West Yorkshire Combined Authority | Tracy Brabin Mayor of West Yorkshire

Climate and Environment Plan

Stakeholder engagement outcome report

Consultation and engagement team, February 2025

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1. Executive summary

From 19 December 2024 to 31 January 2025 we ran a stakeholder engagement on our draft 2025-28 Climate and Environment Plan. We engaged with stakeholders on our draft structure, objectives and actions as part of the process of refreshing our Climate and Environment Plan. We shared an engagement pack with identified stakeholders which contained a summary of our new draft Climate and Environment Plan. We asked for feedback on our draft plan through a series of stakeholder workshops and an online survey.

During the engagement period, our survey received 201 responses, 48 from a business or organisation and 153 from an individual. We also received 10 organisational responses to the engagement via email. In our survey we asked how respondents felt about our draft Climate and Environment Plan objectives and actions. We also asked anyone responding on behalf of a business or organisation to tell us how they would like to work with us on delivering the plan. Respondents generally agreed with the plan and few disagreed. Some respondents made suggestions for things they'd like to see added to, changed or removed.

Respondents overall agreed with the objectives:

- Out of 198 comments, 157 respondents agreed.
- 97 of these respondents agreed without making a suggestion about the objectives.
- 60 agreed and also made a suggestion.
- 24 made a suggestion without saying that they agreed.
- Most suggestions were a cross-cutting comment (100 comments). 35 themes were suggestions about the transport objective, 16 for climate resilience and nature recovery, 15 for energy, 11 for housing, and seven for business and skills.
- 16 respondents disagreed with the objectives.

Respondents in general agreed with the actions:

- Out of 196 comments, 123 respondents agreed.
- 50 of these respondents agreed without making a suggestion about the actions.
- 73 agreed and made a suggestion.
- 53 made a suggestion without saying they agreed.
- 68 suggestion themes were cross-cutting, 171 about transport, 90 about energy, 89 about housing, 80 about climate resilience and nature recovery, and 60 about business and skills.
- 19 respondents disagreed with the objectives.

In open text comments, respondents agreed with the adoption of the maximum ambition pathway, agreed with the five objectives of the plan, and agreed with the actions for each sector. Most suggestions provided ideas of detail that could sit underneath the actions. Many of the suggestions made by respondents are likely to be fulfilled by the full Climate and Environment Plan, which provides much more detail than the engagement document.

Some key areas of suggestion across survey responses involved wanting the Combined Authority to set targets and actions which are ambitious but achievable. Generally, respondents wanted to see the plan set specific targets with clear timescales, to allow for accurate

monitoring and to ensure progress towards our net zero target. Respondents also wanted to see the Combined Authority lobbying Government and working in partnership with stakeholders and local authorities to achieve net zero.

They also wanted to see effective community engagement and public education to ensure that the transition to net zero is equitable and that people of West Yorkshire have access to accurate information on the climate emergency. Respondents recognised that partnership with organisations and residents across West Yorkshire would be needed to achieve net zero. Overall, stakeholder respondents who completed the survey on behalf of a business or organisation wanted to support the Combined Authority to achieve the goals of the Climate and Environment Plan and saw their organisation playing a role.

Key areas that respondents felt were missing from the plan were actions on aviation, waste, divestment from fossil fuels, and dietary changes.

During our engagement, there were 77 attendees to our stakeholder workshops. In our workshops we asked stakeholders how they felt about the structure, objectives and actions of the draft plan. We also asked about how they would like to work with us. Overall, stakeholders agreed with the draft plan and supported action on the climate and environment emergency. Stakeholders made suggestions about the delivery of the actions and discussed what role their organisation could play in supporting the Climate and Environment Plan. The main topics raised across the workshops were collaboration and partnership, engagement and communications, funding and investment, and green skills.

The feedback from our stakeholder engagement will feed into the development of the final Climate and Environment Plan. The final plan will be taken to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee and the Combined Authority in March and April 2025. If approved, the plan will be published in spring 2025.

2. Overview

2.1 Background

In 2021, we developed our Climate and Environment Plan 2021-24 to help us progress towards our net zero carbon target. We developed this plan using evidence from our Carbon Emissions Reduction Pathways (CERPs). These pathways set out three possible routes for West Yorkshire to reach net zero by 2038 based on comprehensive research. The Climate and Environment Plan 2021-24 has helped us make investment choices and to deliver projects, programmes and actions to tackle the climate emergency.

Since producing our 2021-24 plan, the evidence has moved on and technology has advanced. As such, we have been working on identifying one clear pathway that we could take to reach net zero carbon. This Carbon Emissions Reduction Pathway has helped us to develop our new draft Climate and Environment Plan for 2025-28.

We have engaged with stakeholders on our emerging plan, which sets out a framework for the long-term through our objectives to achieve our 2038 target, as well as the actions we want to

take in the next few years (2025-28). Our new plan focuses on areas that we as a Combined Authority have some control over and covers areas we can influence – these actions will need to be delivered by others.

Our plan is split into five draft objectives:

1. Secure, cost effective and clean energy for all
2. Reliable, affordable, integrated, zero emission transport
3. Climate resilient and nature rich region
4. Warm, comfortable, low carbon homes
5. Decarbonised businesses, good green jobs and a skilled workforce

Each of these objectives have a number of actions that we will aim to achieve between 2025-28, including six flagship actions in areas where we feel the Combined Authority has particular control and influence over emissions reductions.

The actions we are proposing are informed by evidence such as our maximum ambition CERP, feedback from the Mayor's Big Climate Chat from 2023-24 and conversations with partners and stakeholders. They will support achieving carbon savings which contribute to our maximum ambition pathway.

We launched a stakeholder engagement in December 2025 to share our draft plan with stakeholders who have an interest in and influence over our plan and its actions. We asked stakeholders for their views on both the proposed structure of the plan and the actions. This engagement allowed us to share the draft plan with key stakeholders and ask for their feedback. This feedback will be used to finalised the Climate and Environment Plan, which will be published in spring 2025.

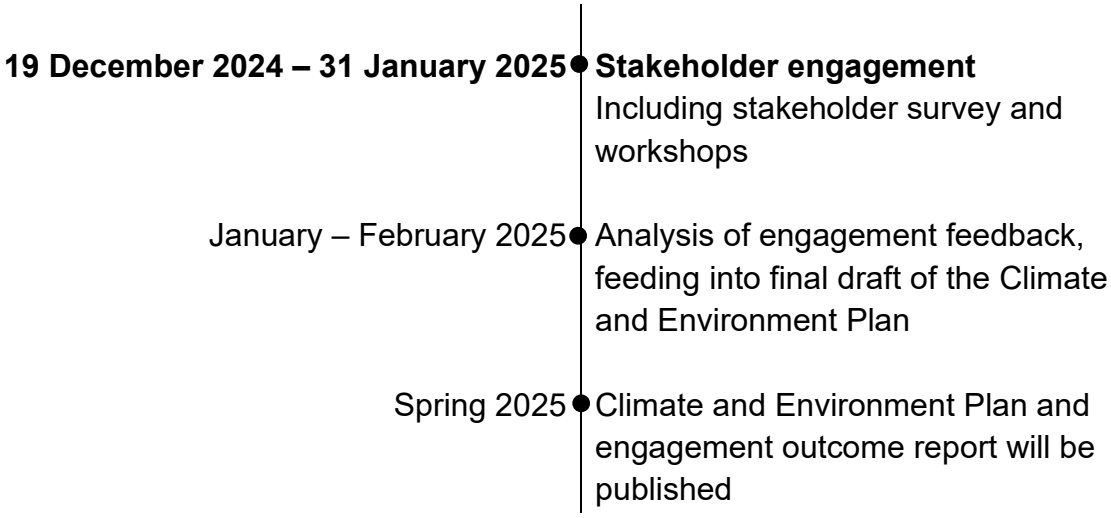
2.2 Aims

The aims of our stakeholder engagement were to:

- Inform identified stakeholders about the draft structure, objectives and actions of our new Climate and Environment Plan
- Collect feedback from stakeholders on the draft structure, objectives and actions of our plan, to evaluate whether stakeholders agree with our draft plan
- Engage with stakeholders in workshops to identify potential partnerships and collaboration, asking stakeholders whether their organisations would be able to support us as we deliver the actions of our new plan
- Develop the draft Climate and Environment Plan into a final plan by considering stakeholder feedback

2.3 Timeline

Our stakeholder engagement was carried out over six weeks between 19 December 2024 and 31 January 2025.



3. Engagement activity

Ahead of the launch of our engagement, we mapped stakeholders and identified who would have an interest in or influence over our Climate and Environment Plan. We did this by working across the policy teams for the five sectors included in our Climate and Environment Plan. We then segmented these stakeholders into those who we would invite to attend a stakeholder workshop and those who we would inform about the engagement via email.

The key information we shared with stakeholders was:

- A stakeholder engagement document which explained the context of our new Climate and Environment Plan and the draft structure, objectives and actions of our plan
- A link to our online survey
- Contact information for stakeholders to be able to get in touch with the team to ask a question or submit a written response via email

3.1 Stakeholder workshops

We identified key stakeholders to invite to a series of workshops themed by the five sectors of our plan. There were 77 attendees in total to our workshops. We encouraged those stakeholders who were unable to attend the workshop to submit their feedback via the survey or via email. At the end of each workshop, we encouraged stakeholders who wanted to share their feedback in writing to respond to our survey or submit a response via email.

We ran five stakeholder workshops:

- Thursday 16 January - Business (in person at Wellington House) 13:30 - 16:00
- Monday 20 January - Energy (in person at Wellington House) 14:30 - 17:00
- Tuesday 21 January - Climate Resilience and Nature Recovery (virtual, hosted on Microsoft Teams) 9:30 - 12:00
- Friday 24 January - Housing (in person at Wellington House) 13:30 - 16:00
- Thursday 30 January - Transport (in person at Wellington House) 15:00 - 17:00

A full qualitative analysis of feedback raised during these workshops can be found in section

4.3.

4. Engagement results

A total of 201 surveys were completed during the engagement period. The survey asked three main open text questions. We chose open text questions to reflect our stakeholder audience, as this allowed stakeholders to tell us about their views and opinions about the Climate and Environment Plan in detail.

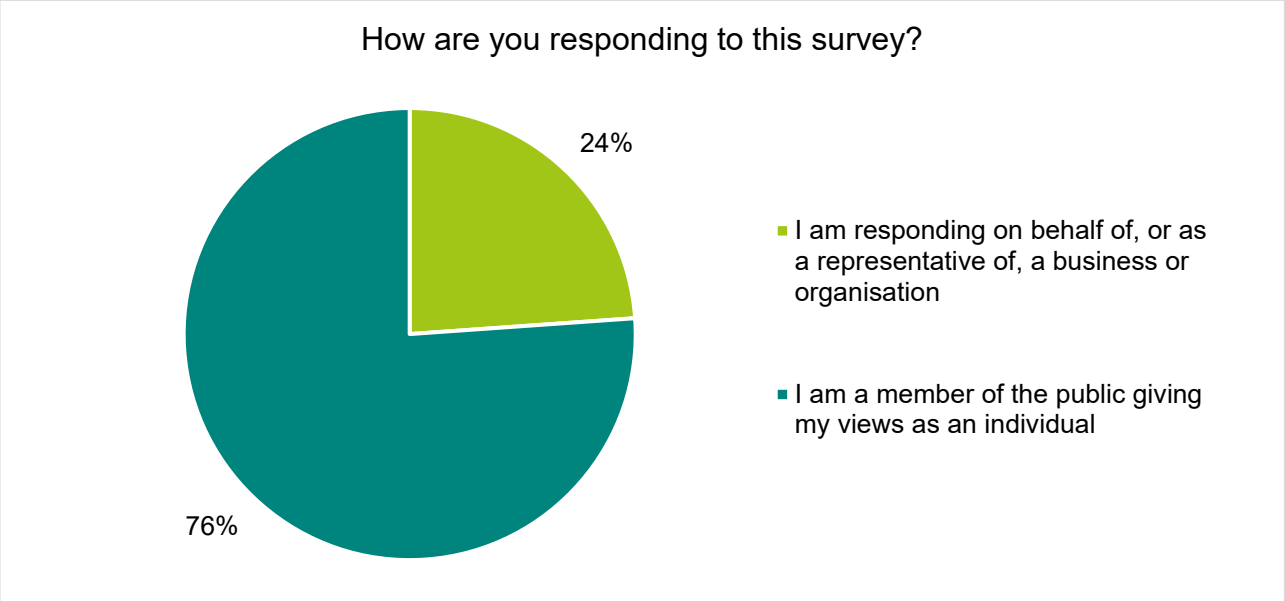
We have analysed the open text qualitative data using thematic coding. This process involves identifying themes and assigning responses (or sections of responses) to these themes. We have grouped together comments relating to each theme and counted their frequency, which you can read in the tables below. This process allows for common themes to emerge, which gives us insights into stakeholders' views and perceptions.

In the tables below, the total count may not equal the total number of comments as some stakeholders raise multiple themes. You can read the full responses in the appendices (separate document). We also asked demographic questions of our respondents. These quantitative questions are shown below in charts.

4.1 Analysis of survey responses

4.1.1 How are you responding to this survey?

201 responses



We asked respondents whether they were responding to our survey as an individual or on behalf of a business or organisation. We then asked those who said business or organisation to tell us their business or organisation and their title. 153 respondents told us they were responding as an individual, and 48 told us they were responding on behalf of a business or organisation. Although the survey was sent directly to stakeholders and the engagement was stakeholder focused, some respondents responded as an individual. We can assume that some

of those who responded as an individual had a stakeholder interest in the engagement but chose to respond individually rather than on behalf of their organisation.

4.1.2 What is the name of your business or organisation, and what is your role?

46 responses

The organisations that responded to our survey are shown in the table below, organised by sector.

