glazing Improvements
- Draught Proofing
- Lighting Improvements
- Monitoring Improvements
- Battery Storage Installation to Supplement ERDF Solar PV Systems

2.1.2.3 These are all solutions that would deliver energy efficiency improvements and result in both cost and carbon emissions reductions.

2.1.2.4 The 126 identified Category 2&3 projects focused across a core 15 properties are projected to require an investment of £3.7m to deliver annual emissions reductions in the order of 350 tCO₂. This equates to ~8% of the building emissions.

2.1.2.5 Whilst this project would be eligible for the PSDS grant, the exclusion of any category 1 projects would present a risk for our application not being viewed favourably against other applications that include Category 1 measures.

2.1.2.6 To enable these projects to be funded independently the Council would need to prepare a significant number of Decarbonisation Plans which would not be required if Category 1 works are included.

2.1.2.7 There would also be a requirement for the Council to deliver associated Category 1 works at a later date, potentially without the support of similar funding assistance. These works are often the higher cost projects and would require additional capital to be secured to deliver these projects.

2.1.3 Option 3 – Undertake combined Low Carbon Heating and Fabric /Efficiency Measures (Recommended Option)

2.1.3.1 The PSDS appraisal process favours the use of “Whole Building Approaches”. This will prioritise projects that look to not only improve the efficiency of the building but also incorporate the transition away from fossil fuel heating systems.

2.1.3.2 The inclusion of Category 1 projects in the application would therefore strengthen the grant bid. These can include: Air Source Heat Pump, Ground Source Heat Pumps, District Heating Connections and Other Electrical Based Heating. The provisional breakdown of the grant expenditure is shown below.

Category	Project Type	Number of Projects	Project Cost (£)	Annual Carbon Saving (tCO2)
1	Electric Heating	1	£ 11,357	6
1	Heat Pump	8	£ 2,184,000	194
2	Double Glazing	2	£ 119,003	3
2	Draught Proofing	14	£ 69,492	61
2	Hand Dryers	6	£ 15,921	2
2	Heating Controls	14	£ 203,241	44
2	Lighting Controls	2	£ 13,200	2
2	Lighting Replacement	17	£ 277,087	93
2	Loft Insulation	5	£ 54,307	25
2	Pipework Improvement	13	£ 19,230	45
2	Pipework Insulation	10	£ 23,650	4
2	Secondary Glazing	4	£ 515,736	17
2	Solar PV	4	£ 129,037	22
2	Wall Insulation	2	£ 203,944	35
3	Battery Storage	17	£ 1,599,625	
3	Battery Storage (with PV)	2	£ 158,750	
3	Heat Metering	2	£ 243,640	
3	Thermal Comfort Monitoring	12	£ 111,361	
Totals		135	£ 5,952,580	553

2.1.3.3 Salix Finance Ltd have provided upfront funding to enable Coventry City Council to have a number of priority buildings assessed for suitability of deploying Low Carbon Heating solutions to enable them to be incorporated in the grant application.

2.1.3.4 There are 9 properties that have currently been identified and have been provisionally included in the project pipeline. The estimated value of these projects is £2.2m and would deliver an additional annual carbon saving of up to 200 tCO2. These schemes will be assessed in detail concurrently to the application assessment process. The

final inclusion of projects in the confirmed pipeline would be dependent on favourable outcomes of these assessments.

2.1.3.5 These projects are in most cases unable to meet the eligibility criteria of the funding independently nor would they be technically feasible without the supporting efficiency measures, therefore they must be delivered in combination with the Category 2 and 3 projects presented above.

2.1.3.6 The combined Category 1, 2 & 3 measures in the project pipeline present a set of deliverable whole building retrofit solutions that would reduce the need for supplementary Decarbonisation Plans. The c£6m grant would overall deliver annual carbon emissions reductions equating to ~14% of our current building emissions. This would be subject to final confirmation following technical assessment and the subsequent procurement and approval processes.

2.1.3.7 There are 4 buildings that have been identified that would significantly benefit from Category 2&3 measures that are either technically not feasible or do not make economic sense to deliver low carbon heating within the permitted timeframes but also have easily defined routes to decarbonisation that can be incorporated into a Decarbonisation Plan.

2.1.3.8 Inclusion of a selection of varied Low Carbon Heating projects at this time would enable the Council to also accelerate the upskilling of the workforce. This would put the Council in a good position to support the ongoing transition of further buildings and give an indication to the challenges that this will present both financially and operationally.

