



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

WMCA Board Meeting

Date	8 September 2017
Report title	Update: The Mayor and WMCA Structures
Portfolio Lead	Andy Street - Mayor of the West Midlands
Accountable Chief Executive	Martin Reeves - Chief Executive of the WMCA email: martin.reeves@coventry.gov.uk
Accountable Employee	Andrew Browning - Chief of Staff to the Mayor email: andrew.browning@wmca.org.uk
Report to be/has been considered by	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The WMCA Board is recommended to:

1. Endorse the proposed development of WMCA structures in order to deliver the priorities of the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority.

Purpose

- 1.1 To share the Mayor's proposed approach to the WMCA structures to deliver the priorities of the Mayoral West Midlands Combined Authority.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The previous paper to the WMCA Board announced the appointment of the new Chief Executive Officer to the WMCA, explained the Mayor's role on the Midlands Engine Executive Board, and the launch of the Funding for Growth Programme and the Leadership Commission.
- 2.2 As the new WMCA executives are appointed and as the Mayoral structures evolve, this paper updates the WMCA Board on developments.

3.0 Appointment of the Director of Finance and Director of Strategy for the WMCA

- 3.1 Sean Pearce has been appointed as the new Director of Finance to the WMCA. He comes from his role as Chief Financial Officer at Worcestershire County Council, where he led the finance team for six years, working on the delivery of major transformation and change programmes through some significant financial challenges.
- 3.2 Julia Goldsworthy has been appointed as the new Director of Strategy to the WMCA. She comes from her role as a Devolution and Public Sector expert at PwC. Julia is a former Liberal Democrat MP and was a special advisor at HM Treasury, focused on public spending and public service reform.
- 3.3 The WMCA and the Mayor take opportunity to thank Mark Taylor for his work for the region and the organisation during his time as Interim Director of Finance.

4.0 Appointment of Co-Chairs of the Faith Conference Steering Group

- 4.1 The Mayor has committed to holding a major conference later this year to bring together faith leaders from across the West Midlands.
- 4.2 Professor Francis Davis and Amrick Singh Ubhi have been appointed of co-chairs of the steering group to organise the faith conference.
- 4.3 Professor Francis Davis is Professor of Communities and Public Policy at the University of Birmingham and Director of Public Policy for the Edward Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion.
- 4.4 Amrick Singh Ubhi is the Director of the Nishkam Centre and the Chair of the Council of Sikh Gurdwaras Birmingham.

5.0 WMCA Digital Board

5.1 The WMCA Digital Board will be established, which will drive the development of digital skills, infrastructure and business support to create a thriving digital ecosystem in the West Midlands.

5.2 See further details in the Board paper titled, '*WMCA Digital Board*'.

6.0 Financial implications

6.1 No request for extra financial resources above what has been budgeted for 2017/18 is being made in this paper.

6.2 There may be further financial requirements, for example, to support the Digital Board, but these will be approved through the WMCA Board or the proper delegated authority.

7.0 Legal implications

7.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

8.0 Equalities implications

8.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

9.0 Appendices

None