



Walsall Council

Economy and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on: **12 September 2023 AT 6.00PM**

Meeting to be held at: Council Chamber

Public access to meeting via: www.walsallcouncilwebcasts.com

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor M. Follows (Chair)
Councillor B. Allen (Vice-Chair)
Councillor P. Bott
Councillor S. Cheema
Councillor S. Cooper
Councillor P. Gill
Councillor P. Kaur
Councillor R. Larden
Councillor F. Mazhar
Councillor M. Ward
Councillor J. Whitehouse

PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

Councillor A. Andrew – Deputy Leader and Regeneration
Councillor G. Perry – Deputy Leader and Resilient Communities
Councillor K. Murphy – Street Pride
Councillor M. Statham – Education and Skills
Councillor G. Flint – Wellbeing, Leisure and Public Spaces

ITEMS OF 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 of the previous meeting To approve the minutes of the meeting on 6 July 2023.	Enclosed
6.	Streetworks Permit Scheme To provide the Committee with an overview of the Streetworks Permit Scheme.	To follow
7.	Derelict Properties Taskforce To update the Committee on progress made by the derelict properties taskforce since their last update.	Enclosed
ITEMS FOR OVERVIEW		
8.	Areas of focus – 2023/24 To consider the areas of focus for the Committee during 2023/24. A presentation will be received from the Deputy Leader (Regeneration) on their priorities for the forthcoming year.	Enclosed
9.	Forward Plans To receive the latest Forward Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabinet • Black Country Joint Executive Committee • West Midlands Combined Authority Board 	Enclosed
10.	Recommendation Tracker To consider progress on recommendations from the previous meeting.	Enclosed
11.	Date of next meeting To note the date of the next meeting will be 19 October 2023.	

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.

ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6 July 2023 at 6.00pm held at Walsall Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1
1TW.

Committee Members Councillor M. Follows (Chair)
 Councillor S. Cheema
 Councillor P. Gill
 Councillor P. Kaur
 Councillor R. Larden
 Councillor F. Mazhar
 Councillor J. Whitehouse
 Councillor K. Sears
 Councillor T. Jukes

Portfolio Holders Councillor M. Bird Leader of the Council
 Councillor K. Murphy Street Pride
 Councillor G. Flint Wellbeing, Leisure and Public
 Spaces
 Councillor M. Statham Education and Skills

Officers Present: Kathryn Moreton Interim Director, Place and
 Environment
 Sian Lloyd Democratic Services Officer

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen, P. Bott and Ward.

2. **Substitutions**

Councillor Sears substituted for Councillor Allen and Councillor Jukes substituted for Councillor Ward.

3. **Declarations of Interest and Party Whip**

There were no declarations of interest or party whip.

4. **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items to consider in private session.

5. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2023, copies having previously been circulated, be approved as a true and accurate record.

6. **Areas of Focus 2023/24**

The Committee received presentations from Cabinet Portfolio Holders and Officers on services within the remit of the Committee.

Interim Director for Place and Environment

The Committee received a high-level presentation on the works of the Economy, Environment and Communities Directorate from the Interim Director of Place and Environment who highlighted which services in particular fell within the remit of the Committee. She also noted that there had been a recent addition of a dedicated Climate Change team to help support the council with their commitments in this area.

Portfolio Holder for Street Pride

The Portfolio Holder for Street Pride outlined the developments within her remit, highlighting that moving traffic enforcement powers would be received later in the year which would grant the council the authority to further tackle traffic offences within the borough. She also discussed grass cutting which had been a topic of some conversation amongst residents.

Portfolio Holder for Wellbeing, Leisure and Public Spaces

The Portfolio Holder for Wellbeing, Leisure and Public Spaces started his presentation by explaining the items that had been added to his remit this municipal year which included leisure and culture items such as the Forest Arts Centre and the New Art Gallery and bereavement services. He outlined his priorities for the municipal year.

The Democratic Services Officer then gave an overview of the Committee's remit and outstanding items from the previous year's work programme.

