

Cabinet

Wednesday 20 September 2023 (Special Meeting)

Minutes of the meeting held in Conference Room 2 at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall at 6pm.

Present

Councillor Bird (Chair)	Leader of the Council
Councillor Ali	Customer
Councillor Elson	Children's Services
Councillor Ferguson	Internal Services
Councillor Flint	Health and Wellbeing
Councillor Pedley	Adult Social Care
Councillor M. Statham	Education and Skills

In attendance

C. Male, Interim Executive Director – Children's Services and Customer
K. Allward, Executive Director - Adult Social Care, Public Health and Hub
D. Brown, Interim Executive Director – Economy, Environment and Communities
J. Greenhalgh, Interim Executive Director, Resources
S. Darcy, Director – Finance, Corporate Performance Management and Corporate Landlord
N. Inglis, Interim Director of Public Health
S. Portman, Head of Law
C. Goodall, Principal Democratic Services Officer
E. Cook, Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – Public Session

4119 Welcome

Councillor Bird opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explaining that the Cabinet was meeting that evening in person and that the agenda and reports for the meeting were available on the Council's website. He explained that voting would be by way of a show of hands which would be witnessed and recorded by the Democratic Services officer in attendance.

4120 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Andrew, Councillor Murphy and Councillor Perry.

4121 Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

4122 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

Resolved

There were no items for consideration in the private session.

4123 **Approval of the West Midlands Combined Authority West Midlands Trailblazer Deeper Devolution Deal and Implementation Plan**

Councillor Bird introduced the report which set out the proposed new West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) devolution deal and implementation plan.

(annexed)

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird and **seconded** by Councillor Statham and upon being put to the vote it was;

Resolved (unanimously)

That Cabinet :

1. Endorse the West Midlands deeper devolution deal and implementation plan (Appendix 1 and 2).
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to take part in the continuous negotiations that form part of the evolution and development of the West Midlands deeper devolution deal and implementation plan, and to agree the order and other documentation required to implement the deal.
3. Note that a further report may be brought before Cabinet in the event of any material or significant changes as a result of the ongoing negotiations.

4124 **West Midlands Combined Authority West Midlands Trailblazer Deeper Devolution Deal 100% Business Rates Retention**

Councillor Bird introduced the report which set out the key terms agreed with government relating to the opportunity to retain 100% of Business Rates.

(annexed)

It was **moved** by Councillor Bird and **seconded** by Councillor Flint and upon being put to the vote it was;

Resolved (unanimously)

That:

1. Cabinet note the performance to date of the West Midlands 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot.
2. Cabinet agree to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) (Appendix A) with Government regarding the offer of 10 year, 100% Business Rate

Retention for the West Midlands, in accordance with the Trailblazing Devolution Deal.

There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 6:06 p.m.

Chair:

Date: