

## Overview & Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** Monday 5 September 2022

**Time:** 10.00 am                      **Public meeting**                      Yes

**Venue:** Room 116, 16 Summer Lane, Birmingham, B19 3SD

### Membership

Councillor Cathy Bayton (Chair)	Association of Black Country Authorities
Councillor Naeem Akhtar	Coventry City Council
Councillor Andrew Burrow	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Mike Chalk	Worcestershire Non-Constituent Local Authorities
Councillor Ellen Fenton	Association of Black Country Authorities
Councillor Ian Kettle	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Nigel Lumby	Shropshire Non-Constituent Local Authorities
Councillor Martin McCarthy	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Lauren Rainbow	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Karen Simms	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Mike Sutherland	Staffordshire Non-Constituent Local Authorities
Councillor Paul Sweet	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor Jamie Tennant	Birmingham City Council
Amanda Tomlinson	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Vera Waters	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Ken Wood	Birmingham City Council

Quorum for this meeting shall be 11 members

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

**Contact** Lyndsey Roberts, Scrutiny Officer  
**Telephone** 07917 473824  
**Email** [lyndsey.roberts@wmca.org.uk](mailto:lyndsey.roberts@wmca.org.uk)

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# AGENDA

No.	Item	Presenting	Pages
<b>Meeting Business Items</b>			
1.	Apologies for Absence	Chair	None
2.	Declarations of Interests Members are reminded of the need to declare any disclosable prejudicial interests they have in any 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	Chair	None
4.	Minutes - 11 July 2022	Chair	1 - 6
5.	Matters Arising	Chair	None
6.	Helping to Deliver Affordable and Social Housing Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Update on Progress	Gareth Bradford	7 - 14
7.	Skills Provision Scrutiny Review - Updated Scope To agree the amended scoping document as requested at the last meeting.	Clare Hatton	15 - 16
8.	Grant Register	Kate Taylor	17 - 26
9.	Minutes: Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee - 14 July 2022	Chair	27 - 30
10.	Work Programme (a) Overview & Scrutiny Committee (b) WMCA Board Forward Plan	Chair	31 - 40
11.	Date of Next Meeting Thursday 20 October 2022 at 10.00am (Mayoral Q&A - Policy)	Chair	None



## West Midlands Combined Authority

### Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Monday 11 July 2022 at 10.00 am

#### Minutes

##### Present

Councillor Cathy Bayton (Chair)  
Councillor Naeem Akhtar (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Andrew Burrow  
Councillor Mike Chalk

Councillor Ellen Fenton  
Councillor Ian Kettle  
Councillor Nigel Lumby

Councillor Martin McCarthy  
Councillor Lauren Rainbow  
Councillor Mike Sutherland

Councillor Jamie Tennant  
Amanda Tomlinson

Councillor Vera Waters

Association of Black Country Authorities  
Coventry City Council  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
Worcestershire Non-Constituent Local Authorities

Association of Black Country Authorities  
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council  
Shropshire Non-Constituent Local Authorities

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
Birmingham City Council  
Staffordshire Non-Constituent Local Authorities

Birmingham City Council  
Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership  
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

##### In Attendance

Ed Cox

Dan Essex  
Clare Hatton  
Lyndsey Roberts  
Laura Shoaf  
Kate Taylor

Executive Director, Strategy, Integration & Net Zero  
Governance Services Manager  
Director of Employment & Skills Delivery  
Scrutiny Officer  
Chief Executive  
Head of Finance Business Partnering & Strategic Planning

##### Item No.

##### 65. Appointment of Chair

The committee noted that at the WMCA Board meeting held on 10 June 2022, Councillor Cathy Bayton had been appointed as the Chair of this committee for 2022/23.

##### 66. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Simms (Sandwell), Councillor Sweet (Wolverhampton) and Councillor Wood (Birmingham).

**67. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

The appointment of Vice-Chair was the responsibility of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and had to be a member from a different political group to the Mayor. The Chair proposed that Councillor Akhtar be appointed as Vice-Chair of this committee.

Resolved:

- (1) Councillor Akhtar be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2022/23.

**68. Appointment of Chair of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee**

The appointment of the Chair of Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee was the responsibility of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and had to be a member from a different political group to the Mayor.

The Vice-Chair proposed that Councillor Bayton be appointed as Chair of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

Resolved:

- (1) Councillor Bayton be appointed as Chair of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee for 2022/23 and be co-opted onto the sub-committee for this purpose.

**69. Chair's Remarks**

The Chair welcomed new members to the first meeting of the year and thanked the former Vice-Chair and members of the committee for their work and contributions during 2021/22.

In terms of its focus for 2022/23, the Chair proposed that the committee continued to focus on whether the policies, investment and actions of the WMCA continued to benefit all communities in the West Midlands.

**70. Minutes - 7 March 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

**71. Update on Trailblazer Devolution Deal**

The committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Strategy, Integration & Net Zero that provided an update on the progress being made in relation to the Trailblazer Devolution Deal.

The Trailblazer Devolution Deal process was continuing with devolution proposals being developed across a wide range of themes. Proposals were being developed in accordance with the principles and plans previously agreed by the WMCA Board. In particular, proposals had a clear focus on drawing down powers and finance from Government, and the roles and responsibilities held by local authorities would not be drawn away from them through this process.

The committee received an overview of the draft devolution proposals that were grouped into four thematic areas: Going Further & Faster, Rebooting the Economy, Increasing Pride in Place and Enabling Delivery.

Members discussed and shared comments on the development of a West Midlands outcome framework, investment zones and compulsory purchase orders, drawing down powers and finance from Government, working alongside Greater Manchester Combined Authority whilst recognising the important differences, the importance of communication and the availability of up-to-date information, increased public engagement at the appropriate time, the use of existing funding pots and funding simplifications for transport, housing, skills and retrofit.

In terms of new money, as a matter of principle the WMCA would not accept new responsibilities via a devolution deal unless it had adequate resources attached to those new powers. In addition, the Executive Director, Strategy, Integration & Net Zero agreed to consider ways in which local authorities could further demonstrate their support for the proposals, which could be in the form of a complimentary letter to support negotiations.

The committee enquired about funding and the structures and safeguards in place to avoid competitive bidding amongst local authorities and to ensure that respective authorities received their fair share of funding. As a region, the WMCA would seek to administer the funding strategically and in a co-ordinated manner, however competitive bidding could not be ruled out.

In terms of next steps, the Chair proposed that a series of scrutiny working groups be held over the summer period to review each of the Trailblazer Devolution proposals in detail.

Resolved:

- (1) The progress being made in relation to the Trailblazer Devolution Deal be noted; and
- (2) The Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be kept abreast on the development of a West Midlands outcome framework that would provide a levelling up evidence base with outcome measures for monitoring.