Non-profit	29
Kirklees Cycling Campaign/ Cycle Kirklees	Active travel
Cycling UK	Active travel
Group for Action on Leeds Bradford Airport	Airport campaign group
Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce	Business
The Inland Waterways Association Freight Group	Canals and rivers
Canal and River Trust	Canals and rivers
Commercial Boat Operators Association	Canals and rivers
Aire Rivers Trust	Canals and rivers
West Riding Branch of Inland Waterways Association	Canals and rivers
Otley 2030	Climate
Climate Action Silsden	Climate
Huddersfield Friends of the Earth	Climate
Zero Carbon Headingley	Climate
Just Transition Wakefield	Climate
Fossil Free West Yorkshire	Climate
EPIKS - Environment Kirklees Ltd	Climate
Bradford District Community Empowerment Network Ltd	Community
The British Horse Society	Equestrian
Northern Food and Farming Group	Farming
Locala Health and Wellbeing	Healthcare
Yorgreen CIC	Land management
The Woodland Trust	Nature
Specialist Autism Services	Neurodiversity
Leeds Civic Trust Planning Committee	Planning
Dales and Bowland CIC	Public transport
Race Equality Network	Race and ethnicity
Efficiency North	Social housing
Yorkshire Sport Foundation	Sport
Bradford-Shipley Travel Alliance	Transport
Business	**7**
Stagecoach Yorkshire	Bus operator
Sunny Bank Mills	Culture
Northern Powergrid	Energy
Zenith Vehicle Contracts Ltd	Fleet

BBF Limited	Food manufacturing
TransPennine Express	Rail operator
Uber	Taxi
Sarcophagus Limited	Tech
Education	**2**
Leeds City College	Further education
University of Huddersfield	Higher education
Healthcare	**2**
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Ambulance
NHS England	NHS trust
Local authority	**2**
Wakefield Council	Housing
Kirklees Council	Housing
Government	**1**
Peak District National Park Authority	National parks
Housing	**1**
Yorkshire Housing	Housing association

Many respondents completed the survey on behalf of a non-profit organisation. These non-profit organisations work on climate, active travel, and transport, for example. We also heard from businesses, governmental bodies and local authorities, healthcare organisations, housing providers, and education organisations.

4.1.3 Our Climate and Environment Plan has five objectives. Do you agree that these are the right objectives?

198 responses

For this question, we listed the five objectives of our draft plan:

1. Secure, cost effective and clean energy for all
2. Reliable, affordable, integrated, zero emission transport
3. Climate resilient and nature rich region
4. Warm, comfortable, low carbon homes
5. Decarbonised businesses, good green jobs and a skilled workforce

We provided respondents with an open text box to tell us whether they agree with these draft objectives, and 198 respondents provided a comment. We have themed these comments by sentiment: agree, suggestion, and disagree. We have split the comments into the five sectors of the Climate and Environment Plan (energy, transport, climate resilience and nature recovery, housing, and business and skills), alongside cross-cutting comments. The open text responses have been coded into themes in the tables below. We have coded comments that raise multiple themes, so the total number of codes counted will be higher than the number of comments.

Overall, respondents agree with the objectives of our draft plan. Out of 198 comments, 157 respondents told us that they agree with our objectives. In 22 comments, respondents explained reasons that they agreed, and these spanned cross-cutting comments (12 comments), climate

resilience and nature recovery (six comments), transport (three comments), and energy (one comment).

Many of the respondents overall agreed with the objectives without making any suggestions for changes. Of the 157 respondents who agreed with the objectives, 97 respondents said that they agreed without making a suggestion. 60 said that they agreed and made a suggestion. 24 made a suggestion without saying that they agreed with the objectives. We have coded the comments of those who agreed and added a suggestion alongside the comments of those who suggested something without saying they agreed to evaluate the most common suggestions.

Most suggestions were cross-cutting, focusing on the overall plan and vision, rather than a specific objective (100 themes were coded as a cross-cutting suggestion). The objective with the most suggestions made was transport (35 themes were coded as a transport suggestion). 15 suggestions were made about the energy objective, 16 about climate resilience and nature recovery, 11 about housing, and seven about business and skills.

16 respondents said that they disagreed with the objectives. 10 comments of disagreement were cross-cutting. Four comments of disagreement were about transport, one about energy, one housing, and one business and skills.

4.1.3.1. Agree with objectives

Most of the respondents who said they agreed with the objectives just stated that they agreed overall (97 comments). Some also gave more specific information about what they agreed with (22 comments). These statements of agreement covered cross-cutting themes, climate resilience and nature recovery, transport, and energy. These comments are themed in the table below.

Agree overall with objectives	157
Cross-cutting	**12**
Agree with adoption of maximum ambition pathway	6
Acting on the climate emergency is important	3
Agree that Government and others will need to be lobbied and persuaded to achieve actions	1
Agree with objectives focusing on social and economic issues as well as environmental	1
Agree with adopting maximum ambition pathway over hydrogen	1
Climate resilience and nature recovery	**6**
Agree with nature recovery sitting alongside decarbonisation as a strategic objective	2
Agree it's important to be nature rich, improve biodiversity and wildlife	1
Agree with climate resilience and nature recovery objective	1
Agree with climate resilience as a priority	1
Agree with focus on nature recovery	1
Transport	**3**
Agree reliable and affordable transport is needed	1

Agree with integrated transport as a priority	1
Transport objective is most relevant to our organisation	1
Energy	**1**
Agree energy use in buildings and transport needs reducing	1

The most frequently raised comment of agreement was respondents saying they agreed with the Combined Authority's decision to adopt the maximum ambition carbon reduction pathway (six comments). Three also said that they agree acting on the climate emergency is important. Six comments agreed with the nature objective, three with the transport objective, and one with the energy objective.

4.1.3.2 Suggestions about objectives: cross-cutting

Most of the suggestions made by respondents about the objectives were cross-cutting. These comments made a suggestion about the plan and its approach overall, rather than focusing on one of the five sector objectives. Cross-cutting suggestions were raised 100 times. These suggestions are themed in the table below.

Suggestion – Cross-cutting	100
Planning	**40**
Publish evidence base including CERPs	7
Make objectives more specific/ SMART	7
Include information on how the plan relates to other Combined Authority strategies	5
Ensure objectives aren't unachievable/ too ambitious	3
Include information on progress and learning from 2021-2024 plan	3
Include information on scale of carbon reduction for actions	3
Include information on how the plan relates to other public body climate strategies	2
Include monitoring of success/ progress	2
Include an annual reduction in carbon emissions and keep to it	2
Include scope three emissions in objectives	1
The plan should be live, not a fixed set of actions	1
Include more information on timescales for entire plan	1
Align plan and actions to under 1.5 degrees of warming	1
Plan should be more ambitious	1
Prioritise cutting carbon now, not later on	1
Engagement	**18**
Include public education on climate crisis	6
Publish draft plan and engagement	5
Include engagement with stakeholders including third sector	2
Engage all sections of the community in climate discussions	1
Include support and funding for third sector organisations to decarbonise	1
Ensure local community facilities aren't lost	1
Add an objective on developing an engaged and active population	1

Include information on how demographic changes in West Yorkshire are accounted for in the plan	1
Food	**9**
Include dietary change, encourage reducing meat and dairy/ eating local food	9
Waste	**8**
Include waste management/ reduction	8
Equity	**5**
Include a just transition	3
Include climate justice	1
Link the objectives through equality	1
Cost	**4**
Ensure there's not a cost to individuals	3
Economic growth is needed to fund this	1
Changes to wording of objectives	**4**
Add objective on reducing our impact globally	1
Make objectives clearer to understand	1
Include sustainability	1
Integrate objectives	1
Energy demand	**3**
Include reducing consumption	2
Include demand management	1
Air quality	**3**
Include air quality	2
Ban fireworks due to environmental impact	1
Place	**2**
Focus on rural areas, not just urban centres	1
Include a place-based approach	1
Government and local authority involvement	**2**
Include sustainable procurement for public organisations	1
Lobby Government to achieve asks	1
Health	**1**
Make clearer the potential co-benefits across decarbonisation and health in objectives	1
Behaviour change	**1**
Acknowledge reducing emissions requires behaviour change	1

The cross-cutting suggestions about the objectives span the themes of planning, engagement, food, waste, equity, cost, energy demand, air quality, place, public sector involvement, health, behaviour change, and suggestions on changing the wording of the objectives.

Planning was a key theme in these cross-cutting suggestions, with 40 comments coded under planning. Respondents made suggestions about the structure, aims and evidence base of the plan. Specifically, they wanted to see clearer information on how the plan was developed and how it sits with other strategies. They suggested that the evidence base for the plan including the CERPs should be published (seven comments), wanted to see information about how the

plan relates to other Combined Authority strategies (five comments), and other public body climate strategies (two comments), and wanted information on progress since the previous Climate and Environment Plan (three comments).

Respondents also wanted to see that the objectives were specific and measurable, suggesting that the objectives were made into SMART targets (seven comments), ensuring that they aren't too ambitious or unachievable (three comments), and wanted their progress and success to be monitored (three comments). They also wanted to see the scale of carbon reduction for each action (three comments) and suggested an annual target for carbon reduction (two comments).

Engagement was also a key issue raised in these suggestions, with six comments suggesting that the plan should include public education on the climate crisis and two suggesting engagement with stakeholders. Five respondents also raised that they wanted to see the draft plan and engagement published and shared more widely. Respondents also wanted to see an equitable delivery of the plan, with three suggesting the objectives should include a just transition.

Food and waste were raised by respondents as issues not covered in the objectives, with nine respondents suggesting that the objectives should include dietary change including reducing meat and dairy and eating local food, and eight suggesting that waste management and reduction should be included. Energy demand, air quality, place, public sector involvement, health and behaviour change were also mentioned.

There were four cross-cutting comments about the wording of the objectives overall, with one respondent wanting to see an objective on reducing our global impact, one wanting sustainability to be included to a greater extent, one suggesting that the objectives should be integrated, and one suggesting that they were re-worded to be clearer to understand.

4.1.3.3 Suggestions about objectives: energy

Suggestion – Energy	15
Fossil fuels	**6**
Divest from fossil fuels	5
Include phasing out fossil fuels by 2030	1
Energy demand	**4**
Include energy demand reduction and efficiency	4
Cost	**3**
Lobby Government on electric generation charges and flexible pricing	2
Include a solution for all people to have secure and cost-effective energy	1
Nuclear	**1**
Don't include nuclear energy	1

15 suggestions were about the energy objective, and these have been coded into themes in the table above. Six comments were about fossil fuels, with five respondents wanting to see divestment included, and one suggesting a full fossil fuel phase out by 2030. Four comments suggested that energy efficiency and demand reduction should be added to the objective. Three

made suggestions about energy cost, with two wanting the Combined Authority to lobby the Government on electricity pricing, and one wanting a solution for all to have secure and cost-effective energy. One respondent also wanted the Combined Authority not to endorse nuclear energy. Overall, the energy objective was supported by respondents.

4.1.3.4 Suggestions about objectives: transport

Suggestion – Transport	35
Aviation	**13**
Include aviation emissions from Leeds Bradford Airport	4
Include actions on aviation	4
Include preventing the expansion of Leeds Bradford Airport due to emissions	3
Include reducing air travel	2
Changes to wording of objective	**10**
Include 'flexible' in objective	2
Include 'frequent' in objective	2
Include 'equitable' in objective	2
Remove 'integrated' from objective	1
Include 'resilient' in objective	1
Include 'comfortable' in objective	1
Include 'accessible' in objective	1
Public transport	**3**
Include public transport improvements	3
Active travel	**3**
Include walking improvements	1
Include encouraging active travel	1
Include cycling improvements	1
Car travel	**3**
Prioritise reducing car travel, not switching to electric vehicles	1
Include ambition to reduce car travel for commuting	1
Include climate impact of road building	1
Behaviour change	**3**
Acknowledge reducing private transport emissions requires behaviour change	2
Include reducing demand for travel	1
Include demand management	1

Out of the objectives, there was the highest number of suggestions for the transport objective. These suggestions have been coded into themes in the table above. Many of these suggestions were about aviation, with four comments wanting to see aviation emissions from Leeds Bradford Airport included in the plan and carbon emissions reduction pathway. Four respondents suggested that actions on aviation should be included, three wanted to see the Combined Authority preventing the expansion of the airport due to emissions, and two wanted the plan to mention reducing air travel.

10 respondents made suggestions to edit the transport objective wording. Respondents

suggested adding ‘flexible’, ‘frequent’, ‘equitable’, ‘resilient’, ‘integrated’, ‘comfortable’ and ‘accessible’ to the objective. One respondent also suggested removing the word ‘integrated’.

Public transport, active travel, car travel and behaviour change were also mentioned in the transport suggestions. Three respondents stressed the need for improvements to public transport. Three wanted to see a focus on improving active travel, with one suggesting walking improvements, one cycling improvements, and one suggesting encouraging active travel. Reducing car travel and reducing the demand for travel overall were also mentioned.

4.1.3.5 Suggestions about objectives: climate resilience and nature recovery

Suggestion – Climate resilience and nature recovery	16
Flooding and waterways	**4**
Include investment in canal and river adaptation for climate change resilience	1
Include blue spaces as well as green	1
Include reducing flood risk	1
Include using moorland and Pennine hills to reduce flood risk	1
Changes to wording of objective	**4**
Include 'biodiversity' in objective	3
More clearly articulate the effects of climate change in objective	1
Planning	**3**
Include more detail and timescales for climate change risk assessment	1
Include commitment on timescales for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy	1
Include minimising green space loss in planning decisions	1
Pollution	**2**
Include limiting plastic pollution	1
Include water pollution, water consumption, air pollution, resource consumption and 30 by 30 biodiversity protection	1
Agriculture	**2**
Include local agriculture and food production	2
Biodiversity	**1**
Include protecting animals from extinction	1

16 comments made a suggestion about the climate resilience and nature recovery objective. These comments have been coded into themes in the table above. The suggestions spanned flooding and waterways, planning, pollution, agriculture, biodiversity, and suggestions about the wording of the objective.

Four respondents made suggestions about flooding and waterways, including canal and river adaptation for climate resilience (one comment), including blue spaces alongside green in the plan (one comment), focusing on reducing flood risk overall (one comment), and using moorland and the Pennine hills to reduce flood risk (one comment).

Planning was mentioned, with one respondent wanting to see more detail on the climate change

risk assessment, one wanting a commitment on timescales for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), and one suggesting minimising green space loss in planning decisions. Two respondents mentioned reducing pollution, two mentioned agriculture and local food production, and one mentioned protecting animals from extinction.

Four respondents wanted to see changes to the wording of the objective, with three suggesting the word 'biodiversity' be added, and one wanting the effects of climate change to be articulated more clearly. Overall, respondents agreed with the climate resilience and nature recovery objective.