2.1.3.9 All of the proposed Category 1 & 2 projects would need to be delivered within the next 10-15 years to meet the regions targets. The award of the grant means that significant one-off costs associated with the transition to low carbon heating can be avoided.

2.1.3.10 Undertaking a range of Category 1 heating projects now will help to build on existing experience of decarbonisation retrofit applications and enable the Council to develop plans for the future adaptation of remaining buildings and support upskilling the local workforce and supply chains ahead of the requirements for achieving Net Zero.

2.2 Options considered in relation to the acceptance of the 100% grant for deployment of the Retrofit Measures.

2.2.1 Option 1 - Do Not Accept the Grant (Not Recommended)

2.2.1.1 This option would mean not accepting the grant offer along with the associated terms and conditions of PSDS grants from Salix Finance Ltd.

2.2.1.2 This would represent a failed opportunity to secure additional contribution to the cost of our climate change actions. The projects identified in the proposed pipeline for the grant will all need to be done at some point to achieve Net Zero and additional funding sources would need to be found.

2.2.1.3 Many of the projects proposed fall outside of the eligibility requirements for the existing public sector financing routes (eg. Salix Loans) therefore they would likely need to be financed directly by the Council.

2.2.2 Option 2 – Accept the Grant (Recommended)

2.2.2.1 Acceptance of the grant would provide the financial investment required for the project up to £6m. It would also show that Coventry City Council is clear in its ambitions to decarbonise and would support other funding bids to deliver similar package of measures to other stakeholders in the City.

2.2.2.2 The risks associated with the PSDS grant is lower compared to many other grant schemes. There are monitoring requirements for the 3 years following installation however these are in line with general energy management practices already undertaken following such projects.

2.2.2.3 This option is fully in line with the council's core aim of leveraging additional funding through grants and bids.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

3.1 Consultation with the Head of Facilities Management was undertaken in relation to potential changes to the property estate. This was to ensure the risk of property disposal or redevelopment was understood and included during the evaluation of which schemes could be brought forward.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

4.1 The final deadline for applying for funding through the scheme is 11th January 2021 however the funding is allocated on a first come first served basis. The delivery window is also to be no later than the 30th September 2021. To maximise the likelihood of a successful grant award and having sufficient time to deploy the projects a submission was required before the end of October 2020.

4.2 It is expected that an initial decision on the application would be made by the 27th November 2020. Following notification of a Reservation of Grant, Coventry City Council would need to confirm final project costs by the 11th December 2020 to enable the grant to be formally awarded and accepted by the 18th December 2020.

4.3 The proposed timeline for the project is as follows:

30th October 2020 – Apply for Grant
November 2020 – Commencement of Procurement
27th November 2020 – Notice of Grant Reservation
1st December 2020 – Cabinet Approval
8th December 2020 – Council Approval
9th December 2010 – Completion of Procurement
11th December 2020 – Final Cost Confirmation to Salix
18th December 2020 – Grant Award & Acceptance
January 2021 to September 2021 – Project Delivery

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Director of Law and Governance

5.1 Financial implications

5.1.1 The recommendations request the approval of c£6m of grant funding from BEIS for a Public Sector Decarbonisation scheme (PSDS). The PSDS grant scheme does not require any capital match funding to be provided locally by the City Council, but all investments must be achieved by September 2021.

- 5.1.2 Based on the initial technical assessment of each investment, many of the projects summarised in section 2.1.3.2 contribute to decarbonisation, but due to their high cost and/or long pay back, would not otherwise be considered for investment.
- 5.1.3 Once the full technical review of each measure has taken place, each project will be assessed (including both up front and lifecycle capital costs) prior to any commitment, such that only those investments with net lifetime financial benefits would proceed to implementation.
- 5.1.4 It is proposed that the decision on each individual measure to proceed to implementation, is delegated to the Director of Finance and Director of Property (or appointed proxy's) after the feasibility results have been carried out.
- 5.1.5 Due to the long pay back nature of many of the schemes, it is expected that only marginal net annual financial savings will be achieved. Savings will however be monitored and captured for the benefit of the Medium Term Financial Strategy

