



Walsall Council

Economy and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: **4 April 2019 AT 6.00PM**

Your attendance is requested at the above meeting, which will be held at, the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TW.

A list of the items of business to be considered at the meeting, together with any supporting papers is enclosed. Please bring the papers with you to the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor I. Shires (Chair)
Councillor A. Hicken (Vice-Chair)
Councillor B. Allen
Councillor B. Chattha
Councillor S. Coughlan
Councillor S. Craddock
Councillor C. Creaney
Councillor L. Jeavons
Councillor C. Jones
Councillor W. Rasab
Councillor G. Singh Sohal

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS: Councillor A. Andrew – Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor L. Harrison – Clean and Green
Councillor G. Perry – Community, Leisure and Culture
Councillor C. Towe – Education and Skills

Walsall Council encourages the public to exercise their right to attend meetings of Council, Cabinet and Committees. Agendas and reports are available for inspection from the Council's Scrutiny Team at the Council House, Walsall (Telephone 01922 654765) or on our website www.walsall.gov.uk.

Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential nature, and reports on these are not available for the public. A guide to the types of information which are available to the public can also be found on our website or at the Civic Centre.

Democratic Services, Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TW
Contact: Matthew Powis ☎ 01922 654764 E-mail: matthew.powis@walsall.gov.uk
If you are disabled and require help to and from the meeting room please contact the person above.
www.walsall.gov.uk

ITEMS FOR BUSINESS

1.	Apologies To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.	
2.	Substitutions To receive notice of any substitutions for a Member of the Committee for the duration of the meeting.	
3.	Declarations of interest and party whip To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.	
4.	Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended) To agree that the public be excluded from the private session during consideration of the agenda items indicated for the reasons shown on the agenda.	
5.	Minutes To approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on 19 February 2019.	
ITEMS FOR SCUTINY		
6.	Economy and Environment Financial Performance – Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn Update for 2018/19 To provide a high level updated financial position from the Quarter 3 report presented to the Panel on 19 February 2019.	<u>Enclosed</u>
ITEMS FOR OVERVIEW		
7.	Areas of focus – 2018/19 To consider the areas of focus for the Committee during 2018-19. The report includes the Forward Plans of Walsall Council, Black Country Joint Executive Committee and Forward Plan of West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) Board.	<u>Enclosed</u>
8.	Air Quality in Walsall This briefing paper gives the Committee an overview of Council and partner programmes in relation to air quality and air pollution in Walsall and the wider Black Country.	<u>Enclosed</u>
9.	Economy and Environment Draft Annual Report To report on the work carried out by the Committee for the period 2018/19.	<u>To Follow</u>
10.	Date of next meeting To note that the date of the next scheduled meeting to be determined at Annual Council in May 2019.	

Part II – Private Session

7.	<p>Petition: Compulsory purchase of the former Legge's Site and any other site surrounding the Town Centre to help regenerate Willenhall.</p> <p>A petition containing in excess of 500 signatures on 28 February 2018 was submitted to the Council. It requests the Council to consider the use of compulsory purchase of the former Legge's Site and others to help regenerate Willenhall.</p>	<p><u>To Follow</u></p> <p><u>PRIVATE</u> <u>Information relating</u> <u>to the financial or</u> <u>business affairs of</u> <u>any particular person</u> <u>(including the</u> <u>authority holding that</u> <u>information).</u></p>
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The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012

Specified pecuniary interests

The pecuniary interests which are specified for the purposes of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of the Localism Act 2011 are the interests specified in the second column of the following:

Subject	Prescribed description
Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.
Sponsorship	<p>Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the relevant authority) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expenses incurred by a member in carrying out duties as a member, or towards the election expenses of a member.</p> <p>This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Regulations (Consolidation) Act 1992.</p>
Contracts	<p>Any contract which is made between the relevant person (or a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest) and the relevant authority:</p> <p>(a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and</p> <p>(b) which has not been fully discharged.</p>
Land	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the relevant authority.
Licences	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.
Corporate tenancies	<p>Any tenancy where (to a member's knowledge):</p> <p>(a) the landlord is the relevant authority;</p> <p>(b) the tenant is a body in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest.</p>
Securities	<p>Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where:</p> <p>(a) that body (to a member's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and</p> <p>(b) either:</p> <p>(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</p> <p>(ii) if the share capital of that body is more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a</p>

	beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.
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Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (as amended)

Access to information: Exempt information

Part 1

Descriptions of exempt information: England

1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
4. Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.
5. Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
6. Information which reveals that the authority proposes:
 - (a) to give any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
 - (b) to make an order or direction under any enactment.
7. Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.
8. Information being disclosed during a meeting of a Scrutiny and Performance Panel when considering flood risk management functions which:
 - (a) Constitutes a trades secret;
 - (b) Its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the risk management authority);
 - (c) It was obtained by a risk management authority from any other person and its disclosure to the public by the risk management authority would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that other person.