4.1.3.6 Suggestions about objectives: housing

Suggestion – Housing	11
Changes to wording of objective	**7**
Include 'affordable' in objective	4
Remove 'comfortable' from objective	2
Include 'sustainability awareness' in objective	1
Retrofit	**2**
Acknowledge retrofit is challenging because of age of buildings in the region	1
Include education and funding for people to retrofit their homes	1
Planning	**2**
Include not building on green belt	1
Include requiring energy efficiency/ sustainability to approve new planning applications	1

11 respondents made a suggestion about the housing objective, which are coded into themes in the table above. Two comments made a suggestion about retrofit, with one suggesting that the objective needed to acknowledge the challenge of retrofitting older buildings, and one suggesting education and funding for homeowners. Two comments raised a suggestion about planning, with one suggesting that the objective should include refusing to build on green belt land, and one asking for requirements that new planning applications are energy efficient and sustainable.

Seven made a suggestion to edit the wording of the objective. Four respondents wanted to see 'affordable' added, one wanted to see 'sustainability awareness' added, and one wanted to see 'comfortable' removed. Overall, respondents agreed with the housing objective.

4.1.3.7 Suggestions about objectives: business and skills

Suggestion – Business and skills	7
Business support	**3**
Include upskilling SMEs	1
Include providing businesses with information about the resources they need to implement the objectives	1
Emphasise what businesses (especially fossil fuel companies) need to	1

do	
Economy	**2**
Include circular/ doughnut economy	1
Ensure low carbon businesses are able to compete in free market economy	1
Changes to wording of objective	**2**
Change terminology from 'green skills'/ 'green jobs'	1
Include 'affordable' in objective	1

Seven respondents made a suggestion about the business and skills objective, and these are coded into themes above. Three wanted to see more focus on business support, with suggestions made about upskilling SMEs and providing businesses with advice. Two respondents made a suggestion about the economy. One suggested including circular or doughnut economy principles, and one suggested the need for low carbon businesses in West Yorkshire to be able to compete in the free market.

Two respondents suggested wording changes for the business and skills objective. One respondent questioned the use of the word 'green' to refer to skills and jobs, and one wanted the word 'affordable' added to the objective. Overall, respondents agreed with the business and skills objective.

4.1.3.8 Disagree with objectives

16 comments were coded with the theme 'disagree'. Within this, most respondents who disagreed made a cross-cutting comment. Four made a comment disagreeing about transport, one about energy, one about housing, and one about business and skills. These comments have been coded into themes in the table below.

Disagree overall with objectives	16
Cross-cutting	**10**
Concerned about international emissions	2
Cost to individuals	2
Don't agree with net zero ambition	2
Don't spend money on consultants	2
Climate denial	1
Unachievable/ too ambitious	1
Transport	**4**
Don't support electric vehicles	3
Don't prioritise cycle lanes	1
Energy	**1**
Actions are too expensive to implement	1
Housing	**1**
Energy efficient homes are too expensive to build	1
Business and skills	**1**
Net zero negatively impacts businesses	1

Four respondents raised concerns about cost, with two being concerned about the cost of the plan to individuals, and two concerned about the cost of consultancy support. Some disagreed with the target of net zero (two comments). The most commonly stated disagreement with the objectives was the transport focus on zero-emission vehicles, with three respondents saying they do not support electric vehicles.

4.1.4 Under each of our objectives, our draft Climate and Environment Plan has a set of actions we will aim to achieve between 2025 and 2028. Do you agree that these are the right actions?

196 responses

Under each of our objectives, our draft Climate and Environment Plan has a set of actions we will aim to achieve between 2025-28. We split these actions into what we will lead on, partner to deliver, influence and what we will ask of Government. We shared these detailed actions with respondents in our stakeholder engagement pack and through our survey.

We asked respondents to tell us whether they agree with these draft actions. Overall, respondents said they did agree. 123 respondents told us that they agree with the actions, and 56 respondents made a comment about why they agreed with the actions. Nine of these were cross-cutting comments, 12 were agreements with the energy actions, 12 with climate resilience and nature recovery, 10 with transport, seven with housing, and six with business and skills.

73 said they agreed and added a suggestion. 53 made a suggestion without saying they agree. The suggestions made by those who said they agree and those who just made a suggestion have been themed together in the tables below. 68 themes were cross-cutting suggestions, 171 about transport, 90 about energy, 89 about housing, 80 about climate resilience and nature recovery, and 60 about business and skills.

19 respondents said that they disagree with the actions. 10 of these comments were cross-cutting, four about transport, one about energy, one about housing, and one about business and skills.

4.1.4.1 Agree with actions

Overall, respondents agreed with the actions of the draft plan. Out of 196 responses, 123 comments were in agreement with the actions. 56 respondents made a comment on why they agreed with the actions. These comments spanned all five sectors, with cross-cutting comments (nine comments), agreement with the energy actions (12 comments), agreement with the climate resilience and nature recovery actions (12 comments), with transport (10 comments), housing (seven), and business and skills (six). The themes raised can be seen in the table below.

Agree overall with actions	123
Cross-cutting	**9**
Agree with adopting maximum ambition pathway over hydrogen	3

Acting on the climate emergency is important	3
Actions are well thought out	1
Agree that collaboration is key	1
Agree that Government and others will need to be lobbied and persuaded to achieve actions	1
Energy	**12**
Agree with energy actions	4
Agree with asking Government to equalise levies	3
Agree with supporting community energy	2
Agree with climate fund	1
Agree with collaborating with pan-Northern Mayors	1
Agree with lobbying Government to support lower income households	1
Climate resilience and nature recovery	**12**
Agree with commitment to natural flood defences	4
Agree with acknowledgement of impact of extreme weather	4
Agree with climate resilience and nature recovery actions	3
Agree with lobbying Government for funding for Local Nature Recovery Strategy	1
Transport	**10**
Agree with zero-emission buses	3
Agree with transport actions	2
Agree with prioritising public transport	2
Agree with lobbying Government to invest in capital cost of traffic free walking and cycling routes	1
Agree with improving walking and cycling	1
Agree with actions on buses	1
Housing	**7**
Agree with housing actions	2
Agree with one-stop-shop	2
Agree with retrofitting homes	2
Agree we need to insulate homes	1
Business and skills	**6**
Agree with green skills support	4
Agree with business and skills actions	2

Within cross-cutting comments agreeing with the actions, respondents said they agreed with the Combined Authority's adoption of the maximum ambition pathway over the hydrogen pathway (three comments), said that acting on the climate emergency is important (three comments), and agreed the actions were well thought out overall (one comment). One respondent agreed that collaboration on the actions will be key, and one said that they agree the Government and partners will need to be lobbied and persuaded to achieve the actions, as is laid out in the plan.

12 respondents said they agreed with the energy actions, with four saying they generally agreed, three saying they agreed with asking the Government to equalise levies and two agreed with supporting community energy. The climate fund, collaboration with pan-Northern Mayors, and lobbying Government to support lower income households were also supported by

respondents.

12 respondents said they agreed with the climate resilience and nature recovery actions. Four agreed with the commitment to natural flood defences, four with the acknowledgement of the impact of extreme weather, and three with the actions overall. Lobbying Government for funding commitment for the LNRS was also mentioned by one respondent.

10 respondents said they agreed with the transport actions. Acting on buses was supported by four respondents, with three agreeing with zero-emission buses and one agreeing on actions for buses overall. Two supported prioritising public transport improvements, and two agreed with the transport actions overall. Improving walking and cycling, and lobbying Government to invest in the capital cost of walking and cycling routes were also agreed with by respondents.

Seven respondents said they agreed with the housing actions. Two agreed overall, two agreed with the one-stop-shop, two agreed with retrofitting homes, and one agreed with insulating homes. Six respondents said they agreed with the business sand skills actions, with four agreeing with green skills support and two agreeing with the actions overall.

4.1.4.2 Suggestions about actions: cross-cutting

68 cross-cutting suggestions were made about the actions. Overall, these suggestions raised similar themes to the cross-cutting suggestions about the objectives, with planning, engagement, equity, and Government and local authority involvement being key topics. These comments are coded into themes in the below table.

Suggestion – Cross-cutting	68
Planning	**19**
Make sure objectives aren't unachievable/ too ambitious	3
Make objectives more specific/ SMART	3
Include more information on timescales for entire plan	2
Streamline Combined Authority processes to act faster	2
Actions are too high level	1
Include an annual reduction in carbon emissions and keep to it	1
Plan should be more ambitious	1
Prioritise cutting carbon now, not later on	1
The plan should be live, not a fixed set of actions	1
Focus the plan on 2025-2028 phase to net zero	1
Publish evidence base including CERPs	1
Include all required deliverables and resources in the plan	1
Ensure policy keeps up with technological changes	1
Engagement	**17**
Include public education on climate crisis	9
Include engaging more with the public/ communities	3
Include climate action centres/ hubs	1
Include lower-level actions that engage people on climate	1

Include engagement with stakeholders	1
Include information on how demographic changes in West Yorkshire are accounted for in the plan	1
Identify who the partners are for all partnering actions	1
Equity	**7**
Include recognition of climate refugees	2
Consider digitally excluded communities	1
Acknowledge barriers communities face in decarbonisation	1
Help people from disadvantaged backgrounds to get better jobs and live healthier lives	1
Include climate justice	1
Ensure information on schemes is accessible, for example provided in translation	1
Government and local authority involvement	**7**
Lobby Government so local authorities can increase their energy efficiency targets above the national target	3
Lobby Government to achieve asks	2
Include climate change officers across all levels in each sector	1
Link actions with local authorities	1
Waste	**6**
Include waste management/ reduction	4
Include reducing waste incineration	2
Cost	**4**
Don't over-stretch budgets	2
Ensure there's not a cost to individuals	1
Prioritise prevention not mitigation when allocating finance	1
Air quality	**3**
Include air quality	2
Include measuring microplastics in air pollution	1
Health	**2**
Encourage healthier lifestyles	1
Include working with NHS on reducing waste and creating circular economy in health	1
Food	**2**
Include dietary change, encourage reducing meat and dairy/ eating local food	2
Industry	**1**
Encourage sustainable construction materials and processes	1

Similarly to the cross-cutting suggestions about the objectives, planning was a key theme in suggestions about the actions. 19 cross-cutting comments made suggestions about planning. Similar comments were raised about clear and measurable objective-setting, clearer timelines and ensuring that the actions are achievable. Overall, respondents wanted to see that the actions were ambitious but viable and measurable with clear timelines, so it would be possible to monitor progress against clear, time-constrained targets. Most respondents supported actions for net zero and wanted them to be as effective as possible.

Similarly to the responses about the objectives, engagement was a key theme in cross-cutting suggestions. Respondents wanted to see engagement on the plan and on climate more generally to support people of West Yorkshire to buy in to acting on the climate emergency. Respondents highlighted the importance of public engagement, education and information campaigns in the process of delivering a successful Climate and Environment Plan. Respondents suggested that a successful plan would need to work to get communities on board with changes to reach net zero. Nine comments suggested the need for public education on the climate crisis, and three suggested more engagement with communities in the plan. Respondents also similarly wanted to see equity embedded into the plan and the actions (seven comments), with climate refugees, digital exclusion, and barriers to reducing carbon emissions raised.

Some other topics raised included Government and local authority involvement (seven comments), waste (six comments), cost (four), air quality (three), health (two), food (two), and industry (one).

4.1.4.3 Suggestions about actions: energy

Suggestion – Energy	90
Renewable generation	**25**
Include wind power	10
Include acceleration of community owned renewable energy by working locally	6
Include encouraging solar PV on non-residential roofs	2
Include renewable energy generation for public buildings	2
Include investing in solar and solar thermal	1
Don't build solar panels on green land	1
Don't rely on solar too much because of weather in the region	1
Include not building wind farms on peat	1
Convert landfill sites and sewerage into methane plants to generate energy	1
Planning	**20**
Include purpose, scale and investment priorities of climate fund	11
Include regional planning for decarbonised energy	3
Enforce timescales on energy providers to decarbonise	1
Include gold standard for insulation of buildings	1
Include a mix of technologies, not just electric	1
Include new energy technologies	1
Include upgrading electrical infrastructure	1
Ensure community energy projects are connected to the grid in a timely fashion	1
Fossil fuels	**17**
Divest from fossil fuels	12
Don't encourage carbon capture and storage	4
Including eliminating natural gas use	1
Cost	**9**
Lobby Government for electricity to be cheaper than gas	3

Lobby Government for fair distribution of energy cost	1
Include redistributing energy company profits for the climate agenda	1
Prioritise reducing people's energy bills	1
Include assessment of standing charges	1
Don't fund climate fund through taxation	1
Include incentives for renewable energy generation	1
Energy demand	**9**
Include energy demand reduction and efficiency	6
Acknowledge national grid capacity	2
Include energy efficient remote working	1
Changes to wording of actions	**8**
'Deliver our West Yorkshire Local Area Energy Plans' should be leading not partnering	1
Green energy for homes should be leading not influencing	1
Make actions clearer to understand	1
Reword leading actions by saying 'to achieve the above actions we will develop a multi-million pound fund'	1
Include the word 'implement' instead of 'collaborate'	1
Reword the action on a place-based strategic approach to make it clearer	1
Reword the action on engaging regional government to make it clearer	1
Include prioritisation of actions	1
Government and local authority involvement	**4**
Lobby Government to secure solar, wind and battery storage	1
Lobby Government for subsidies on clean energy	1
Include collaborating with Northern authorities to plan and support energy generation	1
Include acknowledgement of cross-boundary relationships	1
Engagement	**3**
Include public education on energy consumption, supply and cost	2
Include making community energy process less bureaucratic	1
Heat networks	**3**
Include heat mapping to analyse opportunities for heat networks	2
Don't use incineration for heat networks	1
Nuclear	**1**
Don't include nuclear energy	1

Suggestions about the energy actions were coded to themes 90 times, and these are summarised in the table above. Overall, respondents agreed with the energy actions and made suggestions on the details of delivery. Key issues raised about energy included renewable generation and fossil fuel phase out, planning, cost of energy and cost of delivering the actions, energy demand, Government and local authority involvement, engagement, heat networks and nuclear energy.

The most frequently raised theme was the generation of renewable energy (25 comments). Respondents supported the plan’s focus on shifting to renewable energy and made suggestions

on specifics. A frequent theme across the objectives and actions comment was that the plan lacked actions on wind energy (10 comments). Respondents also supported the action on community energy and wanted to see the acceleration of community renewable energy generation (six comments). They supported actions on solar and wanted to see opportunities for more solar generation. Some suggestions were also raised about wind and solar, including not building wind farms on peat bog land and not installing solar panels on green land.

Respondents made suggestions about planning, with 11 respondents wanting to see more detail about the scope of the climate fund. Respondents overall supported the climate fund, but asked for more information on the investment priorities, scale and purpose of the fund. Planning regionally for decarbonised energy was also mentioned (three comments). Some other issues raised included using a mix of energy technologies, and using new technologies.

17 comments were raised about fossil fuels, with divestment from fossil fuels being a common suggestion (11 comments). Respondents also suggested that Combined Authority shouldn't encourage carbon capture and storage methods as an offset to fossil fuel use (four comments).

Cost was a key issue raised about energy, with respondents supporting actions on fair energy cost. They wanted to see the Combined Authority influence the Government on electricity prices being cheaper than gas (three comments), alongside a fair distribution of cost and cheaper energy bills for people's homes. Some other issues respondents wanted to see asked of Government included subsidies on clean energy and a plan for battery storage.

Respondents recognised the need for reducing energy demand to reach net zero. They wanted to see energy demand addressed through the actions, with six suggesting that reducing demand and increasing efficiency should be addressed in the plan. Suggestions about engagement also included the need for public engagement and education on energy consumption, supply and cost, with the view to support people to reduce their energy consumption (two comments).

Some suggestions were made to reword the actions, with three respondents wanting the actions to be made clearer, and others making suggestions for additions or edits.

4.1.4.4 Suggestions about actions: transport

Suggestion – Transport	**171**
Public transport	**41**
Include public transport improvements	15
Include reducing public transport fares	6
Include projections for Mass Transit carbon savings and modal shift	5
Include on-demand public transport	4
Include improving safety of public transport	2
Deliver Mass Transit	1
Include park and ride improvements	1
Include nationalising rail	1
Focus bus actions on effective outputs delivered at pace	1

Ensure public transport is available to get to schools and colleges	1
Use TransPennine route upgrade to encourage modal shift	1
Ensure ticketing is ready for bus franchising	1
Include that buses should be comfortable	1
Include Mass Transit beyond phase 1	1
Include digital signalling, electrification and passing loops for Calder Valley rail line	1
Aviation	**31**
Include preventing the expansion of Leeds Bradford Airport due to emissions	18
Include aviation emissions from Leeds Bradford Airport	7
Include actions on aviation	5
Ban flights within the UK	1
Car travel	**26**
Include discouraging private car use, encourage car sharing	12
Include halting road building	4
Include more electric vehicle chargepoints	2
Include incentivising smaller cars	1
Include minibuses for community use	1
Include taxis	1
Prioritise vehicle through routes instead of walking and cycling improvements	1
Include improving road infrastructure to handle increasing amount of traffic	1
Include reducing delivery and trade vehicles by focusing on local services	1
Include priority for fixing potholes	1
Include that public chargepoints should be available to all, not just Tesla	1
Active travel	**23**
Include cycling improvements	11
Include walking improvements	3
Include encouraging use of e-bikes	2
Include actions on e-scooters	1
Subsidise changing facilities at public workplaces to encourage cycling to work	1
Target percentage for walking should be higher	1
Accelerate Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans	1
Include consideration of active travel in bad weather, for example by gritting pavements	1
Include requiring local authorities to prioritise active travel when undertaking road improvements	1
Promote health benefits of active travel	1
Behaviour change	**16**
Include reducing demand for travel	7
Modal shift to active travel and public transport should be more ambitious	6
Acknowledge reducing private transport emissions requires behaviour change	1
Include investing in local services and employment opportunities to reduce the need for transport	1
Include engaging with employers on travel demands	1

Planning	**13**
Include differences in need for rural and urban areas	4
Include acknowledgement of cross-boundary travel	2
Include integration of public transport	2
Include actions for the immediate period, rather than long term actions	1
Include hydrogen	1
Focus on transport as the Combined Authority has the most direct influence	1
Update the Rights of Way Improvement Plan	1
Ensure travel plans don't negatively impact businesses	1
Changes to wording of actions	**8**
Include 'accessible' in actions	2
Actions should be more ambitious	2
Change action on LCWIPs to 'establish an effective cycling and walking network by resourcing implementation of LCWIPs capable of supporting significant modal shift'	2
Add more clarity to 'embedding sustainable transport' action	1
Include 'flexible' in actions	1
Government and local authority involvement	**7**
Lobby Government on illegal e-bikes/ e motorbikes	4
Lobby Government to outlaw use of pavements for parking	2
Lobby Government to encourage integration with public transport hubs through planning powers	1
Water travel	**5**
Encourage using inland waterways for more sustainable freight transport	4
Include electric charging points for barges to allow introduction of electric barges on inland waterways	1
Equity	**1**
Include acknowledgement of social and economic inequalities	1

The largest proportion of suggestions on the actions were about transport, with transport suggestion themes being coded 171 times. These comments have been coded into themes in the table above. The suggestions on transport were mainly focused on aviation, public transport, active travel and car travel. Behaviour change, planning, Government and local authority involvement, water travel, equity and changes to the wording of the actions were also mentioned.

Respondents overall agreed that improvements to public transport would give more people the option to switch to more sustainable travel. 41 respondents made suggestions about public transport. This included 15 comments on the need to prioritise improving public transport overall. Fares, pricing and ticketing were also highlighted as a barrier to choosing public transit (six comments). Respondents suggested that safer and more comfortable public transport would support with modal shift away from car travel. Some also mentioned Mass Transit, wanting to know more about the projected carbon savings from modal shift to Mass Transit, and wanting to see the scheme delivered.

Similarly to the comments on the transport objective, aviation was raised frequently as something missing from the actions. Respondents frequently acknowledged the carbon emissions of air travel and raised concerns that the expansion of Leeds Bradford Airport would negate the carbon emissions savings of other actions. They were also concerned that the carbon emissions reduction pathway didn't include aviation, and that the Climate and Environment Plan didn't have actions on aviation. Respondents wanted to see the Combined Authority take a role in reducing air travel in the region.

Car travel was also an issue frequently raised by respondents. Some stressed the importance of reducing car travel to reach net zero. Respondents suggested that the Combined Authority should play a role in encouraging reducing car use and shifts to car sharing (12 comments). Four also suggested that road building should be halted to discourage people from driving. Some respondents also made suggestions about electric vehicle charge points to support more people to switch to an EV.

Respondents agreed that encouraging active travel would support the region's path to net zero. 25 suggestions were made about active travel. Respondents wanted to see improvements to the cycling offer in the region (11 comments) and improvements for pedestrians (three comments). Respondents also wanted to see more encouragement of e-bikes and e-scooters as a modal shift away from car. Similarly, respondents supported the Combined Authority's role in encouraging behaviour change. Seven suggested the plan should include reducing the need for travel, and six suggested that the targets on modal shift from car travel to public transport and active travel should be more ambitious.

Respondents also mentioned water travel (including using inland waterways for more sustainable freight transport), asks of Government on illegal e-bikes and e-motorbikes and equity in transport behaviours and the ability to shift.

Eight suggestions were made on the wording of the transport actions, with respondents wanting to see more ambitious actions which include a focus on accessibility.

4.1.4.5 Suggestions about actions: climate resilience and nature recovery

Suggestion – Climate resilience and nature recovery	70
Planning	**20**
Include more detail and timescales for climate change risk assessment	9
Include commitment on timescales for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy	7
Ensure Local Nature Recovery Strategy is part of the Combined Authority's priorities	1
Include 'countryside access plans' in action on tree-planting	1
Monitor actions through specific/ SMART targets	1
Environmental protection	**11**
Don't build wind farms on peat bog land	2
Ensure habitats are protected against development	2
Include protecting ancient grasslands, ensuring tree planting doesn't negatively impact it	1

Stop building on flood plains	1
Include preventing tree loss	1
Ensure tree planting is not at the expense of rare species or habitats	1
Add partnering action on woodland creation and management	1
Include no destruction of ancient woodland	1
Include no cutting of grass verges in flowering season, except for safety reasons	1
Agriculture	**11**
Include local agriculture and food production	5
Acknowledge land use balance between nature recovery and affordable food production	1
Engage with farmers to reduce meat and dairy	1
Include food production	1
Include working with farmers on biodiversity	1
Include diversification away from monoculture land	1
Add partnering action on encouraging regenerative farming	1
Nature recovery	**8**
Prioritise nature recovery	1
Include greening of inner-city areas with education on why this matters	1
Include support and investment in parks	1
Include tree planting on roadsides	1
Include working with large landowners to restore land	1
Include charges for nature harming behaviour	1
Climate resilience and nature recovery should underpin all other objectives and actions	1
Lobby the Government on prioritising nature recovery	1
Engagement and partnership	**7**
Include local community engagement on Local Nature Recovery Strategy	4
Include collaborating with nature and conservation bodies as experts	2
Support people to enjoy and care for outdoor spaces	1
Flooding and waterways	**5**
Dredge inland waterways to increase capacity for flood water	3
Lobby Government for Environment Agency funding to monitor water quality	1
Include delivering on the removal of instream barriers on rivers	1
Biodiversity	**4**
Include preventing planning applications that lead to loss of biodiversity	3
Include biodiversity	1
Government and local authority involvement	**3**
Include use of pesticides by local councils	1
Lobby Government on climate-resilient democratic placemaking	1
Pollution	**1**
Include challenging water pollution by companies	1

70 suggestions were made by respondents about the climate resilience and nature recovery actions, which are coded into themes in the table above. Planning was the overall theme raised

most frequently (20 comments). Respondents supported the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and climate change risk assessment and wanted to see more commitment on timescales and delivery. Nine respondents wanted to see more information and timescales for the climate change risk assessment, and seven wanted to see a commitment on timescales for the LNRS.

11 suggestions were about environmental protection. Respondents supported the climate resilience and nature recovery actions focusing on protecting natural environments and habitats. They highlighted the need for the actions to involve protecting vulnerable habitats such as peat bogs, ancient grasslands and ancient woodland. Respondents also supported nature recovery, with eight suggestions made on topics including inner-city greening, tree planting on roadsides, and investment in parks.

Respondents wanted to see responsible agriculture to protect the environment. They made suggestions about the Combined Authority's role in responsible agriculture, with five respondents suggesting that the actions for climate resilience and nature recovery should include local agriculture and food production, supporting communities to grow their own food locally. Respondents suggested engaging with farmers on reducing meat and dairy, biodiversity, regenerative farming and diversification away from monoculture land.

Seven comments raised suggestions about engagement and partnership. Respondents acknowledged that successful delivery of the climate resilience and nature recovery actions would require effective engagement with communities and stakeholders. Four respondents suggested the need for local community engagement on the LNRS, two suggested collaborating with nature conservation organisations, and one suggested supporting people to enjoy and care for nature and the outdoors. Respondents saw effective engagement as key in getting community buy in on climate resilience and nature recovery actions, as well as support from the right organisations.

Five comments were about flooding and waterways. Respondents raised the important role of canals and rivers in flood protection. They suggested dredging inland waterways (three comments), monitoring water quality (one comment), and removing instream barriers on rivers (one comment) suggested. The importance of biodiversity, the role of Government and local authorities, and pollution were also mentioned.

4.1.4.6 Suggestions about actions: housing

Suggestion – Housing	89
Retrofit	**42**
Include funding for retrofit available to all	9
Monitor retrofit scheme through specific/ SMART targets	8
Include standards for retrofit installation, including Passivhaus, Future Homes standard	7
Include a street-by-street retrofit scheme	7
Include training for retrofit skills	3
Focus on shorter term quick wins as well as longer term strategy for social housing retrofit	1

Include maximising existing funding pots for private home retrofit	1
Include fitting heat pumps in social housing	1
Include damp proofing homes for flood resistance	1
Include rainwater collection in retrofitting homes	1
Include retrofit of larger homes	1
Include ventilation systems with insulation	1
Include developing apprenticeships for retrofit skills	1
Planning	**28**
Include requiring energy efficiency/ sustainability to approve new planning applications	13
Include not building on green belt	5
Include enforcing that developers should plan for public transport/ active travel	5
Include enforcement for landlords of private rented homes	3
Including building on disused sites	1
Include reviewing listed building restrictions to allow energy efficiency	1
One-stop-shop	**6**
One-stop-shop should have a localised approach to community needs	2
Ensure advice on retrofit is trustworthy and free	1
One-stop-shop should include finance, assessment, delivery and quality control of retrofit	1
Ensure one-stop-shop funding isn't taken up by big organisations	1
Include connecting people who want retrofit with people who have already retrofit their homes through one-stop-shop	1
Equity	**6**
Include plan to prioritise retrofit in disadvantaged neighbourhoods	4
Include financial intervention for affordable demand reduction measures	1
Include investing in energy efficient social housing	1
Government and local authority involvement	**4**
Lobby Government to tighten national building regulations	2
Include securing local authority support for local intervention on housing	1
Lobby Government to remove VAT on retrofit	1
Engagement	**2**
Consult with the public on new housing development proposals	1
Include public education on home energy efficiency and cost	1
Changes to wording of actions	**1**
Planning approvals should be leading rather than influencing	1

89 comments made suggestions about the housing actions. These have been coded into themes in the table above. Respondents generally supported the actions on housing and made suggestions on delivery. 42 of these were comments about retrofit. Overall, respondents supported retrofit and wanted to see high quality retrofit available to all. Nine respondents wanted retrofit funding suitable for all different income and wealth levels, acknowledging the gap between funding for lower income and social housing tenants and wealthier homeowners who can afford to fund their own retrofit or take out loans.

Eight respondents supported the ambitious targets of the retrofit scheme and wanted it to be monitored through SMART targets. Respondents also wanted to see retrofit delivered at a high standard to ensure positive experiences and retrofit that lasts. Seven suggested that standards should be introduced for the retrofit scheme, with some suggesting the Passivhaus standard and others the Future Homes standard. Respondents also suggested a street-by-street process for ensuring the approach to retrofit suits each community's needs (seven comments). Training on retrofit skills were also mentioned (three comments). Further comments were made about the one-stop-shop, with two respondents suggesting that advice given should be tailored to suit community needs.

29 comments suggested the need for planning processes and requirements. Respondents suggested that the Combined Authority should take a role in managing standards in planning applications for housing and retrofit. Respondents wanted to see no new homes built that would need to be retrofit, to secure energy efficient homes for the future. The most frequently made suggestion was to enforce that planning applications are energy efficient and sustainable in order to be approved (13 comments). Respondents also wanted to see the Combined Authority refuse to build on green belt (five comments), and enforce that developers plan for options for public transport and active travel when planning and building developments to prevent new housing communities being dependent on car travel (five comments). Three respondents also suggested enforcement for landlords of privately rented homes to retrofit their properties, raising the lack of options for private renters.

