



WMCA Board

Friday 14 September 2018 at 11.00 am

Minutes

Constituent Members

Andy Street (Chair)	Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority
Councillor Bob Sleigh (Vice-Chair)	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Mike Bird	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Ian Courts	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor George Duggins	Coventry City Council
Councillor Patrick Harley	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Brigid Jones	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Abdul Khan	Coventry City Council
Councillor Roger Lawrence	City of Wolverhampton Council
Councillor Ian Ward	Birmingham City Council

Non-Constituent Members

Councillor George Adamson	Cannock Chase District Council
Councillor Matthew Dormer	Redditch Borough Council
Councillor David Humphreys	North Warwickshire Borough Council
Councillor Tony Jefferson	Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Ninder Johal	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership
Tim Pile	Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Alex Phillips	Shropshire Council
Councillor Izzi Seccombe	Warwickshire County Council
Councillor Michael Stokes	Rugby Borough Council

Co-Opted Member

Lee Barron	Midlands Trades Union Congress
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Observer Members

Councillor John Edwards	West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority
David Jamieson	West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner
Lynnette Kelly	Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner

In Attendance

Councillor Kath Hartley	Transport Delivery Committee
Councillor Peter Hughes	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Councillor David Lane	Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee
Councillor Ian Shires	Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Item No.	Title
30.	Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shaun Davies (Telford & Wrekin), Councillor Steve Eling (Sandwell), Councillor Paul Moore (Sandwell), Councillor Peter Nutting (Shropshire) ad Stewart Towe (Black Country LEP).
31.	Chair's Remarks (if any) The Mayor welcomed the region's recent success in being awarded up to £50m to trial high-speed 5G connectivity.
32.	Minutes - 20 July 2018 The minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2018 were agreed as a correct record.
33.	Forward Plan The forward plan of items to be considered at future meetings was noted.
34.	Governance Review and Scheme for the Transfer of the Police & Crime Commissioner Functions The board considered a report from Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform, on the contents of the Governance Review and Scheme which enabled the Mayoral WMCA Police & Crime Commissioner governance model to be discussed and understood prior to seeking constituent council consideration. The report also outlined the key issues that had been raised during the development of the Governance Review and Scheme. David Jamieson stressed the importance of ensuring that a clear justification was provided to the public for making changes to police governance, along with the benefits that would result. He was concerned that the proposed consultation period included the Christmas/New Year public holidays which he considered might restrict the number of responses that were made. Councillor George Duggins stressed the importance of a two-stage consultation exercise to separate the principle of changing governance arrangements from the specific proposals proposed for the West Midlands. The Mayor noted that the constituent authorities and the Police & Crime Commissioner were now to be formally consulted on these proposals and looked forward to a report to the next meeting of the WMCA Board with further proposals for the proposed public consultation exercise.
Resolved:	
(1) The progress on the development of the Governance Review and Scheme outlining the proposed model for Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority governance of the West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner functions be noted.	

- (2) It be noted that the report and attached Governance Review and Scheme was to be considered by constituent authorities and the West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner in line with the requirement to elect a Mayor with Police & Crime Commissioner responsibilities in 2020, as agreed by the WMCA Board on 20 July 2018.
- (3) It be agreed to receive a further report at the meeting of the WMCA Board on 9 November 2018 detailing the outcome of the constituent councils and West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner considerations of the content of the Governance Review and Scheme, and setting out the public consultation process.

35. Governance of West Midlands Fire Service - Approval of Statutory Order

The board considered a report from Karen Gowreesunker, Clerk to the West Midlands Fire Authority, and Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform, on the transfer of the governance of the West Midlands Fire & Rescue Service to the Mayoral WMCA, and to agree the draft Order to be laid before Parliament. The report also set out the key asks within the Scheme, the Home Office's response to these asks, and the timescales and next steps in the transfer of governance responsibilities.

Councillor Peter Hughes expressed his thanks that the comments made by Overview & Scrutiny Committee had been included within the report.

