



Module 1: LDF / plan making evidence base and implementation of the Yorkshire and Humber Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Study 2011. Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, Leeds.

## Group Activity – Using Evidence to Inform Policy Development

### Purpose of the Activity

To enable participants to understand how evidence is used to identify:

- The potential for renewable energy in a district;
- The main opportunity areas and primary constraints; and
- The types of policies and policy tools they can develop.

### The activity

A summary is provided of the evidence on renewable energy for a local authority district.

Your group should divide the evidence between members (the sections of evidence are noted on the front page of the case study) consider the evidence available, and based on this develop an outline policy / set of policies on renewable energy. The specific wording is less important- in the time available it is better that you set out the overall direction and nature of the policy.

You have been provided with a template to record your groups answers. Do not worry if you cannot complete all the parts of the template, not all case studies contain the information to do so.

### Structure and Main Considerations

#### 1. Evidence

*Set out the main issues and points from the summary of evidence.*

Points to consider include:

- The main characteristics of the district in relation to renewable energy, and the likely wider policy priorities;
- The interrelationship between the regional evidence base and local studies – what does each tell you?;
- The particular areas of potential, or issues, where local evidence has provided a more detailed picture;
- The main opportunities for renewable energy;
- The main constraints identified, their nature (including designations);

- Cross-boundary issues;
- Gaps in the evidence;
- The role of Sustainability Appraisal; and
- The role of stakeholder engagement.

## 2. Objectives

*Set out the main policy objectives in relation to renewable energy- i.e. what is the policy intended to achieve?*

How might these objectives relate to other main policy objectives for the plan?

## 3. Policy

*Set out which policy tools you would propose, and what the main direction and nature of each would be*

The range of policy tools *could* include (you do not need to use all of these):

- Overall aims, objectives and strategic priorities of the Core Strategy
- Targets for renewable energy generation;
- Targets for CHP;
- Core Strategy policy on grid-connected renewable energy
- Core Strategy policy / site specific policies on requirements for percentage of energy for new developments to be provided by on-site renewable
- Supplementary Planning Document on renewable energy
- Use of "key diagram" type maps
- Use of proposal maps
- Site Allocations
- Use of Local Development Orders
- Implications for other policies and allocations
- Monitoring framework.

## 4. Justification

*Set out the main points you would use to justify the policy position.*

Are there any risks in terms of soundness?