



Social Care and Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: Thursday 20 January 2022 at 6.00 P.M.

Meeting to be held: Walsall Council Chamber

Public access to meeting via: <https://youtu.be/yMwOzZOw2ig>

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor Hussain	(Chair)
Councillor Cooper	(Vice-Chair)
Councillor Coughlan	
Councillor Ditta	
Councillor Gandham	
Councillor Johal	
Councillor Murphy	
Councillor Robertson	
Councillor Rasab	
Councillor Sears	
Councillor Waters	

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

Health and Wellbeing	Councillor S. Craddock
Adult Social Care	Councillor Pedley

Note: 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 Democratic Services Team at the Council House, Walsall (Telephone 01922 654767) or on our website www.walsall.gov.uk.

AGENDA

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 (if applicable).	
5.	Minutes of the previous meeting To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting that took place on 9 th December 2021.	<u>Enclosed</u>
<u>Scrutiny</u>		
6.	Update on Proposals for Acute Urology Services at Walsall and Wolverhampton To update the Committee on proposals for acute urology services at Walsall and Wolverhampton.	<u>Enclosed</u>
7.	Assurance Report regarding Walsall Healthcare CQC Inspection of March and July 2021 To assure the committee on the actions taken by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust in response to the Care Quality Commission unannounced inspections in March 2021 in Medicine and Long Term Conditions and the unannounced inspection in Maternity Services in July 2021.	<u>Enclosed</u>
<u>Overview</u>		
8.	Areas of Focus To review the Committees Work Programme and the Forward Plans for Walsall Council and the Black Country Executive Committee.	<u>Enclosed</u>
9.	Date of next meeting 1 st March 2022, 6 p.m.	

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 beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.</p>

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.

Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday 9th December 2021 at. 6.00 p.m.

Town Hall, Walsall Council.

Committee Members Present

Councillor Hussain (Chair)
Councillor Gandham
Councillor Murphy
Councillor Sears
Councillor Waters

Portfolio Holders Present

Councillor K. Pedley– Adult Social Care

Officers

Mrs K. Allward	Executive Director Social Care for Adults
Seanna Lassetter	Principal Social Worker
Mrs N. Gough	Democratic Services Officer, Walsall Council

66/21 Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillor Ditta, Councillor Cooper, Councillor Coughlan and Councillor Craddock.

67/21 Substitutions

Councillor Sears substituted on behalf of Councillor Cooper for the duration of the meeting.

68/21 Declarations of Interest and party whip

There were no declarations of interest or party whip.

69/21 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 1st November 2021 were discussed.

Resolved

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

The Committee agreed to receive item 7 prior to item 6.

70/21 Walsall Adult Social Care Pause & Learn Report

The Executive Director introduced the report (annexed). The Principal Social Worker highlighted the salient points of the report, the Committee

was informed that the purpose of this report was to provide an update on the findings from the Walsall adult social care pause and learn process. This was part of West Midlands Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) comprehensive sector-led challenge and continuous improvement programme.

The key strengths identified by the report were discussed, the following areas were highlighted:

- Effective leaders in place.
- Strength of partnerships in place.
- Improvements have been made since 2018 (despite a pandemic).

Members were informed that case audits on mental health had been conducted, and good outcomes had been achieved, assurance was provided that the new practice model was effective. The report detailed opportunities to improve in the future.

The Executive Director highlighted that in 2018/19 Walsall Adult Social Care ranked 112th out of 152 (Local Authorities) and this position had vastly improved in 2020 with the Authority ranking 54th.

A Member questioned what the future challenges were for the adult social care service. The Executive Director stated that processes had been adjusted as a result of the pandemic and the challenges faced as a result of this had been considered, however the biggest challenge for the future was recruitment to the workforce (national and local shortage of social care workers) along with an increase in demand, and individuals entering the service with more complex needs.

A Member provided feedback that the distribution of PPE during the height of the pandemic had been handled excellently in Walsall. The Executive Director explained that a store of PPE had been set up in Walsall, and PPE was distributed to care homes. The Committee were informed that daily telephone calls were made to care homes to ensure early identification of issues. In response to a further question from a Member the Executive Director described work being carried out to encourage more innovative use of direct payments.

