



Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date	22 October 2019
Report title	WMCA Scrutiny Review on the Effectiveness of Transport Delivery Committee in Overseeing the Delivery of the WMCA Transport Policies
Accountable Chief Executive	Deborah Cadman, West Midlands Combined Authority email: deborah.cadman@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7200
Accountable Employee	Tim Martin, Head of Governance, Clerk and Monitoring Officer email: tim.martin@wmca.org.uk tel: (0121) 214 7435

Recommendation(s) for decision:

Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- (1) Consider and approve the proposed scoping document for a scrutiny review into the effectiveness of Transport Delivery Committee in overseeing the delivery of the WMCA's transport policies.

Purpose

1. To update the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the progress with the work of the transport governance review group. Members are asked to approve the scoping document for the review that will look at the effectiveness of Transport Delivery Committee in overseeing the delivery of the WMCA's transport policies.

Background

2. Since the WMCA's AGM on 28 June, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee have been considering those areas which it would like to scrutinise during the course of the year. Members have identified the investment programme and transport as two key areas where scrutiny work should be focused.
3. The committee also agreed that their work programme throughout the year should have a particular focus on three general key themes:
 - Accountability (led by Councillor Cathy Bayton)
 - Connectivity (led by Councillor Lynnette Kelly)
 - Investment (led by Councillor Lisa Trickett)
4. The 'accountability' theme recognises that high standards of governance should underpin how the WMCA makes its decisions, and that scrutiny's work should therefore have a focus on ensuring that governance structures are fit for purpose, effective, transparent decision making and encouraged wider public engagement.
5. It is intended therefore that this particular review of transport is conducted with an 'accountability' focus and will concentrate on transport decision-making governance. The review will be led by Councillor Cathy Bayton, who will be joined by Councillor Angus Lees and Councillor Ahmad Bostan.

Progress Update

6. Members of the review group met with WMCA officers and the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Transport Delivery Committee to discuss the purpose of the review and to review the draft scoping document (attached as Appendix A).
7. It is proposed that the review should look at the effectiveness of Transport Delivery Committee in ensuring that the transport policies of the WMCA positively contribute towards the delivery of its wider corporate objectives. The specific objectives of the review are therefore:
 - To understand the current role of the Transport Delivery Committee in overseeing and monitoring the delivery and impact of the WMCA's transport policies, and its effectiveness in undertaking this role.
 - To determine whether the effectiveness of Transport Delivery Committee could be enhanced by changes in the governance arrangements of the committee.

- To recommend an effective transport governance structure (including transport scrutiny arrangements) that will positively contribute towards the delivery of transport policies and the delivery of the wider ambitions of the WMCA, as determined by the Annual Business Plan.
8. It is intended that a meeting will be held with key individuals, as detailed within the draft scoping document, on 11 November to understand the current governance arrangements and potential improvements.
 9. This review will be undertaken during November and December 2019 and a report on the conclusions of the review group will be presented to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 17 December, prior to its submission to the WMCA Board on 17 January 2020 for approval.

Financial Implications

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

Legal Implications

11. There are no direct legal implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report. However any changes to the governance of the Transport Delivery Committee that require amendments to the constitution will require formal WMCA Board approval.

Equalities Implications

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

Inclusive Growth Implications

13. There are no direct inclusive growth implications arising out of the recommendations contained within this report. However, effective delivery of the WMCA's transport policies and investments will contribute towards improving inclusive growth across the region. Furthermore, ensuring that governance and decision-making arrangements are subject to reflection and review, in a way that involves external stakeholders, is consistent with the 'Sharing Power' inclusive growth test.

Geographical Area of Report's Implications

14. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee comprises 12 members appointed by constituent authorities and seven members appointed by non-constituent authorities.

Other Implications

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