



WMCA Board

Date: Friday 25 May 2018

Time: 11.00 am **Public meeting** Yes

Venue: Council Chamber, Council House, Birmingham City Council, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BB

Membership

Constituent Members

Andy Street (Chair)
Councillor Bob Sleigh (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Peter Bilson
Councillor Sean Coughlan
Councillor Ian Courts
Councillor George Duggins
Councillor Steve Eling
Councillor Patrick Harley
Councillor Lee Jeavons
Councillor Brigid Jones
Councillor Abdul Khan
Councillor Roger Lawrence
Councillor Pete Lowe
Councillor Paul Moore
Councillor Ian Ward

Appointing Authority

Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

City of Wolverhampton Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Coventry City Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Birmingham City Council
Coventry City Council
City of Wolverhampton Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Birmingham City Council

Non-Constituent Members

Councillor George Adamson
Jonathan Browning

Councillor Steven Claymore
Councillor Shaun Davies
Councillor Bill Hartnett
Councillor David Humphreys
Councillor Julie Jackson
Councillor Tony Jefferson
Councillor Peter Nutting
Tim Pile

Councillor Izzi Seccombe
Councillor Michael Stokes
Stewart Towe

Cannock Chase District Council
Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Tamworth Borough Council
Telford & Wrekin Council
Redditch Borough Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Shropshire Council
Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Warwickshire County Council
Rugby Borough Council
Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership

Observers Awaiting Membership

Councillor Jonathan Lester
Graham Wynn

Herefordshire Council
The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership

Co-Opted Member

Lee Barron

Midlands Trades Union Congress

Observer Members

Councillor John Edwards
David Jamieson

West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority
West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner

Quorum for this meeting shall be at least one member from five separate Constituent councils

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

AGENDA

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
Items of Public Business			
1.	Apologies for Absence	Chair	None
2.	Declarations of Interest Members are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests they have in an item being discussed during the course of the meeting. In addition, the receipt of any gift or hospitality should be declared where the value of it was thought to have exceeded £25 (gifts) or £40 (hospitality).	Chair	None
3.	Chair's Remarks (if any)	Chair	None
4.	Minutes - 9 March 2018	Chair	1 - 10
5.	Forward Plan	Chair	11 - 16
Governance			
6.	Governance of West Midlands Fire Service Public Consultation Outcomes	Councillor Steve Eling	17 - 98
Cohesion & Integration and Public Service Reform			
7.	Report of the Leadership Commission	Councillor Steve Eling	99 - 106
Finance & Investments			
8.	Financial Outturn 2017/18	Councillor Izzi Seccombe	107 - 126
Skills & Productivity			
9.	Employment Support Pilot	Councillor George Duggins	127 - 130
Transport			
10.	Midland Metro Penalty Fares Order	Laura Shoaf	131 - 134
11.	Midland Metro - Wednesbury to Brierley Hill	Laura Shoaf	135 - 138
12.	West Midlands Bike Share Scheme	Laura Shoaf	139 - 146
Minutes			

13.	Housing & Land Delivery Board - 21 February 2018	Councillor Sean Coughlan	147 - 152
14.	Investment Board - 13 March 2018	Councillor Izzi Seccombe	153 - 156
15.	Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee - 16 March 2018	David Lane	157 - 164
16.	Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 20 March 2018	Councillor Peter Hughes	165 - 168
17.	Investment Board - 26 March 2018	Councillor Izzi Seccombe	169 - 174
18.	Transport Delivery Committee - 9 April 2018	Councillor Richard Worrall	175 - 184
19.	Strategic Economic Plan Board - 12 April 2018	Jonathan Browning	185 - 190
20.	Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 16 April 2018	Councillor Peter Hughes	191 - 194
21.	Wellbeing Board - 20 April 2018	Councillor Bob Sleight	195 - 200
22.	Investment Board - 30 April 2018	Councillor Izzi Seccombe	201 - 206
Date of Next Meeting			
23.	Friday 22 June 2018 at 11.00am	Chair	None



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Friday 9 March 2018 at 11.00 am

Minutes

Constituent Members

Andy Street (Chair)

Councillor Bob Sleigh (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Sean Coughlan

Councillor Ian Courts

Councillor George Duggins

Councillor Patrick Harley

Councillor Brigid Jones

Councillor Roger Lawrence

Councillor Paul Moore

Councillor Ian Ward

Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Coventry City Council

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Birmingham City Council

City of Wolverhampton Council

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

Birmingham City Council

Non-Constituent Members

Councillor George Adamson

Councillor Steven Claymore

Councillor Shaun Davies

Councillor Bill Hartnett

Councillor Dennis Harvey

Councillor David Humphreys

Ninder Johal

Tim Pile

Councillor Alex Phillips

Councillor Chris Saint

Councillor Izzi Seccombe

Councillor Michael Stokes

Cannock Chase District Council

Tamworth Borough Council

Telford & Wrekin Council

Redditch Borough Council

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

North Warwickshire Borough Council

Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership

Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership

Shropshire Council

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

Warwickshire County Council

Rugby Borough Council

Observer Members

Councillor John Edwards

David Jamieson

West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority

West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner

In Attendance

Councillor Philip Davis

Councillor Pete Hughes

Councillor Ian Shires

Councillor Richard Worrall

Transport Delivery Committee

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Transport Delivery Committee

- | Item No. | Title |
|-----------------|--|
| 165. | <p>Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Jonathan Browning, Councillor Steve Eling, Councillor Paul Nutting and Stewart Towe.</p> |
| 166. | <p>Chair's Remarks
The Mayor noted that this was the last meeting before Stella Manzie stood down as Interim Chief Executive of Birmingham City Council and he thanked her for the work she had done supporting the WMCA during her time in post.</p> |
| 167. | <p>Minutes - 9 February 2018
The minutes were agreed as a correct record.</p> |
| 168. | <p>Forward Plan
The forward plan of items to be considered at future meetings was noted.</p> |
| 169. | <p>Devolution Action Plan
The board considered a report from Julia Goldsworthy, Director of Strategy, that provided details on the proposed Devolution Action Plan and the 'phase three' of devolution referred to in the report considered by this board at its meeting on 9 February 2018.</p> <p>The second devolution deal was announced in the government's Autumn Budget in November 2017 and contained a number of commitments for the WMCA and the government to work together on. This work was set out in an Action Plan and covered a wide range of areas, including the Housing Deal, Local Industrial Strategy, skills, employment, transport, public services and Funding for Growth Commission.</p> <p>Councillor George Adamson reported on the poor bus service that existed in Cannock Chase on Sundays. Councillor Roger Lawrence noted the implications that this had for people seeking to travel to either the New Cross or Cannock Chase hospitals. Transport for West Midlands was rolling out the Swift smartcard into Cannock Chase, which was hoped would make travelling by public transport easier and result in increased patronage.</p> <p>David Jamieson, West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner, indicated that he wished to be directly involved in the workstream that was looking at proposals for merging the role of Mayor and Police & Crime Commissioner, and the Mayor agreed for the Action Plan to be amended to reflect this.</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>The approach to further work with government on devolution described in the report, with the coverage and portfolio leadership set out in the high level Action Plan, be approved.</p> |
| 170. | <p>Establishment of West Midlands Innovation Board
Councillor Ian Ward presented a report seeking approval to establish a West Midlands Innovation Board to take a strategic lead in ensuring that innovation drove future economic growth and public sector reform.</p> |

Councillor Alex Phillips enquired whether membership of the Innovation Board would include representatives from non-constituent authorities, and whether the University of Shrewsbury should be included in its work. The Mayor confirmed that the Innovation Board covered the 'three-LEP' geography and so would include non-constituent authorities within that. However, he understood that the University of Shrewsbury was not involved with the West Midlands Combined Universities or Midlands Innovation partnership arrangements, which were the groupings that were involved in the Innovation Board.

Resolved:

- (1) The creation of the West Midlands Innovation Board be approved, reporting to the Strategic Economic Plan Board, to take a strategic lead in ensuring that innovation
 - (i) drove economic growth and public service reform, and
 - (ii) was embedded across the activities of the West Midlands Combined Authority; and
- (2) The West Midlands Innovation Board take a new delivery-orientated approach for innovation, building on the findings of the West Midlands Science and Innovation Audit, to ensure that innovation delivered tangible economic growth and public service reform across the West Midlands Combined Authority geography.

171. WMCA Digital Board

Councillor Ian Ward presented a report outlining the work being undertaken by the Digital Board since it was established in 2017, including its current membership, current priorities and focus areas.

The role of the Digital Board was to ensure appropriate focus was placed on developing the digital focus of the West Midlands by bringing together the various strands of activity that had already been operating across the region. There was a commitment that the next phases of the Digital Board's work was developed in collaboration with local authority and system partners, so as to ensure that the Digital Board was adding value and was strategically well placed.

Resolved:

The current progress and focus areas of the Digital Board be approved.

172. Financial Monitoring 2018/19

Councillor Izzi Seccombe presented a report setting out the financial position of the WMCA as at the end of January 2018. The report summarised the revenue and capital financial positions against the approved budget, the Investment Programme and balance sheet. The overall consolidated revenue position showed a £5.2m favourable variance from budget, which was largely within the transport revenue budget where there was a £4.8m previously reported saving as a result of a change in the Minimum Revenue provision policy.

Councillor Izzi Seccombe noted that as part of the budget, the WMCA confirmed the adoption of the previous Centro pay policy in operation since 2012 that ensured staff were paid above the UK real living wage, subject to an annual review of affordability.

Resolved:

The financial position as at the end of January 2018 be noted.

173. WMCA Funding for Growth Programme Update

Councillor Izzi Seccombe presented a report that provided an update on the Funding for Growth Programme membership, meetings convened so far, current areas of focus and initial findings to date. The Funding for Growth Programme was a key part of the region's approach to devolution following the first devolution deal and was set up to focus on generating and implementing ideas that would drive additional funding for the region.

Councillor Ian Ward indicated that he looked forward to working with the programme in his capacity as Portfolio Lead for Economic Growth. Six-monthly update reports on the work of the programme would be submitted to future meetings of this board.

Resolved:

The approach taken to date and the next steps being undertaken be noted.

174. Coventry Station Masterplan

Councillor Izzi Seccombe presented a report setting out the work undertaken by the Investment Board and the assurance provided to support the approval of £39.4m for the Coventry Rail Station Masterplan. The report summarised the key aspects to the application, which was supported by a summarised business case submitted by Coventry City Council to the Investment Board.

The Coventry Rail Station Masterplan would involve a comprehensive redevelopment of the station, delivering new infrastructure including a second station building, 644 space multi storey car park, footbridge connecting all platforms, new bay platform to enable more frequent services between Coventry - Nuneaton, six-bay bus interchange with provision for rail replacement services, and significant highway improvements to deal with traffic operation around the station.

Resolved:

- (1) The award of £39.4 million Devolution Deal funding to Coventry Rail Station Masterplan project, which was promoted by Coventry City Council based on assurance work completed and the endorsement of the project by the Investment Board on 29 January 2018, be approved; and
- (2) Delegated authority be given to the Monitoring Officer and the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Finance & Investments, to conclude the grant agreement with Coventry City Council in accordance with the report.

175. Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1

Councillor Izzi Seccombe presented a report seeking approval for £51m funding for Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1. The report set out the assurance work undertaken by Investment Board to support the proposal, along with the summarised business case submitted by Coventry City Council to the Investment Board.

Phase 1 of the Friargate Masterplan comprised five office blocks and a hotel. The first office block in the scheme was already complete and occupied by Coventry City Council, and this funding sought to develop the remainder of the scheme. The proposal in the final business case was to start the development of Phase 1 using WMCA funding to deliver the second building against a commitment from Coventry City Council that, once annual rental income was secured, it would use its ability to borrow to fund further buildings, using rental income to fund finance costs.

Resolved:

- (1) The award of £51m Devolution Deal funding to Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1, which was promoted by Coventry City Council based on the assurance work completed and the endorsement of the project by the Investment Board on 29 January 2018, be approved; and
- (2) Authority be delegated to the Monitoring Officer and the Director of Finance, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Finance & Investments, to conclude the grant agreement with Coventry.

176. Commonwealth Games Athletes Village - WMCA Contribution

Councillor Izzi Seccombe presented a report seeking the approval of £20.075m from the Brownfield Land and Property Fund to help deliver the athletes' village required to facilitate the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

In December 2017, Birmingham was confirmed as the host city for the 2022 Commonwealth Games. The winning bid reflected the requirement for there to be a single athletes' village constructed for occupancy by athletes, officials and event organisers between April - August 2022. The village would provide temporary accommodation for some 6,510 people, with subsequent modifications to enable the residential accommodation to become mixed tenure homes to deliver a legacy uplift for Perry Barr.

Because the legacy outcomes to be achieved by the investment were outside the operational timing parameters of the fund (occurring between 2023-25 rather than 2017-21), it was proposed that a derogation be agreed in respect of this as part of the approval of the funding.

Councillor Ian Ward welcomed this report, noting its importance in delivering a legacy from hosting the Games to residents across the region. David Jamieson stressed the need to ensure that the police and security services were involved in the construction plans for the proposed site, so as to help ensure the safety of all participants during the course of the Games.

Resolved:

- (1) The award of a grant to Birmingham City Council from the WMCA Brownfield Land and Property Development Fund to the Commonwealth Games Village application totalling no more than £20.075m be approved, subject to:
 - (i) The final independent valuations being in line with the current estimates underpinning the £20.075m estimate; and
 - (ii) In the event there was a surplus on the athletes' village scheme following sale of the residential units, this surplus would be shared with WMCA up to a maximum of £20.075m;
- (2) The elements of the bid, with a particular reference to grant conditions A4 (Learning Institutions), be approved, given that this was the first time that this type of expenditure would be funded under the Brownfield Land and Property Development Fund;
- (3) The principle that the contribution be subject to the successful shortlisting of the Housing Infrastructure Fund announcement which provided the 39% (£144m) of the overall funding for the village be agreed; and
- (4) A one off variation to the basis of the Brownfield Land and Property Development Fund be agreed for this project to recognise that the outcomes of this application would not be delivered until 2022 for the Commonwealth Games Village and 2023-25 for the permanent scheme, as this fell outside the time period indicated in the originating fund documents approved by the WMCA Board.

177. Implementation of Devolution Agreement - Adult Education Budget - Transfer of Powers to WMCA

Councillor George Duggins presented a report on the process for agreeing the Devolution Orders required to enable full devolution of the Adult Education Budget, along with the proposed timescales. The principal purpose of the Adult Education Budget was to engage adults in learning that supported wider economic and social priorities. Devolution of the Adult Education Budget would only be applied within constituent authority areas, and the indicative budget would be approximately £112m for 2019/20 based on current spend on residents.

The Authority was required to provide the Department for Education with consent to the draft order by the end of April to meet the necessary timescales to enable full devolution in 2019/20. The Order would need to be laid before Parliament by the end of June and made in November to meet the timescales to commission for the 2019/20 academic year.

Resolved:

- (1) The transfer of functions to the West Midlands Combined Authority to ensure the successful devolution of the Adult Education Budget in 2019 be approved;
- (2) Consent be given on behalf of the West Midlands Combined Authority to the making of an Order giving effect to this transfer;
- (3) Delegated authority be given to the WMCA Section 151 Officer together with the WMCA Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity, to approve the final draft Devolution Order in order to meet the timetable for agreement as set out in the report; and
- (4) Constituent authorities be requested to give their consent to the making of an Order giving effect to this transfer, including the necessary delegation to approve the final draft Order as set out in (3) above.

178. Swift Programme Update

Councillor Roger Lawrence presented a report that provided a progress update on the Swift programme and highlighted the recent launch of Swift in Redditch with the aim of gaining agreement for the next steps that would see Swift rolled out across all non-constituent authority areas.

Swift was the largest smartcard scheme in the UK outside London, with 189,000 unique users accessing buses, trains and trams across the West Midlands. There were more than 35m journeys undertaken with the Swift card in 2017, a growth of 60% on 2016. In January, the Swift card launched in Redditch and already 1,000 journeys had been undertaken. As well as continuing to work with Redditch to further develop the offer, the Swift team were designing a catalogue of options to present to other non-constituent authorities.

Councillor Bill Hartnett thanked the Swift team for the work that they had undertaken to launch the smartcard in Redditch, and reported an increasing awareness of it amongst the public which he was encouraged by.

Resolved:

- (1) The progress of the Swift Programme be welcomed;
- (2) The delivery of the Swift pilot in Redditch, which was successfully launched on the 10 January 2018, be welcomed; and
- (3) It be agreed that Transport for West Midlands would begin discussions with all other non-constituent members of the West Midlands Combined Authority to enable the development of a programme that would see, subject to their agreement, the rollout of Swift into their areas.

179. Devolved Transport Grant

Councillor Roger Lawrence presented a report that set out the approach for allocating the Devolved Transport Grant for 2018/19 and outlined the indicative allocations to 2020/21.

The allocation of the consolidated local transport budget for 2018/19 was expected to be £35.261m and the report identified its allocation between Integrated Transport Block, Highways Maintenance Block, Highway Incentive Fund and Bus Service Operator Grant. There was no proposal to adjust the percentage allocations upon which the Integrated Transport Block was distributed across local authorities.

Resolved:

- (1) The Devolved Transport Grant allocations, including Integrated Transport Block for 2018/19 be agreed, and the anticipated grant allocations through to 2020/21 be noted;
- (2) A Joint Initiatives Top Slice of £90,000 be agreed; and
- (3) The continuation of a ring fenced development funding pot within individual local authority annual allocations be agreed.

180. West Midlands Mental Health Commission Update

Councillor Bob Sleigh presented a report setting out the progress being made in respect of delivering the Mental Health Commission Action Plan during the first 12 months following its adoption. The report provided a detailed breakdown of the work undertaken in respect of each workstream within the plan.

Councillor Bob Sleight reported that significant progress had been made during the last year and thanked Sean Russell, Director of Implementation, for the key role he had played in the delivery of the plan's objectives. Councillor Sean Coughlan endorsed these views and thanked Councillor Pete Lowe for the leadership he had provided within this area when he had portfolio responsibility during 2016/17.

Resolved:

The progress and update on the current position of the West Midlands Mental Health Commission Action Plan and the work undertaken since the launch of the programme on 31 January 2017 be noted.

181. Minutes - Investment Board - 29 January 2018

The board received the minutes of the Investment Board held on 29 January 2018.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting on 29 January 2018 be noted.

182. Minutes - Transport Delivery Committee - 5 February 2018

The board received the minutes of the Transport Delivery Committee held on 5 February 2018. Councillor Philip Davis noted that 1 April would mark the tenth year anniversary of the introduction of the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme that provided for free off-peak bus travel for qualifying pass holders throughout England, and he commended the success this had been.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting on 5 February 2018 be noted.

183. Minutes - Investment Board - 13 February 2018

The board received the minutes of the Investment Board held on 13 February 2018.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting on 13 February 2018 be noted.

184. Minutes - Public Service Reform Board - 22 February 2018

The board received the minutes of the Public Service Reform Board held on 22 February 2018.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2018 be noted.

185. Friday 11 May 2018 at 11.00am

The date of the next meeting was noted.

186. Any Other Business

Councillor Dennis Harvey, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

Councillor Sean Coughlan noted that this was the last meeting Councillor Dennis Harvey would be attending before he was to step down as a councillor. He paid tribute to his dedication to public service during his 45 years as a councillor and 32 years as Leader of Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council.

187. Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

That, in accordance with s100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 1 of the Act.

188. West Midlands HS2 Growth Board - Future Governance and Programme Support

Councillor Bob Sleigh presented a report seeking approval to TUPE transfer four members of staff and one vacant post that comprised the HS2 Growth Strategy Programme team from Birmingham City Council to the West Midlands Combined Authority based on new information with regard to work patterns. Councillor Ian Ward indicated that he supported the proposals contained within the report.

Resolved:

- (1) The existing HS2 Growth Strategy Programme Team be transferred based on TUPE to the West Midlands Combined Authority; and
- (2) The Monitoring Officer of the West Midlands Combined Authority be authorised to make all necessary arrangements to enact the recommendation of this report. (This superseded the original decision taken on 23 June 2017 by the WMCA Board where the HS2 Growth Strategy Programme Team was to move the West Midlands Combined Authority via a secondment arrangement.)

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm.

WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY FORWARD PLAN: JUNE 2018 - JUNE 2019

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Housing Dashboard	To consider a delivery dashboard relating to the housing portfolio.	22 June 2018	Yes	Cllr Sean Coughlan	Gareth Bradford	No	Delivery
Integrated Business Plan & Approval 2018/19	Final approval of integrated plan.	22 June 2018	Yes	Andy Street	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Appointment of WMCA Boards and Committees etc 2018/19	To agree the membership etc of WMCA boards and committees.	22 June 2018	No	Mayor	Tim Martin	No	Governance
Culture, Creative & Tourism	To provide an update on the work undertaken by the Culture, Creative & Tourism Group.	22 June 2018	Yes	Cllr Ian Ward	Dave Webb	No	Strategy

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Regional Skills Plan	To approve a Regional Skills Plan.	22 June 2018	Yes	Cllr George Duggins	Julie Nugent	No	Strategy
Mobility as a Service Commercial Pilot	To consider the latest developments.	22 June 2018	Yes	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Laura Shoaf/Chris Lane	No	Transport
Metro Programme Update	To consider the latest Metro developments.	22 June 2018	No	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Laura Shoaf	No	Transport
Contactless Payment & Best Value Capping Update	To receive an update report.	22 June 2018	No	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Laura Shoaf	No	Transport
PSR/Inclusive Growth Dashboard	To receive a dashboard update relating to the PSR/inclusive growth portfolio area.	20 July 2018	No	Cllr Steve Eling	Henry Kippin	No	delivery

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	20 July 2018	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Road Safety Memorandum of Understanding	To approve the signing of a road safety memorandum of understanding.	20 July 2018	Yes	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Laura Shoaf/Anne Shaw	No	Transport
Congestion Action Plan	To approve the West Midlands Congestion Action Plan	20 July 2018	Yes	Cllr Roger Lawrence	Laura Shoaf/Anne Shaw	No	Transport
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	14 September 2018	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	9 November 2018	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Treasury Management Strategy Mid-Year Report 2018/19	To consider a six-monthly treasury management report.	9 November 2018	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	11 January 2019	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Draft 2019/20 Budget, Precept and Levy	To consider proposals for the 2019/20 WMCA budget, precept and levy.	11 January 2019	Yes	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
WMCA 2019/20 Budget, Precept and Levy	To agree proposals for the 2019/20 WMCA budget, precept and levy.	8 February 2019	Yes	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	12 April 2019	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	14 June 2019	No	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Pearce	No	Finance

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Governance of West Midlands Fire Service Public Consultation Outcomes Report
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Steve Eling - Cohesion & Integration and Public Service Reform
Accountable Chief Executive	Phil Loach, Chief Fire Officer to West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority email: phil.loach@wmfs.net tel: (0121) 380 6909
Accountable Employee	Karen Gowreesunker, Clerk to the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority email: karen.gowreesunker@wmfs.net tel: (0121) 380 6678 Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform email: henry.kippin@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7880
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board - 11 May 2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note the outcomes of the public consultation.
- (2) Note constituent council responses to the public consultation outcomes.
- (3) Consent to proceed with submission of the Governance Review, Scheme and consultation outcomes to the Home Office.

- (4) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive of the Combined Authority together with the Monitoring Officer to approve the draft order (aligned to paragraph 2.16) once received from Government, in consultation with the Chief Fire Officer and Chair of the West Midlands Fire Authority.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report seeks to update the Board on the outcomes of the public consultation of the Scheme to enable the Mayoral WMCA to assume governance of WMFS, including letters received in support of this direction from key stakeholders.
- 1.2 This report also seeks to inform the Board on the outcomes of all constituent council considerations of the public consultation evaluation report, and seeks the consent of the Board to submit the Governance Review, Scheme and the outcomes of the Consultation to the Secretary of State for the Home Office, the Home Secretary.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In response to the Government direction for fire sector reform and the high level duty placed on emergency services for greater collaboration, West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA) commissioned an independent review and appraisal of future governance options. A public consultation was subsequently held, which in part looked at other possible governance models. The findings identified a Mayoral WMCA model of governance for WMFS as preferred.
- 2.2 Having reviewed the evidence base, the WMCA on the 3 March 2017 supported the WMFRA's broad proposal for the transfer of its functions to the Mayoral WMCA, initiating discussions between the Mayor, WMCA, WMFRA and the Home Office for this proposed route.
- 2.3 On the 8 September 2017, the WMCA Board noted an indicative timeline for the proposed governance route and approved the development of a Governance Review and Scheme for Mayoral WMCA governance of WMFS, pursuant to Sections 111 and 112 (1d) of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.
- 2.4 The Governance Review provides a review of existing governance arrangements and functions, this includes the proposed new model and its benefits under the Mayoral WMCA. The Scheme details the roles, accountabilities, and powers required by each individual and body in the proposed governance model.
- 2.5 The benefits of the Mayoral WMCA governance model provides huge opportunities for the joint transformation of public services to West Midlands communities, providing value for money in the delivery of public safety. The benefits can be broadly summarised under four main themes: public safety delivered through a broad range of responses to emergency services, a workforce to support joined up services and reduce vulnerability, continued improvement and transformation, and operational independence.
- 2.6 Both documents were formally considered and consulted upon by all constituent councils between October and November 2017, in adherence to section 112 of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.
- 2.7 Unanimous support for the Scheme was received from all constituent councils, along with approval to proceed to a public consultation. Comments received from councils included:
 - the fire budget and fire reserves be ring-fenced,
 - the Mayor appoint the Chair of the Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee (MFAC) in consultation with constituent council Leaders,

- the MFAC be composed of no fewer than 15 members to ensure sufficient representation from all constituent councils,
- Support for this direction and accountabilities of the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) to include operational independence of the service were also expressed. This direction, the model of governance proposed, including CFO accountabilities provides alignment with the recent launch of the National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services England 2018.

The Scheme, was subsequently revised to reflect areas raised (see Appendix 1).

- 2.8 The Governance Review and Scheme were considered at the WMCA Board on 8 December 2017, where the outcomes of constituent council meetings were presented and approval provided to proceed to a formal public consultation of the Scheme.

Consultation

- 2.9 An eight week public consultation was subsequently undertaken between 11 January and 8 March 2018 pursuant to section 113 (3) Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The consultation is a requirement for the making of an order, which stipulates that the Secretary of State must not only consult constituent councils within a combined authority's area but also must have 'due regard to the need - (a) To reflect the identities and interests of local communities and (b) To secure effective and convenient local government'. The consultation was led by the WMCA and was supported by its constituent councils and the WMFRA.
- 2.10 The consultation sought views on the detail of the proposed Scheme, this included the roles of the Mayor and WMCA, the proposed MFAC and the Chief Fire Officer. The consultation also sought the views of the communities of the WMCA's area on the benefits of the proposed governance change and the transfer of powers to the Combined Authority.
- 2.11 The consultation approach consisted of an animation, answers to frequently asked questions, the Scheme, a survey (see Appendix 2) with plain English text covering the governance journey and key roles. Advice and guidance was sought from constituent council communications departments and public relations and public affairs firm - the Built Environment Communications Group (BECG), a member of the Consultation Institute which promotes best practice within public consultations across the UK.
- 2.12 To reach all sections of the society the consultation was promoted through a comprehensive range of digital and non-digital forums, a full list is provided in the consultation results report in Appendix 3.
- 2.13 Overview of responses to the consultation are as follows (see Appendix 3 for full consultation outcomes report):
- Outcomes of question 1: 47% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the WMCA should take on the responsibility for the functions of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority. Conversely, 40% of respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed with the proposed governance change.

- Outcomes of question 2: 59% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor. Conversely, 32% of respondents either 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with this element of the proposed governance changes.
- Outcomes of question 3: 55% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service, whereas 35% either 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed'.
- Outcomes of question 4: 42% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would achieve those aims outlined within the questions posed. Conversely, 42% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with one or more of the aims listed.
- Outcomes of question 5: 39% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely to: improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area; reflect the local communities; and secure effective and convenient local government. 41% of respondents either 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with the question. The outcomes for question 5 also show the highest number of 'don't know' responses (4% of respondents), as well as the highest number of 'neither agree or disagree' (15% of respondents).
- Questions 6 – 14 enquire about the identity of the respondent to inform the Home Secretary's need to give due regard to views of the communities of the West Midlands. The identities of respondents broadly reflect the communities of the West Midlands, however, numbers for Asian and Black communities is lower than targets.
- Outcomes also show that 46% of respondents were public sector employees.

Stakeholder Letters

- 2.14 To date, letters have been received from the following stakeholders and are largely in support of the changes proposed (letters are provided in the full consultation report in Appendix 3):
- Andrea McIntyre Member of the European Parliament for the West Midlands,
 - Professor Simon Brake, Chief Officer of Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group and Vice Chair of the West Midlands Clinical Senate,
 - Cllr John Edwards, Chair, West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority,
 - Richard Bacon, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, partner responsible for Public Sector,
 - Paul Faulkner, Chief Executive at Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce,
 - Nick Page, Chief Executive, Solihull Council,
 - Cllr Robert Sleight OBE, Leader, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council,
 - Kiran Kenth, Wider Workforce Development Manager at Royal Society for Public Health,
 - Office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, and
 - West Midlands Fire Brigades Union.

Constituent Council Consideration of Consultation Outcomes Report

2.15 Constituent councils formally noted the outcomes of the public consultation and approved to consent to the submission of this governance proposal to the Home Secretary.

2.16 Notable discussion areas arising from these meetings were as follows:

- The functions of MFAC- At the WMCA Board meeting on the 8th December 2017, questions were raised about the future role of Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) and it was the unanimous recommendation of the O&S Committee that there was a need to demonstrate clear separation between the advisory and review functions of the MFAC and the statutory role of O&S. This was in recognition of the already established O&S WMCA function, which has a remit covering all aspects of the WMCA's operation. At this meeting the WMCA board resolved to ensure that the O&S committee were involved in further developing the proposals for governance. Following the consideration of the recent report by constituent authorities during March and April 2018, Sandwell Cabinet noted that 'the function of reviewing decisions made by the Mayor of the WMCA in relation to the West Midlands Fire Service should sit with the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee and that this should be included in the final submission.'

Retaining the MFAC and its composition, as a component of the governance model to retain fire experience and maintain constituent authority engagement with the fire service has the support of all constituent councils. It is however recommended that the principal of the separation of these functions should be noted in the final submission and be the subject of more detailed discussion with the Home Office during the development of the legislative orders.

- The composition of MFAC – MFAC will be composed of four representatives from Birmingham City Council, one from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and two representatives from the remaining five councils. There will also be representation from the Police and Crime Commissioner (in accordance with the Policing and Crime Act 2017) and two further co-opted members from Health and Ambulance to promote greater challenge, transparency and further collaboration.
- All councils consented to proceed with the submission of the proposal to the Home Secretary.
- All councils agreed to delegate authority to the Leader and Chief Executive/Managing Director of the council, to approve the draft Order received from Government to be laid before parliament and to enable the changes for the Mayoral WMCA to assume governance of WMFS. However, all councils including the WMCA will need to be formally consulted should there be any major changes to the proposals in the Scheme made in the draft Order.

Indicative Timeline and Next Steps

2.17 Indicative timeline:

DETAILS	DATE
WMCA approved a governance review and scheme to be developed	8 September 2017
Development of governance review and scheme, which considered the business case for the change in governance.	September 2017
Constituent Council approval of the content of the governance review and scheme.	October-November 2017
WMCA approval of the content of the governance review and scheme and approval to proceed to public consultation.	8 December 2017
Consultation of proposals set out in the scheme on behalf of the Secretary of State	January- March 2018
Analysis of consultation responses locally	March 2018
Constituent councils and WMCA consider outcomes of the public consultation. Seek consent to submit proposal to Secretary of State.	March - May 2018
Governance review, scheme and analysis of consultation reviewed by Secretary of State (4-12 weeks).	June 2018
Government development of order required to give effect to the proposed changes.	July - September 2018
Constituent council and WMCA approval of detail of order	October - November 2018
Order enters Parliamentary process	December 2018 - January 2019
Home Secretary approves order	February 2019
The West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority functions transfer to the WMCA	1 st April 2019

3.0 Wider WMCA Implications

3.1 Planning for implementation has already begun although it is acknowledged that final approval has yet to be obtained. The changes represent a significant piece of work in terms of planning and implementing the changes in governance and ensuring that the WMCA has robust arrangements in place to deliver an orderly transfer and secure the changes set out in the scheme and governance review. A joint implementation team will shortly be convened to enable delivery of the proposals over the coming months, aligned to the strategic intent of the governance change as identified in the governance review and scheme. Due diligence work has also commenced in regard to financial issues. There will be resource implications for staff from both WMFS and WMCA, as Officers lead the transfer process through project management disciplines

4.0 Financial implications

4.1 The costs of preparing the governance review that considered the business case for the proposed change in governance arrangements have primarily been met by WMFRA, with additional support provided by WMCA Corporate Services team from within existing approved resources.

4.2 WMFRA and WMCA will now be engaging with stakeholders and partners and in particular the Home Office, to ensure that the additional costs of delivering the proposed change in governance arrangements are quantified and appropriately funded and to understand the flexibilities available to minimise the impact of changes on council tax payers in the West Midlands region.

4.3 The existing pension arrangements for the Firefighters Scheme include an annual top up grant from MHCLG to fund the payment of retirement benefits due. WMCA will be seeking assurance from central government that the existing arrangements to provide the top up grant will continue following the proposed change in governance arrangements. The potential mechanism to ring-fence WMFRA funding and existing reserves within WMCA's accounts to protect essential fire services was proposed as part of the recent public consultation exercise and will be evaluated as part of the due diligence process that is now underway.

5.0 Legal implications

5.1 The legal implications and process for devolving powers to the WMCA are set out in this report and were included in the previous reports to the Board. The WMCA and the WMFRA have consulted legal officers from the seven West Midlands constituent Councils for advice and guidance throughout the development of the proposals. All the relevant legislation relating to the proposed governance route are reflected in the Governance Review and Scheme

6.0 Equalities implications

6.1 Advice was taken from Equalities department and the BECG to inform the public consultation in reaching hard to reach groups within the West Midlands, to meet the requirements of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 section 113, which stipulates that the consultation must reflect the identities and interests of local communities.

7.0 Schedule of background papers

WMFRA response to the Enable Closer Working Between the Emergency Services Consultation – the prelude to the Policing and Crime Bill (October 2015)
WMFRA Integrated Risk Management Plan Public Outcomes Report (20 February 2017)
WMFRA report: 'Route Map to Mayoral Governance' (20 February 2017)
WMFRA report – 'Route map to Mayoral West Midlands, Combined Authority Governance - a Reformed Fire Authority (RFA) and decision (10 April 2017)
WMCA Board (8th September 2017)
WMCA Board – WMFRA Governance Review and Scheme (8th December 2017)
The National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services England 2018

8.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Scheme for submission to Secretary of State for the Home Office
Appendix 2 – Consultation Survey
Appendix 3 – Full Outcomes Summary Report

Appendix 1 – The Scheme

West Midlands Combined Authority Scheme

This scheme is prepared and published following the decision of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) on 8 September 2017.

The scheme provides as follows:

1.1 It is proposed that the functions exercisable by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA) across the area that the WMCA covers, should become functions of the WMCA pursuant to sections 105 A of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009.

These functions are those as set out in the following acts and other relevant identified sections:

- Local Government Act 1985 (including Part IV, schedule 10).
- Local Government in Housing Act 1989.
- Fire and Rescue Service Act 2004.
- Fire and Rescue Order 2007.
- National Framework for Fire and Rescue Services in England 2012.
- Regulatory (Fire) Reform Order 2005.
- Civil Contingencies Act 2014.

The requirements for change are set in 1.16 of this scheme.

1.2 It is proposed that the properties, rights and liabilities of the WMFRA would become functions of the WMCA.

1.3 It is proposed that the functions relating to fire and rescue referred to in 1.1 should become WMCA functions.

1.4 It is proposed that the fire and rescue functions once they become functions of the WMCA are exercisable only by the Mayor (section 107D (1) Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2009).

1.5 For the purposes of the exercise of the fire and rescue functions, the Mayor may do anything that the WMCA may do under section 113A of the LDEDC Act 2009 (general power of EPB or combined authority) (1).

1.6 It is proposed that the WMCA has the same borrowing powers in respect to its functions, relating to fire and rescue as are currently exercised by the WMFRA.

1.7 It is proposed that the WMCA retain the same core grant and precept funding arrangements in respect to its functions relating to fire and rescue, as currently exercised by the WMFRA.

1.8 It is proposed that both the funding and reserves for fire are ring fenced within the Mayoral WMCA.

1.9 Any decisions or acts made before abolition of the WMFRA should have effect as if agreed by, or, in relation to the Mayoral WMCA. For example, the setting of the precept for, under section 40 Local Government Finance Act 1988 to the constituent councils in respect of the financial year beginning before transfer in governance, should have effect as if issued by the Mayoral WMCA.