## **72. Implications of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill for the WMCA**

The committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Strategy, Integration & Net Zero on the implications of the upcoming Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill for the WMCA.

The Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill was announced in the Queen's Speech on 10 May 2022. This legislation would have implications for the WMCA in a number of areas, including planning and regeneration, consents and WMCA geography, accountability and devolution and local governance.

Members noted the provisions of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill and enquired about the potential for the integration of the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Fire Authority into the WMCA's structures. The Executive Director, Strategy, Integration & Net Zero agreed to look into this further, as it was not specifically mentioned within the provisions of the Bill.

Resolved:

- (1) The implications of the upcoming Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill for the WMCA be noted; and
- (2) Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be kept abreast on the developments of the Levelling Up & Regeneration Bill.

### **73. Review of Governance - Update**

The committee received a verbal report from the Interim Director of Law & Governance on the progress being made in relation to the review of governance arrangements.

In June 2021 the Mayor and Constituent Authority Leaders commissioned a review of WMCA governance that specifically looked at the formal decision-making and consultative bodies at the WMCA, the process of report drafting and preparation and effective stakeholder engagement. A Governance Working Group developed a series of recommendations that were now being progressed.

As part of the overall governance review, a review had also been undertaken with regard to members' allowances. At its meeting on 18 March 2022 the WMCA Board agreed to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to review and make recommendations in relation to the allowances that should be paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and other members of WMCA's boards and committees. The Independent Remuneration Panel had now concluded its review and its recommendations would be reported to the WMCA Board in September 2022.

The Interim Director of Law & Governance explained that with regards to allowances, only the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and members of the WMCA Board could receive an allowance, although he had received legal guidance noting that members of the other boards and committees were considered to be 'co-opted members' and therefore an allowance could also be paid if a recommendation were to be made by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

In response to a question raised by the Chair, the Interim Director of Law & Governance explained the difference between a co-opted member and non-co-opted member and confirmed that all members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee were deemed to be co-opted members of the WMCA Board. He added that the WMCA Board confirmed the acceptance of the co-opted members through a report which was considered by the WMCA Board at its annual meeting.

Resolved:

- (1) The update be noted.

#### **74. Skills Provision Review Overview**

The committee considered a report of the Director of Employment & Skills Delivery that set out the proposed scope for the committee's review of skills provision across the region and provided a background scope for the review in context of the economic and skills provision of each of the seven local authority areas, progress to date and the future challenges posed by economic recovery, the greening and automation of industry and the opportunities for continued joint working.

The Adult Education Budget for the constituent member area was devolved to WMCA for delivery from 1 August 2019. The WMCA agreed an approach to commissioning adult education and training that aligned the mix of provision more closely to local and sectoral priorities, whilst avoiding the unnecessary destabilisation of locally based colleges and adult education providers.

The Director of Employment & Skills Delivery brought the committee's attention to the shared challenges and funds that were available to help to address these challenges, including the Adult Education Budget, National Skills Fund 'Free Courses for Jobs', Technical Bootcamp Fund, Community Renewal Fund, Multiply and UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

The committee discussed and shared comments in relation to the number of skills and training providers, which had reduced to 70 core providers working across the West Midlands, concerns on the lack of encouragement to enable individuals to fulfil their potential within their place of work, skills being broader than qualifications and the importance of reviewing individuals' life chances and looking at and understanding outcomes.

The Director of Employment & Skills Delivery confirmed that the short term and long-term challenges would be reviewed as part of the scrutiny review and, in relation to the engagement with business communities, this could also be included within the review.

The committee questioned the allocation of skills funding per local authority area and emphasised the importance of levelling up. Members expressed concern that the current funding formula used for the allocation of the Adult Education Budget had been on an historic investment basis rather than a needs basis. It was agreed that this should also be considered as part of the review.

Resolved:

- (1) The draft scoping document be agreed, subject to the incorporation of the committee's comments.
- (2) It be agreed that Councillors Burrows, Kettle, McCarthy, Tennant and Waters be appointed as members of the review group; and

- (3) The review to commence during October with a report to be submitted to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 12 January for consideration.

[NB Amanda Tomlinson declared an interest in this item as a Governor at Wolverhampton College]

**75. Grant Register**

The committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub that provided an update on the grant register which contained all current 'live' grants where the WMCA was the accountable body and captured a comprehensive total of grants, awarding body, time period for delivery and a description of what the grant delivered.

Resolved:

- (1) The grant register be noted.

**76. Minutes: Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee - 23 March 2022**

The committee received the minutes of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 23 March 2023.

Resolved:

- (1) The minutes of 23 March 2023 be agreed.

**77. Work Programme**

The committee noted a work programme of items that were to be reported to future meetings.

**78. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 5 September at 10.00am

The meeting ended at 12.00pm.





## Overview & Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date</b>	5 September 2022
<b>Report title</b>	Helping to Deliver Affordable and Social Housing Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Update on progress
<b>Accountable Chief Executive</b>	Laura Shoaf, West Midlands Combined Authority email: laura.shoaf@wmca.org.uk
<b>Accountable Employee</b>	Gareth Bradford, Executive Director for Housing Property & Regeneration email: GarethBradford@wmca.org.uk  Rob Lamond, Head of Strategy & Analysis, Housing Property & Regeneration email: Rob.Lamond@wmca.org.uk

**Recommendation(s) for decision:**

**The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:**

- (1) Note the progress that has been made in implementation of the recommendations of the 2021/22 Overview and Scrutiny review undertaken to examine the role and remit of the WMCA to deliver affordable and social housing within the West Midlands.

## **Purpose**

1. This paper provides an update on the work of the WMCA and its partners in implementing and responding to recommendations from the WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee's review of Affordable and Social Housing.