It was stressed that reducing demand on adult social care through preventative work was needed to ensure that individuals were empowered to recognise their need for assistance and the community support available to meet these needs. It was stressed that pay and conditions for care staff needed to be improved, alongside career development and for to be recognised as a desirable career.

Officers were asked what was planned in Walsall to support mental health needs in the Borough. Members were informed that nationally the direction of travel was for early intervention, work was being done with Partners to ensure that this happened and find solutions to the increased complexity and demand presenting.

A discussion was held around funding and investment in services. It was concluded that additional investment would be needed to deliver in this area. The work of Walsall Together was acknowledged and this allowed the Council to influence the Partnership to ensure efficient use of resources.

Resolved

That the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the findings of this pause and learn report.

71/21

Review of Home Care Capacity and Demand in Walsall

The Executive Director presented the report and highlighted the salient points (annexed). The presentation highlighted the current issues facing home care in Walsall (and nationally), and the actions underway to mitigate these.

The national picture was that demand had increased, alongside a lack of available care hours, and this often meant that individuals were offered care options that would not have been their choice. Regionally the number of care hours that were needed (but that were not available) had doubled within the last six months.

In Walsall the picture (November 2021) was slightly improved compared to national and regional, however there were 739 people on waiting lists for assessments (across all teams and services), with just over 400 people have waited over 28 days, 70 people awaiting care due to a lack of market capacity, and a deficit of 675 average number of home care hours. It was noted that the care workforce was not a fixed capacity and supply often fluctuated. Members were assured that in Walsall social workers risk assessed individuals on a continual basis, and in order to manage this risk, a 'provider of last resort' could be used to provide care until a long term solution could be determined. Community and voluntary sector support could also be accessed to ensure that basic needs were met.

Members were informed that the care workforce was impacted by external factors such as employment opportunities in other industries which were offering increased rates of pay. Pay for a care worker was significantly under the average salary in Walsall, with no national body for control of pay and conditions and a lack of recognised career pathway.

The Committee were informed of the ongoing actions taking place to tackle these issues. This included:

- Utilising a workforce grant to provide retention bonuses.
- Payment on plan to care providers to allow flexibility and cash flow certainty.
- Use of Resilient Communities to increase capacity.

- Use of technology.
- Recruitment through Walsall Together.
- Prioritisation of hospital discharge to ensure that needs of individuals were correctly assessed.

A Member asked if there was a national body which coordinated training and development for care workers. The Executive Director responded to state that there was not, Skills for Care offered guidance but there were no recognised qualifications. The Portfolio Holder stated that in Walsall a Skills Passport was being discussed to avoid the need for individuals to repeat training and also to allow recognition of training in the sector. The opportunities within the community sector to prevent individuals needing social care were described.

A Member questioned if the Authority could signpost individuals to care providers when they were completing apprenticeships. The Executive Director stated that the Authority was looking to develop a framework to improve this process.

Officers were asked if there had been an increase in referrals from GP practices, the Executive Director stated that the proportion of referrals had not increased and GP's often discussed cases at multidisciplinary teams which helped to avoid unnecessary referrals.

In response to a question from a Member, the Executive Director stated that in Walsall there were 58 care homes, with around 35 - 50 care providers. It was agreed that the detail on this would be circulated to Members. It was clarified that there was a wide range of care providers within Walsall, and this proved to be a challenge, it was endeavoured to consolidate providers to achieve greater effectiveness and efficiency.

In response to Member queries, the Committee were informed that quality of care was assured in a range of ways, locally through social worker annual reviews, the contract review mechanism, surveys and also through Care Quality Commission inspections. The Clinical Commissioning Group and Healthcare Trust had mechanisms for concerns about care to be raised.

The Executive Director assured Members that those individuals in the highest risk would not be left waiting for care as there were mechanisms to avoid this. In response to a query raised by a Member, the Committee were informed that an impact assessment of BREXIT was completed at the time, and although there had not been an immediate exit in the care sector, the impact on other sectors had potentially drawn staff away from care. However it was difficult to make this correlation. The issue of staff burnout was raised, due to the demands of the job.

The importance of individuals remaining in their own home and communities was discussed, alongside access to community support to ensure that their wellbeing was enhanced.