MINUTES

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

19 February 2019 at 6.00pm at the Council House, Walsall

Committee Members

Present:

Councillor I. Shires (Chair)
Councillor A. Hicken (Vice – Chair)
Councillor B. Allen
Councillor B. Chattha
Councillor S. Coughlan
Councillor S. Craddock
Councillor L. Jeavons
Councillor W. Rasab
Councillor G. Singh Sohal

Officers Present:

Appollo Fonka
Matthew Powis
Kelly Valente

Team Leader – Housing Standards
Democratic Services Officer
Acting Finance Business Partner
for Economy and Environment

58/18 Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Coughlan and Jones.

59/18 Substitution.

Councillor D Coughlan had submitted an intention to substitute on behalf of Councillor Creaney, however, she was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

60/18 Declarations of Interest and Party Whip.

There were no declarations of interest or party whips.

61/18 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended).

There were no items to consider in private session.

62/18 Minutes of the previous meetings.

Resolved:

That, the minutes of the meetings held on 13 November 2018 and 15 January 2019, copies having previously been circulated, be approved as a true and accurate record.

63/18 Forecast Revenue and Capital Outturn 2018/19 – Quarter 3.

The Committee considered a report on the forecast revenue and capital outturn position for 2018/19 for services within the remit of the Committee.

It was reported that the forecast revenue for services under the remit of the Committee highlighted an overspend of £0.148m.

The capital forecast position highlighted a forecast variance of £7.166m, which comprised of a project under spend of £0.936k and overspend of £0.389k for awaiting budget virements.

A Member sought clarification on unachievable savings in relation to a highways maintenance contract. The Acting Finance Business Partner for Economy and Environment confirmed that the contract related to a historical lease with Tarmac. Due to reductions within the highways directorate, the contract had exceeded historical budget predictions and was recorded as a forecast overspend. She confirmed that highways maintenance contract costs had been incorporated into revenue budget and capital programme 2018/19 – 2021/22.

It was noted that £6.619m had been requested to be carried forward for earmarked reserves and the implementation of action plans.

Resolved:

- 1. That, the revenue overspend of £148,000 and the use of and transfer to earmarked reserves and implementation of action plans be noted;**
- 2. That, the capital funding variance of £7.166m be noted.**

64/18 Private Rented Sector Housing and Selective Licensing Working Group Final Report.

The Committee considered the final report and recommendations of the Private Rented Sector Housing and Selective Licensing Working Group (PRSWG).

The Housing Standards Team Leader, introduced the report. He highlighted that the PRSWG was established to investigate causes of poor housing standards within the private rented sector (PRS) and to examine good practice. The PRSWG engaged with multiple stakeholders such as landlords, charitable organisations and landlord/tenant association organisations.

A Member sought clarification on whether the Council had robust policies in place to combat challenges with the sector. In response, the Housing Standards Team Leader confirmed that the Council had sufficient policies in place to tackle the challenges within the sector, however, resources deficiencies for the housing standards directorate remained problematic.

A lengthy debate ensued about the PRS and selective licensing, the principle points from the ensuing discussion were as follows:-