5.2 Legal implications

- 5.2.1 The approval of the Council acting as the Accountable Body as outlined in this report will be achieved through a contractual relationship and signature of a grant funding agreement.
- 5.2.2 Legal colleagues are available to advise on and support the completion and signature of the grant funding agreement and to also ensure that risk to the Council is fully understood and mitigated through appropriate governance. Furthermore, support will be made available in ensuring the delivery of the project as and when required by the anticipated project team.
- 5.2.3 Any procurement exercise will be conducted so as to comply with the Council's policy and legal obligations, specifically in compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015, and supported by relevant officers.
- 5.2.4 The delegations sought are consistent with a proposal of this nature.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

This project directly meets two of the objectives of the Council Plan. It will directly reduce the operating cost and carbon emissions of Council activities and it will also lever up to £6m of external finance to deliver the schemes.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The main risk is in relation to the delivering the project within the allocated timeframes. The proposal is to use existing contracts and in-house labour where possible to minimise the need for additional procurement. This is in line with the grant scheme terms. Additional procurement will be undertaken via further competitions from existing frameworks to minimise the risk of procurement delays.

There is a risk that projects will be determined to not be suitable during the detailed technical and financial appraisal process. There is opportunity to adjust the scope and size of grant requested at the point of final grant acceptance. Final confirmation of the project pipeline will be made once full financial impact of each measure has been confirmed. The

funding also operates on a defrayal model meaning that if any projects that have to be removed from scope for unforeseen reasons after formal grant award can do so as it is possible for the council to return any unspent funding to Salix as a last resort.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The proposed project includes providing funding to support the increase in staffing to support the delivery of the project. This will improve the in-house capability of the council in relation to projects of this type. The proposed project will improve our corporate property and deliver financial and environmental benefits

6.4 Equality Impact Assessment

This project does not have any impact on the Council's equality responsibilities as there is not expected to be any impact on broader service delivery.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

The project proposed is in line with the Council's existing Climate Change Strategy and will help to demonstrate leadership to wider city stakeholders as the Council embarks on developing the next Climate Change Strategy for the City.

The proposal will make a significant, measurable and demonstrable contribution towards improving Coventry City Council's transition to a low carbon future. The project will reduce the direct emissions relating to the council's activities by reducing our dependence on natural gas and improving our building efficiency.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

Report author:**Name and job title:**

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Dan Peters	Head of Facilities Management	Property Services and Development	27/10/2020	03/11/2020
Mark Williams	Lead Accountant	Finance	27/10/2020	06/11/2020
Oluremi Aremu	Major Projects Lead Lawyer, Legal Services	Law and Governance	27/10/2020	09/11/2020
Names of approvers for submission: (Officers and Members)				
Phil Helm	Finance Manager	Finance	09/11/2020	09/11/2020
Julie Newman	Director of Law and Governance	-	09/11/2020	09/11/2020
Richard Moon	Director of Property Services and Development	-	09/11/2020	10/11/2020
Councillor J O'Boyle	Cabinet Member for Jobs and Regeneration	-	09/11/2020	10/11/2020

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Cabinet
Council

9th March 2021
16th March 2021

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills – Councillor K Maton

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Education and Skills

Ward(s) affected:

All Wards

Title:

Maintained Schools Energy Efficiency Retrofit Grants

Is this a key decision?

Yes - the proposals have financial implications in excess of £1m per annum.

Executive Summary:

Approval is sought for the future acceptance of PSDS grant funding if bids are successful to support the delivery of energy efficiency retrofit measures on maintained schools within Coventry.

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) created the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) to provide grants to encourage projects that help towards the UK's Net Zero and clean growth goals. The Grant Scheme is available for up to 100% of costs for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings. The first round of funding round closed on the 11th January 2021 for projects to be delivered by the 30th September 2021. Coventry City Council were initially unsuccessful in a bid to secure funding for our schools in this round, however, have subsequently been granted funds as we were on the reserve list. In Round 1, the funding normal process required acceptance of the grant to be made within 20 days of offer of a grant meaning that there is insufficient time to seek approval following confirmation of successful grants. This last-minute funding offer required acceptance within 5 days,

Coventry City Council therefore wishes to be prepared for future rounds of PSDS funding by obtaining approval to act quickly when further funding becomes available. Due the scale of the PSDS funding scheme, the future offers of funding could exceed £2.5m.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is asked to:

- 1) Approve in principle the proposal for the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Building Retrofit Works as set out in the report (“the Project”) subject to grant funding being secured to cover the cost of delivering the Project
- 2) Approve the conclusion of any necessary procurement exercises and following completion, to award and enter into such contracts with the preferred suppliers.
- 3) Request that officers continue to pursue further funding opportunities that may be offered to support further decarbonisation of Coventry’s school buildings in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education & Skills and the Cabinet Member for Finance.