Resolved

1. That the Review of Home Care Capacity and Demand in Walsall be noted and a further update be scheduled on the work programme.

2. That the Executive Director (Adult Social Care) writes to the care workforce to thank them for their continuing efforts during the Covid19 pandemic.

72/21

Areas of Focus

Members reviewed the areas of focus proposed for the committee.

Resolved

The areas of focus was agreed.

73/21

Date of the next meeting: 20th January 2022.

Termination of Meeting

The meeting terminated at 7.30 p.m.

Chair:

Date:.....

20 JANUARY 2022

6.

**Update on Proposals for Acute Urology Services at Walsall and
Wolverhampton**

Ward(s): All

Portfolios:

1. Aim

- 1.1 The aim of these proposals continues to be to ensure safer, and more responsive acute care provision to the residents of Walsall by transferring urological emergency and elective (inpatient) procedures from Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust's (WHT's) Manor Hospital to The Royal Wolverhampton's (RWT's) New Cross Hospital site, while increasing the number of low complexity urological day case procedures at Walsall.
- 1.2 Outpatient procedures and follow-up consultations will continue to be undertaken in Walsall.
- 1.3 The original proposal was to transfer emergency urological cases to RWT from December 2021, and then to transfer the elective (inpatient) procedures from April 2022. At the same time, the high volume, low complexity days cases would transfer from RWT to WHT. The service would operate as one merged service providing emergency on call care for urology patients, 24.7. These timescales were based on a number of assumptions, including:
 - Building work at RWT to facilitate the additional urological emergency and inpatients is completed by December 2021
 - The impact of the Covid pandemic on NHS elective and emergency services would start to recede by Winter 2021/22.
- 1.4 Supply chain difficulties and continuing staffing and patient care pressures caused by the pandemic in 2021 has resulted in delays to the building work at RWT and ongoing pressures to NHS services. The decision has taken by the two trusts to delay the transfer of services between Walsall and Wolverhampton until Quarter 1 of the 2022/23 financial year (April –June).
- 1.5 In the meantime, both trusts are continuing to work through the proposals, which have not been altered and it is intended that the joint on call arrangements will be able to commence in April 2022.

- 1.6 Emergency service provision at WHT continues to be monitored closely. The decision has been made to continue the employment of an additional locum consultant at WHT to support the existing workforce, providing some mitigation against the sustainability risk.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members of the Committee are asked to NOTE the delay to the implementation of the proposals outlined in the Paper received by the Committee in July 2021.

8. Review

These proposals form part of WHT's Improvement Programme and reports monthly to the Improvement Programme Board, which in turn reports by exception to the trust's Board. The trust's Board meetings are open to the public and details of how to join are published on the trust's website at www.walsallhealthcare.nhs.uk

Following the implementation of the proposals a "Closure Report" will be completed. Both trusts will be happy to share the Report with Committee.

Author

Roseanne Crossey
Head of Planning

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20th January, 2022

7.

Assurance Report regarding Walsall Healthcare CQC Inspection of March and July 2021.

Ward(s): All

1. Aim

To assure the committee on the actions taken by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (WHT) in response to the Care Quality Commission (CQC) unannounced inspections in March 2021 in Medicine and Long Term Conditions (MLTC) and the unannounced inspection in Maternity Services in July 2021. The CQC reports are embedded in the background papers section of this paper.

2. Recommendations

To review the Trusts response to the CQC findings and mechanisms for ongoing oversight and assurance.

3. Report detail

CQC Inspection of MLTC – March 2021

The CQC carried out an unannounced focused inspection of WHT on 9 March 2021 following receipt of information of concern about the safety and quality of the services, specifically within the medical wards.

Following this inspection, the CQC issued a section 29a warning notice to WHT as significant improvement was required to the nurse staffing of the service, the governance of the service and how WHT provided patients with a safe discharge. The section 29a notice gave WHT three months to rectify the significant improvements identified. The CQC also identified other breaches of regulation for which they issued WHT with requirement notices.

As previously reported, all actions required by the Section 29a notice have been completed. WHT wrote to the CQC on 29 June 2021 confirming the actions taken to meet the notice and the ongoing monitoring arrangements that are in place.