## **Background**

2. At its meeting on 21 July 2021, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee identified the provision of affordable and social housing within the region as a key area of focus for 2021/22, and agreed to undertake a review to examine the role and remit of the WMCA to deliver affordable and social housing within the West Midlands through the use of devolved Housing and Land funds.
3. The Overview and Scrutiny Review reported back to the Committee its conclusions that a number of recommendations should be considered by the WMCA Board that would help to address the housing need within the region and help to deliver more social and affordable housing within the West Midlands.
4. Following the recommendations of the Overview & Scrutiny review being reported to and supported by the WMCA Board on 18 March 2022, WMCA have continued to drive the delivery of affordable housing in partnership with Local Authorities and Registered Providers, taking into account and working to address the recommendations set out by Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

## **Progress to Date**

5. An update on the progress made under each individual recommendation made by the Overview & Scrutiny Review is outlined below:

### **6. Recommendation 1**

*That the WMCA Board writes to the Secretary of State for DLUHC, setting out the region's ambitions to deliver a step change in the delivery of social and affordable homes in the region and its intent to pursue this and the associated powers/funding needed to achieve that as part of the Levelling Up agenda and "trailblazing Devolution Deal" negotiations*

The Trailblazer Devolution Deal (TDD) that WMCA and its partners is negotiating with central government has set out clear ambitions for an increase in funding and levers to deliver the tailored affordable homes that are needed in the region as part of the wider levelling up priorities. WMCA have proposed that the West Midlands receive similar affordable housing powers to those available in London, which would enable the region to provide a step change in affordable housing provision and housing supply that better meets the needs of local people across our diverse region. As a main component of this, it is proposed that a dedicated Affordable Housing Funding Settlement between WMCA and HM Government will provide the regional accountability, investment and leadership required to maximise leverage and private investment into affordable homes required in the region, working alongside and complementing the programmes administered by Homes England and local authorities. This would reflect local needs and local markets to ensure that more genuinely affordable homes are available for residents across the region.

## 7. Recommendation 2

*That WMCA should retain a “minimum” affordable housing target but that the affordable housing requirements for schemes funded by WMCA (currently set as a minimum of 20% affordable), should seek to be aligned with the targets set by Local Planning Authorities in the relevant Local Plan including the alignment of type and tenure*

WMCA works closely with local authority partners to align housing and regeneration projects funded through the Single Commissioning Framework (SCF) and policy priorities with local plans including affordable housing policies and priorities for local areas. Meetings with local authorities and WMCA take place every six weeks, which among other areas of collaboration, allow parties to ensure affordable housing priorities are aligned and SCF funding is identified where appropriate to deliver homes that reflect the needs of local people. All schemes progressing through the SCF process require explicit support from the relevant Local Planning Authority. Throughout negotiation with SCF applicants, WMCA work to ensure that the affordable housing element of each scheme reflects the priorities of the Local Planning Authority, with the 20% target being the **minimum requirement** (current data indicates an average of 26%+ is being achieved on SCF schemes). The forthcoming review of SCF requirements (to be completed during 2022/23) will seek to incorporate this recommendation of the Overview & Scrutiny review to align with the affordable housing requirements in Local Plans, with the WMCA Housing Property & Regeneration team engaging closely with local authority officers and Planning Committees in the region.

## 8. Recommendation 3

*That the WMCA and local authorities continue to work together through the Housing and Land Board, WMCA Public Land Taskforce and directly with the Cabinet Office to address issues around “best value” in disposal of public land and to identify actions and interventions that will maximise the wider social, economic and environmental benefits secured through the development and disposals of public land in the region*

In May 2022, WMCA launched the [West Midlands Public Land Charter](#) under the leadership of the Housing and Land Delivery Board and supported by a Public Land Taskforce. The charter aims to bring forward public land and opportunities for development and regeneration in the West Midlands at scale, unlocking wider benefits and outcomes that will be an essential consideration for public land disposal. The charter, which sets out to utilise public and private sector partnership working to maximise the potential for public land disposal, take a long-term view and strategic approach to best value, and consider the regeneration of land against local needs and ambitions, was co-developed with the Cabinet Office and stakeholders from major public agencies in the region. Since the launch, many member organisations have taken the opportunity to endorse the charter through their own governance processes and commit to delivering wider benefits such as affordable housing through developments on public land.

In addition, the Trailblazer Devolution Deal proposals to Government include a “WM Public Land Programme” approach, setting out “a bold approach to assembling land and tackling fragmented land ownership to support Levelling Up, new powers over CPO, work with the Cabinet Office as a testbed for reimagining use of public buildings which are under-occupied, becoming a testbed for a new approach to best value and a more effective regime for disposal of public land sites including more localised control and influence over decisions around the disposal of HMG land in our region”. This proposal

seeks to further embed local approaches and priorities to the ways in which public land is developed, including the provision of additional affordable housing.

## **9. Recommendation 4**

*That the WMCA, housing associations, Homes England and local authorities continue to work together to address the contradictions and challenges of the current system for delivery of affordable and social housing – recognising that the challenge cannot be addressed in isolation and it is a multi-faceted systemic issue where all agencies need to work together with a clear strategy for change.*

The WMCA Housing & Land Delivery Board, which includes representatives from Homes England and the West Midlands Housing Association Partnership, receives regular updates on affordable housing delivery and strategy at each meeting. Work is ongoing to further embed and align work with partners, including: The WMCA and West Midlands Housing Association Partnership (the umbrella association for HAs that work in the region) have established a new “Partnership Board” to:

- Offer insight into the barriers, risks and opportunities in delivering affordable housing in the West Midlands, using the latest development research and trends
- Advise and agree collaborative and innovative ways of working together to ensure the successful delivery of affordable homes and wider priorities in the West Midlands, including but not limited to net zero and skills provision
- Enable the alignment of objectives across the Board to support joint working towards achieving the delivery of affordable and future proof developments, which provide good jobs for local people
- Influence national policy and investment case work, and secure decision-making around affordable housing
- Support and champion new ways of working between registered providers, WMCA and local authority partners

The Partnership Board meets twice per annum and reports on progress will be received by the WMCA Housing & Land Delivery Board.

Work is also ongoing on the proposed pilot affordable housing project with housing associations in the region, with update reports to Overview & Scrutiny Committee to be provided in due course. The proposal in development is seeking to deliver 100% affordable delivery on pilot schemes in the region alongside other wider policy ambitions such as zero carbon modular constructed homes.

WMCA have fortnightly meetings with the regional Homes England team to align funding and priorities for the delivery of more affordable homes in the West Midlands. Delivering a joint approach to tackling affordable housing demand in the region means that local authorities and registered providers can work closely with both WMCA and Homes England to ensure that they can access the advice and funding available to unlock affordable housing schemes. Further opportunities continue to be explored with Homes England to maximise the region’s capacity to deliver homes that are affordable for the local people.

All of these elements above form part of the emerging “Affordable Housing Strategy” commissioned by the Housing & Land Delivery Board following the Overview & Scrutiny review. The draft Strategy is due to be discussed at the Housing and Land Board in

November and will be provided to the O&S Committee for review and comments in due course.

#### **10. Recommendation 5**

*That the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders campaign for an end to the restriction sighted in the interviews of social housing grant being awarded to “areas of high affordability pressure”, noting that more investment in social housing across the region will address multiple needs and provide more secure, healthy and efficient homes for our communities.*

The principle of localized approaches to tackling affordability is included within the TDD proposals to Government for Affordable Housing which would help address this issue highlighted by the review. The current restrictions around social housing grant are included in the National Affordable Housing Programme administered by Homes England, which would require national policy change to come about. The requirement for more social rent homes has been recognized by the previous Secretary of State for Levelling Up <sup>[1]</sup>, however there are no current indications of changes in national policy.