Cabinet is asked to recommend that Council:

- 4) Approve the proposal for the Council to accept the PSDS grant funding, if successful, as the Accountable Body to support delivery of the Project.
- 5) Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and the Director of Education and Skills following consultation with Director of Law and Governance to finalise the terms and conditions of the PSDS grant and any other legal agreements required to facilitate delivery of the Project, and incorporate the awarded grant within the approved Capital Programme as necessary.

Council is requested to:

- 1) Approve the proposal for the Council to accept the PSDS grant funding, if successful, as the Accountable Body to support delivery of the Project.
- 2) Delegate authority to the Director of Finance and the Director of Education & Skills following consultation with Director of Law and Governance to finalise the terms and conditions of the PSDS grant and any other legal agreements required to facilitate delivery of the Project and incorporate the awarded grant within the approved Capital Programme as necessary.

List of Appendices included:

None

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme Guidance Notes

https://www.salixfinance.co.uk/sites/default/files/Public%20Sector%20Decarbonisation%20Scheme%20Guidance%20Note%20-%20September%202020%20V1.0_8.pdf

Coventry City Council Annual GHG Report 2019/20

https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/file/30528/coventry_city_councils_annual_ghg_report_201819

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

Yes – 16th March 2021

Report title: Maintained Schools Energy Efficiency Retrofit Grants

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1. The UK Government has committed to provide financial support to help stimulate the economy following the economic downturn caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. They have established a number of funding schemes aimed at supporting the wider agenda of “Building Back Better” through supporting green job growth.
- 1.2. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has launched the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. The Grant Scheme will be delivered by Salix Finance and will allocate £1bn of grant funding which strongly aligns with BEIS’ mission and priorities: fighting coronavirus, backing business, unleashing innovation and tackling climate change. The scheme will encourage green investment aligning with the Government’s Net Zero and clean growth goals.
- 1.3. The Grant Scheme is available for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings including central government departments and arm’s length bodies in England.
- 1.4. Eligible projects fall into 4 categories:
 - Category 1 – Low Carbon Heating
 - Category 2 – Energy Efficiency Projects
 - Category 3 – Enabling Technologies
 - Category 4 – Oil & Coal Replacement Projects
- 1.5. The first round of PSDS funding was open for applications from 1st October to 11th January with projects required to be delivered no later than 30th September 2021. The scheme was significantly over-subscribed with over £2.3bn of applications made for the £1bn of funding available. As a result, not all applications have been successful including Coventry City Council’s bid for supporting school projects.
- 1.6. The UK has a 2050 net zero target and the public sector will be required to make a major contribution to enabling the UK to reach this target. Coventry City Council is part of the wider West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) area who have recently pledged for the region to achieve a more ambitious target of reaching net zero by 2041. To do this will require significant investment in retrofitting existing buildings to improve energy efficiency and support the transition away for fossil-fuel use.
- 1.7. Significant reductions in the annual emissions arising from direct Council operations in recent years has resulted in the indirect emissions from the education estate to become a significant proportion of our reported emissions. In 2019/20, available data indicated that the emissions from Coventry City Council’s maintained schools now exceeded those of the Corporate Estate.
- 1.8. Due to significant improvements in the carbon intensity of the UK’s grid electricity, the emissions from the use of gas heating is now the largest contributor towards the emissions from the school estate. Tackling these hard to transition emissions will be a priority over the next decade.

2. Options considered in relation to the retrofit of low carbon measures to maintained school buildings.

2.1. Option 1 – Do Nothing and rely on UK grid improvement (Not Recommended)

2.1.1. This option would not enable Coventry City Council to meet the national or regional ambitions in relation to Climate Change action.

2.1.2. Whilst the UK electrical grid has seen significant improvement in its carbon intensity over the past 5 years and is expected to continue to fall into the future, the impact of “green” gas into the national supply has shown very little impact to date.

2.1.3. Currently there are pilots being undertaken in relation to the blending of hydrogen into the gas supply however this approach is limited in terms of the maximum decarbonisation it can offer before existing natural gas appliances would have to be changed.