Similarly to the other sector areas, respondents wanted to ensure equity in retrofit schemes, with four respondents suggesting priority should be given to disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Lobbying Government on VAT for retrofit and building regulations was also mentioned, and engaging with and informing the public about housing developments and retrofit.

4.1.4.7 Suggestions about actions: business and skills

Suggestion – Business and skills	60
Skills	**21**
Work with Further Education colleges on green skills training	5
Identify the skills gap and meet that need	3
Lobby Government for improved green skills training	2
Prioritise green skills and jobs	2
Include accreditation and standards for green skills training	2
Include clear messaging on green skills qualifications and jobs for young people, parents and teachers	1
Include longer-term funding for employment readiness projects	1
Need more green skills jobs in low/ zero emission vehicle industry	1
Promote opportunities in green skills sectors	1
Include environmental education in schools	1
Include leading on promoting upskilling in conservation, flood management and biodiversity	1
Including supporting clusters of emerging green jobs	1
Business support	**16**

Incentivise/ enforce business decarbonisation	6
Emphasise what high emitting businesses need to do	2
Including making workplaces and jobs greener	1
Include supporting social enterprises	1
Support businesses to switch to local supply chains	1
Include supporting sustainable, experience-based businesses	1
Include providing businesses with incubators and workspaces	1
Include supporting businesses to electrify industrial processes	1
Include supporting businesses dealing with climate denial misinformation	1
Include supporting energy intensive businesses so they don't leave the region	1
Economy	**8**
Include circular/ doughnut economy	5
Acknowledge economic challenges for businesses decarbonising	2
Include communities in circular economy, not just businesses	1
Planning	**6**
Include practical delivery and scale in actions	4
Include progression from 2021-2024 plan	2
Engagement and partnership	**6**
Include partnering with education and businesses to develop a just transition pathway	4
Include businesses influencing sustainable actions in their local areas	1
Include partnering with EU exemplar businesses	1
Changes to wording of actions	**2**
Change terminology from 'green skills'/ 'green jobs'	1
Split business and skills actions from each other	1
Government and local authority involvement	**1**
Enforce public sector decarbonisation	1

60 comments made suggestions about the business and skills actions, and these have been coded into themes in the table above. 21 comments were about the actions on skills and training, with respondents wanting to see an effective skills offer through the Climate and Environment Plan. Respondents acknowledged the need for green skills and made suggestions on how to successfully deliver green skills training. The most frequent suggestions were to work with Further Education colleges on green skills training (five comments), to identify the skills gap and meet that need (three comments), to lobby Government for improved green skills training (two comments), to prioritise green skills and jobs overall (two comments), and to include accreditation and standards in green skills training (two comments). Clear messaging on the qualifications and jobs available, longer-term funding and promoting green opportunities were also mentioned.

16 suggestions were about business support. Respondents generally agreed with providing businesses with decarbonisation support. Some suggested enforcing and/or incentivising businesses to decarbonise (six comments), and focusing support on high emitting businesses (two comments). Other business support suggestions included supporting social enterprises, supporting businesses to switch to local supply chains, to electrify industrial processes, and to

deal with climate denial misinformation.

Similarly to suggestions on the business and skills objective, respondents made comments on the economy and suggested embedding circular or doughnut economy principles (five comments). There were some suggestions about action planning, with four respondents wanting to see scale and practical delivery detail included in the actions, and two wanting to see how the actions had progressed since the 2021-24 Climate and Environment Plan. Engagement and partnership were also mentioned, with four respondents wanting to see partnership with education and businesses to develop a just transition.

Two suggestions were made about the wording of the actions, with one respondent disagreeing with using the term 'green' to refer to skills and jobs, and one suggesting that the business and skills aspects of the plan should be separate.

4.1.4.8 Disagree with actions

Within 19 comments disagreeing with the actions, nine were cross-cutting comments, 14 were about the transport actions, two about the energy actions, and two about the business and skills actions.

Disagree overall with actions	19
Cross-cutting	**9**
Don't spend money on consultants	2
Cost to individuals	1
Don't agree with net zero ambition	1
The actions aren't enough	1
Too many strategies	1
Too vague	1
Unachievable/ too ambitious	1
Concerned that asks of Government won't be fulfilled	1
Transport	**14**
Don't support Mass Transit	7
Don't support electric vehicles	3
Concerned about National Highways involvement	1
Concerned about zero-emission bus fleet due to reliance on bus operators	1
Don't support cycle lanes	1
Don't support speed humps	1
Energy	**2**
Concerned about cost of gas and electricity	1
Disagree with climate fund being funded by public money	1
Business and skills	**2**
Don't support Drax	2

Cross-cutting reasons that respondents disagreed with the actions included cost, with two

comments about spending money on consultants and one on the cost of the actions to individuals. Some were concerned the actions weren't on the right scale, with one feeling the actions aren't enough to deliver net zero, one saying they are too vague, one saying they are unachievable and too ambitious, and one saying they were concerned the asks of Government won't be fulfilled. One respondent didn't agree with net zero and one said the Combined Authority has too many strategies and doesn't support another.

14 comments disagreed with the transport actions, with the most common comments being not supporting Mass Transit plans (seven comments), and not supporting electric vehicles (three comments). Not supporting National Highways involvement, cycle lanes, speed humps, and concerns about the reliance on bus operators to deliver zero-emission buses were also raised.

Two comments disagreed with the energy actions, with concerns raised about the cost of gas and electricity and about public funding for the climate fund. Two comments disagreed with the business and skills actions, expressing that the Combined Authority shouldn't support or work with Drax.

4.1.5 How can you help us deliver our plan?

48 responses

We asked respondents who told us they were responding to the survey on behalf of a business or organisation a further question: how can you help us deliver our plan? 48 respondents provided a response to this question, and we have summarised these responses in the table below. Not applicable responses have been removed.

Business	
Stagecoach Yorkshire	Would like to alongside the Combined Authority on Stagecoach's decarbonisation plan.
Sunny Bank Mills	Will decarbonise business operations.
Northern Powergrid	Will continue to work with the Combined Authority on Local Area Energy Plans, and will use outputs to influence forecasting and network optioneering. Will continue to work with the Combined Authority on bus reform.
Zenith Vehicle Contracts Ltd	Will provide vehicle modelling software to calculate the viability of switching vehicles to electric.
BBF Limited	Will decarbonise business operations. Will provide information on what BBF are already doing, and support other organisations through skills sharing.
TransPennine Express	Will be a key stakeholder in modal shift, integrated transport and benefits of rail.
Uber	Will support with sustainable grants for the taxi industry.
Sarcophagus Limited	Will collaborate with other businesses on the plan.
Education	
Leeds City College	Will support with awareness of climate crisis and backing of climate policies.
University of Huddersfield	Will support with product and process development, innovation

	and training.
Government	
Peak District National Park Authority	Will partner with the Combined Authority on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and will host the Moors for the Future Partnership.
Healthcare	
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Will provide support through case studies and engagement platforms in the NHS
NHS England	Will ensure NHS organisations see climate as a priority.
Local authority	
Kirklees Council	Will retrofit Kirklees' social homes.
Non-profit	
Kirklees Cycling Campaign/ Cycle Kirklees	Will participate in the Combined Authority's active travel programme.
Cycling UK	Will focus on available cycle routes in the region.
Group for Action on Leeds Bradford Airport	Will take legal action against the expansion of Leeds Bradford Airport.
Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce	Will help to design products and services to support the plan. Will make sure businesses are informed and engaged. Will monitor to make sure what is being delivered is working.
The Inland Waterways Association Freight Group	Will promote the use of West Yorkshire's inland waterways to improve freight logistics.
Canal and River Trust	Will continue to work in partnership on active travel. Would like to have more discussions on how Canal and River Trust can support more broadly with climate issues.
Commercial Boat Operators Association	Would like to be consulted on the benefits of water freight transport.
Aire Rivers Trust	Will support on river restoration and connection.
West Riding Branch of Inland Waterways Association	Would like to share knowledge to benefit the plan.
Otley 2030	Will work locally to implement the plan, if funding is provided.
Climate Action Silsden	Will engage with local community groups on nature projects and community energy projects.
Huddersfield Friends of the Earth	Will scrutinise the plan to support delivery of the maximum ambition.
Zero Carbon Headingley	Will publicise information with members in newsletter and could organise a local meeting.
Fossil Free West Yorkshire	Would like to discuss fossil fuel divestment of West Yorkshire Pension Fund. Would like to provide information, research and evidence.
EPIKS - Environment Kirklees Ltd	Will continue active project delivery in active travel promotion and projects, active travel engagement programme, CCALL project, and development of nature parks.
Bradford District Community Empowerment	Will deliver grants programmes to encourage active travel.

Network Ltd	
Yorgreen CIC	Will support on housing and natural environment developments and lobbying for clearer long term funding plans for housing decarbonisation.
The Woodland Trust	Will continue partnering with the White Rose Forest to support woodland creation and woodland management through grants, funding and woodland expertise.
Specialist Autism Services	Will increase knowledge amongst clients.
Leeds Civic Trust Planning Committee	Will support future plans.
Dales and Bowland CIC	Will provide cross-boundary DalesBus services. Would like support from the Combined Authority to expand and develop these services.
Race Equality Network	Will support on engaging people from the global south who are most affected by climate change.
Efficiency North	Would like the Combined Authority to collaborate on a strategic Retrofit Skills Forum.
Yorkshire Sport Foundation	Will contribute to the environmental and health benefits of active travel. Will contribute to the role of active design in creating environmentally friendly, active and liveable communities. Will embed active design principles with regeneration, housing and place-making master plans. Will work on carbon reduction plans for community sport, leisure facilities, etc. Will support sustainable transport in community sport.
Bradford-Shipley Travel Alliance	Will promote measures to reduce carbon emissions and educate its members. Will share feedback on the plan. Supports a community engagement board being put in place.

Overall, stakeholders were willing to support the delivery of the Climate and Environment Plan, offering to provide their expertise and advice by working in partnership.

4.1.6 Overarching themes in survey responses

Overall, respondents agreed with the draft Climate and Environment Plan. Generally, respondents agreed with the adoption of the maximum ambition pathway, agreed with the five objectives of the plan, and agreed with the actions for each sector. Most suggestions provided ideas of detail that could sit underneath the actions provided in the engagement document. Many of the suggestions made by respondents are likely to be fulfilled by the full Climate and Environment Plan.

Some key areas of suggestion across survey responses involved wanting the Combined Authority to set targets and actions which are ambitious but achievable. Generally, respondents wanted to see the plan set specific targets with clear timescales, to allow for accurate monitoring and to ensure progress towards our net zero target. Respondents also wanted to see the Combined Authority lobbying Government and working in partnership with stakeholders and local authorities to achieve net zero. They also wanted to see effective community engagement, public education and information to ensure that the transition to net zero is equitable and that

people of West Yorkshire have access to accurate information on the climate emergency. Respondents recognised that partnership with organisations and residents across West Yorkshire would be needed achieve net zero.

Overall, stakeholder respondents who responded on behalf of a business or organisation wanted to support the Combined Authority to achieve the goals of the Climate and Environment Plan, and saw their organisation playing a role.

Key areas that respondents felt were missing from the plan were actions on aviation, waste, divestment from fossil fuels, and dietary changes.

4.1.7 About you questions

We also asked respondents to answer our demographic about you questions, and a summary of these results can be found below.

4.1.6.1 What is your postcode?

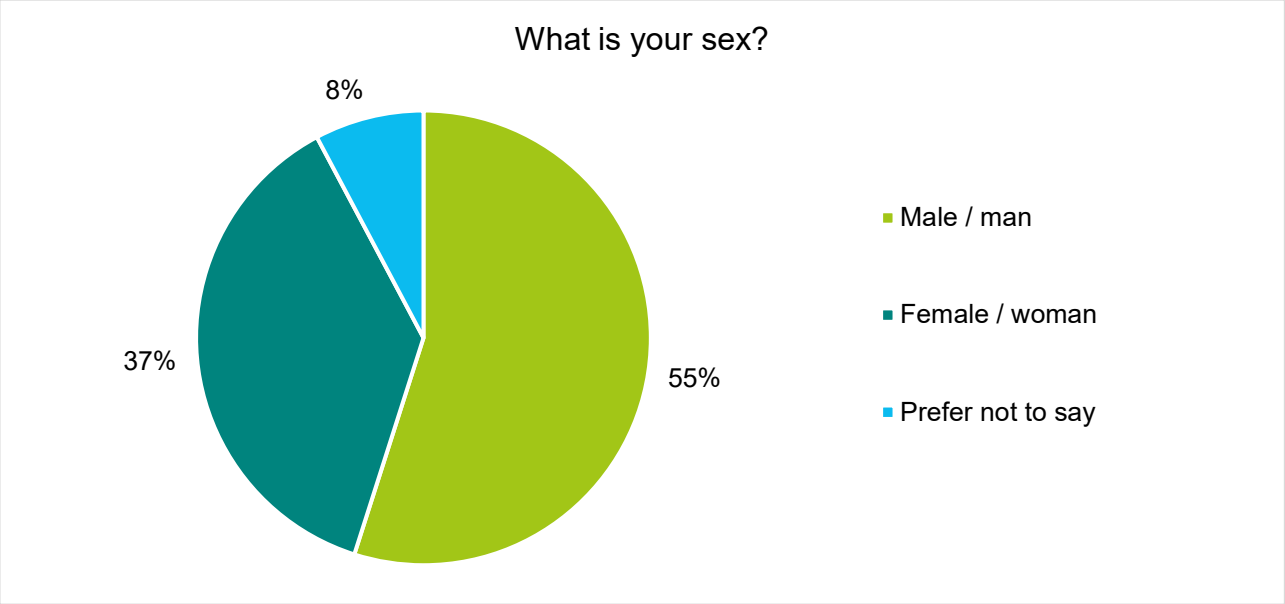
193 responses

Postcode	Tally	Postcode	Tally	Postcode	Tally
BD1	1	HD8	1	LS19	3
BD2	1	HD9	3	LS21	7
BD3	3	HD13	1	LS23	1
BD6	2	HP5	1	LS25	1
BD8	4	HX1	1	LS27	4
BD9	4	HX2	2	LS28	2
BD10	2	HX3	1	LS29	21
BD11	1	HX5	1	M1	1
BD13	5	HX6	1	M32	1
BD14	1	HX7	6	OL14	3
BD15	1	LS1	3	RG27	1
BD16	3	LS3	1	S7	1
BD17	3	LS4	2	S70	1
BD18	13	LS5	1	WF1	3
BD19	1	LS6	7	WF2	3
BD20	4	LS7	2	WF3	1
CV47	1	LS8	6	WF5	1
CV8	1	LS10	3	WF6	1
DE45	1	LS11	1	WF8	2
HD1	3	LS12	2	WF10	2
HD2	2	LS14	1	WF14	2
HD3	1	LS15	1	WF17	1
HD4	4	LS16	3	YO19	1
HD6	1	LS17	6		
HD7	4	LS18	4		

We received responses from all five districts of West Yorkshire, and some responses from outside of the region. There was a higher number of responses from Leeds and Bradford than other parts of the region. There was a high proportion of responses from the Ilkley area (LS29).

