



Gloucestershire Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Report Title:	Green jobs and skills
Meeting Date:	31 st March 2022
Chair:	Cllr Matt Babbage
Presenting Officer:	Lisa McCance (interim support at GCC)
Purpose of Report:	A background paper to support officers presenting at Scrutiny, it explores the green economy, focusing on green jobs and skills and understanding where the potential for growth may be in the medium and long-term.
Planned Dates	N/A
Background documents:	N/A
Appendices	N/A
Recommendations	To note the contents of this paper.

Background

This paper seeks to set out the current position regarding work across the county on the green economy as well as setting out data to highlight green jobs growth.

This paper will be given a short introduction at the Scrutiny meeting followed by a presentation from Rachel Brain (2030 Strategy Manager at Stroud District Council), Julian Atkins (Countywide Climate Change Coordinator) and Simon Pickering (Ecotricity); Rachel and Simon also Co-chairing the Energy Sector Business Group for Gfirst LEP. It is then proposed that the discussion is focused around two core questions:

- What does Green Economy mean in Gloucestershire?
- What is our strategic approach to shaping it?

Context

The county, districts and Gfirst LEP all have a contribution to make to ensuring that zero-carbon targets are met in the future. At a central government level, current and emerging policy is signalling a more level playing field for all communities and places as we emerge from the pandemic. It includes a Ten Point Plan (2020) to build a greener economy, with a pledge to create 250,000 new green jobs by 2030 and the Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener (2021). The government also established a Green Jobs Taskforce which was charged with setting the direction for the job market as we “transition to a high-skill, low carbon economy” along with green job creation and stimulus packages from government.

At a county-level, the county council, districts, other public sector partners, the Gfirst LEP and the Local Nature Partnership have established Climate Leadership Gloucestershire. This group feeds into Leadership Gloucestershire to ensure priorities and activities are aligned. Contained within the terms of reference is the aim to raise the profile and level of action on climate change within the county. This will be done through four objectives including:

1. To develop and own a countywide action plan to tackle the most strategic and cross cutting climate change issues for Gloucestershire.
2. To integrate climate considerations into the plans and strategies developed by partners.
3. To provide a collective voice and leadership on action needed at a national level to support local delivery on climate action.
4. To present visible leadership on climate action for the county, raising awareness and promoting action by residents and organisations in Gloucestershire.

Across Climate Leadership Gloucestershire, there are 10 themes, with a different partner or group of partners leading on each theme.

Adaptation theme – lead Gloucester City Council
Transport theme – lead Gloucestershire County Council
Biodiversity theme – lead Gloucestershire Local Nature Partnership
Retrofit theme – lead Stroud District Council
Planning theme – lead Cheltenham Borough Council
Behaviour change theme – lead Police and NHS
Economy theme – lead G-First LEP
Energy theme – lead Forest of Dean District Council
Waste theme – lead Tewksbury District Council
Food and farming theme – lead Cotswold District Council

Green Jobs in Gloucestershire

There are multiple approaches to defining the jobs within the green economy, and many believe that all jobs in the future will have a green dimension.

However, there is a country-wide shortage of skills to support the further development of the green economy. This is in part as consumer behaviour has not yet reached a level of demanding green goods, technologies and service at the scale required to reach zero carbon targets.

As a start point for this discussion, this paper sets out an estimation of the total number of low-carbon jobs required and the associated skills demands to support the transition to net zero by 2030 and 2050. It follows the methodology created by the Local Government Association's work on the Low Carbon Renewable Energy Economy (LCREE) and maps it across Standard industrial classification of economic activities codes (SIC).

The data should be considered an indicator of where efforts to support the green economy should focus alongside the local intelligence and industry experts.

What is the data telling us?

The LGA research concluded that 694,000 direct jobs will be created in the LCREE by 2030 in England, rising to 1.18m by 2050.¹ This dataset has been used to consider growth in the green economy in Gloucestershire.

Fig1 below shows the number of Low Carbon Renewable Energy Economy (LCREE) jobs projected to be in Gloucestershire by sector in 2030 and 2050, and the percentage change between the 2 years. Gloucestershire is projected to have 12,584 LCREE jobs by 2030 and is expected to rise by 61% to 20,263 LCREE jobs by 2050. The increase in Gloucestershire is projected to be lower than the regional (69%) and national (70%) figures for the same time period.