- The Chair reiterated comments made by MP Karen Buck, Member of Parliament for Westminster North which highlighted that 6 staff for 10,000 households in the PRS was insufficient. He confirmed that the Council needed 9 members of staff to sufficiently manage the PRS in the Borough;
- A Member of the PRSWG highlighted that invited landlords had expressed concerns that Universal Credit was a factor in the rise of tenants facing rental arrears locally and nationally;
- Some Members of the Committee expressed concerns about the PRSWG recommendations to implement a selective licensing scheme. Members felt that selective licensing was unaffordable for landlords and would impact vulnerable tenants facing higher rental costs;
- Civil Penalty Notices (CPN) were effective at targeting non-compliant landlords;
- PRSWG identified that more social housing was required in order to meet national targets;
- The Chair confirmed that the PRSWG had effectively investigated and produced recommendations which aimed at raising the standards of properties within the PRS. He highlighted that modern homes lacked effective heat insulation and the Borough had dated housing stock. It was requested that a future working group be established to investigate fuel poverty and improvements to housing insulation in social and PRS housing;
- Concerns were raised about the changes in landlord taxation and buy to lets which were causing landlords to leave the PRS;
- Since implementation of the CPN's, the Council had issued 10 intention notices with possible fines of up to £30,000;
- A Member sought clarification on associated landlord costs with selective licensing. The Housing Standards Team Leader confirmed that landlords would be charged £580 per annum or £350 per annum for accredited landlords;
- The Council had made a successful funding bid to the UK Government towards the cost of an updated housing condition stock survey. The Committee were informed that a housing condition stock survey was last completed in 2007;
- The Housing Standards Team Leader confirmed that the Council had monitored selective licensing rental impacts in other areas of the country. He highlighted that rental increases within selective licensing areas were more likely to be market driven demand;
- Members noted the difficulties for the Council locating problematic landlords.

A Member highlighted that the PRSWG considered the view of landlords and relevant organisations on selective licensing. Whilst consideration had been given to the Council's selective licensing scheme proposals from March 2018, thought was given to the views gathered by the PRSWG to establish a fair selective licensing scheme which provides incentives to landlords.

Some Members of the Committee questioned the PRSWG report submission to a meeting of Council instead of Cabinet.

The Chair highlighted that it was a request of the PRSWG to report to Council as this ensured that an open debate across the political spectrum took place on the recommendations gathered by the PRSWG.

Some Members disagreed that Council was an appropriate forum for the report. During this debate, a Member highlighted the importance of professionalism and respect during debates.

Resolved:

- 1. That, the final report of the Private Rented Sector Housing and Selective Licensing Working Group be approved and forwarded to Council for deliberation;**
- 2. That, a future working group be established to investigate fuel poverty and improvements to housing insulation in Social and PRS housing.**

65/18 Areas of focus – 2018/19

The Committee considered its areas of focus and the forward plans of Walsall Council, the Black Country Joint Executive Committee and West Midlands Combined Authority Board.

Resolved:

That, areas of focus 2018/19 and forward plans be noted.

66/18 Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 11 March 2019.

Termination of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 7.30p.m.

Signed:

Date:

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

ECONOMY & ENVIRONMENT FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE – FORECAST REVENUE AND CAPITAL OUTTURN UPDATE FOR 2018/19

Purpose of report

To provide a high level updated financial position from the Quarter 3 report presented to the Panel on 19 February 2019.

Revenue

The forecast revenue outturn for 2018/19 as at the end of February 2019 for the services under the remit of this Committee is an overspend of £0.086m, net of the use of earmarked reserves. This is a more favourable position by £0.061m than that reported to the panel at the end of Quarter 3. Significant variances are summarised in the table below:

Summary by service	February position £m	December position £m	Movement £m	Explanation of movement
Clean and Green Services	(0.604)	(0.330)	(0.274)	Reduced general waste disposal costs (£0.112m); higher than anticipated trade waste income (£0.054m); reduction in fuel estimate (£0.035m); reduction in co-mingled material disposals (£0.041m); lower than anticipated cost of transport disposal (£0.030m); and individually immaterial variances (£0.050m) offsetting additional security work at depot £0.048m.
Economy & Environment Management	0.124	0.125	(0.001)	
Leisure, Culture & Operations	(0.090)	(0.028)	(0.062)	Due to reduction in Library supplies (£0.106m) mainly delay of computer purchases, and reduction in Active Living net position £0.047m. Bereavement £0.027m income shortfall offset by net Forest Arts position (£0.027m). Decrease in the forecast income for cemeteries £0.036m offset by individually immaterial variances across the service totalling (£0.039m)
Planning, Engineering & Transportation	0.509	0.201	0.308	Underachievement of planning applications income £0.176m and land registry income £0.090m, increased £87k increase in forecasted spend on contractor fee's for Highway's Maintenance, offset by immaterial variances totalling (£0.045m)
Programme Management	(0.024)	(0.025)	0.001	
Regeneration & Development	0.266	0.263	0.003	
Regulatory Services	(0.096)	(0.058)	(0.038)	Increased underspends in employee costs and supplies and services costs within Community Protection and Environmental Health.
Smarter Workplaces	0	0	0	
Total	0.087	0.148	(0.061)	

Risks associated with this forecast and the total financial exposure to risk has been calculated as **£0.044m**. Risks are items that are uncertain at present and therefore not included in the overall forecast. This is a reduction of the risk exposure calculated at December 2018 of **£0.627m**, being reflective of the fact that 11 months of the forecast are now based on actual costs, with only one month being a forecast.