Resolved:

- (1) The Home Office's response to the key asks set out in the Scheme document be noted.
- (2) Acceptance of the proposals set out in the report to progress the key asks locally be confirmed; and the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority consent to the laying of the Order in Parliament, subject to the outcome of the final local constituent council cabinet meeting.

36. 'Dying to Work' Charter

The board considered a report Tracy Walters, Head of Human Resources & Organisational Development, seeking support for the WMCA to the sign up to the Trades Union Congress's 'Dying to Work' campaign for terminal illness to be recognised as a protected characteristic.

Lee Barron welcomed the report, noting that the WMCA would be the first combined authority to sign up to the initiative. Deborah Cadman reported that the WMCA's sickness absence policy would be revised to reflect its adoption, and there would be appropriate staff training to support this.

Resolved:

It be agreed to sign up to the Trade Union Congress's 'Dying to Work' Charter which was seeking to provide greater security for terminally ill employees, ensuring that they were not dismissed due to their condition.

37. Financial Monitoring Report 2018/19

The board considered a report from Sean Pearce, Director of Finance, providing an update on the WMCA's finances as at the end of July 2018.

Resolved:

The financial position as at the end of July 2018 was noted.

38. WMCA Funding for Growth Programme Update

The board considered a report from Julia Goldsworthy, Director of Strategy, on the status of the Funding for Growth programme, its updated governance, current areas of focus and findings to date.

Councillor Ian Ward noted that Birmingham City Council was currently looking at the implications of a hotel/tourist tax and an airport land fee, and it was important that the WMCA did not overlap this work. The Mayor agreed with this and confirmed that there would be no duplication.

Resolved:

The approach taken to date and the next steps being undertaken be noted.

39. Inclusive Growth Framework

The board considered a report from Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform, on the first iteration of the Inclusive Growth Framework, which sought to capture the positive social and environmental outcomes that the West Midlands would like to realise as a consequence of its economic activity.

Resolved:

- (1) The first iteration of the Inclusive Growth Framework be endorsed.
- (2) It be noted that the composition of the Inclusive Growth Framework and its underlying metrics would be adapted as the WMCA drew from member, partner and citizen insight.

40. Housing First: Background, Principles, Governance and Delivery

The board considered a report from Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform, and Gareth Bradford, Director of Housing & Regeneration, outlining proposals to deliver a Housing First pilot across all seven constituent areas of the WMCA which was designed to prevent and relieve the homelessness of rough sleepers with the most complex needs.

Councillor Mike Bird stressed the importance of delivering this initiative at pace, given the seriousness of the social problems it was seeking to tackle. Councillor Ian Ward noted that clarity as to the role different public authorities would play in delivering this policy would be key to its success.

Resolved:

- (1) It be noted that WMCA had been awarded £9.6m for the delivery of Housing First for the period 2018-21.
- (2) It be noted that Birmingham City Council had received £1.44m to cover the first year of the pilot.
- (3) It be noted that the constituent authorities had agreed to deliver 225 housing units per year, for three years, in order to conduct the pilot.
- (4) The principles of taking a Housing First approach to supporting people who were sleeping rough into secure accommodation be endorsed.

41. Congestion Management

The board considered a report from Laura Shoaf, Managing Director of Transport for West Midlands, on a Congestion Management Plan and supporting activities which would, together with all partner authorities and other transport agencies, facilitate the existing and future economic performance of the region with a growing demand for journeys.

Councillor David Humphreys noted that there was significant population and economic growth within non-constituent areas and that this would impact on congestion across the region. Councillor Roger Lawrence reported that Transport for West Midlands had good relations with neighbouring transport authorities and looked to work closely with them whenever opportunities arose. In respect of the opening of new rail stations, he confirmed that West Midlands rail was actively undertaking this and could provide further details on the new stations plan for the region on request.

David Jamieson confirmed that his office would be involved in many of the congestion management initiatives contained within the report and looked forward to working with Transport for West Midlands.