1.10 It is proposed that Members of the WMCA may assist the Mayor in the exercise of the fire and rescue functions in line with delegations, provided that the functions may not include:

- Functions relating to the budget and setting of the precept,
 - Functions relating to statutory plans such as the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP)
- and strategies,
- Functions relating to all properties, rights and liabilities,
 - The appointment of the Chief Fire Officer and Principal officers.

Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee

1.11 It is proposed that the Order should contain provision for the Mayor to arrange for a committee of the WMCA (the Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee), consisting of members appointed by the constituent councils, to advise and support the Mayor in relation to West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS).

1.12 It is proposed the committee appointed should consist of a minimum of fifteen elected members from across the constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioner (in accordance with the Policing and Crime Act 2017) and two further co-opted members from Health and Ambulance to promote greater challenge, transparency and further collaboration.

1.13 The following additional provisions are proposed to apply to the Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee (the Committee):

Governance

- Appointment of elected members from each of the constituent councils will be made so that the members of the committee taken as a whole, reflect as far as reasonably practicable, the overall balance of political parties prevailing amongst the constituent councils.
- The majority of members of the committee must be members of the constituent councils, all of those members have one vote.
- Where a member is not from a constituent council (a co-opted member) they will not have voting powers.
- Two-thirds of members must be present for a meeting to be quorate.
- The Chair of the Committee will be appointed by the Mayor in consultation with constituent council leaders.

Functions

- The Committee will not be a decision-making committee this responsibility will remain with the Mayor and Chief Fire Officer, as appropriate.
- The Committee will advise the Mayor, support the Mayor and review decisions made by the Mayor.
- Where decisions are reviewed, the Committee will submit a report to the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- The Committee will support the Mayor in providing advice around exercising fire functions, to ensure the right level of detail and understanding is provided to inform the Mayor's role as the Authority.

- The Committee will represent the priorities and strategy of the Mayor and WMFS in their respective local authorities and will report on performance in relation to fire functions.
- The Committee will represent the priorities and strategy of the Mayor and West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) within the seven constituent councils, regionally with other Fire and Rescue Services, and nationally through the National Joint Council and Local Government Association.
- The Committee will seek to influence the Government on behalf of the Mayor in matters related to the delivery of fire and rescue services locally, regionally and nationally.
- The Committee will enable the development of partnerships and services to the community through constituent council engagement.

A member's allowance scheme for the committee will be payable by the WMCA.

1.14 The Chief Fire Officer (CFO) as head of paid service will be accountable to the Mayor in the operation of their duties.

1.15 It is proposed that the CFO maintains full accountability for the operational functions of the Fire Service. This will include:

- The management of the Fire and Rescue Service,
- The appointment and development of staff,
- The delivery of WMFS Strategy (including matters relating to exercising functions of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 and other relevant legislation),
- The delivery of staffing structures and models which support current and future Strategy,
- The deployment of resources to meet risk,
- The transformation of services and reform of the workforce to meet WMFS and Mayoral/WMCA priorities.

1.16 Modification requirements of enactments in their application to the WMCA as a Fire and Rescue Authority.

Primary Legislation

Local Government Act 1972

1. In section 138(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 (powers of principal councils with respect to emergencies or disasters) (a), the reference to "metropolitan county fire and rescue authority" is to apply as if it included "the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority".

Local Government in Housing Act 1989

2. (1) The Local Government and Housing Act 1989(c) is modified as follows.

(2) In section 67 (application of provisions about companies in which local authorities have interests), subsection (3)(k) applies as if the reference to "joint authority established by Part IV of that Act" included a reference to "the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority".

(3) In section 155 (emergency financial assistance to local authorities) subsection (4)(g) applies as if the reference to a "joint authority established by Part IV of the Local Government Act 1985" included a reference to "the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority".

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

3.— (1) The Crime and Disorder Act 1998(d) is modified as follows.

(2) In the definition of “fire and rescue authority” in section 5(5) (authorities responsible for strategies), the reference in paragraph (b) to a “metropolitan county fire and rescue authority” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

(3) In the definition of “relevant authority” in section 115(2), the reference in paragraph (j) to a “metropolitan county fire and rescue authority” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

Local Government Act 2003

4. Section 23(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (meaning of “local authority” for purposes of Part 1) (a) the reference in paragraph (k) to “a joint authority established by Part IV of that Act” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority.”

Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004

5.— (1) The FRS Act 2004(b) is modified as follows.

(2) Section 4A (power to provide for police and crime commissioner to be fire and rescue authority) has effect as if at the end of subsection (3)(b) there were inserted—

“, and (c) outside the Area.”;

(3) Section 4B (1) (changes to existing fire and rescue authorities) has effect as if the reference to fire and rescue authorities in England outside Greater London did not include the WMCA.

Secondary legislation

6. In section 1 of the FRS 2004 Act (1), after subsection (4) insert—

“(5) This section is also subject to an order under Part 6 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 which transfers the functions of a fire and rescue authority to a combined authority established under section 103 of that Act”.

7. In paragraph (a) of the definition of “local authority” in regulation 2(1) of the Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 (interpretation)(c) the reference to a “metropolitan county fire and rescue authority” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

8. In article 1(2) of the Local Government (Best Value Authorities) (Power to Trade) (England) Order 2009 (application of order to best value authorities) (d) the reference in paragraph (c) to a “metropolitan county fire and rescue authority” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

9. In regulation 3 of the Community Right to Challenge (Fire and Rescue Authorities and Rejection of Expressions of Interest) (England) Regulations 2012 (relevant authorities) (e) the reference in paragraph (a) to a “metropolitan county fire and rescue authority established under section 26 of the Local Government Act 1985” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

10.— (1) The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013(f) are modified as follows. (2) After regulation 64(8), insert—

“(8A) Paragraph (8B) applies where the exiting employer is the WMFRA and the liabilities of the fund in respect of benefits due to the WMFRA’s current and former employees (or those of any predecessor authority) have been or are to be transferred to the WMCA by virtue of this Order.

(8B) Where this paragraph applies, no exit payment is due under paragraph (1) and paragraph (2) does not apply.”.

11. In regulation 2(1) of the Explosives Regulations 2014 (interpretation)(g) in the definition of “local authority”, the reference in paragraph (c) to “a metropolitan county fire and rescue authority” is to apply as if it included a reference to “the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority”.

12. In regulation 2(1) of the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015(a) in paragraph (b) of the definition of “local authority”, sub-paragraph (ii) is to apply as if there were substituted for that sub-paragraph—

“(ii) the Area, the WMCA as a fire and rescue authority;”.

Appendix 2 – Consultation survey (Included in full report Appendix 3)

<https://www.wmca.org.uk/media/1997/wmca-consultation-online.pdf>

Appendix 3 – Summary of Consultation Responses Report

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Summary of Consultation Responses

Future Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority
Governance of the West Midlands Fire Service

April 2018

Contents

1. Executive Summary	3
2. Development of the governance review of the Fire Service.	4
3. Consultation across the West Midlands	6
4. Consultation statistics summary	14
5. Response breakdown by question	16
6. Open text feedback by theme	29
7. Stakeholder representations	32
8. Appendix A – Consultation Documentation Appendix B – Stakeholder List Appendix C – Stakeholder Representation	

1. Executive Summary

The seven Metropolitan Constituent Councils, led by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) carried out the public consultation on the 'Scheme' document between 11 January 2018 – 8 March 2018.

The Scheme outlines the functions required for the WMCA to deliver the legislative functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (the Service). This had followed a review of the governance arrangements of the Service by the multi stakeholder 'Future Governance Working Group' which recommended a Mayoral WMCA Governance arrangement [WMFRA Report - [Future Governance Working Group \(20 February 2017\)](#)]. The group sought to understand which governance model would deliver increased value to local communities through wider collaborative working. These proposed arrangements were further supported through a public consultation undertaken by West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA) in 2017 and aligns to the wider Strategy of the Authority.

The consultation survey was hosted on the constituent councils' websites and links also provided from the WMCA website. The Survey was also available in easy read, audio and alternative languages on request from the WMCA Equalities and Diversity Manager. The survey consisted of five key questions, eight profile-based questions and a free text option for Q1 to provide any further feedback. 1005 responses were received through this medium (excluding one duplicate).

Paper copies of the consultation were available in public buildings, such as libraries, in the seven constituent council areas. 158 responses were received through this medium (excluding one spoilt paper copy).

Additionally officers from the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) shared the consultation with members of the public and key strategic partners through engaging as part of normal prevention duties. A number of command areas also undertook more focused engagement through 'consultation workshops', inviting members of the public and local community groups to understand the purpose of the proposals, as well as an opportunity to complete the survey itself.

High Level Summary Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		Neither agree or disagree		Strongly Disagree / Disagree		Don't Know	
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
1. Proposed Governance Arrangements	543	47	108	9	473	40	35	3
2. Role of Fire Advisory Committee	680	59	79	7	374	32	23	2
3. Chief Fire Officer to be accountable to the Mayor	624	55	98	9	400	35	26	2
4. Lead to a more joined up and focused service	487	42	145	13	483	42	42	4
5. Meets the Secretary of State's Key Tests	452	39	175	15	476	41	55	5

2. Continued development of the West Midlands Combined Authority

In 2015 the seven metropolitan councils in the West Midlands: Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton committed to establishing the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). During the process of formalising this commitment, a partnership working across the West Midlands of the Black Country LEP, Coventry & Warwickshire LEP and the Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP was agreed. This included non-constituent areas within the three LEPs and key economically linked authorities across the West Midlands.

The ongoing commitment to developing the government's devolution agenda created the opportunity for the WMFS to become part of the WMCA, therefore transferring governance from WMFRA. The Policing and Crime Act 2017, (PACA 2017), provides for a new duty to collaborate on each of the blue light emergency services, as well as new powers for Mayors and Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to become the Fire and Rescue Authority. Governance through a Mayor as part of a Combined Authority or the PCC are the main options being proposed by Government through the PACA 2017.

Governance through a Mayor as part of a Combined Authority is also enabled through the Cities and Devolution Act 2016. This is the legislative route that the proposed transfer of WMFRA to the WMCA and Mayor is following. This proposed change also aligns effectively to the principles of the PACA 2017 through enabling effective collaboration in the delivery of services and outcomes of efficiency, effectiveness, public safety and single accountability.

A Future Governance Working Group was commissioned at the start of 2017 to provide an options appraisal to enable an evidence based decision to be made on the most appropriate future governance for the WMFS and the best approach to achieving this. The options appraisal undertaken by the Group were supported by:

- the outcomes of a WMFRA public consultation focusing in the delivery of services to communities
- the current and future strategic directions of the Service and the WMCA
- the overall direction set by the Government (both policy and legislation) of reform and wider collaboration to enable efficiency, effectiveness and public safety. This reinforces the overall direction sought for the future governance of the Service through the Mayor as part of the WMCA. [WMFRA Report - [Future Governance Working Group \(20 February 2017\)](#)]

The proposal that the WMFS becomes part of the WMCA with the Chief Fire Officer reporting directly to the Mayor was put to the WMCA and the seven constituent councils at their meeting on the 3 March [Route Map to Mayoral WMCA Governance](#). Following this on the 8 September, '[Mayoral WMCA Governance of West Midlands Fire Service](#)', the WMCA agreed that a Governance Review be undertaken and a Scheme prepared.

The Governance Review and Scheme Documents were prepared and agreed with the Constituent Councils prior to their formal agreement and agreement to Consult at the WMCA meeting on the 8 December, '[Mayoral WMCA Governance of West Midlands Fire Service - Governance Review and Scheme](#)'.

In line with the legislative requirements of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Bill 2016, a consultation has been carried out in relation to the Fire Service proposals in the Mayoral WMCA 'Scheme', and associated documents such as the Governance Review.

The Scheme outlines the functions and legislative changes required for the Mayoral WMCA to govern the delivery of Fire Service functions to the West Midlands.

West Midlands Consultation

The seven constituent councils, led by the WMCA, carried out the public consultation from 11 January to the 8 March 2018.

The consultation was aligned to the proposals in the '[Scheme](#)', to inform the Secretary of State for the Home Office, the Home Secretary's decision regarding the transfer of fire functions to WMCA. This report provides the Home Secretary with a summary of consultation responses.

3. Consultation across the West Midlands

Consultation Survey

The consultation survey was hosted on constituent councils' websites and the WMCA website.

The survey consisted of five key questions, eight profile-based questions and a free text option to provide any further feedback on the Scheme. 1005 responses were received through this medium (excluding one duplicate).

Paper copies of the consultation were available in public buildings, such as libraries, in the seven constituent council areas. The consultation poster, attached with the supporting documentation at appendix A, was displayed prominently in these public buildings. 158 responses were received through this medium (excluding one spoilt paper copy).

There was also supporting PR across the seven constituent councils, WMFS and the WMCA signposting people to the website to take part in the consultation. Usual council channels were utilised to engage with the public.

Awareness and engagement building up to and during the consultation

In order to reach all sections of the society the consultation has been promoted through a comprehensive range of digital and non-digital forums:

- WMCA website,
- Constituent council websites,
- WMFS website and social media pages,
- Press releases,
- Letters to key stakeholders (see Appendix C for stakeholder list),
- Letters to West Midlands MPs whose constituencies fall within the WMCA area,
- Letters to MEPs,
- WMFS stations are promoting the consultation through contact time with the communities as part of normal prevention based activities and focused command based workshop events,
- 1000 printed copies of the survey have been disseminated by staff to date such as youth engagement activities and places of worship,
- 200 copies to each constituent council for distribution at key location such as council offices and libraries,
- Graphics have also been provided to each constituent council for displaying on plasma screens.
- The survey was available in easy read and large print as well as cd audio formats upon request, a helpline was also set up to enable disabled members of the public to complete the survey with the support of a member of staff. A total of four easy read versions, seven large print versions and four audio versions were requested.

Various channels of communication were utilised, including a social media campaign which spanned the consultation period. The campaign was shared and widely supported by regional

communications contacts including the seven constituent councils of the WMCA. A toolkit was provided to these contacts alongside a content planner for the final 10 days of the consultation. The social media campaign was further supported by constituent councils hosting a link to the consultation on their websites.

Advertisements were also utilised mostly across the transport network managed by Network West Midlands, in buses, trams and transport shops. During the final ten days of the consultation Facebook advertisements were also in operation set to target 'hard to reach' constituents such as under 25's, Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BAME) and those from faith backgrounds. Disabled groups were contacted directly by email and were provided with consultations in easy read and audio formats alongside the provision of a support helpline for filling in the survey. Hardcopies of the consultation were also available across the seven constituent council areas in civic suites, libraries and on request from the councils themselves.

Press releases were issued at the beginning and nearing the end of the consultation which resulted in media coverage and increased reach of the consultation.

Online Support:

Solihull Council @SolihullCouncil · 31m
 Not confident online? You can still take part in @WestMids_CA consultation on the proposed governance of @WestMidsFire at Solihull Connect walk in centres at The Core, Shirley Library or the Bluebell Centre #haveyoursay

Bham City Council @BhamCityCouncil · Jan 24
 Don't miss out on having your say: @WestMids_CA consultation on the proposed governance of @WestMidsFire here socsi.in/eXREr

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

VISION 2030 SANDWELL Where will you be in 2030?

How can we help you?

- Pay a bill
- Report a problem
- Report a housing repair
- When's my bin day?
- View planning applications
- Rent a council property
- School holiday dates
- Your council
- Building regulations
- Report abuse

My Sandwell Log in/Register

Coventry City Council @coventrycc · Jan 17
 The @WestMids_CA consultation on the governance of @WestMidsFire has begun, find out more and #haveyoursay here socsi.in/JmwtQ

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL wolverhampton.gov.uk

Residents Business Visiting **The Council** Search My Account

Current consultations Democracy Corporate Elections and Voting Decision making Mayor Scrutiny Our website Staff only

The Council > Current consultations > Current consultations > Future governance of West Midlands Fire Service

The Council

Current consultations

Current consultations

Future governance of West Midlands Fire Service

Budget Consultation 2018/19

Engagement on the Health and Social Care Commissioning Strategy

The Boundary Commission is conducting a review and needs your help

The Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (2018) Consultation

Informal Consultation on the Proposed Merger of Whitgreave Infant School with Whitgreave Junior School

Formal Consultation on the Proposed Merger of Springdale Infant School with Springdale Junior

Future governance of West Midlands Fire Service

We are asking for your views on how the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) should be run in the future.

There are a number of reasons for proposed changes to this vital emergency service, including central government's public service reform and devolution agendas. Public services across the region have already begun to change and this will continue as West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) progresses.

Last year the WMFS commissioned an independent review of its current governance, considering several models, and identified the WMCA as the best possible future option. We are now consulting on the 'Scheme' document which describes the proposed governance structure.

This consultation will run from 11 January to 8 March.

There is a short survey and further information on the West Midlands Combined Authority website and we would welcome your feedback and any additional comments that you would like to make.

#haveyoursay

Please do take the time to **#haveyoursay** by visiting the WMCA website at: www.wmca.org.uk/wmfs

Print this page | Subscribe to this page | SHARE

Advertisements:

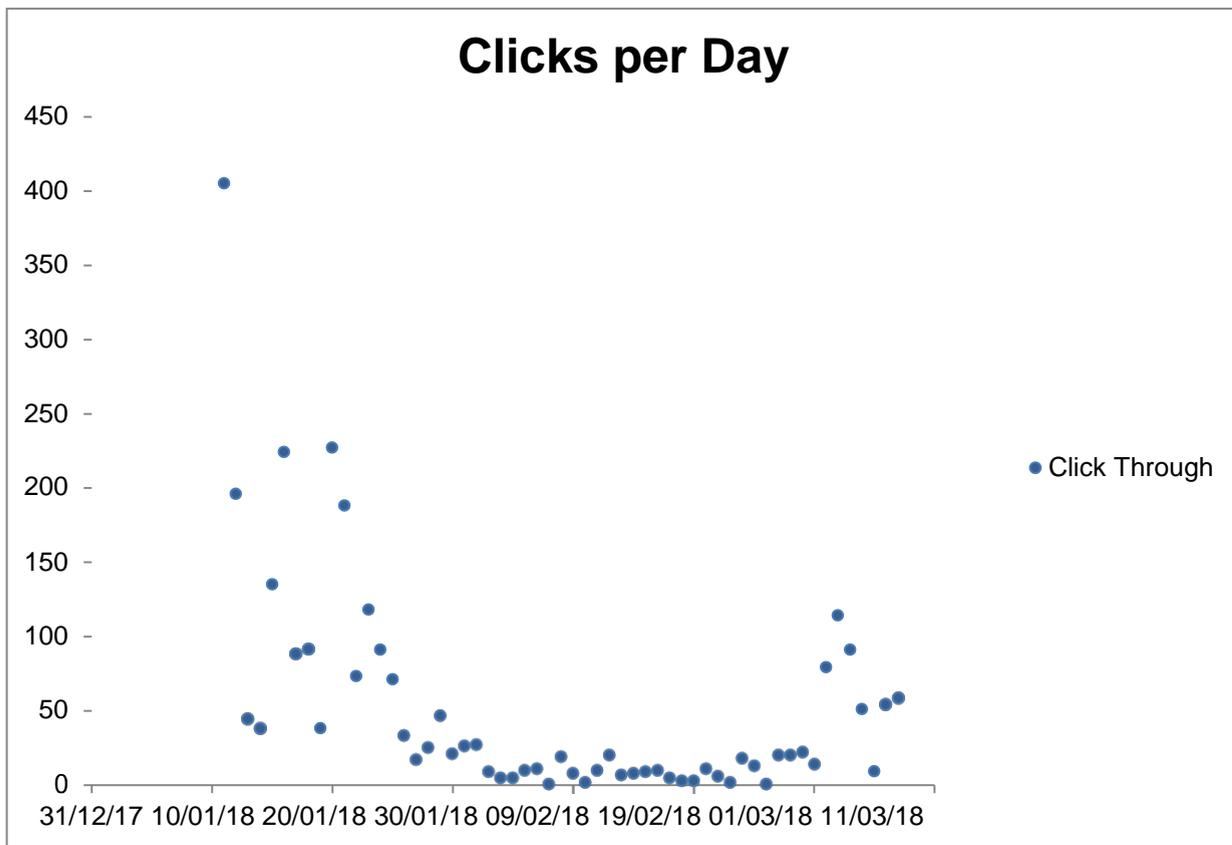


Consultations In-situ:



Social Media Engagement:

Social Media Engagement Overview: Facebook & Twitter					
Total posts	Total clicks	Total reach	Total retweets / shares	Total likes	Total comments
58	3074	3317261	300	159	32
Mean clicks per day	Mean reach per day	Mean engagement (retweets, shares, comments & likes) per day			
49	52655	8			

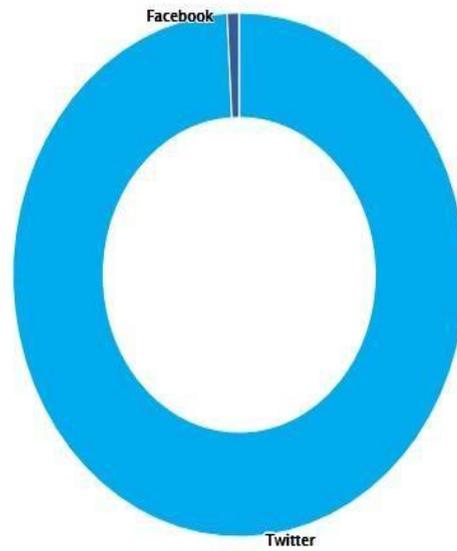


Reach Breakdown

f Facebook
28.3K
TOTAL REACH



Twitter
3.3M
TOTAL REACH



Post engagement

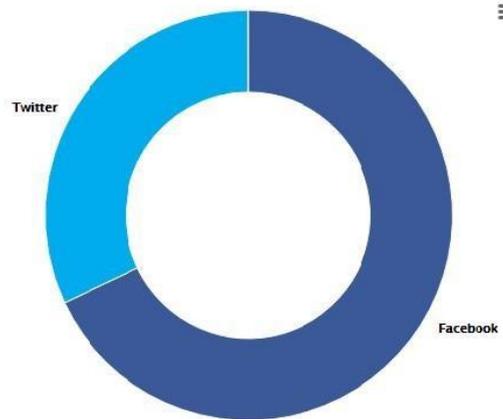


50
INBOUND MESSAGES



35
USERS ENGAGED

Engagement Sources



Top Posts By Clicks

 **West Midlands Combined Authority** @westmidlands

Alice Keogh | 11 Jan 2018 | 10:26

We're hosting a consultation on who should govern the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) in the future.

Last year the WMFS commissioned an independent review of its current governance, considering several models, and identified the WMCA as the best possible future option. It is believed that governance through the WMCA will create new opportunities for public service improvements.

To find out more and #haveyoursay click the link below.

http://sccs.in/wmfs_p00FO

724 17 15 12 1.2K

Top posts by Interactions

 **West Midlands CA** @WestMids_CA

Alice Keogh | 7 Mar 2018 | 9:00

Only one more day to #haveyoursay on how @WestMidsFire will be run in the future. Visit our website to take part in the questionnaire.

<http://sccs.in/3uNwd> @BhamCityCouncil @WolvesCouncil @coventrycc @dudleymbc @sandwellcouncil @SollhullCouncil @WalsallCouncil

431.2K 3.8 4 1 43



Broadcast & Print Media Summary

Media Source	Series / Frequency	Date	Headline / Subject	Broadcast Duration (secs)	Reach	AVE Value £	Editorial Value £
Bromsgrove Advertiser (web)	Internet Capture	07/03/2018	Public urged to think carefully over fire service plan		3494	94.00	282.00
Dudley News (web)	Internet Capture	06/03/2018	West Midlands MEP James Carver warns public to "think carefully" over fire service plan		2907	73.00	219.00
Express & Star Wolverhampton	Regional Daily	01/03/2018	Have a say on future of fire service		3586	727.32	2181.96
Express & Star Wolverhampton	Regional Daily	08/03/2018	Mayor running fire service 'worrying'		3586	510.40	1531.20
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	22	54000	72.60	217.80
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	20	54000	66.00	198.00
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	18	54000	59.40	178.20
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	19	54000	62.70	188.10
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	19	54000	62.70	188.10
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	19	54000	62.70	188.10
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	16	54000	62.70	158.40
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	16	54000	62.70	158.40

Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	19	54000	62.70	188.10
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	18	54000	62.70	178.20
Free Radio	Regional Radio	19/01/2018	West Midlands Fire Service consultation	19	54000	62.70	188.10
Halesowen News (web)	Internet Capture	06/03/2018	Public urged to think carefully over fire service plan		2040	55.00	165.00
Solihull News	Regional Weekly	26/01/2018	(Letter) Have your say on the region's fire service		47431	476.10	1428.30
Stourbridge News	Regional Weekly	08/03/2018	MEP urges public to have say on fire plan		47070	518.16	1554.48
Walsall Advertiser	Regional Weekly	25/01/2018	Public consultation on fire service's future		46762	239.20	717.60
Totals (19 articles, 11 broadcast & 3 internet)				Broadcast Duration (secs)	Reach	AVE Value £	Editorial Value £
				205	750,876	3369.68	10109.04

4. Consultation statistics summary

Overview of consultation format

The consultation was completed by 1163 respondents, this includes 158 paper copies and excludes one duplicated response and one spoilt hard copy.

The survey and supporting documents are appended to this report, in appendix A. A glossary of key terms found within the questions was also provided. This is also be located in the appendix to this report.

Questions 1 – 5 of the consultation gave background to the proposed governance changes and posed a question in relation to each function area, with the following options:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

A separate open text feedback was available after question 1 of the consultation:

“Are there any other points you would like to make?”

For the purpose of this summary this free text feedback has been grouped into common themes in pages 16-19 of this report.

Top line consultation results*

Consultation Questions	Strongly Agree/ Agree		Neither Agree or Disagree		Strongly Disagree / Disagree		Don't know	
	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%	Responses	%
<p>1. Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority should take on responsibility for the functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Safety (Mayor will approve Community Safety Plan on behalf of the Combined Authority) ➤ Budgeting and setting of the Council Tax precept for the Fire Service across the seven constituent Councils ➤ Appointment of the Chief Fire Officer by the Mayor of the Combined Authority 	543	47	108	9	473	40	35	3
<p>2. Do you agree or disagree that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor?</p>	680	59	79	7	374	32	23	2
<p>3. Do you agree or disagree that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Workforce planning, management, appointment and development of staff ➤ The delivery of West Midlands Fire Service strategy ➤ Management of the West Midlands Fire Service 	624	55	98	9	400	35	26	2
<p>4. Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve the services which West Midlands Fire Service deliver ➤ Create a stronger strategic focus ➤ Improve collaboration to deliver joined-up services ➤ Widen and strengthen prevention and protection work with businesses and communities to reduce vulnerability to fire risks 	487	42	145	13	483	42	42	4
<p>5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ to improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area ➤ to reflect the local communities ➤ to secure effective and convenient local government 	452	39	175	15	476	41	55	5

*Respondents may not have answered all questions and % are rounded and so may not add up to 100%.

5. Response breakdown by question

Question 1

Following an independent review of how your fire service is currently governed, we are proposing that the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) will take on responsibility for West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS). The review examined how a new governance model could impact communities; deliver improved public services across the West Midlands; improve scrutiny, transparency and accountability, while providing value for money. Benefits of changing the WMFS governance include a more joined up way of working with WMCA members - such as local authorities, health providers and the police – contributing to a shared vision for the region, resulting in public services being delivered at a reduced cost in a coordinated, integrated and collaborative way.

Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority should take on responsibility for the functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority which includes:

- Community Safety (Mayor will approve Community Safety Plan on behalf of the Combined Authority)**
- Budgeting and setting of the Council Tax precept for the Fire Service across the seven constituent Councils**
- Appointment of the Chief Fire Officer by the Mayor of the Combined Authority**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

[please tell us why below]

Question 1 Response summary

47% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the WMCA should take on the responsibility for the functions of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority. Conversely, 40% of respondents strongly disagreed or disagreed with the proposed governance change.

An option to provide an open text feedback response to Question 1 was provided on the questionnaire. The most frequent comments/responses to this question included:

- *The proposals would represent a decline in the accountability of those in charge of the fire service, as well as local councillors.*
- *Lack of expertise/capacity within the WMCA to run the fire service.*
- *Satisfied with the current arrangements, which do not need changing.*
- *Concern/fear that various aspects of the fire service and other services are becoming increasingly politicised.*
- *Support for fire service to be within a larger regional organisation such as the WMCA to form a more coordinated approach/make more accountable.*

A comprehensive analysis of the literal responses provided as part of question 1 of the questionnaire can be found in Section 6 of this consultation report.

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	263	23
Agree	280	24
Neither agree or disagree	108	9
Disagree	133	11
Strongly Disagree	340	29
Don't know	35	3

Question 2

If the WMCA ran the fire service, there would be a single point of accountability; the Mayor of the West Midlands. If the changes went ahead, a Fire Advisory Committee made up of 15 councillors, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Health and Ambulance Trust, would be put in place to review decisions taken by the Mayor.

Do you agree or disagree that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 2 Response summary

59% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor. Conversely, 32% of respondents either 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with this element of the proposed governance changes.

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	349	30
Agree	331	29
Neither agree or disagree	79	7
Disagree	118	10
Strongly Disagree	256	22
Don't know	23	2

Question 3

Do you agree or disagree that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service which will include:

- Workforce planning, management, appointment and development of staff**
- The delivery of West Midlands Fire Service strategy**
- Management of the West Midlands Fire Service**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 3 Response summary

55% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service, whereas 35% either 'disagreed' or 'strongly disagreed'.

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	308	27
Agree	316	28
Neither agree or disagree	98	9
Disagree	141	12
Strongly Disagree	259	23
Don't know	26	2

Question 4

The Mayor would be responsible for approving the community safety plan, budgeting, setting the fire Council Tax precept and appointing the Chief Fire Officer (CFO). The CFO currently reports to the Fire Authority, but under new arrangements would report directly to the Mayor. The CFO would still lead the day-to-day running of the fire service, including staff development, management of resources and importantly, delivering the fire service's strategic aims.

Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would:

- Improve the services which West Midlands Fire Service deliver**
- Create a stronger strategic focus**
- Improve collaboration to deliver joined-up services**
- Widen and strengthen prevention and protection work with businesses and communities to reduce vulnerability to fire risks**

- Strongly agree
- Agree

- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 4 Response summary

42% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would achieve those aims outlined within the questions posed. Conversely, 42% of respondents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with one or more of the aims listed.

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	234	20
Agree	253	22
Neither agree or disagree	145	13
Disagree	163	14
Strongly Disagree	320	28
Don't know	42	4

Question 5

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely:

- to improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area
- to reflect the local communities
- to secure effective and convenient local government

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Question 5 Response summary

39% of respondents 'strongly agreed' or 'agreed' that the Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely to: improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area; reflect the local communities; and secure effective and convenient local government. 41% of respondents either 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' with the question.

Response	Frequency	%
Strongly Agree	198	17

Agree	254	22
Neither agree or disagree	175	15
Disagree	151	13
Strongly Disagree	325	28
Don't know	55	5

Questions 1 – 5: 'Don't know' responses received

The highest area of 'Don't know' responses received were in relation to Question 5 of questionnaire with 55 respondents choosing this option equating to 5%.

Questions 1 (Proposed Governance Arrangements), 2 (Role of Fire Advisory Committee), 3 (Chief Fire Officer to be accountable to the Mayor) and 4 (Lead to a more joined up and focused service) received the least 'don't know' responses, with 3%, 2%, 2% and 4% respectively. They were also the questions which received the most 'strongly agree' responses across the consultation.

Responding to feedback

Both positive and negative feedback received will be addressed in various ways, including sharing information/feedback with the appropriate subject area lead/s, adapting frequently asked questions and incorporating feedback into communications plans to ensure continuous development, improvement and engagement.

Tell us about yourself

In addition to the questions relevant to the proposed Fire Service governance changes, additional questions were also asked to analyse the demographics of the consultation respondents.

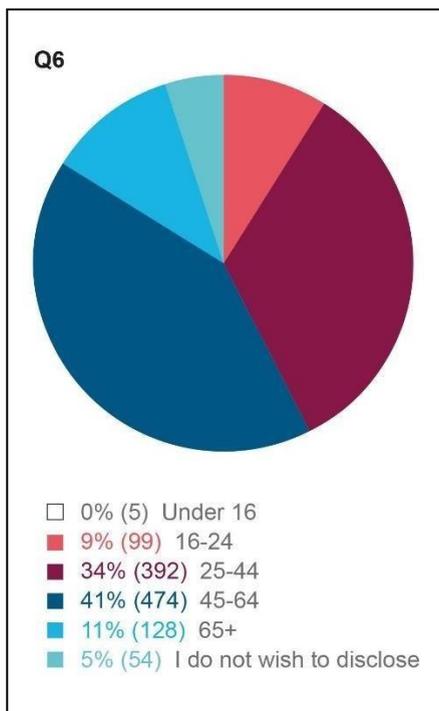
Question 6

Respondents were asked:

Could you please tell us your age?

