

Economic Growth Board - Terms of Reference

Purpose	<p>To provide strong, democratically accountable leadership to the strategic oversight of the region's approach to driving green and inclusive economic growth.</p> <p>To exercise the delegated authority provided to it by the WMCA Board on matters of inclusive economic growth.</p> <p>To have responsibility for overseeing the performance and evaluation of the region's economic strategy, monitoring and managing processes as required.</p>
Accountable to	WMCA Board
Accountable for	Innovation Board
Membership	<p>There will be 18 members of the board:</p> <p>Voting Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor (x1) • Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation (x1) • Leaders of the other Constituent Authorities (x6) <p>Non-Voting Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation of Non-Constituent Authorities (x1) • Portfolio Holder for Finance (x1) • Business Representatives (x3) • Representative of Midlands TUC (x1) • Representative of West Midlands Chambers of Commerce (x1) • Chair of West Midlands Growth Company (x1) • Chair of West Midlands Innovation Board (x1) • Representative of Higher Education sector (x1) <p>Each representative will be able to send a substitute to the meeting if required.</p> <p>The board may recommend adding to (or varying) its membership in order to better fulfil its functions in driving green and inclusive economic growth, or to reflect organisational changes in the region or nationally. Voting rights would remain unaffected, unless the board made a separate recommendation to change these.</p>

<p>Chair</p>	<p>Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, the board shall elect from amongst its constituent authority members an Acting Chair until such time as the Chair becomes available again.</p>
<p>Vice-Chair</p>	<p>A Vice-Chair will be appointed from amongst the business representatives sitting on the board, although the Vice-Chair's role is to support the position of Chair. They will <i>not</i> chair meetings of the board in the absence of the Chair.</p>
<p>Voting</p>	<p>Only the voting members of the board will be entitled to vote at meetings. The Chair does not exercise a second, or casting, vote.</p> <p>Any matters that are to be decided by the board are to be decided by consensus of the Board where possible. Where consensus is not possible, any matter put to a vote will be decided on a show of hands. A decision will require a two-thirds majority of voting members present and voting on the matter.</p>
<p>Quorum</p>	<p>No business shall be transacted unless representatives of five different constituent authorities are present at the meeting.</p>
<p>Frequency</p>	<p>The board shall meet a minimum of four times a year, or more frequently as required.</p>
<p>Servicing</p>	<p>The board will be serviced by the WMCA's Governance & Scrutiny team.</p>
<p>Functions</p>	<p>To exercise decision-making powers on behalf of the WMCA in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing powers as set out in s99 and 102A of the Local Transport Act 2008 in order to promote economic growth, and such powers can be exercised in conjunction with general powers granted to the WMCA by virtue of s113A of the Local Democracy Economic Development & Construction Act 2009 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).

- The development of a regional approach to inclusive and green economic growth policies and plans, including the development and delivery of regional economic strategies, policies and plans, to be agreed with WMCA Board where appropriate.
- The delivery of a West Midlands Jobs Plan, ensuring local communities are linked to new jobs and opportunities.
- Regional support to businesses, including the implementation of a new business support programme.
- Regional innovation strategy and supporting programmes.
- To ensure that economic strategy, and interventions flowing from it, are underpinned by a robust evidence base (including that derived from key sectors and places) which is reviewed and updated on a regular basis.
- To ensure that businesses are encouraged and supported to transition to net zero.
- To consider and advise upon major policy change within the Economy & Innovation portfolio area.
- To provide leadership in developing an approach to future devolution of powers from the Government to the region on matters of economic growth.
- To receive updates on the investment programme as it relates to the Economy & Innovation portfolio area and also from other boards which support the economic agenda eg. Employment & Skills, Environment, Inclusion, as appropriate.
- To report progress to the WMCA Board.

To support the Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation by:

- Providing advice and support to WMCA activity.
- Helping engage with wider stakeholder networks and activity.
- Identifying and scaling up existing good practice within the WMCA area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying and securing resources to deliver new opportunities
Review	Annually in June.