

Scrutiny Review - Scoping Document

The effectiveness of the WMCA's governance structure in delivering the policy objectives of the WMCA	
Work to be carried out by:	To be determined by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 18 December (names of councillors)
Officer Support:	Tim Martin, Head of Governance Dan Essex, Governance Services Manager Lyndsey Roberts, Scrutiny Officer
Date of Review:	December 2019 - March 2020
Purpose of the Review:	
To determine whether the governance structures of the West Midlands Combined Authority are appropriate to deliver its aims and policy objectives, given the growth of its remit and influence.	
Objectives:	
<p>To understand the current governance structure of the WMCA and how effective it is in determining and delivering its policy objectives.</p> <p>To consider whether the current governance structure, along with its decision-making cultures and behaviours, are fit for purpose to enable and facilitate delivery of the overall aim of the policies of the WMCA.</p> <p>To consider whether there is a common understanding of the role and purpose of the WMCA across the political representatives.</p> <p>To assess the effectiveness of the WMCA's policies in delivering and embedding inclusive growth across the region.</p> <p>To determine whether the WMCA had the appropriate powers to enable it to address the needs of the region.</p> <p>To recommend any changes considered necessary to facilitate better policy decision making and delivery.</p>	
Scope	
<p>As part of the evidence gathering, the review group will invite the following key individuals to submit their views and suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Governance - to understand the governance structure of the WMCA and the conclusions of the work undertaken to date to review its governance structure. • Chief Executive - to understand whether the current governance structure and the decision-making culture and behaviours are fit for purpose to facilitate the delivery of the WMCA's policies and potential improvements. 	

- Mayor of the West Midlands - to ascertain whether the WMCA possessed the appropriate powers to enable it to deliver its wider objectives and potential improvements
- Leader of a Constituent Authority - to ascertain whether the current governance structures of the WMCA and its cultures and behaviours were fit for purpose to facilitate the delivery of the aims of the WMCA's policies, taking into consideration its significant growth since it was established in 2016.
- Constituent Authority Chief Executive - to ascertain whether the WMCA possessed the appropriate powers to enable it to deliver its wider corporate objectives, given the significant growth of the WMCA remit and influence.
- Director of Finance (s151 Officer), WMCA - to ascertain an officer's view on the current governance arrangements and potential improvements.
- Independent Chair of the Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee - To ascertain the view of an independent person on the current governance structure of the WMCA, its decision-making cultures and behaviours and potential improvements.
- Senior member/officer from comparable Combined Authority - To understand the governance structure of a comparable Combined Authority and its decision-making cultures and behaviours.

Intended Outcome:

Councillor Lisa Trickett will submit a report, with recommendations as appropriate, to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 9 March 2020 for consideration.

Links to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee's priorities:

Accountability - To ensure that the WMCA's governance structures are fit for purpose, effective and transparent, and wider public engagement is being undertaken.

WMCA Officer Responsible:

Tim Martin, Head of Governance

Review Work Programme:

Review Timetable	Lead person(s)	Completion by
Meeting with the OSC Chair to discuss the purpose/objectives of the review and to identify key individuals	Lyndsey Roberts	22 November
Meeting with Tim Martin, Head of Governance to discuss the review and draft scoping document	Lyndsey Roberts	27 November
Meeting with the WMCA Chief Executive to discuss the purpose of the review	Tim Martin	Early December
Meeting with the Mayor of the West Midlands to discuss the purpose of the review	Tim Martin	Early December
Draft scoping document to be circulated to key individuals for information/review	Lyndsey Roberts	Early December
OSC to agree the draft scope for the review	Cllr Lisa Trickett	18 December

Meeting of the Review Group to agree lines of enquiry	Lyndsey Roberts	Mid-January
Agenda & Information Pack to be circulated to the review group	Lyndsey Roberts	February
One Day Event - Scrutiny Review Group/key individuals	Cllr Lisa Trickett	Early February
Draft report prepared	Tim Martin	Early - mid February
Draft report to be shared with key individuals engaged in the review	Lyndsey Roberts	Mid - February
OSC report to be submitted to Senior Leadership Team	Tim Martin	26 February
OSC report to be submitted to WMCA Programme Board (if required)	Tim Martin	6 March
OSC report to be submitted to Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Lisa Trickett	9 March
OSC report to be submitted to WMCA Board for consideration (if required)	Cllr Lisa Trickett	20 March