



**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

Forward Plan

Forthcoming key decisions

Title of key decision:	Decision to be taken by and date:	Open or Exempt:	Executive Director:
WMCA Financial Monitoring Report To provide an update on the latest financial position	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)
Update on Bus Network Proposals from January 2025 To consider proposals for the region's bus network in 2025.	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)
Bus Depot Strategy To approve the funding strategy for Transport for West Midlands to acquire sites for bus depots.	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)
Wednesbury - Brierley Hill Metro Extension Phase 2 Report to seek approval to release funding to complete construction of the Phase 2 WBHE Metro.	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)
Regional Road Safety Action Plan 2024-2030 Endorsement of the Regional Road Safety Action Plan 2024-2030 following completion of public consultation and validation from the Regional Road Safety Strategic Group.	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)
Economic Development Review Economic Development Review	WMCA Board 15 November 2024	Open	Chief Executive (Laura Shoaf), Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)

Title of key decision:	Decision to be taken by and date:	Open or Exempt:	Executive Director:
<p>Bus Franchising: Audit Outcome and Decision To Consult To consider the outcome of the audit, and to agree to undertake public consultation on the next steps.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 December 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)</p>
<p>Innovation Update To provide an update on recent highlights from the Innovation Board, including the current position regarding the Innovation Accelerator.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 December 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)</p>
<p>Very Light Rail Black Country Innovative Manufacturing Organisation To consider the latest update.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 December 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)</p>
<p>Regional Energy Strategy To consider the WMCA's Regional Energy Strategy.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 December 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)</p>
<p>WMCA Brownfield Land Remediation - Report of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee To consider the findings of Overview & Scrutiny Committee's review into how the WMCA exercises its powers and funding in respect of brownfield land redevelopment and how the region's communities have benefited from this.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 December 2024</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Interim Executive Director of Housing & Regeneration</p>
<p>Draft WMCA Budget 2025/26 To consider the draft budget for the 2025/26 fiscal year.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 10 January 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)</p>
<p>WMCA Financial Monitoring Report To provide an update on the latest financial position</p>	<p>WMCA Board 10 January 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)</p>

Title of key decision:	Decision to be taken by and date:	Open or Exempt:	Executive Director:
Ring & Ride / Demand Responsive Travel - Target Operating Model To approve the operating model for the Ring & Ride / Demand Responsive Transport service.	WMCA Board 10 January 2025	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)
Coventry and Warwick Gigapark Full Business Case Approve Full Business Case for Coventry and Warwick Gigapark capital investment.	WMCA Board 10 January 2025	Part exempt	Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)
Contract Procedural Rules Update To update the Contract Procedural Rules	WMCA Board 10 January 2025	Open	Director of Law & Governance (Helen Edwards)
WMCA Budget 2025/26 To approve the 2025/26 budget.	WMCA Board 7 February 2025	Open	Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)
Integrated Settlement - Functional and Place-Based Strategies To agree the functional and place-based strategies.	WMCA Board 7 February 2025	Open	Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)
WMCA Budget 2025/26 To approve the remaining aspects of the WMCA's 2025/26 budget.	WMCA Board 14 March 2025	Open	Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)
WMCA Financial Monitoring Report To provide an update on the latest financial position	WMCA Board 14 March 2025	Open	Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)

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<p>Integrated Settlement - Programme Business Cases To provide an update on the programme business cases in light of the Integrated Settlement.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 14 March 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)</p>
<p>Bus Franchising - Outcome of Public Consultation and Mayoral Decision To consider the outcome of the public consultation on bus franchising proposals.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 9 May 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)</p>
<p>Best Value Fare Capping for Bus (cEMV Broker) To consider the Full Business Case for the national cEMV Broker pilot and West Midlands roll-out which will enable best value fare capping for bus users to be delivered for travellers using their contactless debit card or other device. The Board will also be asked to approve the legal partnership arrangements with the collaborating delivery entities.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 9 May 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)</p>
<p>Appointment of WMCA Boards etc 2025/26 To appoint the membership of WMCA boards and committees, and meeting dates etc for 2025/26.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 June 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Director of Law & Governance (Helen Edwards)</p>
<p>WMCA Financial Monitoring Report To provide an update on the latest financial position and provisional outturn for the 2024/25 financial year.</p>	<p>WMCA Board 13 June 2025</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance & Business Hub (Linda Horne)</p>

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Local Investment in Natural Capital Local Investment in Natural Capital	WMCA Board 13 June 2025	Open	Executive Director of Strategy, Economy & Net Zero (Ed Cox)
Key Route Network Review 2023/24 To gain approval to update the Key Route Network.	WMCA Board 13 June 2026	Open	Executive Director of Transport for West Midlands (Anne Shaw)

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).

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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 & Scrutiny team (governance.scrutiny@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 & Scrutiny team: governance.scrutiny@wmca.org.uk