

# Sustainable Development Update

Emma Bridge, Chief Executive's  
Directorate

# Overview

- UK Government 5 point plan
- Key government announcements
- Dearne Valley Eco-Vision
- Local progress

# Five Point Plan

1. Protecting the public from immediate risk
2. Preparing for the future
3. Limiting the severity of future climate change through a new international agreement
4. Building a low carbon UK
5. Supporting individuals, communities and businesses to play their part

# UK Low Carbon Transition Plan White Paper

UK's first ever comprehensive low carbon transition plan to 2020.

Key steps include:

- All major UK Government departments allocated own carbon budget
- 40% of electricity from low carbon sources by 2020 with policies to:
  - Produce around 30% of our electricity from renewables by 2020
  - Fund up to four demonstrations of CCS
  - Facilitate the building of new nuclear power stations.
- Clarifying that Ofgem should help tackle climate change and ensure security of supply

# UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (2)

- Making homes greener by:
  - £3.2 billion to help households become more energy efficient
  - Rolling out smart meters in every home by the end of 2020
  - Piloting “pay as you save”
  - Introducing clean energy cash-back schemes
  - Competition for 15 towns, cities and villages
- Helping the most vulnerable by:
  - Creating mandated social price support
  - Piloting a community-based approach to delivering green homes in low income areas
  - Increasing the level of Warm Front grants
- Up to £120 million investment in offshore wind
- £60 million for marine energy

# UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (3)

- Cutting average carbon dioxide emissions from new cars across the EU by 40% on 2007 levels
- Largest demonstration project for new electric cars
- Sourcing 10% of UK transport energy from sustainable renewable sources by 2020
- Tackling emissions from farming
- Producing a longer term roadmap by next spring
- Vision for a smart grid
- Setting out the Government's assessment of the outlook for energy security

# Renewable Energy Strategy

- 15% of UK energy from renewable sources by 2020
- Greater financial support
- Swifter delivery and removing barriers
- New resources and technologies

# Low Carbon Industrial Strategy

- Builds on *Building Britain's Future: New Industry, New Jobs*
- Global market for LCEGS - £3trillion  
£4.3trillion by 2015
- UK - £106bn, 880,000 people employed
- Removing barriers
- Developing economic activity
- Growing innovative businesses
- A low carbon transition



# Implications for Local Authorities

- Identify the best potential for low carbon community-scale solutions in their area
- Greater adoption of renewables in the public sector
- Strategic decisions about skills need
- Some additional funding (i.e. through Salix and LCBP)...