CQC Inspection of Maternity Services – July 2021

The CQC undertook an unannounced inspection of Maternity Services at WHT on the 28 July 2021 in response to concerns around safety and governance. This was a focussed inspection looking at the safe and well-led domains and aspects of the effective domain. Following the inspection, the overall rating for the service remained as 'Requires Improvement'.

The reasons for this rating were:

IPC / Environment:

- The service did not control infection risk well. Staff did not always keep the premises or equipment and the premises clean.
- The design, maintenance and use of the premises was not suitable to meet the needs of women.

Staffing:

- The service did not have enough maternity staff to keep women safe from avoidable harm and to provide the right care and treatment.

Care and Treatment:

- Staff did not always complete and update risk assessments or identify all potential risks for each woman within triage.
- Staff did not always keep detailed records of women's care and treatment and were not available to all staff providing care.
- The effectiveness of care and treatment was monitored but the timeliness of reviews and implementation of change was variable, which delayed improved outcomes for women.

Medicine:

- The service did not always use systems and processes to safely store or administer medicines.

Governance:

- The service did not always manage patient safety incidents well. There were delays in the investigations of incidents and lessons learned were not always shared amongst the whole team and the wider service.

Leadership:

- Leaders did not operate effective governance processes. Arrangements to share findings with staff were not robust and valuable opportunities to improve performance, learn and make required improvements were lost.
- Leaders did not all have the skills and abilities to run the service. They understood but did not always manage the priorities and issues the service faced effectively. They were not visible and approachable in the service to all staff.
- Staff did not always feel supported and valued.
- Leaders and teams did not always use systems to manage performance effectively. They identified and escalated relevant risks and issues and but did not always identify actions to reduce their impact.
- Arrangements by leaders to engage with patients and staff were not effective. There was some collaboration with partner organisations to help improve services for patients

- The service collected, analysed and managed information. However, information was not widely shared across the service or always used effectively.
- The service collected information for the safety thermometer but did not always use it to improve safety and findings were not shared with staff, women and visitors.

The CQC did recognise good practice and the report highlighted the following:

Training:

- The service provided mandatory training in key skills to staff and most staff had completed it.
- The service made sure staff were competent for their roles. Managers appraised staff's work performance and held supervision meetings with them to provide support and development.

Protecting Patients:

- Staff understood how to protect women from abuse and the service worked well with other agencies to do so. Staff had training on how to recognise and report abuse and they knew how to apply it.
- Records were mostly stored securely.

Care and Treatment:

- There were mostly appropriate arrangements in place for the use of equipment. Staff managed clinical waste well.
- Doctors and midwives and other healthcare professionals mostly worked together as a team to benefit women.

Staffing:

- The service mostly had enough medical staff with the right qualifications, skills, training, and experience to keep women and babies safe from avoidable harm and to provide the right care and treatment. Managers regularly reviewed and adjusted staffing levels and skill mix and gave locum staff a full induction.

Vision / Strategy

- The service had a vision for what it wanted to achieve and a strategy to turn it into action, developed with all relevant stakeholders. The vision and strategy were focused on sustainability of services and aligned to local plans within the wider health economy.

4. Current position:

All actions that are Trust wide or require executive ownership and leadership are contained within one overarching CQC corporate action plan. Each action has an accountable Executive Director. Progress and assurance on corporate actions is monitored through the Trust Management Committee and Trust Board.

As of December 2021, 14 actions have been marked as closed, following receipt of evidence with several more awaiting evidence of closure.

The action plan will continue to be monitored by the Trust Management Committee and an update will be provided to Trust Board monthly.

Local divisional ownership of action plans and implementation is reviewed and updated at monthly divisional governance meetings.

5. Financial information

None applicable

6. Reducing Inequalities

Not applicable

7. Decide

Not applicable

8. Respond

Not applicable

9. Review

The on-going monitoring of continued compliance and assurance in response to the CQC notices for MLTC and Maternity is through the monthly Divisional Performance Reviews' chaired by and Executive Director and attended by all Executive Directors.

The Chief Medical Officer and Director of Nursing hold a monthly assurance meeting with maternity services to review progress with the action plan and gain assurance.