Resolved:

- (1) The ten point plan and the wider actions outlined within the Congestion Management Plan be agreed.
- (2) The preferred option 6 for the development of the Regional Transport Coordination Centre and next steps in development be agreed.
- (3) The Road Safety Memorandum of Understanding be agreed, and the development of a Regional Road Safety Strategy being led by Coventry City Council be noted.

- (4) The Key Route Network global evidence report and 23 detailed corridor reports be agreed for publishing, and the monitoring framework be approved.
- 42. Investment Board - 26 July 2018**
The board received the minutes of the Investment Board held on 26 July 2018.
- Resolved:
- The minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2018 be noted.
- 43. Wellbeing Board - 13 July 2018**
The board received the minutes of the Wellbeing Board held on 13 July 2018.
- Resolved:
- The minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2018 were noted.
- 44. Housing & Land Delivery Board - 16 July 2018**
The board received the minutes of the Housing & Land Delivery Board held on 16 July 2018.
- Resolved:
- The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2018 were noted.
- 45. Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 16 July 2018**
The board received the minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 16 July 2018.
- Resolved:
- The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2018 were noted.
- 46. Transport Delivery Committee - 16 July 2018**
The board received the minutes of the Transport Delivery Committee held on 16 July 2018.
- Resolved:
- The minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2018 be noted.
- 47. Investment Board - 20 August 2018**
The board considered the minutes of the Investment Board held on 20 August 2018.
- Resolved:
- (1) The minutes of the meeting be noted.

- (2) In respect of the Coventry South and A46 Link Road Phase 1 (minute no. 21):
 - (a) The award of £6.6m development deal funding for the A46 Stoneleigh Junction (A46 Link Road Phase 1) be approved, subject to a successful confirmation from the Department for Transport of Local Growth Fund grant.
- (3) In respect of the A45 to Solihull Town Centre and UK Central Strategic Cycle Link (minute no. 22):
 - (a) The Full Business Case for the UK Central Hub Strategic Cycle Link and the A45 to Solihull Town Centre (Damson Parkway) Cycle Link be approved.
 - (b) The funding position be noted, with any underspend being considered as part of the work being undertaken across the Investment Programme.
 - (c) The experiences gained by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council in encouraging behavioural change to increase cycling be shared with other local authorities in the West Midlands.

48. Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 4 September 2018

The board received the minutes of the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 4 September 2018.

The Mayor thanked Overview & Scrutiny Committee for its consideration of the Midland Metro construction proposed business support package. He agreed that future board reports should include a specific paragraph setting out the ‘inclusive growth’ implications of the report, and he would ask the Chief Executive to formally respond to the request that pre-decision scrutiny would form part of the development of key strategic policies of the WMCA.

Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2018 were noted.

49. Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved:

In accordance with s100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business as it was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 3 of the Act.

50. Industrial Strategy

The board considered a report from Patrick White, Director of Industrial Strategy, on the progress made in developing a West Midlands Industrial Strategy and seeking endorsement of the content for consultation.

Councillor Tony Jefferson indicated that two large employers within Stratford-upon-Avon had expressed concern to him regarding electricity supply and the impact this was having on their expansion plans. Councillor Alex Phillips noted a lack of reference within the report to the agri-food sector, which was significant within Shropshire. Councillor Ian Ward noted these comments and undertook to ensure that the Local Industrial Strategy included references to the non-constituent authorities.

Resolved:

- (1) The emerging commitments and actions for informal consultation be endorsed.
- (2) The process to consult on a draft Local Industrial Strategy in September before considering a final strategy for publication in late Autumn, including retaining the existing Strategic Economic Plan targets, was endorsed.
- (3) Responsibility be delegated to the Portfolio Lead for Economic Growth and the Strategic Economic Delivery Board and to sign off on the final wording of the consultation draft and to oversee the consultation process.

51. Friday 9 November 2018 at 11.00am

The date of the next meeting was noted.

The meeting ended at 12.35 pm.