Also from the graph, it is evident that the top primary LCREE employment generating sector for Gloucestershire is the Low-carbon electricity sector. This sector is projected to account for more than half of all LCREE jobs in the county, 55% of all

¹ [Local green jobs - accelerating a sustainable economic recovery | LG Inform](#)

LCREE jobs in 2030 and 56% in 2050. Jobs in this sector are expected to rise 64% from 6,901 jobs in 2030 to 11,335 jobs in 2050. The largest percentage rise is expected in the Low-carbon services sector between the 2 years, by 181%, with LCREE jobs in this sector expected to rise from 521 jobs in 2030 to 1,465 jobs in 2050. However, this sector accounts for only a small proportion of total LCREE jobs in the county, 4% in 2030 and 7% in 2050.

Fig1

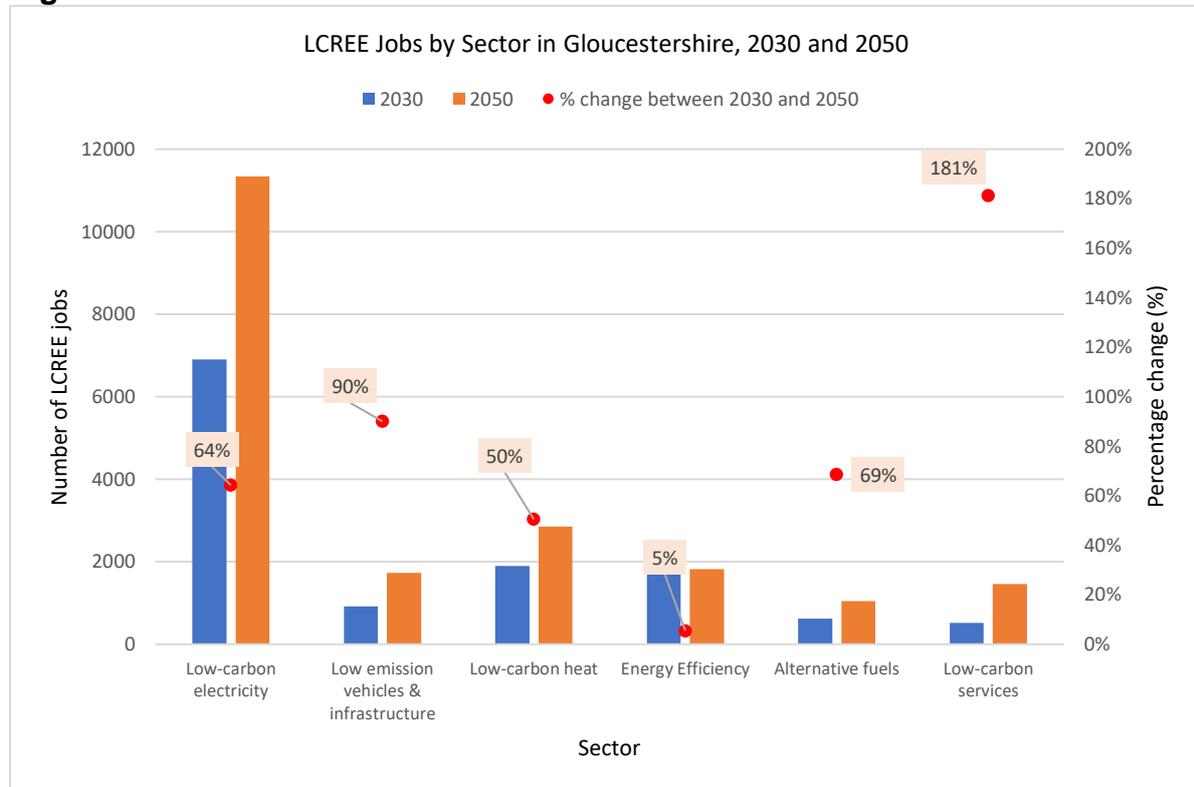


Fig2 displays the number of estimated LCREE jobs by sector in 2030 and 2050 for Gloucestershire, the South West region, and England. The LGA data suggests that Gloucestershire will have a higher proportion of green jobs in the Low-carbon electricity sector compared to the South West region and England. In contrast, projected jobs in the Low-carbon services and Low emission vehicles sectors are expected to make up a larger proportion of total LCREE jobs regionally and nationally in comparison to the county.