Members debated the issues and selected the following items for their work programme:

- Regeneration focus – to include Towns Fund projects, Town Centre Masterplan, Willenhall Masterplan, M6 J10 etc.;
- Partnership working with West Midlands Police on traffic speed enforcement;
- Grass cutting schedule and mapping of council assets;
- An update on Walsall's Heritage strategy with reference to Highgate Brewery;
- Willenhall, Darlaston and Aldridge Train Stations;
- Public Toilets Pilot Update;
- Off-road biking;
- Derelict Properties Taskforce;
- Streetworks permit scheme;
- Tree Planting Strategy;
- Climate change; and
- Litterpicking strategy and volunteers.

Resolved:

1. That the areas of focus 2023/24 and forward plans be noted;
2. That the following items be added to the work programme:
 - a) Regeneration focus – to include Towns Fund projects, Town Centre Masterplan, Willenhall Masterplan, M6 J10 etc.;
 - b) Partnership working with West Midlands Police on traffic speed enforcement;
 - c) Grass cutting schedule and mapping of council assets;
 - d) An update on Walsall’s Heritage strategy with reference to Highgate Brewery;
 - e) Willenhall, Darlaston and Aldridge Train Stations;
 - f) Public Toilets Pilot Update;
 - g) Off-road biking;
 - h) Derelict Properties Taskforce;
 - i) Streetworks permit scheme;
 - j) Tree Planting Strategy;
 - k) Climate change; and
 - l) Litterpicking strategy and volunteers.

8. **Recommendation Tracker**

The Democratic Services Officer updated the Committee on the recommendations from previous meetings of the Committee. It was noted that all items had been completed.

Resolved:

That the progress on recommendations from the previous meeting be noted.

9. **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting would be 12 September 2023.

There being no further business, the meeting terminated 6.50pm.

Signed:

Date:

Derelict Sites Task Force Update

Ward(s): All

Portfolios: Deputy Leader & Regeneration

1. Aim

- 1.1 Regeneration of derelict sites and buildings is a key aim for the Walsall Council. The council is showing civic leadership by compiling information on these sites and creating a set of actions to address the problems caused by their condition, with a view to improving the experience, safety and enjoyment of local residents.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the progress set out in this report.
- 2.2 That the committee note the report brought to cabinet on 8 February 2023, to set out the criteria for intervention and to confirm cabinet's support in principle for the use of compulsory purchase orders (CPOs) to acquire derelict sites with a view to enabling safe and attractive development, and to note the update activity being pursued.

3. Report Detail – Know

- 3.1 Whilst the regeneration of these void and sometimes derelict sites is a key factor in resolving their long-term impact on local communities; the impact 'here and now' from anti-social behaviour and environmental hazards requires the council to consider the use of all its enforcement tools and legal powers to reduce or resolve the problems being experienced. The year 2023/4 has seen community protection receive fifty-nine complaints about empty premises and associated anti-social behaviour or nuisance. Thirty-three of these complaints were resolved through liaison with owners or third parties and without the need to take legal action, three have resulted in formal intervention or enforcement the others are still subject to investigation and are in process.