2.2. Option 2 – Undertake combined Low Carbon Heating and Fabric /Efficiency Measures (Recommended Option)

2.2.1. Salix Finance Ltd provided funding to enable Coventry City Council to evaluate the maintained school estate and assist with prioritising those which could benefit from funded interventions at this time.

2.2.2. The PSDS appraisal process favours the use of “Whole Building Approaches”. This will prioritise projects that look to not only improve the efficiency of the building but also incorporate the transition away from fossil fuel heating systems. This means Coventry City Council would look to include the following types of intervention in any project proposals that are submitted:

2.2.3. The inclusion of Category 1 projects in the application would therefore strengthen the grant bid. These can include: Air Source Heat Pump, Ground Source Heat Pumps, District Heating Connections and Other Electrical Based Heating. The inclusion of Category 1 projects are however not appropriate for all schools at this time. This must be taken into account when appraising which projects to put forward for inclusion in funding applications.

Project Type
Low Carbon Heating
Double Glazing
Heating Controls
Lighting Replacement
Loft Insulation
Pipework Improvement
Pipework Insulation
Roof Insulation
Solar PV
Wall Insulation
Battery Storage
Supply Upgrade
Thermal Comfort Monitoring

2.3. Option 3 – Undertake Fabric/Efficiency Only Measures (Not Recommended)

2.3.1. The PSDS scheme allows for Category 2 & 3 measures to be funded independently as long as they meet the required grant eligibility criteria and a written commitment to undertake further actions, in the form of a Decarbonisation Plan, is submitted for the buildings receiving the measures.

2.3.2. These are all solutions that would deliver energy efficiency improvements and result in both cost and carbon emissions reductions.

2.3.3. Whilst this type of project would be eligible for the PSDS grant, the exclusion of any category 1 projects would mean that our application scores less well in evaluation and reduces the chances of successful funding award. This would also result in a missed opportunity for funding some of the high cost measures needed for the future.

3. Options considered in relation to the submission and acceptance of the 100% grant for deployment of the Retrofit Measures.

3.1. Option 1 - Do Not Accept A Grant Offer (Not Recommended)

3.1.1. This option would mean not getting access to a grant offer along with the associated terms and conditions of PSDS grants from Salix Finance Ltd in order to deliver the Project.

3.1.2. This would represent a failed opportunity to secure a financial contribution to the cost of our climate change actions. The projects identified in the proposed pipeline for the grant will all need to be done at some point to achieve Net Zero and additional funding sources would need to be found.

3.1.3. Many of the projects proposed fall outside of the eligibility requirements for the existing public sector financing routes (eg. Salix Loans) therefore they would likely need to be financed directly by the Council at a future date.

3.2. Option 2 –Accept A Successful Grant Offer (Recommended)

3.2.1. The acceptance of a grant offer following a successful bid would provide the financial investment required for the project without match funding being required. It would also show that Coventry City Council is clear in its ambitions to decarbonise its school estate as well as its corporate estate and would support other funding bids to deliver similar package of measures to other stakeholders in the City.

3.2.2. The risks associated with the PSDS grant is lower compared to many other grant schemes with a much shorter and lighter touch monitoring of grant expenditure that previous EU funding for example.

3.2.3. This option is fully in line with the council's core aim of leveraging additional funding through grants and bids.

4. Results of consultation undertaken

4.1. Consultation with the Head of Education Entitlement and the Education Capital Strategy manager was undertaken in relation to potential changes to the property estate. This was to ensure the risk of property disposal or redevelopment was understood and included during the evaluation of which schemes could be brought forward.

5. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 5.1. Coventry City Council were initially not successful in securing funding for schools in the first round of funding that closed in January 2021 but subsequently were awarded some funding as we were on the reserve list. Whilst a second round of PSDS funding is expected to be announced no timetable has yet been set by BEIS. By approving the proposals at this time it will enable Coventry City Council to act quickly in future funding rounds and improve the potential for securing additional funding for projects. Experience from the Round 1 of PSDS funding has shown that there is likely to be insufficient time for the formal approval process to be undertaken following the confirmation of a successful bid for the funding and therefore pre-approval is being requested. The existing scheme has allowed as little as 5 days for grants to be accepted in some cases.

