

SSF Final Report July 2021

Carbon Pathways (C-Path)

Project Description

Carbon Pathway (C-Path) is a dynamic cloud-based resource that would be used to design, facilitate, accelerate, and monitor investment in the Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Economy (LCREE), in partnership with and accessible to public and private bodies across the SE LEP region. Focused on supporting initiatives across all 4 federated areas

Expected Project Outputs (as set out in SSF Application)

- i. An accessible and constantly evolving data store of multiple relevant data sources, with automated, scheduled updates.
- ii. A flexible build and appraisal tool enabling stakeholders to develop & invest in energy and related schemes to meet challenging policy and strategic goals
- iii. Modelling and machine-learning to forecast the full range of impacts – e.g., economic growth, carbon reduction, financial impact, job creation, fuel poverty and local health
- iv. Automated programme appraisal to enable the monitoring and updating of a scheme in delivery mode, ensuring real-time reporting of actual impacts and a continuous cycle of learning

Final Outputs Delivered

The project is now complete. The platform is now accessible, via secure login, at platform.c-path.com. Every local and county authority within the SELEP can now request a login from the project team. The project team at Daedalus/Via are continuing to make updates and improvements beyond the project period, responding to requests and updates from local authorities and in response to ongoing testing, but this is above and beyond the original project scope and spend. In terms of functionality and underpinning technology, the end product considerably outperforms the original proposal, enabling greater responsiveness, speed and ability to develop the platform for wider audiences and sectors.

Expected Project Benefits (as set out in SSF Application)

Improved evidence base for decision making - Up to three separate bids to be supported by C-Path, although this might end up being 1 larger bid to support scale economies.

Increased strategic co-operation - C-Path will be available to all 35 local authorities and districts, as well as Tier 1 authorities – and the more each authority is involved the more benefit they will gain from the increased quality of the outputs.

Increased strategic co-operation between public and private sectors - On top of the local authority base, 2 SMEs, core to the project, the health sector, central government, technology providers, sectoral agencies and the wider LCREE supply chain will be working together to deliver the project – a total of around 10 organisations.

Improved intelligence to drive efficiency in decision making and political support - Speed is now of the essence in decision making around funding and investment to support the climate emergency. Individual local authorities making informed decisions based on manual access to and manipulation of data typically take 3-6 months. 35 local authorities plus Tier 1 authorities using C-Path could

generate the evidence needed to make informed decisions to a matter of days, with live sensitivity analysis

Reduced resources needed by the public purse to support funding and investment bids - Engagement has shown that securing the evidence to support wider funding bids – externally and internally – can be time consuming, inaccurate, and often incomplete. Having live, accessible data will significantly minimise this time.

Reputational benefits to the SE LEP - Reputational benefits to the SE LEP

Supply chain opportunities and economic growth - Improving the chances of securing funding, driving activity and opportunity in LCREE is a significant kick start to the local SME base, and C-Path will be able to support that process – giving access to SMEs to deliver works and demonstrate their performance in a clear and transparent way. C-Path will include economic and social impact indicators that will then – eventually – be able to quantify this benefit

Update on delivery of project benefits. Which benefits have been realised to date?

The benefits identified in the bid will come to fruition once each LA has access to, and uses, the C-Path platform. C-Path is now available to every LA, with county-level (Tier 1) access for Essex, Kent and East Sussex being developed. The platform has, for example, already been used by Sevenoaks DC to support a bid under the Sustainable Warmth fund (LAD3 and HUG), with the data analysis and targeting undertaken in less than one day.

At the time of writing the following LA's have user accounts for C-Path.

Area	Area
Folkestone and Hythe	Kent
Gravesham	Kent
Maidstone	Kent
East Sussex	County / East Sussex
Tonbridge and Malling	Kent
Colchester	Essex
Chelmsford	Essex
Thanet	Kent
Canterbury	Kent
Essex	County / Essex
Dartford	Kent
Swale	Kent
Sevenoaks	Kent

Tunbridge Wells	Kent
Medway	Unitary / Medway
Ashford	Kent
Dover	Kent
Maldon	Essex
Uttlesford	Essex
Basildon	Essex