Background papers



Author

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Director of Nursing



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Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2021/22

Committee date	14th July	23rd Sept	28th October	9th December	20th January	1st March	21st April
Report Deadline	5th July	14th Sept	19th October	30th November	11th January	18th February	8th April
Public Health							
Finance			Budget and Q2			Q3	
Primary Care / CCG		Primary Care Access	Primary Care Access			Primary Care Access update	
Partnerships / integration							
Hospital Services and Community Care	CQC Report Urology services			Domiciliary Care	CQC Report Urology services		Goscote centre report
Adult Social Care				ASC Peer challenge outcome		Impact of resilient communities.	
NHS Consultation							
Mental Health Services	Older Adult Mental Health In-patient bed provision						Update Feedback and decision from regulator

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE
FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Published up to May 2022 (for publication 10/01/2022)

Black Country Executive Joint Committee Collaboration Agreement - Deed of Variation

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval of the proposed amendments, as highlighted, to the Collaboration Agreement covering the removal of the Advisory Board and revised Black Country Executive Joint Committee governance, and Governance Principles: Enterprise Zones, included as Appendix 1 to this report.

Date first entered into the plan:

02 August 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

Date Item to be considered:

09 February 2022

Local Growth Fund (LGF) Programme changes

Project Name - Hatherton Street Phase 2

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Jessups Brothers Ltd, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Hatherton Street Phase 2 project with delivery to continue in the 2021/22 financial year.

Note that change request relates to a change in match funding and outputs.

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE
FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Published up to May 2022 (for publication 10/01/2022)

Date first entered into the plan:

01 November 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2022

Project Name – i9 Wolverhampton

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Ion Projects Limited, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the i9 Wolverhampton project with delivery to continue in the 2021/22 financial year. Note that change request relates to a change in outputs.

Date first entered into the plan:

01 November 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE
FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Published up to May 2022 (for publication 10/01/2022)

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2022

Project Name – Dudley Advanced Construction Centre

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Dudley College, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Dudley Advanced Construction Centre project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.

Note that change request relates to a change in outputs.

Date first entered into the plan:

06 April 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2022

Project Name - Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills

Key Decision to be considered:

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE
FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Published up to May 2022 (for publication 10/01/2022)

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Growth Deal (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with the University of Wolverhampton, to deliver the Local Growth Fund (LGF) funded elements of the Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills (ECMS) project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.

Note that change request relates to a change in outputs

Date first entered into the plan:

06 September 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2022

Land and Property Investment Fund (LPIF) Programme changes

Project Name - Sandwell Housing Gap Funding

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to amending the Grant Agreement with Sandwell Council, to deliver the Land & Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Sandwell Housing Gap Funding project with delivery to continue in the 2022/23 financial year.

Date first entered into the plan:

10 January 2022

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE
FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
Published up to May 2022 (for publication 10/01/2022)

Contact Officer:

Tony McGovern Tony.McGovern@sandwell.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Sandwell Council

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2022

Project Name – Globe House, Walsall

Key Decision to be considered:

Approval for the Accountable Body for the Land and Property Investment Fund (Walsall Council) to proceed to enter into a Grant Agreement with Globe Property Limited, to deliver the Land & Property Investment Fund (LPIF), funded elements of the Globe House project with delivery to commence in the 2022/23 financial year.

Date first entered into the plan:

06 December 2021

Contact Officer:

Simon Neilson Simon.Neilson@walsall.gov.uk

Main consultees:

Walsall Council

Date Item to be considered:

30 March 2021



Walsall Council

FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

**Council House,
Lichfield Street,
Walsall, WS1 1TW**
www.walsall.gov.uk

10 January 2022

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). Also included on the plan are other decisions to be taken by the Cabinet (“non-key decisions”). 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. Copies of the plan can be obtained from Democratic Services, Walsall MBC, Council House, Walsall, WS1 1TW helen.owen@walsall.gov.uk and 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.

The Cabinet agenda and reports are available for inspection by the public 7 days prior to the meeting of the Cabinet on the Council’s website. 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. 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 (helen.owen@walsall.gov.uk).

“Key decisions” 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 £500,000.
- (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.