6. Comments from the Director of Finance and the Director of Law and Governance

6.1. Financial implications

- 6.1.1. The recommendations request the approval of grant funding from BEIS for a Public Sector Decarbonisation scheme (PSDS) if bids are successful. The PSDS grant scheme does not require any capital match funding to be provided locally by the City Council, but all investments must be achieved by pre-determined dates.
- 6.1.2. Based on the initial technical assessment of possible projects, many of the measures summarised in section 2.2.3 contribute to decarbonisation, but due to their high cost and/or long pay back, would not otherwise be considered for investment.
- 6.1.3. Once the full technical review of each measure has taken place, the measures to be delivered for each school will be assessed (including both up front and lifecycle capital costs) prior to any commitment, such that only those investments with expected net lifetime financial benefits would proceed to implementation.
- 6.1.4. It is proposed that the decision on each individual measure to proceed to implementation, is delegated to the Director of Finance and Director of Education & Skills (or appointed proxy's) after feasibility works have been carried out.
- 6.1.5. Due to the long pay back nature of many of the schemes, it is expected that only marginal net annual financial savings will be achieved. Savings will however be monitored and captured for the benefit of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy.

6.2. Legal implications

- 6.2.1 Should the grant application be successful, the approval of the Council acting as the Accountable Body as outlined in this report will be achieved through a contractual relationship and signature of a grant funding agreement.
- 6.2.2 Legal colleagues are available to advise on and support the completion and signature of the grant funding agreement and to also ensure that risk to the Council is fully understood and mitigated through appropriate governance. Furthermore, support will be made available in ensuring the delivery of the project as and when required by the anticipated project team.
- 6.2.3 Any procurement exercise will be conducted in compliance with the Council's policy and legal obligations, specifically in compliance with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and Subsidy Control Rules and supported by relevant officers.

6.2.4 The delegations sought are consistent with a proposal of this nature.

7. Other implications

7.1. How will this contribute to the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

This project directly meets two of the objectives of the Council Plan. It will directly reduce the operating cost and carbon emissions of Council associated activities and it will also lever external finance to deliver the schemes.

7.2. How is risk being managed?

The main risk is in relation to the delivering the project within the allocated timeframes. The proposal is to use existing contracts where possible to minimise the need for additional procurement. This is in line with the grant scheme terms. Additional procurement will be undertaken via further competitions from existing frameworks to minimise the risk of procurement delays.

There is a risk that projects will be determined to not be suitable during the detailed technical and financial appraisal process. There is opportunity to adjust the scope and size of grant requested at the point of final grant acceptance. Final confirmation of the project pipeline will be made once full financial impact of each measure has been confirmed. The funding also operates on a defrayal model meaning that if any projects have to be removed from scope for unforeseen reasons after formal grant award we can do so as it is possible for the council to return any unspent funding to Salix as a last resort.

7.3. What is the impact on the organisation?

The proposed project includes providing funding to support the increase in staffing to support the delivery of the project. This will improve the in-house capability of the council in relation to projects of this type. The proposed project will improve our corporate property and deliver financial and environmental benefits

7.4. Equality Impact Assessment

This project does not have any impact on the Council's equality responsibilities as there is not expected to be any impact on broader service delivery.

7.5. Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

The project proposed is in line with the Council's existing Climate Change Strategy and will help to demonstrate leadership to wider city stakeholders as the Council embarks on developing the next Climate Change Strategy for the City.

The proposal will make a significant, measurable and demonstrable contribution towards improving Coventry City Council's transition to a low carbon future. The project will reduce the direct emissions relating to the education estate by reducing their dependence on natural gas and improving building efficiency.

7.6. Implications for partner organisations?

None

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Kirsten Nelson	Director of Education and Skills	-	09/02/2021	09/02/2021
Councillor K Maton	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills	-	09/02/2021	09/02/2021

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Agenda Item 6

Business, Economy and Enterprise (3) Work Programme 2020-21

Last updated 30/3/2020

Please see page 2 onwards for background to items

23rd September 2020
Employment, Skills and Training Public Realm Projects
4th November 2020
Very Light Rail Update on Local Air Quality Action Plan
2nd December 2020
International Trade and Overseas Markets
3rd February 2021
Two Friargate Station Master Plan Update
Additional Meeting – 3rd March 2021
Support to Small Businesses Bus Provision and Innovation in Coventry
24th March 2021 – joint with SB1
Apprenticeship opportunities in Coventry
Additional meeting -14th April 2021
Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme CWLEP
Suggested items for 2021-22
Gigafactory University Civic Agreements Tourism Strategy 2019-2023 City Centre South Cycling Strategy Digital Skills Active Travel with Schools