#### **11. Recommendation 6**

*That through the Trailblazer Devolution Deal, the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders’ campaign for an end to or amendment of the “viability” clause in national planning policy which is impacting directly on land prices and affordable housing supply in the region.*

Ending or amending the viability clause in the National Planning Policy Framework, which can be applied by developers to justify diverging from national and local planning policies and to limit their contributions to infrastructure and affordable housing, requires changes to Government policy and legislation. Negotiations during the TDD process have to date focused on opportunities to secure more funding and flexibilities to secure additional affordable homes and brownfield regeneration, however longer-term ambitions to seek amendments to national policy on this issue remain in WMCA thinking subject to the support of local planning authorities.

#### **12. Recommendation 7**

*That the WMCA appropriately brings together local capacity, capabilities and expertise across local authorities, the WMCA and other public bodies (e.g. Homes England) to support housing and regeneration, especially in matters around land assembly and interventions such as Compulsory Purchase Orders*

WMCA continues to prioritise working in partnership with the private and public sector to maximise the delivery and outcomes for the region. Alongside working across the public and private sector WMCA have also established industry-led taskforces and roundtables to bring together expertise to deliver priorities such as unlocking public land and delivering affordable housing, alongside six-weekly meetings with local authorities and ongoing fortnightly meetings with Homes England. As noted above, WMCA have launched a joint West Midlands Housing Association Partnership (WMHAP) Board which has set out to work in partnership to champion new ways of working between WMCA, registered providers and local authorities. This has seen a positive response from affordable housing providers and has allowed WMCA to utilise the insight and expertise for affordable

housing strategy work and devolution proposals, alongside continuing discussions with Homes England to align the CPO options, powers and capabilities available in the region.

As part of the TDD WMCA have also proposed support from Government for the West Midlands to be a testbed for greater application and ease of use of Compulsory Purchase Orders, which are critical for local authorities to facilitate and accelerate interventions in land assembly for development. This proposal has strong support from Housing and Land Delivery Board and our Commercial Property Taskforce in recognition of the need to unlock significant schemes. We will continue to use our expertise to navigate land deals without CPO use where possible, but this may be necessary to overcome unreasonable landowner expectations on critical strategic sites.

### **13. Recommendation 8**

*That through the Trailblazer Devolution Deal, the WMCA, local authorities and other regional stakeholders' campaign for a review of the Local Housing Allowance system and the necessary local discretion in order to address issues affecting excluded residents and the subsequent impact on homelessness, temporary accommodation and the private rented sector.*

Through the Trailblazing Devolution Deal, WMCA have proposed a review of the Local Housing Allowance system and its implications for regional housing needs and demand, as per the recommendations of WMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the long-term implications for the public purse and public wellbeing from reducing the numbers of families in temporary accommodation. This is included in the current TDD proposals under review by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### **Conclusions**

14. WMCA, through the lead of the Housing and Land Delivery Board, continues to maximise its impact and influence on the delivery of affordable homes for the West Midlands and recognises the importance of partnership working across the public and private sectors to ensure that investment and delivery strategies reflects the needs of local people and communities.
15. The emerging Affordable Housing Strategy and Trailblazing Devolution Deal set out to explore new opportunities and secure further funding for the region to maximise the delivery of affordable homes, allowing more flexibility in the region's approach to providing residents with good quality and affordable places to live.
16. WMCA will continue to provide regular updates to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on progress with delivering affordable homes, providing Members with the opportunity to inform and provide recommendations to guide the ongoing work in this area.

### **Financial Implications**

17. There are no immediate direct financial implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report.

### **Legal Implications**

18. There are no immediate direct legal implications arising out of the recommendations contained within the report.

### **Equalities Implications**

19. There are no immediate direct equalities implications arising out of the recommendations contained within the report., however the provision of affordable housing has implications for all protected characteristics.

### **Inclusive Growth Implications**

20. There are no immediate direct inclusive growth implications arising out of the recommendations contained within the report, however the provision of affordable housing has implications for inclusive growth and these are set out in relation to investment decisions made by WMCA.

### **Geographical Area of Report's Implications**

21. There are no immediate geographical implications arising out of the recommendations contained within the report.

### **Other Implications**

22. There are no further specific implications arising out of the recommendations contained within the report.

### **Background Documents**

23. West Midlands Public Land Charter

[WMCA Public Land Charter](#)

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**West Midlands  
Combined Authority**

## Scrutiny Review - Scoping Document

<b>A Review of the impact of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget to the WMCA on the Delivery of Local Skills Training</b>	
<b>Work to be carried out by:</b>	Councillor Martin McCarthy (Solihull) Councillor Andrew Burrow (Solihull) Councillor Ian Kettle (Dudley) Councillor Jamie Tennant (Birmingham) Councillor Vera Waters (Walsall)
<b>Specialist Officer(s):</b>	Julie Nugent, Executive Director, Economic Delivery, Skills & Communities Clare Hatton, Director of Employment Skills & Delivery Fiona Aldridge, Head of Insight – Economic Delivery, Skills and Communities
<b>Date of Review:</b>	October 2022 - January 2023
<b>Purpose of the Review:</b>	
<p>To understand the impact of the devolution of the Adult Education Budget to the WMCA on the delivery of local skills training within the region, and to identify the challenges and ways in which the West Midlands Combined Authority and Local Authorities can most effectively use skills development to address short and longer term challenges in the region particularly in relation to the big economic challenges.</p> <p>The findings of the review will be used to help shape future skills funding including Shared Prosperity Fund.</p>	
<b>Objectives:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To understand the current delivery of the devolved Adult Education Budget within each constituent authority and the difference devolution has made to date.</li> <li>To understand how additional skills investment has increased the offer in each Local Authority for residents and businesses.</li> <li>To consider the approach to the relative distribution of investment in the context of need and the economic challenges – this should include consideration of balancing the needs of business against the drive to increase qualification levels of the workforce per se.</li> <li>To understand the key drivers in terms of current and future employment, including which job sectors and residents are most at risk and their locations within the region.</li> <li>To ascertain views on how skills development can best contribute to levelling up, improving career pathways, and addressing the challenges for the region and where it has limitations or dependencies on the impact that can be created.</li> </ul>	
<b>Scope</b> As part of the evidence gathering to achieve the objectives, the review group will invite the following individuals to share their views and suggestions:	

- To be confirmed
- Business Community Representation

#### Intended Outcome:

#### Links to the WMCA priorities:

#### WMCA Officer Responsible:

Dan Essex, Governance Services Manager

#### Review Work Programme:

Programme of Meetings	Lead person(s)	Completion by
Draft Scoping Document to be agreed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Clare Hatton	5 September



## Overview & Scrutiny Committee

<b>Date</b>	5 September 2022
<b>Report title</b>	Grant Register
<b>Accountable Chief Executive</b>	Laura Shoaf, West Midlands Combined Authority email: <a href="mailto:laura.shoaf@wmca.org.uk">laura.shoaf@wmca.org.uk</a>
<b>Accountable Employee (*)</b>	Linda Horne, Executive Director of Finance and Business Hub email: <a href="mailto:linda.horne@wmca.org.uk">linda.horne@wmca.org.uk</a>

**Recommendation(s) for action or decision:**

**The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:**

(1) note and comment on grant register.

