



West Midlands Combined Authority

Forward Plan

Forthcoming key decisions

| Title of key decision: | Decision to be taken by and date: | Open or Exempt: | Portfolio Lead | Employee to contact: |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|
| WMCA Budget 2024/25 To present the proposed 2024/25 budget for approval | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Councillor Bob Sleigh Deputy Mayor | Beverly Sullivan, Sally Truman Financial Planning and Coordination Manager, Lead Financial Planning Accountant |
| Skills Bootcamps Change Request To seek approval of a business justification case for a change in the activity that would be delivered in respect of the Skills Bootcamp Provision from 1 April 2024. | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Councillor George Duggins Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity | Louise Phipps Senior Delivery Manager- Higher Level Skills |
| Employment & Skills Strategy for Deeper Devolution | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Councillor George Duggins Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity | |
| State of the Region State of the Region for the West Midlands in 2024 | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Andy Street Mayor | |
| Homes for the Future Strategy To consider and approve the Homes for Future Strategy | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Councillor Ian Courts Portfolio Lead for Housing & Land | Mia Higgins, Tanya Patel, Leo Pollak Programme Support Officer, Governance Services Officer, Head of Policy |

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| <p>Faith Strategic Partnership Board - Faith Covenant To agree the proposed Faith Covenant.</p> | WMCA Board 9 February 2024 | Open | Councillor Kerrie Carmichael Portfolio Lead for Inclusive Communities | |
| <p>WMCA Financial Monitoring Report - March 2024 To update on the latest financial position</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Bob Sleigh Deputy Mayor | Beverly Sullivan, Sally Truman Financial Planning and Coordination Manager, Lead Financial Planning Accountant |
| <p>Investment Zones and Levelling Up Zones To consider reports on Gateway Ratification, Investment & Delivery Plan and Finance & Funding Plan.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Stephen Simkins Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation | Steve Bowyer Partnerships and Engagement Strategic Lead |
| <p>Single Settlement Memorandum of Understanding To consider the ratification of the Single Settlement Memorandum of Understanding.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Sharon Thompson Portfolio Lead for Levelling Up / Devolution | Jonathan Gibson Head of Policy & Public Affairs |
| <p>Private Sector Representation To consider retaining existing private sector representation on WMCA boards until such time as the future Single Settlement governance structure is known.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Stephen Simkins Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation | James Hughes Member Relationship Manager |
| <p>Black Country Innovative Manufacturing Organisation To consider the latest BCIMO update.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Bob Sleigh Portfolio Lead for Finance | Linda Horne Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub |
| <p>Skills Funding To consider the latest position regarding skills funding.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor George Duggins Portfolio Lead for Skills & Productivity | Dr. Fiona Aldridge Head of Insight & Intelligence |

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| <p>Penalty Fares Byelaws for Midland Metro Following public consultation, to agree a new penalty fare amount and to consider moving to a proposed two-tier penalty structure, where the fee amount will reduce for early payment.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Chris Hopkinson Owner Representative - West Midlands Metro |
| <p>Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) Update To provide an update on the latest ZEBRA developments.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Pete Bond Director of Integrated Transport Services |
| <p>Request by Warwick District Council to become a Non-Constituent Authority of WMCA To consider the request submitted by Warwick District Council that it should be granted equivalent status as the non-constituent councils with the right to be represented on the WMCA Board and other boards.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | | Julia Cleary, Debbie Dimock, James Hughes Head of Corporate Support & Governance, Interim Solicitor, Member Relationship Manager |
| <p>Arrangements for Mayoral Question Time with MPs To agree the arrangements for mayoral question time sessions with the region's MPs.</p> | WMCA Board 15 March 2024 | Open | Andy Street Mayor of the West Midlands | Jonathan Gibson Head of Policy & Public Affairs |
| <p>Bus Depot Strategy To consider a new Bus Station Strategy.</p> | WMCA Board 14 June 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Ian Shore Asset Delivery Manager |
| <p>Bus Options Report To consider options for the future delivery of the region's bus network.</p> | WMCA Board 19 July 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Steven Hayes Head of Network Transformation |
| <p>Key Route Network Review 2023/24 To approve the amended Key Route Network within the WMCA area.</p> | WMCA Board 19 July 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Rachel Ing Corridor Manager |

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| Ring & Ride Update To provide an update on the latest activity. | WMCA Board 19 July 2024 | Open | Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport | Pete Bond Director of Integrated Transport Services |
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The Forward Plan

This document sets out known 'key decisions' that will be taken by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) over the coming months.

Forthcoming key decisions are published online to meet the statutory 28 day notification rule for each meeting where a key decision will be taken. Where it has not been possible to meet the 28 day rule for publication of notice of a key decision or an intention to meet in private, the relevant notices will be published as required by legislation as soon as possible.

What is a key decision?

A 'key decision' means a decision of the Mayor, WMCA or officer which is likely:

- (a) to result in the WMCA incurring expenditure, making savings or generating income amounting to £1m or more; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the WMCA

The report relating to a decision, together with any other documents being considered, will be available five clear working days before the decision is to be taken (unless the documentation contains exempt information).

The forward plan also provides notice of when the WMCA may decide to exclude the press and public during consideration of a particular matter due to the potential for disclosure of confidential or exempt

information. The grounds upon which local authorities can exclude the press and public are specified by law and details of the exempt categories are available on request from the Governance Services team (governance.services@wmca.org.uk).

Councillors or members of the public wishing to:

- make a representation about why a matter should be heard in public, or
- submit information to the decision-making body about an item in the forward plan, or
- request details of relevant documents, or
- seek advice about the WMCA's decision-making arrangements,

should contact the Governance Services team: governance.services@wmca.org.uk