

BRIEFING NOTE 1: ENERGY INVESTMENT JUNE 2017

Development of a Local Energy Investment Strategy for Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is supporting LEPs to develop Local Energy Investment Strategies to help deliver Government's vision for energy described in their Industrial Strategy Green Paper including:

- Upgrading energy infrastructure to enable growth
- Building energy infrastructure to facilitate new technologies
- Delivering affordable energy and keeping costs down for businesses
- Delivering clean growth and securing the economic benefits of the transition to a low carbon economy
- Investing in science, research and innovation including energy storage and grid technologies
- Supporting businesses to start to grow

Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (GCGP LEP), New Anglia LEP and Hertfordshire LEP have been awarded £150K from BEIS to develop a Local Energy Investment Strategy by March 2018. The strategy will cover Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk, Suffolk and possibly Essex.

The GCGP LEP is leading the project. The Local Energy Investment Strategy will inform LEPs' Strategic Economic Plans, local decision making and future investment activity to help prioritise funds that will:

- Improve grid infrastructure
- Increase community energy capacity and storage
- Unlock smart grid opportunities
- Attract innovation investment e.g. battery technology
- Improve business and domestic energy efficiency
- Develop local electricity markets
- Increase EV ownership and smart grid integration

The initial work on the strategy will be mapping grid constraints, poorly connected areas, current and future energy demand, heat mapping, electric vehicle charge points, high growth areas for housing, commerce and Enterprise Zones and place this into a GIS package.

Future energy demand scenarios will be reviewed and modelled to identify the barriers to decentralised energy that facilitate housing, commercial growth and new technologies.

The final strategy will likely include an Energy Master Plan, support heavy energy users to reduce energy costs and provide a mechanism for the allocation of future funding. For further information please contact myself sheryl.french@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or paul.bourgeois@gcgp.co.uk at the GCGP LEP leading the development of the strategy.