Fig2

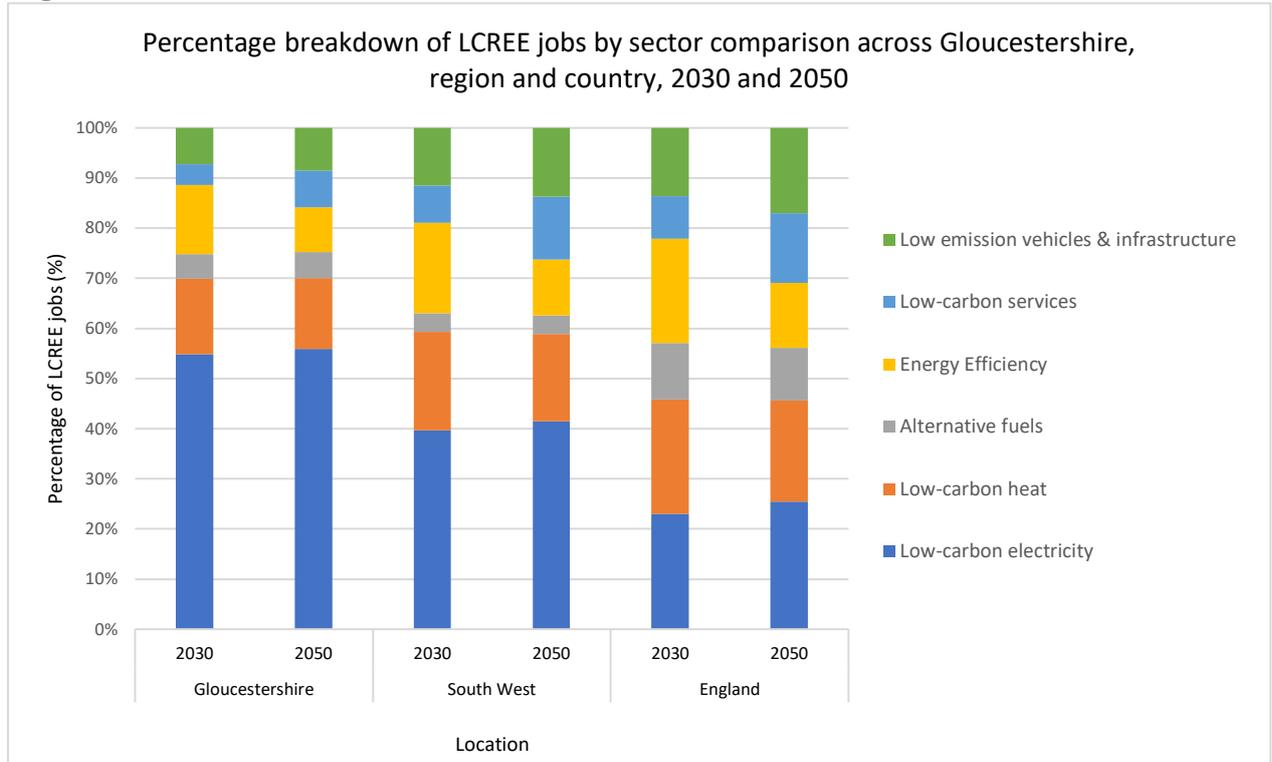


Fig3 shows LCREE job projections by district in Gloucestershire. Looking at LCREE projections by districts shows some areas within the county are expected to have more green jobs than others in the future. Gloucester is anticipated to have the highest number of LCREE jobs within the county across both years, accounting for 45% of total LCREE jobs across the county in 2030 and 44% in 2050. All districts are projected to see their number of LCREE jobs rise by at least 50% between 2030 and 2050, with Tewkesbury expected to see the largest rise of 83% and Cotswold the lowest at 54%.

