

## **ADEPT South West Climate Change Workshop 30 January 2020**

The South West Board held the second regional Climate Change workshop in Bath on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The event was well attended with over 30 delegates from Councils across the South West. There was an engaging range of speakers from the ADEPT Environment Board, the LGA and Ashden who introduced their Climate Action Co-benefits toolkit. Delegates then heard from Bristol City Council, Devon County Council and Plymouth City Council on their approaches to tackling climate change including some of the challenges faced as well as the initiatives that are working well. This led to an interesting panel discussion on how to address future skills gaps in industries that will help to accelerate the decarbonisation agenda.

The second part of the morning was a thought-provoking facilitated session considering the most effective actions being taken to cut carbon emissions, overcome barriers, identify future opportunities for joint working across the South West and identify the top 3 asks of government. There was a lot of consensus in the room around the headline asks which included additional funding and more long term funding mechanisms that align to the target of 2030, updating the green book guidance to deliver on carbon reduction, and creating a department for climate change if the government really want to demonstrate that they are taking this agenda seriously.

ADEPT, the LGA and NGOs have a key role to play in providing a coherent and co-ordinated set of policy proposals. Cross party engagement was also considered as vital. A full report on the workshop will be available in due course.