



Name of meeting:	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Meeting date:	1 July 2024
Report title:	Grant Register
Responsible Director:	Linda Horne, Executive Director of Finance and Business Hub
Report author:	Beverly Sullivan, Financial Planning & Co-ordination Manager
Key Decision?	No

Is the ability for the Combined Authority to make a decision internally reliant on Constituent or Non-Constituent Councils making a formal decision first?

Yes No

Public/private report: Public

1. Decision/s Recommended

1.1 Note the updates to the grant register.

2. Voting Requirements

2.1 A majority of voting members, in attendance in the meeting room and indicating their preference, are required to vote in favour of any recommendation/proposition for it to become a decision of the committee.

3. Executive Summary

3.1 This paper provides an update on the grants received and utilised by the WMCA. The grant register 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.

4. Matters for Consideration

4.1 The grant register is appended at Appendices 1 and 2 of this report. It shows revenue and capital grants that have been derived through:

- Competitive bidding – These grants were awarded based on a competitive process where the WMCA has successfully demonstrated to the funder its ability to effectively utilise funds for specified projects.
- Annual allocations – These are regular allocations from Government, forming a crucial part of the WMCA's budget to support ongoing programmes.

- One-off allocations – specific grants allocated to support specific initiatives and unlikely to be re-allocated in the future.

4.2 Grants have been vital in the WMCA being able to further its strategic ambitions. During 2024/25, there will be continued focus on securing any available funds which will aid the WMCA in being able to deliver on its Aims and Objectives and which support the development and well-being of the region’s residents. From 2025/26, it is anticipated that Single Settlement, part of the Deeper Devolution Deal, will mean an end to competitive bidding for the relevant funds with an allocative approach to funding instead.

- 4.3 Since the last report the WMCA has had confirmation of the following grants:
- £14.5m of capital funding from the DfT for the provision of electric vehicles charge points across the region. £0.3m of revenue funding has also been provided to support the for installing electric via the LEVI Capability Fund.
 - £6.1m for an extension of the Active Travel Scheme. This is the 4th phase of the project to deliver cycling and walking schemes.
 - £1.0m for the annual allocation for the Mayoral Capacity Fund. This grant has been budgeted to support the Mayoral Office.
 - £0.7m to address backlog in traffic signal maintenance and upgrades. This funding is to be distributed to local authorities.
 - £0.5m from DCMS to support high-growth potential creative businesses to become investment ready.
 - £0.4m to support the delivery of the Business Growth Hub network across the West Midlands
 - £0.3m from DLUHC to provide capacity support to deliver the Single Settlement and the wider commitments agreed in Deeper Devolution Deal.
 - £0.2m from DLUHC as core funding following the WMCA assuming responsibilities transferred as a result of dissolution of LEPs.

5. What options have been considered and what is the evidence telling us about them?

This report form part of a series of updates. No other options have been considered.

6. Reasons for recommending preferred option

6.1 Not applicable; this report is providing an update only.

7. Implications and Considerations

Priority:	Contribution:
Delivery of Strategic Transport Plan	Not applicable
Promote inclusive economic growth in every corner of the region	Not applicable
Ensure everyone has the opportunity to benefit	Not applicable
Connect our communities by delivering transport and unlocking housing and regeneration schemes	Not applicable
Reduce carbon emissions to net zero and enhance the environment	Not applicable

Priority:	Contribution:
Secure new powers and resources from central government	Not applicable
Develop our organisation and our role as a good regional partner	Grant funding is instrumental in the WMCA being able to deliver on its Aims and Objectives.

8. Internal Consultation and Scrutiny:

8.1 There has been no consultation required for this update report.

9. External Consultation and Scrutiny:

9.1 Not applicable for this report.

10. Financial implications:

10.1 There are no financial implications arising from accepting the recommendations in this report. The update on the grant register is provided for transparency purposes

11. Legal implications:

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

12. Single Assurance Framework implications:

12.1 The relevant Single Assurance Framework process will be followed as necessary.

13. Risk implications, including Risk Appetite:

13.1 Grants will be appropriately monitored and managed to reduce any possible clawback and to ensure that use is in line with any specified conditions.

14. Procurement Implications:

14.1 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

15. Equality implications:

15.1 There are no specific equality implications from this update report. However, individual grant funded schemes and initiatives will be subject to equality impact assessments to ensure key equality and inclusion considerations have been embedded.

16. Inclusive Growth Implications:

16.1 There are no direct implications to the West Midlands Inclusive Growth fundamentals arising from this report.

17. Local Authority Impact:

17.1 Some of the grants included in this register have been passported/devolved to Local Authorities.

18. List of appendices referred to:

18.1 Appendix 1 - Revenue Grant Register

18.2 Appendix 2 - Capital Grant Register.

19. Background papers used to compile this report:

None.

20. List of Other Relevant Documents

20.1 None