Capital

The capital budget has reduced by an immaterial value (£0.057m), although this includes two significant changes to budget. The forecast slippage has increased by £3.034m, underspends have increased by £0.297m. Overspends are now minimal due to budget virements being completed. Significant movements (>£0.100m) are highlighted in the table below:

	Feb position	December position	Variance	Reasons for variances
	£m	£m	£m	
Budget	56.501	56.558	0.057	£0.119m New external grant for "Rethinking Parks" £1.071m additional highway authorities grant to tackle potholes, repair damaged roads, and invest in keeping bridges open and safe. (£1.312m) re-profiling of DfT Major schemes grant, now expected to be received in 2020/19.
Forecast variance	(10.843)	(7.166)	(3.677)	
Being :				
Requested carry forwards	(9.653)	(6.619)	(3.034)	£1.236m additional slippage on District Town Centres Public Realm £0.450m Oak Park Artificial grass pitch £0.320m additional slippage on WM Strategic Transport Plan funding £0.272m open Plus in Libraries (£0.271m) reduced slippage Highways Maintenance Capital Block £0.204 New homes Bonus £0.175m Replacement of speed enforcement camera £0.146m Library Re-design Lichfield Street £0.141m External M6J10 contributions, as time limited funds being utilised as priority £0.120m Promotion of Community Health & Safety £0.119m Rethinking parks All other additional carry forwards are >£0.100m
Underspends	(1.233)	(0.936)	(0.297)	£0.100m Town & District Centres Public Realm £0.104m Active Living grant (to be reallocated to Oak Park car park)
Overspends	0.043	0.398	(0.355)	Virement now processed for external DfT Funding for Road and Bridge maintenance.

Contact Officer:

Kelly Valente, Acting Finance Business Partner for Economy & Environment

☎ 01922 650826, ✉ kelly.valente@walsall.gov.uk

AREAS OF FOCUS

Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Area of Focus – 2018/19

Corporate Plan Priority	21 June	11 Sept	18 Oct	22 Nov	15 Jan	19 Feb	11 Mar	4 April
E conomic Growth, for all people communities and businesses <i>Lead OSC: Economy & Environment</i>		Local Authority Building Control	Transportation links in the Borough Petition: Weight Restriction Road Request	Presentation from West Midlands Rail Executive	Presentation from the Chair of Black Country LEP Presentation from Black Country Consortium – SHAP – Sustainable Housing Action Partnership			Petition – Legges Site
P eople have increased independence, improved health and positively contribute to their communities <i>Lead OSC: Social Care & Health</i>		Air Pollution/Air Quality						Air Quality
I nternal focus, all Council services are efficient <i>Lead OSC: Scrutiny Overview Committee</i>	Financial Outturn 2017/18	Quarter 1 Financial Outturn 2018/19		Budget Setting Quarter 2 2018/19	Budget setting	Quarter 3 Financial Outturn 2018/19		Financial Update Draft annual report
C hildren have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well <i>Lead OSCs: Children's & Education</i>								
C ommunities are prospering and resilient with all housing needs met in safe and healthy places that build a strong sense of belonging and cohesion <i>Lead OSC: Scrutiny Overview</i>						Private Rented Sector Housing and Selective Licensing Working Group Report	Unauthorised Encampments (Private Session)	

Notes: Corporate Plan themes can be cross cutting for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Lead Overview and Scrutiny Committees identified for reference

Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Area of Focus – 2018/19

Items to be scheduled:

1. Employment, Growth and Skills;
2. Presentation from West Midlands Combined Authority;
3. Walsall Market Update;
4. Outcome of the SPRINT (Rapid Transport) Consultation;
5. Walsall Proud Programme;
6. Air Quality Working Group;
7. Markets Working Group;
8. Fuel poverty and housing insulation in Social and PRS housing Working Group;
9. Unauthorised Encampments Working Group;

Notes: Corporate Plan themes can be cross cutting for all Overview and Scrutiny Committees. Lead Overview and Scrutiny Committees identified for reference



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Civic Centre,
Darwall Street,
Walsall, WS1 1TP
www.walsall.gov.uk

