



Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: Tuesday 30 January 2018
Time: 11.00 am **Public meeting** Yes
Venue: Room 116, 16 Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3SD

Membership

Councillor Peter Hughes (Chair)	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Paul Brown	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Richard Brown	Joint Coventry / Solihull Representative
Councillor Rose Burley	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Dean Carroll	Shropshire Council
Councillor Peter Douglas Osborn	Birmingham City Council
Councillor John Glass	Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Councillor Rachel Harris	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Diana Holl-Allen	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Angus Lees	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Mike Lyons	Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Yvonne Mosquito	Birmingham City Council
Councillor John Mutton	Coventry City Council
Councillor Simon People	Staffordshire Non-Constituent Authorities
Councillor Ian Shires (Vice-Chair)	Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton Councils
Councillor Stephen Simkins	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor Claire Spencer (Vice-Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Sarah Windrum	Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Nina Wood-Ford	Redditch Borough Council

Quorum for this meeting shall be 13 members

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

Contact Lyndsey Roberts, Governance Services Officer
Telephone 0121 214 7501
Email Lyndsey.Roberts@wmca.org.uk

AGENDA

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
Meeting Business Items			
1.	Apologies for Absence	Chair	None
2.	Declarations of Interests 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.	Minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2017	Chair	1 - 8
4.	Budget Report - Recommendations and Outcomes (including Transport Budget Commentary - Transport Delivery Committee - Councillor Richard Worrall)	Sarah Sprung	To Follow
5.	Devolution Deal 2 Update	Tim Martin	Verbal Report
6.	General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Update	Tim Martin	Verbal Report
7.	Forward Plan	Chair	9 - 10



WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday 21 November 2017 at 10.00 am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Peter Hughes (Chair)
Paul Brown

Councillor Richard Brown
Councillor Rose Burley
Councillor Peter Douglas Osborn
Councillor John Glass
Councillor Rachel Harris
Councillor Diana Holl-Allen
Councillor Angus Lees

Councillor Yvonne Mosquito
Councillor John Mutton
Councillor Simon Peuple
Councillor Ian Shires (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Claire Spencer (Vice-Chair)
Sarah Windrum

Councillor Nina Wood-Ford

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Black Country Local Enterprise
Partnership

Joint Coventry / Solihull Representative
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Birmingham City Council

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and
Wolverhampton Councils

Birmingham City Council
Coventry City Council

Staffordshire Non-Constituent Authorities
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and
Wolverhampton Councils

Birmingham City Council
Coventry & Warwickshire Local
Enterprise Partnership

Redditch Borough Council

In Attendance

Councillor Julie Baines
Julia Goldsworthy
Councillor John McNicholas
Sarah Middleton
Rita Rais
Anne Shaw
Sarah Sprung
Tim Martin
Councillor John O'Shea

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
West Midlands Combined Authority
Coventry City Council
Black Country Consortium
West Midlands Combined Authority
Transport for West Midlands
West Midlands Combined Authority
West Midlands Combined Authority
Birmingham City Council

Item Title No.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Dean Carroll (Shropshire Council) and Councillor Stephen Simkins (City of Wolverhampton Council).

If members of the committee were unable to attend, the Chair reiterated the need for them to ensure that their substitute was sent to attend on their behalf.

2. Declarations of Interests

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

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 September 2017 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

It was reported that a briefing note on the actions following the unauthorised encampment summit had been emailed to members of the committee for information.

With regard to the WMCA Leadership Commission, the Chair agreed to write a letter to Anita Bhalla and Councillor Steve Eling (WMCA Portfolio holder for Cohesion & Integration) to ascertain whether there was a potential role for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in this area.

4. Performance Reporting

The committee considered a report of the Director of Strategy on the evolving approach being developed for performance reporting and management for the WMCA.

The Director of Strategy and the Chief Executive of the Black Country Consortium provided an update on the proposal to establish a data analytics officer, which was part of the devolution deal negotiations. The importance of this role was emphasised with regard to alignment to the Government Industrial Strategy; Public Sector Reform; accountability and transparency; Programme Management; measuring the delivery of a project; the digital board; and the importance of this agenda for the region.

In terms of the performance dashboards, it was felt that consideration should be given to a multimedia approach for display of the dashboards, to aid communication and presentation to members of the public in an easy to understand format.

Councillor John McNicholas pointed out that Ultra-Light Rail had been omitted from the transport dashboard. The Chair suggested that consideration should also be given as to how the Overview & Scrutiny Committee could assist the WMCA in deciding performance data sets.

Concerns were expressed regarding the transparency of the business being undertaken, and outputs achieved, by some of the Local Enterprise Partnerships. The Chair asked the two Local Enterprise Partnership representatives (Black Country and Coventry & Warwickshire) to provide a presentation regarding their work areas, achievements and outcomes at the January meeting. This was agreed, and it was also decided that the Greater Birmingham & Solihull and The Marshes LEPs should also be approached to do the same.

