



# **West Midlands Combined Authority**

## **Forward Plan**

## Forthcoming key decisions

Title of key decision:	Decision to be taken by and date:	Open or Exempt:	Portfolio Lead	Employee to contact:
<p><b>WMCA Financial Monitoring Report - March 2024</b> To update on the latest financial position</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Deputy Mayor	Beverly Sullivan, Sally Truman Financial Planning and Coordination Manager, Lead Financial Planning Accountant
<p><b>Investment Zone Gateway Ratification / Investment &amp; Delivery Plan</b> To consider updates on Gateway Ratification and the Investment &amp; Delivery Plan.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Stephen Simkins Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation	Steve Bowyer Partnerships and Engagement Strategic Lead
<p><b>Investment Zone Finance &amp; Funding Plan (including Business Rates Retention Memorandum of Understanding)</b> To approve the Finance &amp; Funding Plan and Business Rates Retention memorandum of understanding.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Stephen Simkins Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation	Carl Pearson Head of Major Funding
<p><b>Single Settlement Memorandum of Understanding</b> To consider the ratification of the Single Settlement Memorandum of Understanding.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Sharon Thompson Portfolio Lead for Levelling Up / Devolution	Jonathan Gibson Head of Policy & Public Affairs
<p><b>Black Country Innovative Manufacturing Organisation</b> To consider the latest BCIMO update.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Portfolio Lead for Finance	Linda Horne Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub

<p><b>Skills Funding</b> To agree delegations for the commissioning of skills funding.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor George Duggins Portfolio Lead for Skills &amp; Productivity</p>	<p>Dr. Fiona Aldridge Head of Insight &amp; Intelligence</p>
<p><b>Penalty Fares for Midland Metro</b> Following public consultation, to agree a new penalty fare amount and to consider moving to a proposed two-tier penalty structure, where the fee amount will reduce for early payment.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport</p>	<p>Chris Hopkinson Owner Representative - West Midlands Metro</p>
<p><b>Cycle Hire Scheme Update</b> To endorse the additional funding requirements to operate the scheme to October 2025.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport</p>	<p>Andrew Thrupp Head of Operational Assets</p>
<p><b>Zero Emission Bus Regional Area (ZEBRA) Update</b> To provide an update on the latest ZEBRA developments.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport</p>	<p>Pete Bond Director of Integrated Transport Services</p>
<p><b>Bus Service Improvement Plan Additional Funding Allocation</b> To consider additional funding received in respect of BSIP.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport</p>	<p>Adam Lane, Jon Hayes Consultant SPM, Head of Bus</p>
<p><b>Request by Warwick District Council to become a Non-Constituent Authority of WMCA</b> To consider the request submitted by Warwick District Council that it should be granted equivalent status as the non-constituent councils with the right to be represented on the WMCA Board and other boards.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 March 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>		<p>Julia Cleary Head of Corporate Support &amp; Governance</p>

<p><b>Arrangements for Mayoral Question Time with MPs</b> To agree the arrangements for mayoral question time sessions with the region's MPs.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Andy Street Mayor of the West Midlands	Jonathan Gibson Head of Policy & Public Affairs
<p><b>Private Sector Representation</b> To consider retaining existing private sector representation on WMCA boards until such time as the future Single Settlement governance structure is known.</p>	WMCA Board 15 March 2024	Open	Councillor Stephen Simkins Portfolio Lead for Economy & Innovation	James Hughes Member Relationship Manager
<p><b>Bus Depot Strategy</b> To consider a new Bus Station Strategy.</p>	WMCA Board 19 July 2024	Open	Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport	Ian Shore Asset Delivery Manager
<p><b>Bus Options Report</b> To consider options for the future delivery of the region's bus network.</p>	WMCA Board 19 July 2024	Open	Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport	Steven Hayes Head of Network Transformation
<p><b>Key Route Network Review 2023/24</b> To approve the amended Key Route Network within the WMCA area.</p>	WMCA Board 19 July 2024	Open	Councillor Mike Bird Portfolio Lead for Transport	Rachel Ing Corridor Manager

## **The Forward Plan**

This document sets out known 'key decisions' that will be taken by the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) over the coming months.

Forthcoming key decisions are published online to meet the statutory 28 day notification rule for each meeting where a key decision will be taken. Where it has not been possible to meet the 28 day rule for publication of notice of a key decision or an intention to meet in private, the relevant notices will be published as required by legislation as soon as possible.

### **What is a key decision?**

A 'key decision' means a decision of the Mayor, WMCA or officer which is likely:

- (a) to result in the WMCA incurring expenditure, making savings or generating income amounting to £1m or more; or
- (b) to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the WMCA

The report relating to a decision, together with any other documents being considered, will be available five clear working days before the decision is to be taken (unless the documentation contains exempt information).

The forward plan also provides notice of when the WMCA may decide to exclude the press and public during consideration of a particular matter due to the potential for disclosure of confidential or exempt information. The grounds upon which local authorities can exclude the press and public are specified by law and details of the exempt categories are available on request from the Governance Services team ([governance.services@wmca.org.uk](mailto:governance.services@wmca.org.uk)).

Councillors or members of the public wishing to:

- make a representation about why a matter should be heard in public, or
- submit information to the decision-making body about an item in the forward plan, or
- request details of relevant documents, or
- seek advice about the WMCA's decision-making arrangements,

should contact the Governance Services team: [governance.services@wmca.org.uk](mailto:governance.services@wmca.org.uk)