

Appendix 4

Collation of the actions within the North Wales Energy Strategy Action Plan where Local Authorities have been identified as the Lead

Lead	Strategic priority	Actions
Local Authorities	Cross-cutting	A, B, D, G, I
	1&2	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2I, 2J, 2K
	3	3A, 3B, 3C, 3D
	4	4C, 4D, 4E, 4G

Ref	Action	Timescale	Lead(s)	Potential enabler(s)	Funding Status	Progress status (November 2022)
A	<p>Ensure effective alignment between local, regional, and national energy strategies, plans and initiatives.</p> <p>The transition should be led by consistent policies at a national level which filter down to regional and local levels. The development of local development plans and strategic development plans should all consider the relevant aspects of the Energy Strategy.</p>	Short Term	Local Authorities	Welsh Government	No funding required	<i>There is already close collaboration across the regional energy strategies and Local Area Energy Plans (LAEP). A National Advisory Group and Regional Groups will be established to ensure effective alignment between existing and emerging energy planning work.</i>

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B	<p>Develop Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs) within each local authority area to support the development of a route map for decarbonisation of the energy system, taking a multi-vector, whole-system approach.</p> <p>Identify local opportunities to develop energy projects, including solar PV, onshore and offshore wind, nuclear, hydro, and tidal energy.</p>	Short Term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales	SP Energy Networks (SPEN) Wales and West Utilities (WWU) Welsh Government	Funding in place	<p><i>A pilot LAEP has already been adopted in Conwy County Borough. Welsh Government have committed funding to the preparation of LAEPs across the remaining five Local Authority areas by March 2024. The development of LAEPs in North Wales will be coordinated by Ambition North Wales with technical support from the Energy Systems Catapult.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Systems Catapult has recently released technical guidance to support the development of LAEPs, which forms part of their appointments as technical advisors to Welsh Government.</i></p>
D	<p>Input to Welsh Government's consultation on the Public Behaviour Change Engagement Strategy that sets out how society can be involved in the changes individuals and communities can make to help Wales meet net zero.</p>	Short term	Local Authorities	Educational institutions Bangor University Glyndwr University SPEN	No funding required	<p><i>Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 committed to consulting on a Public Behavioural Change Engagement Strategy during Summer 2022.</i></p>

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				WWU Welsh Government		
G	Identify a pipeline of regional energy project portfolios which maximise scope for attracting investment.	Medium term	Local Authorities Welsh Government	Ambition North Wales Bangor University Glyndwr University UK Government	Funding in place	<i>The development of LAEPs in each region will help to inform a pipeline of potential energy projects.</i> <i>The Growth Deal Smart Local Energy Project will gather information about regional projects that require funding support.</i>
I	Continue to engage key stakeholders on the development of a long-term plan for the energy networks across the region and Wales.	Ongoing	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	WWU SPEN	Funding in place	<i>The Future Grid for Wales Study is underway by Welsh Government, Energy Network Operators and Ofgem. It will be used alongside LAEPs to develop a Future Energy Plan for Wales by 2024.</i> <i>This project will also inform the future requirements of the Welsh Energy Grid and contribute to the delivery of Future Wales: the National Plan 2040, providing evidence to enable network operators to plan and build the networks that will be required for the Net Zero by 2050 target.</i> <i>SPEN have recently published a Network Development Plan which will help understand</i>

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						<i>the extent of investment and type of infrastructure required across North Wales.</i>
2A	Engage with Welsh Government to identify and build on opportunities that Ynni Cymru could provide to North Wales.	Medium term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Community Energy Wales	<i>No funding required</i>	There is the potential for the region to feed into the thinking around Ynni Cymru through Welsh Government and Community Energy Wales.
2B	Explore how to improve communication of available funding sources for the development and delivery of a range of low-carbon power generation projects (e.g., onshore, and offshore wind, solar PV, nuclear, and tidal and marine energy).	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government Energy Service	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>Not started.</i>
2C	Engage with UK Government to support the development of the Wylfa and Trawsfynydd sites for new nuclear projects: Identify the asks e.g., site selection process for new sites and updated National Policy Statements. Support regional submissions into the Nuclear Enabling Fund.	Short term	Local Authorities Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	UK Government Bangor University	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Nuclear power has been identified as a priority in the UK Government's Energy Security Strategy.</i> <i>Bangor University hosts the Nuclear Futures Institute, which aims to establish North Wales as a global centre in nuclear technology.</i> <i>There are advanced plans to establish a National Nuclear Thermal Hydraulics Facility in North Wales.</i>

