

# Strategic Energy Partnership

business plan summary 2024



**e.on**





# Coventry City Council and E.ON have joined forces to achieve ambitious energy outcomes



We have launched a pioneering 15-year **Strategic Energy Partnership**



Our organisations will collaborate to **revolutionise energy usage** in Coventry for the benefit of local people, the wider economy and the environment



We have set four strategic themes to define our partnership:

- 1 clean local energy**
- 2 jobs and skills**
- 3 innovation and scale**
- 4 community benefit**



# Foreward



Coventry City Council

**e.on**



Coventry City Council

**e.on**

This partnership will transform the city's approach to carbon reduction whilst helping people save money and boosting the local economy. This alliance will help us build a cleaner and more sustainable city and drive a new green economy that will bring jobs and skills for generations to come.

This is not about designing a new vision for the future; it's about getting on and delivering Coventry's response to the climate crisis – making improvements across the city that people want and need.

We have joined forces with E.ON to launch a pioneering 15-year partnership, the first of its kind in the UK which will see us collaborate to revolutionise energy use in the city. It is truly innovative approach that will allow us to deliver more for residents and businesses in ways that the Council would not have been able to achieve on its own.

Coventry has been our UK home for decades and I am proud our colleagues around the country will be supporting the city's efforts to decarbonise by delivering reliable energy infrastructure and sustainable customer solutions.

**Cllr Jim O'Boyle**

Councillor, Coventry City Council

**Chris Norbury**

CEO, E.ON UK

**Dr Julie Nugent**

CEO, Coventry City Council

**Patrick Lammers**

COO-C, E.ON SE



**E.ON**



E.ON UK, which has been based in Coventry for almost 30 years, shares the Council's goal of creating a net zero future.



As a part of the international E.ON Group, the team will bring its expertise, knowledge and skills to the Partnership



By being a single strategic partner, we will realise projects which the Council would otherwise be unable to undertake and create an holistic approach to decarbonise the city



# Council programmes will interact with the partnership



Increasing the economic prosperity of the city and region



Improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities



Tackling the causes and consequences of climate change



Continued financial sustainability of the Council



Council's role as a partner, enabler and leader

## One Coventry Plan

The Council has committed to protecting the environment and made climate change one of its key priorities.

The One Coventry Plan lists three distinct but interconnected priorities and two enablers:

**Priority 1:** increasing the economic prosperity of the city and region

**Priority 2:** improving outcomes and tackling inequalities within our communities

**Priority 3:** tackling the causes and consequences of climate change

**Enabler 1:** continued financial sustainability of the Council

**Enabler 2:** Council's role as a partner, enabler and leader

## Climate change and net zero programmes

The Council's Draft **Climate Change Strategy** and accompanying **Net Zero Route Map** (published in early 2023) set out an ambitious vision for the city's journey to net zero to create a more sustainable and prosperous future for Coventry.

The research that went in to developing the Net Zero Route Map confirmed that the scale of the challenge Coventry is facing is

significant, and despite a **48% drop in carbon emissions between 2000-2022**, additional major investment will still be needed to reduce further Coventry's emissions and reach net zero.

The Route Map outlined that major long-term planning and investment would be required to decarbonise the city through a wide range of environmental and social projects.

The SEP, whilst naturally aligned with Priority 3, aims to deliver on all of the One Coventry Plan priorities.

# Overview of what we have achieved

## September 2023 – March 2024

Since the SEP was launched in September 2023, our teams have been focused on setting up the governance and organisational structures to enable an aligned, collaborative approach to the selection of projects and activities for the years ahead. The SEP has also started working on projects, looking to deliver tangible outcomes as soon as possible.

Through the Strategic Energy Partnership, we have entered into project contracts for the Home Upgrade Grant 2 (HUG2) project, electricity supply contract and the installation of 10 new EV chargers as part of an EV programme.

