



Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date	26 November 2018
Report title	Overview and Scrutiny Working Groups - Progress Update
Accountable Leads	Budget - Councillor Peter Hughes Governance - Councillor John Cotton Health & Wellbeing - Councillor Cathy Bayton Housing & Land - Councillor Ian Shires Inclusive Growth and Productivity & Skills - Councillor Lisa Trickett
Accountable Employee	Lyndsey Roberts, Scrutiny Officer email: lyndsey.roberts@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7501

Recommendation(s) for decision:

Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Note the progress being made in respect of the working groups.
- (2) Consider and approve the proposed work programme for the working groups.

Purpose

1. To appraise Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the developments and progress in relation to the work of the five working groups. Members are also asked to endorse the scoping documents for the respective working groups.

Background

2. At its meeting held on 16 July, Overview & Scrutiny Committee approved the continuation of five working groups for 2018/19, the terms of reference and membership for each of the groups.

Budget Working Group

3. On 17 September, the Budget Working Group held its first meeting with Sean Pearce, Finance Director, Linda Horne, Head of Finance and Louise Cowen, Financial Services Manager. Members received an overview of the WMCA finances, the approved 2018/19 budget and the timetable for development of the Medium Term Financial Plan 2019 and the Annual Business Plan 2019/20.

Members of the Budget Working Group discussed and agreed the specific work areas that it would like to focus on this year. A copy of the group's work programme for the coming year is attached for endorsement. Councillor Peter Hughes will provide a verbal update at the meeting (as appropriate) on any more recent developments.

Governance Working Group

4. On 12 September, the Governance Working Group held its first meeting with Tim Martin, Head of Governance, and Dan Essex, Governance Services Manager. Emma Williamson, Head of Scrutiny Services at Birmingham City Council was also in attendance. A discussion was held on areas that could be reviewed during this coming year. Councillor John Cotton will provide a verbal update at the meeting (as appropriate) on any more recent developments.

Health & Wellbeing Working Group

5. On 10 September, the Health & Wellbeing Working Group held its first meeting to discuss and agree its specific work areas. Sean Russell, Director of Implementation, was also in attendance. A copy of the group's work programme for the coming year is attached for endorsement.

On 30 October, the Health & Wellbeing Working Group held a meeting with Councillor Izzi Seccombe, Portfolio Lead for Wellbeing and Chair of the Wellbeing Board. Councillor Izzi Seccombe had been invited to attend the working group to discuss and answer questions on the visions and aspirations for health & wellbeing, budgetary allocation for the health & wellbeing agenda and on the value that Overview & Scrutiny Committee can provide to the portfolio.

The group discussed the measures being used for tackling obesity across the region, the Thrive mental health programme and its success, the next devolution deal and the importance of health and wellbeing. Councillor Cathy Bayton will provide a verbal update at the meeting (as appropriate) on any more recent developments.

Housing & Land Working Group

6. On 18 September and 22 October, the Housing & Land Working Group met to discuss and agree its specific work areas. Members of the working group agreed that during the course of the year it will test the deliverability of the Housing & Land Delivery Plan. A copy of the group's work programme is attached for endorsement.

On 13 November, the Housing & Land Working Group held a meeting with Councillor Mike Bird, Portfolio Lead for Housing & Land and Gareth Bradford, Director for Housing & Regeneration. Councillor Mike Bird and Gareth Bradford had been asked to attend the working group to provide further detailed information on the various strands of work initiated by the Housing & Regeneration Delivery Plan. Councillor Ian Shires will provide a verbal update at the meeting (as appropriate) on any more recent developments.

Inclusive Growth and Productivity & Skills Working Group

7. Councillor Lisa Trickett met with Henry Kippin, Director for Public Service Reform, Claire Spencer, Senior Policy Advisor - Public Services & Inclusive Growth, and Julie Nugent, Director of Productivity & Skills, to discuss the two workstreams and possible areas of focus for the forthcoming year. A copy of the group's work programme is attached for endorsement.

The next meeting of the working group will be held on 19 November. Councillor Steve Eling, Portfolio Lead for Cohesion & Integration and Public Service Reform, Councillor Ian Ward, Portfolio Lead for Economic Growth, Patrick White, Director of Industrial Strategy, and Henry Kippin, Director of Public Service Reform, have been asked to attend the working group to discuss the meaning of inclusive growth in the context of the Local Industrial Strategy. Councillor Lisa Trickett will provide a verbal update at the meeting (as appropriate) on any more recent developments.

Financial Implications

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

Legal Implications

9. There are no direct legal implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report.

Equalities Implications

10. There are no direct equalities implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report.

Inclusive Growth Implications

11. The WMCA board has asked for the inclusive growth implications of each board paper to be outlined in this section. We are developing a set of materials that will allow officers and partners to do this robustly, which will be reflected in WMCA Board reports from January 2019 onwards.

Geographical Area of Report's Implications

12. There are no geographical implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report.

Other Implications

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

Schedule of Background Papers

14. Appendix 1 - Budget Working Group - Work Programme
Appendix 2 - Health & Wellbeing Working Group - Work Programme
Appendix 3 - Housing & Land Working Group - Work Programme
Appendix 4 – Inclusive Growth & Productivity & Skills Working Group – Work Programme