



Economic Growth Board

Date	Friday 13 th May 2022
Report Title	Economic Growth Board Work Programme
Portfolio lead	Economy and Innovation – Councillor Ian Brookfield
Accountable Chief Executive	Laura Shoaf, West Midlands Combined Authority email: laura.shoaf@wmca.org.uk
Accountable Employee	Dr Julie Nugent, Director of Productivity and Skills Email: julie.nugent@wmca.org.uk
Report has been considered by	

Recommendations for action or decision:

The Economic Growth Board is asked to:

- a) Note the updated work programme attached at Appendix 1 which is a live document and will continue to be refined according to the economic situation, priorities and decisions required.

1 Purpose

- 1.1 For the Economic Growth Board to agree its work programme in support of the region's overall vision to build a healthier, happier, better connected and more prosperous West Midlands.

2 Background

- 2.1 Economic Growth Board (EGB) was established to strengthen democratic leadership, working with business. The Board's work programme is divided into four topic areas based on its terms of reference, plus standing items.
- 2.2 The work programme (Appendix 1) has been refined to take account of activity linked to the Levelling-Up White Paper, the timetables relating to the TDD, UKSPF, Innovation Deals, and the Directors of Economic Development Group will provide advice and shape its activities to reflect the priorities of constituent authorities.
- 2.3 The main amendments now relate to UKSPF and LEP integration updates and decisions.



3 Financial Implications

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report

5. Equalities Implications

5.1 There are no immediate equalities implications arising from this report.

6. Inclusive Growth Implications

6.1 The work programme of EGB places inclusive economic growth at the heart of CA decision making.

7. Geographical Area of Report's Implications

7.1 The Economic Growth Board's remit is for the 3 LEP area with all constituent and non-constituent authorities within that area. Subject to the individual items of work being considered by the EGB, work, policies and programmes might relate to either the 7-met WMCA area, or the wider economic footprint.

8. Other implications

8.1 None.

Economic Growth Board – Updated Workplan May 2022

Other Key Dates:

10th June – WMCA Board: considering TDD and UKSPF submissions.

16th September – WMCA Board: approving final iteration of the TDD Proposition.

	30 th June '22	23 rd September '22	2 nd December '22	15 th February '23
1. Oversight of regional economic strategies, plans, and their implementation, including influencing plans to attract government and commercial investment.	<p>Endorsement of the direction of economic elements of the Trailblazer Devolution Deal submission - post 10th June CA Board. This will include an overview of economic funding streams available across the region and how they can be aligned to best effect.</p>	<p>Review Commercial Land Strategy, in line with West Midlands Plan for Growth priorities</p> <p>Agree response to the Race Equalities Taskforce as it affects economic opportunity and outcomes</p> <p>Annual report of the Midlands Engine for its benefits to the West Midlands</p> <p>Commonwealth Games 2022 economic impact</p>	<p>Agree response to Life Chances Commission as it affects economic opportunity and outcomes</p> <p>Agree the West Midlands Town Centre Regeneration Delivery Strategy</p> <p>Impact of the West Midlands Digital Roadmap on the economy and leadership of the digital economy</p> <p>Receive update on the West Midlands Plan for Growth and how that aligns with the issues highlighted by the Regional Productivity Forum report about what's needed to increase productivity in a way that's inclusive</p>	<p>Agree scope of the Business Taxation Commission & Review</p> <p>Agree next steps on the Circular Economy Routemap after its first year</p>



	30 th June '22	23 rd September '22	2 nd December '22	15 th February '23
			Final Create Central Business Plan 2023 - 33 and Financial Plan signoff. Before CA Board final signoff in budget.	
2. Deliver inclusive economic growth through the West Midlands Jobs Plan, ensuring we link local communities to new jobs and opportunities.	Direction on the West Midlands Jobs Plan - regional activity to link new jobs and opportunities with local people, through training, support and other interventions.	Decisions about devolved funding – UKSPF Investment Plan and its alignment to places Agree Plan to address gaps in provision in line with Employment Support Framework Agree skills provision to support inward investment pipeline and Plan for Growth priorities	Approach to Local Skills Improvement Plan: To agree approach	
3. Oversee a coherent and complementary approach to business support across the region.	LEP Integration Plan – agree ‘Direction of Travel’ as part of devolution deal. Agree direction and priority outcomes of West Midlands business support system, linked to UKSPF direction following completion of business support review – inc	LEP Integration Plan update WMCA commissioning of WMGC	LEP Integration Plan Update Agree to a region-wide campaign to drive up business demand Determine how decision-making over the Co-Invest Fund aligns with business support offer	



	30 th June '22	23 rd September '22	2 nd December '22	15 th February '23
	KAM, Skills, business advice, role of the WMGC. Digital Economy – how activity on digital roadmap reflects economic functions, Smart City Region proposal			
4. Oversee the work of the Innovation Board and other relevant sub-Boards	Endorse plan for West Midlands Innovation Accelerator	Receive report from Cultural Leadership Board Outcomes and evaluation from West Midlands Innovation Programme	Agree next steps from Commercial Green Energy Taskforce Economic input to potential Energy Deal	Endorse Energy Capital Smart Local Energy System activity and how this can be supported by business services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latest economic evidence (including qualitative issues from EIG and Regional Business Council), forecasts and key impact measures. • Annual reports from sub-boards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create Central ○ Innovation Board ○ Energy Capital ○ Tourism Board ○ Cultural Leadership Board 			