



WMCA Board

Date	28 June 2019
Report title	Annual Planning and Performance: WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20 and State of the Region Analysis 2019
Portfolio Lead	Andy Street - Mayor for the West Midlands
Accountable Chief Executive	Deborah Cadman, West Midlands Combined Authority email: deborah.cadman@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7200
Accountable Employee	Julia Goldsworthy, Director of Strategy email: julia.goldsworthy@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7931
Report has been considered by	Strategic Leadership Team Programme Board - 14 June 2019

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

- (1) Note the Review of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Annual Plan 2018/19 at Appendix 1;
- (2) Note the key findings from the 'West Midlands State of the Region Report 2019' at Appendix 2;
- (3) Approve and endorse the WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20 at Appendix 3, and delegate authority to the Director of Strategy, in consultation with the Mayor, to make any final amendments that take into account the decisions taken in respect of the other reports on the agenda for the WMCA Board on 28th June 2019.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present a suite of three documents focussed on the priorities and performance of the WMCA and region:
- (a) A Review of the WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19: this document summarises delivery and progress against the actions, activity and outcomes we set out in our 2018-19 Annual Plan;
 - (b) State of the Region 2019: this document summarises the region's performance against a range of economic health and growth indicators, and enables developments in the region's economy and society over the last year to be illustrated;
 - (c) WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20: sets out our focus and activity for the current year against each of the priority portfolios.
- 1.2 The Board is asked to note the Review the WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19 (at Appendix 1) and the State of the Region 2019 (at Appendix 2), and approve the Annual Plan 2019/20 at Appendix 3.

2. Background

- 2.1 As part of its business planning and performance management, the WMCA produces an Annual Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to set out the priorities of the WMCA, provide a strategic context for the WMCA as an organisation, and to articulate what is being delivered and planned.
- 2.2 A State of the Region report is now produced annually (previous reports were produced in 2017 and 2018). It is an important moment to take stock of the original Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) ambitions for the region and to review the social and economic health of the region and assess whether further action from across CA partners is required to effect change.

Annual State of the Region Report

- 2.3 The report at Appendix 2 retains key indicators consistent with the Strategic Economic Plan, and the State of the Region 2018 report published last year, but also incorporates additional metrics to ensure latest information, best practice and WMCA priorities are reflected.
- 2.4 Below are summary key findings from the State of the Region report for 2019 (see Appendix 3):
- The economy has now reached £99bn, matching the UK growth rate for 3.6%
 - We have record jobs at 1.9m, with a growth rate of 3.1% compared to 1.3% for England
 - Employment rate is at 71.1% increasing at a faster rate than the UK
 - The population with NVQ4 is at 32.1% increasing at a faster rate than UK (3.3% v 2.3%)
 - The output gap is still large at £15.1bn
 - Enterprise births have decreased to 24,230 (down by 12%)

- Healthy life expectancy for both males and females is still lagging England and in decline for females (-0.2 years)

Annual Plan

- 2.5 The Annual Plan 2019/20 attached (Appendix 3) has been informed by engagement with portfolio lead members, chief executives and other stakeholders including the WMCA Programme Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The guiding principles, structure and timeline were shared with Metropolitan Council Leaders in December 2018, with updates in March and June. In February, the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Committee endorsed the principles and structure of the Plan, and during April relevant O&S working groups and champions had an opportunity to comment on draft sections of the Plan.
- 2.6 The Plan for 2019/20 has benefited from learning and feedback about last year's Plan. Key changes to this year's format include separating out a summary of the delivery and achievements against the 2018/19 Plan (see Appendix 1) and the inclusion of performance indicators. The indicators include measures relating to WMCA activity, and also those that articulate the wider economic and social outcomes we are trying to influence, support and enable but are not directly responsible or accountable for.
- 2.7 The Plan is presented to Board for approval. Decisions made in respect of other reports on the WMCA Board agenda on 28th June 2019 may require further amendments to the Plan. Delegated authority for the Director of Strategy, in consultation with the Mayor, to make any final changes to the Plan is sought accordingly.
- 2.8 Progress against the Annual Plan will be monitored by the WMCA Strategic Leadership Team throughout 2019/20 and it is anticipated that progress reports be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The Annual Plan deliverables were developed as part of the Authority's 2019/20 Annual Planning and Budget setting process. The 2019/20 Budget was approved at the WMCA Board on 8 February 2019 and contained a summary of the planned delivery that the budget underpins and which the Annual Plan articulates further.

4. Legal Implications

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

5. Equalities Implications

- 5.1 The documents attached are not in themselves delivery plans or policies. The individual projects and programmes listed in the Annual Plan will be equality impact assessed to ensure key equality considerations are taken into account.

6. Inclusive Growth Implications

The Annual Plan sets out activity that contribute to the overall vision of a West Midlands that has a healthier, happier, better connected and more prosperous population. At the heart of that vision is an ambition to drive inclusive economic growth.

7. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

7.1 All three documents appended to this report include information about delivery and performance across the region.

8. Other Implications

None

9. Schedule of Background Papers

Annual Plan 2018/19

'Development of the WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20' - Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 February 2019

Appendices

Appendix 1: Review of the WMCA Annual Plan 2018/19

Appendix 2: Annual State of the Region Report 2019

Appendix 3: WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20