- **30 MW Solar PV Farm**

Work on-going to secure planning permission

- **Council building decarbonisation**

Grant secured and Council funding agreed – work to start soon

- **Energy supply contract**

Agreement of an energy supply contract from Q4 2024 for the Council

- **Increased Council & E.ON alignment**

Initiate the co-ordination of work between the Council and E.ON teams

- **Apprenticeship programme**

E.ON will recruit five apprentices from Coventry

- **Supply chain approach**

Focus on getting SEP projects completed by local businesses

- **City-wide EV charging strategy**

Starting the rollout of consistent EV charging infrastructure across the city

- **Solar in schools**

Initial reviews to define an approach to support solar in schools

- **Fleet and depot decarbonisation**

Initial site visit has taken place to outline the scope and opportunities

- **Home Upgrade Grant 2**

Energy efficiency measures in low-income and fuel-poor households

- **Energy Company Obligation**

E.ON as a supplier to make homes energy efficient and tackle fuel poverty

- **Schools programme**

Education programme offering workshops in 16 classes across 6 schools

● In progress ● Approved ● Delivered



# Programmes overview

**Delivery activity has been grouped in to nine programmes in which projects will sit. These will evolve over the course of the partnership to align to future needs and opportunities.**

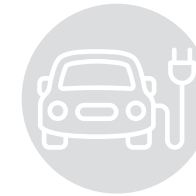
Activity across the programmes will be joined up to maximise the value of this delivery approach.



**Solar in schools**



**Non-Council building decarbonisation**



**Electric vehicle charging strategy**



**Renewable energy**



**Energy security across the city**



**Community benefit**



**Council building decarbonisation**



**Domestic energy efficiency**



**Other enabling projects**

## Four strategic themes will drive the partnership

### Clean Local Energy

- Increase the **volume of locally generated** green energy
- **Reduce exposure** of residents and businesses to global energy market
- Position Coventry as **sustainable and investable**

### Jobs and Skills

- Bolster the local energy sector's **job market**
- Develop **energy-related skills of the future**
- Establish a strong **local supply chain** whilst promoting of green jobs
- Demonstrate our strong **equality diversity and inclusion principles**

### Innovation and Scale

- Develop a series of **scalable, energy innovation projects**
- Test **new technologies** to decarbonise energy, improve resilience, and reduce energy bills
- Contribute to Coventry's **circular economy**

### Community Benefit

- Support **local communities**
- Help to **reduce fuel poverty** in the region
- Collaborate with **associations and non-government organisations**, as well as directly with **individuals**



# Clean Local Energy

## Strategic Outcomes

- 1 Coventry's energy supply increasingly coming from local green sources
- 2 Coventry residents and businesses having reduced exposure to global energy market pressures
- 3 Community energy generation and efficiency schemes encouraged and supported
- 4 Positioning Coventry as a sustainable, energy resilient and investable future city for business and development
- 5 Decarbonising heat across the city



To achieve the objective of increasing the volume of clean, locally generated energy that is consumed within Coventry, we will prioritise projects that align with one or more of the strategic outcomes.



# Local renewable energy generation and heat decarbonisation

## Energy generation highlights



Increasing the amount of **locally generated energy** from renewable sources, primarily from solar photovoltaic installations



Reducing the **volume of energy required** by users through energy efficiency measures



Providing **contractual offerings** that are designed to make the cost of energy more predictable and plannable, reducing energy market pressures

## Heat decarbonisation highlights



Transitioning the generation of heat towards technology that either **reduces or eliminates the use of carbon-based fuels**



Connecting the city via new sources of heat - **E.ON** expects to utilise **5th generation heat and cooling infrastructure** via the use of its custom-built solutions



Increasing the **efficiency and effectiveness for individual heat generation systems**, including through the **electrification** of heat

## Jobs and Skills

### Strategic Outcomes

- 1 Promote, encourage and champion academic and research programmes that inspire and deliver local green skills
- 2 Establish a strong local supply chain whilst promoting recruitment of green jobs
- 3 Recruitment of apprentices
- 4 Demonstrating the application of equality, diversity and inclusion principles (ED&I)



Central to this theme is a commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion principles ensuring that the partnership's efforts are not only financially and environmentally effective but also contribute to a fair and inclusive society.