- 3.2 In the last twelve months relationships between services dealing with such premises has improved significantly and is becoming much more coordinated and efficient this includes enforcement teams such as planning, building control, housing standards and community protection but also links to children's services who raise safeguarding concerns about young people attending such premises. This improvement has seen derelict premises regularly reported through the council's locality tasking meetings in the north and south of the borough. Partners including the police, fire service and others discuss cases and any actions required to deal with them before tasking relevant staff with carrying out the action.
- 3.3 In recent months enforcement officers have started using community protection warnings and notices to enforce improvements to derelict properties including removal of fly tipping, fencing of land, removal of overgrowth and the control of pests. Whilst this can be costly to implement and requires robust debt recovery processes it provides a much more satisfactory resolution to cases than simply boarding windows and doors. Whilst it would be beneficial for property owners to quickly bring properties back into use even experienced officer have been surprised recently at the determination and persistence of those trespassers breaking into the premises and the damage they are causing.
- 3.4 The housing standards team collate information with regard to empty residential premises in the borough and ten such premises have been approved for compulsory purchase in order to be brought back into use. The team has also concluded that there are at least a further fifty-five residential premises in the borough that have been empty for over ten years but that within current resourcing the capacity to deal with these premise is limited.
- 3.5 The planning, enforcement and building control teams have been supporting the derelict sites taskforce focusing on taking action and supporting redevelopment of derelict sites. This includes serving enforcement notices to secure improvements to the appearance of the sites, taking direct action on sites causing most harm to amenity, processing and issuing planning permissions and supporting developers at pre-application stage to encourage early redevelopment. Some of the recent actions include the following:
- Planning permission granted in July 2023 for residential development on the site of the former Eagle PH, Cresswell Crescent following which the building has now been demolished.
 - Planning permission has also been granted in August 2023 for residential development on the site of the former Windmill PH, Aston Road, Willenhall.
 - The Royal Exchange, Stafford Road, Bloxwich has been secured by fencing supported by advice from the conservation officer. Subsequently a listed building urgent works notice was served on 18 August 2023 requiring works to secure and protect the building.
 - Court action is being pursued in respect to a S215 notice served on the owners of the Brown Jug PH, Sandbeds Road, Willenhall with further court hearing due later in the year. In the meantime, the building control team has ensured the site fencing has been repaired and site secured.

- Planning application for the Royal Oak, Chester Road, Brownhills determined in August 2023. Despite this being a refusal on technical and design matters the overall principle of residential development is supported and a revised application is expected.
 - Negotiations with officers continue on key historic buildings throughout the borough to encourage reuse to protect their future.
- 3.6 The council's regeneration team have been working on a series of derelict sites in the Willenhall framework area to bring them back into productive use and the first phase of this activity was subject to a cabinet approval in July this year.
- 3.7 Willenhall has been identified by the council as an area for strategic intervention with cabinet previously agreeing to support a targeted programme of activity to regenerate the area. Since then work has continued to explore and promote opportunities for growth and investment. The planned opening of the new railway station and promotion of the Walsall growth corridor as a priority for housing delivery and sustainable growth provides a real opportunity to promote Willenhall as a place where people aspire to live, work, and spend leisure time. Furthermore, the council has successfully secured external funding from the government's levelling up fund round 2 (LUF2) and the West Midland Combined Authority's land and property investment Fund (LPIF) to help support intervention in Willenhall.
- 3.8 At its meeting on 9 February 2022, cabinet agreed to:
- Support the Willenhall framework plan, a 10-year vision for housing growth and place making in the area that identifies Moat Street and Villiers Street as a phase 1 opportunity for residential-led development that also includes new open space and highway improvements. Importantly, the proposed redevelopment of the site will contribute to the wellbeing of the area by removing derelict and under-utilised land and property and provide much needed high quality and affordable new homes in a sustainable location.
 - Approve the use of compulsory purchase powers in-principle for phase 1 where land could not be acquired by agreement within a reasonable timeframe, noting that approval to make any compulsory purchase order (CPO) to facilitate land assembly to deliver phase 1 ("order") would be subject to a future cabinet report.
 - Approve the outline business case for phase 1 and the associated budget to support land assembly.
 - Approve further work to identify a preferred development partner procurement route noting that approval of the procurement approach would be subject to a future cabinet report.
- 3.9 At its meeting on 19 July 2023 cabinet agreed to:
- the making, confirmation, and implementation of the order and to take all necessary steps to give effect to the order in respect of the order land including, but not limited to, the following procedural steps:

- i. finalise the statement of reasons setting out the council's reasons for making the order and how these accords with government guidance on CPO;
- ii. making the CPO, the publication and service of any press, site and individual notices and other correspondence for such making;
- iii. acquire all interests within the order Land as may be necessary to facilitate the scheme, either by agreement or compulsorily, including entering into negotiations with any third parties for the acquisition of their land interests;
- iv. the payment of compensation and dealing with any blight notices served in connection with the CPO;
- v. approve agreements with landowners or statutory undertakers as applicable, setting out the terms for withdrawal of any objections to the CPO, including where appropriate seeking exclusion of land from the CPO;
- vi. make any necessary additions, deletions, or amendments to the order land and to seek any requisite modifications to the CPO and any Order maps (as may be considered necessary);
- vii. the preparation and presentation of the council's case at any public inquiry which may be necessary;
- viii. seek confirmation of the order by the Secretary of State (or, if permitted, by the council pursuant to Section 14A of the Acquisition of Land Act 1981) (the 1981 Act);
- ix. in the event the order is confirmed, publication and service of notices of confirmation of the order and thereafter to execute and serve any general vesting declarations and/or notices to treat and notices of entry, and any other notices or correspondence to acquire those interests within the area;
- x. including, if required, high court enforcement officer notices; and
- xi. all steps in any legal proceedings related to the order including referral and conduct of disputes, relating to compulsory purchase compensation, to the Upper Tribunal (Lands Chamber) and/or the courts and any appeals.

4. Decide

- 4.1 The committee is asked to note the progress being made by the derelict sites task force.

5. Review

- 5.1 The council will develop a business case for each site as it comes forward and also review the capital programme accordingly.

Background Papers

None.

Authors:

Alison Ives - Head of Planning and Building Control

Simon Tranter - Head of Regeneration Housing and Economy

David Elrington - Head of Community Safety and Enforcement

Committee responsible for all aspects and general services related to the economy and environment including:
 Responsibility of scrutiny of flood risk management functions which may affect the Local Authority's area as required by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010
 And the scrutinising of performance in relation to the relevant priority in the Council Plan: Enable greater local opportunities for all people, communities and businesses.

Agenda Items							
Theme	6 July 2023	12 September 2023	19 October 2023	23 November 2023	16 January 2024	27 February 2024	11 April 2024
Economy		Derelict Properties Taskforce	Regeneration focus – Towns Funds projects, Town Centre Masterplan, Willenhall Masterplan, M6 J10	Willenhall, Darlaston and Aldridge Train Stations	Heritage Strategy with reference to Highgate Brewery		
Environment		Streetworks permit scheme		Tree Planting Strategy	Climate change Off-road biking Grass cutting schedule and mapping of council assets	Litter picking strategy and volunteers	Partnership working with West Midlands Police – traffic speed enforcement
Cross cutting both Economy and Environment	Outturn 2022/23		Quarter 2 Monitoring				

*Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 Financial reports will be circulated via e-mail to Members of the Committee and will not form part of the Committee's Agenda unless specially requested by the Committee.

Items to be scheduled in work programme:

1. Public Toilets Pilot Update;



FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS

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

4 September 2023

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 craig.goodall@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 (craig.goodall@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.

**FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS
OCTOBER 2023 TO JANUARY 2024 (04.09.2023)**

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
31/23 (3.7.23)	Deeper Devolution Deal Approval of the West Midlands Combined Authority West Midlands Trailblazer Deeper Devolution Deal and Action Plan.	Cabinet Key Decision	Caroline Harper, Regeneration Officer Caroline.Harper@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	20 September 2023
26/23 (5.6.23)	Draft Revenue Budget and Draft Capital Programme 2024/25 to 2027/28 To provide an updated medium term financial outlook, draft revenue budget and capital programme for 2024/25 to 2027/28, including savings proposals, and to set out the process and timescales for setting a legally balanced budget for 2024/25.	Cabinet Non-key Decision	Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk	Rate payers, voluntary and community organisations, Internal Services	Cllr Bird	18 October 2023
32/23 (3.7.23)	Council Plan 2022/25 – Q1 23/24 To note the Quarter 1 2023/24 (outturn) performance against the Markers of Success in the Council Plan 2022/25	Cabinet Non-key Decision	Elizabeth Connolly Elizabeth.Connolly@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	18 October 2023
27/23 (5.6.23)	Corporate Financial Performance 2023/24	Cabinet	Vicky Buckley	Internal Services	Cllr Bird	18 October 2023