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						<i>The Trawsfynydd Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Project is supported through the Growth Deal's Low Carbon Energy Programme.</i>
2D	Engage with Welsh Government to determine how increased local ownership of energy projects can be delivered in line with published guidance on local and shared ownership in Wales.	Short term	Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Guidance on local and shared ownership was published by Welsh Government in June 2022.</i>
2E	Explore the potential of establishing an advice hub to support regional decarbonisation / low carbon energy initiatives.	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities Ambition North Wales		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The most recent renewable energy deep dive recommends an easy to access advice service. Welsh Government's response is that it needs to progress consultation on the Warm Homes programme, public engagement campaign as part of net zero Wales and a national heat strategy due to be released for consultation in spring 2023 so that it can provide a clearer proposal for an advice service.</i> <i>Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed.</i> <i>UK Government has recently launched their advice offering with a home energy MOT available through a new online advice service</i>

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2F	<p>Maximise opportunities for public procurement to support the acceleration of renewable energy generation and secure local economic and social value.</p> <p>Ensure that public procurement strengthens local supply chains / local jobs (social value).</p> <p>Ask the supply chain to deliver against public sector carbon ambitions through procurement frameworks.</p>	Medium term	<p>Welsh Government Local Authorities</p> <p>Public sector bodies</p>	<p>Welsh Local Government Association Welsh Government</p> <p>Commercial Delivery</p>	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>In June 2022, the Social Partnership and Public Procurement Bill was laid before the Senedd by Welsh Government. The socially responsible procurement duty within the bill will seek to ensure that public spending on goods, works and services is done in a way that benefits everyone and does not only focus on cost. The bill will inform the delivery of this action.</i>
2G	<p>Maximise opportunities for community benefits funds from large energy infrastructure projects to support local and regional decarbonisation initiatives, recognising the need to target those communities and areas most impacted by such developments.</p>	Medium term	<p>Welsh Government</p> <p>Local Authorities</p>		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>There are a range of large energy infrastructure projects planned across North Wales, including offshore wind, nuclear, solar, and tidal.</i>
2J	<p>Engage with Welsh Government on the development of revenue</p>	Short term	Local Authorities		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Working Group that was formed to follow up the Renewable Energy Deep Dive Recommendations is responsible for reviewing</i>

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	support mechanisms for marine energy projects.		Ambition North Wales			<i>the barriers to financing renewable energy projects, and will establish connections between key stakeholders to inform this work. This is also currently being addressed through Welsh Government's Marine Energy Programme</i>
2K	Continue to explore the potential for tidal lagoon projects in North Wales.	Medium to long term	Welsh Government Ambition North Wales Local Authorities	Marine Energy Wales	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>The Welsh Government's Tidal Lagoon Challenge has been launched to obtain the appetite for developing proposals. This market engagement exercise is to ascertain if there is interest in any potential competition/procurement in the future to deliver a tidal lagoon capable of generating electricity with the winner(s) possibly receiving financial support from the Welsh Government.</i>
3A	Provide support and incentives for households to install energy efficiency measures and low-carbon heating systems, ensuring such support is targeted at those in fuel poverty and/or in most need.	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government Local Authorities Registered Social Landlords	Ofgem	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>NB. There are a broad range of Welsh Government programmes and plans that relate to this action, including Tackling fuel poverty strategy 2021 to 2035, the Innovative Housing Programme (IHP) and Optimised Retrofit Programme (ORP). There is also a commitment to publish a heat strategy for Wales in 2023. The UK Government's Heat and Buildings Strategy will also be relevant here.</i> <i>With regard to Social Housing, drawing on evidence from ORP, the new Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) 2022 will focus on</i>