## **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This paper provides an update on the grant register. This contains all current 'live' grants where the WMCA is the accountable body and captures a comprehensive total of grants, awarding body, time period for delivery and a description of what the grant delivers.

## **2. Grant Register Update**

- 2.1 The grant registers are attached as an appendix to this report.
- 2.2 There have been a number of new grants added to the register since the last update to the Committee in March. The most significant grants are:
- Black Country Cultural Capital Development - £0.72m to support development of cultural centre capital projects in Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Dudley.
  - Rough Sleeping Initiative - £1.49m over 3 years to continue work in this area with increased focus on long term recovery and prevention.

## **3. Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications as a direct consequence of this report.

## **4. Impact on Delivery of Strategic Transport Plan**

None

## **5. Equalities Implications**

None

## **6. Inclusive Growth Implications**

None

## **7. Geographical Area of Report's Implications**

None

## **8. Other Implications**

None

## **9. Schedule of Background Papers**

Appendix – grant register

## Revenue Grant Register

Grant Name	Provider	Start Date	End Date	Total Grant Awarded in Full	Notes
21/22 Adult Education Budget (Devolution)	DfE	Annual		131,678,142	Devolved budget from DfE for delivery of adult education (19+) in West Midlands region
BSOG	DfT	Annual		1,792,259	A discretionary grant paid to operators of eligible local bus services to help them recover some of their fuel costs.
Emergency Active Travel Fund	DfT	Aug-20	Mar-23	3,765,980	Phase 1 of Active Travel Fund to support temporary walking and cycling schemes in response to Covid 19 pandemic
Intra-City Transport Settlements	DfT			8,900,000	Intracity Prep Fund (now CRSTS)
Cycling for Everyone	DfT	Nov-21	Nov-22	2,000,000	Cycling for Everyone
LA Capability Fund	DfT	Oct-21	Oct-22	1,911,316	This revenue grant enables local transport authorities to promote cycling and walking in their areas by the development of infrastructure plans, including drawing up bids for capital funding that are compliant with local transport note (LTN) 1/20 and carrying out behaviour change activities, such as training and promotion
UK Community Renewal Fund	DLUHC	Jan-22	Dec-22	3,350,633	WMCA acting as lead authority. 8 projects awarded funding following assessment by DLUHC.
Commonwealth Games	DCMS	Apr-18	Aug-22	28,305,213	This grant is for the Transport Budget of the overall Games Delivery Budget which was allocated to the Organising Committee for the delivery of the CWG. The transport Budget has delegated to TFWM. Grant is paid based on expenditure incurred.
Tourism, Trade & Investment	DCMS			13,200,000	An integrated programme of tourism, trade and investment jointly developed and to be jointly delivered by the West Midlands Growth Company, DCMS, DfT and Visit Britain. It will leverage the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham to deliver a legacy of economic benefits across the region.
British Film Institute	BFI	Apr-20	Mar-23	1,000,000	Activity delivered by Create Central. Delivery a programme of activities to support the continued growth of the region's screen sector heavily focused on the 'future of media', with innovation, digital infrastructure, immersive storytelling and digital employability programmes taking place amongst more traditional elements such as attracting film and TV production to the region and promoting the West Midlands screen sector on a global stage.
Creative Scale Up	DDCMS	Apr-18		1,300,000	Support to Creative Businesses in the West Midlands with targeted support including Access to Finance, Marketing and Branding, Value and Pricing, Intellectual Property and Contract Law and Sales, Pitching and Presenting support. This will be delivered through a series of workshops, seminars and peer to peer mentoring sessions.
DWP - ESF Find Your Future	DWP	Nov-21	Dec-23	2,620,730	Tailored engagement and support project for residents that will enable those less likely to benefit from the opportunities provided by the Commonwealth Games and City of Culture to do so.
Digital Skills Retraining Pilot	DfE	Jun-19	Mar-23	5,000,000	Funding to support entitlement to digital skills training across the region.
Adult Education Budget (Level 3)	DfE	Apr-21	Jul-22	11,446,329	Devolved budget from DfE for delivery of level 3 education offer open to
Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund	BEIS	Apr-22	Mar-23	2,425,632	Overall grant award of £7.51m
Sustainable Warmth	BEIS	Apr-22	Mar-23	260,000	Overall grant award of £2.86m
Future mobility Zones	DfT	Jun-19	Mar-23	2,000,000	The purpose of the Future Mobility Zones is to: trial new transport services modes and models, creating a functioning marketplace for mobility that combines new and traditional modes of transport; improve integration of services; increase the availability of real-time data; and provide access to digital planning and payment options. The fund also aims to explore options for: providing mobility credits, or other low-cost options, for lower income households; and delivering efficiencies through shared (dynamic) demand responsive transport.

