

ESIF Priority Axis 4: Supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors - Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The objectives are to stimulate local research & development, innovation and to build the skills to enhance growth in the green economy in TVB. The development of local infrastructure and a strong performance in energy efficiency and renewable energy will boost the local economy in this respect. This will be achieved by creating exemplar facilities, and local centres of expertise which could dramatically accelerate the deployment of new, innovative technologies and the market share for Thames Valley Berkshire companies within the successful UK green economy.

The key objectives are to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises
- Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.

Activities

The types of activities that could be supported under our objectives are:

- **Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources**
 - Measures to support increased production of renewable fuels and energy, in particular wind energy, solar and biomass;
 - Support to build capability and capacity for supply chains in renewable energy;
 - Demonstration and deployment of renewable energy technologies;
 - Measures to support the wider deployment of renewable heat, including microgeneration, geothermal, renewable heat networks or district heating, ground source and air source heat pumps, and biomass systems with associated heat off-take and heat distribution networks along with recycling processing reprocessing and remanufacturing facilities; and
 - Anaerobic digestion plants and other biomass or landfill gas schemes.

- **Promote energy efficiency and renewable use in enterprise:**

- Enhanced advice, support, information and action to promote innovation in businesses and how they operate, in order to deliver best practice in energy management. This will include innovation in energy efficiency and energy cost reduction to improve businesses' competitiveness and resilience;
- Support to businesses to undertake 'green' diagnostics or audits of energy efficiency and potential for renewable generation and energy use, which will be followed by provision of energy efficiency information and guidance, tailored energy action plans and of support to implement them;
- Investing in energy efficiency measures, processes and renewable generation capacity to improve a business' or building's environmental performance or its resilience to the impacts of climate change;
- Investing in measures to stimulate cost-effective deep renovations of buildings, including staged deep renovations;
- Supporting an increase in energy efficiency in enterprises including an emphasis on "whole place" especially through improving industrial processes, designing out waste, recovery of "waste" heat energy and CHP;
- Supporting increased SME access to national and local government procured contracts for energy efficient goods and services;
- Developing low carbon innovation in relation to energy efficiency within enterprises, including through technologies and engagement practices;
- Building retrofit and energy efficiency measures, especially whole building solutions to exemplify, and support the commercialisation of, next phase technologies which are near to market and low carbon construction techniques to improve the energy efficiency of buildings.

- **Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector:**

- Provision of advice and support to increase the use and take up of low carbon technologies, energy efficiency measures, renewable energy technologies and smart energy systems in housing stock and public buildings
- Supporting low carbon innovation in relation to the integrated 'whole place' energy management approach including energy waste and re-use
- Investing in building retrofit, energy efficiency measures, renewable and smart energy systems deployment, especially whole building or place solutions exemplifying next phase technologies which are near to markets
- Investing in domestic energy efficiency, renewable energy and smart construction techniques;
- Investment in the development and wider use of Energy Performance Contracting in the public buildings and housing sectors.