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
23rd September 2020	Employment, Skills and Training	To consider the priorities and actions identified to support employment, skills and training, particularly considering the effects of the coronavirus pandemic	Kim Mawby Cllr Maton
	Public Realm Projects	To look at the current public realm projects across the city, particularly in the city centre, in the lead up to City of Culture 2021 and the effects of the lockdown on progress	Jo Shore Cllr Hetherton/Cllr O'Boyle
4th November 2020	Very Light Rail	An update on progress on the development of a Very Light Rail system in Coventry	Colin Knight Nicola Small Cllr O'Boyle
	Update on Local Air Quality Action Plan	Progress on the LAQAP, including consideration of the business plan before Cabinet on 1 st December	John Seddon, Cllrs Caan, Hetherton, O'Boyle
2nd December 2020	International Trade and Overseas Markets	To include the conference reports for China and Hong Kong and Germany. To look at relationships with overseas trade, within context of Brexit. To include contribution from Chamber of Commerce	John Norton Cllr O'Boyle
3rd February 2021	Two Friargate	To consider progress on the plans for a second building at Friargate	Richard Moon Cllr O'Boyle
	Station Master Plan Update	An update on progress on the delivery of the Station Masterplan	Rhian Palmer/Colin Knight Cllr O'Boyle
Additional Meeting – 3rd March 2021	Support to Small Businesses	A further report be submitted to the Board providing an update on future funding. The report to include data on: the retention of students to live and work in the City on competition of their degree; graduate business start-ups and a measure of their success, particularly benchmarking against other cities; unsuccessful businesses and the reason for their failure, including what help the Authority gives to support them and whether there were further measures they could take to support them	Stephen Weir Cllr O'Boyle
	Bus Provision and Innovation in Coventry	For the Board to be updated following meetings at Scruco in 2020 on Bus Provision and Bus Innovation	John Seddon Cllr O'Boyle

Business, Economy and Enterprise (3) Work Programme 2020-21

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
24th March 2021 – joint with SB1	Apprenticeship opportunities in Coventry	To scrutinise the opportunities across the City with regards to apprenticeships. This includes the City Council and other Anchor institutions within the City.	Cllr Brown/ Cllr Maton/ Cllr O'Boyle/ Sue Newing/ Kirston Nelson/ Andy Williams
Additional meeting - 14th April 2021	Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme	Council approved a bid for the PSDS which will see funding to decrease the amount of carbon produced by Council owned buildings	Richard Moon Lowell Lewis Cllr O'Boyle
	CWLEP	A further report be submitted to the Board providing an update on future funding, following the UK's departure from Europe.	Paula Deas Cllr O'Boyle
Suggested items for 2021-22	Gigafactory	To look at what the Council is doing to support and encourage the location of a Gigafactory in Coventry	Cllr O'Boyle Andy Williams
	University Civic Agreements	Representatives from Coventry University and Warwick University be invited to attend the meeting of the Board to talk about the benefits of the Civic Agreements for the City and how they can work in partnership with the Council. To include how to encourage student retention for living and working in the city and the support they offer for graduate business start-ups.	Representatives from the Universities, Stephen Weir Cllr O'Boyle
	Tourism Strategy 2019-2023	A follow up report from the meeting in July – to include information about Purple Flag status and further information on the work being undertaken externally on the promotion of the City.	Val Birchall Cllr O'Boyle
	City Centre South	Progress on development to be considered alongside the Tourism Strategy. Planning applications due to be heard March 2021	Richard Moon Cllr O'Boyle
	Cycling Strategy	To consider the plans to introduce cycling routes including the West of the city.	

Date	Title	Detail	Cabinet Member/ Lead Officer
	Digital Skills	To look in more detail how the Digital Strategy is supporting the development of digital skills across the city	Cllr Lloyd/Cllr Maton Paul Ward/Kirston Nelson
	Active Travel with Schools	Following consideration of the Local Air Quality Action Plan, the Board requested an item on relating to the work undertaken with schools to gather information about their travel preferences and proposals to encourage modal shift	John Seddon Cllr Hetherton