Supported Bus Services	DfT	Apr-20		879,836	Provided to as revenue support to help provide more bus services in areas by improving current services, restoring lost services or supporting new services
Bus Capacity Grant	DfT	Apr-20		100,000	Funding to support LTAs in developing local bus proposals as outlined in the National Bus Strategy (NBS), in particular, it is being offered to help LTAs towards the development of their Enhanced Partnership Schemes(EPS) or franchising scheme, and Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIP) work, and to meet the timescales that go alongside that work.
22/23 AEB Devolution	DfE	Annual		131,875,523	Devolved budget from DfE for delivery of adult education (19+) in West Midlands region
22/23 Adult Education Budget Level 3	DfE	Annual		10,954,673	Devolved budget from DfE for delivery of level 3 education offer open to adults without an existing L3 qualification in West Midlands
National Lottery	National Lottery	May-21	Dec-22	834,669	The project is to support disadvantaged young people to access the Commonwealth Games Volunteering Programme delivered through the Jobs and Skills Academy. To use the Commonwealth Games brand and leverage to create more employment, training, and volunteering opportunities to support young people who have been hardest hit as a result of COVID-19. To engage with a minimum of 800 young people on JSA To support a minimum of 280 young people into jobs To support a minimum of 320 individuals to volunteer To support a minimum of 64 individuals into specialist support Other positive outcomes for the young people will include accessing further training; access to Kickstart and Apprenticeships; personal development, the development and monitoring of soft skills. The outcome for each young person will be dependent on their bespoke plan.
LIS Energy Support	BEIS	Apr-22		163,900	Walsall Heat Network
Commonwealth Sports Foundation	Commonwealth Sports Fou	Jan-21	Jul-22	120,000	To support the delivery of the Birmingham 2022 Jobs and Skills Academy, Funding to support a post focused on the delivery of this programme.
Technical Bootcamps	DfE	Apr-22	Mar-23	11,250,000	Technical bootcamps 22-23 allocation of £11.25m in priority sectors of digital, technical, construction, green and HGV – with 10% to be used flexibly in other areas: Health and Social Care (inc Life Sciences); Creative Industries: Hospitality: Leadership and Management: Professional Services (inc Finance).
Tackling Loneliness through Transport Fund	DfT	May-22	May-23	460,469	The TLWT Fund offers grant funding to the public and charity sectors to run pilot transport schemes that aim to reduce loneliness. The pilots will be measured and evaluated rigorously, enabling DfT to understand more about how transport can be used to help reduce loneliness and to share these findings with organisations within and outside government.
Black Country Cultural Capital Development	Arts Council England	Apr-22	Mar-25	725,000	This grant is specifically marked to be spent in the Black Country, with the aim to support development of future cultural sector capital projects within Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Dudley. The grant activity will specifically focus on developing capital project feasibility studies and business cases, together with some support resources for cultural organisation.

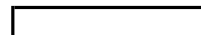
DLUHC - Rough Sleeping Initiative	DLUHC	Apr-22	Mar-25	1,491,707	3 year settlement to allow Authorities to build on the progress of previous funding interventions, moving increasingly from a focus on intervention to supporting long term recovery and preventing rough sleeping.
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#### Specific Revenue/Devo Grants

Devo Deal Grant	MHCLG	Annual		36,500,000	Devolution Grant Deal (Investment Programme)
MHCLG - Office for Data Analytics	MHCLG	Apr-18	No end date	800,000	Devolution funding to support operational activities of ODA
Devo Housing Package	MHCLG	Apr-17		6,000,000	Revenue grants to support capital housing grant activity delivery
Brownfield Housing Fund	MHCLG	Apr-20		2,826,498	Revenue grants to support capital housing grant activity delivery
One Public Estate	LGA		Apr-22	1,246,141	Support OPE activity - drawn down by partners delivering OPE activity as required.

#### Other Revenue Contributions

MHCLG -Brexit	MHCLG	Apr-18	No end date	1,375,059	
IPS Programme	DWP	Mar-17	Jun-22	2,059,911	



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## Capital Grants Register

Grant Name	Provider	Date of grant Award Letter	Total Grant Awarded in full £	Notes
DfT - Major Scheme (Eastside / Edgbaston)	DfT	Apr-19	£ 187,559,779.00	Midland Metro Extensions
ITB WMCA	DfT	Apr-21	£ 17,755,000.00	Annual rolling settlement from DfT, rolled into CRSTS from 22/23. Funding is distributed to WMCA and all & LAs on a formula basis which is agreed locally. The 21/22 annual value only is shown here.
Road National Productivity Investment Fund (NPIFF)	DfT	Sep-17	£ 17,055,000.00	National Productivity Investment Fund including projects in Birmingham (Growth Point Public Transport Package), Walsall (Economic Growth and Infrastructure Project) and Solihull (Strategic Cycle Network)
Clean Bus Technology	DfT	Feb-18	£ 5,987,750.00	Projects that work with bus operators or technology providers to retrofit buses to reduce emissions
Transforming Cities Fund	DfT	Annually	£ 250,000,000.00	The purpose of the Transforming Cities Fund is to boost productivity, transform intra-city connectivity and reduce congestion through investment in public and sustainable transport in the West Midlands. No detailed constraints as to what it can be spent on, but the WMCA should have regard to the national objectives of the Fund. Programme agreed Nov 2018. Additional £71.5m TCF2 now funded through CRSTS)
Joint Air Quality	DfT	Jan-19	£ 3,456,520.00	Fund retrofit buses with kits that tackle exhaust emission in Birmingham
Association of Directors Environment Economy, Place & Travel (ADEPT) Live Labs	DfT	Jul-19	£ 2,650,000.00	Network Resilience Live Lab funding covering the transport network to build up a detailed picture of traffic and transport movements around the region through collection of data
Opening LA Transport Data Competition	DfT	Pre 18/19	£ 100,000.	Data / Technology
Future mobility Zones	DfT	Jun-19	£ 20,000,000.00	The purpose of the Future Mobility Zones is to: trial new transport services modes and models, creating a functioning marketplace for mobility that combines new and traditional modes of transport; improve integration of services; increase the availability of real-time data; and provide access to digital planning and payment options. The fund also aims to explore options for: providing mobility credits, or other low-cost options, for lower income households; and delivering efficiencies through shared (dynamic) demand responsive transport.
TfWM Bus Priority	DfT	Jul-20	£ 24,225,000.00	Funding bus priority measures in Birmingham City Centre and between Dudley and Druids Heath.
Emergency Active Travel Fund	DfT	Nov-20	£ 13,182,667.00	Phase 2 of Active Travel Fund to support longer term walking and cycling schemes (Phase 1 classed as revenue grant)
Active Travel Fund (Tranche 3)	DfT	Mar-22	£ 17,250,000.00	Phase 3 of Active Travel Fund to support longer term walking and cycling schemes
All Electric Bus Town Competition (Coventry) (AEBT)	DfT	Mar-21	£ 50,000,000.00	Coventry All Electric Bus City project