- Under 16
- 16-24
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65+
- I do not wish to disclose

Responses are illustrated below:



Question 7

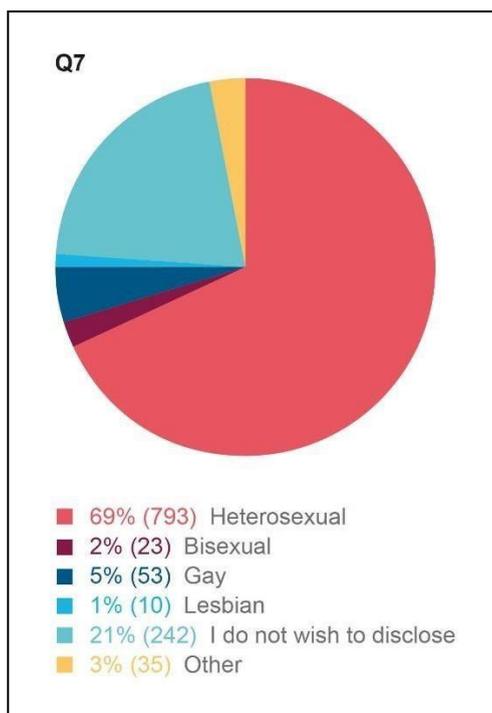
Respondents were asked:

Could you please disclose your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Gay
- Lesbian
- I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



Question 8

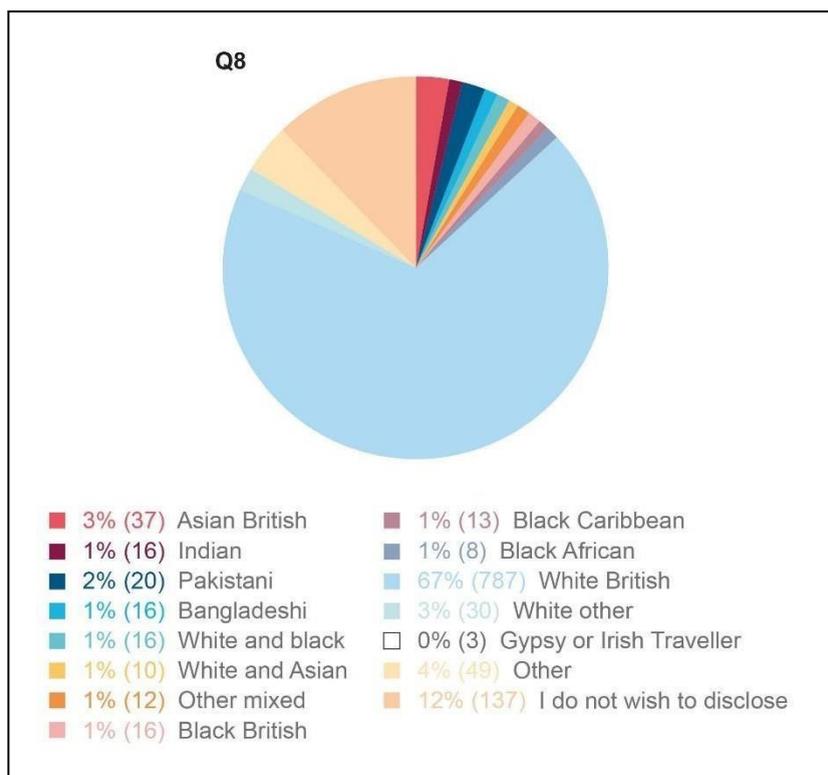
Respondents were asked:

Ethnicity

- Asian British
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- White and black
- White and Asian
- Other mixed
- Black British
- Black Caribbean
- Black African
- White British
- White other
- Gypsy or Irish traveller
- I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



Question 9

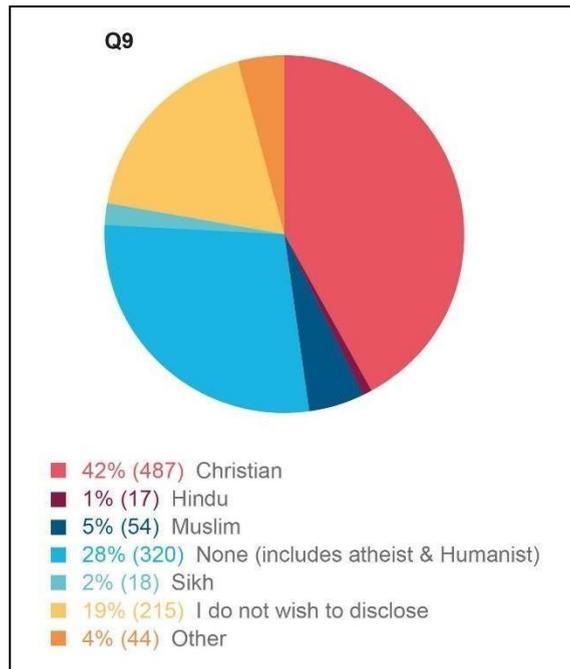
Respondents were asked:

Religion

- Christian (all denominations)
- Hindu
- Muslim
- None (includes atheist & Humanist)
- Sikh
- I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



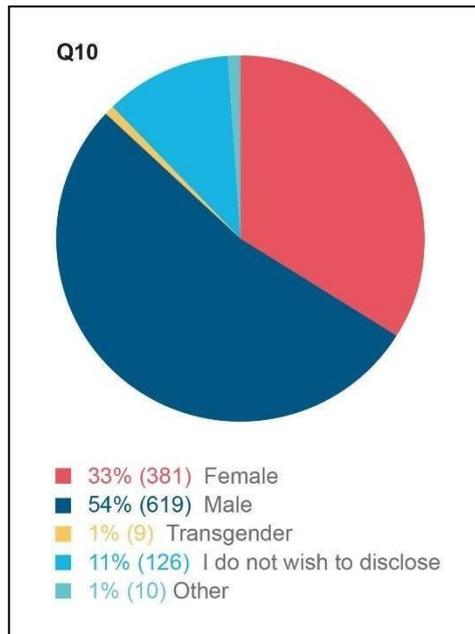
Question 10

Respondents were asked:

Could you please disclose your gender

- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- I do not wish to disclose

Responses are illustrated below:



Question 11

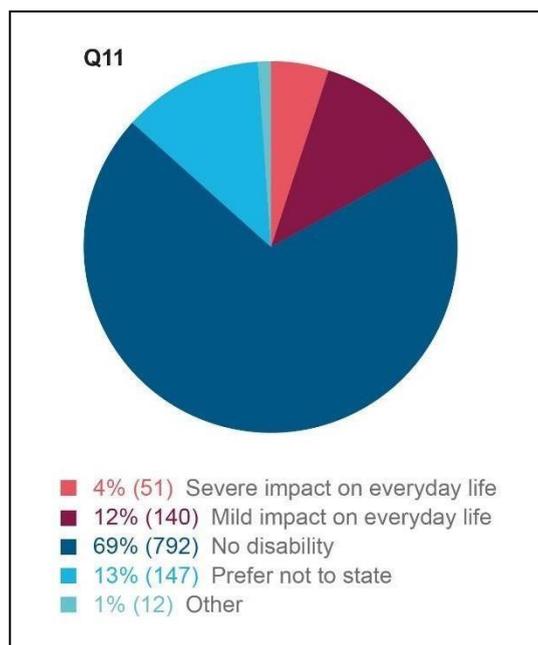
Respondents were asked:

Do you consider yourself to have a disability which has:

- Severe impact on everyday life
- Mild impact on everyday life
- No disability
- Prefer not to state

Other (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



Question 12

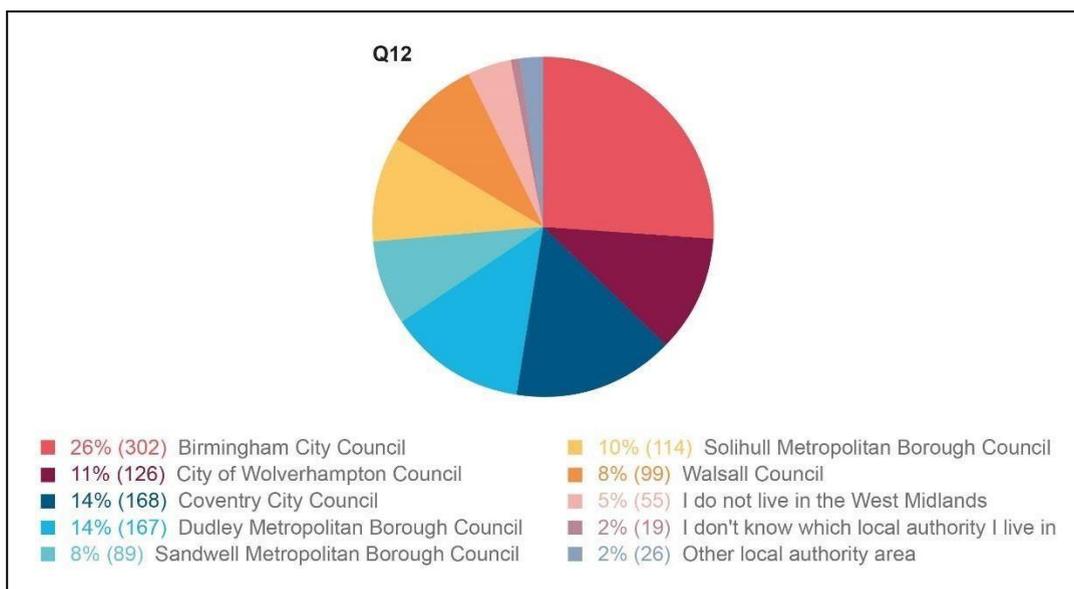
Respondents were asked:

Which constituent council area do you live in?

- Birmingham City Council
- City of Wolverhampton Council
- Coventry City Council
- Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
- Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
- Walsall Council
- I don't live in the West Midlands
- I don't know which local authority area I live in

Other local authority area (please specify)

Responses are illustrated below:



As required, the consultation was carried out by the constituent councils across the seven metropolitan council areas of the WMCA.

Additionally, several respondents from areas outside of the WMCA area have provided feedback in relation to proposals in the Scheme, which are included in the table below:

Local Authority	Number of respondents
Warwickshire	8
Staffordshire	5
Worcestershire	5
Gloucestershire	1
Shropshire	1
Telford and Wrekin	1
Unspecified	3

Question 13

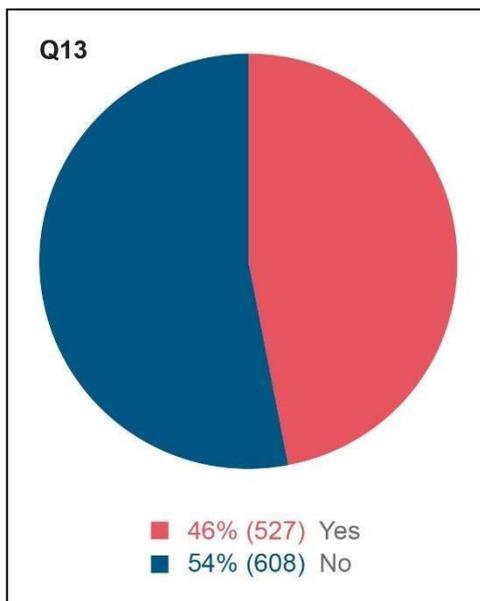
Respondents were asked:

Do you work for the public sector?

- Yes
 No

If so, could you please tell us which organisation you work for.

Responses are illustrated below:

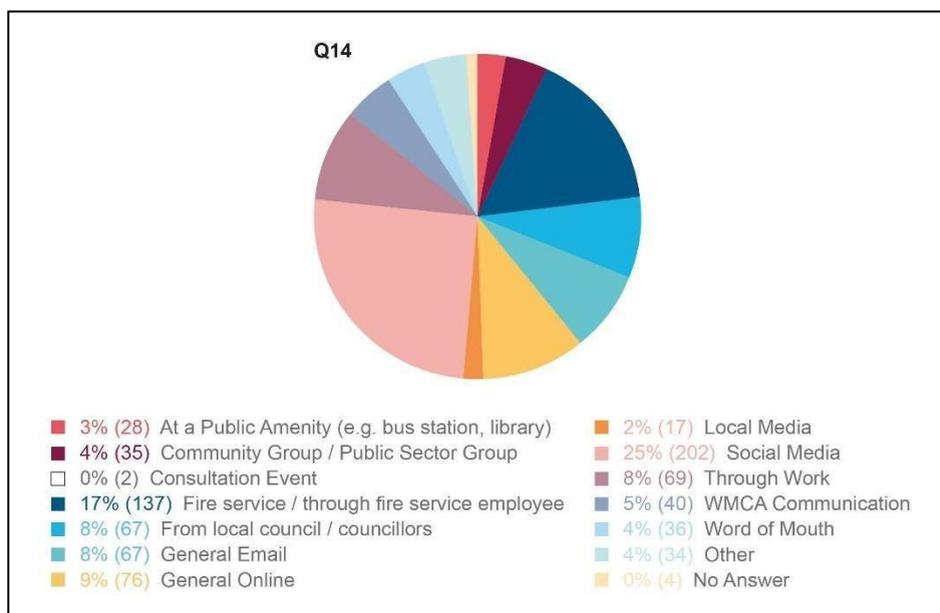


Question 14

Respondents were asked:

Where did you hear about this consultation?

Responses are illustrated below:



6. Open text feedback by theme

The consultation contained an open text feedback option as part of Question 1, as below:

Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority should take on responsibility for the functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority which includes:

- Community Safety (Mayor will approve Community Safety Plan on behalf of the Combined Authority)***
- Budgeting and setting of the Council Tax precept for the Fire Service across the seven constituent Councils***
- Appointment of the Chief Fire Officer by the Mayor of the Combined Authority***

Are there any other points you would like to make?

171 comments were submitted under this free text option. The comments varied in tone, theme and relevance. Some of the responses may not be directly related to the proposals in the Scheme itself but are still relevant to consider as part of the overall consultation.

The free text responses which had a frequency of two or more are summarised by theme below (those with a frequency of one are detailed in a table after the summary):

- 18 of the comments received (11%) stated that the proposals would represent a decline in the accountability of those in charge of the fire service, as well as local councillors.
- 18 of the comments received (11%) raised fears over a lack of expertise/capacity within the WMCA to run the Fire Service.
- 17 of the comments received (10%) expressed satisfaction with the current arrangements while suggesting the current governance scheme does not need changing.
- 16 of the comments received (9%) raised concerns that various aspects of the fire service and other services are becoming increasingly politicised.
- 12 of the comments received (8%) expressed support for fire service to be within a larger regional organisation such as the WMCA to form a more coordinated approach/make more accountable.
- Nine of the comments received (5%) referred to a lack of faith that enough money will be spent to support the Fire Service across the region.
- Nine of the comments received (5%) raised concern over perceived additional expenditure and/or bureaucracy changes would bring.
- Seven of the comments received (4%) said that the running of the fire service should stay with the Chief Fire Officer.
- Five of the comments received (3%) stated their general opposition to the WMCA/Mayor, but did not comment on the proposals specifically.

- Four of the comments received (3%) said that the WMCA is taking on too many responsibilities too quickly since its inception.
- Four of the comments received (3%) said local councils/councillors should decide whether the proposals go ahead.
- Three of the comments received (2%) suggested the Council Tax income should be apportioned to reflect the needs of each individual local authority.
- Three of the comments received (2%) said there should be safeguards to protect the WMFS budget and specialist decision making.
- Three of the comments received (2%) felt the new proposals suggested as part of the consultation are already a foregone conclusion.
- Three of the comments received (2%) said that the WMCA running the Fire Service would be preferable to the Fire Service being run under the Police and Crime Commissioner instead.
- Three of the comments received (2%) raised concern that the quality of the Fire Service would decrease.
- Three of the comments received (2%) said the proposed changes were too difficult for the average person to understand.
- Three of the comments received (2%) said they would like to see a decent level of savings made as part of the proposals.
- Two of the comments received (1%) raised general opposition to the proposals.
- Two of the comments received (1%) argued the current fire authority isn't working as WMFS has too much middle/senior management.
- Two of the comments received (1%) were concerned that the new governance structure could hamper current partnerships with the NHS and third sector.
- Two of the comments received (1%) said the Fire Service is unable to budget properly under the current arrangement.
- Two of the comments received (1%) from respondents were not worried how the Fire Service is managed as long as it is done well and the relevant staff are happy.
- Two of the comments received (1%) stated that the Fire Unions should have been involved at an earlier stage.
- Two of the comments (1%) said the Fire Authority is currently democratic with a mix of views.

Further comments which were received during the consultation are listed in the table below:

Response by theme	Frequency
Police should be governed by WMCA and Mayor to be PCC as in London & Manchester.	1
Birmingham City Council cannot be trusted to utilise taxpayers' money.	1
Communications need to be improved.	1
Current staff should be protected and be given opportunities for transfer to new authority or voluntary redundancy.	1
The Fire Service should be run and funded by central government.	1
The Fire Service should be privatised to allow choice for tax payers.	1
'Yet another American system'.	1
Only the benefits of WMCA taking control of WMFS have been presented, you do not show the other side.	1
I would expect the Community Safety Plan to be subject to public consultation.	1
More fire engines and rescue boats are needed.	1
Open Walsall Fire Station.	1
Hand Coventry area to Warwickshire Fire & Rescue - better value for money for all parties.	1
Would like to see the Mayor engage regularly with firefighters.	1
There is also scope for closer collaboration with WMAS perhaps with some shared stations.	1
What are the thoughts of the PCC?	1
The appointment of the Chief Fire Officer should not be by the Mayor.	1
Would describe the proposals as 'micromanaging'.	1
Expressed wish not to alter firefighters contracts.	1
The WMFS are not being updated when residents have already had their free Safe and Well Check.	1
Insufficient room provided to submit response.	1
Making the WMCA larger doesn't necessarily mean the service will be better.	1
Fire station in West Bromwich is a vital part of the town.	1
The number of councillors should be reduced	1
Lack of trust for local councils	1
Segregation of budget decisions and safety decisions are limited.	1
The mayor was not voted in to take on this role	1
Perception the proposals would mean the closure of local facilities for emergency services.	1
Would like to see other options available	1
The firefighters should have their say first	1
Please bring back the West Midlands county boundary	1
The Mayor is governed by the Councils	1
There is not enough information to make an informed decision	1
Preference for more than one person to be in charge	1

Preference for Aldridge Fire Station to remain open	1
No one but Phil Loach will have any idea how a fire service runs	1

7. Stakeholder Representations

As well as formal consultation responses via online or paper methods, stakeholder representations were made regarding the proposals in connection with the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority Scheme Appendix B.

Stakeholder representations were received from:

- Office of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner,
- Andrea McIntyre Member of the European Parliament for the West Midlands,
- West Midlands Fire Brigades Union.
- Professor Simon Brake, Chief Officer of Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group and Vice Chair of the West Midlands Clinical Senate,
- Richard Bacon, Pricewaterhouse Coopers, partner responsible for Public Sector,
- Kiran Kenth, Wider Workforce Development Manager at Royal Society for Public Health,
- Nick Page, Chief Executive, Solihull Council,
- Cllr Robert Sleigh, Leader, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council,
- Paul Faulkner, Chief Executive at Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce and
- Cllr John Edwards, Chair, West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

Full details are provided in Appendix C

Appendix A – Consultation Documentation

Consultation Poster



The poster features a blue background with the West Midlands Combined Authority logo in the top left corner. The main heading 'HAVE YOUR SAY' is in large white letters. Below it, the text reads: 'We want your views on the future governance of the West Midlands Fire Service'. Further down, it says 'Find out more & take part online' followed by the URL 'wmca.org.uk/wmfs'. Below that, it says 'Or pick up a copy and prepaid envelope here' with an envelope icon. The dates '11 January 2018 - 8 March 2018' are listed. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a fire station with two fire engines and a city skyline in the background.

WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

HAVE YOUR SAY

We want your views on the future governance of
the West Midlands Fire Service

Find out more & take part online
wmca.org.uk/wmfs

Or pick up a copy and prepaid envelope here



11 January 2018 - 8 March 2018

Consultation Survey

“Have your say”

Future governance of West Midlands Fire Service



Introduction:

We want your views on who should run West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) in the future.

More people are coming to live and work in the West Midlands, new businesses are starting up here and plans for HS2 means our population will continue to rise. Your fire service must be ready to meet these additional demands and tailor how they work to meet future challenges.

We are carrying out a consultation on whether your fire service should be run by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA).

This follows an independent review of how WMFS is currently run and governed, and whether changes need to be made for the future.

The review focused on how a new governance model would impact your community, how WMFS could deliver improved public services across the region, improved scrutiny, transparency and accountability - all while providing value for money.

Several options were considered and evaluated before the WMCA was identified as the best option to ensure your fire service continues to meet its overarching vision: making the West Midlands safer, stronger and healthier.

Following this the WMFS and the WMCA undertook a 'Governance Review' which can be found on the WMCA website. This identified the benefits that could be achieved by coming together.

Possible benefits include a more joined up way of working with the WMCA and its members – including local councils, health providers and the police – contributing to a shared vision for the region. This could result in public services being delivered at a reduced cost in a coordinated, integrated and collaborative way.

Following this a 'Scheme' was prepared which details how the WMFS would operate within the WMCA and who would be responsible for making decisions. The scheme can be found on the WMCA website. It would also see existing fire service staff transfer to and be employed by WMCA.

It is this scheme we are now consulting on to get your views.

If WMFS were to move under the WMCA, it would not change the type of incidents and emergencies you are used to seeing firefighters attend.

Currently WMFS is governed by a Fire Authority, which is made up of 27 councillors from the seven West Midlands local authorities which make up the WMCA.

If the WMCA were to govern WMFS, the elected Mayor would be singularly accountable for the fire service. A Fire Advisory Committee would also be put in place - made up of councillors, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and representatives of the Health and Ambulance Trusts – who would advise and support the Mayor, while reviewing and scrutinising the Mayor's decisions.

The WMCA is made up of seven *constituent councils which vote on policies and plans to improve the West Midlands. The Mayor is an elected official (a key requirement of the first devolution deal) who chairs the board of the WMCA. To date, the WMCA has secured two devolution deals with government which means money and powers are transferred from central government to local authorities. This means they can decide for themselves locally on the best ways to spend that money for the overall benefit of the region.

By coming under the WMCA, WMFS would work with organisations across the region more effectively. This would include sharing workspaces, better emergency planning and an easier exchange of key information, ensuring your safety is at the heart of everything we do.

We will be consulting across the seven constituent council areas including: local people, businesses, local enterprise partnerships (LEPs), organisations and people who work with the fire service for their views.

The consultation will run for eight-weeks from January 1st to March 8th 2018. Your responses will be fed back to the Home Office and if the government decides this is the best option, they will create a *Statutory Order, based on the 'Scheme', which will enable the changes to take place.

You can find out more information and give us your views by taking part in the survey through our website <https://www.wmca.org.uk/>

Links to the consultation are also available on the seven constituent council websites.

*Please see glossary for more information and explanation of terms

Question 1:

Following an independent review of how your fire service is currently governed, we are proposing that the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) will take on responsibility for West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS). The review examined how a new governance model could impact communities; deliver improved public services across the West Midlands; improve scrutiny, transparency and accountability, while providing value for money. Benefits of changing the WMFS governance include a more joined up way of working with WMCA members - such as local authorities, health providers and the police – contributing to a shared vision for the region, resulting in public services being delivered at a reduced cost in a coordinated, integrated and collaborative way.



Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority should take on responsibility for the functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority which includes:

- Community Safety (Mayor will approve Community Safety Plan on behalf of the Combined Authority)
- Budgeting and setting of the Council Tax precept for the Fire Service across the seven constituent Councils
- Appointment of the Chief Fire Officer by the Mayor of the Combined Authority

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

Are there any other points you would like to make?

Question 2:

If the WMCA ran the fire service, there would be a single point of accountability; the Mayor of the West Midlands. If the changes went ahead, a Fire Advisory Committee made up of 15 councillors, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Health and Ambulance Trust, would be put in place to review decisions taken by the Mayor.



Do you agree or disagree that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor?

- TM Strongly agree
- TM Agree
- TM Neither agree or disagree
- TM Disagree
- TM Strongly disagree
- TM Don't know

Question 3:

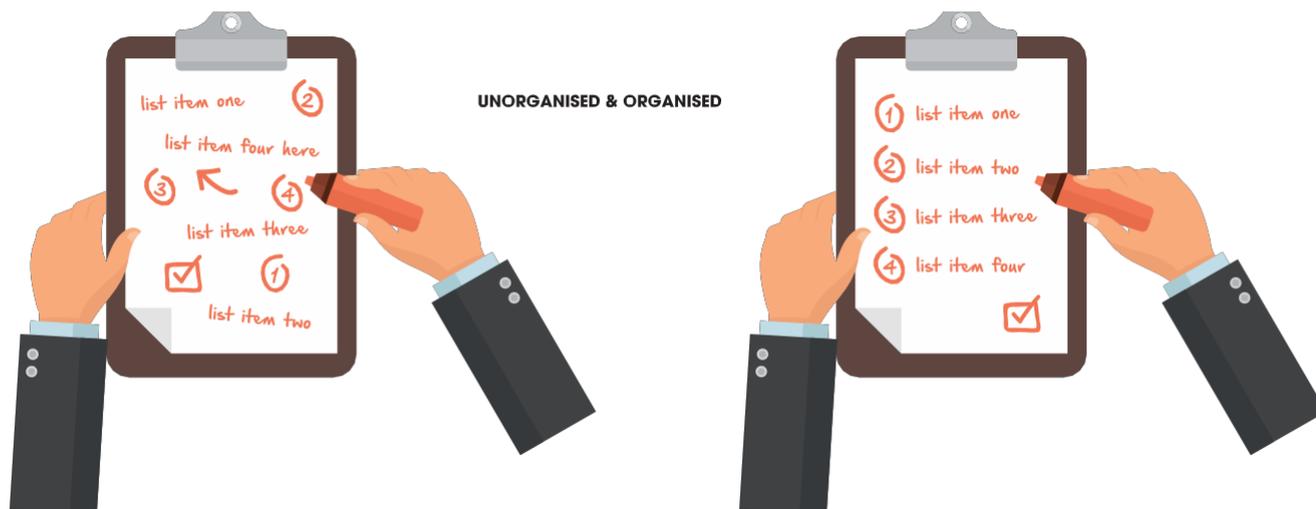
Do you agree or disagree that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service which will include:

- ` Workforce planning, management, appointment and development of staff
- ` The delivery of West Midlands Fire Service strategy
- ` Management of the West Midlands Fire Service

- TM Strongly agree
- TM Agree
- TM Neither agree or disagree
- TM Disagree
- TM Strongly disagree
- TM Don't know

Question 4:

The Mayor would be responsible for approving the community safety plan, budgeting, setting the fire Council Tax precept and appointing the Chief Fire Officer (CFO). The CFO currently reports to the Fire Authority, but under new arrangements would report directly to the Mayor. The CFO would still lead the day-to-day running of the fire service, including staff development, management of resources and importantly, delivering the fire service's strategic aims.



Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would

- 、 Improve the services which West Midlands Fire Service deliver
- 、 Create a stronger strategic focus
- 、 Improve collaboration to deliver joined-up services
- 、 Widen and strengthen prevention and protection work with businesses and communities to reduce vulnerability to fire risks

- TM Strongly agree
- TM Agree
- TM Neither agree or disagree
- TM Disagree
- TM Strongly disagree
- TM Don't know

Question 5:



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

The Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely:

- ` to improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area
- ` to reflect the local communities
- ` to secure effective and convenient local government

TM Strongly agree

TM Agree

TM Neither agree or disagree

TM Disagree

TM Strongly disagree

TM Don't know

Tell us about yourself

The WMCA has a commitment to understanding the views and needs of different members of the community in the region. The "Tell us about yourself" section helps us understand which groups of people have taken part in the consultation and how views may vary between different groups. You are not required to answer these questions but your responses will help us make decisions based on evidence and will help us meet our duties under equality legislation.

Question 6:



Could you please tell us your age?

- TM Under 16
- TM 16 - 24
- TM 25 - 44
- TM 45 - 64
- TM 65+
- TM I do not wish to disclose

Question 7:

Could you please disclose your sexual orientation?

- TM Heterosexual
- TM Bisexual
- TM Gay
- TM Lesbian
- TM I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Question 8:

Ethnicity

- TM Asian British
- TM Indian
- TM Pakistani
- TM Bangladeshi
- TM White and black
- TM White and Asian
- TM Other mixed
- TM Black British
- TM Black Caribbean
- TM Black African
- TM White British
- TM White other
- TM Gypsy or Irish traveller
- TM I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Question 9:

Religion

- TM Christian (all denominations)
- TM Hindu
- TM Muslim
- TM None (includes atheist & Humanist)
- TM Sikh
- TM I do not wish to disclose

Other (please specify)

Question 10:

Could you please disclose your gender

- TM Female
- TM Male
- TM Transgender
- TM I do not wish to disclose

Question 11:

Do you consider yourself to have a disability which has:

- TM Severe impact on everydaylife
- TM Mild impact on everydaylife
- TM No disability
- TM Prefer not tostate

Other (please specify)

Question 12:

Which constituent council area do you live in?

- TM Birmingham City Council
- TM City of Wolverhampton Council
- TM Coventry City Council
- TM Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
- TM Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
- TM Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
- TM Walsall Council
- TM I don't live in theWest Midlands
- TM I don't know which local authority area I live in

Other local authority area (please specify)

Question 13:

Do you work for the public sector?

TM Yes

TM No

if so, could you please tell us which organisation you work for.

Question 14:

Where did you hear about this consultation?

Many thanks for taking part in this consultation. If you would like more information or to be kept updated, please provide an address or email address.

Glossary:

Community Safety Plan: Sets West Midlands Fire Services priorities and objectives in a rolling, three-year document which identifies and analyses risks across the West Midlands. It is also known as the Integrated Risk Management Plan or IRMP and helps plan the delivery of prevention, protection and response services.

Fire Advisory Committee: A Committee made up of several councillors and partners from across the West Midlands Combined Authority geographical area, which will oversee and scrutinise decisions taken by the Mayor.

WMCA constituent councils: Birmingham City Council; Coventry City Council; Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council; Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council; Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council; Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council; City of Wolverhampton Council.

Statutory Order: This is prepared by government and agreed by Parliament which applies further legislation to an existing Act. In this case, meaning the WMCA would be responsible for Fire Service activities. It allows changes to be introduced without having to pass a new act.

Secretary of State: A Cabinet Minister in charge of a government department. For the purposes of this consultation the Secretary of State is the Home Secretary.

Governance Review: A review of the current arrangements and the benefits that would result from the Fire Service being part of the WMCA.

Scheme: The proposed arrangements and responsibilities to enable the WMCA to undertake the role of the Fire Service.

Once completed please post back to us to the following address:

Customer Insight Team, 16 Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3SD

You can also fill in the consultation online at www.wmca.org.uk/wmfs

If you require help filling out the consultation call us at : 0345 835 8188 and for any other questions email ConsultationViews@wmca.org.uk

Appendix B - StakeholderList

<u>Title</u>	<u>Saluation</u>	<u>Constituency</u>
MPs		
Wendy Morton MP	Ms Morton	Aldridge-Brownhills
Preet Gill MP	Ms Gill	Birmingham Edgbaston
Jack Dromey MP	Mr Dromey	Birmingham Erdington
Roger Godsiff MP	Mr Godsiff	Birmingham Hall Green
Rt Hon Liam Byrne MP	Mr Byrne	Birmingham Hodge Hill
Shabana MahmoodMP	Ms Mahmood	Birmingham Ladywood
Richard Burden MP	Mr Burden	Birmingham Northfield
Khalid Mahmood MP	Mr Mahmood	Birmingham Perry Barr
Steve McCabe MP	Mr McCabe	Birmingham Selly Oak
Jess Phillips MP	Ms Phillips	Birmingham Yardley
Colleen Fletcher MP	Ms Fletcher	Coventry North East
Geoffrey RobinsonMP	Mr Robinson	Coventry North West
Jim Cunningham MP	Mr Cunningham	Coventry South
Ian Austin MP	Mr Austin	Dudley North
Mike Wood MP	Mr Wood	Dudley South
James Morris MP	Mr Morris	Halesowen and Rowley Regis
Rt Hon Dame Caroline Spelman	Dame Caroline	Meriden
Julian Knight MP	Mr Knight	Solihull
Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP	Mr Mitchell	Sutton Coldfield
Rt Hon Eddie Hughes MP	Mr Hughes	Walsall North
Valerie Vaz MP	Ms Vaz	Walsall South
Rt Hon John Spellar MP	Mr Spellar	Warley
Tom Watson MP	Mr Watson	West Bromwich East
Adrian Bailey MP	Mr Bailey	West Bromwich West
Emma ReynoldsMP	Ms Reynolds	Wolverhampton North East
Rt Hon Pat McFadden MP	Mr McFadden	Wolverhampton South East
Eleanor Smith MP	Ms Smith	Wolverhampton South West
Margot James MP	Ms James	Stourbridge
Rt Honourable Sajid Javid MP		
Rt Honourable Nick Hurd MP		
Ms Chloe Dunnett		Home Office
Mr Stephen Polly		Home Office
MEPs		
Jill Seymour MEP	Ms Seymour	UKIP
Neena Gill MEPCBE	Ms Gill	Labour

Dan Dalton MEP	Mr Dalton	Conservative
James Carver MEP	Mr Carver	UKIP
Siôn Simon MEP	Mr Simon	Labour
Anthea McIntyre MEP	Ms McIntyre	Conservative
Bill Etheridge MEP	Mr Etheridge	UKIP
Black and Ethnic Minorities		
The Manager	Sir/Madam	Birmingham Muslim Foundation Islamic Society of Britain (Birmingham branch) Jami Masjid and Islamic Centre Birmingham
Ms Mehmooda Qureshi	Ms Qureshi	Arrahma Islamic Centre
The Manager	Sir/Madam	Birmingham Central Mosque
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	
Bhai Sahib Bhai (Dr) Mohinder Singh OBE KSG	Dr Singh	Nishkam Centre Guru Nanah Gurdwara Sahib Walsall
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	Sikh Community and Youth Service UK
The Manager	Sir/Madam	West Midlands Police Sikh Association
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	Shree Hindu Community Centre
Mr Tarang Shelat	Mr Shelat	Bengali Association Midlands
Mr Santimoy De	Mr De	Shree Geeta Bhawan Temple & Hindu Priest Services
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	Hindu Cultural Resource Centre
The Manager	Sir/Madam	Durga Bhawan
The Manager	Sir/Madam	The Polish Centre
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	Emerging Communities Network
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	Emerging Communities Network Afro Caribbean Millennium Centre
The Manager	Sir/Madam	African Community Council For the Regions
To whom it may concern	Sir/Madam	

Future Governance Working Group

Brian Nash

Home Office

Jonathon Jardine

WM PCC Office

Paul Faulkner

Birmingham Chamber of
Commerce

Keith Ireland

MD City of Wolverhampton
Council

Nick Page

CEx Solihull Council

Tony Yeaman

Weightmans

Barbara Watt

Walsall Council

Simon Brake

Coventry Council

Richard Bacon

Pricewaterhouse Coopers,
partner responsible for Public
Sector.

Appendix C – Stakeholder Representation

WMCA Consultation on the future governance of West Midlands Fire Service PCC's Response

Response sent to: ConsultationViews@wmca.org.uk, on 8 March 2018

Questions ask the respondents whether they: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree or Disagree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, Don't Know.

Survey responses

Question 1:

Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority should take on responsibility for the functions of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority which includes:

- *Community Safety (Mayor will approve Community Safety Plan on behalf of the Combined Authority)*
- *Budgeting and setting of the Council Tax precept for the Fire Service across the seven constituent Councils*
- *Appointment of the Chief Fire Officer by the Mayor of the Combined Authority*

Answer 1:

Disagree

Reasons for disagreeing:

The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (the "OPCC") considers that the proposed 'Scheme' gives rise to the following queries and/or concerns. The OPCC would therefore need further explanation, assurances and amendments dealing with these concerns and queries in order to support and agree with the Scheme and Question 1:

- While it is clear that the Mayor has the power to appoint the Chief Fire Officer ("CFO"), is the Mayor also able to terminate the CFO's employment for poor performance, as Police & Crime Commissioners ("PCC(s)") are able to do with poorly performing Chief Constables?
- Is the CFO answerable to the West Midlands Combined Authority Constituent Members (the "WMCA") and/or the WMCA Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") as well, or is the CFO only answerable to the Mayor?
- If the CFO is answerable to the WMCA and/or the WMCA CEO as well, what happens if the either WMCA and/or the WMCA CEO disagrees with the Mayor, such as if the WMCA disagrees with the Mayor's termination of a CFO's appointment?
- Even if the proposal is that the CFO is not answerable to the WMCA and/or the WMCA CEO, what happens if the WMCA disagrees with the Mayor's strategic direction for the fire service, such as if the constituent member local authority leaders have serious concerns? In the event of such a disagreement, could the WMCA withhold the assets or funds or veto certain uses of such assets or funds?

The OPCC is concerned that the position is not clear in law as to who has the final say on major decisions requiring the use of WMCA assets and funds. This therefore leaves open the possibility for political and/or legal dispute which would not lend itself to the efficient provision of public services, and could undermine public confidence.

- The Scheme outlines the role of a committee (the "Committee"), the functions of which include seeking: "... to influence the Government on behalf of the Mayor in matters related to the delivery of fire and rescue services locally, regionally and nationally". The OPCC is concerned that this appears to describe the committee as having a lobbying function. The OPCC believes the Committee's role as a lobbying body on behalf of the Mayor at a local and/or national level may present conflicts of interest. The OPCC's view is that it is important the elected Mayor has the ability to present a coherent political and strategic narrative, which may be undermined by a committee made up of different political parties by a large number of individuals. It is the Mayor's role to lobby on behalf of her or his own Office's policies, visions and strategies. The proposed Committee may undermine this.

- The OPCC is concerned that the Scheme does not include the position of deputy Mayor for the fire service. It is the OPCC's view that without this position, there is a risk that the fire service will not receive the strategic attention it requires due to the mayor's competing priorities. The OPCC would suggest:
 - A Deputy Mayor for Fire, selected by the Mayor but subject to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee confirmation hearing.
 - The terms of the Deputy Mayor's appointment would be agreed with the Combined Authority Constituent Members.
 - The Deputy Mayor post would not be politically restricted.
 - The Mayor would delegate functions to the Deputy Mayor for the exercise of fire governance functions, save for the core functions such as hiring and firing the CFO (as applicable), setting the budget, precept and strategic direction.
 - The CFO would be required to report routinely to the Deputy Mayor regarding the operational effectiveness and efficiency of WMFS.
 - The Deputy Mayor should be scrutinised routinely by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a sub-committee of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - A protocol that sets out the roles of the Mayor, the Cabinet, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the WMCA CEO and the CFO, and protects both the operational independence of the CFO and the Mayor/Deputy Mayor's governance functions.

Please note that we have not selected 'Strongly disagree', because if the OPCC's concerns were addressed, they would go some way to mitigating the perceived problems with the proposed merger.

Question 2:

Do you agree or disagree that there should be a Fire Advisory Committee, consisting of members from the WMCA constituent councils, the Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Health and Ambulance Trust, that will advise, support and review decisions made by the Mayor?

Answer 2:

Disagree

Reason for disagreeing

For the reasons referred to above under Question 1, the OPCC has some concern with the Committee's lobbying function, as currently proposed.

Notwithstanding that, the OPCC does consider that it makes sense for the Committee to have representatives from a range of other public services including other emergency and health services. There may also be an advantage in including relevant expertise from the third sector.

Question 3:

Do you agree or disagree that the Chief Fire Officer should be accountable to the Mayor for the operational functions of the Fire Service which will include:

- *Workforce planning, management, appointment and development of staff*
- *The delivery of West Midlands Fire Service strategy*

Answer:

Agree

Reason for agreeing

The OPCC agrees in principle to the CFO being accountable to the Mayor, subject to our comments above under Question 1.

Question 4:

Do you agree or disagree that the Mayoral WMCA taking on responsibility for the function of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority would

- *Improve the services which West Midlands Fire Service deliver*
- *Create a stronger strategic focus*
- *Improve collaboration to deliver joined-up services*
- *Widen and strengthen prevention and protection work with businesses and communities*
- *to reduce vulnerability to fire risks*

Answer:

Neither agree or disagree

Reasons

The OPCC can see that there may be an advantage on a single accountable figure (i.e. the Mayor) being responsible for the strategic direction of the fire service, as opposed to the Fire Authority which currently operates under a structure which is arguably less visible to the public. For instance, by one individual having the responsibility for achieving positive outcomes, there is clearer accountability, which translates into greater transparency for the public. However, any perceived advantage to the merger is subject to the OPCC's comments above under Question 1.