# Providing hands-on experience for the next generation and partnering with educational institutions

## Knowledge and hands-on experience



Creating working **relationships with local schools**, colleges, and universities to integrate renewable energy and **sustainability topics into their curricula**



Providing students with hands-on experiences through **workshops, site visits**, focusing on areas such as renewable energy, environmental science, and green technologies



Equipping students with the **knowledge and skills** necessary for a sustainable future, supporting students in **career planning and recruitment** process preparation

## Employment and apprenticeship



Recruiting and training apprentices while upholding equality, diversity and inclusion principles (ED&I): the partnership will **recruit and train** at least 25 apprentices in the first 5 years of the partnership with a focus on reaching **underrepresented communities**



Work placements fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace: E.ON will launch target work placement programme **supporting underrepresented groups** with employable skills and experience



Developing, leveraging, and **prioritising local supply chains** to provide the best value and contributing to local employment and/or training opportunities

# Innovation and Scale

## Strategic Outcomes

- 1 Pipeline of pilot scalable energy innovation projects and new technologies to decarbonise energy, improve resilience and help reduce energy bills in Coventry
- 2 Development of a scalable EV charging strategy for the city
- 3 City wide solar energy for public buildings and schools
- 4 Support and promote the city as a living lab
- 5 Contribute to Coventry's circular economy, recycling and reusing energy and materials



We view the transition towards net zero as a journey that requires innovation, an experimental mindset and a willingness to try new things. The concept of Coventry as a living lab - an environment to test innovative solutions and their outcomes.



# Innovating to supply EV charging and solar panels

## Single charging ecosystem for electric vehicles



Providing **home charging** solutions for the owners of EVs to charge their vehicle(s) anytime, combining best-in-class charging hardware with time-based tariffs



Enabling **business charging** for vehicles to be charged at the drivers' working location - solutions will be provided to both private business and Council fleet



Developing **public charging points** allowing broad access to standard, fast and ultra-fast charging for EVs within Coventry



## Solar energy for public buildings and schools

Introducing photovoltaic solar into **both public and private schools and education institutions**, reducing the impact of global energy prices causing unplanned budgetary issues



Making the **Council's building portfolio** more sustainable and reducing the level of carbon-based-fuels used by upgrading the energy efficiency and local energy generation



Focusing on other buildings such as **libraries, children's homes, care homes, and health centres** to improve local energy generation



# Community benefits

## Strategic outcomes

- 1 Warmer, more energy efficient homes, helping to reduce fuel poverty across Coventry
- 2 Targeted support and energy advice to the most vulnerable and harder to reach communities
- 3 Commitment to an annual Community Benefit Fund
- 4 Ensuring all voices in the city are heard and no one is left behind



We will reach out to the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities, providing them with energy advice and support. Beyond the commercial and environmental benefits, we will use the partnership to generate social benefits that support the communities of Coventry.



# Communities will benefit through planning, funding and collaborative action – volunteering and support will be provided

## Plan and Fund



Establishing **Community Benefit Plan – mutually beneficial collaborations** with local community groups in Coventry **to support initiatives** that align with our values and objectives will be identified, supported and promoted



Developing annual **Community Benefit Fund** which will **benefit the environment and community** giving priority to organisations that focus on energy, education, environment, jobs, health, and socio-economic development



## Volunteering and Support

Implementing a **structured volunteering programme**, encouraging individuals from across the city to participate actively **in community service and ecological projects**



Promoting **energy efficiency support** to residents and setting out the range of options available to residents on energy efficiency and **potential available funding** for them

## Contact us

**If you have any questions,  
please contact us:**

**Coventry**

**[climatechange@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@coventry.gov.uk)**

**E.ON**

**[tomorrowscities@eonenergy.com](mailto:tomorrowscities@eonenergy.com)**