4.1.6.2 What is your sex?

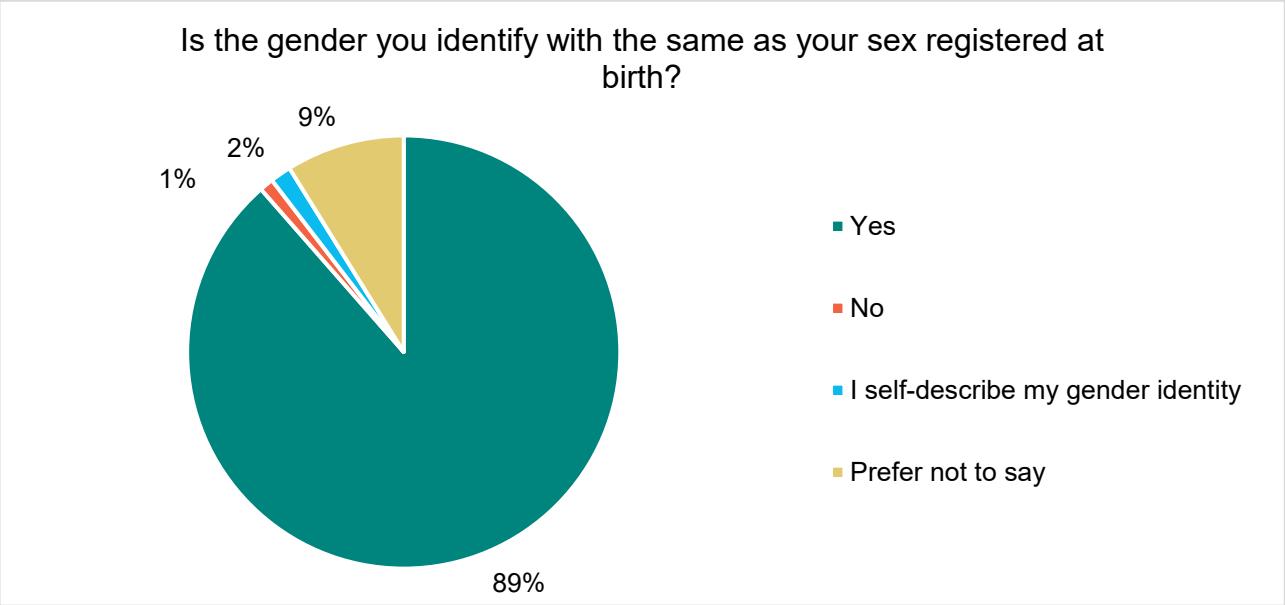
193 responses



The survey was disproportionately completed by men, with 55% (106 respondents) being men and 37% (72 respondents) being women. In the 2021 census data, 51% of West Yorkshire's population is female and 49% male. 8% of respondents (15) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.3 Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?

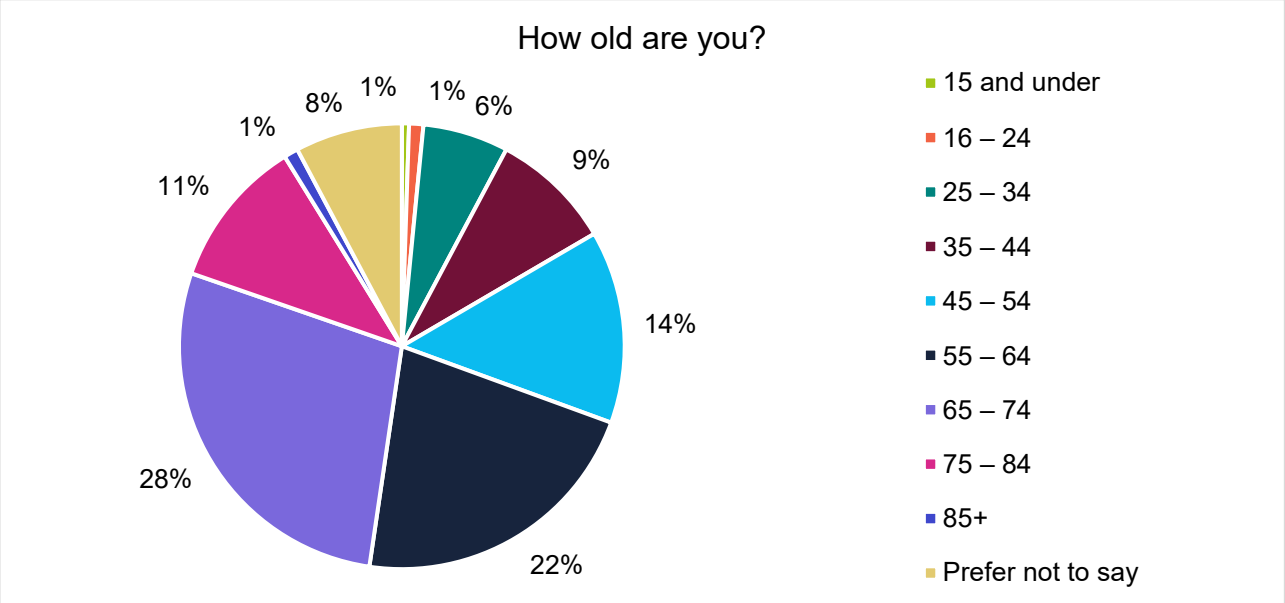
192 responses



89% of respondents identify with the sex they were assigned at birth (170 respondents). 1% (two respondents) do not, and 2% (three respondents) self-describe their gender identity. 9% (17 respondents) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.4 How old are you?

193 responses

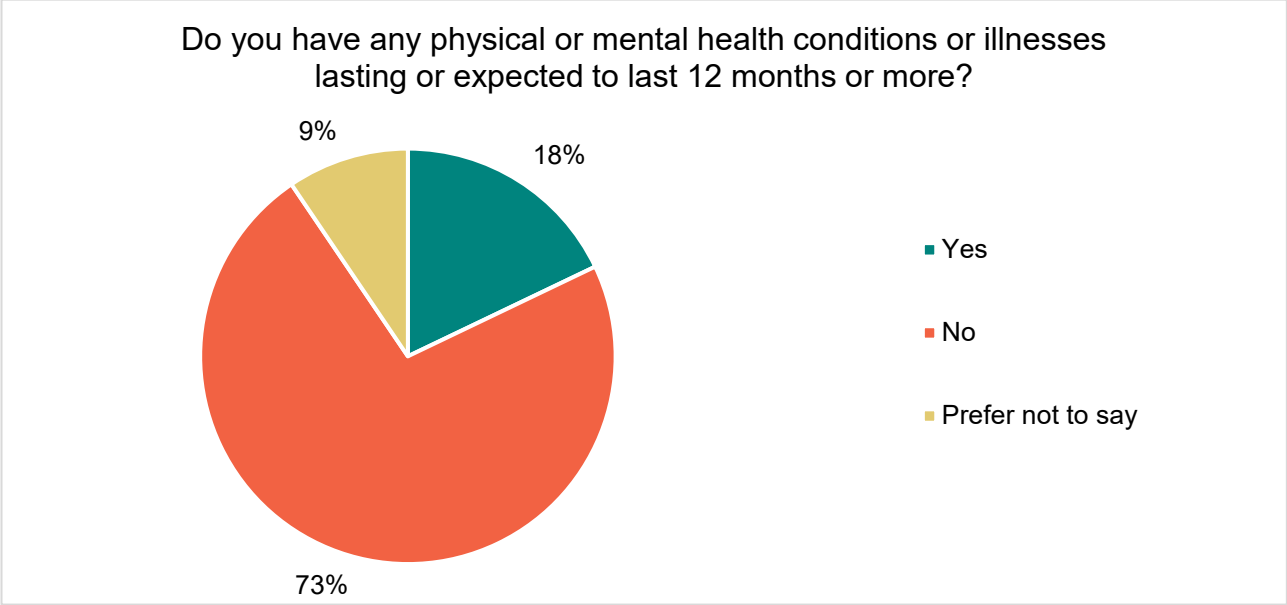


The survey was answered by people from all age categories: from under 15 to 85+. Younger people were under-represented in the survey respondents in comparison to the age demographics of the 2021 census in West Yorkshire. 1% of respondents are 15 and under (one respondent), 1% are 16-24 (two respondents), and 6% (12) are 25-34.

The age categories of 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74 and 75-84 were the highest represented in respondents. 9% (17) were 35-44, less than the West Yorkshire population which is 13% 35-44. 14% (27) were 45-54, similar to the population data of 13%. 22% (42) of respondents were 55-64, higher than the population proportion of 11%. 28% (52 respondents) were 65-74, higher than the population data of 10%. 11% (21) were 75-84, and 5% of West Yorkshire's population is 75-84. 1% (two respondents) were 85+, less than the census data. 8% (15 respondents) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.5 Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?

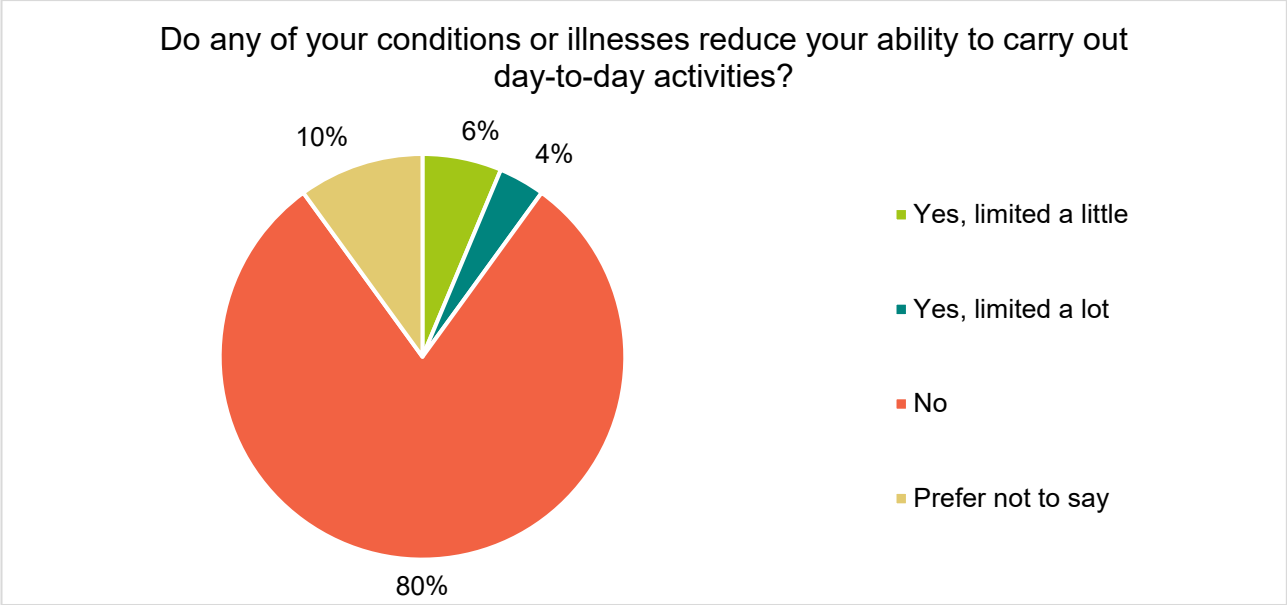
190 responses



18% of respondents (34) have a long term condition or illness. This is the same percentage as the disabled population of West Yorkshire. 73% (138) are not disabled. 9% (18) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.6 Do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day-to-day activities?

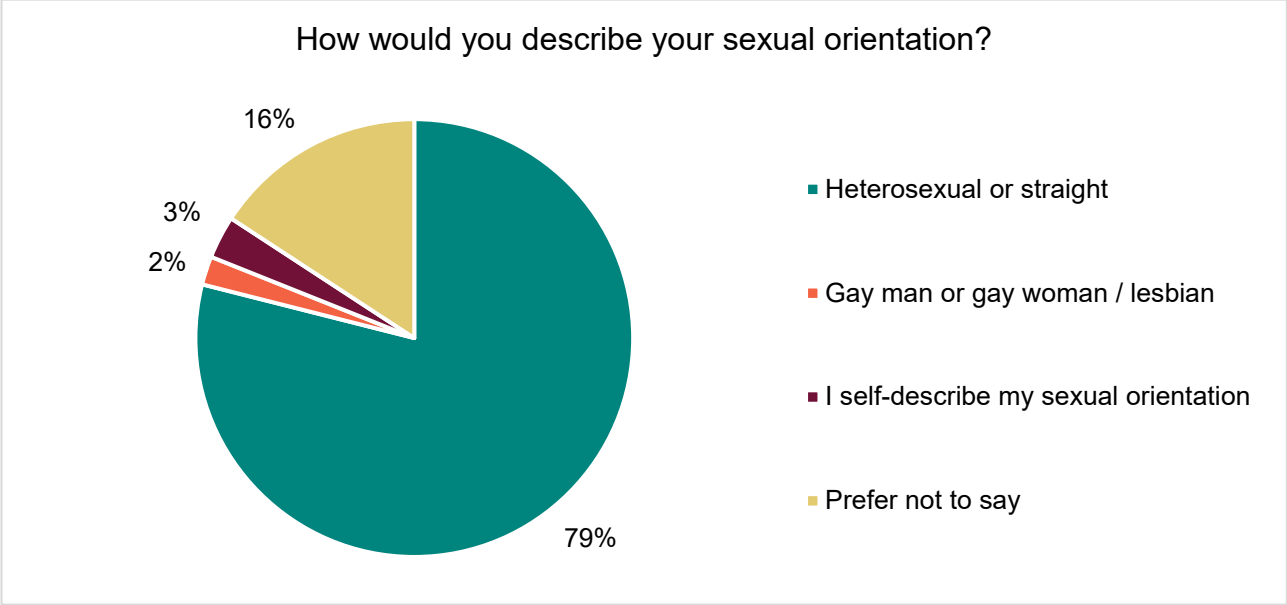
190 responses



6% (12 respondents) said their condition or illness reduces their ability to carry out day-to-day tasks a little, and 4% (12) said a lot. 80% (152) said no, and 10% (19) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.7 How would you describe your sexual orientation?