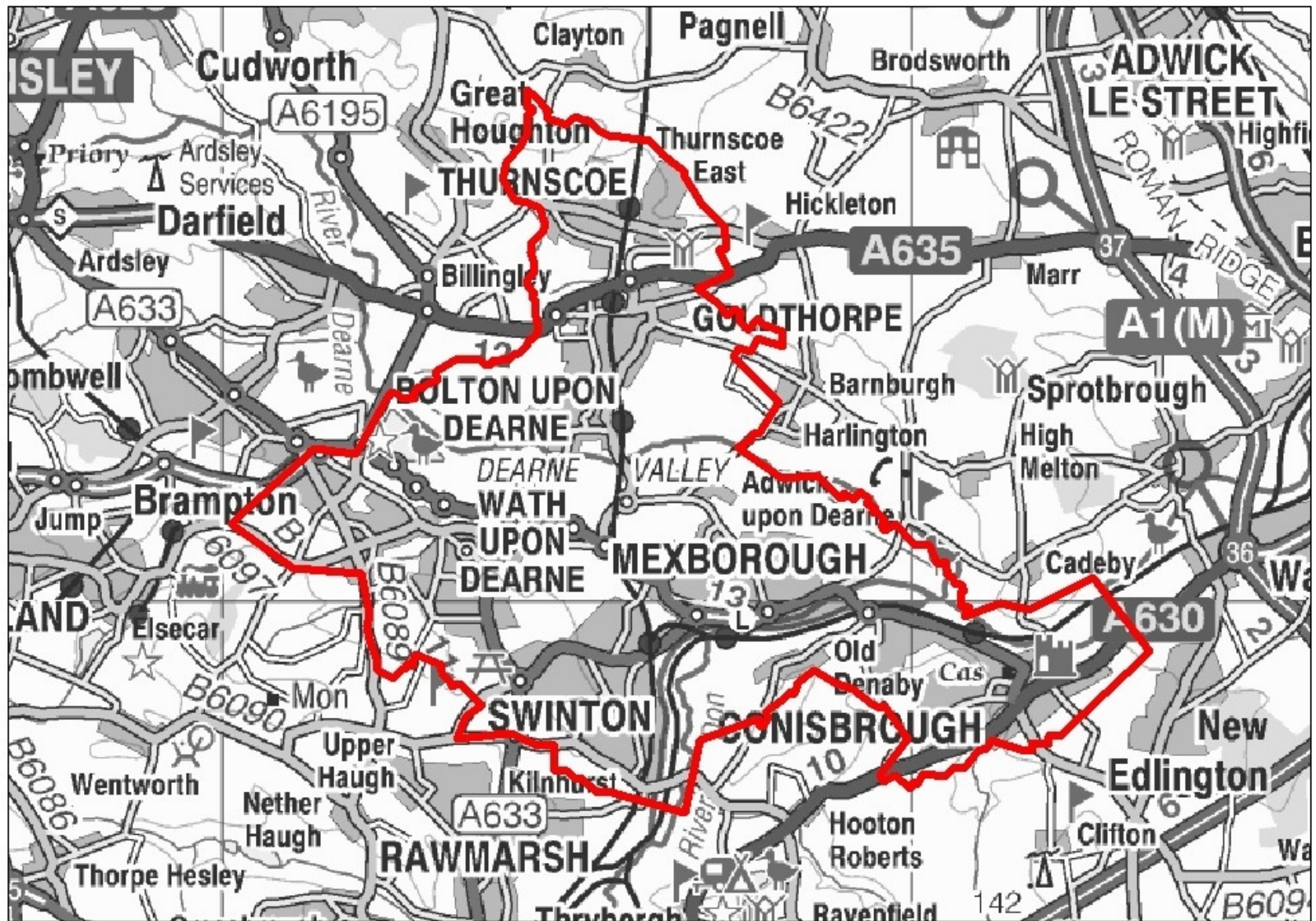
- Monthly policy updates on RMBC website

([http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/graphics/YourCouncil/Policy+Research+and+Community+Engagement/\\_SD+PolicyUpdates.htm](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/graphics/YourCouncil/Policy+Research+and+Community+Engagement/_SD+PolicyUpdates.htm))

# Dearne Valley eco-vision

*“The Dearne will be a pioneer in the Sheffield City Region grasping the opportunities and applying the solutions needed to reduce the community’s CO<sub>2</sub> emissions such that the Dearne becomes the lowest carbon community of its type in the UK.”*

## Dearne Valley - Core Area



# Dearne Valley eco-vision

- Making a transition from carbon production to carbon reduction in 3 big steps:
  - Nurturing ecological awareness and know how
  - Growing a low carbon infrastructure
  - Natural regeneration of the landscape

# What this means for the Dearne Valley

- More energy efficient homes – cutting fuel bills and helping the planet
- Improved public transport – less reliance on the car
- Training opportunities in skills to address climate change – improving job prospects
- More businesses specialising in environmental technologies attracted to the Dearne creating new job opportunities



# DV – Next steps

- Meetings with key individuals/organisations
- Set up new structure of groups
- Dedicated Dearne Valley project team
- Develop Action Plan to turn ideas into reality
- Alignment with existing strategies, initiatives and investment programmes
- Feasibility of new projects
- Engage communities in helping to shape the action plan
- Communications Strategy being developed
- Out to consultation in summer 09

# World Environment Day...