Question 5:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

The Order to transfer the Fire Service into the Combined Authority is likely:

- *to improve the statutory functions in the Combined Authority area*
- *to reflect the local communities*
- *to secure effective and convenient local government*

Answer:

Disagree

Reasons for disagreeing

See the OPCC's comments above under Question 1.

Question: 6-14 concern the personal information of the individual filling out the consultation and not substantive questions.

Other comments

The OPCC would also like to make the following additional observations:

- **Independent review:** Under page 2 it says that an independent review has been carried out as to the best governance arrangement, prior to this consultation. It is not clear to the OPCC how this prior review has been independent, which could potentially undermine the claim that the model has been developed in the best interests of the people of the West Midlands.

- The OPCC has expressed multiple concerns with the proposed governance throughout the development of the proposals in the Scheme, and is therefore disappointed to see that these reservations have not been expressed anywhere within the consultation.

From: Anthea McIntyre [<mailto:anthea@antheamcintyre.com>]
Sent: 08 March 2018 17:59
To: Consultation Views <ConsultationViews@wmca.org.uk>
Subject: West Midlands Fire Service Public Consultation

I write with regard to the West Midlands Fire Service Public Consultation. The West Midland Fire Service (WMFS) does an excellent job keeping our local communities safe. However, due to the ever increasing population and with more businesses moving to the area, I feel the service would be better governed by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). Having a single elected figure, such as the Mayor leading this service would make the WMFS more accountable, transparent and provide better value for money to the tax payer.

In my role as a Member of the European Parliament for the West Midlands Region, I represent the interests and concerns of all my constituents in the WMCA area to the best of ability and I work with the seven constituent local authorities. I do hope that the Home Office are satisfied that a competent consultation has been carried out and realise the importance of this sensible change for the West Midlands region.

Yours sincerely

Anthea McIntyre
Anthea McIntyre MEP
Conservative - West Midlands Region



Future Governance of West Midlands Fire Service

West Midlands Fire Brigades Union Position

Background

WMFS are currently governed by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA). This authority is made up of 27 Councillors appointed to the authority with the Chair elected by members on the authority. The authority delegates the running of the day-to-day operations of the fire service to the Chief Fire Officer (CFO). However, WMFRA is the employer of all staff and is the ultimate decision maker on policy and delegates other decision making to the Audit Committee, Scrutiny Committee and Executive.

In May 2016, the Secretary of State clearly set out that the fire sector would be expected to reform on a number of subjects, one being governance.

With the move of the fire service to the Home Office in January 2016, and the introduction of the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the clear preference from government was for the fire service to be governed, where a business case could be made, by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

The Fire Brigades Union (FBU) national policy opposes a PCC takeover of the fire service for a number of reasons, including blurring the line between a humanitarian service and a crime fighting service and the risk that the fire service would just become an arm of the Police whose budget could be dipped into for Police activities.

The FBU have concerns on the ability of a Metro Mayor to govern the Fire Service, including a financial risk and a question of whether any Metro Mayor has the expertise to govern a fire service. The Metro Mayor may seem a better fit from the outside looking in, but the best model of governance of the fire service is an independent governing body that is fully accountable and has a democratic decision making process. Essentially, a Fire Authority.

WMFRA in April 2016 set up a working group with an independent Chair to look at future governance of WMFS. This working group concluded that a reformed Fire Authority and a Mayoral Combined Authority as the most 'desirable' options.

The FBU would have preferred that a reformed Fire Authority model of governance was explored further and a business case developed, no matter the difficulties to this, but this was not consulted on and in February 2017, the WMFRA agreed that a Mayoral Combined Authority model of governance was the route to be taken.

A case was then developed for a Mayoral WMCA model of governance for WMFS which was developed without any input from WMFS employees or trade unions. In September 2017, the WMCA board was recommended to

agree that the proposed governance model of WMFS will be a Mayoral WMCA. This recommendation was accepted, again without any input from WMFS and trade unions being considered.

The model that was agreed in September 2017 was put out to an 8 week public consultation on 11th January 2018.

FBU Concerns

The FBU concerns with the proposed model of Mayoral WMCA governance fall into 3 categories; Democracy, Accountability and Employee Representation.

These points have been raised with management of WMFS and the Chair of WMFRA but have either been ignored or overlooked.

- Democracy

The democracy of any decision making for the fire service appears to have been stripped out completely under the proposed Mayoral WMCA governance model.

A Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee is being proposed which will be made up of 15 representatives from the 7 local authorities with 3 co-opted members from Police, Ambulance and Health. There is no suggestion that this committee will have any decision making ability, it is clear that the Metro Mayor will assume all decision making authority. The proposed Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee will be nothing more than a link between the Metro Mayor and the 7 local authorities reporting on WMFS matters, where discussions can be held but no interventions could be made.

There is no suggestion of any democratic structures for decision making, leaving one sole person to make decisions on the future of the fire service. There is a very real risk of the Metro Mayor and the CFO making decisions 'behind closed doors' on the direction of the fire service without any democratic process, scrutiny or balance of information.

All decisions should have to pass through the fire committee with a majority before they are ratified. That is the democracy that is needed to ensure no one person can make decisions without properly considering all the options and information.

- Accountability

The accountability of decision making is flawed from the beginning. The Fire Advisory Committee is the proposed body that will hold to account and scrutinise the decisions being made. The proposed name for the Fire Advisory Committee is misleading as there is no requirement for members of the committee to have any expertise or experience in firefighting or fire service matters. Without such expertise or experience, the FBU have serious concerns that no decisions can be held to account at all.

- The 3 co-opted members have expertise in Policing, Ambulance and Health.

In order for decisions to be held to account, it is imperative that those who are advising the Metro Mayor have the knowledge and ability to scrutinise and understand the subjects that are being discussed. The Fire Advisory Committee currently has no balance for an informed decision by the Metro Mayor to be made. Essentially, the only information that the committee can advise on and for the Metro Mayor to make a decision on will come purely from the CFO, or a representative of management.

Staff Representation

WMFS employees haven't been sufficiently informed, let alone consulted with when the proposal was being formulated. The trade unions have been held at arm's length with no real engagement on the governance proposal as it was being formulated. All of this proposal was formulated behind closed doors between senior WMFS staff and presumably Metro Mayor Staff.

Staff representation feeds directly into the democracy and accountability of the proposed governance model. Not only would a reasonable amount of trade union seats on the committee bring balance, it would bring an element of firefighting expertise and knowledge, both from the frontline and from support staff, including an overview of staff concerns and feelings on the direction of WMFS. This would be essential for the Metro Mayor to make informed and balanced decisions in the interest of the communities we serve and to maintain good industrial relations.

It is very disappointing that this has not been recommended and there is no evidence to suggest it was even considered.

Recommendations

- That a democratic constitution is formed for the Fire Advisory Committee, ensuring that no decisions can be made without a majority of the members with voting rights on the Fire Advisory Committee.
- That a further co-opted member of the Fire Advisory Committee is added, which would be a neutral expert in the Fire Service, having no vested interests in WMFS.
- That the recognised trade unions are each given a non-voting seat on the Fire Advisory Committee.

Conclusion

The FBU have severe reservations on the proposed model of governance for the WMFS. It does not appear to bring about an improved and more accountable decision making form of governance, in fact in some areas it is regressive.

The FBU would prefer the governance of the fire service to remain independent under a reformed Fire Authority. This we believe, provides the most effective and accountable governance of WMFS.

The proposed model raises significant concerns as to whether it serves in the interest of the communities of the West Midlands or whether it places the decision making and power more firmly in the hands of a few.

The FBU are extremely disappointed and concerned that neither the trade unions nor their members have been actively involved in developing the proposed governance model.

The current proposed model of governance must be amended to address the above points raised by the FBU to ensure that the future governance of WMFS is accountable, democratic, transparent and effective to ensure WMFS is delivering on its duty to the communities of the West Midlands.

The FBU have serious concerns that the proposed governance of WMFS in its current form poses a risk to ensuring the best decisions can be made for the fire service and the communities of the West Midlands.

Prof. Simon Brake

CCG Chief Officer s.brake@nhs.uk or
01922 618327

**Mr Phil Loach, QFSM , Chief Fire Officer, WMFS Cllr
John Edwards, Chair, WMF&RA**

19th March, 2018

(via email)

Dear Phil & John

Current Reform Proposals for the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority within the West Midlands Combined Authority

I have been working with WMFS for a number of years, exploring and indeed implementing a range of partnership working and innovations which have seen imaginative and positive use of public resource in serving our citizens in the most effective way possible. I was also invited to sit on the future working group considering future governance models of WMFS during the past 18 months.

Based on this experience and knowledge, I have considered the current proposals being consulted upon by the West Midlands Combined Authority for the Fire Authority's future governance and working and thoroughly support them. I believe that they offer the best model for public sector reform, and will enable effective cross-boundary working and partnerships in ways that will prove to be of significant benefit to the public.

The previous arrangements were very effective in getting the service to its current state of high quality & responsiveness, as well as readiness for reform. The proposed new arrangements, however, specifically the inclusion of partner organisations and sectors on the authority, will support WMFS very effectively on the next stage of its ongoing development and further improvement in service to the public.

I hope that the proposal's consideration and implementation in response to consultation responses received occurs soon, and that the good work of the service can progress at pace.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Simon Brake

Chief Officer

Chair: Dr Anand Rischie Accountable Officer: Paul Maubach Chief Officer: Prof Simon Brake
Jubilee House | Bloxwich Lane | Walsall | WS2 7JL T: 01922 618388



Cllr John Edwards, Chairman West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority
Phil Loach, Chief Fire Officer
West Midlands Fire Service
99 Vauxhall Road
BIRMINGHAM
B7 4HW

8 May 2018

Dear John and Phil

Stakeholder letter - future of governance for the West Midlands Fire Service

I have pleasure in writing to support the West Midlands Fire Service's proposals for future governance.

As you know, I was the independent chair of the working group which in 2016/7 reported on the options for governance change. The Fire and Rescue Authority had expressed its preference for a mayoral model, and the working group, with broad stakeholder representation, considered all the options at that point, and made a series of observations and recommendations.

In summary, we concluded that:

- There was no stand out option;
- The West Midlands Combined Authority was still at that point in shadow form, and its programme was yet to be developed. It had the potential to provide a vehicle for more effective service collaboration across the West Midlands, something which the Fire Service was keen to grow from an already strong base;
- We saw significant potential for financial benefit from mergers of fire services; at the time there seemed limited appetite for this;
- We warned that a "two-stage" process was disadvantageous because of two sets of risk and change costs;
- We recommended that the Fire and Rescue Authority itself needed to advance its own collaboration in advance of future governance change of the service, and
- From the perspective of the Fire Service and its service delivery model, the mayoral route had the advantage of advancing the collaboration agenda while retaining the strategy and service delivery model.

As I understand it the proposals are:

- The transfer governance of the WMFS to the Mayoral WMCA in Feb-April 2019;
- The Mayor will be the accountable publicly elected figure for WMFS and with the WMCA will take on the roles and responsibilities of the fire authority;
- The WMCA CFO will be head of paid service and will be held accountable for operational service delivery, workforce reform and development, as well as the management and allocation of all resources. The CFO will be accountable for all of this directly to the Mayor, and

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Cornwall Court, 19 Cornwall Street, Birmingham, B3 2DT
T: +44 (0) 121 265 5000, F: +44 (0) 121 265 5050, www.pwc.co.uk

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England with registered number OC303525. The registered office of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is 1 Embankment Place, London WC2N 6RH. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for designated investment business and by the Solicitors Regulation Authority for regulated legal activities.



- A Mayoral Fire Advisory Committee is proposed to undertake a support role for the Mayor but also a scrutiny function - reviewing decisions made by the Mayor in relation to fire. This committee will have no executive powers.

The Fire Authority received our recommendations and has acted on them, evidenced by the following:

- The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner is now a member of the Fire and Rescue Authority and is a full voting member when attending in person;
- A statutory order has been laid for a reformed Authority and this will come into place at the forthcoming AGM;
- Two co-optees will take their places on the reformed Authority on the 25th June, and
- The reformed Authority consists of 15 members, a reduction of 12 from the current 27.

My observation is that this will provide the basis on which the Authority can substantially improve its ability to work strategically and collaboratively.

At the time of the working group report, the Combined Authority was still in formation. Since then the following has been achieved in relation to the Fire Service:

- Agreement of a model of governance with the Mayor and locally with stakeholders for the Fire Service within the Combined Authority, following a further governance review and development of a scheme;
- inclusion of this model in the Combined Authority's second devolution deal;
- seeking of approvals for the governance review and scheme to be submitted to the Secretary of State, and
- setting of a target transfer date for governance of 1st April 2019, acknowledging that much needs to be done in the interim.

I have discussed the progress with officers of the Fire Service, and have concluded that the progress since the working group has been substantial and wholly consistent with the outcomes of the group.

As I said in the report of the working group, I was impressed by the Fire Service's commitment to public service and particularly to vulnerable people in the West Midlands. I am very pleased to see that the Service is taking concrete steps to embed these strengths at the heart of the new governance structures for the West Midlands.

Yours sincerely

Richard Bacon
richard.f.bacon@pwc.com
T: +44(0)121 265 5492

4th May 2018

Dear Karen

I write with regard to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) public consultation for the future governance proposals of West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS), as Director of National and Regional Programmes of The Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) and a Strategic Public Health Advisor to the organisation.

The RSPH firmly support these proposals, which have been built upon a sound evidence base and have sought to understand the best option for future governance of WMFS, aligned to the best delivery of its services and strategy.

The options being pursued through the WMCA's second devolution deal provides the best approach to future governance given the changes emerging across the West Midlands, as well as the growing expectations of our government for reform of the Fire Sector.

The proposals seek to support the Mayor in this new role through ensuring the right levels of accountability and responsibilities are reflected within this new model for governance. Most critically this involves embedding the appropriate levels of independent operational decision making through the role of Chief Fire Officer, the role of the Fire Advisory Committee in supporting but also importantly scrutinising decisions made and enabling a focus on protecting funding for the provision of services to local communities.

WMFS does an excellent job keeping our local communities safer, stronger and healthier and with the ever-increasing demands of a growing population and business base, vulnerability, demands on health and social care services and the pressures these can cause in society; governance of WMFS through the Mayor as part of the WMCA, will provide the future sustainability of the WMFS strategy and its service delivery model. RSPH truly believe that this approach contributes to wider West Midlands priorities and the health inequalities agenda.

RSPH shall continue to work with WMFS on a number of health and wellbeing projects throughout 2019 and I anticipate, following the consultations, WMFS will be able to move forward with the proposals to enable this new model of governance to be implemented in 2019 that RSPH fully support and endorse.

Yours Sincerely,

Kiran Kenth
Director of National and Regional Programmes
The Royal Society for Public Health

RSPH John Snow House 59 Mansell Street London E1 8AN
+44 (0)20 7265 7300 info@rsph.org.uk www.rsph.org.uk  [@RSPH](#)

Patron Her Majesty The Queen President Lord Hunt of Kings Heath Vice President Professor Lord Patel of Bradford
Chair of Council Phillip Woodward Chief Executive Shirley Cramer CBE

RSPH Incorporated by Royal Charter Charity Registration Number 1125949

Deborah Cadman
Chief Executive
West Midlands Combined Authority
16 Summer Lane
BIRMINGHAM
B19 3SD

NICK PAGE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Council House Manor Square
Solihull West Midlands B91 3QB
Tel: 0121-704 6018
Email: npage@solihull.gov.uk
www.solihull.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Please ask for: Nick Page

Our Ref: NP/AK/2018042001pc

Date: 20 April 2018

Dear Deborah

West Midlands Fire Service Consultation

I am writing with regards to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) public consultation on the proposed future governance of the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS), as Chief Executive of Solihull Council.

The WMFS is a key organisation in the region and is an excellent partner striving to make the West Midlands safer, stronger and healthier. Through this recent review into governance it is clear this work will continue to thrive.

As outlined in the governance scheme document the WMCA was selected as the most appropriate option for future governance of the WMFS using a wide range of evidence evaluated by trusted peers. I agree with their conclusion that this change would result in more joined up working across the region, linking local services and facilitating a shared vision for the West Midlands.

Under the proposed model the Mayor of the West Midlands would become the single point of accountability for the WMFS. Through this restructure the organisation will benefit from increased streamlining of its processes and ensure its integration with public bodies across the West Midlands. Finally, these changes will reduce costs to the tax payer in exchange for a more transparent, modern and collaborative WMFS ready and able to meet the needs of our fast growing region.

Yours sincerely

Nick Page
Chief Executive

2018042001pc

Mr Andy Street
Mayor of the West Midlands
West Midlands Combined Authority
16 Summer Lane
BIRMINGHAM
B19 3SD

COUNCILLOR R K SLEIGH
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

3 Holly Lane
Marston Green
Birmingham
B37 7AP

Telephone: 0121-779 4760
email: rsleigh@solihull.gov.uk

Our Ref: RS/AK/2018042002pc

Date 23 April 2018

Dear Andy

West Midlands Fire Service Consultation

I am writing with regards to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) public consultation on the proposed future governance of the West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS) as Leader of Solihull Council.

Solihull Council fully supports the proposed change in WMFS governance from the Fire Authority to WMCA as outlined in the scheme document for the consultation, which sought to clarify the best option for future governance of WMFS.

Through this proposal we believe the WMFS will benefit from some reduced costs alongside increased collaboration, coordination and integration of the service with other public bodies across the West Midlands.

The WMFS is committed to making our communities safer, stronger and healthier even with the increasing demands required of the service in our fast growing region. By coming under the WMCA governance model the Mayor of the West Midlands would become the single point of accountability for the service, further streamlining its processes alongside increasing transparency. Therefore we believe the proposed WMCA model is the best choice for the future running of the WMFS to develop a shared vision for the region.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Bob Sleigh OBE
Leader of the Council

14th May 2018

Dear Deborah,

I am writing to express my support for the West Midlands Combined Authority's proposal on the future governance of the West Midlands Fire Service.

The Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce (GBCC) is here to connect, support and grow local businesses. Accredited by the British Chambers, we have acted as the voice of local businesses since 1813.

GBCC is headquartered in Edgbaston, Birmingham, and covers six geographic divisions and three themed Chambers. It has over 3000 members.

As a Chamber of Commerce, we appreciate and seek to promote the importance of inter-agency collaboration and joined up planning in tackling some of the major challenges facing the city region. We are also aware that the role of the Fire Service has developed far beyond its core remit of responding to emergencies into broader prevention and community engagement activity.

Creating a structure which embeds joined up development of strategy, reduces risk of duplication and ensures collective pursuit of shared aims is a positive step.

I was part of the WMCA's Future Governance Working Group which undertook an initial exploration of the potential options. From this experience and the final consultation document I believe that this model can support the delivery of services to local communities, with increased scrutiny, transparency and accountability of decisions while delivering value for money.

I support the proposal that the West Midlands Combined Authority is the most appropriate regional body to take on this role with the West Midlands Mayor the most appropriate elected, accountable leader.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Faulkner
CEO

Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce

A: Birmingham Chamber of Commerce
75 Harborne Road, Edgbaston
Birmingham, B15 3DH

E: Vanessa Stolban, PA to the CEO, V.Stolban@birmingham-chamber.com

T: 0121 454 6171
F: 0121 455 8670
E: info@birmingham-chamber.com
W: greaterbirminghamchambers.com

Fire Service Headquarters,
99 Vauxhall Road, Birmingham B7 4HW

Cllr John Edwards
Chair of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority

Mr Andy Street
Mayor
West Midlands Combined Authority
16 Summer Lane
Birmingham

Date: 5 April 2018
Our Ref: JE/A1701181
Tel No: 0121 380 6047/6906
Please ask for: John Edwards/
Julie Connor

By Email
meera.sonecha@wmca.org.uk

Dear Andy

I write with regard to the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) public consultation for the future governance proposals of West Midlands Fire Service (WMFS), as Chair of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA).

The WMFRA firmly support these proposals which have been built upon a sound evidence base and have sought to understand the best option for future governance of WMFS, aligned to the best delivery of its services and Strategy.

The options being pursued through the WMCA's second devolution deal provides for the best approach to future governance given the changes emerging across the West Midlands, as well as the growing expectations of our government for reform of the Fire Sector.

WMFS does an excellent job keeping our local communities safer, stronger and healthier and with the ever-increasing demands of a growing population and business base, vulnerability, demands on health and social care services and the pressures these can cause in society; governance of WMFS through the Mayor as part of the WMCA will provide the future sustainability of the WMFS Strategy and its Service Delivery Model, as well as contributing to wider West Midlands priorities.

The proposals seek to support the Mayor in this new role through ensuring the right levels of accountability and responsibilities are reflected within this new model for governance.

Most critically this involves embedding the appropriate levels of independent operational decision making through the role of Chief Fire Officer, the role of the Fire Advisory Committee in supporting but also importantly scrutinising decisions made and enabling a focus on protecting funding for the provision of services to local communities.

I anticipate, following the consultations, we will be able to move forward with these proposals to enable this new model of governance to be implemented in 2019.

Yours sincerely,

John Edwards

Chair, West Midlands FRA

This page is intentionally left blank



WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Report of the Leadership Commission
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Steve Eling - Cohesion & Integration and Public Sector Reform
Accountable Chief Executive	Deborah Cadman, West Midlands Combined Authority email: deborah.cadman@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7200
Accountable Employee	Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform email: henry.kippin@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7880 Meera Sonecha, Policy Advisor to the Mayor email: meera.sonecha@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7453
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board - 11 May 2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

Endorse and support the draft findings of the Leadership Commission report for publication in June 2018.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The diversity and of the West Midlands is one of its biggest assets. The region has a young and incredibly diverse population. The WMCA and its partners' strategies for inclusive growth, inward investment and place marketing reflect how clearly proud we are of this. But it is equally clear that we have a leadership gap. The diversity of our population is not reflected at the top of many of the region's businesses, public sector or civil society organisations. And we know that too few people from marginalised communities feel they can aspire to leadership roles within the region.
- 1.2 This is a problem because it means that people from under-represented groups are not taking advantage of the opportunities that we want the region to provide for them. There are barriers to progress in life and work which are felt disproportionately by certain communities, groups and individuals. This is not a new issue, but it is a critical one. We will not close the productivity gap articulated in our Strategic Economic Plan without inclusive leadership and inclusive growth that enables more of our citizens to play a full part.
- 1.3 Wider evidence also suggests a strong correlation between leadership level diversity and organisational performance. A diverse board better understands its customer base, the environment it operates and allows a broader range of perspectives to the table, giving it greater agility and allowing more careful evaluation of the facts and risks at hand. Consequently, as studies also indicate, heterogeneous groups tend to outperform more homogeneous groups. The relevance of this across all sectors of our economy is obvious.
- 1.4 The Leadership Commission was established to address these issues - asking how we can improve opportunities for people from those communities and groups which are currently under-represented in the leadership of the West Midlands. The Commission is chaired by Anita Bhalla OBE, and is made up of experts from within the West Midlands and beyond.
- 1.5 The membership of the Commission is:
- Anita Bhalla OBE (Chair)
 - Anisa Haghdadi - Beatfrecks
 - Bas Javid - West Midlands Police
 - Christina Michalos - 5RB
 - David Roberts - Birmingham City University
 - Davinder Prasad - British Organisation for People of Asian Origin
 - Deborah Cadman OBE - WMCA
 - Derek Webley - Former Chair of WM Police Auth, DL, Black Led Churches
 - Dorian Chan - Wing Wah Group
 - Jackie Dunne - University of Wolverhampton
 - Jacqui Francis - AdinaMay Consulting
 - Jenny Phillimore - University of Birmingham
 - Johur Uddin - Community Connect Foundation
 - Kiran Trehan - University of Birmingham
 - Lawrence Barton - Birmingham Pride
 - Rosie Ginday - Miss Macaroon
 - Sarah-Jane Marsh - Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust
 - Anna Sirmoglou - WMCA
 - Meera Sonecha - WMCA
 - Sunder Katwala - British Future
 - Suzy Verma - HSBC
 - Tim Rayner - Browne Jacobson
 - Vidar Hjordeng - ITV

- 1.6 During a ten month process the Commission has been supported by research from a number of West Midlands' universities¹, contributions from a range of experts from across the sectors, and from citizens and workers through a number of focus groups. Its mandate was to:
1. Understand the current representation of key groups in leadership positions in the WM.
 2. Identify the barriers these groups face within the region.
 3. Identify good practice in the Private and Public Sectors.
 4. Create a strategy and prioritised action plan for tackling leadership under-representation.
 5. Launch a number of early actions and initiatives aimed at addressing a number of these challenges.
 6. Recommend a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the delivery of recommendations arising out of the commission
- 1.7 The result to date is the first comprehensive effort to audit leadership in the West Midlands across its public and private sectors. The report will outline why inclusive leadership is critical to the health of our region and local areas, and presents new data to inform our understanding about the current profile of leadership across sectors.
- 1.8 Recommendations - which are outlined below - draw attention to the actions the Commission feels are required to create the conditions for long term change in the inclusiveness of our leadership, and the extent to which we support leadership aspiration through removing the barriers to progress faced by some of our citizens and communities.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Commission's university partners have collaborated to produce a credible and in-depth evidence base about the makeup of our leadership across different sectors of the region's economy. This was complemented by focus groups and the expertise of commissioners and expert contributors.
- 2.2 Headlines show a mixed picture - with the West Midlands performing better than the UK on some measures but behind on others. There is a clear inclusive leadership gap and work to do for all sectors to address this. Evidence shows a number of specific groups which are statistically under-represented in leadership roles within the region, including:
- Black and minority ethnic (BME)
 - White working class boys
 - Women
 - LGBT
 - Disabled people
 - Those who are economically disadvantaged.

In summary, our evidence has shown us that the West Midlands often performs relatively well in its adoption of equality policies and practices, but it is clear that these do not have the desired impact upon the diversity of leadership. Thus we contend that new approaches are needed. Our recommendations outline new interventions aimed at making leadership in the region more inclusive, and on removing the barriers to achieving leadership roles for the specific groups and communities identified by the research.

¹ Including the University of Birmingham, Warwick University, Birmingham City University, Coventry University and Wolverhampton University

3. Key Findings

3.1 Please note that these are just a snapshot of findings and do not represent the fuller picture or density of data which will be subsequently released in collaboration with WMCA members:

- Women are better represented in leadership roles in the public sector than in the private sector, where they are significantly under-represented. There is particularly good progress in health
- Black and Ethnic minority Groups - In the West Midlands, whilst some progress has been made in relation to BAME in leadership positions they are under-represented in a senior leadership positions in Education, and the Private sector.
- The evidence highlights that that disabled employees are under-represented in professional roles in the public sector, but not the private sector in the West Midlands.

3.2 The full data pack will be available in June and will include breakdowns by sector, group and WM geography. We will engage WMCA members and partners prior to the publication of this data.

3.3 The Commission also identified areas where the evidence base is poor, and which will need addressing for the region to create credible strategies for improving inclusiveness. For example:

1. Difficulty in understanding the impact of different diversity and leadership initiatives because of a scarcity of credible evaluation and monitoring.
2. A lack of research on key areas in relation to diversity and senior leadership positions (such as for white working class boys); this is relevant for both the West Midlands and beyond.
3. An existing evidence base that focuses primarily on gender (women in leadership positions – namely FTSE 100, FTSE 250, education including higher education, NHS, and public services in general). There is a developing body of work on ethnicity and leadership, with less attention being paid to other under-represented demographics such as disability and sexuality.

4.0 Commission Recommendations

4.1 Building on the evidence base noted above, the Commission sets out a number of recommendations which are framed within five thematic areas. These are outlined in draft below. The next steps are to make these more specific based on the data, mobilise commitments from a range of organisations - from the public, private and social sectors - who will be playing leading roles in taking these forward.

5.0 INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP TO DRIVE INCLUSIVE GROWTH

5.1 The WMCA has to lead by example. So we will do as much as possible to bring more diverse leaders into our own organisation, networks and governance. We will commit to track and report publicly on our progress. Alongside this we will commit to evaluating the impact of this commission after 12 months, and to holding a repeat West Midlands Leadership Commission every 5 years.

5.2 We are clear about the need to embed Leadership Commission outcomes within the strategic goals of the WMCA. So we will measure the inclusiveness of the region's growth on an ongoing basis through our Inclusive Growth Unit.

- 5.3 Transport is a major enabler of access to employment - and the lack of this can limit skills, training, job and leadership opportunities, which will affect the long-term leadership pipeline. We will task WMCA, TfWM and partners to propose interventions to address the barriers.
- 5.4 Our region already boasts great practice, forward thinking and future industry. So we will work with our regional partners and national experts to explore what leadership skills our future economy will require, and how we can bring best practice to bear in the region.
- 5.5 Major events in the region including the Commonwealth Games and City of Culture provide a platform to showcase this vision of inclusive leadership and to act as a catalyst for practical progress. The WMCA will play its part in helping partners to ensure these principles are embedded in the ethos and practice of major events.

6.0 WORKING WITH BUSINESS TO DEVELOP INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

- 6.1 What we call for is a generational change in the diversity of leadership within the region. Success will depend on ownership right at the top of organisations, aligning inclusive leadership to the core values and goals of future business.
- 6.2 We want to celebrate the best and encourage progress across the board, so we call for future inclusive leadership targets that are transparent.
- 6.3 We don't accept that diverse role models are too difficult to find. So we will create a live list of female, BME, disabled and LGBT panelists and speakers so that event organisers in business and across the sectors can more easily access a more inclusive list of speakers. We will celebrate success with a showcase publication and event, developed in partnership with the region's major media outlets.
- 6.4 We know the power that mentoring and relational support can have in building bridges into leadership. So we will promote an expansion of the Mayor's Mentors scheme, including encouraging today's CEOs and whole boards to sign up and help young people connect with today's leaders within the region.
- 6.5 The WMCA can play a leading role embedding diversity within its investment and delivery portfolio. We will expect our partners to commit to inclusive leadership. So we will embed this within our inward investment strategy, incentivize it within our supply chain through our social value policy, and we will measure the impact of these policies over a ten year period.

7.0 A STEP CHANGE IN RECRUITMENT AND HR

- 7.1 We recognise the need for effective HR practice that continually works on the barriers to progression for groups under-represented in leadership. So we will work with employers to share the evidence of effective practice, and to strengthen networks which can bring under-represented groups into leadership roles.
- 7.2 We need to fill the gap between often good recruitment policy, and everyday practice that is yet to catch up. We recognise the need to shift mindsets on the value of diverse leadership. We will work across sectors to develop regional Inclusive Leadership initiatives to support future leaders within the business and public sectors.

7.3 We need to ensure the bar is raised on HR and recruitment policy. Where there is evidence that interventions have made a difference, as with the NHS practice in the region of ensuring representative interview panels, we will disseminate that learning so it can be adapted in other sectors.

7.4 Potential leadership candidates in the focus groups often spoke about the lack of useful advice on progression. This generates skepticism about whether commitments to inclusive leadership are genuine. Employers need to address this perception, and to change practices where necessary, if they are to convince potential candidates that they do have a fair chance to take up leadership roles.

8.0 COMBATTING THE EVALUATION AND LEARNING DEFICIT

8.1 We know that the lack of robust evaluation of leadership interventions means we don't always know what works. So we will collaborate with our Universities, funding and research partners to establish an Inclusive Leadership institute which evaluates the impact of leadership initiatives and facilitate networks to co-design effective future interventions.

8.2 The evidence highlights the value and power of peer-to-peer networks, where leaders can learn from each other. So we will work with our partners to design peer mentoring initiatives to strengthen these networks, building initially on the University of Birmingham's 21st Century leadership breakfast sessions.

8.3 We will share with national government the Commission's analysis of the key gaps in how national and regional data is currently recorded and gathered on key dimensions. Addressing these gaps would enable more robust strategies in our region. This would also be a platform for mutual learning across regions on how to encourage inclusive leadership.

8.4 Our commission highlighted clear areas where a lack of research into particular cohorts undermines our ability to develop good leadership interventions. So we will work with regional universities to facilitate further research into the least studied groups.

9.0 A ROUTEMAP FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

9.1 It is critical that we do more to raise levels of aspiration for young people in our marginalised communities. We will look to create a Youth Combined Authority - working in partnership with relevant youth organisations to bring young people from all parts of our region together to build future political leadership capability and help us see the world through their eyes.

9.2 Our deliberative research told us that fragmented access to information hinders potential. So we will look to create an opportunities portal which puts leadership opportunities in the region into a single, accessible platform.

9.3 Evidence tells us that many organisations in particular sectors struggle to diversify their leadership and workforce. So we will offer to work with those struggling the most, including our political parties, to create a leadership pipeline with support from relevant organisations.

10.0 Wider WMCA Implications

10.1 Much of the research and evidence base underpinning the Commission's work is relevant to the wider West Midlands geography. We would hope our partners and non-constituent authorities will partner with us to adopt the Commission's recommendations.

11.0 Next Steps

- 11.1 The Commission will launch its full report in June as part of a phased launch that will involve the publication of key research findings, sector specific recommendations and support mechanisms. Commissioners (and the Universities supporting the work) are currently considering their ongoing role and we would like to involve the WMCA's members and stakeholders in this discussion.
- 11.2 We are also generating a number of commitments from public, private and social sector partners which will be a powerful mechanism for taking the work of the Commission forward. The Commission will work closely with the WMCA's Inclusive Growth Unit to develop its forward agenda.
- 11.3 The Commission welcomes input on how it can work with WMCA members and partners to advance the inclusive leadership agenda in a way that is as constructive and supportive as possible, and which recognises and adds value to the many initiatives already in play across the region.

12.0 Financial implications

- 12.1 Work will take place in the next few weeks to identify any costs associated with each of the recommendations outlined in the report along with appropriate funding source.

13.0 Legal implications

- 13.1 There are no direct legal implications arising out of this report.

14.0 Equalities implications

- 14.1 Recommendations within this report are likely to have a positive impact on increasing representation in leadership positions in the West Midlands and are likely to result in the adoption of inclusive practices. This will, in turn, have a positive impact on all protected characteristics. Individual initiatives will need to be impact assessed at design stage.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Financial Outturn 2017/18
Cabinet Member Portfolio Lead	Councillor Izzi Seccombe - Finance & Investments
Accountable Chief Executive	Deborah Cadman, West Midlands Combined Authority email: deborah.cadman@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7552
Accountable Employee	Sean Pearce, Director of Finance email: sean.pearce@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7936
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board - 11 May 2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note the final outturn position for 2017/18.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To provide an update of the West Midlands Combined Authority finances as at the end of March 2018.

2.0 Financial Monitoring

2.1 A summary of the final outturn for both revenue and capital spend against the reported forecast are attached as appendices 1-5. A summary of the Investment Programme along with current commitments is included in appendices 6 and 7 and a summary of the Balance Sheet is included in appendix 8.

2.2 Also reported for noting is the Authority's 2017/18 Treasury Management outturn at appendix 9.

2.3 Appendix 1 shows the overall consolidated revenue outturn position for West Midlands Combined Authority. The final outturn was only £0.061m less than forecast (less than 0.5% variance from total budgeted expenditure) and £0.481m less than originally budgeted, following a transfer to reserves of £4.8m that was approved by the West Midlands Combined Authority Board in February.

2.4 The Budget for 2018/19 set out plans to use this £4.8 million saving to support the Transport Revenue Budget during the period 2018/19-2020/21.

2.5 The final outturn was closely in line with the January 2018 forecast variance that was reported to the West Midlands Combined Authority Board on 9 March 2018, as shown below:

Table1: WMCA Final Outturn 2017/18 compared with Forecast Outturn

£ million	January 2018 Forecast	Final Outturn
Transport Delivery	0.4	0.4
WMCA Operational Budget	0.0	0.1
Mayor's Office	0.0	0.0
Mayoral Election	0.6	0.7
Investment Programme	(0.6)	(0.7)
Total	0.4	0.5

2.6 The Transport Delivery final outturn reflects the £0.265 million rebate to Constituent Authorities as approved within the 9 February 2018/19 budget report.

2.7 The underspend on the Mayoral election costs amounted to £0.682m following final District returns, resulting in the equivalent funding being returned to the Investment Programme.

2.8 It should be noted that the final outturn position set out in this report is subject to external audit which commenced on 8 May with audit findings to be reported to Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee on 21 June 2018 when the Committee will also approve the final audited accounts.