Fig3

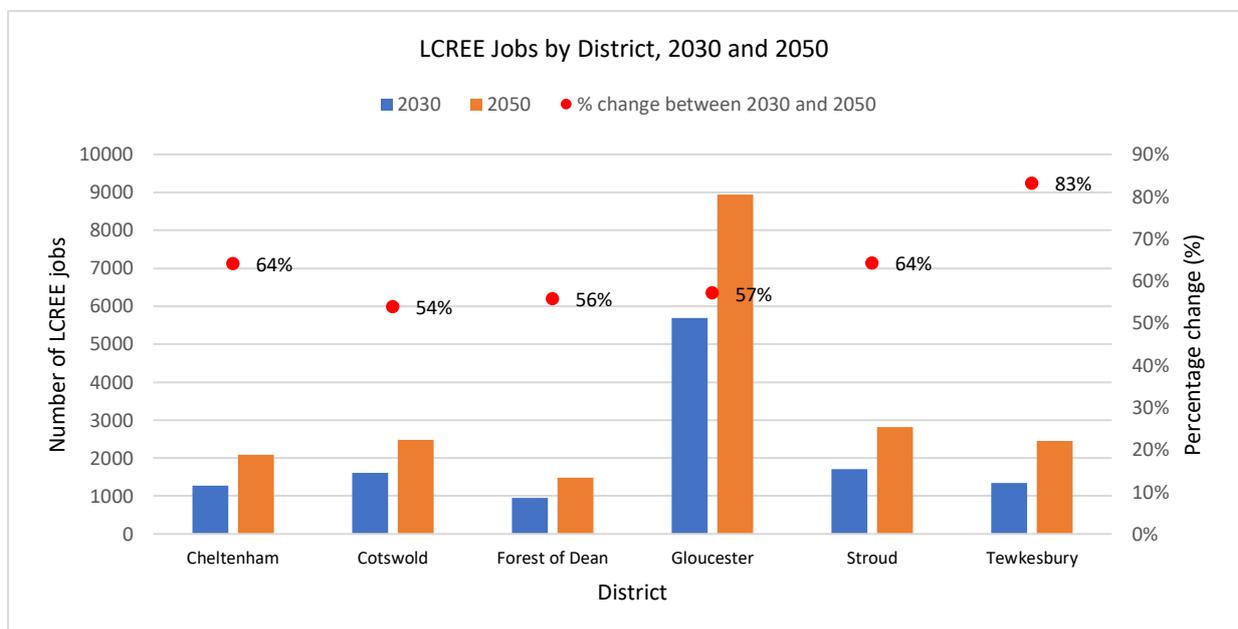


Fig4 shows LCREE jobs in Gloucestershire and its geographical neighbours. Gloucestershire is projected to have the highest number of jobs in 2030 and 2050 in comparison with its neighbours, with Oxfordshire and Bristol having the next highest number of LCREE jobs amongst the comparison group. However, other areas are projected to see larger increases in their number of LCREE jobs between 2030 and 2050, with Gloucestershire’s projected increase of 61% only higher than those of Herefordshire (53%) and Worcestershire (59%).