The Chief Executive of the Black Country Consortium added that meetings of the Local Enterprise Partnership Board were held in public and its minutes were in the public domain. She agreed to circulate a link to the Mary Ney report 'Review of Local Enterprise Partnership Governance and Transparency' which Local Enterprise Partnerships had been asked to respond to.

With regard to the Social Value and Inclusion aspect of performance, the committee agreed to establish a Task & Finish Group to define and review how success could be measured.

Resolved

- (1) The contents of the report be noted;
- (2) The Director of Strategy engage with the three Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) on the Performance Dashboards;
- (3) It was recognised that some of the LEPs were more transparent than others and therefore the committee's two LEP representatives (Black Country and Coventry & Warwickshire) are to provide a presentation at the January meeting in respect of their respective LEP's work areas, achievements and outcomes. In addition, the Greater Birmingham & Solihull and The Marshes LEPs are to be approached to do the same.
- (4) The Director of Strategy to provide a timetable for individual portfolio dashboards.
- (5) An Inclusive Growth and Social Value Task & Finish Group be established to define and review how success can be measured; and initial membership of this group be agreed as follows:
 - Councillor Claire Spencer (Lead Member)
 - Councillor Angus Lees and Councillor Simon People

5. The Role of the Combined Authority in Air Quality

The committee considered a report of the Director of Network Resilience on the role of the Combined Authority in air quality issues.

The Director of Network Resilience explained that Public Health England was represented on the Authority's Wellbeing Board and some secondments had been made from the health teams into the WMCA to review the implications for public health. Respective authorities were also responsible for undertaking a detailed analysis of this area. From a Combined Authority perspective, it needed to review how it could add value in terms of areas within its control ie. via the West Midlands Bus Alliance and the introduction of Statutory Quality Partnerships.

Councillor Rachel Harris asked for assurances that the WMCA was also investigating other sources affecting air quality in addition to transport, such as housing and manufacturing emissions.

Resolved

- (1) The information within the report regarding the role of the Combined Authority in air quality issues be noted;
- (2) In addition to road transport pollution, it be recommended that the Authority's Wellbeing Board undertake a wider cross-focussed review in respect of air quality issues to incorporate housing and manufacturing emissions, and that a report be presented to the committee on 20 March 2018; and
- (3) The Chair to write a letter to Councillor Bob Sleigh (Chair of the Wellbeing Board) to discuss and identify the boundaries of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the WMCA Board in terms of air quality matters.

6. West Midlands Combined Authority Staff Resources

The committee received a verbal report from the Interim Head of Organisational Development on the Authority's staff resources and the work being undertaken to ensure that it had the right level of resource and skills to undertake its ambitions.

In terms of comparing against similar organisations, the Interim Head of Organisational Development agreed to use the Centre for Public Scrutiny event that would be held in Birmingham during January 2018, as an opportunity to undertake a benchmarking exercise.

The Chair sought views from the committee on the level of resource provided to support the scrutiny function at their respective authorities. It was agreed unanimously that the Authority's scrutiny function and Forward Plan needed to be appropriately resourced. The Head of Governance added that a dedicated Scrutiny Officer post for the Authority had been incorporated into the draft budget for 2018/19 and through devolution discussions, the Authority had highlighted the need for resource to enable it to deliver its agenda.

The Interim Head of Organisational Development undertook to provide a written report at the next meeting of the committee in respect of staff and capability resources. This report will include comparable information on the level of resource to carry out effective scrutiny; the capacity to resource the functions of the Combined Authority; and the cost to individual local authorities in terms of time allocated to the Combined Authority and its committees, at all levels.

Resolved

- (1) The Interim Head of Organisational Development to use the Centre for Public Scrutiny event in January 2018 as an opportunity to undertake a benchmarking exercise with regard to the resource agenda; and

- (2) The Interim Head of Organisational Development, together with the Head of Governance, to submit a written report on the West Midlands Combined Authority's staff resources, to include comparable information on the resource to carry out effective scrutiny; the capacity to resource the functions of the Combined Authority; and the cost to individual local authorities in terms of time allocated to the Combined Authority and its committees, at all levels.

7. Update on General Data Protection Regulations Preparations by the WMCA

The committee considered a report from the Head of Governance on the preparations being undertaken by the WMCA in respect of the General Data Protection Regulations 2016 (GDPR).

The new General Data Protection Regulations 2016, would be coming into force in May 2018. The Head of Governance informed the committee of the importance of Information Governance and outlined the discussions and work being undertaken to ensure that the Authority was compliant with the new regulations before May 2018.

Councillor Yvonne Mosquito advised the committee on the rise in the level of young people being able to 'hack' into systems and asked that the WMCA consider engaging with young people to help with its frameworks.