3.0 Transport

- 3.1 Appendix 2 sets out the final outturn position on the Transport Delivery Budget as at the end of March 2018 and gives further details of variances from budget which amount to an overall surplus of £0.4m in line with the most recent forecast.
- 3.2 The Appendix sets out further details of an overall saving before contributions to reserves for the year of £5.3 million primarily as a result of a £4.8 million saving on capital financing costs, following a change in the West Midlands Combined Authority Minimum Revenue Provision policy, that was approved by the West Midlands Combined Authority Board in November 2017.
- 3.3 As previously reported the final outturn reflects savings on concessions expenditure, primarily as a result of savings on the national bus concession scheme owing to lower patronage (£1.1m) as well as savings within the local child concession scheme (£0.3m).
- 3.4 This position is offset by an adverse variance within Rail and Metro Services due to provision being set aside for Midland Metro Ltd mobilisation work (£0.8 million) and an adverse variance on Bus Services, mainly in respect of routine infrastructure maintenance costs (£0.3 million) as previously reported.
- 3.5 As noted above the final outturn position also reflects a rebate granted to Constituent Authorities of £0.265 million approved in the 9 February 2018/19 budget report which is returned to West Midlands Combined Authority to fund Mayoral costs in 2018/19.

4.0 West Midlands Combined Authority Operational Budget

- 4.1 Appendix 3 sets out the final outturn position on the West Midlands Combined Authority Operational budget as at the end of March 2018. There is a favourable outturn variance of only £0.072m.
- 4.2 Variations in year are detailed in the appendix and reflect key savings for the year on the Collective Investment Fund (CIF) of £0.4 million as the CIF is expected to cover its fees and cost of capital in the year.
- 4.3 The favourable variances are partly offset by the approved one off contribution to the Commonwealth games bid of £0.25 million.

5.0 Mayor's Office

- 5.1 Appendix 4 details the Mayor's office spend and the cost of the mayoral election. The outturn closely reflects the most recent forecast.
- 5.2 Final outturn for the Mayor's office spend shows a minor saving against budget of £0.002m. Savings within the mayoral election budget amount to £0.682m. This funding has been transferred back to the Investment Programme, where £0.5m has been set aside to fund likely costs associated with business rates work.

6.0 Transport Delivery Capital Programme

- 6.1 Appendix 5 details the Transport Delivery Programme which out-turned £0.2m behind budget at the end of March 2018. The directly delivered Investment Programme schemes were £0.6m ahead of budget primarily due to accelerated spend on the Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension (£3.2m), and the Edgbaston Metro Extension (£2.8m), off-set by deferred activity on the Wolverhampton Metro Extension (£3.0m) where the delivery profile has been reviewed. The SPRINT Network was under budget due to a change in the delivery approach to encompasses a second phase of work (£1.9m). Bilston Road Track Replacement was completed on time under budget (1.6m). The out-turn was £1.8m below Forecast, due in the main to the schemes highlighted above.
- 6.2 Within the Other Major Schemes, the Birmingham City Centre Extension came under budget and forecast following the release of prior year construction estimates (£0.9m).
- 6.3 The Minor Works Programme was marginally over budget (£0.2m). There was one minor cost pressures being due to knotweed at Walsall cutting(£0.1m) funded by prior call on the 2018/19 Integrated Transport block funds. The Managing Short Trips Programme was accelerated ahead of budget following a review of the Programme, offset by rescheduled progression of Park and Ride Expansions and the shelter refurbishment of Digital Advertising Panels. A saving resulted on Park and Ride Upgrades, as the new franchise agreement has undertaken to deliver cycling facilities.
- 6.4 The Administered Programme was marginally under budget (£0.3m) and forecast (£0.2m), relating entirely to the National Productivity Investment Programme (NPIF), with small savings across the wide range of schemes in the Programme.

7.0 Investment Programme

- 7.1 The West Midlands Combined Authority is currently reviewing governance and performance reporting for the Investment Programme including ranking and scheduling, of both funding and costs. This will be reported to a future Board; ahead of this the 2017/18 year's financial position is as follows.
- 7.2 Appendix 6 details the progression of the West Midlands Combined Authority Investment Programme spending £98.4m against a forecast of £157.3m in the main due to the Land Remediation Programme and HS2 Supply Chain Programmes. This reflects revised spend targets and how the project scope is fully established. In relation to the HS2 supply chain, the variance relates to private sector leverage which is in the process of being reviewed. Work will continue into 2018/19 to validate this investment. Further detail regarding the variances to out-turn and forecast are included on Appendix 6.
- 7.3 Appendix 6 also currently notes forecast costs greater than funding on the Metro schemes to Birmingham Airport and Brierley Hill. However at this early stage of development it is assumed this will be value managed down as the project detail develops. Those projects and programmes flagged as Red or Amber rated are reviewed by the HS2 Growth Delivery Board and mitigating actions to reduce risks are considered and challenged.

- 7.4 Appendix 7 details Investment Programme projects with a West Midlands Combined Authority funding value of £477.7m which have received approval via the West Midlands Combined Authority Assurance Framework to 31 March 2018, most notable of which is the £98.7m towards the Coventry City Centre Regeneration project.
- 7.5 A separate report on the Investment Programme overall and current financial commitments and funding was considered by West Midlands Combined Authority board on 12 February and further work is underway regarding project scheduling.

8.0 Balance Sheet

- 8.1 Appendix 8 shows the West Midlands Combined Authority Balance Sheet which shows a healthy financial position at the end of March. Main changes reflect Transport for West Midlands capital spend and work-in-progress mainly funded by grants in advance, resulting in the increase in the long-term assets.
- 8.2 Payments for the Managing Short Trips (MST) schemes and advance payment for free concessions are the main contributors to the decrease in the short-term deposits and cash.
- 8.3 The decrease in short-term creditors/accruals is the result of downward revision of capital accrual for the Coventry City Centre regeneration scheme, NPIF and the MST schemes. On the other hand, the increase in debtors is due to accrued grant income from DfT for the Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill extension scheme.
- 8.4 The decrease in the grants receipts in advance and the usable reserves is largely due to the DfT Challenge Fund Q4 claims accrual and payments for the HS2, UK Central and Coventry City Centre regeneration scheme funded from the Gainshare contribution respectively.
- 8.5 Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2018 reflect the following:

Table 2: WMCA Earmarked Reserves as at 31 March 2018

£ million	Investment Programme	Revenue Grants	General Earmarked Reserves	Total
1 April 2017 Opening Balance	35.608	3.465	8.966	48.039
Movements in the year	29.330	(0.935)	5.922	34.316
31 March 2018 Closing Balance	64.938	2.530	14.888	82.355

Expenditure plans exist for all of the above funds.

- 8.6 The final General Fund Balance reflects the surplus in year as follows:

Table 3: WMCA General Fund Balance as at 31 March 2018

£ million	Total
1 April 2017 Opening Balance	1.814
Surplus in the year	0.481
31 March 2018 Closing Balance	2.295

This remains below what would normally be expected to be held by an Authority of this size, however in light of the statutory underwrite by the 7 Metropolitan councils a lower level of general funds is considered acceptable.

9.0 2017/18 Treasury Management outturn

- 9.1 Attached at appendix 9 is the Authority's Treasury Management outturn as required by the CIPFA Treasury Management code.
- 9.2 It summarises borrowing and investment activity for the year, noting an average borrowing rate of 5.93%, an average rate of return on investment of 0.55% and all key prudential indicators being within target.

10.0 Legal implications

- 10.1 There are no legal implications.

11.0 Equalities implications

- 11.1 There are no equalities implications.

12.0 Appendices

- Appendix 1 – WMCA Consolidated Summary – March 2018
- Appendix 2 – WMCA Transport Revenue Summary – March 2018
- Appendix 3 – WMCA Operational Revenue Summary – March 2018
- Appendix 4 – WMCA Mayor Revenue Summary – March 2018
- Appendix 5 – WMCA Capital Transport Delivery Programme – March 2018
- Appendix 6 – WMCA Investment Programme Summary – March 2018
- Appendix 7 – WMCA Investment Programme Commitments – March 2018
- Appendix 8 – WMCA Balance Sheet – March 2018
- Appendix 9 – WMCA Treasury Management Strategy – March 2018

Consolidated Summary –2017/18 Outturn

WMCA Consolidated Position as at March 2018						
	2017/18 Outturn			2017/18 Outturn		
	ACTUAL £'000	BUDGET £'000	VARIANCE £'000	ACTUAL £'000	FORECAST £'000	VARIANCE £'000
INCOME						
General (un-ringfenced) resources:						
- Transport Levy	121,542	121,542	0	121,542	121,542	0
- Devolution Deal grants	36,500	36,500	0	36,500	36,500	0
- Business rates growth	3,000	1,500	1,500	3,000	3,000	0
- Grants from Constituent members	1,488	1,488	0	1,488	1,488	0
- Grants from Non Constituent members	361	361	0	361	361	0
- Investment Income	328	632	(305)	328	729	(402)
Specific resources:						
- Use of Reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total income	163,219	162,023	1,196	163,219	163,621	(402)
EXPENDITURE						
Operating expenditure:						
- Transport delivery	116,068	121,542	5,474	116,068	116,057	(11)
- Operational budget	3,955	4,280	325	3,955	4,280	325
- Interest payable	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Investment Programme Governance	(1,718)	2,222	3,940	(1,718)	(681)	1,037
- Mayoral Office	362	364	2	362	362	0
- Mayoral Elections	4,318	5,000	682	4,318	4,453	135
Capital Financing:						
- Revenue finance of capital expenditure	34,434	28,615	(5,819)	34,434	33,664	(770)
Contributions to reserves	5,318	0	(5,318)	5,318	5,065	(253)
Total expenditure	162,738	162,023	(715)	162,738	163,200	463
Net	481	0	481	481	421	61

The full year position shows a forecast surplus of £0.481m against budget. The contribution to reserves reflects a decision by the West Midlands Combined Authority board to use savings generated from a change in MRP policy to support the Transport Revenue Budget for the period 2018/19 to 2020/21 and grant a £0.265m rebate to Constituent Authorities fund the 2018/19 Mayoral Office costs as approved within the 9 February 2018/19 budget. Other significant variances have occurred within the Concessions budget where savings total £1.64m offset by a provision being set aside for Midlands Metro Limited mobilisation work of £0.800m.

Within the Investment Programme there is a favourable variance relating to Business Rates where the original budget was prudent and pending the outcome of discussions with Government and the Constituent Local Authorities regarding the formula to allow Business Rates Growth to be received by West Midlands Combined Authority. The Constituent local authorities have now agreed to a settlement of £3m for 2017/18 and this is reflected in the final position.

Also within the Investment Programme there is a £3.9m favourable variance against budgeted (£0.438m from forecast) governance which comprises £0.4m relating to delays in recruiting into key roles and vacancies, the remaining £2.4m relates to the reclassification of costs as capital spend both in the current year and for 2016/17. These favourable variances within the Investment Programme are fully offset by increased revenue financing of capital expenditure in year and hence no effect on the bottom line but merely adjusting where the funds are held on the balance sheet.

Whilst the budget for investment income reflected internal borrowing between WMCA functions, the final consolidated position shown reflects actual receipt of external investment income. The operational budget outturned at the reported £0.072m saving after £0.253m approved funds were transferred into reserves.

* Note that the Investment Programme budget was updated during the early part of 2017/18 from the originally reported position in February 2017 to reflect latest mobilisation timescales and funding sources.

Appendix 2 -Transport Revenue Budget – 2017/18 Outturn

	2017/18 Outturn			2017/18 Outturn			Comments
	Actual £'000	Budget £'000	Variance £'000	Actual £'000	Forecast £'000	Variance £'000	
INCOME							
Transport Levy	121,542	121,542		121,542	121,542	(0)	
Total Income	121,542	121,542		121,542	121,542	(0)	
EXPENDITURE							
Concessions							
National Bus Concession	51,468	52,519	1,051	51,468	51,619	151	
Metro / Rail	4,187	4,409	222	4,187	4,290	103	There is a favourable variance compared with budget of £1.643k and compared with forecast of £288k. This is primarily as a result of savings on the national bus concession scheme owing to lower patronage and savings on the local child concession scheme due to the release of a provision set aside in the budget which is no longer required.
Child Concession	9,292	9,609	317	9,292	9,303	10	
Passes and Permits	(56)	(3)	54	(56)	(32)	24	
	64,891	66,534	1,643	64,891	65,179	288	
Bus Services							
Bus Stations / Infrastructure	4,571	4,213	(359)	4,571	4,518	(53)	The adverse variance compared with budget within bus stations and infrastructure has largely occurred due to the higher than anticipated costs of CCTV upgrade works (£114k), routine maintenance (£96k), reduced rental income for 16 summer lane (£80k) and lower departure charge income (£86k).
Subsidised Network	7,820	7,772	(48)	7,820	7,793	(27)	
Tendering / Monitoring	877	816	(61)	877	820	(58)	
Accessible Transport	7,365	7,369	4	7,365	7,365	(0)	These variances are offset by a favourable variance of £246k within the cleaning budget due to reduced cleaning requirements.
	20,635	20,171	(464)	20,635	20,497	(138)	
Rail and Metro Services							
Metro	2,172	1,408	(763)	2,172	2,224	52	The adverse variance compared with budget reflects the mobilisation costs of Midland Metro (£800k).
Rail Operations	279	191	(89)	279	271	(9)	
Car Park and Ride	1,421	1,426	5	1,421	1,423	2	
West Midlands Rail	312	316	4	312	289	(23)	
Bromsgrove Rail Station		326	326		40	40	The favourable variance compared with budget £326k has occurred due to higher than anticipated receipts from the DFT.
	4,184	3,668	(516)	4,184	4,247	63	
Integration							
Safety and Security	874	924	50	874	923	49	respect of RTI and rebranding. These costs are partly offset by one-off additional E-purse commission (£50k), and underspends against marketing campaigns & monitoring work.
Passenger Information	5,874	5,531	(343)	5,874	5,773	(101)	
Sustainable Travel	142	60	(82)	142	145	3	
	6,890	6,514	(375)	6,890	6,841	(48)	
Network Resilience	76		(76)	76		(76)	
Business Support Costs	3,908	4,052	144	3,908	3,796	(112)	The favourable variance compared with budget within business support costs is primarily as a result of savings within staff costs due to vacant posts. The adverse variance compared with forecast is due to the additional costs within software maintenance for the Euclid and Experian software upgrade (£157k) relating to Swift reporting .
Policy and Strategy and Elected Member Services	2,146	2,075	(72)	2,146	2,149	2	
Finance Charges							
Finance Costs	10,531	15,673	5,142	10,531	10,538	7	The favourable variance within finance costs is as a result of the MRP saving from the approved change to the Capital Finance policy £4.8m. Along with interest savings on long term borrowing
Deregulation Pension Costs	1,307	1,356	49	1,307	1,310	3	
Transport Development	1,500	1,500	(0)	1,500	1,500	(0)	The adverse variance is due to a revenue contribution to capital to partly fund shelter installation for the next phase of the Digital Advertising programme. This has been generated as a result of greater advertising income than forecast.
	13,338	18,529	5,190	13,338	13,348	10	
Total Expenditure	116,068	121,542	5,474	116,068	116,057	(11)	
Contribution to reserves	5,065		(5,065)	5,065	5,065		
Net	409	(0)	409	409	420	(11)	

West Midlands Combined Authority Operational Budget - 2017/18 Outturn

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS AT 31st MARCH 2018	2017/18 Outturn			2017/18 Outturn			WMCA OPERATIONAL BUDGET
	ACTUAL £000	BUDGET £000	VARIANCE £000	ACTUAL £000	FORECAST £000	VARIANCE £000	
Contribution - 7 Met Council's	1,488	1,488	0	1,488	1,488	0	<p>The final outturn shows a is a favourable variance of £72k from budget and forecast within the WMCA Operational budget.</p> <p>Variance against budget :</p> <p>Key variances include a favourable saving relating to the Collective Investment Fund £392k due to the current anticipated return on investment being ahead of plan. This is offset by an adverse variance within Programme, Policy and Support due to a one off contribution of £250k to the Commonwealth Games and increased staffing variations within Programme Policy and Support.</p> <p>Culture and tourism has a favourable variance largely due to projects proceeding later than planned.</p> <p>Variance against forecast:</p> <p>The key favourable variances within Productivity and Skills commission primarily relates to the rescheduling of projects to deliver the commissions aims.</p> <p>There are also savings within the Housing and Land budget due to devolution funding being used to fund delivery costs incurred during the year.</p>
Non-Constituent Members	319	319	0	319	319	0	
Associate Members / Official Observers	43	43	0	43	43	0	
Contribution to / from Gain Share	1,936	1,936	0	1,936	1,936	0	
Investment Income	494	494	0	494	494	0	
Total Income	4,280	4,280	0	4,280	4,280	0	
Black Country Economic Intelligence Unit	(240)	(240)	0	(240)	(240)	0	
Collective Investment Fund	42	(350)	392	42	0	42	
Communications	(314)	(375)	61	(314)	(374)	60	
Culture and Tourism	(138)	(246)	108	(138)	(159)	21	
Housing & Land Commission	(144)	(100)	(44)	(144)	(261)	117	
Growth Company	(637)	(700)	63	(637)	(699)	62	
Mental Health Commission	(210)	(230)	20	(210)	(230)	20	
Productivity & Skills Commission	(391)	(544)	153	(391)	(324)	(67)	
Programme/Policy/Support	(1,668)	(934)	(734)	(1,668)	(1,485)	(183)	
Public Sector Reform	(428)	(480)	52	(428)	(428)	0	
Transport	(80)	(81)	1	(80)	(80)	0	
Total Expenditure	(4,208)	(4,280)	72	(4,208)	(4,280)	72	
TOTAL RETURN	72	0	72	72	0	72	

West Midlands Combined Authority Mayoral Budget - 2017/18 Outturn

	MARCH 2018 YEAR TO DATE			FULL YEAR 2017/18			OVERALL REVENUE BUDGET STATUS
	ACTUAL £000	BUDGET £000	VARIANCE £000	ACTUAL £000	FORECAST £000	VARIANCE £000	
MAYORAL OFFICE							
Staff Costs	(312)	(229)	(83)	(312)	(315)	3	Final spend for mayoral office was within budget and forecast with no material variation to report.
IT	(5)	(6)	1	(5)	(11)	6	
Promotions, Information and Initiatives	(1)	0	(1)	(1)	(1)	0	
External Advice	(12)	(75)	63	(12)	0	(12)	
Travel & Subsistence	(26)	(42)	16	(26)	(31)	5	
Postage, Printing & Office Supplies & Office Furniture	(6)	(12)	6	(6)	(5)	(1)	
Recharges	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(362)	(364)	2	(362)	(363)	1	
MAYORAL ELECTIONS							
Promotions, Information and Initiatives	(745)	(1,000)	255	(745)	(760)	15	Claims for Election costs by Local Authorities are lower than anticipated £682k.
Postage, Printing & Office Supplies	(687)	(640)	(47)	(686)	(686)	0	
Mayoral Election Costs	(2,886)	(3,360)	474	(2,886)	(3,007)	121	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(4,318)	(5,000)	682	(4,317)	(4,453)	136	
MAYORAL EVENTS							
Income	19	0	19	0	0	0	Income and expenditure relate to the Diwali celebrations organised by WMCA in October. The event was funded by sponsorship raised from private sector companies.
Expenditure	(19)	0	(19)	0	0	0	
NET	0	0	0	0	0	0	

West Midlands Combined Authority Transport Delivery Capital Programme - March 2018



Financial Summary Month Ending March 2018	VARIANCE TO BUDGET			VARIANCE TO FORECAST		
	ACTUAL £000	BUDGET £000	VARIANCE £000	ACTUAL £000	FORECAST £000	VARIANCE £000
TFWM Directly Delivered Investment Programme Schemes						
<u>HS2 Connectivity Programme:</u>						
Bilston Road Track Replacement Phase 2	(14,095)	(15,699)	1,604	(14,095)	(14,858)	763
Sprint Network	(1,189)	(3,137)	1,948	(1,189)	(1,047)	(142)
Investment Programme Rail Programme	(587)	(558)	(29)	(587)	(559)	(28)
Metro Centenary Square Extension	(11,224)	(11,423)	199	(11,224)	(11,262)	38
Metro Wolverhampton City Centre Extension	(5,537)	(8,500)	2,963	(5,537)	(5,138)	(399)
Metro Edgbaston Extension	(10,501)	(7,643)	(2,858)	(10,501)	(11,352)	851
<u>Other TFWM Investment Programme Schemes</u>						
Metro Birmingham Eastside Extension	(1,760)	(1,678)	(82)	(1,760)	(2,033)	273
Metro East Birmingham to Solihull Extension	(3,061)	(2,024)	(1,037)	(3,061)	(3,856)	795
Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension	(5,347)	(2,133)	(3,214)	(5,347)	(5,017)	(330)
TOTAL TFWM INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	(53,302)	(52,795)	(507)	(53,302)	(55,122)	1,820
			1%			3%
TFWM Other Major Schemes						
Birmingham City Centre Metro Extension	70	(800)	870	70	(785)	855
Birmingham Interchange	14	0	14	14	14	0
Longbridge Connectivity Package	(2,181)	(2,000)	(181)	(2,181)	(1,978)	(203)
Connected and Autonomous Vehicles	(3)	0	(3)	(3)	0	(3)
TOTAL TFWM INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	(2,100)	(2,800)	700	(2,100)	(2,749)	649
			25%			24%
TFWM Minor Works Programme						
TFWM Minor Works Programme	(5,628)	(5,342)	(286)	(5,628)	(5,797)	169
TOTAL TFWM INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	(5,628)	(5,342)	(286)	(5,628)	(5,797)	169
			5%			3%
TFWM Administered Programme						
TFWM Administered Programme	(6,300)	(6,583)	283	(6,300)	(6,491)	191
TOTAL TFWM INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	(6,300)	(6,583)	283	(6,300)	(6,491)	191
			4%			3%
GRAND TOTAL TFWM CAPITAL PROGRAMME	(67,330)	(67,520)	190	(67,330)	(70,159)	2,829
			0%			4%

The direct TFWM Investment Programme out-turn was £0.507m below budget.

The main variances include **Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension** (£3.214m) which was ahead of budget due to the acceleration of design works. In addition, **Metro Edgbaston Extension** (£2.804m) out-turned ahead of budget due to accelerated utility works. A further £1.037m related to **Metro East Birmingham to Solihull Extension**, where preliminary design works were accelerated following the confirmation of advance funding earlier in the year.

Offsetting the above, the **Metro Wolverhampton City Centre Extension** (£2.963m) was behind budget, due to the implementation of a revised construction strategy, which delayed the commencement of construction to facilitate synchronisation with the wider Wolverhampton Interchange Project (includes station and car park). Work commenced in March 2018, and it is anticipated the majority of Construction will occur during 18/19. In addition the **Sprint Network** (£1.948m) was behind budget primarily due to a change in delivery approach on the Hagley Road scheme. The **Bilston Road Track Replacement Phase 2** (£1.604m) was completed below budget, fully reflecting the settlement of final accounts.

The out-turn was £1.820m below forecast in March. The main variance relates to **Metro Edgbaston Extension** (£0.851m) where detailed Design works have slipped due to resourcing. In addition, a land purchase at the Hyatt and Five Way roundabout anticipated to complete in March 2018, will not now be completed until May 2018. The **Metro East Birmingham to Solihull Extension Programme** was also behind budget (£0.795m), primarily due to Topological & Design Survey works which have slipped within the current schedule. **Bilston Road Track Replacement Phase 2** was also under budget (£0.763m), following final account settlements.

Offsetting the above, there were minor increases to Forecast across the remainder of the wider Programme.

The Other Major Schemes Programme out-turn was £0.676m behind budget, primarily due to the **Birmingham City Centre Metro Extension** (£0.870m), where prior year Construction estimates have been released. Offsetting this, are further costs relating to **Longbridge Connectivity Package** (£0.181m), where approval has been received to Construct the Decked Car Park above the original Budget.

The CAV project is a £4.5m two year initiative and as such, will be shown against the Major Scheme programme. Minor start up costs only were incurred in 2017/18.

The out-turn concluded £0.652m below Forecast primarily due to the variances highlighted above.

The Programme out-turn was £0.262m ahead of budget.

The main variance related to the **Managing Short Trips Programme** (£1.287m), due entirely to acceleration of the two year Programme. Work only commenced in November but has progressed well against the original Programme. In addition compensation events arising from knotweed clearance resulted in an overspend of £0.142m relating to **North Walsall Cutting**.

Offsetting the increases identified above, the most notable underspend relates to **Network Wide Park and Ride Expansions** (£0.193m), owing to a fundamental Strategic review of the Programme. The **Digital Advertising Panels** (£0.151m) were also under spent due to a rescheduling of Shelter refurbishment / replacement work to end of March. The **Asset Management System** (£0.117m) had the main delivery contract terminated in 2017/18 due to performance issues. In addition, **Bradley Lane Park & Ride** (£0.114m) was under budget, pending a decision to proceed with the main redevelopment works into 18/19. Also **Park & Ride Upgrades** (£0.108m) were underspent, as the new Franchise commitment has undertaken to deliver cycling facilities at rail stations, obviating the need for this budget.

The out-turn concluded £0.166m below budget, the majority of which were only minor.

The Programme spend out-turn was £0.283m behind budget, primarily due to the **National Productivity Programme (NPIF £0.161m)**. The original budget included an element of over programming but savings have been achieved against that value to reduce the requirement to support the programme using local resources..

The out-turn concluded £0.191m below Forecast, and primarily related to the variance highlighted above, where savings were higher than anticipated.

WMCA Investment Programme Financial Summary Period Ending 31st March 2018

	PROJECT RAG	2017 / 2018 BUDGET VARIANCE			2017 / 2018 FORECAST VARIANCE			COST TO COMPLETION					
		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE	ACTUAL	FORECAST	VARIANCE	PRIOR YEAR ACTUAL	2017/18 ACTUAL	FUTURE YEARS FORECAST	TOTAL FORECAST OUTTURN	TOTAL BUDGET	VARIANCE
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
UK CENTRAL : HS2 INTERCHANGE	Red	1,965	2,016	51	1,965	2,040	75	1,982	1,965	600,656	604,603	1,019,937	415,334
UK CENTRAL : HS2 INFRASTRUCTURE	Green	1,404	4,387	2,983	1,404	2,513	1,109	751	1,404	632,192	634,347	648,648	14,301
CURZON STREET STATION MASTERPLAN	Green	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	0	556,200	556,200	556,000	(200)
METRO BIRMINGHAM EASTSIDE	Green	1,760	1,678	(82)	1,760	2,033	273	4,457	1,760	130,983	137,200	137,200	0
METRO BIRMINGHAM INTERCHANGE	Red	3,061	2,026	(1,035)	3,061	3,856	795	1,041	3,061	730,898	735,000	675,000	(60,000)
HS2 WIDER CONNECTIVITY PACKAGE	Orange	50,268	68,187	17,918	50,268	55,430	5,162	56,729	50,268	995,468	1,102,465	1,070,624	(31,841)
BRIERLEY HILL METRO EXTENSION	Green	5,347	2,133	(3,214)	5,347	5,017	(330)	2,021	5,347	336,232	343,600	310,000	(33,600)
NATIONAL COLLEGE FOR HIGH SPEED RAIL	Green	9,409	8,687	(722)	9,409	9,985	576	16,022	9,409	78	25,509	25,233	(276)
HS2 GROWTH STRATEGY PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT	Green	311	594	283	311	417	106	304	311	2,409	3,024	4,400	1,376
HIGH SPEED SUPPLY CHAIN & BUSINESS SUPPORT	Green	400	25,748	25,348	400	25,748	25,348	10,870	400	338,730	350,000	350,000	0
HS2 Growth Strategy Total		73,925	116,456	42,531	73,925	108,039	34,114	94,177	73,925	4,323,846	4,491,948	4,797,043	304,597
COVENTRY UK CENTRAL PLUS CONNECTIVITY	Green	1,887	3,217	1,330	1,887	2,746	859	454	1,887	468,459	470,800	472,350	1,550
COVENTRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION	Green	5,357	7,842	2,485	5,357	6,498	1,141	464	5,357	352,380	358,201	359,311	1,110
COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT VEHICLE	Green	17,196	20,000	2,804	17,196	20,000	2,804	3,589	17,196	979,215	1,000,000	1,000,000	0
LAND RECLAMATION	Green	0	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	20,000	0	0	200,000	200,000	200,000	0
COMMONWEALTH GAMES	Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	0
DEVOLVED TRANSPORT INVESTMENT	Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,299,000	1,299,000	1,299,000	0
EZ EXPANSION EXCLUDING CURZON	Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	0
EMPLOYMENT EDUCATION & SKILLS	Green	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	20,000	0
BUSINESS INNOVATION	Green	25	25	0	25	25	0	0	25	49,975	50,000	50,000	0
OTHER INVESTMENT PROGRAMME SCHEMES		24,465	51,084	26,619	24,465	49,269	24,804	4,507	24,465	3,414,029	3,443,001	3,445,661	2,660
GRAND TOTAL		98,390	167,540	69,151	98,390	157,308	58,918	98,684	98,390	7,737,875	7,934,949	8,242,704	307,257

Spend to the end of 2017/2018 is £69.1m behind budget mostly due to the deferral of payments relating to Land Remediation and an underspend against the HS2 supply chain Support relating to Private Sector leverage which has proved difficult to verify. Both budget allocations for 2017/18 were set as a high level aspiration of spend before the work-streams were fully scoped. The Land Remediation programme is making good progress with firm commitments being made and expected draw downs due to occur in early 2018/19. Work to quantify the Private Sector match funding against the HS2 Supply Chain work-stream will continue into 2018/19.

The remaining variances are consistent with previous reports where the Wolverhampton Interchange Station / Car Park works within the HS2 Connectivity Package caused by the delays in the procurement of the main contractor and underspends to budget were encountered against UK Central Infrastructure due to a delayed start to land acquisition and construction works. These variances were offset by acceleration of the Metro Programmes for Brierley Hill and the extension to Interchange Station (Solihull) where development has been advanced.

The UK Central Interchange completion cost has been restated to exclude projects not directly managed and sponsored by Solihull MBC and UGC. Previous financial returns have included a number of investment projects relating to the Interchange Hub zone, as set out in the published UGC Growth & Infrastructure Plan, but which are not directly managed by SMBC/UGC. These projects included an element of HS2 direct investment in the Interchange Station, car park and Automated People Mover (APM). The UK Central Interchange RAG status is reported as red reflecting the position regarding the £205m matched funding element of the Birmingham International Station (CEF) redevelopment proposal which is not secured. This funding represents 71% of the forecast cost of this project (£287m). The balance of the Interchange programme, including the remainder of the CEF project, is primarily funded by WMCA.

The UK Central Infrastructure scheme programme continues to show a reduction against the initial budget as activities and funding are aligned to programmes. Previous financial returns have included projects set out in the published UGC Growth & Infrastructure Plan.

The forecast out-turn for the Birmingham to Interchange and Brierley Hill Metro Extensions continue to exceed the original budget as a result of the inclusion of optimism bias into the initial business case estimates. No new funding has been identified to cover these variances.

The 2018 Devo II announcement confirmed the DCLG/DfT funding for the Brierley Hill Metro extension and therefore the RAG status has moved to green. The RAG status remains red for the Birmingham to Interchange Metro extension because Government funding has not been confirmed. WMCA are working with project stakeholders to identify a funding strategy for this project.

Within the HS2 Connectivity Package, the Wolverhampton Interchange Station / Car Park scheme is now forecasting an additional £30.0m of cost which has emerged as part of the procurement activity to be funded by WMCA (50%) and the City of Wolverhampton (50%).

WMCA Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018			
	31 March 2018 £'000	28 February 2018 £'000	Movement £'000
Property, plant and equipment	294,722	291,688	3,034
Long-term assets	294,722	291,688	3,034
Debtors	37,124	31,033	6,091
Short-term deposits	49,200	53,200	(4,000)
Cash and bank	54	169	(114)
Current assets	86,378	84,402	1,977
Loans - interest due	(2,244)	(2,158)	(86)
Short-term creditors/accruals	(41,013)	(44,689)	3,676
Current liabilities	(43,257)	(46,847)	3,590
Net current assets	43,121	37,554	5,567
Provisions	(6,548)	(6,894)	346
Finance lease liabilities	-	(992)	992
PWLB	(142,417)	(142,417)	-
Other loans - Barclays	(10,000)	(10,000)	-
Dudley MBC	(7,873)	(8,499)	626
Grants receipts in advance	(11,843)	(12,431)	588
Long-term liabilities	(178,681)	(181,233)	2,552
Net assets	159,163	148,010	11,153
General fund balance	2,295	7,815	(5,520)
Earmarked reserves	82,356	82,749	(393)
Capital grants unapplied reserve	247	247	-
Usable reserves	84,898	90,811	(5,913)
Revaluation reserve	6,953	7,147	(194)
Deferred capital grants account	287,769	284,523	3,246
Capital financing account	(220,152)	(234,471)	14,319
Accumulated absences account	(305)	-	(305)
Unusable reserves	74,265	57,199	17,066
Total reserves	159,163	148,010	11,153
<p>The WMCA Balance Sheet reflects a healthy financial position. Main changes since February reflect TfWM capital spend and work-in-progress funded mainly by grants in advance, resulting in an increase of £3.034m net of depreciation in property, plant and equipment.</p> <p>The increase in debtors is mainly due to accrued grant income from DfT in relation to the Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill extension scheme. The decrease in short-term deposits and cash is largely due to the payment of claims on the Managing Short Trips (MST) schemes and advance payment for free concessions.</p> <p>The decrease in short-term creditors/accruals is largely due to downward revision of capital accrual for the Coventry City Centre regeneration scheme, NPIF and the MST schemes resulting from the claims payment mentioned above.</p> <p>The decrease in the finance lease liabilities and the grants receipts in advance is largely due to write-off of the prepaid element of the tram lease following its termination and the DfT Challenge Fund Q4 claims accrual respectively.</p> <p>The overall decrease in the usable reserves was due to the payments for HS2, UK Central and Coventry City Centre regeneration scheme funded from the Gainshare contribution offset by the Business Rates Growth due from DfT, along with the set aside of the previously reported surplus approved within the 2018/19 budget.</p>			

Treasury Management Outturn 2017/18

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The report provides an update on the West Midlands Combined Authority Treasury Management Outturn 2017 / 18 and is being submitted as a requirement under the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Code.

2. Treasury Management Outturn 2017 / 18

- 2.1 Table 1 shows WMCA borrowing and investments held at 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018. It shows that net borrowing has decreased by £4.93m mostly as a result of debt maturity and repayment of £5.93m.

	1st April 2017 £m	Borrowing Repaid / New Investments £m	31st March 2018 £m	Notes
Borrowing	(166.22)	5.93	(160.29)	Reduction in borrowing due to £5m PWLB loan matured Dec 17, £302k PWLB annuity loan repayments, and £626k Dudley Debt annual principal repayment. No new borrowing undertaken.
Investments	50.20	(1.00)	49.20	
Net Borrowing	(116.02)	4.93	(111.09)	

3 Borrowing Activity

- 3.1 Effective cash flow management and the use of grants received in advance have minimised borrowing. As a result no new borrowing was undertaken in 2017/18 to meet financing requirements. Current forecasts suggest the WMCA will be required to borrow in 2018 / 2019 as Investment Programme delivery intensifies.

4 Historic Borrowing

- 4.1 The main borrowing sources are Public Works Loan Board (PWLB / HM Treasury) and money markets. The Treasurer of the Authority continues to review the opportunities to reschedule debt. The costs associated with early repayment have been too onerous to be beneficial. During 2017/18 there has been one PWLB maturity of £5m in December 2017, and some principal repayable during the year on annuity loans. WMCC (West Midlands County Council) annual principal repayment of £626k was made in March 2018.
- 4.2 Table 2 shows borrowing held at 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018. It shows that borrowing has decreased by £5.93m due principal repayments during the year.

	Balance at 1st April 2017 £000	Repaid in Year £000	Raised in Year £000	Balance at 31st March 2018 £000
PWLB	147,719	- 5,302	-	142,417
Barclays Loan	10,000		-	10,000
Ex WMCC	8,499	- 626	-	7,873
Total Long Term Borrowing	166,218	- 5,928	-	160,290

- 4.3 The cost of servicing the £160.290m debt was £9.855m during 2017 / 18 (as summarised below in table 3) which equates to an average annual rate of 5.93%. As noted in paragraph 4.1 this reflects the level of historic debt taken out when interest rates were higher.

Debt Source	Interest Paid 2017 / 2018 £000
PWLB	8,939
Barclays Loan	403
Ex WMCC	513
TOTAL	9,855

5. Future borrowing / capital programme

- 5.1 Table 4 below identifies the funding requirements for the next 3 years as detailed within the approved Treasury Management Strategy. It is expected there will be a need to fund projects from borrowing up to £262 million in 2018/19 with the actual debt taken out being subject to the available cash resources of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Table 4 : Capital Expenditure and Grants Forecast

	FORECAST			
	2018 / 19 £000	2019 / 20 £000	2020 / 21 £000	TOTAL £000
FORECAST EXPENDITURE:				
WMCA Delivered Capital Programmes including Investment Programme	213,141	221,151	245,192	756,722
Externally Delivered Investment Programme Schemes Funded by WMCA	105,961	90,071	142,843	350,657
TOTAL FORECAST EXPENDITURE	319,102	311,222	388,034	1,107,380
FUNDED BY				
Department or Transport	32,127	100,423	131,330	297,289
Other Major Public Sector Bodies	5,100	7,400	16,200	28,700
Private Sector	6,722	6,928	9,893	24,201
Integrated Transport Block (DfT)	4,795	5,186	4,471	19,278
Local Growth Fund (LEP)	4,271	610	-	9,521
Enterprise Zone	-	82	790	872
Local Growth Fund (LEP MST Programme)	3,755	-	-	4,255
ATOC Grant	-	-	-	121
TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDING	56,769	120,629	162,683	384,236
INTERNAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT	262,333	190,593	225,351	723,144

- 5.2 In addition, debt repayments from maturing loans of £24m are due in 2018/19 and £12m between 2019/20 and 2020/21. As the Authority manages its cash balances to minimise in year borrowing for capital investment it is likely these maturing loans will have to be rescheduled.