Fig4

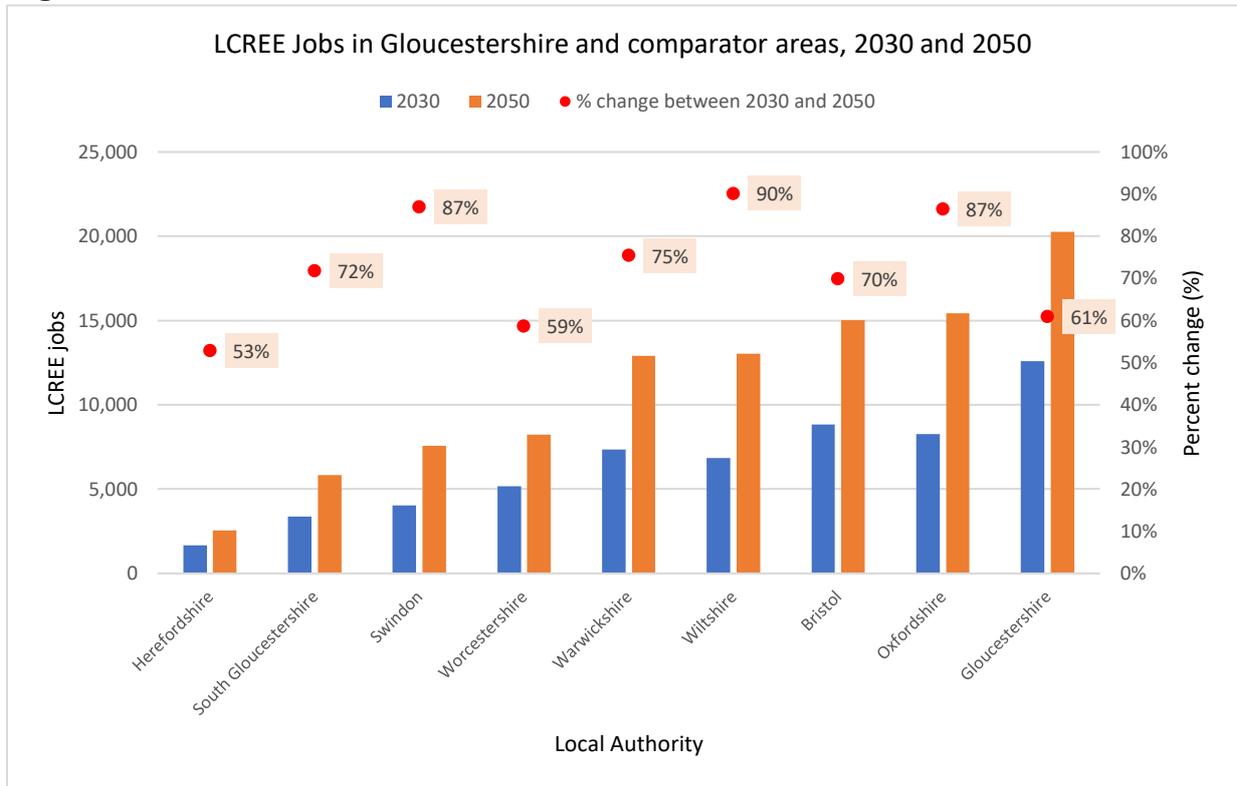
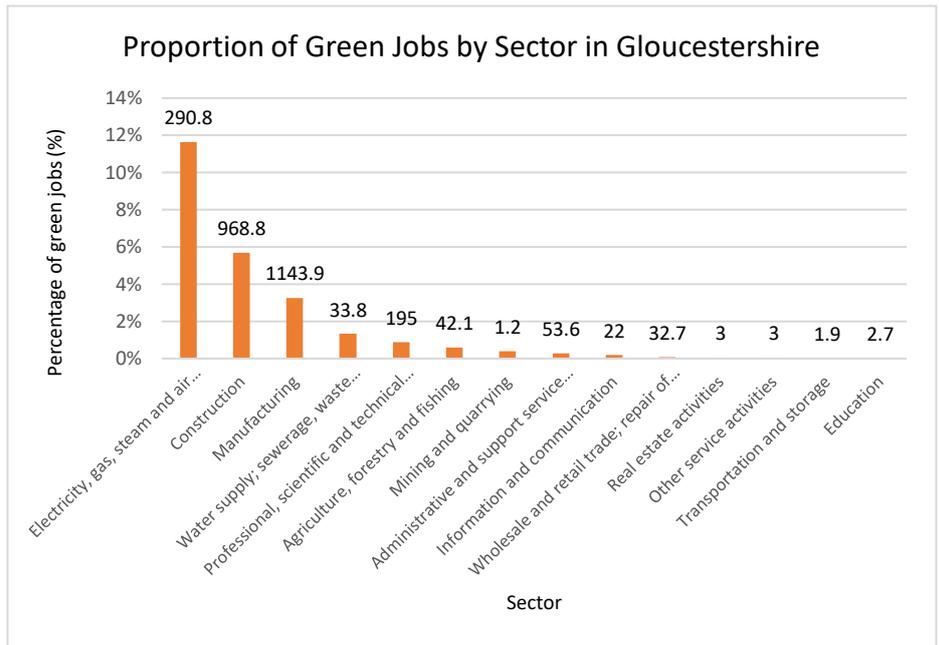


Fig5

Using LCREE estimates for 2018, and assuming that green jobs by Standard industrial classification of economic activities codes (SIC) are spread proportionally around the country – it is evident that approximately 12% of jobs in the Electricity, gas and air conditioning sub-sectors in Gloucestershire are green.² The construction sector has the second highest proportion of green jobs, with just under six per cent (5.7%) being low



carbon and renewable energy jobs. Manufacturing has the third highest with 3.3%. However, the manufacturing sector is the largest green employment sector in Gloucestershire with 1,144 green jobs followed by Construction (969) and the Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning sector (291).

² [Nomis - Official Labour Market Statistics \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/)