



WMCA Board

Date: Friday 21 July 2017

Time: 11.00 am **Public meeting** Yes

Venue: Mosedale Suite, West Midlands Fire Service, 99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham, B7 4HW

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact:

Contact Dan Essex, Governance Services Manager
Telephone 0121 214 7505
Email dan.essex@wmca.org.uk

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
Items of Public Business			
5.	The Mayor and WMCA Structures - Update	Chair	1 - 4
6.	The West Midlands Leadership Commission	Chair	5 - 8

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WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board Meeting

Date	21 July 2017
Report title	Update: The Mayor and WMCA Structures
Portfolio Lead	Andy Street - Mayor of the West Midlands
Accountable Chief Executive	Martin Reeves, Interim Chief Executive, WMCA email: martin.reeves@coventry.gov.uk tel: (024) 7683 3232
Accountable Employee	Andrew Browning, Chief of Staff to the Mayor, WMCA email: andrew.browning@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 0963
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Board - 23 June 2017

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:

1. Endorse the proposed development of WMCA structures in order to deliver the priorities of the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To share the Mayor's proposed approach to the WMCA structures to deliver the priorities of the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The previous paper to the WMCA Board confirmed the roles of the Portfolio Leads, Local Enterprise Partnerships, the Business Advisory Group, the WMCA Executive, Mayoral Taskforces, the Mayoral Office, WMCA Commissions and WMCA Committees.
- 2.2 As the new WMCA executives are appointed and as the Mayoral structures evolve, this paper updates the WMCA Board on developments.

3.0 Appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the WMCA

- 3.1 The appointment of Deborah Cadman, currently Chief Executive Officer at Suffolk County Council, as the new Chief Executive Officer of the WMCA was announced on 27 June 2017.
- 3.2 She will take over from the Interim Chief Executive Officer, Martin Reeves, later in the year.
- 3.3 The WMCA and the Mayor take opportunity to thank Martin Reeves for his work for the region and the organisation during his time as Interim Chief Executive Officer.

4.0 Midlands Engine Governance and the WMCA

- 4.1 The Midlands Engine is a vital partner in the work of the WMCA to promote the West Midlands region around the world.
- 4.2 The governance arrangements of the Midlands Engine are being refreshed and the Chairman, Sir John Peace, wrote to the Mayor on 5 July 2017 inviting the Mayor to become a member of the Midlands Engine Executive Board, representing the WMCA.
- 4.3 A role on this high-level decision-making Board provides a mechanism by which the WMCA can make sure that our work, and the work of the Midlands Engine are aligned, and that the Midlands Engine will serve the needs of the WMCA.
- 4.4 The Mayor proposes to accept this role and sit as the WMCA representative on the Midlands Engine Executive Board, subject to the approval of the wider WMCA.

5.0 Funding for Growth Programme

- 5.1 A WMCA Funding for Growth Programme has been established, which will examine the ways in which more funding can be brought into the region to enable us to achieve our ambitious shared goals.
- 5.2 See further details in the Board paper titled, '*WMCA Funding for Growth Programme*'.

6.0 West Midlands Leadership Commission

6.1 A WMCA Leadership Commission will be established, which will explore how we can realise our commitment to sharing the prosperity, success and in particular the leadership of the West Midlands with all of the diverse communities in the region.

6.2 See further details in the Board paper titled, '*West Midlands Leadership Commission*'.

7.0 Financial implications

7.1 No request for extra financial resources above what has been budgeted for 2017/18 is being made in this paper. Details of the financial request for the Funding for Growth Programme are detailed in a separate paper.

7.2 There may be further financial requirements, for example, to support the Leadership Commission, but these will be approved through the WMCA Board or the proper delegated authority.

8.0 Legal implications

8.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

9.0 Equalities implications

9.1 The Leadership Commission's purpose is to increase the representation of women and the diverse communities of the West Midlands in leadership positions across the WMCA.

9.2 There are no other equalities implications arising from this report.

10.0 Appendices

None

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WMCA Board Meeting

Date	21 July 2017
Report title	The West Midlands Leadership Commission
Portfolio Lead	Cohesion and Integration - Councillor Steve Eling
Accountable Chief Executive	Martin Reeves, Interim Chief Executive, WMCA email: martin.reeves@coventry.gov.uk tel: (024) 7683 3232
Accountable Employee	Meera Sonecha, Policy Advisor to the Mayor, WMCA email: meera.sonecha@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7453
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Board

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

1. Endorse the establishment of the West Midlands Leadership Commission and commit to supporting its important work in spreading opportunity in the region.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The West Midlands Leadership Commission seeks to improve the opportunities for people from those communities and groups which are currently under-represented in the leadership of the West Midlands. This should contribute to ensuring the leadership of the future is representative of the region it serves.

2.0 Background

2.1 There are many groups whose members are under-represented in leadership positions across the West Midlands in all sectors, including:

- Black and minority ethnic (BME)
- White working-class boys
- Women
- LGBT
- Disabled people

2.2 The leadership of the wider WMCA itself (including LEPs, Executives, Commissions, Taskforces etc.) has come under scrutiny for its own composition, and the Mayor has committed to exploring what lies behind this and taking appropriate action.

2.3 This under-representation can lead to disaffection and feelings of isolation within these communities, and can limit aspiration. We should address this as, while we are a diverse region we also a socially and economically divided region and to be a successful and thriving region in the twenty-first century, we need to make the most of the talent and potential that we have in the region.

3.0 The Establishment of a West Midlands Leadership Commission

3.1 The establishment of a West Midlands Leadership Commission will allow the WMCA to lead this important work.

3.2 The Leadership Commission will:

- Understand the current representation of these groups in leadership positions in the West Midlands.
- Identify the barriers which these groups face in the West Midlands.
- Engage with campaign groups and pressure groups in this area.
- Create a strategy and prioritised action plan for tackle leadership under-representation in the West Midlands.
- Launch a number of early actions, aimed to address the problems which are well understood.

3.3 Early actions may include some of the following:

- Promotion of name-blind recruitment processes in organisations and businesses across the West Midlands.
- Encourage applications from under-represented groups in a range of leadership positions: Magistrates, JPs, Deputy Lieutenants, School Governors, Charity Trustees, Non-executive NHS Chairs and Directors.
- A cross-party campaign to increase representation amongst political candidates for local elections.

- Targeted employment initiatives for under-represented groups across the West Midlands.

3.4 Members of the commission will be drawn from all sectors, including business, the universities, the public sector and the third sector, and are to be appointed by the Chair.

3.5 It will be independently chaired and the Mayor has asked Anita Bhalla OBE to chair the Leadership Commission. She has accepted the role. Anita Bhalla OBE is the Chair of Performances Birmingham Ltd (Town Hall and Symphony Hall), Chair of the Creative City Partnership, Board member of the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP and recent past Chair of MAC (Midlands Arts Centre). She worked for the BBC for 26 years in many senior positions which included setting up the Asian Network from the West Midlands and as Head of Political & Community Affairs for England.

3.6 The Leadership Commission will report on findings and progress to the Mayor and to the WMCA Board, via Councillor Steve Eling, the portfolio holder for Cohesion and Integration.

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 No request for extra financial resources above what has been budgeted for 2017/18 is being made at this stage.

4.2 There may be further financial requirements, but these will be approved through the WMCA Board or the proper delegated authority.

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 The Leadership Commission's purpose is to increase representation in leadership positions across the WMCA.

6.2 There are no other equalities implications arising from this report.

7.0 Appendices

None

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