The committee discussed the opportunities available to undertake 'ethical hacking' and the educational establishments that provided such a service. Sarah Windrum proposed that the WMCA consider holding a 'Hackathon' event, following the appointment of its GDPR officer.

Resolved

- (1) The contents of the report be noted; and
- (2) Following the appointment of a GDPR officer, it be recommended that the West Midlands Combined Authority hold a 'Hackathon' event, to harness the knowledge and skills of young people, and to seek to utilise the expertise in educational establishments, such as De Montfort University or others within the WMCA area.

8. Activities of the Task & Finish Groups

(a) Land Task & Finish Group

The committee considered a report of Councillor Ian Shires on the first meeting of the Task & Finish Group and its terms of reference.

Councillor Ian Shires also advised the committee of the outcome of his recent meeting with the West Midlands Mayor and the areas of focus for the committee and the Task & Finish Group.

Resolved

- (1) That the Land Task & Finish Group's terms of reference be approved; and
- (2) That Councillor Simon People's appointment as a member of the Land Task & Finish Group be agreed.

(b) Mental Health Commission Task & Finish Group

The committee considered a report of Councillor Peter Hughes on the progress in developing this workstream.

Resolved

- (1) The progress in developing the Mental Health Task & Finish Group's workstream, and comments on how work may be progressed be noted; and
- (2) That, from January 2018, Councillor Rachel Harris replace Councillor Peter Hughes as the Lead Member on the Mental Health Task & Finish Group.

(c) Skills and Productivity Task & Finish Group

The committee considered a report of Councillor Claire Spencer on the draft proposals for the work programme for the Task & Finish Group.

Resolved

- (1) The draft proposal for the Skills and Productivity Task & Finish Group's work programme be noted; and
- (2) That Councillor Simon People's appointment as a member of the Skills and Productivity Task & Finish Group be agreed.

(d) Budget Task & Finish Group

The committee received a report of Councillor Stephen Simkins on planned activity and terms of reference of the Budget Task & Finish Group. In addition to an overview of the activities of the group to date, the Committee was also advised that a briefing session had been arranged for members of the Task & Finish Group to be given details of the WMCA budget activity, and the process for scrutiny of the budget prior to submission to the WMCA Board for approval.

Resolved

- (1) The Terms of Reference of the Budget Task & Finish Group be noted;
- (2) The progress to date and planned activity of the Budget Task & Finish Group be noted; and

- (3) A date for the 'Mayoral Budget Question Time' to be established as soon as possible.

(e) Governance Task & Finish Group

The committee considered a report of Councillor John McNicholas on the developments and the progress in relation to the work of the Governance Task & Finish Group.

He advised that the WMCA Board was due to meet on 8 December 2017 to ratify the arrangements on the West Midlands Fire Authority, following which a wider public consultation would commence. Responses to the consultation would be considered by the Secretary of State.

The Committee noted that the Task & Finish Group intended to review comments from each of the local authorities in respect of the proposed governance arrangements, with a view to putting forward any appropriate comments and recommendations to the WMCA Board on 8 December 2017. Due to the timescales involved, the Governance Task & Finish Group sought delegated authority, in consultation with the Chair of the committee, to put forward comments and recommendations to the WMCA Board in December 2017.

Resolved

- (1) The progress in developing the workstream of the Governance Task & Finish Group, and the comments on how work may be progressed. be noted; and
- (2) The Governance Task & Finish Group be given delegated authority, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the committee, to put forward comments and recommendations relating to the West Midlands Fire Service Governance Review. to the meeting of the West Midlands Combined Authority Board on 8 December 2017,

9. Forward Plan

The items of business for consideration at future meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee were noted.

The meeting ended at 1.00pm.

This page is intentionally left blank

WMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee - Forward Plan

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Lead Officer/Member
Mental Health Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor Peter Hughes
Land Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor Ian Shires
Skills and Productivity Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor Claire Spencer
Budget Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor Stephen Simkins
Governance Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor John McNicholas
Inclusive Growth and Social Value Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	February 2018	Councillor Claire Spencer
HR Report – WMCA Staff and Capability Resource	To receive an update on capability resource	February 2018	Rita Rais
LEP Presentations	To receive a presentation from each of the three LEPs	February 2018	Sarah Windrum Mike Lyons Paul Brown

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Lead Officer/Member
Integrated Plan	Consideration of the Integrated Plan & Budget	20 March 2018	Louise Cowen
Mental Health Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor Peter Hughes
Land Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor Ian Shires
Skills and Productivity Commission Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor Claire Spencer
Budget Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor Stephen Simkins
Governance Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor John McNicholas
Inclusive Growth and Social Value Task & Finish Group	To provide a progress update on the work of the Task and Finish Group	20 March 2018	Councillor Claire Spencer
WMCA Wellbeing Board – Cross-focused review in respect of air quality issues to incorporate housing and manufacturing emissions	To receive an update on the cross-focused review	20 March 2018	