Zero Emissions Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA)	DfT	Mar-22	£ 30,383,250.00	Grant to deliver 124 hydrogen buses plus associated infrastructure in the region
City Region Sustainable Transport Summary (CRSTS)	DfT	Apr-22	£ 1,050,000,000.00	Supporting inclusive economic growth, provide better connections between places and encourage more people to use sustainable and zero-carbon transport
West Midlands Land Fund	MHCLG	Apr-18	£ 100,000,000.00	Quarterly reporting to MHCLG as part of the grant. This is against the outputs specific to Housing of 8,000 homes and the wider West Midlands target of 215,000 homes by 2031, which includes outputs from the Local Authorities
Brownfield Housing Fund	MHCLG	Apr-20	£ 125,381,582.00	Quarterly reporting to MHCLG on the outputs of this grant. Deliver between 7,714 and 9,773 homes.
Brownfield Housing Fund Extension	MHCLG	Mar-22	£ 17,350,000.00	Extension agreed to the Brownfield Housing Fund March 2022.
Sustainable Warmth Competition	BEIS	Mar-22	£ 2,600,000.00	Upgrade homes to a target energy efficiency rating
BEIS Social Decarbonisation Fund	BEIS	Feb-22	£ 6,174,205.00	Improve the energy performance of social rented homes
Metro Birmingham Eastside Extension	EZ	n/a	£ 18,000.00	Enterprise Zone funding
University Hospital Birmingham - University Station	3rd Party	Aug-20	£ 5,000,000.00	Delivery of University Station build.
Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline (RNEP) Funding	DfT	Oct-21	£ 39,650,000.00	Rail Station Development-Package 1 Walsall - Wolverhampton
Rail Network Enhancement Pipeline (RNEP) Funding	DfT	Oct-21	£ 19,350,000.00	Rail Station Development-Package 2 Camp Hill
PB - Highways England	Highways England	n/a	£ 86,400.00	Relates to HS2 Modelling Framework
Public Realm Schemes	BCC	Jun-22	£ 606,543.00	Enhance public realms for Commonwealth Games
A435 Alcester Rd Bus Priority Revitalisation	BCC	21/22	£ 154,000.00	A435 Alcester Rd Bus Priority Revitalisation
Clear Air Zone	BCC	Mar-22	£ 5,218,000.00	Rail Station Development-Package 2 Camp Hill
Rail Development	Walsall MBC	21/22	£ 68,000.00	Rail Station Development-Package 1 Walsall - Wolverhampton

Air Quality	Defra	Mar-22	£ 990,000.00	Develop and/or implement measures that deliver air quality benefits in the near future (one to two years), projects which develop solutions over the longer term by increasing awareness to encourage behavioural changes, and new, innovative ideas if they will successfully and as closely as possible meet the needs and objectives of the Applicant's local area.
LA - Birmingham	LA	n/a	£ 14,279,629.00	Rail funding = £8.983m: BCC funding for Perry Barr = £5.083m BCC funding for University = £3.9m BCC funding for Package 2 = £5.2m

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West Midlands  
Combined Authority

## Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Thursday 14 July 2022 at 10.00 am

### Minutes

#### Present

Councillor Cathy Bayton  
Councillor Chaman Lal  
Councillor Martin McCarthy  
Councillor Karen Simms  
Councillor Vera Waters

Association of Black Country Authorities  
Birmingham City Council  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council  
Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council  
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council

#### In Attendance

Councillor Barbara McGarrity (Teams)  
Dan Essex  
Linda Horne

Graham Jones

Lyndsey Roberts  
Satish Mistry

City of Wolverhampton Council  
Governance Services Manager  
Executive Director of Finance & Business  
Hub  
Transport for West Midlands Technical  
Director  
Scrutiny Officer  
Interim Director of Law & Governance

#### Item Title No.

#### 54. Appointment of Chair

The sub-committee noted that at the Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11 July, Councillor Cathy Bayton had been appointed as the Chair of this sub-committee for 2022/23.

#### 55. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Rupinder Singh (Coventry).

#### 56. Chair's Remarks

##### (a) Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of the year and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

**(b) Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro Extension**

A member of the public was in attendance and the Chair invited them to address the committee in relation to concerns that they had regarding the Wednesbury - Brierley Hill metro extension. The member of the public reported:

*"I am asking for a slight change in policy so that the Wednesbury - Brierley Hill extension continues along the railway line from Dudley (Castle Hill) down onto the main railway line between Worcestershire, Dudley and Derby at Cinder Bank roundabout where it will continue to Harts Hill tram stop. But from there it is due to leave the railway line to go into the Waterfront and Merry Hill, but as I see it the problem is that there is a 400m wide canal embankment that takes Dudley's premier canal and it is a lovely public open space, the nearest thing that Merry Hill has to a nature reserve.*

*I have a landscape enhancement scheme at one end against the iron wall which holds up the high plateau which is designated for residential development. If the WMCA continues with your current policy of putting the tram across this 400m embankment it will take quite a large corner of that land, a brownfield site that is desperately needed for housing. I am suggesting that you keep the tram on the railway line - it still could have a tram stop at Brierley Hill, another one at Withymoor and end up at Stourbridge Junction, which joins up with the national railway network and you will also save £100 million because that is the cost for a concrete and steel double-track standard gauge track.*

*So please consider this revised infrastructure proposal with the tram line staying on the railway line all the way into Stourbridge Junction and that would save the trees, environment and would save £100m"*

The sub-committee requested a response be submitted to its next meeting in respect of the suggested proposal.

**57. Appointment of Vice-Chair**

It was agreed that the appointment of a Vice-Chair for the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee 2022/23 be deferred to the next meeting.

**58. Minutes - 23 March 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 2022 were agreed as a correct record.

**59. Commonwealth Games - Transport Update**

The sub-committee received a presentation from the Transport for West Midlands Technical Director on the latest transport preparations for the Commonwealth Games.

The presentation provided an update on the operational plan, readiness and contingency plans, games-time operational control and on the biggest challenges. Members commented on the additional bus services in operation for the games and had hoped that the provision of services within other parts of the region would not be affected.

In relation to the Sandwell Aquatics Centre, a test event had been undertaken on 21 May and lessons had been learnt regarding parking issues. A shuttle service would now operate from The Hawthorns to the Sandwell Aquatics Centre. Work had also been undertaken in Perry Barr to ensure that businesses and residents were aware of the arrangements regarding road restrictions. In addition, members were disappointed that the Wolverhampton tram extension would not be completed in time for the Commonwealth Games.

Resolved:

The report be noted.

**60. Progress Report on Transport Governance Review**

The sub-committee considered a report of the Interim Director of Law & Governance on the transport governance review.

The report detailed the interviews that had been undertaken to date as well as outstanding interviews and the work that had been done in comparing the transport governance arrangements of comparable combined authorities. It was now intended to complete the mapping exercise and interviews by mid-July before the development of a provisional report that would include the proposals for changes to the transport governance arrangements of the WMCA. A final report would be submitted to the WMCA Board in November 2022 for approval.

The WMCA's intention in undertaking the review was to have a suite of proposals to streamline the transport decision-making arrangements at member level to make it transparent, accountable, effective, and efficient as possible. In addition, it was also to learn from other combined authorities and review best practice from the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny and other bodies.

The sub-committee discussed and shared comments on the comparative work with Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire combined authorities, including its devolved powers and scrutiny models and functions and their effectiveness. The importance of ensuring that the informal transport governance bodies and mechanisms fed into the formal transport decision-making governance structures to better inform the formal decision-making process was stressed, along with the need for clarity and for officers to understand the correct reporting pathway for transport reports.