6 Long Term Debt Profile

- 6.1 It can be seen from table 5 significant debt repayments are due between 2018 and 2020. These borrowings are likely to need replacing and given historically low long term interest rates, WMCA are monitoring when might be the optimal time to undertake replacement borrowings. The debt maturity profile of the loans show that after 2020 the next major repayments do not occur until 2034.

Table 5 - Debt Maturity Profile

	Value of Loans Maturing £m
Repayable 2018/19	24
Repayable Between 2019/20 to 2020/21	12
Repayable Between 2021/22 to 2022/13	3
Repayable Between 2023/24 to 2026/27	5
Repayable Between 2027/28 to 2030/31	12
Repayable Between 2031/32 to 2039/40	23
Repayable Between 2039/40 to 2048/49	11
Repayable Between 2049/50 to 2059/60	70
TOTAL BORROWING	160

- 6.2 As stated above any new borrowing will depend upon the prevailing interest rates at the time, and the forecast cash requirements, as to whether it should be short term or long term.

7 Investment Activity

- 7.1 As at the 31st March 2018, all short term investments have given a return to the Authority of £289,303.69 in 2017/18, and an average rate of 0.55%.
- 7.2 All treasury management activities undertaken during 2017/18 complied fully with the CIPFA Code of Practice and the Authority's approved Treasury Management Strategy. Investments are placed directly with financial institutions or using various brokers: ICAP, Tradition, Prebon, Martin Brokers, Bernard Gerald Cantor (BGC) and King & Shaxson. Investments held as at the 31st March 2018 were as set in Table 7 below:

Table 7 - Short Term Investments held as at 31 March 2018

	Interest Rate %	Investment Value £000	Investment type	Maturity date
National Counties Building Society	0.57	1,000	Fixed	20/04/2018
Scottish Building Society	0.60	1,000	Fixed	02/05/2018
Leeds City Council	0.48	10,000	Fixed	24/05/2018
Goldman's Bank	0.92	5,000	Notice A/c	10/08/2018
Close Brothers	0.75	5,000	Fixed	17/09/2018
Furness Building Society	0.90	1,000	Fixed	19/10/2018
Santander	0.55	10,000	Call	
HSBC Bank Plc (MMF)	0.42	10,000	Call	
HSBC overnights	0.35	6,200	Call	
Total		49,200		

8 Performance measurement and Prudential Indicators

- 8.1 The WMCA treasury management function participates in a local benchmarking group which compares WMCA's treasury management performance with other local authorities, to ensure that relative to other local authorities the Authority is achieving a fair investment return without any undue risk. Performance is also regularly reviewed at the monthly Treasury Management Group.
- 8.2 One of the key requirements in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management is the formal introduction of performance measurement relating to investments, debt and capital financing activities. The Prudential Indicators as at 31st March 2018 are shown in Appendix A. All key prudential indicators for the year were within the boundaries set by the Authority's approved Treasury Management Strategy.

9 Treasury Management Strategy

- 9.1 The Treasury Management Strategy for 2017 / 18 has been underpinned by the adoption of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practise on Treasury Management. Treasury Management is defined as:

“The management of local authority’s investment and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital transactions; effective control of risk associated with those activates; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.”

- 9.2 The Treasury Management Strategy is reviewed regularly and amended throughout the year to reflect changes in the financial markets and the economic climate.

Appendix A : Summary Prudential Indicators

	2017 / 2018			2018 / 2019 TM Strategy			Notes
	Actual £000	Previous Forecast £000	Treasury Strategy £000	2018/19 Forecast £000	2019/20 Forecast £000	2020/21 Forecast £000	

Affordability

Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream:							Financing costs are at lower than expected levels due to effective cash management enabling WMCA to avoid additional borrowing requirements. Increases in financing costs are driven by the need to fund the Investment Programme and the projected receipt of borrowing powers from Government. Net revenue streams include assumptions for Business Rates income.
(a) financing costs	9,855	9,695	15,109	13,100	19,200	24,800	
(b) net revenue stream	166,142	161,200	158,042	172,900	178,000	177,500	
Percentage	5.93%	6.01%	9.56%	7.58%	10.79%	13.97%	

Prudence

Gross borrowing and the capital financing requirement:							As detailed above, gross borrowing in 17/18 was lower than budgeted but is expected to increase as the Investment Programme delivery intensifies. The Capital Financing Requirement remains within expected tolerances.
Gross Borrowing	160,289	205,093	229,858	460,220	636,340	856,444	
Capital Financing Requirement (Gross borrowing in year 2018/19 must not exceed year CFR in 2020/21)	220,552	251,563	256,085	507,000	683,400	903,900	

Capital Expenditure, External Debt and Treasury Management

Capital Expenditure	73,790	71,310	171,211	298,400	302,800	397,100	Capital expenditure is expected to increase as the Investment Programme delivery intensifies.
Operational boundary for external debt							The Operational and Authorised limits set parameters around WMCA borrowing ceiling and are contained within the approved Treasury Management Strategy for the year. These levels are within the boundaries of the agreement WMCA have agreed with HM Treasury in relation to the debt cap. The practical policies, procedures and administration of the Authority's Treasury function and management of borrowing is fully set out in the approved TMS for the year and is compliant with the CIPFA code of practice.
Operational boundary for borrowing	243,289	205,093	312,305	460,200	636,300	856,400	
Authorised limit for external debt							
Authorised limit for borrowing	243,289	205,093	312,305	547,000	783,300	1,042,000	
Interest rate exposures							The upper limits detailed exist to protect WMCA from over exposure to variable rate limits and long term secure investments. The upper limit on investments over 364 days has been increased to allow more flexibility in Treasury Management practices as the scope of the WMCA Treasury function increases following the first devolution deal.
Upper limit on fixed rate exposures	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Upper limit on variable rate exposures	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	
Investments longer than 364 days							
Upper limit	8,000	8,000	8,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Employment Support Pilot
Portfolio Lead	Skills & Productivity - Councillor George Duggins
Accountable Chief Executive	Nick Page, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council email: npage@solihull.gov.uk tel : (0121) 704 6018
Accountable Employee	Julie Nugent, Director of Productivity & Skills email: julie.nugent@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7942
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board - 11 May 2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) To delegate authority to approve the award of the Employment Support Pilot to the WMCA Director of Productivity & Skills, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To outline and agree the actions required to allow the Employment Support Pilot Contracts to be awarded to enable a June 2018 start date.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The first Devolution Agreement states that: “The Combined Authority will develop a business case for an innovative pilot to support those who are hardest to help [into employment]. The business case should set out the evidence to support the proposed pilot, cost and benefits and robust evaluation plans, to enable the proposal to be considered for funding at a later date, subject to Ministerial approval.”
- 2.2 Government indicated that the pilot should be innovative and designed to fill gaps in the ‘what works’ evidence. The results will be used to inform future government policy and the next spending review.
- 2.3 A business case was submitted to government on 24th February 2017. Government formally announced the award of £4.7m funding on 1st August 2017.
- 2.4 WMCA Board have agreed that the delivery of the pilot should be externally procured. The value of activity to be procured is a maximum of £4m with funding to be dispersed through a payment by results model. The funding opportunities were published on April 11th 2018 and divided into 9 separate LOT’s (Funding Opportunities) across the WMCA geography: Batchley and Brockhill (Redditch), Binley and Willenhall (Coventry), Birchills Leamore (Walsall), Camp Hill (Nuneaton & Bedworth), Cannock North (Cannock Chase), Chelmsley Wood (Solihull), Glascote (Tamworth), Shard End (Birmingham) and Washwood Heath (Birmingham).

3.0 Wider WMCA Implications

- 3.1 As agreed with government, the Employment Support Pilot can be delivered within non-constituent member areas but cannot be delivered in the same areas as the Thrive Into Work Programme. Each local authority area in scope was asked whether they would like the pilot to be delivered within their area and to select their priority area for the pilot. The areas were agreed by WMCA Board at its meeting on 8th September 2017.

4.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 4.1 In December 2017 a prior information notice was released informing the market of WMCA’s intention to procure delivery of the Employment Support Pilot and facilitate a market warming event. This was warmly received by the market with over 73 organisations expressing an interest and 58 organisations attending the session.
- 4.2 Through consultation with both the market and our Local Authority colleagues this has helped to refine the Employment Support Pilot and contributed to the specification released 11th April 2018.
- 4.3 In partnership with Local Authorities, Employment Support Pilot awareness events were held throughout April 2018 to promote the opportunity to local stakeholders and potential applicants.

4.4 The procurement process is scheduled to be completed by the end of May and the release of funding for the pilot from the Department for Work and Pensions is dependent on delivery commencing by 29th June. To allow the successful organisations to have time to effectively mobilise their delivery and commence activity by this date, contracts need to be awarded prior to the June Board Meeting. It is therefore proposes that the Board delegate authority to approving the award of contracts for delivery of the Employment Support Pilot to the Director of Productivity & Skills, in consultation with the Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 The budget for the pilot is £4.7m over 3 years from 2018/19. Of the £4.7m, £500k will be allocated for Management and Administration and £200k for Evaluation.

5.2 The expected combined legal and procurement costs are c£30k. The first 20k of this is to be met from the £500k management and admin budget which will also cover the Employment Support Programme Manager post and 2 other support posts which will be recruited following the procurement exercise. This budget needs to be carefully managed to ensure costs stay within the £500k over the 3 years.

5.3 Any delay to the commencement of the contract may impact on the ability to meet the key outputs agreed between WMCA and DWP during the first financial year. If expected performance targets are not achieved in year 1 this may then impact on the release of funding in year 2.

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 The procurement process and legal contracts required to support the pilot are being dealt with by external specialists. The deadline for responses is the 14th of May 2018 with interviews to be held week commencing 21st May 2018. It is anticipated that the Director of Productivity and Skills will be notified of successful applicants by the 28th of May 2018.

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 The activities of the portfolio are reflected in the WMCA Equalities Scheme.

7.2 The pilot should aim to reach harder to reach groups. All information produced or used in connection with the pilot should be as accessible as possible to people with disabilities and to people whose level of literacy in English is limited. The representation of users/customers should be monitored and appropriate steps need to be taken to ensure the customer make up reflects the diversity of the local area

8.0 Other implications

8.1 N/A

9.0 Schedule of background papers

9.1 N/A

10.0 Appendices

10.1 N/A

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Midland Metro Penalty Fares Order
Accountable Director	Laura Shoaf, Managing Director - Transport for West Midlands email: laura.shaof@tfwm.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7444
Accountable Employee	Phil Hewitt, Metro Programme Director email: phil.hewitt@tfwm.org.uk tel: 07712 089532
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board – 11 May 2018

Following the West Midlands Combined Authority Board meeting that took place on 8 December 2017 where Councillor Roger Lawrence presented a report seeking the approval under the provisions of section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 (which applies by virtue of section 20 of the Transport and Works Act 1992) for WMCA to submit an application for the Midland Metro (Penalty Fares) Order to the Secretary of State for Transport under the Transport and Works Act 1992 it was resolved that WMCA is authorised to submit the above application. This report is now presented to the full WMCA Board by virtue of section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 in order to provide a second resolution confirming the resolution passed on 8 December 2017.

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Confirm the resolution passed on 8 December 2017 to authorise the WMCA to submit an application for the Midland Metro (Penalty Fares) Order to the Secretary of State for Transport.

Purpose

1. To seek from the full West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Board a second resolution confirming the resolution as set out in the West Midlands Combined Authority Board Report of 8 December 2017 to promote a Transport & Works Act Order (TWAO) for the Midland Metro (Penalty Fares) Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992.

Background

2. On 8 December 2017 the WMCA Board passed a resolution authorising the submission of a TWAO to seek the necessary powers for West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to make changes to the penalty fares on Midland Metro (including increases and a two tier system). The application for the above TWAO was submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport on 27 February 2018.
3. By virtue of Section 20 of the Transport & Works Act (TWA), Combined Authorities such as the WMCA may promote a TWA Order, but the power to do so is subject to the same conditions as apply to Combined Authorities promoting bills in Parliament.
4. In this instance, therefore, the Combined Authority must comply with the conditions set out in Section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972.
5. Section 239 provides that where a Combined Authority is satisfied that it is expedient to promote a Bill (and so also a TWAO) it must pass a resolution to do so which then needs to be confirmed at a further meeting of the authority after the Bill is deposited or, in the case of a TWAO, the application made. In each case the necessary resolutions must be passed by a majority of the full Council (i.e. not just the members present).
6. Such a resolution must:
 - (a) be preceded by not less than 30 clear days' notice, given by advertisement in one or more local newspapers and by the ordinary notices required to be given for convening a meeting of the WMCA;
 - (b) be passed by a clear majority of the whole number of the members of the WMCA Board (i.e. not a majority of those present but a majority of all members).
7. The wording of the proposed resolution has been based directly on the wording of the resolution passed on 8 December 2017, and any proposed changes to it should be subject to further legal advice.

Impact on the Delivery of the Strategic Transport Plan

8. Changes to improve the protection of future revenues will support the continued success of Midland Metro which has an important expanded future role. This is a key part of the Strategic Transport Plan's Metropolitan Rail and Rapid Transit Network.

Wider WMCA Transport Implications

9. The Midland Metro Concession currently held by ALTRAM L.R.T. Ltd will terminate on the 24 June 2018. At its meeting on 17 March 2017 the Board of the West Midlands Combined Authority approved the recommendation in principle to award a Public Services Contract to Midland Metro Limited ("MML") in accordance with the provisions of EU regulation 1370/2007.
10. The Public Services Contract will come into effect on 24 June 2018 and that the functions currently discharged by Altram L.R.T. Ltd and its Operating sub-contractor Travel Midland Metro will be taken up by MML at that date. This will include ticket sales and revenue collection.
11. WMCA will at this point take revenue risk on Midland Metro and will need to ensure MML has robust revenue protection measures in place. An appropriate penalty fare regime is fundamental to this to act as a deterrent to potential fare evaders. By seeking the changes as proposed WMCA will be protecting future revenues which contributes to the continued and successful delivery of Midland Metro operation.

Background and details of the TWAO Application

12. The TWAO application was submitted to the DfT on 27 February 2018.

Financial Comments

13. The financial impact will be reduced by having a penalty fare regime that will protect future revenues of Midland Metro operations as detailed in this report.

Legal Comments

14. The WMCA has power to apply for a TWA Order by virtue of section 20 of the Transport and Works Act 1992. Subsection (2) of section 20 provides that the power to make a TWAO application is subject to the same conditions (if any) that apply to the applicant when promoting a Bill in Parliament.
15. The WMCA has powers to promote Bills in Parliament under section 10 of the Transport Act 1968 (as amended) and section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
16. In order to comply with the conditions that apply to the exercise of the power in the LGA 1972, special notice of this meeting and its purpose has been given in accordance with section 239. As WCMA Board has approved the submission of the TWA application, it will also be required by the LGA 1972 to decide, at this second meeting whether to resolve to continue with decision of the first resolution made at the WMCA Board Meeting of 12 December 2017.

Equalities Implications

17. No equality impact is envisaged. A comprehensive communications plan for all customers will be implemented ahead of any penalty fare changes.

Schedule of background papers

WMCA report 8 December 2017

Transport Delivery Committee Meeting 6 November 2017

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	Midland Metro – Wednesbury to Brierley Hill
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Roger Lawrence - Transport
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, Managing Director Transport for West Midlands email: laurashaof@tfwm.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7444
Accountable Employee	Phil Hewitt, Metro Programme Director email: philhewitt@tfwm.org.uk tel: 07712 089532
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Board - 8 December 2017 Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Project Board - 27 September 2017 Metro Board - 10 October 2017 WMCA Investment Board - 30 October 2017 Strategic Transport Officers' Group - 13 November 2017 HS2 Local Delivery Team - 16 November 2017 WMCA Programme Board - 24 November 2017 HS2 Growth Delivery Board - 29 November 2017

Following the West Midlands Combined Authority Board meeting that took place on 8 December 2017 where Councillor Roger Lawrence presented a report seeking the approval under the provisions of section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 (which applies by virtue of section 20 of the Transport and Works Act 1992) for WMCA to submit an application for The Midland Metro (Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Land Acquisition) Order to the Secretary of State for Transport under the Transport and Works Act 1992 it was resolved that WMCA is authorised to submit the above application. This Report is now presented to the full WMCA Board by virtue of section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 in order to provide a second resolution confirming the resolution passed on 8 December 2017.

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Confirm the resolution passed on 8 December 2017 to authorise the WMCA to submit an application for the Midland Metro (Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Land Acquisition) Order to the Secretary of State for Transport.

Purpose

1. To seek from the full West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Board a second resolution confirming the resolution as set out in the West Midlands Combined Authority Board Report of 8 December 2017 to promote a Transport & Works Act Order (TWAO) for the Midland Metro (Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Land Acquisition) Order under the Transport and Works Act 1992.

Background

2. On 8 December 2017 the WMCA Board passed a resolution authorising the submission of a TWAO for the extension to the existing Midland Metro tramway system in Sandwell and Dudley. The proposed extension will connect with Midland Metro Line 1 at Wednesbury and run via the existing railway corridor to Dudley Town Centre and then on to the Waterfront / Merry Hill terminating in Brierley Hill. The application for the above TWAO was submitted to the Secretary of State for Transport on 12 December 2017.
3. By virtue of Section 20 of the Transport & Works Act (TWA), Combined Authorities such as the WMCA may promote a TWA Order, but the power to do so is subject to the same conditions as apply to Combined Authorities promoting bills in Parliament.
4. In this instance, therefore, the Combined Authority must comply with the conditions set out in Section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972.
5. Section 239 provides that where a Combined Authority is satisfied that it is expedient to promote a Bill (and so also a TWAO) it must pass a resolution to do so which then needs to be confirmed at a further meeting of the authority after the Bill is deposited or, in the case of a TWAO, the application made. In each case the necessary resolutions must be passed by a majority of the full Council (i.e. not just the members present).
6. Such a resolution must:
 - (a) be preceded by not less than 30 clear days' notice, given by advertisement in one or more local newspapers and by the ordinary notices required to be given for convening a meeting of the WMCA;
 - (b) be passed by a clear majority of the whole number of the members of the WMCA Board (i.e. not a majority of those present but a majority of all members).
7. The wording of the proposed resolution has been based directly on the wording of the resolution passed on 8 December 2017, and any proposed changes to it should be subject to further legal advice.

Impact on the Delivery of the Strategic Transport Plan

8. Expansion of Midland Metro, as set out in this report, is an important element in the development of the Strategic Transport Plan's Metropolitan Rail and Rapid Transit Network.

Wider WMCA Transport Implications

9. The WBHE is a key part of the Midland Metro extensions programme. This expansion of Midland Metro, as part of an integrated Rail and Rapid Transit Network, will enable better connectivity of key centres and corridors in the Black Country with the wider Combined Authority area through effective interchange with suburban and regional rail services.

Background, Aims, Description of the Route, Operational Issues and details of the TWAO Application

10. The application for powers to construct the extension represents a significant milestone for the WBHE project, and this report seeks approval to submit a TWAO application for that project. This submission is crucial as there is a greater need for the scheme now compared with in 2005 due to the linkages it provides with the enhanced opportunities for growth and the regeneration associated with HS2.
11. The full background, aims, description of the route, operational issues and the details of the TWAO application including cost funding and process are presented in the report taken to the WMCA Board on 8 December 2017 in Appendix 1 of this report.

Programme

12. The programme for delivery will be subject to the timescales and outcome of the statutory process associated with the TWAO and to securing funding approval from the DfT.

Legal Comments

13. The WMCA has power to apply for a TWA Order by virtue of section 20 of the Transport and Works Act 1992. Subsection (2) of section 20 provides that the power to make a TWAO application is subject to the same conditions (if any) that apply to the applicant when promoting a Bill in Parliament.
14. The WMCA has powers to promote Bills in Parliament under section 10 of the Transport Act 1968 (as amended) and section 239 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).
15. In order to comply with the conditions that apply to the exercise of the power in the LGA 1972, special notice of this meeting and its purpose has been given in accordance with section 239. As WCMA Board has approved the submission of the TWA application, it will also be required by the LGA 1972 to decide, at this second meeting whether to resolve to continue with decision of the first resolution made at the WMCA Board Meeting of 12 December 2017.

Equalities Implications

16. The extensions of Midland Metro will facilitate fully accessible journeys and access to employment, leisure, education and link to other transport modes.

Schedule of background papers

WMCA report 8 December 2017

WMCA report 30 September 2016 Midland Metro Update.

WMCA report 21 April 2017 Midland Metro Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Extension



WMCA Board

Date	25 May 2018
Report title	West Midlands Bike Share Scheme
Portfolio Lead	Councillor Roger Lawrence – Transport
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, Managing Director, Transport for West Midlands tel: (0121) 214 7444 email: laura.shoaf@tfwm.org.uk
Accountable Employee	Stuart Everton, Black Country Director of Transport tel: (01902) 554097 email: stuart.everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	WMCA Programme Board - 11 May 2018

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note that Nextbike UK Ltd have been awarded as the preferred supplier for the West Midlands Bike Share Scheme following the procurement exercise.
- (2) Note that the contract will be signed following the WMCA Board approval.
- (3) Note the mobilisation of the West Midlands Bike Share Scheme.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 To update the WMCA Board on the progression of the West Midlands Bike Share Scheme.

1.2 To update the WMCA Board on the next stages of delivery.

2.0 Background

2.1 The West Midlands Cycling Charter was adopted in September 2015 to outline key principles among partners to deliver a required step change in cycling across the West Midlands.

2.2 A detailed Action Plan was outlined in September 2015 and is currently being delivered with the target of increasing levels of cycling to 5% of all trips by 2023.

2.3 The Cycling Charter is based on the following four principles:

- Leadership and Profile
- Cycling Network
- Promoting and Encouraging Cycling
- Funding

2.4 From the core principles of the Cycle Charter an action was to investigate a bikeshare system for the West Midlands. This is also a priority action within the West Midlands' Physical Activity Strategic Framework, '*West Midlands on the Move*'.

2.5 Since 2016, Local Authority partners and TfWM have been investigating the potential for bikeshare within the region.

3.0 Impact on the Delivery of WMCA Strategic Plans

3.1 *Movement for Growth's (MfG) (Metropolitan and Local Tiers)* – the key MfG policy relating to this Scheme is the development of a strategic cycle network which will be progressively integrated with the local cycle network. The ten year delivery plan also commits to several cycle schemes which will showcase and support a new West Midlands Strategic and Local Cycle Network Programme. This is in line with the Mayor's commitment to spend £10 per head on cycling. Moreover, a secure and safe strategic network will enable greater take-up of a bikeshare scheme as well as overall increase cycling participation levels.

3.2 MfG policies that are supported include:

- Policy 1 – To accommodate increased travel demand by existing transport capacity and new sustainable transport capacity.
- Policy 3 – To maintain existing transport capacity more effectively to provide greater resilience and greater reliability for the movement of people and goods.
- Policy 4 – To improve connections to new economic development locations to help them flourish, primarily through sustainable transport connections.
- Policy 6 – To improve connections to areas of deprivation.
- Policy 8 – To improve connections to new housing development locations to help them flourish, primarily through sustainable transport connections.
- Policy 10 – To help tackle climate change by ensuring a large decrease in greenhouse gases from the West Midlands Metropolitan Area's transport system.
- Policy 11 – To significantly increase the amount of active travel in the West Midlands Metropolitan Areas.

- Policy 12 – To significantly reduce road traffic casualty numbers and severity.
- Policy 13 – To assist with the reduction of health inequalities in the West Midlands Metropolitan Area.
- Policy 14 – To increase the accessibility of shops, services and other desired destinations for socially excluded people.

3.3 *WMCA's Health and Transport Strategy* is a key document to demonstrate the important relationships between health, wellbeing, and wealth and highlights that the way people travel plays an important part in both their physical and mental health. The establishment of a Bike Share Scheme will contribute to greater levels of physical activity during travel, which in turn will help reduce obesity and risk of associated conditions - saving £17 billion in NHS costs over 20 years.

3.4 *West Midland's On the Move Strategic Framework* recognises the importance of walking and cycling to encouraging more people to adopt an active lifestyle, reducing the west midlands chronic levels of physical inactivity and in turn improving both physical and mental wellbeing, whether by cycling for leisure or to work. Public Health England predicts that getting 1 more person to cycle to work rather than go by car could generate between £539-£641 public health saving long term.

3.5 Besides health implications, the West Midlands area suffers from significant air quality problems. Public Health England figures suggest approximately 1,500 adult deaths each year are attributable to poor air quality in the West Midlands. Introducing policies such as Clean Air Zones (CAZ) will improve air quality and contribute significantly to our Health and Transport policies. Encouraging active travel, in this case through bikeshare schemes, will form a key element of our overall approach to improving air quality and the health of our residents, as well as reduce the number of motorised vehicles on the road.

4.0 Wider WMCA Implications

4.1 Transport for West Midlands (TfWM) and the Constituent Local Authorities will work collaboratively to strengthen cross-border relationships and align cycling and walking schemes to ensure consistency in access and quality.

4.2 Several members of the West Midlands Cycling Charter Group have remits that cover the wider WMCA 3 LEP geography.

5.0 Progress of West Midlands Bike Share Scheme

5.1 WMCA undertook a procurement process which commenced on 29 November 2017 for a concessionaire to operate a Bike Share Scheme across the West Midlands pursuant to Regulation 19 of the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016 ("**CCR 2016**"). The scheme was procured on a zero cost basis with no funding required by WMCA or the constituent Local Authorities. The scheme will initially operate over the 7 constituent Local Authority areas. There is opportunity for expansion across the non-constituent local authorities in the future.

5.2 Following assessment of the tenders by the evaluation panel the successful operator, Nextbike UK Ltd, was informed on 21 February 2018, followed by a Standstill Period and a confirmation of award on 6 March 2018. During March 2018, a joint press release was issued, which gained significant regional and national coverage.

- 5.3 Nextbike UK Ltd is part of the world's most extensive bikeshare operator, operating 125 schemes globally, including in the UK, schemes in Milton Keynes, Cardiff, Bath and Glasgow.
- 5.4 Nextbike UK Ltd will provide 5000 smart (non-electric) cycles within the West Midlands. The Concession Contract with Nextbike UK Ltd is for an initial term of five years with a possible three year extension exercisable at WMCA's discretion. Nextbike UK Ltd will provide the infrastructure and a high quality maintenance regime for cycles and docking stations over the contract period.
- 5.5 The infrastructure is comprised of docking stations, which require no electricity inputs, an instructions pole and smart cycles (termed smart as the technology is on the cycle). The smart cycles are the latest generation of Nextbike UK Ltd cycles, which have been adapted to the West Midland's topography by including 8 gears. Advantageously, the docking stations can be easily relocated for large scale events, such as the Commonwealth Games.
- 5.6 The scheme will have a headline sponsor appointed. This is currently being negotiated by Nextbike UK Ltd. Any sponsorship deal reached will adhere to the WMCA's Sponsorship Protocol.
- 5.7 The sponsor will determine the colour palette and branding of the cycle, but TfWM's new cycle branding will also be incorporated to give a local feel to the cycles.
- 5.8 The scheme is forecast to be implemented between summer 2018 and spring 2019, with a soft launch in summer 2018 at the University of Birmingham. It is forecasted the launch of phase 1 will then commence in September 2018, with the roll out of cycles across the three cities of Coventry, Wolverhampton and Birmingham. The phasing will be subject to relevant approvals. Table 1 shows a proposed phasing plan, including the estimated number of cycles (subject to change due to demand).

Table 1: Phasing Forecast

Local Authority	Phase (s)	Estimated total Units (cycles)
University of Birmingham (soft launch)	Phase 1	100
Birmingham City Council	Phase 2 and expansion in phase 3.	1900
Coventry City Council	Phase 2 and expansion in phase 3	900
City of Wolverhampton Council	Phase 2 and expansion in phase 3	900
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council	Phase 3	300
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	Phase 3	300
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council	Phase 3	300
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	Phase 3	300
WM Total Units		5000

- 5.9 Nextbike UK Ltd with TfWM will progress Swift integration in 2018, enabling Swift customers to access the cycles using their Swift card. Nextbike UK LTD is already active with Mobility as a Service through MaaS Global, which is now live in the West Midlands.
- 5.10 Alongside Swift, there will also be a range of ways customers can access the scheme, including the provision of a mobile application, online website and via a customer contact centre.
- 5.11 Nextbike UK Ltd have proposed a tariff structure which offers value for money, including concessions for students and disadvantaged groups. The tariffs enable an affordable and flexible service for users, for daily usage and less frequent usage. These are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Membership Levels and Costs

Type of Membership	Cost
Annual Pass including free 30 minute journeys.	£30 per annum. First 30 minutes of every journey is free, with a charge of 25p per 30 minutes thereafter*.
Concession (i.e. students, unemployed) Annual Pass including free 30 minute journeys.	£20 per annum for students. First 30 minutes of every journey is free, with a charge of 25p per 30 minutes thereafter*.
Pay as you go	No deposit required. The cost is 50p per 30 minutes with the first ten minutes of a trip on that day free of charge (year 1 of the scheme will offer the free ten minutes).*

**There is a maximum daily charging cap of £5.*

- 5.12 Nextbike UK Ltd will provide a number of other incentives and support packages, including supporting unemployed customers and corporate membership packages.
- 5.13 Nextbike UK Ltd will deliver 50 new jobs to the region, providing local job opportunities. They will also be working with the local organisation Steps To Work to provide unemployed individuals with training and job opportunities with Nextbike UK Ltd. They also intend to further support the local economy by using local PR and marketing companies to promote bikeshare and deliver campaigns.
- 5.14 There will also be opportunities to add further value to the scheme, through social and technological innovations, such as air quality monitoring, cycles for a variety of user's needs and electric cycles, subject to external funding.

6.0 The Next Stages in Delivery

6.1 The key milestones for delivery are set out in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Delivery Milestones

	Date
Mobilisation of scheme	April 2018 to March 2019
Contract Completion	Following the WMCA board approval
Phase 1: Soft Launch at The University of Birmingham	Summer 2018
Roll out of phase 2	September 2018 onwards
Roll out of phase 3	Autumn 2018 to spring 2019
Swift Integration	2018

7.0 Financial Implications

7.1 The stated objective of the West Midlands Bike Share Scheme is to make this zero cost operationally to the WMCA and local authorities. Nextbike UK Ltd has satisfied this objective and has provided a business plan establishing the scheme at zero cost to the WMCA or local authorities, including the income forecasted from a headline sponsor. In reality there are minor set up costs, as well as Management and Supervision costs over the life of the contract.

8.0 Legal implications

8.1 WMCA Legal Services supports the appointment of Nextbike UK Ltd. External legal support, DWF in conjunction with the in-house legal officer have prepared the Concession Contract under the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016 (CCR). Assistance will be provided by DWF and the in-house legal officer in order to finalise the contract (contractualising the bid) to allow the contract to be formally entered into with Nextbike UK Ltd.

9.0 Equalities implications

9.1 WMCA Equalities Officer supports the appointment of Nextbike UK Ltd following satisfactory completion of the equalities questionnaire. Nextbike UK Ltd showed a strong emphasis on social values and equality and deliver equality awareness training to their employees. Their projects and schemes have strong equality emphasis and one of their main aims is to improve accessibility, social inclusion and encourage under-represented groups such as women, disabled people and people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds.

10.0 Other implications

10.1 Increasing cycling and walking helps improve public health, air quality, reduce carbon emissions and reduces overall noise pollution.

11.0 Schedule of Background Papers

- 11.1 West Midlands Cycling Charter
- 11.2 West Midlands Cycling Charter Action Plan

Glossary

Word / Acronym	Explanation
MfG	Movement for Growth
STOG	Strategic Transport Officers Group
TfWM	Transport for West Midlands
WMCA	West Midlands Combined Authority

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Housing and Land Delivery Board

Wednesday 21 February 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Sean Coughlan (Chair)
Councillor Peter Bilson
Bill Blincoe
Councillor Steven Claymore
Councillor Ian Courts
Simon Marks
Kevin Rodgers

Councillor Chris Saint
Councillor Mark Shurmer
Councillor Peter Butlin
Councillor David Humphreys
Councillor Nic Laurens
Councillor Bill Gavan

Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
City of Wolverhampton Council
Coventry and Warwickshire LEP
Tamworth Borough Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP
West Midlands Housing Association
Partnership
Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Redditch Borough Council
Warwickshire County Council
North Warwickshire Borough Council
Shropshire Council
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

In Attendance

Jo Nugent
Ian Powell

Perry Wardle
Carl Craney
Gareth Bradford
Tim Johnson
David Warburton
Eleanor Young

Walsall MBC
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough
Council

West Midlands Combined Authority
West Midlands Combined Authority
City of Wolverhampton Council
Homes England
Blackstock Partnership

Item Title No.

6. Apologies for Absence (if any)

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Majid Mahmood (Birmingham City Council), Councillor George Adamson (Cannock Chase District Council), Councillor Dennis Harvey (Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council), Councillor Richard Overton (Telford and Wrekin Council) and Karl Tupling (Homes England).

7. Chair's Announcement

The Chair welcomed Gareth Bradford, WMCA Director of Housing and Regeneration to his first meeting of the Board.

8. Declarations of Interests (if any)

No declarations of interest were made in relation to items under consideration at the meeting.

9. Minutes of last meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the addition of 'Ian Powell – Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council' being included in the list of those in attendance at the meeting.

10. Matters Arising

Councillor Ian Courts referred to Minute No. 5. (Update on Housing Deal) and requested that further information be provided to all Members of this Board with regard to the award of some £3.690 million to Telford and Wrekin Council to assist in bringing forward approximately 540 housing units across that area. He advised that whilst he had not been present at the last meeting he was concerned with regard to this award given the discussions held under the Duty to Co-Operate requirements and the stance taken previously by Telford and Wrekin Council.

Resolved:

That a detailed clarification on the background to this matter and the decision be provided to all Members of this Board.

11. Spatial Investment and Delivery Plan - (contents and outline for agreement)

Gareth Bradford presented a report which updated the Board on progress in taking forward work to support implementation of the West Midlands Land Delivery Plan, which had been a key recommendation from the West Midlands Land Commission. He advised that this was the third stage of the process and formed part of the bottom up development. He assured the Board that the WMCA was engaged with both Constituent, Non- Constituent and none members on this piece of work and that this was not a Statutory Plan. It was intended to bring together various plans for housing, transport, skills, employment and social infrastructure. It was anticipated that Homes England and the various Housing Associations would have regard to the document, once it was finalised. As part of the draft scoping exercise key information on all sites had been documented. He reminded the Board that this exercise was not about numbers of houses provided but about the quality of developments, the density and ensuring that sustainable communities were created.

He reported that the site pipeline had identified some 800 sites and that the Officers were working with Homes England to commence discussions with H M Government to move forward development on these sites, acknowledging the inherent difficulties with some sites. The constraints included contaminated land and, in some cases, fragmented ownership. He stressed the need for the homes to be delivered in a structured and co-ordinated manner. A number of further Workshops were planned with the respective authorities in order to progress the finalisation of the Delivery Plan.

Councillor Ian Courts welcomed the work undertaken to date and commented that it was essential especially in terms of the Brownfield sites. He suggested that there was a need for some scoring mechanism via a 'Scorecard' on which the various impediments (such as remediation / ownership / planning issues) to development could be rated. He also suggested that there was a need to identify 'shovel ready' schemes and to involve private landlords and developers in the exercise.

Gareth Bradford acknowledged the inclusion of a 'Scorecard' and on the need for the pipeline to be realistic. He advised on the need to identify those schemes which could be delivered quickly and those that could be prepared for delivery with the support of investors. He reported that, to date, the engagement with both owners and developers had been light in touch but assured the Board that the level of engagement would increase as the process developed.

The Chair commented that the negotiations with H M Government needed to be considered including the need to demonstrate that the West Midlands region could deliver on its aspirations.

Councillor Chris Saint supported the approach that was being adopted but expressed concern with regard to the non-statutory element in the planning process. He reminded the Board that the Spatial Development and Delivery Plan would sit alongside statutory plans. He enquired whether those sites identified in the pipeline would be over and above those identified in Local Plans. The Chair acknowledged the position and advised that no attempt was being made to intrude into the Green Belt. He reported that H M Government preferred the adoption of a statutory plan but that the WMCA was resisting this course of action.

