

**Environment & Energy Board**

**Monday 1 February 2021 at 2.30pm**

**Minutes**

**Present**

Councillor Ian Courts (Chair)	Portfolio Lead for Environment, Energy & HS2
Councillor Oliver Butler	Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Maria Crompton	Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Ian Kettle	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Andy Mackiewicz	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Councillor Barbara McGarrity	City of Wolverhampton Council
Matthew Rhodes	Energy Capital
Councillor Waseem Zaffar	Birmingham City Council

**In attendance**

Councillor Peter Fowler	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
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**35. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Marc Liddeth (Environment Agency) and Councillor Jim O'Boyle (Coventry).

**36. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

**37. WM2041: Five Year Plan (2021 - 2026)**

The board considered a report from the Director of Inclusive Growth & Public Service Reform summarising the independent advice and outcomes for the development of the five year plan that came out of the consultation on WM2041 that took place between January - March 2020.

Following the approval of 'WM2041: A Programme for Implementing an Environmental Recovery' on 5 June 2020, the WMCA and stakeholders committed to producing five-year delivery plans (four in total) with interim carbon budgets and other metrics in support of delivering the net zero carbon target for the West Midlands by 2041. The aim of the five year plans was to provide clear guidance on the types of measures that would need to be implemented to reach net zero by 2041. The five year plans would indicate how the right conditions would be created for accelerating delivery and raising ambition to position the West Midlands as a leader in addressing climate change and futureproofing the region, generating excitement about the potential to invest in the region's future, creating jobs, better social outcomes, and healthier and happier places to live.

Three scenarios had been identified for achieving net zero carbon emissions: moderate, accelerated and maximum. The independent advice provided by WSP recommended the WMCA should adopt the accelerated scenario in the first five year plan and the report set out the measures this would result in. It was intended that a further report would be issued with the summary paper and the full five year plan text for approval at the WMCA Board on 19 March 2021.

Resolved:

- (1) The independent advice given to the WMCA by WSP on the first five year plan be noted.
- (2) The need to adopt the 'accelerated' scenario to deliver the first five year plan and to set the region on course for net zero carbon by 2041 be supported.
- (3) The report and recommendations to adopt the WM2041 Five Year Plan 2021 - 2026 be presented to the WMCA Board on 19 March 2021.

**34. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the board be held on Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 10.00am.

The meeting ended at 4.00pm.