The sub-committee considered that it would be useful if the comparison work being undertaken with other combined authorities also looked at the influence they had over local bus networks through their governance processes.

Resolved:

- (1) The update on the transport governance review be noted; and
- (2) The governance review report be submitted to this sub-committee prior to its submission to the WMCA Board in November 2022.

**61. Work Programme**

The sub-committee discussed its work programme of business for consideration at its future meetings and at the WMCA Board.

Resolved:

The work programme be noted.

**62. Exclusion of the Public and Press**

Resolved:

- (1) 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 was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as specified in the paragraphs of the Act.

**63. Metro Affordability**

The sub-committee received an update of the Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub on affordability issues related to the Wednesbury - Brierley Hill metro extension. She provided an overview of the current challenges, potential mitigations to fund the scheme and future funding opportunities that would be discussed further at the next meeting of the WMCA Board.

Resolved:

The mitigations set out in the report be endorsed.

**64. Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 8 September at 10.00am

The meeting ended at 12.00pm.



**WMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Work Programme 2022/2023**

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Lead Officer/Member
<b>Mayor's Question Time: Policy - 20 October 2022</b>			
WMCA Aims & Objectives Annual Review	To review the WMCA's Aims & Objectives previously agreed in November 2021	7 November 2022	Linda Horne
Grant Register	To receive and review the Grant Register	7 November 2022	Kate Taylor
<b>Mayor's Question Time: Proposed Draft Budget 2023/24 - 15 December 2022</b>			
Mayoral Q&A (Policy): Mayor's response to the recommendations presented to the WMCA Board	To receive a formal response to the recommendations and/or considerations presented to the WMCA Board on 18 November 2022	12 January 2023	Lyndsey Roberts
LEP Integration Plan	To receive an overview of the proposed integration plan for the LEPs	12 January 2023	Julie Nugent

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Lead Officer/Member
Grant Register	To receive and review the Grant Register	12 January 2023	Kate Taylor
Mayoral Q&A (Proposed Budget): Mayor's response to the recommendations presented to the WMCA Board	To receive a formal response to the recommendations and/or considerations presented to the WMCA Board on 13 January 2023	13 March 2023	Lyndsey Roberts
Grant Register	To receive and review the Grant Register	13 March 2023	Kate Taylor
<b>Future Meetings</b>			
#WM2041 'Our Action to Meet the Climate Challenge'	To receive an overview of the progress being made with the delivery of #WM2041	To be confirmed	Jackie Homan
Housing: Modular Builds	To receive an update on the progress with the delivery of modular builds throughout the West Midlands area.	To be confirmed	Gareth Bradford

## WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY FORWARD PLAN: SEPTEMBER 2022 - JULY 2023

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>Meeting 16 September 2022</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Appointment of Director of Law &amp; Governance</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To appoint the new Director of Law &amp; Governance.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To make the appointment.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	Governance
<b>Independent Remuneration Panel</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider the recommendations arising out of the independent review of members allowances.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To consider the recommendations.</p>	n/a	Satish Mistry	No	Governance
<b>Trailblazer Devolution Deal Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the latest work being undertaken in support of the WMCA's Trailblazer Devolution Deal.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Brigid Jones	Ed Cox	No	Levelling Up

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>Appointment of Independent Directors to the Board of Midland Metro Ltd.</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To appoint directors to sit on the board of MML.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Ian Ward	Anne Shaw / Satish Mistry	No	Transport
<b>Meeting 18 November 2022</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Transport Governance Review</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider the recommendations arising from a review into the WMCA's transport governance arrangements.</p> <p><b>Recommendations(s):</b> To approve the recommendations proposed to improve the WMCA's transport governance.</p>	Cllr Ian Ward	Satish Mistry / Anne Shaw	No	Governance
<b>WMCA Aims &amp; Objectives Annual Review</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To review the WMCA's Aims &amp; Objectives previously agreed in November 2021.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	Governance

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
	<b>Recommendations(s):</b>				
<b>Trailblazer Devolution Deal Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the latest work being undertaken in support of the WMCA's Trailblazer Devolution Deal.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Brigid Jones	Ed Cox	No	Levelling Up
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>Single Assurance Framework</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> The National Local Growth Assurance Framework Guidance has a mandated requirement for each combined authority to review their assurance framework annually. There is also a further requirement for separate annexes for the assurance approaches for housing, transport and skills.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To approve the assurance framework.</p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To submit a more detailed investment plan for approval.</p> <p><b>Recommendations(s):</b></p>	Cllr Ian Brookfield	Julie Nugent	No	Economy & Innovation

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>Mobility Hubs</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To approve the Outline Business Case for the Mobility Hubs project to provide multi-modal sustainable transport facilities.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> That the Outline Business Case be approved.</p>	Cllr Ian Ward	Anne Shaw	No	Transport
<b>City Regions Sustainable Transport Settlement Line One Business Case</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b></p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p>	Cllr Ian Ward	Anne Shaw	No	Transport
<b>Meeting 13 January 2023</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Draft WMCA Budget 2023/234</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To approve the WMCA's draft 2023/24 budget for consultation.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>LEP Integration Plan</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To approve the proposed integration plan for LEPs.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Ian Brookfield	Julie Nugent	No	Economy & Innovation
<b>Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro Extension Funding Mitigation Measures</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider the latest progress in securing the mitigation measures for addressing the funding gap identified for phase 1 of the project and to close the funding gap for the full scheme.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Ian Ward	Linda Horne	Yes	Transport
<b>Meeting 10 February 2023</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a

Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>WMCA Budget 2023/234</b>	<b>Purpose:</b> To approve the WMCA's 2023/24 budget. <b>Recommendation(s):</b>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>Meeting 24 March 2023</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting. <b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA. <b>Recommendation(s):</b>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>Meeting 9 June 2023</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting. <b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Appointment of WMCA Boards and Committees 2023/24</b>	<b>Purpose:</b> To approve consider the appointments to boards, chairs and meetings dates for 2023/24. <b>Recommendation(s):</b> That the report be approved.	n/a	Satish Mistry	No	Governance



Title of Report	Summary of purpose and recommendations	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee Annual Report</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To consider a report setting out the activity of overview &amp; scrutiny during 2022/23.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> That the report be noted.</p>	n/a	Satish Mistry	No	Governance
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
<b>Meeting July 2023</b>					
<b>WMCA Activity &amp; Delivery Update</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To provide an update on the activity and delivery of the WMCA since the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b> To note the report.</p>	n/a	Laura Shoaf	No	n/a
<b>Financial Monitoring 2022/23</b>	<p><b>Purpose:</b> To outline the latest financial position of WMCA and provide an update on any current financial matters affecting WMCA.</p> <p><b>Recommendation(s):</b></p>	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance

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