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**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
FEBRUARY 2022 TO MAY 2022 (10.1.22)**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reference No./ Date first entered in Plan	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
61/21 (6.9.21)	Corporate Financial Performance 2021/22 and Covid-19 update – To report the financial position based on 9 months to December 2021 and impact of Covid-19.	Cabinet Non-key decision	Vicky Buckley 01922 652326 Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Bird	9 February 2022
85/21 (1.11.21)	Corporate Plan 2022-25: To agree the 2022-25 Corporate Plan which outlines the council's future priorities and objectives and recommend Council to approve.	Cabinet Non-key decision Council	Stephen Gunther Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Bird	Cabinet 9 February 2022 Council 24 February 2022
62/21 (6.9.21)	Corporate Budget Plan 2022/23 – 2024/25, incorporating the Capital Strategy; and the Treasury Management and investment Strategy 2022/23: To recommend the final budget and Council tax for approval by Council	Cabinet Key decision Council	Vicky Buckley 01922 652326 Vicky.buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Council tax payers, business rate payers, voluntary and community organisations	Councillor Bird	Cabinet 9 February 2022 Council 24 February 2022
37/21 (7.6.21)	Sale of Council land in Blakenall: To seek approval to the freehold disposal of Council land in Blakenall <i>Contains commercially sensitive information.</i>	Cabinet Key decision Private	Nick Ford, Team Leader – Asset Management Nick.ford@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Andrew	9 February 2022

14/21 (8.3.21)	<p>Willenhall Framework Plan: To support the Framework Plan to guide a 10 year vision for housing growth and place making in Willenhall; and to approve actions to support its delivery including the use of compulsory purchase powers in-principle and budget to fund site acquisitions.</p> <p><i>Report in two parts. Private report contains information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person</i></p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Key decision</p> <p>Private Session</p>	<p>Willenhall Masterplan: Strategic Land Acquisitions.</p> <p>Joel.maybury@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Councillor Andrew	9 February 2022
86/21 (1.11.21)	<p>Award of new contract(s) for Disabled Facility building works and other Housing related Works and Services: To approve the award of new contracts for the period 1 march 2022 to 22 February 2027</p> <p><i>Report in two parts. Private report contains commercially sensitive information</i></p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Key decision</p> <p>Private session</p>	<p>David Lockwood David.lockwood@walsall.gov.uk</p> <p>Bill Weston William.weston@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal Services	Councillor Andrew	9 February 2022
89/21 6.12.21	<p>Contractor Procurement Strategy for Connected Gateway Project: to approve a procurement strategy for the project which is a £36m project, part funded by Government's Future High Street Fund, which aims to better connect Walsall rail and bus stations, providing improvements to the Saddlers Centre and transformed public spaces.</p>	<p>Cabinet</p> <p>Key decision</p>	<p>Peter Wright Interim Town Projects Manager. Peter.wright@walsall.gov.uk</p>	Internal services	Councillor Andrew	9 February 2022

1/22 (10.1.22)	Black Country Collaborative Framework Contract for Minor Works 2021-2024/25: To recommend that Walsall Council formally join the Black Country Collaborative Framework Contract for Minor Works 2021-2024/25	Cabinet Key decision	Kathryn Moreton Kathryn.moreton@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Andrew	9 February 2022
67/21 (4.10.21)	Green Space Strategy: To agree an updated Green Space Strategy including a programme to improve and update/upgrade our children's playgrounds and to consider new/improved outdoor gym facilities	Cabinet Key decision	Alan Bowley Alan.bowley@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services Ward Councillors	Councillor Butler	9 February 2022
90/21 (6.12.21)	Fly tipping: To increase capacity and provide streamlined systems to ensure that fly-tipping and littering in the borough is reduced by focusing on key hotspots, identifying and fining perpetrators	Cabinet Key decision	Paul.gordon@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Butler	9 February 2022
49/21 (2.8.21)	Domestic Abuse services contract award: To approve the contract awards for the provision of Domestic Abuse emergency accommodation and support; and support to Domestic Abuse victims and their children <i>Report in two parts. Private report contains commercially sensitive information.</i>	Cabinet Key decision Private Session	Neil Hollyhead Neil.hollyhead@walsall.gov.uk Isabel Vanderheeren Isabel.vanderheeren@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services, Service users external stakeholders	Councillor Andrew Councillor Wilson	9 February 2022
2/22 (10.1.22)	School Admissions Scheme: Determination of the Scheme for coordinated admissions, and the Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools for the 2023/24 academic year	Cabinet Key decision	Sharyn Duffey Sharyn.duffey@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services. No changes to previous year so no requirement to consult stakeholders.	Councillor Towe	9 February 2022

