

August 2021

Ms Tracy Brabin
Mayor of West Yorkshire
West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Wellington House
40-50 Wellington Street
Leeds
LS1 2DE

Dear Tracy,

First of all, many congratulations on your appointment as Mayor of West Yorkshire.

I have been asked, by the Climate Emergency Committee of Todmorden Town Council to contact you about the potential for generating electricity from the fast flowing streams in the hills above Todmorden. This part of West Yorkshire and Lancashire benefitted greatly from the hydroelectric power generated in the 19th and early 20th Centuries which powered the cotton industry.

Fast forward to today, virtually no hydroelectric power is generated locally and yet, with climate change, there is a need for investment in forms of energy that are not based on fossil fuels. A separate issue is that of fuel poverty, which is considerable in a town like Todmorden.

The size of investment required for implementing a strategy power generation using the fast flowing waters of the area is outside the range of activities that could be considered by a Town Council such as that of Todmorden. However, it could be possible with an organisation the size of West Yorkshire. The Climate Emergency Committee would be very interested in hearing your thoughts about this and whether it fits in with the agenda you have for West Yorkshire.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Miles
Assistant Town Clerk