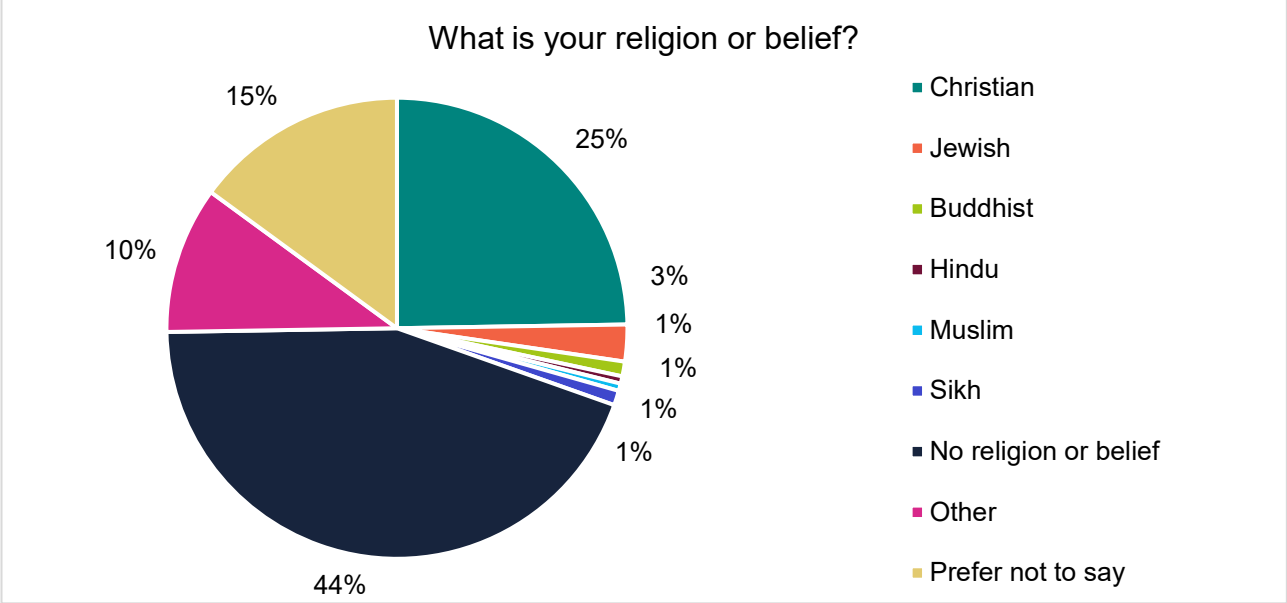
190 responses



79% of respondents (150) are heterosexual, 2% (four) are gay, and 3% (six) self-describe their sexual orientation. 16% (30) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.8 What is your religion or belief?

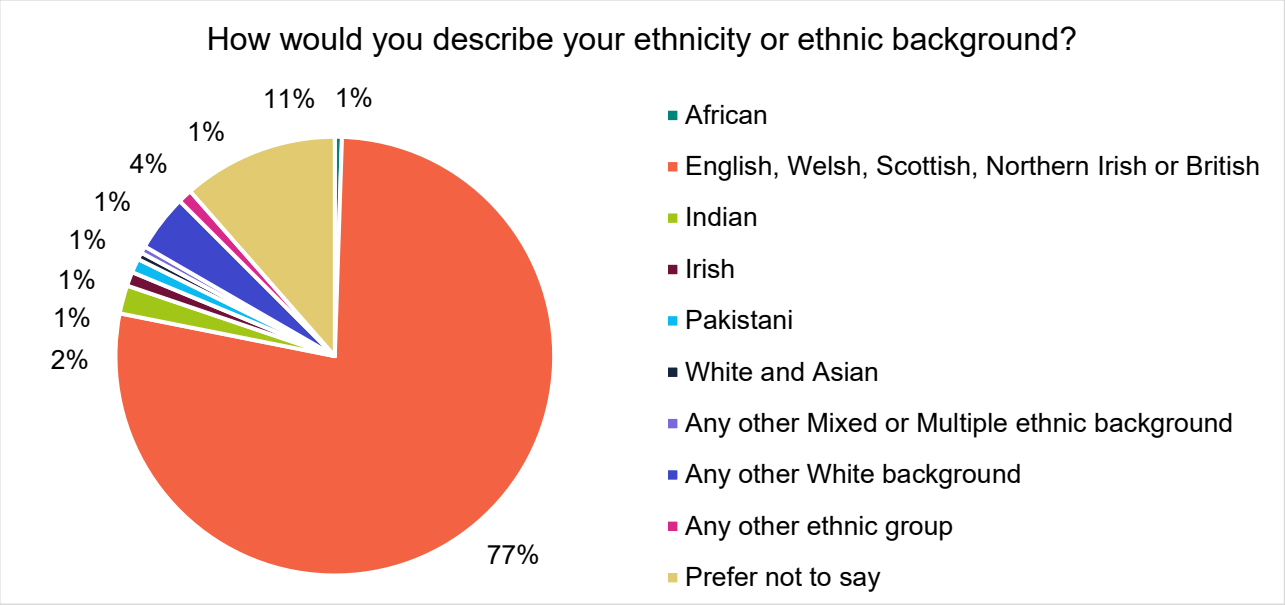
194 responses



Non-religious people were over-represented in survey respondents in comparison to census data for West Yorkshire. 44% (86) have no religion or belief or are atheist, and 37% of West Yorkshire have no religion. 25% of respondents (48) are Christian, and 41% of West Yorkshire is Christian. 3% of respondents (five) are Jewish, and less than 1% of West Yorkshire's population is Jewish. 1% (two respondents) are Buddhist, 1% (two) are Sikh, 1% (one) is Muslim, and 1% (one) is Hindu. The percentage of Buddhist, Sikh and Hindu respondents was similar to the West Yorkshire population, but Muslim people were under-represented in survey respondents (14% of West Yorkshire's population is Muslim). 15% (29) preferred not to say.

4.1.6.9 How would you describe your ethnicity or ethnic background?

194 responses



White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British respondents were slightly over-represented: 77% (148) are White English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish or British, compared to 72% in the census. 4% (eight) selected any other White background. People from an ethnic minority background were under-represented in survey respondents. 2% (four respondents) are Indian, 1% (two) are Pakistani, 2% (two) are White and Black Caribbean, 1% (one) is African, and 1% (one) is White and Asian. 1% (two) are Irish, 1% (two) selected any other ethnic group, and 11% (22 respondents) preferred not to say.

4.2 Analysis of responses submitted via email

During the engagement period, we recorded feedback from stakeholders received by email. A total of 10 email responses were submitted. We have categorised the responses from each organisation into themes in the tables below. The full email responses can be found in the appendices (separate document).

Alliance of British Drivers
Cross-cutting
Don’t support net zero

Bradford Council
Cross-cutting
Include more specifics and detail on delivery, including the role of local authorities
Will work in partnership with the Combined Authority on this
Include monitoring, clear targets and timescales for actions
Include more specifics and detail on delivery, including the role of local authorities
Energy
Include assessment of air quality impact
Take a balanced approach to energy projects, considering community impact such as noise
Add ask of Government on funding for householders
Transport
Include the benefits of bus franchising

Add ask of Government on enforcing and monitoring travel plans
Include aviation
Include air pollution
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Add ask of Government on ensuring urgent need for growth doesn't negatively impact biodiversity net gain outcomes
Include support and signposting to grants for farmers, in a forum or resource hub
Housing
Ensure standards for new build homes
Add ask of Government to incentivise and train construction industry on retrofit skills
Business and skills
Encourage social value investment through partnering and business relationships
Include circular economy
Include reducing consumption
Include sustainable food production

Calderdale Council
Cross-cutting
Agree with including asks of Government
Include more commitment to net zero place making, including trials and demonstrations to test delivery approaches
Include an objective on empowering communities
Ensure wording is in plain English and diagrams are clear
Include the Combined Authority's role in supporting climate communications and storytelling
Change wording from saying that an 81% reduction in emissions is 'at the limit of what is credible'
Make objectives more specific, including specifying the role of the Combined Authority, which partners will be involved and what their role will be, and providing more detail on delivery
Include monitoring, clear targets and timescales for actions
Will work in partnership with the Combined Authority on this
Energy
Include why solar PV is listed as an action but not other renewable technologies such as wind
Transport
Make clearer how delivery can be enabled on active travel, including by developing partnerships
Include an ask of Government on prioritising active travel
Include an ask of Government on rail electrification
Include demand management
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Include broader actions under streamlining delivery
Include delivery of LNRS
Housing
Specify how the market for retrofit can be developed
Add 'that are affordable to heat' to housing objective to link to health and inequalities
Go above policy compliant homes by ensuring the funding environment supports this

Support area-based retrofit schemes
Include clearer and more ambitious asks of Government on housing retrofit
Business and skills
Include support for SMEs
Including celebrating and strengthening green supply chains

Friends of the Earth
Cross-cutting
Make objectives SMART
Include more information on timescales and progress since the 2021-2024 plan
Include information on how the plan relates to other Combined Authority strategies
Include information on scale of carbon reduction for actions
Publish evidence base including CERPs
Include information on how partners and communities will be engaged on the plan
Publish and publicise the engagement
Include more detail on specifics and delivery
Energy
Include wind power
Focus on energy efficiency and reducing demand
Divest from fossil fuels
Include accelerating ownership of community energy
Transport
Modal shift to active travel and public transport should be more ambitious
Include aviation
Include projections for Mass Transit carbon savings and modal shift
Include differences in need for rural and urban areas
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Include commitment on timescales for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy
Engage with communities on climate change risk assessment
Housing
Include more emphasis on private rental sector
Include a street-by-street retrofit scheme
Include heat mapping to develop heat networks
Lobby Government on Future Homes standard
Business and skills
Include circular economy and waste hierarchy
Don't include carbon capture and storage
Work with partners on green skills training
Lobby Government for improved green skills training and accreditation
Work with high emitting businesses to develop a just transition pathway

Inland Waterways Association
Transport
Include an action on using waterways for more sustainable freight transport

Just Transition Wakefield and Wakefield Friends of the Earth
Cross-cutting
Plan should be integrated with local authority plans
Publish and publicise the engagement
Include more specifics and detail on delivery
Need more focus on engaging civil society, communities and organisations
Make objectives SMART
Publish evidence base including CERPs
Include monitoring, clear targets and timescales for actions
Include objective on community engagement and communication
Include a just transition
Energy
Don't support using public pension funds to de-risk climate fund
Include wind power
Include long and short-term grid storage
Include spatial planning policies for hierarchy of sites
Engage with communities on Local Area Energy Plans and Regional Energy System Plans
Transport
Add 'for all' to objective
Modal shift to active travel and public transport should be more ambitious
Include redistributing existing road space for public transport and active travel
Include public ownership of zero-emission buses
Partner to bid for Government funding on freight decarbonisation
Include aviation
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Split the objective into two
Add ask of Government on climate emergency planning
Include catchment management plans
Include flash flooding and heat island effects
Include commitment on timescales for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy
Integrate LNRS with National Education Nature Park scheme
Include more detail and timescales for climate change risk assessment
Include biodiversity net gain
Housing
Maximise bringing unused and under-used properties back into use through renovation and retrofit
Include modular homes
Include retrofit policies
Include heat mapping to develop heat networks
Include communications plan
Delivery plan should begin with worse quality housing
Business and skills
Address the pay gap between education and industry
Don't support carbon capture and storage
Include circular economy

Include strategic waste plan

Otley Town Council
Cross-cutting
Include ways that communities can get involved with the plan
Would like to get involved in opportunities for local communities, for example retrofit
Transport
Include ambition to grow the bus network, especially for areas such as Otley that don't have a rail station

The Lavender Café Orchestra
Climate Resilience and Nature Recovery
The LNRS should be put into action, including mapping and deliverables for the short, medium and long-term

Wakefield Trades Union Council
Cross-cutting
Objectives aren't enough
Make objectives more specific/ SMART
The plan should include how the people of West Yorkshire will be involved in changing their behaviour
Work with trade unions on a just transition
Energy
Remove standing charges
Introduce a free allowance of energy for homes
Landlords cause challenges for installing solar on industrial buildings
Don't support biomass
Support solar, but concerned about grid capacity and planning permission
Prioritise wind power
Transport
Support bus improvements, including franchising
Concerned that Mass Transit won't impact crucial years for decarbonisation, as it will be delivered in the future
Support rail improvements
Ensure rail ticket offices are staffed
Don't support expansion of Leeds Bradford Airport
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Use nature for cooling, for example shading trees, green walls, grass and planting
Include local authorities and communities in Local Nature Recovery Strategy
Include reference to National Education Nature Park
Housing
Support retrofit
A skilled workforce for retrofit is needed
Retrofit delivered at scale is needed
Standards for new homes are needed, support the Future Homes standard

Business and skills
A green skills task force is needed
Support teachers and lecturers and raise their pay

Yorkshire Motorcycle Action Group
Transport
Consider motorcycles as part of transport planning. Submitted a response prepared for the Local Transport Plan consultation - please see the LTP engagement report for full details.

Yorkshire Water
Energy
Add ask of Government for planning policy to be a greater enabler of renewable generation
Climate resilience and nature recovery
Objective should be integrated with the other objectives rather than stand alone
Include a stronger emphasis on green and blue infrastructure-based solutions and outcomes across the objectives
Climate change risk assessment should include rural as well as urban areas
Will work with the Combined Authority on the LNRS and Local Area Energy Plans
Housing
Include a stronger emphasis on building climate resilience and nature recovery into the urban environment through energy efficiency
Include flood resilience, for example reducing surface water through sponge-city principles
Include reducing vulnerabilities of homes to climate risk such as overheating
Business and skills
Include expanding GHG reduction efforts to include scope 3 emissions
Include circular economy and helping to facilitate industrial symbiosis

Many of the themes raised by respondents who shared an organisational response via email were similar to the topics raised in the survey responses. Many of these responses provided more detail on topics that had been raised by survey respondents, providing organisation-specific specialist knowledge and interest. These organisational responses have been shared with the relevant policy teams to evaluate the feedback in detail.