4 March 2019

FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan sets out decisions that are termed as “key decisions” at least 28 calendar days before they are due to be taken by the Executive (Cabinet). Preparation of the forward plan helps the Council to programme its work. The purpose of the forward plan is to give plenty of notice and an opportunity for consultation on the issues to be discussed. The plan is updated each month with the period of the plan being rolled forward by one month and republished. The plan is available for public inspection at the Civic Centre Reception, Darwall Street, Walsall. Copies of the plan can be obtained from Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW, 01922 654522. The forward plan can also be accessed from the Council's website at www.walsall.gov.uk. The Cabinet is allowed to make urgent decisions which do not appear in the forward plan, however, a notice will be included on the agenda for the relevant Cabinet meeting which explains the reasons why.

Please note that the decision dates are indicative and are subject to change. Please contact the above addressee if you wish to check the date for a particular item.

Cabinet responsibilities are as follows

Leader of the Council – Councillor Bird
Deputy Leader and Regeneration – Councillor Andrew
Adult Social Care – Councillor Martin
Children's and Health and Wellbeing – Councillor Wilson
Community Leisure and Culture – Councillor Perry
Education and Skills – Councillor Towe
Clean and Green – Councillor Harrison
Personnel and Business Support – Councillor Harris

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet. The papers can be seen at First Stop Shop at the Civic Centre, Walsall. The papers are also available on the Council's website referred to above shortly before the meeting. Background papers are listed on each report submitted to the Cabinet and members of the public are entitled to see these documents unless they are confidential. The report also contains the name and telephone number of a contact officer. These details can also be found in the forward plan.

Meetings of the Cabinet are open to the public and take place in Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Walsall. Occasionally there are items included on the agenda which are confidential and for those items the public will be asked to leave the meeting. The forward plan will show where this is intended and the reason why the reports are confidential. Enquiries regarding these reasons should be directed to Democratic Services on 01922 654522.

The forward plan does not list all decisions which have to be taken by the Cabinet only “key decisions” which are those decisions which have a significant effect within the community or which involve considerable expenditure or savings. With regard to key decisions the Council’s Constitution states:

- (1) A key decision is:
 - (i) any decision in relation to an executive function which results in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are, significant, having regard to the Council’s budget for the service or function to which the decision relates or
 - (ii) any decision that is likely to have significant impact on two or more wards within the borough.
- (2) The threshold for “significant” expenditure/savings is £250,000.
- (3) A decision taker may only make a key decision in accordance with the requirements of the Executive Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

Dates of meetings 2018/19

2018	11 July 5 September 24 October 12 December
2019	13 February 20 March 24 April

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

APRIL TO JULY 2019 (4.3.19)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	Key decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside the Council)	Decision maker	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Contact Member (All Members can be written to at Civic Centre, Walsall)	Date item to be considered
12/19 (4.3.19)	Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership funding: Approval for the Council to act as the Single Accountable Body to be responsible for all Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) funding	Cabinet	Mark Lavender 654772 Zoey West 655998	Legal, finance	Councillor Bird	24 April 2019
43/18 (8.10.18)	Lighting Invest to Save: To consider proposals for a major investment in the highway lighting infrastructure by replacing all existing lighting with energy efficient LED lighting	Cabinet	Paul Leighton 6543695	Public, Walsall Public Lighting Ltd., industry companies, procurement, legal, finance	Councillor Andrew	24 April 2019
53/18 (5.11.18)	Healthy child programme: Approval to go to tender the healthy child programme as a 0-19 service instead of a 0-5 and 5-19 service	Cabinet	Esther Higdon 653724	Finance, legal, procurement, children's services	Councillor Wilson	24 April 2019
47/18 (8.10.18)	WMCA governance of West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner functions: To consider consultation outcomes and final approval of the governance review and scheme	Cabinet	Stuart Portman 654821		Councillor Bird	June 2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Published up to July 2019 (for publication 04/03/2019)

Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date Item to be considered
01/10/2018	Birchley Island (Main Scheme)	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Birchley Island Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison.Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk Stuart Everton Stuart.Everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019
03/09/2018	I54 Western Extension – Access package	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the I54 Western Extension – Access package Project with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk Stuart Everton Stuart.Everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Wolverhampton City Council	13/03/2019
07/01/2019	Halesowen College – Business and Construction Management Centre	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Halesowen College to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Halesowen College – Business and Construction Management Centre Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alan Lunt alan.lunt@dudley.gov.uk	Dudley Council	13/03/2019
03/09/2018	Woods Lane Phase 2	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Galliford Try to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Woods Lane Phase 2 Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison.Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Published up to July 2019 (for publication 04/03/2019)

Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date item to be considered
11/06/2018	Hatherton Street Phase 2	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Jessup Brothers Ltd to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Hatherton Street Phase 2 Project with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	13/03/2019
03/12/2018	Wharf Approach Site Investigation – Additional Funding Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Hortons Estate Ltd to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of Wharf Approach Site Investigation Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	13/03/2019
07/01/2019	The Leather Industry Expansion project	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Abbey England Ltd to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Leather Industry Expansion Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	13/03/2019
07/01/2019	Shidas Lagoon Site Investigation – Additional Funding Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Stoford Properties Ltd to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of Shidas Lagoon Site Investigation Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison_Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019
07/01/2019	Phoenix 10 Phase 1	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to an Internal Agreement with Walsall Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	13/03/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

Published up to July 2019 (for publication 04/03/2019)

Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date Item to be considered
		(LGF) funded elements of the Phoenix 10 Phase 1 Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year. This is for the first financial year of the Phoenix 10 Phase 1 project.			
07/01/2019	City North Gateway Phase 1 – Additional Funding Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Wolverhampton City Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of City North Gateway Phase 1 Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk Stuart Everton Stuart.Everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Wolverhampton City Council	13/03/2019
07/01/2019	Dudley Town Centre Highway Infrastructure Improvements – Development Funding	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Dudley Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of Dudley Town Centre Highway Infrastructure Improvements – Development Funding with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alan Lunt alan.lunt@dudley.gov.uk Stuart Everton Stuart.Everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Dudley Council	13/03/2019
04/02/2019	Growing Priority Sectors – Thomas Dudley Foundry	Approval for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with Thomas Dudley Foundry for a funding allocation from the Growing Priority Sectors programme of works totalling £8.627m, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Growing Priority Sectors Thomas Dudley Foundry project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison_Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date item to be considered
04/02/2019	Church Square Apartments	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Baron Farnham Ltd to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Church Square Apartments Project with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison_Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019
04/02/2019	Growing Priority Sectors – UK Rubber & Plastics	Approval for Sandwell Council to move to contracting with UK Rubber & Plastics for a funding allocation from the Growing Priority Sectors programme of works totalling £8.627m, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Growing Priority Sectors UK Rubber & Plastics project - with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison_Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	13/03/2019
04/02/2019	Very Light Rail – Main Scheme Change Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Dudley Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Very Light Rail – Main Scheme Project (development phase) with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alan Lunt alan.lunt@dudley.gov.uk	Dudley Council	17/04/2019
04/03/2019	Mill Lane Bridge & Aldridge Line Aqueduct GRIP 2 – 3 project - Additional Funding Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the existing Internal Agreement with Walsall Council to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF), funded elements of the Mill Lane Bridge & Aldridge Line Aqueduct GRIP 2 – 3 project – with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk Stuart Everton Stuart.Everton@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Walsall Council	17/04/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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09/07/2018	I54 Western Extension – Main Scheme	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to an Internal Agreement with the Wolverhampton City Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the i54 Western Extension Main Scheme project - with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Wolverhampton City Council	17/04/2019
07/01/2019	I9 (Block 9) Wolverhampton – Additional Funding Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with ION Property Developments Ltd (IPDL) to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of I9 (Block 9) Wolverhampton Project with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Wolverhampton City Council	17/04/2019
06/08/2018	Sandwell Aquatic Centre	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Sandwell Aquatic Centre Project - with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alison Knight Alison.Knight@Sandwell.gov.uk	Sandwell Council	17/04/2019
04/03/2019	Growth Hub - Additional Funding Grant Agreement Approval	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with the Black Country Consortium Ltd to deliver the Black Country Growth Hub Funding for 2019/20.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	17/04/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date item to be considered
04/03/2019	Changes to the Local Growth Fund Programme	Approval of the current position of the Growth Deal Projects, reflecting all changes to the Programme (Funding and Outputs) throughout the year and to maximise the 2018/19 Growth Deal allocation expenditure for various changes, as detailed in attachment 1 of the report.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	26/06/2019
04/03/2019	Dudley Brownfield Land Phase 2 – Change Request	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton Council) to proceed to amending the existing Grant Agreement with Dudley Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Dudley Brownfield Land Phase 2 – with delivery to commence in the 2018/19 financial year.	Papers TBC – Alan Lunt alan.lunt@dudley.gov.uk	Dudley Council	26/06/2019
11/06/2018	Iron Park	This change request relates to a change in scope. Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to a Grant Agreement with Parkhill Estates Ltd to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) funded elements of the Iron Park Project - with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.	Papers TBC – Simon Neilson simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk	Walsall Council	26/06/2019
07/11/2016	Heath Town Estate Regeneration	Approval for the Accountable Body for the Black Country Land and Property Investment Fund (Wolverhampton City Council) to proceed to an Internal Agreement with the Wolverhampton City Council to deliver the Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF)	Papers TBC – Richard Lawrence Richard.Lawrence@wolverhampton.gov.uk	Wolverhampton City Council	26/06/2019