	To report the financial position based on 6 months to September 2023.	Non-key Decision	Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk			
40/23 (4.9.23)	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) To seek approval for the adoption and publication of guidance on BNG, the publication of the Black Country Local Nature Recovery Map and Strategy, and its use as a working document	Cabinet Key Decision	The Black Country Local Nature Recovery Map and Strategy Sammy Pritchard Sammy.Pritchard@walsall.gov.uk David Holloway David.Holloway@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	18 October 2023
41/23 (4.9.23)	Willenhall Framework Plan: Phase 1 Developer Partner Procurement Outcome and Award To provide an update on the outcome of the developer partner procurement <i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i>	Cabinet Key Decision	Kauser Agha Kauser.Agha@walsall.gov.uk	Internal services, Legal (external)	Cllr Andrew	18 October 2023
42/23 (4.9.23)	Sale of the Former Allens Centre, Hilton Road, Willenhall To seek approval for the sale of the former Allens Centre in Willenhall. <i>This will be a private session report containing commercially sensitive information.</i>	Cabinet Key Decision	Nick Ford Nick.Ford@walsall.gov.uk	Internal Services	Cllr Andrew	18 October 2023

36/23 (7.8.23)	<p>Healthy Eating for Children and Young People Programme</p> <p>To seek approval to procure a new healthy eating and weight management programme for children and young people in Walsall.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Esther Higdon</p> <p>Esther.Higdon@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal Services</p> <p>Walsall Healthcare Trust</p>	Cllr Flint	18 October 2023
43/23 (4.9.23)	<p>Integrated sexual and reproductive health services and the Healthy Child Programme 0-19 Section 75 Agreement Extensions</p> <p>To seek approval for the extension of the Section 75 agreement for the delivery of integrated sexual and reproductive health services and the Healthy Child Programme 0-19.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Esther Higdon</p> <p>Esther.Higdon@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal Services</p> <p>Walsall Healthcare Trust</p>	Cllr Flint	18 October 2023
33/23 (3.7.23)	<p>Winter Service Operational Plan 2023- 2028</p> <p>To approve the winter service operational plan.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Paul Leighton</p> <p>Paul.Leighton@walsall.gov.uk</p> <p>Graham Wallis</p> <p>Graham.Wallis@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal Services</p>	Cllr Murphy	18 October 2023
44/23 (4.9.23)	<p>Street Lighting Post-PFI Arrangements</p> <p>To approve the service delivery model for the street lighting service from April 2028.</p>	Cabinet Key Decision	<p>Katie Moreton</p> <p>Kathryn.Moreton@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal Services</p>	Cllr Murphy	18 October 2023

<p>45/23 (4.9.23)</p>	<p>Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2023/24</p> <p>The Food Standards Agency (FSA) requires all local authorities to prepare an annual service delivery plan to reflect the work required of food authorities by the FSA, under the requirements of the Food Standards Act 1999 and the framework agreement on local authority enforcement. In accordance with this requirement a Food Law Enforcement Service Plan 2023/24 has been prepared and a decision is required from members to obtain authority to approve this plan.</p>	<p>Cabinet Council Non-key Decision</p>	<p>Paul Rooney Paul.Rooney@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal Services</p>	<p>Cllr Perry</p>	<p>Cabinet 18 October 2023 Council 6 November 2023</p>
<p>34/23 (3.7.23)</p>	<p>Early Years Funding Formula 2023/24:</p> <p>That Cabinet approves changes to the Early Years Funding Formula for 2023/24 following notification of an increase in the hourly funding rates.</p>	<p>Cabinet Key Decision</p>	<p>ESFA – Early Years funding operational guide Richard Walley Richard.Walley@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Schools Forum Internal Services</p>	<p>Cllr Statham</p>	<p>18 October 2023</p>
<p>35/23 (3.7.23)</p>	<p>Schools Mainstream Local Funding Formula 2024/25:</p> <p>That Cabinet approves the Mainstream Local Funding Formula, to be used for the allocation of mainstream funding to schools in Walsall.</p>	<p>Cabinet Key Decision</p>	<p>ESFA – Schools revenue funding operation guide Richard Walley Richard.walley@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Schools Forum Internal Services</p>	<p>Cllr Statham</p>	<p>18 October 2023</p>
<p>46/23 (4.9.23)</p>	<p>SEN Place Requirement</p> <p>To approve finance for additional special educational needs school places.</p>	<p>Cabinet Key Decision</p>	<p>Alex Groom Alex.Groom@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal services</p>	<p>Cllr Statham</p>	<p>18 October 2023</p>