Councillor Ian Courts sought an assurance that only those sites put forward by the respective local authorities would be included in the Plan. Councillor Peter Butlin commented that the purpose of the Plan was to accelerate development of sites and especially those where development had stalled. He suggested that reference should be made to the provision of educational facilities in the Plan where new developments were under consideration.

Councillor Peter Bilson welcomed the work on the development of the Plan. He confirmed that it aligned with the Black Country Core Strategy and the City of Wolverhampton Council's development ambitions. He commented that early commitment on land remediation was required and acknowledged the different pressures between authorities in respect of development. He suggested that an early commitment from H M Government would be welcomed. The Chair reported that a letter had been forwarded to the Prime Minister and all local Members of Parliament seeking their support to the aspirations. He commented that there were a number of difficulties preventing development across the region in addition to contaminated land.

Councillor David Humphreys commented on the need for developers to be required to complete sites on which development had commenced. Gareth Bradford confirmed that the public sector needed to intervene in such matters using Compulsory Purchase Order powers if deemed necessary and that the WMCA was discussing with H M Government the appropriate tools to ensure that the completion of approved developments were achieved. He advised that the WMCA was working alongside Homes England and the respective local authorities on such issues. The Chair intimated that H M Government was supportive of the aims in this matter.

Councillor Peter Butlin commented on the possibility of charging developers Council Tax on such undeveloped properties which was likely to achieve a quicker result than the use of Compulsory Purchase Order powers. Gareth Bradford advised that a range of tools were required especially having regard to the diverse range of issues across the region. Councillor Chris Saint advised that the charging of Council Tax on undeveloped properties was under consideration but could not yet be implemented as the necessary legislation had yet to be enacted.

Councillor Ian Courts commented on the various hurdles which had to be addressed including the 'boom and bust' nature of the construction industry and the various issues which prevented the speedy adoption of Local Plans.

Resolved:

1. That the proposed outline of the Spatial Investment and Delivery Plan be approved;
2. That the progress in taking forward the work programme as agreed at the last meeting of the Board, particularly in relation to developing the Spatial Expression / Integrated Investment Plan be noted.

12. Update on Housing Deal

Gareth Bradford updated the Board in relation to on-going discussions with H M Government to secure investment by way of a Housing Deal. He assured the Board that it was not intended to surpass the target of 215,000 additional housing units by 2031. He reported that the whole housing market was being reviewed in terms of remediation requirements and types of construction. A diverse number of delivery options were being explored including:

- Delivery with both public and private sectors;
- Intervention measures;
- New delivery measures and building on those already in existence;
- Challenges to developers on quality and to complete developments;
- Joint Delivery Team with Homes England.

He advised that the intention was to establish a long term relationship and investment programme with H M Government and associated Agencies. Ideally, a single housing fund would be established to accelerate supply of housing units. Compulsory Purchase Order powers would be used where appropriate and support would be provided on skills and employment provision / training. The proposals would include partnership working with Homes England. The Chair commented that negotiations with H M Government were on-going but it was hoped that an agreed process for the long term could be achieved.

Councillor Peter Butlin referred to the position with the provision of affordable housing in the Rugby Borough Council area where a number of viability issues, varying from site to site, precluded the requisite proportion of affordable housing units being provided. He opined that if H M Government was willing to fund the costs of remediation of those sites higher levels of affordable housing could be delivered. The Chair reminded the Board of the availability of funding through the Brownfield Land and Property Remediation Fund but acknowledged that this did not provide a solution to all problems. Councillor Ian Courts counselled caution with regard to subsidising land owners and also reminded the Board that the type of affordable housing units provided was as important as the number of units.

Gareth Bradford commented on the need for the WMCA to build up its level of expertise without replicating that which already existed in partner authorities. He advised on the need for a different approach to be adopted to that offered by a Joint Venture Partnership as there was a need for a long term view. The Chair opined on the need to protect the local authorities and reminded the Board of the award of £6 million to establish a 'Delivery Team' as part of the Devolution Deal 2 settlement.

Councillor Peter Bilson commented on the need for affordable housing for rent and on the need for the borrowing cap on the Housing Revenue Account to be lifted. The Chair advised that further parts of the plan would evolve during the on-going discussions including those taking place with Housing Associations. Gareth Bradford reported that lifting the borrowing cap had not formed part of the discussions with H M Government as it was understood that this was under consideration. He stressed the need to convince H M Government that the West Midlands region could deliver on its aspirations.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received and noted;
2. That the Chair be granted delegated authority to progress negotiations with H M Government in relation to the Housing Deal.

The meeting ended at 10.50 am.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Investment Board

Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Chair)
Councillor Robert Hulland
Councillor Majid Mahmood
Gary Taylor

Warwickshire County Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Birmingham City Council
Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local
Enterprise Partnership
Non-Constituent Authorities

Councillor Tony Jefferson

In Attendance

Carl Craney
Sean Pearce
Liz Grove
Lucy Lee
Nafees Arif

West Midlands Combined Authority
West Midlands Combined Authority
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Midland Metro Alliance

Item Title No.

73. Apologies for Absence (if any)

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Jim O'Boyle (Coventry City Council), Councillor Sean Coughlan (City of Wolverhampton Council, Dudley MBC, Sandwell MBC and Walsall MBC), Councillor Peter Richards (Non-Constituent Authorities), Nick Abell (Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership), Paul Brown (Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership) and Sue Summers (Finance Birmingham).

Apologies for absence had also been received from Sarah Middleton (Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership), David Cockroft (Coventry City Council) and Perry Wardle (Solihull MBC).

74. Notification of Substitutes (if any)

Councillor Peter Richards had nominated Councillor Tony Jefferson as his substitute.

75. Declarations of Interests (if any)

Councillor Robert Hulland declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item No. 8 (Change request for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Strategic Business Case 1 (SMBC SOC1) for the UK Central Infrastructure Package insofar as he was a member of Solihull MBC.

76. Minutes of last meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

77. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018.

Sean Pearce reminded the Board that at the meeting held on 29 January 2018 an application in respect of Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1 had been approved subject to a briefing being arranged for the Chair and Gary Taylor to address the concerns expressed at that meeting. He reported that such a meeting had been held and circulated a File Note on the proceedings. He invited the Chair and Gary Taylor to submit comments to him on the contents of the File Note prior to its submission to the next meeting of the Board to confirm that the necessary assurances had been provided.

Sean Pearce also reminded the Board that at the meeting held on 29 January 2018 an application in respect of Opus Land (Oldbury) Ltd. – BLPDF had been considered with funding being provided from the Brownfield Land and Property Development Fund (BLPDF) but subsequently from the Black Country Land Remediation Fund (BCLRF). He advised that the monies could be allocated from either funding source but that on this occasion it would be met from the BCLRF.

Resolved:

1. That the reports be noted;
2. That a report be submitted to the a future meeting on the various funds under the auspices of this Board together with details on arrangements for draw down of funding and the source of any replenishment of the various funds;
3. That a report on the overall investment programme be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

78. Consortium for the Demonstration of Intelligent Systems (CDIS) - Accountable Body Amendment

Sean Pearce presented a report which reminded the Board that at the meeting held on 29 January 2018 approval had been given to the early draw down of a sum of £250,000 to support the preparation of a Full Business Case with regard to the Consortium for the Demonstration of Intelligent Systems (CDIS). The Outline Business Case considered at that meeting had stated that the Black Country Consortium would act as the Accountable Body but this had not been made clear in the report to the Board.

Resolved:

That the Black Country Consortium be assigned responsibility as the Accountable Body for the CDIS Programme.

79. Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the business affairs of any particular person (Including the authority holding that information).

80. Change request for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Strategic Outline Case 1(SMBC SOC1) for the UK Central Infrastructure Package

Lucy Lee and Liz Grove presented a report which detailed a change request to enable the development funding approved previously to be extended to enable the next milestone for each of the 14 projects to be delivered during 2018/19 through to 2020/21. This was primarily to reach Outline Business Case (OBC) or Full Business Case (FBC) stage for the main Phase 1 programme. There were also a number of individual studies and Strategic Outline Business Cases (SOC's) relating to the planned Phase 2 programme.

The total development funding requested amounted to £8.15 million being a £4.76 million increase above the original amount and covering project development activity in 2018/19 through to 2020/21. The assurance and approval of the overall programme as detailed in the OBC approved previously was unaffected. The change request provided a more sensible funding approval period allowing development of each project to the next stage.

Liz Grove provided further background information and responded to questions in relation to valuation methodology, the basic proposals involved with the scheme, progress with negotiations with property owners and commercial owners and the advantages of this course of action being followed.

Resolved:

1. That £4.76 million of Devolution Deal funding to enable the 14 projects within Phase 1 programme to progress to OBC or FBC stage be approved;
2. That £3.90 million of Devolution Deal to enable the early acquisition of property in Kingshurst Village Centre in order to respond flexibly and pro-actively to acquisition opportunities that arise be approved.

81. Lessons Learnt regarding Metro Scheme Estimates and On-going Control

Further to Minute No. 47(4) of the meeting of the Board held on 29 November 2017, Nafees Arif presented a Lessons Learnt report with regard to the Wolverhampton Metro extension element of the Wolverhampton Interchange scheme. He responded to various questions from the Board.

Resolved:

1. That the report be received and noted;
2. That the report be forwarded to the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee for consideration;
3. That the report be circulated to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
4. That a further Lessons Learnt report with regard to the Wolverhampton Railway Station element of the Wolverhampton Interchange scheme be presented to a future meeting of this Board;
5. That a presentation be made to the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee on the benefits from alliance operations in relation to the Bilston Road Track Replacement scheme.

The meeting ended at 10.50 am.



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee

Friday 16 March 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

David Lane (Chair)

Councillor Craig Collingswood (Vice-Chair) City of Wolverhampton Council

Councillor Sucha Bains

Coventry City Council

Councillor Margaret Bassett

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Councillor Keith Chambers

Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

Councillor Simon Peuple

Staffordshire Non-Constituent Authorities

Councillor Alexander Phillips

Shropshire Council

Councillor June Tandy

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

Item No. Title

54. Inquorate Meeting

Please note that in accordance to the WMCA Constitution, this meeting was inquorate. However, the recommendations contained within the minutes were submitted to the WMCA Board on 25 May 2018 for formal approval and adoption.

55. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kerrie Carmichael (Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council), Councillor Steve Clark (Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council), Councillor John Fisher (Redditch Borough Council) and Councillor Mariam Khan (Birmingham City Council)

56. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made in relation to matters under consideration at the meeting.

57. Chair's Remarks

The Chair reported that the City of Wolverhampton Council in partnership with Grant Thornton hosted a Midlands Audit Committee Forum on 15 March, which saw councillors and Audit Committee members from Local Authorities come together to discuss key themes and their governance responsibilities. The Chair thanked Councillor Craig Collingswood, Grant Patterson and Peter Farrow for an informative and very useful session. The Governance Services Officer agreed to circulate a copy of the presentations presented on the day.

58. Minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January were agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

59. Matters Arising

(a) Health and Safety Reporting

Due to a burst water pipe and flooding to the first floor area at 16 Summer Lane a decision was made to close the building to staff. The business continuity process was followed and managed effectively.

(b) Whistleblowing Reporting

The West Midlands Combined Authority had launched a new method for whistleblowing concerns and reporting suspected fraud for both officers and members of the public. Anyone who wished to raise their concerns could submit a Whistleblowing and Fraud Form found on the WMCA website.

The Chair requested a review of the process and an understanding of all staff to the process. The Head of Governance noted this request and undertook to look into this.

(c) Wolverhampton Interchange Overspend - Lessons Learned

A lessons learned report with regard to the Wolverhampton Metro extension element of the Wolverhampton Interchange scheme was considered by the Investment Board on 13 March 2018.

The Chair asked whether the summary could be shared with Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee, and dependent on whether the committee considered that it adequately covered the issues and lessons learned, it would determine whether a more detailed internal audit review would be required.

(d) Devolution Deal Update

The Head of Governance provided an update on the Second Devolution Deal. He agreed to circulate the Devolution Action Plan that was considered by the Combined Authority Board on 9 March 2018.

With regard to the West Midlands Fire Service, the Combined Authority Board would consider the outcomes of the consultation undertaken on the future fire service governance arrangements in May 2018. The Chair asked for a report on the West Midlands Fire Authority Governance Proposals to be presented to Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee in June 2018.

60. Forward Plan

The committee considered the plan of items to be reported to future meetings of the committee.

Following the recent Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee self-assessment exercise, the initial results had been shared with the Chair. However, in recognition of the forthcoming local elections it had been decided to put the exercise on hold until the composition and membership of the committee had been confirmed post-election. The exercise had been added to the forward plan and time would be allocated at the September meeting in order to revisit it.

The following items were to be added to the forward plan.

- Standards Report (21 June 2018). This should also include non-elected Combined Authority appointees to the various boards and committees that it was establishing to ensure that there was consistency.
- Audit Findings Report (21 June 2018). This should also include Pension Fund.
- West Midlands Fire Authority Governance Proposals (21 June 2018).
- General Data Protection Regulations (September 2018).
- Brexit and the anticipated effect on finances and devolution aims (November 2018).
- HR Vacancies Update (November 2018).
- Grant Thornton Audit Plans (January 2019).

Resolved

(1) That the report be noted.

61. Governance Structures

The committee considered a report of the Head of Governance that provided an overview of the Governance Structures of the Combined Authority and the Boards, Bodies and Committees that were associated with it.

The Chair indicated that Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee was independent of the executive and Overview and Scrutiny Committee and as part of the review of the West Midlands Combined Authority's Constitution, the committee asked for this to be clarified in the Constitution.

Resolved

(1) The information regarding Governance Structures provided in the report be noted.

62. Capability and Vacancy Risks

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance that provided a progress update on how the WMCA planned to meet capability and capacity demand through its resourcing and planning processes to ensure vacancies were managed effectively.

In respect of questions from Councillor Craig Collingswood, the Interim Head of Organisational Development provided further information on secondments, recruitment, consultants, budget and financial monitoring reports, skills and the development of existing employees.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) The actions and considerations taken including systems and planning processes to manage Capability and Vacancy Risks be noted.

63. WMCA Progress Report March 2018

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on progress in the delivery of the responsibilities of the external auditors against the external audit plan.

In terms of reporting, the final accounts audit was due to begin on 8 May 2018 and the external auditor's findings for 2018 would be included within the audit findings report to the committee on 21 June 2018.

Resolved

- (1) The contents of the report be noted.

64. Informing the Audit Risk Assessment

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on the effective two-way communication between auditors and the Authority's Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee, as 'those charged with governance'.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report be noted.
- (2) That in respect of financial monitoring, the wording was to be amended to reflect that Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee receive financial updates by exception.

65. Informing the Audit Risk Assessment for West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority Pension Fund

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on the effective two-way communication between auditors and the Authority's Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee, as 'those charged with governance'.

Resolved

(1) That the content of the report be noted.

66. WMCA Annual Governance Statement

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on draft Annual Governance Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement was a statutory document which explained the processes and procedures in place to enable the Combined Authority to carry out its functions effectively.

Resolved

(1) The draft Annual Governance Statement be approved, subject to some minor changes, prior to its inclusion within the financial statements for 2017/18.

67. Outturn Report for Internal Audit 2017/18

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on the opinion of the Chief Audit Executive on the adequacy of WMCA control environment which was relevant in compiling the 2017/2018 Annual Governance Statement.

Resolved

(1) The contents of the report be noted.

(2) The current position on the implementation of audit recommendations provided in 2017/2018 as set out in the report be noted.

(3) That no major risk exposure had been discovered since the last Outturn Report for 2016/17 be noted.

68. Internal Audit Annual Report 2017/18

The committee considered a report of the Chief Audit Executive on the annual internal audit opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Combined Authority's governance, risk management and internal control processes.

It was reported that 15 audits had been completed during 2017/18 where an audit opinion had been provided. A limited assurance rating had been given in the following areas:

- Establishment of the Mayoral Office
- Data Security (including General Data Protection Regulations)

The Head of Internal Audit provided further information as to the reasons for the 'limited' assurance ratings provided for the above audits. With regard to the establishment of the Mayoral Office, the committee highlighted the need to ensure that lessons were learned.

Resolved

(1) The report be noted.

69. WMCA Assurance Overview March 2018

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on the views of the Corporate Assurance Manager's opinion on the Authority's systems of Projects & Programme Assurance and Business Assurance for this reporting period October 2017 - March 2018.

In respect of questions from Councillor Craig Collingswood, the Corporate Assurance Manager agreed to review the format of future reports to include a red, amber and green rating. Future reports would also include activities that were on the horizon to enable Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee to have a detailed understanding of future activities.

In relation to the Wolverhampton Interchange Programme, the Head of Finance and Business Planning agreed to circulate a briefing note on the process used by the Combined Authority in the event of a change in financial assumptions with regard to interest rates.

Resolved

(1) The assurance reviews and activities that had been undertaken in the last six months be noted.

(2) The committee was satisfied with the assurance activity October – March 2018.

70. Internal Audit Plan 2018/19

The committee considered a report of the Chief Audit Executive on the Internal Audit Plan 2018/19. The internal audit document provided the Authority with a risk-based internal audit plan based upon an assessment of assurance needs.

Resolved

(1) That the risk based internal audit plan for 2018/19 be approved.

71. Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved

(1) That, in accordance with s100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business as it involves information relating to an action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

72. Follow Up Review 2017/18 Cyber Security Arrangements

As part of the Internal Auditor's Annual Report 2017/18, the committee received a summary on the recommendations made by Internal Audit in its report on Cyber Security that was issued in May 2016. During the period Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee had received regular updates from the Authority on how progress was being made in combatting the growing risk of Cyber security.

Resolved that the report be noted.

73. Data Security Arrangements 2017-18

As part of the Internal Auditor's Annual Report 2017/18, the committee received a summary on an audit of the Authority's data security arrangements including records management and General Data Protection Regulation readiness.

The General Data Protection Regulation would apply from 25 May 2018 to all UK organisations handling personal data.

The Authority had created approximately 35 policies, documents and procedures that were currently in draft form. The Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee asked the Director of Finance to ensure that all policies and procedures had been published and enacted as opposed to remaining in draft form by 21 June 2018. The Director of Finance assured the committee that this would be addressed prior to the next meeting of the committee.

Resolved

(1) That the report be noted.

74. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 21 June 2018 at 10:00am.

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 20 March 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Peter Hughes (Chair)	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Rose Burley	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Dean Carroll	Shropshire Council
Dr Chris Handy	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Rachel Harris	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Angus Lees	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Mike Lyons	Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor John McNicholas	Joint Coventry/Solihull Representative
Councillor Simon Peaple	Staffordshire Non-Constituent Authorities
Councillor Ian Shires (Vice-Chair)	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Councillor Claire Spencer (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Chris Watkins	Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council

Item Title No.

17. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Brown (Black Country LEP), Councillor John Glass (Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council), Councillor John Mutton (Coventry City Council), Councillor Stephen Simkins (City of Wolverhampton Council) and Sarah Windrum (Coventry and Warwickshire LEP)

18. Declarations of Interests

No declarations of interest were made in relation to matters under consideration at the meeting.

19. Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 January were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

20. Local Enterprise Partnerships

The committee considered a report of the Scrutiny Lead Officer on the governance of Local Enterprise Partnerships.

Local Enterprise Partnerships were established as locally-derived business-led partnerships between the private and public sectors that would drive economic growth. There were three LEPs within the Combined Authority area (Black Country, Greater Birmingham & Solihull and Coventry & Warwickshire) with a fourth LEP having observer status awaiting progression (the Marches).

The committee received a presentation from Dr Chris Handy, Board Member of the Black Country LEP on its ambitions and plans, strategy into delivery, its track record of delivery, Growth Deal 1, 2 & 3, governance and partnership working and making our mark together.

The committee also received a presentation from Mike Lyons, Board Director of Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP that included information about its mission, vision, strategy, delivery, private and public sector board directors, its governance structure and strategy.

In terms of Brexit, it was acknowledged that there was uncertainty with regard to investment, however the LEPs were confident that the correct strategies were in place to ensure that the investment was allocated to the right areas to maximise economic growth.

In respect of questions from Councillor Claire Spencer, the LEPs provided further information on their respective control environments, decision making processes, relationship with local authority planning team, openness and transparency, addressing the skills gap and gender balance amongst their board members.

Councillor Peter Hughes asked members of the committee to forward to the Scrutiny Lead Officer any further questions that they would like to ask the LEPs. The Scrutiny Lead Officer would then liaise with LEP representatives regarding feedback.

Resolved

(1) the briefing note be noted.

(2) Mike Lyons and Dr Chris Handy be thanked for their informative presentations.

21. Capability & Vacancy Risks

The committee considered a report of the Director of Finance on how the WMCA planned to meet capability and capacity demand through its resourcing and planning processes, to ensure vacancies were managed effectively.

The Interim Head of Organisational Development provided further information on:

- the number of people within the West Midlands Combined Authority that were on fixed term contracts and the reasons for this;

- sickness absence levels and how this was being monitored and reported.

Following questions from members of the committee, the Interim Head of Organisational Development agreed to provide a further report to a future meeting. This report would provide information on how the change in responsibilities would be reflected within the WMCA workforce with regard to expert knowledge and skills, diversity in the workplace and how this would be achieved in terms of recruitment and the policy/approach towards the achievement of gender pay balance.

Resolved

- (1) the content of the report be noted.
- (2) the actions and considerations taken, including systems and planning processes to manage capability and vacancy risks, be noted.
- (3) A further report be presented to a future meeting of the Committee providing additional information on recruitment with regard to the addressing of knowledge/skills gaps, diversity and gender pay balance.

22. Strategic Risk Register

The committee considered a report of the Finance Director on the strategic risks currently identified and recorded on the Strategic Risk Register.

The Head of Governance reported on the value of partnerships and noted that the WMCA Leadership Team continued to look at ways to strengthen its relationship with Constituent and Non-Constituent Authorities. Members of the Leadership Team were actively engaging with authorities to ensure that portfolio leads were updated on a regular basis.

The committee proposed that future reports should include risk owners and provide a definition of the risk ratings used. Also, in terms of the use of financial assumptions relating to the devolution deals, it was felt that it would be beneficial to have a more detailed understanding of the challenge surrounding those financial assumptions. Councillor Peter Hughes suggested that there was a role for the Budget Task & Finish Group to undertake a review of this particular risk area.

It was noted that the Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee had requested a report on the anticipated effect of Brexit on WMCA finances and devolution aims. Also, with regard to arm's length companies being set up in relation to the WMCA, the Head of Governance assured members that Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee had oversight of the governance checklist and issues surrounding any arm's length companies as they were being set up.

Councillor Peter Hughes asked whether the Head of Governance could look in more detail at the wider impact of the loss of European Union funding across the region in order to assess the true effect of the loss and to start to look at possible alternative funding options. The Head of Governance agreed to look into this and provide a report to a future meeting of the committee.

Resolved that the details contained in the Strategic Risk Register be noted.

23. Activities of the Task & Finish Groups

The Lead Members for each of the Task & Finish Groups provided an update on their respective work areas.

Councillor John McNicholas reported that, as part of a scoping exercise, members of the Governance Task & Finish Group had discussed possible models of governance for the transport 'service area' of the Combined Authority. Members also discussed the disparity of Special Responsibility Allowances across the governance structure of the West Midlands Combined Authority.

Resolved

- (1) the next piece of work to review governance of transport within the WMCA be agreed.
- (2) a report on the outcomes from that review and the options and models available to be considered at an additional meeting of Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 16 April 2018.

The meeting ended at 12.00 pm.



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Investment Board

Monday 26 March 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Chair)
Councillor Robert Hulland
Nick Abell

Paul Brown

Warwickshire County Council
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Coventry & Warwickshire Local
Enterprise Partnership
Black Country Local Enterprise
Partnership

In Attendance

David Cockroft
Carl Craney
Sean Pearce
Phil Hewitt

Coventry City Council
West Midlands Combined Authority
West Midlands Combined Authority
Transport for West Midlands

Item Title No.

82. Apologies for Absence (if any)

Apologies for absence had been received from councillors Jim O'Boyle and George Duggins (Coventry City Council), Councillor Majid Mahmood (Birmingham City Council), Councillors Peter Richards and Tony Jefferson (Non-Constituent Authorities), Gary Taylor (Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership) and Sue Summers (Finance Birmingham).
Apologies for absence had also been received from Sarah Middleton (black Country Local Enterprise Partnership) and Gerald Gannaway and Nick Oakley (Finance Birmingham).

83. Notification of Substitutes (if any)

Councillor Jim O'Boyle had nominated Councillor George Duggins as his substitute but Councillor George Duggins had submitted an apology for absence.

Councillor Peter Richards had nominated Councillor Tony Jefferson as his substitute but Councillor Tony Jefferson had submitted an apology for absence.

84. Declarations of Interests (if any)

Nick Abell declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 8 (Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1 – File Note re: Assurance) inasmuch as he was a member of the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership which was a partner in the scheme and also that he had received hospitality from Friargate, a partner in the scheme. In response to a query from Nick Abell, Carl Craney clarified the position with regard to declarations of interests and voting.

85. Minutes of last meeting

Sean Pearce reported that there had been an error in the report in respect of Agenda Item No. 8 (Change request for Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council's Strategic Outline Case 1 (SMBC SOC1) for the UK Central Infrastructure Package) inasmuch as the figure at paragraph 3.8 c) referring to the annual revenue cost to service the borrowing for this scheme had been inadvertently stated to be £2.4 million, when in fact, it was £0.6 million. He invited the Board to note this matter.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair and that the error in the report referred to above be noted.

86. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2018.

87. Investment Board Programme Update

Sean Pearce presented a report which advised the Board that the Investment Programme had been agreed as a result of the region's first Devolution Deal agreed with HM Government in 2015. He reminded the Board that the entirety of the Investment Programme was to ensure that the Board was able to consider the decisions before it as well as the delegated decisions to the West Midlands Combined Authority Leadership Team in light of funding that had been secured to date and funding that was forecast over the medium term.

The report also set out the current position in terms of approvals provided to date as well as the work being delivered currently by the West Midlands Combined Authority Leadership Team to support the work of the Task and Finish Group. This Task and Finish Group had been commissioned through the Budget process. It set out a summary of the internal work commissioned to ensure the benefits across the programme were captured and understood.

The report also set out the work within the West Midlands Combined Authority across the Investment Programme since October 2016. It presented a potential way in which, going forward, the Investment Board could receive information to help provide a regular update across the Investment Programme for confirmation and challenge ahead of Investment Decisions. He advised that similar reports would be submitted on a regular basis to future meetings of the Board.

He highlighted various sections of the report and stressed that the monies from Supplementary Business Rates provided provisional funding only at this stage as the principal; had yet to be approved by the West Midlands Combined Authority Board.

With regard to Section 7 of the report (Investment Programme Ranking & Scheduling), he reported that the monies available could be committed fully by April 2019 and that there was a need to consider the prioritisation of schemes and to consider also the Forward Plan for Investment Decisions. Work on this would commence in May 2018 with a view to it being completed by July 2018.

The Chair commended the report and referred to the element of risk with assumptions on future funding. Councillor Robert Hulland referred to paragraphs 5.6 and 5.7 of the report and asked as to the position if HM Government attempted to reclaim the windfall, whether this possibility had been taken into account and if any contingency arrangements had been considered. Sean Pearce advised that a meeting was to be held with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 27 March 2018 at which the West Midlands Combined Authority would be represented. He reported that it was understood that HM Government would not attempt to reclaim the windfall in the 2018/19 financial year and that, going forward, the position was broadly neutral for the West Midlands Combined Authority. He undertook to submit a report on the outcome of the discussions to a future meeting. The Board requested an update at the earliest opportunity.

Nick Abell commented that it was not for this Board to undertake a scrutiny role but to consider the investment requests put in front of it. The Chair suggested that the report be used as a reference point in making decisions on investments. Paul Brown enquired as to the impact of the second Devolution Deal. Sean Pearce advised the Board that the second Devolution deal had been positive inasmuch as £250 million had been granted through the Transforming Cities Fund which would enable such funds to be used rather than internal resources. He referred to other elements of the second Devolution Deal which were not investment related. In response to a question from Nick Abell, Sean Pearce informed the Board of the allocation of £143.5 million from the Housing Investment Fund towards the costs of the construction of the Athletes Village at Perry Barr.

Resolved:

1. That the progress against the Investment Programme agreed as part of the region's first Devolution Deal be noted;
2. That the summary update on the overall programme as detailed in the report be presented to future meetings of the Board on a regular basis;
3. That the Chair of the Investment Board be nominated as the representative of this Board on the Task and Finish Group as set out in the report and be required to provide updates back to the Board through April to July 2018;
4. That an update be provided as soon as possible to the Board on the outcome of discussions with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on the position with the reclaiming of the windfall referred to in the report.

88. Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro Extension - Change Request

Phil Hewitt presented a report which sought approval of base funding for the next stages of development of Wednesbury to Brierley Hill project to Midland Metro Alliance stage gate B. He updated the Board on the current position with regard to the acquisition of the rail corridor from Network Rail following the intervention of the WMCA Mayor and the Secretary of State for Transport. He advised that he intended to submit a further report on the project to the next meeting of the Board in relation to the acceleration of the project to enable the Wednesbury to Dudley Town Centre section of the route to be open in advance of the Commonwealth Games in 2022.

Resolved:

1. That the Outline Business Case for the project, considered by the Panel on 12 April 2017 and finalised subsequently and updated by the Department for Transport scrutiny had secured the Government funding sought therefore the next consideration of the project at Technical Appraisal panel would be for Final Business Case stage be noted;
2. That, in a separate approvals process, authority would be sought for a further allocation of up to £40 million for acceleration works aimed at bringing forward the completion and opening for passenger services of the Wednesbury to Dudley Town Centre section ahead of the Commonwealth Games in summer 2022 be noted;
3. That, in line with the Outline Business Case planned expenditure profile, the maximum allocation of £12 million from the Department for Transport transforming Cities Fund (project total of £19.6 million cumulative, of which £19.2 million would now be allocated / recovered from Department for Transport funding) to cover on-going design, development and contingency cost to the end of the current stage of development as set out in Sections 3 – 6 of the report and authorise the Metro Programme Director to place the necessary contracts / orders under the Programme Alliance Agreement be approved.

- 89. Coventry Friargate Business District Phase 1 - File Note re: Assurance**
With reference to Minute Nos. 62 and 77 Sean Pearce presented a File Note which had been produced following a meeting held with the Chair, Gary Taylor (GB&SLEP) and relevant Officers regarding the above scheme. He advised that the contents of the File Note had been confirmed by the Chair and Gary Taylor.

Resolved:

That the File Note be approved as part of the assurance process.

- 90. Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

- 91. WMCA CIF Dashboard**

Sean Pearce presented the WMCA CIF Dashboard as at 1 March 2018 and advised the Board on the current position with the YMCA, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton scheme.

Resolved:

That the Dashboard be received and noted.

- 92. WMCA BLPDF Dashboard**

Sean Pearce presented the WMCA BLPDF Dashboard as at 1 March 2018.

Resolved:

That the Dashboard be received and noted.

The meeting ended at 10.43 am.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Transport Delivery Committee

Monday 9 April 2018 at 1.00 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Richard Worrall (Chair)	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Phil Davis (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Timothy Huxtable (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Pervez Akhtar	Coventry City Council
Councillor Mohammed Fazal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Mohammed Hanif	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Kath Hartley	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Diana Holl-Allen	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Roger Horton	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Chaman Lal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Keith Linnecor	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Ted Richards	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Judith Rowley	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor David Stanley	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor David Welsh	Coventry City Council

Item Title No.

115. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Alden, Andrew and Warren.

116. Chair's Remarks

(i) Councillor Elias Mattu

The committee observed one minute's silence in memory of the late Councillor Elias Mattu, the serving Mayor of Wolverhampton City Council and former member of the ITA who had died in February following a long illness. Councillor Rowley expressed her sadness at his death and paid tribute to the former councillor and colleague. Councillors Hanif, Horton and Huxtable echoed Councillor Rowley's comments.

(ii) Councillor Gurcharan Sidhu

Councillor Horton informed the committee that Councillor Gurcharan Sidhu had recently retired from Sandwell Council due to ill health. The committee conveyed their best wishes to Councillor Sidhu.

(iii) Farewell to Councillors Judith Rowley and Daniel Warren

The Chair informed the committee that Councillors Rowley and Warren would be leaving elected politics next month and expressed his thanks to both councillors for their work and in particular paid tribute to Councillor Rowley who had served on the former Passenger Transport Authority and Integrated Transport Authority as well as the current Transport Delivery Committee. Councillor Rowley thanked members and officers for their support over the course of 21 years and conveyed a special thank you to the Chair, Councillor Worrall, for his good support as Chair of the Passenger Transport Authority when she first became a member of the Authority. The committee expressed their sadness that Councillor Rowley was retiring but wished her well for the future. The Chair took the opportunity to thank all councillors who had served on the Transport Delivery committee this municipal year.

117. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2018 were agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

118. Correspondence/Petitions

There were no petitions submitted at the meeting, however, Councillor Horton reported that Sandwell Council had not received a response in relation to a petition for the re-instatement of bus service number 50 and asked that Director of Integrated Transport Services ensure that a response is sent.

Councillor Hartley, Lead Member for Putting Passenger First, advised that a petition for the number 50 had been dealt with as part of the petitions process and was concerned that the outcome had not been communicated to Sandwell members of TDC.

The Director of Integrated Transport Services, Pete Bond undertook to investigate the matter and provide feedback to Councillor Horton.

The Chair asked all TDC members be provided with a copy of the petitions process.

119. Metro Operations Business Report

The committee considered a report of the Metro Operations Manager that provided an update in relation to the performance, operation and delivery of Metro services in the West Midlands.

In relation to Metro patronage, Councillor Richards noted that whilst the fall in patronage from February 2017 to January 2018 could in part be attributed to the closure of Bilston Road, he enquired as to why weekend patronage had also shown a decrease during the same period.

The Metro Operation Manager, Sophie Allison reported that in addition to the Bilston Road closure which led people not to travel, she considered that the adverse winter weather had also discouraged people from travelling.

Councillor Davis reported of the need for the electronic information display screens on trams to show that Grand Central was the stop for New Street Station as people travelling outside of the West Midlands area would not be aware of this.

The Metro Operations Manager reported that Grand Central was shown as the stop for New Street on the TV screens, on board the trams and also on line guides inside the tram but would look into adding the information to the scrolling message screens.

Councillor Horton, Lead Member for Rail and Metro, concurred with Councillor Davis.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

120. Accessible Transport Report

The committee considered a report of the Area Manager- Transport Operations that provided an update on matters relating to Accessible Transport in the West Midlands, the performance of the Ring and Ride Service and progress with regards to bus service 89.

In relation to the independent review of Ring and Ride undertaken by consultants SYSTRA on behalf of Transport for the West Midlands, the Director of Integrated Transport Services, reported he was awaiting the final report from consultants and a copy of the report would be provided to all TDC members in due course.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Richards as to whether any progress had been made in finding a better location in Balsall Common for service 89, the Area Manager –Transport Operations, Richard Mayes, reported that this matter was ongoing as he was seeking to find a safe location for the health centre and passengers.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

121. Financial Monitoring Report

The committee considered a report of the Head of Finance and Business Planning that set out the financial position as at 31 January 2018 for the 2017/18 financial year that related to the financial position of the Combined Authority's Transport Delivery Revenue and Capital Budgets.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Stanley regarding the cost of Bilston Road track replacement and when this would be due to be replaced again, the Head of Finance and Business Planning, Linda Horne, reported that the new track was expected to last 25-30 years.

Resolved:

1. That the year to date net revenue expenditure for 2017/18 shows a favourable variance of £5.0m compared to budget and a full year forecast variance of £5.2m following the final re-forecast of the year be noted ;

2. That the total capital expenditure to the end of January 2018 within the overall transport programme was broadly in line with budget, showing a 3 % variance (£1.7m) and
3. That the treasury indicators are within the expected range and there are no issues to highlight be noted.

122. Capital Programme Delivery Monitoring Report

The committee considered a report of the Director of Development and Delivery that provided an update on progress monitoring on the approved TfWM led 2017/18 programmes and projects.

In relation to the Bradley Lane park and ride project and the status given as amber/ red as it was awaiting approval of additional funding to enable scheme progression, Councillor Rowley enquired as to the issues impacting on the project and timescales for delivery.

The Director of Development and Delivery, Sandeep Shingadia, reported that the project was no longer amber/red status and that colleagues were working through the leasing arrangements with Walsall MBC to enable delivery of the project this financial year.

Resolved:

1. That the achievements since the January 2018 of the Transport Delivery Committee be noted;
2. That progress on the deliverables under 2017/18 Capital Programme be noted;
3. That the variations to the baseline programme as outlined in paragraph 4 of the report be noted.