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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Date first entered into the plan	Project Name	Key Decision to be considered (to provide adequate details for those both in and outside of the Council)	Background papers (if any) and Contact Officer	Main consultees	Date Item to be considered
		funded elements of the Heath Town Estate Regeneration project - with delivery to commence in the 2019/20 financial year.			

WEST MIDLANDS COMBINED AUTHORITY FORWARD PLAN: MAY 2019 - JULY 2019

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	24 May 2019	No	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
Strategic Bus Vision Delivery Plan	To agree the delivery plan for the Strategic Bus Vision.	24 May 2019	Yes	TBC	Laura Shoaf	No	Transport
Inclusive Growth Update	To update the Board on recent progress.	24 May 2019	No	Cllr Steve Eling	Henry Kippin	No	Public Service Reform
5G Delivery Plan Update	To consider an update on 5G matters.	24 May 2019	No	Cllr Ian Ward	Henry Kippin	No	Economic Growth
Adult Education Budget	To update the Board on recent progress.	24 May 2019	No	Cllr George Duggins	Julie Nugent	No	Productivity & Skills

Title of Report	Description of Purpose	Date of Meeting	Key Decision (Y/N)	Lead Portfolio Holder	Lead Officer	Confidential	Category
Budget Monitoring 2018/19	To review the latest budget monitoring position.	28 June 2019	No	Cllr Bob Sleigh	Linda Horne	No	Finance
WMCA Annual Plan 2019/20	To approve the Annual Plan.	28 June 2019	Yes	n/a	Deborah Cadman	No	Governance
Appointment of Committees, Meeting Dates etc.	To approve committee arrangements for 2019/20.	28 June 2019	Yes	n/a	Deborah Cadman	No	Governance
Low Emissions Strategy	To approve the strategy.	28 June 2019	Yes	Cllr Qadar Zada	Simon Slater	No	Policy
Childhood Obesity Strategy	To agree a strategy to tackle childhood obesity.	28 June 2019	Yes	Cllr Izzi Seccombe	Sean Russell	No	Wellbeing
Police & Crime Commissioner Governance	To seek approval for the Order for PCC governance.	July 2019	Yes	n/a	Henry Kippin	No	Governance

AIR QUALITY IN WALSALL

Air Quality in Walsall – Update 21 February 2019

Targeted Feasibility Study

The Black Country TFS combined submission was completed on 31 July and the Council received a formal response from Defra on Friday 5 October.

Utilising remaining funds from the Defra grant, the Council will continue to explore opportunities for measures to improve air quality in the borough along with possible system/hardware upgrades to monitoring equipment.

Walsall NO₂ Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)

Subject to on-going monitoring and reporting, there will possibly be an opportunity within the next two to three years to review the extent of the AQMA (which came into effect in 2006) to determine both its merits and extent.

Birmingham Clean Air Zone (CAZ)

On Tuesday, 11 December, Birmingham City Council's Cabinet met to discuss a report seeking approval for the final CAZ proposals to be submitted to Government in the form of a Full Business Case. The Full Business Case included the proposed charges for non-compliant vehicles entering the Clean Air Zone, set at £8 per day for private cars, taxis (both Hackney carriages and private hire) and vans, with HGVs, coaches and buses charged £50 per day.

It understood that this has not as yet been fully progressed as the proposals have been subject to scrutiny.

Tackling Air Pollution around Schools

The Council's Pollution Control Team currently has monitoring stations at Rough Hay School, Darlaston, and Woodlands School, Willenhall, both installations being classified as 'urban background' sites. Previously there has also been monitoring undertaken at Alumwell School, Primley Avenue; Queen Mary's High School; and Chuckery Primary School.