37/23 (7.8.23)	<p>Autumn Budget and Spending Review, and feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committees on draft revenue and capital budget proposals 2024/25 to 2027/28</p> <p>To provide an update on the impact of the Autumn Budget and Spending Review on the medium-term financial outlook, and to consider feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committees on the draft revenue and capital budget.</p>	<p>Cabinet Non-key Decision</p>	<p>Vicky Buckley Vicky.Buckley@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Council tax payers, business rate payers, voluntary and community organisations. Internal services</p>	<p>Cllr Bird</p>	<p>13 December 2023</p>
38/23 (7.8.23)	<p>Treasury Management Mid Year Position Statement 2023/24</p> <p>To note and forward to Council, for consideration and noting (and in line with the requirements of the Treasury Management Code of Practice (2017), the mid year report for treasury management activities 2023/24 including prudential and local indicators.</p>	<p>Council Non-key Decision</p>	<p>Treasury Management Code of Practice. Richard Walley Richard.Walley@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal services</p>	<p>Cllr Ferguson</p>	<p>13 December 2023</p>
39/23 (7.8.23)	<p>Strategic Leisure Review</p> <p>To update on the performance and impact of the four leisure facilities. To approve recommendations around the current and future facility stock.</p>	<p>Cabinet Key Decision</p>	<p>Stuart Webb Stuart.Webb@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal services</p>	<p>Cllr Flint</p>	<p>13 December 2023</p>
14/23 (6.2.23)	<p>Growth Funding for Schools:</p> <p>To enable the Local Authority to fulfil its duty to secure sufficient primary and secondary school places, through the</p>	<p>Cabinet Key Decision</p>	<p>Alex Groom Alex.Groom@walsall.gov.uk</p>	<p>Internal services, Schools Forum</p>	<p>Cllr Statham</p>	<p>13 December 2023</p>

	adoption of a policy for the application of revenue funding for school growth.					
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Black Country Executive Joint Committee Forward Plan of Key Decisions

Published up to December 2023

Date Created	Key Decision	Contact Officer	Main consultee	Date of meeting
	No decisions scheduled			



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:
Regional Activity & Delivery Update To provide an update on recent activity of the WMCA.	WMCA Board 21 July 2023	Open	Andy Street Mayor	Laura Shoaf Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority
Financial Monitoring Report To provide a summary of the WMCA's financial position as at 31 May 2023.	WMCA Board 21 July 2023	Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Deputy Mayor	Beverly Sullivan Financial Planning and Coordination Manager
Investment Zones Update To consider the latest position regarding Investment Zones.	WMCA Board 21 July 2023	Part exempt	Councillor Sharon Thompson Levelling Up Portfolio Lead	Ed Cox Executive Director of Strategy, Integration & Net Zero
Regional Activity & Delivery Update To provide an update on recent activity of the WMCA.	WMCA Board 15 September 2023	Open	Andy Street Mayor	Laura Shoaf Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority
Financial Monitoring Report To provide a summary of the WMCA's financial position as at 31 July 2023.	WMCA Board 15 September 2023	Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Finance Portfolio Lead	Beverly Sullivan Financial Planning and Coordination Manager
Mid-Year Review of Annual Business Plan To consider the mid-year review of the deliverables contained within the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan.	WMCA Board 15 September 2023	Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Finance Portfolio Lead	Fiona Bebbington Head of Business Improvement