75/21 (4.10.21)	General building Repair and Maintenance Contract: To award the contract for the Council's general building repair and maintenance. <i>Note: Contains confidential information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person</i>	Cabinet Key decision Private Session	Ian Lister Ian.Lister@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Statham	9 February 2022
76/21 (410.21)	Mechanical and Electrical Service and Maintenance Contract: To approve the award of the contract award the contract for the Council's mechanical and electrical service and maintenance contract. <i>Report in two parts. Private report contains confidential information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person.</i>	Cabinet Key decision Private Session	Ian Lister Ian.lister@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Statham	9 February 2022
88/21 (1.11.21)	Corporate Plan 2021/22: To note the Quarter 3 performance against the Measures of Success in the Corporate Plan 2021/22	Cabinet Non-key decision	Stephen Gunther Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Bird	16 March 2022
78/21 (1.11.21)	Upgrade of education IT systems: Authority to procure software as a service (SaaS) cloud based education system via relevant procurement frameworks and associated costs	Cabinet Key decision	Helena Kucharczyk Helena.kucharczyk@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Bird	16 March 2022
3/22 (10.1.22)	Walsall Council's Digital Strategy 2022-2025 To approve a three-year strategic strategy for the Digital ambitions and vision for Walsall Council.	Cabinet Key decision	Luke Morgan Luke.Morgan@walsall.gov.uk 01922 658305	Internal Services	Councillor Bird	16 March 2022

22/21 (8.3.21)	Walsall Council Housing Allocations Policy: To update the policy which sets the principles for the allocation of affordable housing	Cabinet Key decision	Neil Hollyhead Neil.hollyhead@walsall.gov.uk	Public, Housing Associations, Internal Services	Councillor Andrew	16 March 2022
77/21 (4.10.21)	Supported Housing Repair and Maintenance Contract: To approve the award of the contract.	Cabinet	Ian Lister Ian.lister@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Councillor Statham	16 March 2022
46/21 (2.8.21)	Emotional Wellbeing and Therapeutic Support for Children and Young People in need: To approve entering into an appropriate agreement with the Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to provide therapeutic services for children and young people in need, including those who are looked after.	Cabinet Key decision	David DeMay David.demay@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services, Walsall CCG and Black Country Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	Councillor Wilson	16 March 2022
74/21 (4.10.21)	COVID Memorial Garden: To consider options for a COVID Memorial Garden	Cabinet Key decision	Dave Brown Dave.brown@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services. Stakeholders dependent upon options being developed	Councillor Perry	16 March 2022
4/22 (10.1.22)	Early years funding formula: To approve the Early years Formula, as agreed by Schools Forum, to be used for the allocation of funding to early years providers in Walsall	Cabinet	Neil Millward Neil.millward@walsall.gov.uk Cabinet report 8 Feb 2017 & 17 March 2021; Walsall Schools Forum report 20 Sept 2016 & 9 March 2021; Gov't response to the early years consultation and fact sheet	Internal Services Schools Forum	Councillor Towe	16 March 2022

83/21 (1.11.21)	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2021: To note the refresh of the updated data by Council and partner officers and to assist with identification of priorities in the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2022-25.	Cabinet Non-key decision Council	Stephen Gunther Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services & Council partners through the Health and Wellbeing Board.	Councillor Craddock Councillor Bird	Cabinet 20 April Council 24 April
84/21 (1.11.21)	Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-25: To agree the 2022-25 Joint Health and wellbeing Strategy which outlines agreed priority areas and how the Council and NHS will work together to improve health and reduce health inequalities in the borough; and to recommend Council to approve.	Cabinet Non-key decision Council	Stephen Gunther Stephen.gunther@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services, Integrated Care Partnership, Council partners through Health and Wellbeing Board.	Councillor Craddock Councillor Bird	Cabinet 20 April Council 24 April