Woodlands School has NO₂ and O₃ (ozone) analysers within close proximity to the cars that park along Hunts Lane – notably at school drop-off and pick-up times.

It should be noted that there are no schools within areas where the Council is either monitoring or predicting an exceedance of any air quality objective.

Low Emission Vehicles and Electric Vehicle Charging

To assess the demand for electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in residential areas, a consultation exercise has recently been conducted. Following on from this, the Black Country local authorities are exploring the potential for direct action to facilitate uptake of clean vehicle technology across the Black Country.

Walsall Council is considering options for moving towards electric and/or hybrid technologies for its vehicle fleet. Charging infrastructure will need to be installed at both the depot and Civic Centre to facilitate such a project. In the long-term, if the pilot project is successful, it is expected that vehicle replacement will increasingly be focused on ULEV vehicles.

Under the new Highways and Infrastructure Services Contract, Tarmac Limited have recently installed one of the two EV charge points at the Apex Road depot as they look to move towards their staff vehicles towards hybrid solutions.

West Midlands Air Quality Improvement Programme (WM Air)

In a new regional air quality programme, Walsall Council is to act as a project partner for the West Midlands Air Quality Improvement Programme (WM-Air) funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). Working with a range of stakeholders across business and public sectors, WM-Air aims to provide a better understanding of pollution sources and levels of pollution across the West Midlands Region, tapping into data and resources that have been collated and used by local authorities over many years. It will seek to examine the scientific challenges facing air quality specialists and provide a platform to support work to tackle poor air quality. Walsall Council already has a well-developed air quality model for the Black Country and has been engaged since 2016 in a Public Health funded study into fine particles and their health impacts which it is envisaged can feed into the WM Air work programme.

Health and Wellbeing Board

On 3 December 2018 the Health and Wellbeing Board were provided with an update on the actions taken by organisations represented on the Board to contribute to improving Air Quality in the Borough.

West Midlands Low Emissions Strategy

Objectives and outcomes of a implementing a new West Midlands Low Emissions Strategy and Action Plan are presently being formulated, which include the following themes:

- Support for local action - Joint action between local authorities, the WMCA and other stakeholders where this will accelerate existing agreed local plans to tackle air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Social, economic, and environment outcomes – accelerated activity will result in improved health, such as reduction in premature deaths and health inequalities, economic productivity, such as reduced congestion and attraction of new business, and an improved natural environment.
- Attract investors - help to scale up opportunities to attract investors to fund innovation, manufacturing and deployment of solutions both locally and for export. Underpin the WMCA ambition to produce the UK's first 'clean, inclusive, and resilient growth' local industrial strategy and inform relevant bids such as future Industrial Strategy 'grand

West Midlands Low Emissions Towns and Cities Programme (WM LETCP)

WM LETCP is a partnership comprising the seven West Midlands local authorities working together to improve air quality and reduce emissions from road transport regionally via Defra grant funding. The intention is to do this by promoting uptake of low emission fuels and technologies, establishing and sharing best practice policies, and developing various tools and resources for this purpose. The objectives of the programme are to investigate and produce regional strategies designed to improve air quality with a view to meeting national air quality objectives.

WM LETCP has to date produced Good Practice Guidance related to planning and procurement; a Proposed West Midlands Low Emissions Vehicle Strategy; Low Emissions Feasibility studies examining the impacts of key West Midlands road corridors and potential for introduction of low emission zones; and an Economic and Health Impact study of reductions in air pollution. The Proposed West Midlands Low Emissions Vehicle Strategy and Good Practice Air Quality Planning Guidance are currently in the process of being reviewed and updated.

National Institute of Health Research (NIHR)

A feasibility study is currently being explored with a view to designing and implementing a Walsall air quality alert system for COPD sufferers to safeguard against poor air quality. This is looking into how the national Daily Air Quality Index (DAQI), which relies on regional data,

can be made specifically applicable to Walsall and potentially use our existing modelling and monitoring and/or modelling capabilities with a view to alerts for patients.

Key to this is understanding whether air quality alerts are actually effective in changing people's exposure to poor air quality and what effects then ensue on people's health, health service demand and on health inequalities.

Discussions involving a range of stakeholders are on-going to inform the viability of preparing a plan for submission of bid to Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) in July 2019.

DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT

PETITION – LEGGES SITE