123. Air Quality Update Lead Member Report

The committee considered a report from the Lead Member Air Quality and Congestion Reference Group that provided an update on air quality.

Councillor Davis, Lead Member for Air Quality and Congestion, outlined the report which set out the key issues relating to air quality and the actions being taken forward by the Bus Alliance to assist with meeting air quality standards.

The committee discussed the impact of air pollution and the national policy context along with the regional policy context for improving air quality and noted that the issue of diesel vehicles needs to be tackled urgently by Government.

In relation to the National Productivity Investment Fund Projects listed in appendix 1 of the report, Councillor Stanley noted that £660k was allocated to Brierley Hill Strategic Centre and asked to be advised of how the money would be spent.

Resolved:

1. That the issues relating to air quality be noted and
2. That the actions being taken forward by the West Midlands Bus Alliance to assist with meeting air quality standards be noted.

124. Sprint Lead Member Report

The committee considered a report of the Sprint Lead Member Reference Group that provided an update on the progress of the group.

Councillor Huxtable, Lead Member for Sprint, outlined the report.

In relation to comments from Councillors Linnecor and Richards regarding the consultation for Sprint and need to engage with the general public and stakeholders, Sprint Development Manager, Tom Skidmore, reported that public consultation would be undertaken later this year before the Outline Business Case was submitted to Government.

Resolved: That the progress to date with the work of the Sprint Member Reference Group be noted.

125. Bus Business Report

The committee considered a report of the Network Development Manager the provided an update on matters relating to the performance, operation and delivery of bus services in the West Midlands.

In relation to the South Birmingham Review and the comment from Councillor Huxtable regarding the need to consult with all South Birmingham ward councillors on service changes, the Director of Integrated Transport Services advised that all the relevant councillors would be briefed on the service changes.

In relation to the National Express West Midlands £1 concessionary fare, Councillors Horton and Huxtable reported details of separate incidents where senior concessionary pass holders were charged the full adult single fare before 9.30am instead of £1 fare.

The committee considered that the £1 concessionary fare should be better promoted by National Express and bus drivers educated accordingly.

The Network Development Manager, Edmund Salt, reported that he would feedback this message back to the operator.

In relation to the Dudley area consultation that is being undertaken by National Express West Midlands on their bus services, Councillor Horton reported that Sandwell MBC Officers were not briefed as part of the consultation and noted that as a neighbouring authority any service changes could impact on Sandwell residents.

The Network and Delivery Manager, reported that the consultation was led by National Express who sent out details of the consultation in October via their website and publicised through a number of channels including a session with Dudley councillors, social media, printed materials in the Dudley area and via TfWM correspondence as well as emails to councillors with transport responsibilities in neighbouring authorities. National Express received 1,576 responses to their public consultation.

The Director of Integrated Transport Services acknowledged Councillor Horton's comment that changes to the Dudley bus network would impact on services in Sandwell.

Councillor Huxtable enquired whether TfWM could assist in relation to service number 5 which has been diverted by National Express as a result of the re-classification of low railway bridge; this has resulted in the removal of double decker buses from the route despite buses being able to fit under the bridge.

The Director of Network Services reported that TfWM would be meeting all parties (Birmingham Highways, Network Rail and National Express) next week to look at a solution to the matter and he would provide feedback to Councillor Huxtable following the meeting.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

126. Passenger Information Update

The committee considered a report of the Integrated Information Manager that provided an update on passenger information activity that included partnership working, bus registration changes, printed passenger information, digital passenger information and open real-time data.

Councillor Stanley reported that the Passenger Champions, Bus Users UK and other passenger representative groups should be recognised for their efforts in providing feedback on the network.

The Chair conveyed his thanks to the Passenger Champions et al for identifying issues on the network that help bring about improvements for customers.

Resolved: That the activities completed with respect to passenger information and the further progress being made towards all bus operator real-time information be noted.

127. TfWM Infrastructure Update

The committee considered a report of the Operations Manager (Customer Facilities) that provided an update on matters relating to the operation and enhancement of TfWM infrastructure.

Councillor Horton noted that the TfWM toilet facilities at West Bromwich were due to be refurbished and asked for update to be given in relation to charging for toilet facilities.

The Operations Manager (Customer Facilities), Andy Thrupp, reported that there was an inconsistency to charging for toilet facilities, charges were payable at Wolverhampton and Stourbridge bus stations but not at Walsall and West Bromwich. He explained that the charge was to cover costs and was not a money making opportunity and that pay to use toilets provided a better customer experience than those that were free to use.

Councillor Linnecor considered that all TfWM toilet facilities should be free to use. Councillor Rowley concurred with Councillor Linnecor and considered free toilets to be a basic human need and a public health issue.

In relation to an enquiry from Councillor Huxtable as to whether Network Rail has stopped charging for toilet facilities at its stations, the Interim Director of Rail reported that Network Rail would not be charging for toilets at Network Rail stations from April next year.

Councillor Richards considered that West Midlands Leaders (WMCA) should determine whether a charge is made at TfWM toilets.

The Director of Integrated Transport Services reported that there were significant pressures on TfWM toilets as many local authorities had closed down public toilet in their towns. He added that further consideration would be given to the issue of charging for toilet facilities.

Councillor Horton suggested that TfWM might want to gather information on the matter from other areas of the country.

Resolved: That the contents of the report be noted.

128. Chiltern Railways & Virgin Trains Partnership Agreements

The committee considered a report of the Head of Franchise Management that sought approval for TfWM to enter into Partnership Agreements with Chiltern Railways and Virgin Trains.

The Interim Director of Rail, Malcolm Holmes outlined the report that set out the structure of the new partnership agreements.

The Lead Member for Rail and Metro, Councillor Horton, added that governance arrangements would be confirmed shortly for both Chiltern and Virgin and a delivery plan would also developed by Virgin Trains (the delivery plan for Chiltern Railways was included with the report).

Resolved :

1. That the contents of the report be noted and
2. That approval be given for TfWM to enter into partnership agreements with Chiltern Railways and Virgin Trains.

129. Tram Naming : Criteria & Considerations

The committee considered a report of the Principal Policy and Strategy Officer that provided recommendations for the criteria and policies for the naming of trams in the West Midlands.

The Lead Member for Rail and Metro, Councillor Horton, informed the committee that the report had been updated following circulation, to include more information on the status of the previously named T69 Tram fleet and advised the committee accordingly.

The committee endorsed the criteria for the naming of trams as set out in the report.

Councillor Huxtable suggested that a tram serving the Edgbaston Extension could be named after the first female councillor for Birmingham City Council, Dame Ellen Pinsent and similarly, considered a tram could be named after Councillor Judith Rowley for the Wolverhampton Centre Extension.

Councillor Horton, advised the committee that tram naming was not limited to naming trams after people as trams could be named after a charity or a locomotive (previously Tram 15 was named after Agenoria).

Resolved:

1. That the criteria for the naming of trams for the West Midlands as outlined in the report be agreed and
2. That an action plan be developed for involving stakeholders and public relations in tram naming.

130. Transport for the West Midlands - Annual Plan 2018/19

The committee considered a report of the Managing Director that set out a draft of the Transport for the West Midlands (TfWM) Annual Plan 2018/19 for consideration and comments.

It was noted that following consideration and approval by the Transport Delivery Committee, the TfWM Plan would be submitted as part of the WMCA Annual Plan to the WMCA Board in May for final approval before being formally launched.

Resolved: That the Transport for the West Midlands Annual Plan for 2018/19 be approved.

131. Notices of Motion

None submitted.

132. Questions

None submitted.

133. Forward Plan

The committee considered a report on agenda items to be submitted to future meetings.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 3.15 pm.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Strategic Economic Plan Board

Thursday 12 April 2018 at 10.00am

Present:

Jonathan Browning (Chair)
Councillor Ian Courts
Stuart Croft
Councillor Lee Jeavons
Councillor Ian Kettle
Chris Loughran
Stewart Towe

Coventry & Warwickshire LEP
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
West Midlands Combined Universities
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP
Black Country LEP.

In Attendance:

Paula Deas
Paul Edwards
Sarah Middleton
Julie Nugent
Hywel Ruddick
Patrick White

Coventry & Warwickshire LEP
Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP
Black Country LEP
West Midlands Combined Authority
Black Country LEP
West Midlands Combined Authority

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Harvey and Moore and Paul Kehoe, Tim Pile and Graham Wynn.

10/18 **Welcome**

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.

11/18 **Notes of the Meeting held on 14th December 2017 and Matters Arising**

The notes of the meeting were received.

12/18 **SEP Board Tracker Log**

Agreed that the SEP Board Tracker be noted.

13/18 **Forward Plan**

The Chair noted that the Forward Plan needed to be aligned with the Local Industrial Strategy timelines.

Agreed that the contents of the Forward Plan be noted.

14/18 **Local Industrial Strategy**

The meeting received a presentation on the progress being made with the Local Industrial Strategy (LIS) to include significant West Midlands engagement undertaken; first sector workshops held with emerging action plans for Business and Professional Services, Construction and Aerospace; integrating the Productivity and Skills recommendations into the LIS; development of an emerging evidence pack; and undertaking national engagement with Government; What Works Centre; and Greater Manchester CA, including meeting with Number 10 Special Advisers (SPADs).

The emerging sector deliverables across the sectors of Life Sciences, Automotive, Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Creative, Transport/Freight, Digital, Low Carbon, Skills, Youth Employment, Infrastructure and cross-cutting areas were highlighted.

Reference was made to “Royal” Brownfield Research Centre and whilst acknowledging that it was an aspiration, the meeting was advised that there should not be a reference to it until, and if, it was granted.

The Chair advised that there needed to be discipline to the number of projects and to consider and to look at those with significant scale and impact. If there were key, projects that companies could focus around, with a multiplier effect for the relevant supply chain(s) and region.

Patrick White confirmed that the actions to take forward in the first wave would be those that had the biggest impact and advised that the aim was to produce an initial West Midland LIS document before the pre-parliamentary recess.

Chris Loughran queried whether this timing was linked into the Treasury and Patrick White advised that it was hoped that it would enable an announcement during the party conference season and in the Autumn Statement. Thus, early summer would be the point to release the document with 5 or 6 actions.

Cllr. Ian Courts referenced environment and place making and stated that air quality had been omitted with clean air and carbon reduction being a key for the West Midlands. In regard to place he referenced the need to incorporate retail and town centres. He suggested that as well as Balfour Beatty, in relation to house building and skills discussions should take place with large volume builders such as Taylor Wimpey, who had the size and resource to undertake skills training.

Cllr. Lee Jeavons stated that whilst the ambitions highlighted were important they should also be audacious, as this was how Manchester had achieved the Media CityUK. The meeting welcomed the view to put forward audacious ambitions for the LIS.

Sarah Middleton advised that economy plus was incremental and that there would be local ambitions for the LIS, which would come through in later phases. She advised this was the first wave of the LIS ambitions but acknowledged that the retail, and health care sectors should be captured. She advised that Economy plus remained a priority but was not included in this first wave.

The Chair referenced the WMCA SEP, noted that the 3 LEPs had developed a family of SEPs and asked if the intention was for the WMCA LIS to be an overarching strategy with each of the 3 LEP geographies developing an IS or whether each LEP would have some specificity appended for their LEP area.

Stewart Towe commented that he viewed the WMCA LIS as a collaboration across the region, to include the three LEPs and that all should own the LIS.

Cllr. Ian Kettle highlighted that he represented a low paid region and there was a need to consider the geographical spread of projects in relation to the supply chain and his areas low take up of apprenticeships.

Patrick White advised of the proposed next steps, to include developing thinking on the grand challenges and the timescales for the approval and publishing of the pre-recess document. He advised that No. 10 viewed the LIS as a strategy for the West Midlands (WM) not the WMCA alone, as the WM represented an important region for the UK economy and would consider the next 15 years of development in the region.

Chris Loughran stated that there was a need for a balance of audacious ambitions with credible ambitions and noted the proposed strategic interventions over the forthcoming 15 years. However, he advised that there was a need to fix some things in the next five years, especially around the skills systems.

The Chair concurred with this view and stated that there was a need to target quick effective actions, as well as those of longer term and greater scale.

On a comment regarding taking note of people movements and the lack of parking facilities for the metro at Five Ways, Patrick advised that the WMCA could influence future developments, as they would know where homes were to be built.

The Chair concluded that there was a need to show how the LIS linked in with the National IS, the Grand Challenges and the five drivers of productivity to be referenced throughout the LIS. He highlighted Appendix 1 regarding “the SEP Board being invited to feed in comments and views and endorse its overall content” and advised that the SEP Board should be the Champions for the WMCA IS. Patrick White acknowledged the point and stated that the Board’s support and challenges were fundamental to the LIS.

Agreed:

- 1) That the SEP Board note the progress made to date on the development of the WMCA LIS;

- 2) That officers incorporate the comments of the Board into the proposed pre-recess document, to include the SEP Board as champions of the WMCA LIS.

15/18 **Regional Skills Strategy Development**

The meeting was advised that the Regional Skills Plan (RSP) was taking forward the vision of the SEP and setting immediate 3-year priorities as progress to deliver its wider ambition. The RSP was building on evidence collated as part of the Productivity and Skills Commission and would serve the “People” element of the LIS and would fulfil a statutory requirement of the DfE in setting out the approach to the Adult Education Budget, to be devolved from August 2019.

The RSP would deliver: -

- More people into employment;
- More people in higher skilled jobs;
- More skilled employees to support business growth and productivity;
- All communities benefitting from the region’s economic growth;
- An agile and responsive skills system, more aligned to the needs of business and individuals.

Stewart Towe referenced the recent LEP Chairs meeting in London, attended by the Permanent Secretary for the Department for Education, and highlighted that he had not been aware of the previous work of EBPs. He commented that the DWP were similar and that the people at the top needed to understand more about the detail and history of education and welfare delivery. He suggested that the WM was in a good place to offer solutions. Julie Nugent agreed that devolution offered a good opportunity to join up the work of government depts, especially DfE and DWP, to improve impact and efficiency – an outcome Treasury were interested in.

Chris Loughran asked what engagement had been undertaken with OFSTED to ensure that careers advice/experience became a focus for Head Teachers. It was noted that there was a better dialogue emerging with OFSTED. The Chair commented that there remained a misalignment with schools’ objectives and the needs of employers which need to be continually highlighted.

Cllr. Lee Jeavons provided some anecdotal evidence of the poor take up by schools of careers fairs in Walsall and Julie Nugent advised that there was an increasing requirement for schools to offer good careers information, but this needed to be ‘enforced.’ Julie Nugent highlighted that careers was now a focus of OFSTED and this provided an opportunity.

Cllr. Ian Courts referenced a two day programme run by Solihull MBC for Year 7 pupils, which would stop because of the loss of ERDF funding.

Julie Nugent advised that the FE sector colleges were now working together across the region looking at the training/courses each offered with a view to avoiding duplication. She advised that companies needed to provide the specifics of the training they required to meet their skills shortages.

Cllr. Ian Kettle suggested that students should be required to use the time between the completion of their exams and the commencement of the statutory holiday period to undertake careers training/experience and it was noted that colleges did provide this.

Stuart Croft advised of the opportunity with review of post-18 education, of apprenticeships linking in with FE colleges, which could deliver inclusive growth.

The discussion ensued with the following points noted: -

- Utilise social media to highlight successes peers had already had;
- Need to have parents on board;
- Issues of worklessness through generations and the need to improve the soft skills, such as CV writing, appearance etc.
- The need for OFSTED to change how they measured schools, so that careers became an important focus for Head Teachers;
- LA's had good initiatives in place and there needed to be a "Tapas" menu of good practice which could be scaled up;
- The three LEPs each had an Employment and Skills Board and they needed to continue to collaborate, share KPIs and dashboards to highlight where to focus initiatives.

The Chair concluded that there was a need to know the current base information and then identify a short list of actions to progress skills in the region. He welcomed the continued collaboration of LEPs, LAs, employers, Universities and FE colleges.

Agreed

- 1) Note the progress made to date on the development of the Regional Skills Plan; and
- 2) that the comments and suggested actions on the emerging RSP be incorporated into the Plan.

16/18 Investment Programme – Business Cases

- a) Coventry North Package - £22,700,000 (SOC)**
- b) Digital Programme - £900,000 (SOC)**

The Chair commented that he had requested the WMCA Programme Management Office to be contacted as currently the information as provided required the SEP Board to note the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOC). He recalled that originally the SEP Board had more than a "rubber stamping role", in that they were asked to ensure that the investment projects aligned with the SEP priorities. Currently there was no added to value to reporting the Investment Programme Business Case to the SEP Board.

Agreed

- 1) That the SEP Board note the two Investment Programme Business Cases: -
 - a) Coventry North Package - £22,700,000 (SOC)
 - b) Digital Programme - £900,000 (SOC).

- 2) That the WMCA Programme Management Office be requested to report on their requirements of the SEP Board and produce the Investment Programme Business Cases information for consideration in a suitable format.

17/18 Any Other Business

Combined Authority Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) Board

The Chair advised that he viewed the Boards' title to be wrong as the purpose of the Board was focussed on delivery. He asked for officers to consider in consultation with the WMCA Governance Team a suitable title for the Board going forward into the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

18/18 Date of Future Meetings

It was noted that the remaining date for the 2017/18 Municipal Year was 7th June 2018, as this pre-dated the WMCA Board AGM.

The Chair advised that there would be a need to set a schedule for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

Meeting ended at 11.30am



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday 16 April 2018 at 2.00 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Peter Hughes (Chair)	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Richard Brown	Joint Coventry / Solihull Representative
Councillor Peter Douglas Osborn	Birmingham City Council
Councillor John Glass	Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Councillor Rachel Harris	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Angus Lees	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Councillor John O'Shea	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Councillor Simon Peuple	Staffordshire Non-Constituent Authorities
Councillor Ian Shires (Vice-Chair)	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Councillor Claire Spencer (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council

In Attendance

Councillor John McNicholas	Coventry City Council
----------------------------	-----------------------

Item Title No.

24. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Paul Brown, Councillor Dean Carroll, Mike Lyons, Councillor Yvonne Mosquito and Sarah Windrum.

25. Minutes - 20 March 2018

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

26. Local Enterprise Partnerships

The Chair noted that Sarah Windrum from Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership had submitted her apologies to this meeting because she was attending another WMCA meeting regarding the potential relocation of Channel 4 Television to the region. He therefore requested that this item be deferred until the next meeting.

The Chair noted that there was a wider issue as to the degree of public scrutiny that was appropriate for LEPs and where this scrutiny should take place. Members of the committee recognised that the nature of the WMCA allowed a more joined-up approach to be taken to scrutiny across the region. Councillor Claire Spencer noted that the Centre for Public Scrutiny had produced a number of reports on this subject and should be engaged in the discussions. The Chair requested that members submit their thoughts to him ahead of a more detailed discussion at a future meeting of the committee.

27. WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19

The committee considered a report from Sean Pearce, Director of Finance, seeking approval to a draft of the WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19. The overarching ambition for the WMCA for the forthcoming year was to embed the outcomes that were delivered last year, to deliver on the targets set out in the Mayoral Renewal Plan and Strategic Economic Plan, and to drive forward devolution.

Members of the committee raised a number of issues relating to the draft plan, including the need for a greater emphasis on the role of scrutiny, the benefits that scrutiny brought to decision making and delivery within the WMCA, and the need to give greater clarity on spending within a given year and the budgetary consequences of policy objectives.

The Chair requested that further consideration be given to the role the committee might have in respect of budget monitoring and Annual Plan delivery, and Sean Pearce undertook to do this. The Chair also suggested that the committee could be supported through a graduate placement in order that it was properly resourced to carry out its role.

Resolved:

That the WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19 be noted, and the Director of Finance consider, as part of the further drafting of the plan prior to its submission to the WMCA Board for approval, the comments made at this meeting and any further comments submitted by members to the Scrutiny Officer by 20 April.

28. WMCA Budget - Feedback on the recommendations Overview and Scrutiny submitted to the WMCA Board on 9 February 2018

The committee considered a report from Sarah Sprung, Scrutiny Officer, on the formal response of the Mayor and the Portfolio Lead for Finance & Investments to the points raised by this committee in its feedback on the Mayor's 2018/19 draft budget.

The committee made seven key recommendations following its 'Question & Answer' session with the Mayor on 24 January and its consideration of his draft budget at the meeting held on 30 January. These recommendations were then submitted to the WMCA Board when it met on 9 February.

In respect of the impact of Brexit and the loss of European Union funding, the Director of Finance reported that the Director of Strategy currently chaired the CIPFA Brexit Panel, and was also working closely with constituent and non-constituent authorities to formulate strategies that would address the impacts of Brexit as they evolved. He suggested that it would be appropriate for a quarterly update report on this issue to be considered by the committee. Councillor Simon Peale noted that the Mayor had requested the committee to be sighted as to the development of the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund. The Chair requested that the Director of Strategy submit a report on this to a future meeting.

Resolved:

That the report be noted.

29. Governance Task & Finish Group - Recommendations

The committee considered a report from the Governance Task & Finish Group on the recommendations arising out of its review into governance and scrutiny matters within the WMCA.

The Governance Task & Finish Group had undertaken a review of the governance and scrutiny of transport functions of the WMCA and, as part of that review, identified a number of structural models that could be adopted to improve the oversight that was given to transport policy and delivery. However, the task & finish group recognised as it was conducting the review that there needed to be wider consideration of these matters within the overall governance structures of the WMCA, which extended beyond the remit the group had been given. It was recommended that this wider review should be led by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

In respect of the proposed transition of the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority into the WMCA, the Chair expressed concern that the views made by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council during the recent consultation exercise had not appeared to have been fully captured by the fire authority. The Head of Governance indicated that he was overseeing a Joint Delivery Team to manage the process of transition and the scrutiny arrangements that were eventually adopted would be a matter that would require further detailed discussion with the Home Office. He undertook to keep the Chair informed of developments as they occurred.

Resolved:

- (1) The progress made by the Governance Task & Finish Group be noted;
- (2) The Overview & Scrutiny Committee work with the Monitoring Officer on his current review of the governance arrangements of the WMCA;
- (3) The WMCA Board be recommended to support a review of the scrutiny structures operated by the WMCA;

- (4) The proposed alternative structures for the governance and scrutiny of transport be considered as part of the review identified in resolution (2) above; and
- (5) The Governance Task & Finish Group continue its work into 2018/19.

30. Scrutiny 2018/19

The committee considered a report of Sarah Sprung, Scrutiny Officer, on the proposed governance arrangements for overview & scrutiny in 2018/19. The current structure had been adopted at the start of 2017/18 and it was considered appropriate to continue with this for a further year as the roles and responsibilities of the WMCA evolved. Significant changes in responsibility would occur in 2019/20 which might necessitate a change in structures, but this would be informed by the on-going work of the Governance Task & Finish Group.

Resolved:

That the structure for overview & scrutiny for 2018/19 be noted.

31. Any Other Business

The Chair reported that this was the last meeting that Councillor Claire Spencer would be attending before she stepped down as a Birmingham city councillor on 3 May and he thanked her for the contribution she had made to the work of the committee. He also took the opportunity to thank the members of the committee and officers who had supported its work during the year.

The meeting ended at 4.20 pm.



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Wellbeing Board

Friday 20 April 2018 at 1.30 pm

Minutes

Present

Councillor Bob Sleight (Chair)	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Ken Meeson (Vice-Chair)	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Paulette Hamilton	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Peter Miller	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Sarah Norman	WMCA Chief Executive Lead
Alison Tonge	NHSE
Sue Ibbotson	Public Health England
Guy Daly	Universities (Coventry)
Sean Russell	Mental Health Implementation Director
Gary Taylor	West Midlands Fire Service
Sarah Marwick	West Midlands Police

In Attendance

Dr Henry Kippin	WMCA
Simon Hall	WMCA
Jane Moore	WMCA
Adam Rigarlsford	Sports England

Item No. Title

35. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Caborn, Robertson, Shackleton and Sweet and Andy Hardy and Dame Julie Moore.

36. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 January 2018 were agreed and signed by the Chair, as a correct record subject to minute number 26, Chair's Remarks being amended to read, 'The Chair also reported on the launch of the 'West Midlands on the Move' event in November which he had attended on behalf of the Mayor'.

37. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

38. Developing the PSR and Wellbeing Agenda

Sarah Norman presented a 'WMCA Inclusive Growth, Public Service Reform and Wellbeing Plan on a Page' on behalf of Henry Kippin.

Sarah Norman referred to the three tranches of activity, inclusive growth, radical prevention and system collaboration and how the WMCA was seeking to add value in these areas by embedding inclusive growth in everything we do, addressing the socio-economic problems that stop people from thriving, and building the enabling conditions for whole- system, whole – placed change.

It was noted that further information regarding the integration of PSR and Wellbeing was included in the Update on Health and Wellbeing Programme report that would be considered later in the meeting.

Resolved: That the approach as outlined be endorsed.

39. West Midlands Mental Health Commission Update

The board considered a report of the Mental Health Implementation Director that updated them on progress and the current position of the West Midlands Health Commission Action Plan and the work undertaken since the launch of the programme on 31 January 2017.

The Mental Health Implementation Director, Sean Russell, outlined progress in key areas.

In relation to the allocation of a further £7m to the Midlands Engine to support mental health wellbeing in the workplace across the Midlands Engine footprint from 2018/19 and 2019/20 and an enquiry from the Chair as to whether a criteria has been assigned for the allocation of funding and how this will be progressed, Sean Russell reported that no criteria has been established to assign funding but he is seeking to work with the Midlands Engine to identify principles by which the funds will be released. He added that a Midlands Engine Mental Health forum is taking place on 27 April 2018, in Loughborough which will seek to bring partners together to start the discussions regarding the proposed approach. Sean Russell undertook to prepare a briefing paper for the Chair post this event to enable further discussions to take place

The Chair reported that he and the Mayor would progress the matter with Sir John Peace, Chairman of Midlands Engine following feedback from Sean Russell on the funding criteria/scoping event.

In relation to Zero Suicide Ambition, the Chair noted that there were two suicides at Solihull Rail Station last week and enquired as to what work is being done in this area.

Sean Russell outlined the work that is being undertaken with regards to rail stations at a national and local level with Network Rail, rail companies and British Transport Police to try to prevent any more suicides at stations

Jane Moore added that she and Sean Russell were talking to Transport for the West Midlands (TfWM) on suicide that would look at this area across all transport modes.

In relation to the second 'Walking out of Darkness' event that is planned for 7 October 2018, the Chair considered that as many people as possible should be encouraged to sign up for the event and asked that a letter be written on his behalf (following 3 May local elections) to all Leaders to make them aware of the event.

The Chair noted that Sean Russell had recently received the WMCA's Chief Executive Special Award and conveyed his congratulations to the Mental Health Implementation Director.

Resolved: That progress and the update on the current position of the West Midlands Mental Health Commission Action Plan and the work undertaken since the launch of the programme on 31 January 2017 be noted.

40. Update from STPs Leads & NHSE / Feedback from Health & Wellbeing Chairs

Alison Tonge reported on the partnership structure of the STPs and how these would be developed into Integrated Care Systems (ICS). It was noted that the pilot programme would commence at the end of April and would be open to all partners in STP areas who would be provided with resources to shape the strategic commissions. Alison Tonge added that this was a good development opportunity for STPs to have support and consider what the ICS should like. A further update would be presented to the next meeting

In relation to a comment from Councillor Hamilton that politicians have not been involved in the transition process, Jane Moore undertook to include feedback on this issue in her report to the STPs.

In relation to the first report prepared by Jane Moore for Health and Wellbeing Chairs, Jane Moore advised that the report had been well received and Chairs had asked for short and simple reports moving forward.

Resolved: That the update be noted.

41. Update on West Midlands On The Move & proposed collaboration with Sports England

Simon Hall, was in attendance to update the board on the West Midlands on the Move and report on the proposed collaboration with Sports England, with Adam Rigarlsford, Strategic Lead, Sports England

The presentation provided an overview of the housing deal, spatial investment delivery plan, the smart bike scheme, the scope of the disability and physical activity work and Sport England's Strategy with the WMCA which included in the pilot Birmingham and Solihull.

In relation to housing and growth, Councillor Meeson reported of the need for the WMCA to have the powers to ensure housing developments incorporate social/ sports facilities.

The Chair concurred and considered that local development plans need to include what the WMCA wants.

Henry Kippin advised that devolution and inclusive growth would bring together housing, skills and transport with the Wellbeing principles to deliver something better and different.

Sarah Norman reported there was a real opportunity to develop the evidence base so that the WMCA can identify the most appropriate interventions and deliver those initiatives that have the most impact.

Guy Daly reported that the universities have amassed a wealth evidence on behaviour change but consideration needs to be given to changing behaviour for hard to reach groups and noted that 'run a mile' in Scotland was easy to roll-out and effective.

Simon Hall reported that he was supportive of using the evidence base to seek to incorporate activity into people's lives and would be working with local communities to try to attract people who do not undertake any physical activity.

The Chair thanked Simon Hall and Adam Rigarlsford for their presentation.

Resolved: That the presentation be noted.

42. Update on the Health and Wellbeing Programme

The board considered a report of the WMCA Director of Prevention and Wellbeing, Jane Moore that provided an update on the health and wellbeing agenda since the last meeting.

Jane Moore reported on the work undertaken to align the WMCA Health and Wellbeing agenda with the WMCA PSR and Inclusive Growth agenda and to set out a clearer narrative on how the Health and Wellbeing portfolio contributes to the overall WMCA objective of delivering economic growth that benefits all people of the West Midlands.

It was noted that this information was captured in the appendices attached to the report; a plan on page for PSR, inclusion and cohesion; WMCA Health and Wellbeing Portfolio - plan on a page and WMCA Health and Wellbeing Work Plan-plan on a page.

Jane Moore also referred to appendix 3 of the report, a table that summarised the actions and deliverables for the workstreams within the three key work areas of productivity and health, radical prevention and system collaboration.

In relation to productivity and health and the action to develop an interactive online version of the Wellbeing Dashboard, Jane Moore reported that she would welcome comments from colleagues on the indicators they would like to see included in the dashboard.

In relation to the digital social referral pilot (urban challenge) that seeks to improve the health, wellbeing and social connections of a group of older people, Henry Kippin undertook to circulate a briefing note to the board for information.

Resolved:

- (1) That the Health and Wellbeing plan on a page, work plan and framework be endorsed.

The meeting ended at 3.10 pm.

This page is intentionally left blank



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Investment Board

Monday 30 April 2018 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Izzi Seccombe (Chair)	Warwickshire County Council
Councillor Majid Mahmood	Birmingham City Council
Nick Abell	Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Gary Taylor	Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
David Cockroft	Coventry City Council

In Attendance

Carl Craney	West Midlands Combined Authority
Sean Pearce	West Midlands Combined Authority
Fran Gibbons	Urban Growth Company
Huw Rhys Lewis	Urban Growth Company
Martin Clayton	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Phil Flavell	Urban Growth Company

Item No. Title

93. Apologies for Absence (if any)

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Jim O'Boyle (Coventry City Council), Councillor Robert Hulland (Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council), Paul Brown (Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership) and Sue Summers (Finance Birmingham).

Apologies for absence had also been received from Sarah Middleton (Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership), and Gerald Gannaway and Nick Oakley (Finance Birmingham).

94. Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting, in particular the representatives from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and the Urban Growth Company.

She informed the Board that Councillor Robert Hulland had broken his ankle recently and that he had not had time to make arrangements for a substitute to attend the meeting on his behalf.

95. Nomination of Substitutes

Councillor Jim O'Boyle had nominated David Cockroft as his substitute.

96. Declarations of Interests (if any)

No declarations of interest were made in relation to items under consideration at the meeting.

97. Minutes of last meeting

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

98. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2018.

99. Investment Board Programme Update

Sean Pearce presented a report which updated the Board on the latest position against the Investment Programme.

He referred to Table 1 in the report which detailed a summary of programmes that comprised the Investment Programme and Table 2 which provided a summary of Investment Programme approvals made to 26 March 2018 which included the decisions made at the last meeting. He reported that with regard to the £11 million sum allocated for the Wednesbury – Brierley Hill Metro Extension scheme at that meeting this would be re-profiled against the Transforming Cities Fund allocation in future iterations of the report.

With regard to paragraph 4.3 of the report, he advised the Board that the West Midlands Finance Directors had recently been allocated responsibility to realise specific funding streams which would be reviewed at their monthly meeting. He referred to paragraphs 4.5 – 4.7 of the report, inasmuch as it related to on-going work in respect of Business Rates Supplement and reported on discussions with the Ministry of Housing, Local Government and Communities and the Local Government Association. It was intended to procure an external resource to assist with this piece of work with a report being submitted to either the July or September 2018 WMCA Board.

He drew to the attention of the Board the contents of paragraph 5.4 of the report which referred to a favourable variance of £308 million but explained that overall there was no net variance. He referred to Section 6 of the report which outlined the progress of the Task and Finish Group to determine whether any rescheduling of Investment Board commitments was required for the remainder of the 2018/19 financial year and the proposed process for consideration of these deliberations.

Nick Abell queried whether there were any time constraints on the use of funds allocated by the Board. Sean Pearce advised that monies funded via the Devolution Grant were not time limited but that limits were set out where required in the resulting Grant Agreements following the approvals process. HM Government also undertook five yearly gateway reviews through SQW, a Company appointed to carry out these checks on its behalf. The Chair commented on the possibility of costs increasing as time passed through inflation etc. but advised that such matters were monitored and that risk resided typically with the delivery organisation following approval.

Resolved:

1. That the progress against the Investment Programme agreed as part of the region's first Devolution Deal be noted;
2. That the £20.8 million increase in commitments made by the West Midlands Combined Authority shown within Table 2 to the report and the work undertaken to advance the Business Rate Supplement workstream be noted.

100. Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro Extension - Change Request

This item had been withdrawn prior to the meeting.

101. Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information relating to the business affairs of any particular person (Including the authority holding that information).

102. Birmingham International Station Integrated Transport Hub (CEF) - OBC Funding Request

Huw Rhys Lewis introduced his colleagues to the Board and presented a report which sought formal approval of the request from the Urban Growth Company / Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council for funding of £9.27 million in order to progress the design development of the project including the following key stages:

- Appointment of a consultant to progress the technical design leading to a planning application for the scheme;
- Preparation of documents to commence a two stage procurement process to appoint a Design and Build (D&B) contractor to undertake the delivery of the project once final funding had been secured against the contractor's price point; and
- Securing the required level of funding to deliver the construction of the new station.

Huw Rhys Lewis and his colleagues responded to various questions raised by the Board. Gary Taylor enquired how the contribution being sought would be provided from the WMCA funds. Sean Pearce advised that it would be necessary to have regard to the impact of the proposal on other train stations in the region and also for alternative funding sources to be investigated also by the Urban Growth Company / Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council. He advised that whilst this particular request was within the delegated powers of the Board a separate report would be submitted to and considered by the WMCA Board. He reminded the Board that in agreeing to the recommendation the West Midlands Combined Authority Board would need to take into account the summary and recommendations that it received in January 2018 with the report, 'Progress Update on the West Midlands Combined Authority Investment Programme'. That report had outlined that not all income streams which supported the West Midlands Combined Authority Programme were secured and therefore the following points with regard to this scheme should be noted:

- a) Existing funding rated as 'Green' or prudential borrowing that could be made and to be repaid by the region's future forecast Devolution Grant were sufficient to support the requested funding for this scheme; however
- b) Given that there was still substantial work to be concluded to confirm all West Midlands Combined Authority Income Streams, then approval of this scheme might not allow all further schemes to be approved that were dependent on the West Midlands Combined Authority internally generated resources as contained within the Investment Programme;
- c) The basis on which this could be signed off is due to the assumption that the 30 Year Devolution Grant would be received in Full from Central Government. The Total Annual Devolution Grant over 30 years after taking into account the funding of interest costs provides funding for the investment programme of £748 million. Should the Devolution Grant be reduced, the Annual Revenue Cost would need to be met through contributions from Constituent Authorities on the basis of the underwriting of all West Midlands Combined Authority commitments by each Constituent Authority.

Resolved:

1. That, subject to 2. and 3. below, the request from the Urban Growth Company / Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council for funding of £9.27 million to progress the design, development and procurement of the project be approved;
2. That the Urban Growth Company and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council be requested to work with Transport for West Midlands and other local authorities to ensure that HS2 brings true additionality to the network and does not result in reduced quality or quantity of existing services to London and/or other key destinations;
3. That the Urban Growth Company and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council be encouraged to seek a requirement for additionality of services across the whole network to be secured from Network Rail as part of any future work.

103. WMCA CIF Dashboard

Sean Pearce presented the Collective Investment Fund (CIF Dashboard) as at 15 April 2018.

Resolved:

That the Dashboard be received and noted.

104. WMCA BLPDF Dashboard

Sean Pearce presented the Brownfield Land and Property Development Fund (BLPDF) Dashboard as at 15 April 2018.

Resolved:

That the Dashboard be received and noted.

The meeting ended at 11.00 am.

This page is intentionally left blank