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						<p><i>Fabric First principles and seek to bring all social housing as close as feasible to EPC A or equivalent within a decade.</i></p> <p><i>Initiatives such as the Welsh Government's Nest scheme has provided high-quality advice and information to householders to explore and realise their energy efficiency opportunities. Registered social landlords will engage and work with Community Housing Cymru (CHC) to progress this action.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government and Clwyd Alyn Housing Association have established of a Zero Carbon Housing Performance Hub to provide a central resource for net zero advice.</i></p> <p><i>An Energy Warden Scheme has already trialled collaboration of North Wales social landlords and learning from such schemes should inform this action.</i></p> <p><i>The Boiler Upgrade Grant provided through the UK Government may help property owners with upfront costs for shifting to low-carbon forms of heating.</i></p> <p><i>The Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) will run between 2022 and 2026 and requires energy suppliers to deliver a target of energy efficiency and heating measures to homes. ECO is focussed on low income, vulnerable and fuel poor households but with a focus on supporting the least energy efficient homes.</i></p>

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3B	Review existing and explore new potential financial mechanisms to support owner-occupiers and building owners seeking to undertake energy efficiency retrofit works.	Medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>For the owner-occupier sector, the Warm Homes Programme is the key delivery mechanism in this area. Since 2011, over £394m has been invested, benefitting more than 67,000 homes. Welsh Government will continue to fund the current programme until at least May 2023⁹.</i></p> <p><i>Consultation on the next iteration of the Warm Homes Programme⁸ ended in April 2022 and is currently being reviewed.</i></p> <p><i>Welsh Government will be working with UK Finance, The Development Bank of Wales and sector stakeholders to consider how we can develop and trial alternative finance products to support owner-occupiers undertaking retrofit works⁹.</i></p>
3C	Ensure PAS 2035 surveys and a clear plan for retrofit measures are prepared for individual social homes, in accordance with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS).	Medium term	Local Authorities (Stock holding) Registered Social Landlords	Welsh Government	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<p><i>As part of the WHQS, by 2023 a PAS 2035 survey (the Publicly Available Specification that lays out a consistent assessment for energy retrofit measures) and a clear plan for individual homes will be required.¹⁰</i></p>
3D	Review current support provision to tenants and landlords in the private-rented sector to ensure minimum energy efficiency	Medium term	UK Government Welsh Government		<i>Further work required to</i>	<p><i>The UK Government has completed a consultation on proposals to increase the minimum standard required for any property to be rented in the private-rented sector (PRS) to</i></p>

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	standards are met. Review enforcement provisions to ensure minimum statutory standards within the sector are achieved.		Local Authorities		<i>determine funding requirements</i>	<i>EPC C or above.¹¹ Current indications are that a formal response, followed by revised regulations will be published toward the end of 2022. Pending outcome of review, Welsh Government will review the support package available to landlords joining PRS Leasing Scheme to ensure it also supports fabric first improvements.</i>
4C	Collaborate on opportunities to decarbonise the public sector fleet, public service vehicles, and commercial and industrial fleets and the co-ordination of associated infrastructure design and development across local authority boundaries.	Medium term	Local Authorities	Ambition North Wales Welsh Government	<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Many North Wales public bodies have participated in recent fleet reviews and are preparing fleet transition plans. Several local authorities have already installed public electric vehicle charging alongside provision for fleet vehicles.</i>
4D	Work together to deliver the most appropriate electric vehicle public charging infrastructure across the region, aligning with national work being undertaken through Transport for Wales.	Short to medium term	Local Authorities Welsh Government	Transport for Wales SPEN	<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>There has been a roll-out of electric vehicle charging points via Welsh Government funding and SPEN Green Recovery Investment. The Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy outlines Welsh Government's vision for electric vehicle charging in Wales, and the Wales Transport Strategy commits to delivering this by 2040.</i>

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4E	Review the funding period and the length of contracts associated with the Local Transport Fund.	Short term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>No funding required</i>	<i>Not started.</i>
4G	Continue to support organisations such as local community car clubs to deliver community-oriented, low-carbon transport infrastructure and services.	Short to medium term	Welsh Government Local Authorities		<i>Further work required to determine funding requirements</i>	<i>The Wales Transport Strategy commits to moving away from individual vehicle ownership to shared solutions, including car-sharing and car clubs. The growth of such models and services is identified as a priority to be delivered within the next five years. Funding such as the Welsh Government Ultra-Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation Fund (ULEVTF) will be used to kick-start such initiatives.</i>