



West Midlands
Combined Authority

Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Monday 14 September 2020

Summary

- Role and purpose of the West Midlands Combined Authority
- Vision and portfolio lead areas
- How we work
- Scrutiny within a combined authority context
- Transport governance within the West Midlands Combined Authority

Role and purpose of the WMCA

- CAs are legally constituted bodies that enable groups of councils to collaborate together and make collective decisions.
- The WMCA was established in 2016 by the seven metropolitan councils (Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton) to 'propel our economy to further growth' and to 'achieve far more than any of us could deliver separately'.
- The WMCA was set up in the context of international, national and regional challenges – including a skills deficit, legacy of worklessness, public service challenge (austerity and demand) and connectivity.
- Wider membership of non-constituent members and observers, including 10 local councils and 3 local enterprise partnerships



Vision and Portfolio Areas

Vision: Building a healthier, happier, better connected and more prosperous West Midlands

Portfolios:

Culture & Digital - Cllr Patrick Harley (Dud)
Economy & Innovation - Cllr Ian Brookfield (Wol)
Environment & Energy - Cllr Ian Courts (Sol)
Finance - Cllr Bob Sleigh (Sol)
Housing & Land - Cllr Mike Bird (Wal)
Inclusive Communities - Cllr Brigid Jones (Bir)
Productivity & Skills - Cllr George Duggins (Cov)
PSR & Social Economy - Cllr Maria Crompton (San)
Transport - Cllr Ian Ward (Bir)
Wellbeing - Cllr Izzi Seccombe (War)

How we work

- Led by Elected Mayor who is Chair of the WMCA
- Political leadership from Leaders and Board members working with the Mayor
- Working with, and through, constituent authorities and wider membership
- Engagement with Government
- Aim to achieve more for our region than could be achieved alone

Scrutiny within a Combined Authority Context

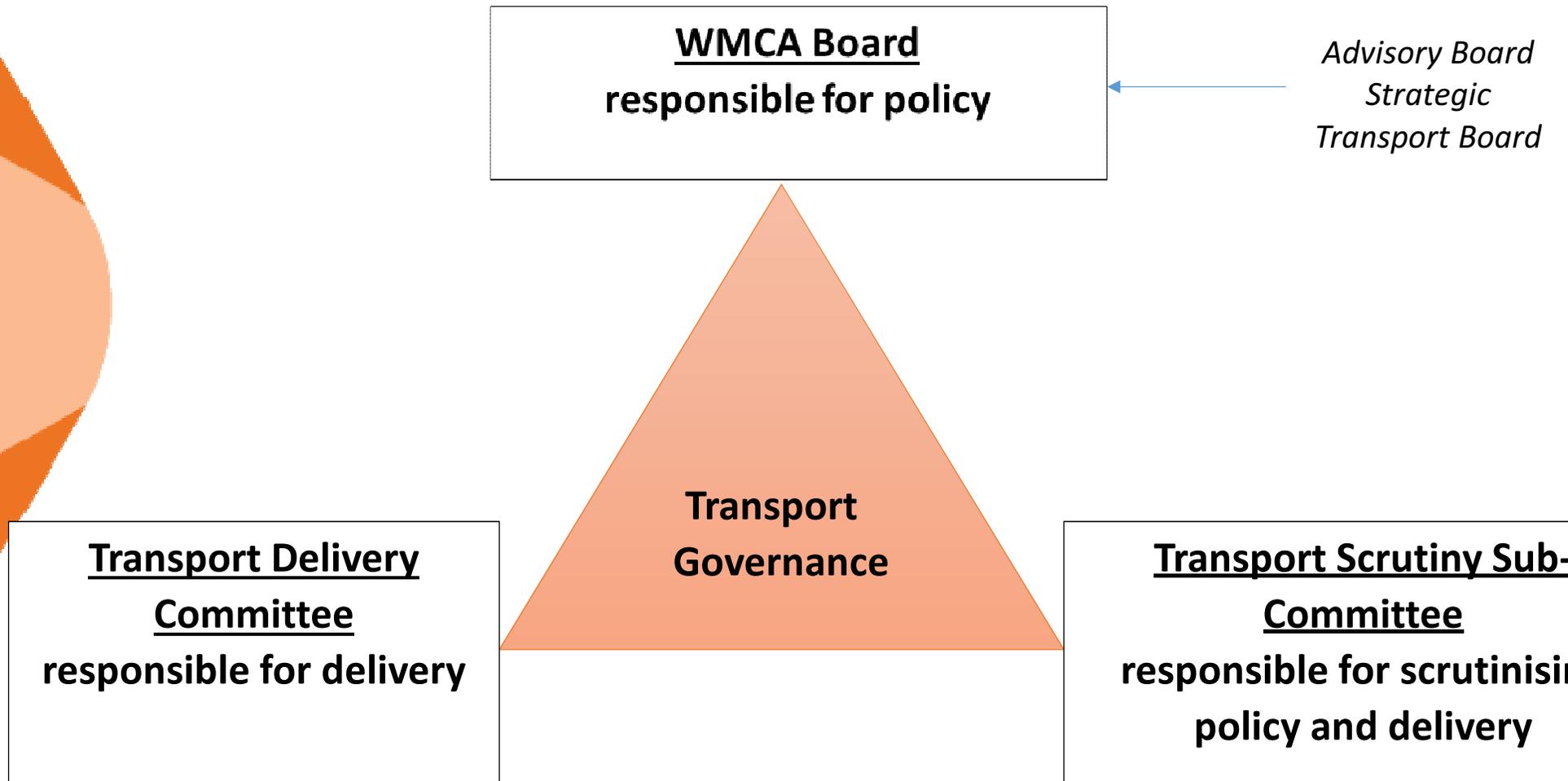
- Overview & Scrutiny is a statutory requirement within the WMCA
- Has the responsibility to review the work of the Mayor and the WMCA Board, and hold decision makers to account.
 - Public Mayoral Q&A Meetings
 - Portfolio Lead Members invited to attend meetings of the committee
- The committee performs two functions 'Overview' and 'Scrutiny'
 - Policy Development
 - Pre-Decision Scrutiny



Transport Governance within the WMCA

- 2019 - Scrutiny Review into the Effectiveness of the Transport Delivery Committee in Overseeing the Delivery of WMCA Policies.
- A number of key findings were agreed that provided a clear understanding of where transport policy, delivery and scrutiny should sit:
 - Refresh of Transport Delivery Committee
 - Establishment of a Strategic Transport Board
 - Establishment of a Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Transport Governance Responsibilities





Role and purpose of the Transport Scrutiny Sub-Committee

- Review and scrutinise any topic or issue connected to the transport-related powers exercised by the Mayor of the West Midlands Combined Authority (including Transport for West Midlands).
- To scrutinise transport-related decisions as determined at meetings of the WMCA Board and the Transport Delivery Committee, including calling-in such decisions
- Any decision or recommendation of the sub-committee will require the subsequent confirmation by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- Functions include:
 - ensuring transport policies are subject to pre-development oversight and pre-decision scrutiny, as appropriate
 - call-in's for further scrutiny transport related decision of the WMCA Board or Transport Delivery Committee
 - Q&A sessions with Mayor and Portfolio Lead for Transport
 - meetings with transport operators where appropriate
 - ensuring that the public within the West Midlands has appropriate means to engage with the WMCA and transport operators in shaping transport policy to ensure that it meets the needs of the region.
 - to keep under review transport governance within the WMCA, making recommendations to the WMCA Board where it was considered improvements could be made.

Questions?

wmca.org.uk