



## WMCA Net Zero Neighbourhoods Blog October 2024

### Exciting Opportunities as more Net Zero Neighbourhoods prepare to launch

The Net Zero Neighbourhoods (NZN) initiative in the West Midlands is ramping up, and we're thrilled to share the latest developments and opportunities with you! As our programme transitions towards the delivery phase, now is the perfect time to showcase what we've been up to and how you can get involved in shaping a more sustainable future.

### What is a Net Zero Neighbourhood?

A Net Zero Neighbourhood is a community where, through integrated strategies like demand reduction, clean energy generation, low-carbon or active travel projects, and enhancing public green spaces, emissions are minimised. At the heart of this initiative is community co-production, where citizens take an active role in co-designing their community's journey to Net Zero. This grassroots approach ensures that the vision for each neighbourhood is inclusive and tailored to the specific requirements and aspirations of local people.

### What We've Achieved So Far

Since the programme launched in 2021, we've made significant progress:

- Seven Net Zero Neighbourhood plans have been developed—one for each of our constituent local authorities
- The Brockmoor project in Dudley is in the delivery phase, supported by £1.6 million in funding from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).
- Our work has played a critical role in securing additional funding, including support from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) to lead a Local Net Zero Accelerator (LNZA).

With funding from the LNZA programme, we're expanding even further. Six more Net Zero Neighbourhoods in Birmingham, Coventry, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall, and Wolverhampton are set to begin with community engagement activities to co-design projects with local citizens.



Email us at:  
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#### Why Should You Get Involved?

If your company has innovative technologies or solutions that could help us achieve Net Zero at a neighbourhood level, we want to hear from you. This is an exciting opportunity to showcase your tech, collaborate with a large-scale project, and contribute to the transformation of communities across the West Midlands. Whether you specialize in clean energy, smart infrastructure, or low-carbon mobility, we are looking to partner with cutting-edge solutions that can help us meet our ambitious goals. By partnering with our project delivery teams, you can become a vital part of this pioneering initiative.

#### Let's Connect!

This is an exciting time to join the Net Zero Neighbourhoods programme. If you're interested in learning more or want to explore partnership opportunities, please reach out to us. We'd love to discuss how we can work together to create a better connected, more prosperous, fairer, greener, and healthier West Midlands.

Email us at:  
[NetZeroNeighbourhoods@wmca.org.uk](mailto:NetZeroNeighbourhoods@wmca.org.uk)

#### Meet the Team:

**Ayushi Vyas: NZN Programme Manager**  
Programme lead, responsible for the delivery of our 7 demonstrator projects.

#### **Fatima Ali: Energy Projects Officer**

Leading on our NZN communications programme, quality assurance and our interactions with the wider LNZA programme.

#### **Alex Gordon: Energy Projects Officer**

Leading on monitoring and evaluation, how we are measuring the impacts and outcomes from our projects.

#### **Rohil Aurora: Impact Graduate**

Leading on the NZN community offer, connecting community groups with additional funding and support.

We are all thrilled to be working on this impactful programme, and proud to represent 7 fantastic projects, which will delivering real, lasting, change to lives across the region. None of our work would be possible without our colleagues in Local Authorities. If you would like to speak to them about specific projects, please get in touch and we can make introductions.