<p>Refreshed Regional Road Safety Strategy Launch Refreshed Regional Road Safety Strategy Launch</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 September 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Transport Portfolio Lead</p>	<p>Darren Divall Regional Road Safety Manager</p>
<p>City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement 1 Re-basing Application To approve any proposals to re-base the CRSTS1 programme for submission to the Department for Transport.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 15 September 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Mike Bird Transport Portfolio Lead</p>	<p>Mike Waters Director of Policy, Strategy and Innovation - TfWM</p>
<p>Regional Activity & Delivery Update To provide an update on recent activity of the WMCA.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 October 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Andy Street Mayor</p>	<p>Laura Shoaf Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority</p>
<p>Deeper Devolution Deal To consider the outcome of the public consultation, feedback from local authorities in respect of the governance review and scheme, and to determine whether these should be sent to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 October 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor Sharon Thompson Levelling Up Portfolio Lead</p>	<p>Ed Cox Executive Director of Strategy, Integration & Net Zero</p>
<p>Air Quality Framework To approve the draft framework that reviews all of the measures possible to accelerate improvements to regional air quality, following public consultation and consideration by the Environment & Energy Board.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 October 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Councillor John Cotton Environment, Energy & HS2 Portfolio Lead</p>	<p>Jacqueline Homan Head of Environment</p>
<p>Regional Activity & Delivery Update To provide an update on recent activity of the WMCA.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 17 November 2023</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Andy Street Mayor</p>	<p>Laura Shoaf Chief Executive of the West Midlands Combined Authority</p>

Financial Monitoring Report To provide a summary of the WMCA's financial position as at 30 September 2023.	WMCA Board 17 November 2023	[Open	Councillor Bob Sleigh Finance Portfolio Lead	Beverly Sullivan Financial Planning and Coordination Manager
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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).

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

Committee Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action/Recommendation	Officer responsible	Status	Target Completion Date	Notes
7 July 2022	Response to petition: 'Pedestrian Crossing for Birmingham Road, Aldridge, enabling the safety of school children'	S106 funding schemes in Aldridge to be reviewed to see if any funding could be secured for the crossing in this way.	Katie Moreton	Completed		The Development Monitoring Officer who starts on 3 October will provide improved resource to review this matter. Unlikely that previous S106 funds can be used as each S106 specifies what works the obligations are to cover as it has to be related specifically to the development proposed.
20 October 2022	Urgent Item: Bus Matters – Bus Network Update	Presentation and report be circulated to all Members of the Council.	Sian Lloyd	Completed		Sent out by email 21/10/2022.
24 November 2022	Off-Road Bikes	The Committee recommends Cabinet to investigate the acquisition of a drone or drone service for community protection to use in conjunction with West Midlands Police.	Sian Lloyd/Simon Neilson	Completed		Report discussed at Cabinet on 8 February. Further fuller details to be discussed at next Cabinet meeting on 22 March.
2 February 2023	Willenhall, Darlaston and	Report to be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.	Sian Lloyd	Completed		Discussed at the meeting of the

	Aldridge Railway Stations					Committee on April 13.
	Areas of Focus 22/23	Report on public toilet provision to be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.	Sian Lloyd	Completed		Report on public toilets brought to meeting on 28 February.
28 February 2023	Area of Focus 22/23	CCTV provision in housing estates be added to the list of items to be considered.	Sian Lloyd	Completed		Added to areas of focus document.
13 April 2023	Willenhall, Darlaston and Aldridge Railway Stations	A further written update to be considered by the Committee.	West Midlands Rail Executive	Completed		Added to areas of focus.
	Phoenix 10	A further report to be considered by the Committee in due course following the site remediation phase.	Simon Tranter	Completed		Added to areas of focus.