4.3 Analysis of stakeholder workshop feedback

We recorded feedback shared by stakeholders at our workshops. We then reviewed detailed minutes from the discussion groups for each of the five workshops to evaluate common themes. Overall, stakeholders shared their support for our net zero target and plan to get there, expressing the urgency of acting on the climate emergency. Most stakeholders supported the actions in the draft plan and shared ideas for delivery. Most stakeholders said that their organisation would like to support the Combined Authority in delivering the plan, offering suggestions for ways they could collaborate and get involved. The themes raised in the workshops were generally similar to feedback shared by respondents of the survey.

The tables below contain a summary of key topics raised during each of the workshops separated by theme. There were consistent themes that were raised across all five workshops. In each workshop, stakeholders highlighted the need for effective collaboration to achieve the

actions in the Climate and Environment Plan. They discussed the need for partnerships between the public sector, private sector and third sector to ensure that the right specialists were on board to deliver and advise on the net zero transition. Stakeholders saw that the Combined Authority could play a role in bringing the right stakeholders and partners together to achieve the actions of the plan. Overall, stakeholders wanted to work together and collaborate more to share learning and achieve a net zero transition.

Engagement with the people of West Yorkshire, communities and organisations was also raised across the workshops. This was a similar theme to the survey responses. Stakeholders discussed the need for communication with people and communities to inform and educate about the urgency of the climate emergency, communicate clear and reliable information, and to seek buy in to drive lasting behaviour change. Stakeholders saw the role that the Combined Authority could play in informing people on climate, building relationships and trust, and supporting behaviour change. They said that many of the actions of the plan could only be achieved by fostering a region with an engaged public who understand and want to act on the climate emergency. Stakeholders also explored the issue of equity and a just transition to net zero. They expressed the barriers that communities face and the need for actions on net zero that support accessibility and inclusion.

Funding was raised as a barrier to achieving net zero across the workshops. Stakeholders highlighted that funding support, grants and investment would be needed to achieve the actions to reach net zero. Many shared that they supported the ambitious actions of the plan but recognised the large funding investment that would be needed. Stakeholders shared their experiences of funding barriers, for example where short-term grants don’t allow for long-term action planning, or where decarbonisation isn’t viable due to cost. Stakeholders wanted to see the Combined Authority lobby Government for a more stable investment environment for decarbonisation and more funding and grant sources.

Green skills were also raised across multiple workshops. Stakeholders discussed their experiences of the gap in green skills training and the subsequent gap in skilled professionals to deliver green infrastructure. They expressed that a skilled workforce of people trained in green skills would be needed to achieve many of the actions of the plan. Stakeholders saw the Combined Authority as having a role in filling the green skills gap by working with education providers and communicating on the benefits of a green career.

Many different ideas were discussed at the workshops, and the policy teams have full detailed notes of everything raised by stakeholders. The tables below contain a summary of key themes that were raised multiple times within each workshop. They are grouped into categories of overarching themes that stakeholders focused on in their discussions.

4.3.1 Energy stakeholder workshop

The organisations represented at our energy stakeholder workshop were:

Association of British Insurers	Northern Gas
Bradford Council	Northern Powergrid
Daikin	SSE

Energy UK	UK Infrastructure Bank
Leeds City Council	West Yorkshire Pension Fund
National Energy System Operator	West Yorkshire Police

The main themes raised during discussions included:

Engagement
Communication
People need access to information and advice about energy, including on reducing usage and cost. The Combined Authority could play a role in being a trusted voice for information and guidance on decarbonisation and renewable energy. This could help achieve buy in from people, communities and organisations.
Collaboration
The Combined Authority could play a role in bringing organisations together to learn lessons and collaborate. The Combined Authority should learn from other authorities on energy projects, evaluating lessons learned and successes. Decarbonisation of energy will need collaboration with public and private sector as well as within local authorities. This collaborative approach would allow for more strategic planning and faster delivery.
Equity
An equitable shift to decarbonised energy is needed to ensure that everyone has access to lower cost and sustainable energy. The Combined Authority should play a role in ensuring equitable roll out of decarbonised energy.
Funding
Investment
The Combined Authority should play a role in and lobby Government to derisk and make attractive investment in decarbonised energy. There is a funding gap that needs to be filled by private sector, but there is risk that needs to be mitigated. A stable investment environment is needed for large scale changes in decarbonising energy.
Skills
Green skills
There is a skills gap in green skills for installing and maintaining decarbonised energy infrastructure and technology. The Combined Authority could work with colleges to fill this gap. The Combined Authority should lobby Government on a coordinated strategy for green skills training.

4.3.2 Transport stakeholder workshop

The organisations represented at our transport stakeholder workshop were:

Bradford Council	Leeds Community Healthcare Trust
City of York Council	Railfuture
First West Yorkshire	West Yorkshire Police
Leeds City Council	

The main themes raised during discussions included:

Behaviour change
Infrastructure
The right infrastructure needs to be in place before people can change their transport behaviours. There are gaps in the cycle network, areas where it is difficult to walk, areas not served by buses or served poorly. People need access to good quality public transport and safe active travel options before net zero transport decarbonisation goals can be met.
Accessibility
Improvements to the travel offer also need to happen in areas where people need it most. For example, in more disadvantaged neighbourhoods there are often few cycle paths. Public transport needs to be comfortable, safe and accessible for people to choose it. More accessible taxis could also help people reduce their own private car travel.
Car travel
Disincentives are needed so more people will choose not to travel by car or to take fewer journeys by car. This could include workplace parking levies and reducing car parking spaces.
Engagement
The Combined Authority can be a trusted voice on transport. People need more information, for example on car sharing schemes.
Organisation transport decarbonisation
Workplaces
The Combined Authority should work with workplaces on their fleet and on how their employees travel to work. The Combined Authority could be in a good position to influence organisations and businesses to support their operations and staff to decarbonise transport and change behaviour.
Collaboration
Businesses and organisations can and should work together on transport decarbonisation - for example, First Bus lets other organisations use bus charge points when they're not in use.
Businesses and organisations should be brought together with fleet operators to discuss similar challenges and support decarbonisation.

Alongside our transport stakeholder workshop, we attended meetings with transport stakeholders to share information about the Climate and Environment Plan and ask for feedback. We chose to do this for stakeholders who already have regular scheduled meetings with the Combined Authority. This included the West Yorkshire Active Travel Advisory Panel, rail officer and stakeholder groups, the West Yorkshire Low Emission Strategy group, and Chief Highways Officers. The feedback gathered during these meetings will feed into the development of the final plan.

4.3.3 Climate resilience and nature recovery stakeholder workshop

The organisations represented at our climate resilience and nature recovery workshop were:

Aire Rivers Trust	National Trust
Bradford District Care NHS Foundation Trust	NHS Ambulance Service
Canal and River Trust	Peak District National Park Authority
City of York Council	The Woodland Trust
Environment Agency	Trees for Cities

Leeds City Council	White Rose Forest
Leeds Community Healthcare Trust	Yorkshire Peat Partnership
Meanwood Valley Urban Farm	Yorkshire Water

The main discussion themes raised were:

Engagement
Communication
Effective communications and community engagement is needed to help people and organisations understand the importance of climate resilience and nature recovery. Residents need to be informed and educated on the climate emergency. Landowners also need to be engaged and brought on side. This could include sharing success stories and impact.
Collaboration
The Combined Authority should work with third sector organisations who work with communities and who are experts in climate resilience and nature recovery. The Combined Authority should collaborate with organisations that work on tree planting, flood resilience, agriculture, peatland restoration.
Equity
People and communities benefit from access to nature. Work on climate resilience and nature recovery should involve residents and communities, to connect people to nature and support their health. This would allow for a just transition to net zero, that recognises the barriers disadvantaged communities face.
Skills
Green skills
There is a skills gap for training in green skills for sustainable jobs. The Combined Authority should work with colleges to fill this gap to ensure that there are skilled people to work on climate resilience and nature recovery.
Funding
Funding and grants
Funding is a barrier to climate resilience and nature recovery projects. Many are underfunded and working on short timescales due to funding restrictions.

4.3.4 Housing stakeholder workshop

The organisations represented at our housing workshop were:

Bradford Council	Groundwork Yorkshire
Canopy Housing	Kirklees Council
Centrica	Leeds City Council
City of York Council	Lendology CiC
Efficiency North	North East and Yorkshire Net Zero Hub
Energy Saving Trust	West Yorkshire Housing Partnership
Equans	YES Energy Solutions

The main discussion themes raised were:

Information and advice
Standards
Standards of retrofit installation and maintenance are a challenge. The Combined Authority should take a role in setting standards for retrofit to ensure that all retrofit is completed to a high quality. It is challenging to find trusted suppliers with the right skills in retrofit. People and organisations need to have confidence that they are going to a trusted supplier who will provide high quality retrofit. This would prevent needing to re-retrofit poorly retrofit homes in the future.
Engagement
The Combined Authority can play a role as a trusted voice in informing people about retrofit. Clear information is needed on what retrofit is, and this could help to change public perceptions. Improved communications on retrofit could help people to feel that retrofit is right for them, accessible and necessary.
Information on retrofit should be targeted and tailored to community needs. Retrofit schemes should identify the needs of each different community and property type to ensure retrofit solutions are personal and work for people.
Collaboration
The Combined Authority could play a role in bringing organisations together that are working on retrofit to discuss learning. Partnership with supply chains could help create a secure market for retrofit.
Funding
Funding and grants
More funding is needed for retrofit overall. Private sector investment is needed alongside public sector investment.
Equity
Currently there is a gap between lower income households and social housing tenants who have access to retrofit and higher income households who can fund or take out loans for retrofit. Support is needed for people on a middle income who can't afford to retrofit their home, but also aren’t eligible for many funding programmes.
Skills
Retrofit skills
There is a skills gap for retrofit installation and maintenance, with not enough skilled workers. Filling this gap could provide opportunities for good green careers.

4.3.5 Business and skills stakeholder workshop

The organisations represented at our business and skills workshop were:

AW Hainsworth	Inspire North
Bradford Council	ITV
Bright Blue Foods	John Cotton
Cummins	Leeds City Council
Emballator	Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce
Federation of Small Businesses	Yorkshire Asian Business Association
Holdson Ltd	

The main topics discussed were:

Business support
Education
Businesses need support with educating and informing their employees (including contractors and supply chains) on climate to get buy in. Businesses need workforces who are on board with sustainability, and this can be challenging. Information on climate would need to be tailored to suit different business audiences, using the right language to inform and educate in a way that businesses and their employees can buy into. This could help with culture shifts within businesses on climate.
Advice
Businesses need support with accurate and reliable information on sustainability. The Combined Authority should signpost businesses to the right information. This needs to include advice about accreditation. They need information on what has worked for other businesses to be able to make informed decisions on switches that will be reliable. They need information delivered in a way that works for their business and workforce.
Challenges
There's a gap in support for businesses who rent their buildings, meaning many are unable to make decarbonisation switches.
Energy efficiency and net zero switches are challenging for businesses due to cost, meaning there isn't an economic case to make changes. Businesses need support in identifying which switches will be cost effective. Incentives or funding would help.
Collaboration
The Combined Authority should organise a peer network, connecting businesses together so that they can support each other on sustainability. Businesses would like to be able to provide peer business-to-business support, and share learning, successes and challenges, but these connections are difficult to make without overarching support. Showcasing good examples in a peer network could make businesses feel more confident in their sustainability decisions. The network could enable businesses to test new technologies with lower risk and learn together.
The Combined Authority should collate data on emissions in one place. Businesses would be happy to share the reporting they are doing on their emissions, so the Combined Authority has more understanding of what changes are being made and what progress is needed.
Skills
Green skills
There is a green skills gap and businesses find it challenging to hire suitable suppliers to install and maintain renewable energy generation, retrofit and sustainable technologies. There needs to be engagement with supply chains to ensure there is a skilled workforce. This could involve supporting local supply chains of green skilled workers.

4.4 Equity, diversity and inclusion informed analysis

An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) was completed in the development of the draft Climate and Environment Plan. It assessed which protected characteristic groups could be impacted by the new Climate and Environment Plan. The EqIA evaluated that the protected characteristic

groups of age, disability, sex, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion, sexual orientation, and gender reassignment can be disproportionately impacted by the climate emergency. Socio-economic status also influences how impacted individuals and communities are by climate change. People and communities that are marginalised are more likely to be impacted by the climate emergency and less likely to be able to adapt to the effects of climate change.

As this was a stakeholder engagement, within our stakeholder mapping we included organisations that work with, advocate for and represent protected characteristic groups. Although a full analysis of the responses of people from protected characteristic groups is less suitable for this stakeholder engagement, we can summarise some key themes raised by respondents which take into account equity, diversity and inclusion. Some key themes raised about equity included a just transition, cost barriers to decarbonisation, the benefits of access to nature, and the need for community engagement and relationships.

Overall, respondents wanted the Climate and Environment Plan to support a just transition. Multiple respondents mentioned that they wanted to see 'a just transition' included more consistently in the plan, to acknowledge that West Yorkshire's transition to net zero must be delivered in an equitable way. Respondents acknowledged the barriers faced by those on low incomes, living in social housing, living in rural areas and poorly connected areas, for example. They said that behaviour change would be needed from all people in West Yorkshire to achieve net zero, but that people facing marginalisation are often unable to change their behaviour, for example because of cost. Some key issues of cost facing marginalised and protected characteristic groups raised by respondents included energy costs in homes, the cost of retrofitting homes, and cost of public transport.

Respondents also raised the issue of equity in access to green and blue spaces. They highlighted the positive impact that accessing nature has on people, including on physical and mental wellbeing. Respondents noted that people living in disadvantaged communities often have less access to green and blue spaces, and that nature needs to be protected and restored to conserve the right of people in West Yorkshire to enjoy and be surrounded by nature.

Respondents wanted to see the Combined Authority engaging with communities to ensure that a just transition is achieved. They suggested working closely with communities to deliver a tailored approach to changes such as housing retrofit, to build relationships and trust. Respondents wanted to see people and communities as a key part of the plan, suggesting that people should have access to reliable and tailored information and support on decarbonisation.

5. Next steps

This engagement outcome report will inform the policy team as they finalise the Climate and Environment Plan 2025-28, which will be published in the spring of 2025. If you would like to contact us for updates on the plan, please email yourvoice@westyorks-ca.gov.uk.

Find out more

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