

## **Economy and Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

**21 November 2024 at 6:00PM**

**Meeting Venue: Council Chamber at the Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall**

[Livestream Link](#)

**Membership:**

Councillor M Follows (Chair)  
Councillor J Whitehouse (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor M Bird  
Councillor P Bott  
Councillor S Cheema  
Councillor P Gill  
Councillor F Hassan  
Councillor A Hicken  
Councillor I Hussain  
Councillor R Larden  
Councillor K Margetts

**Portfolio Holder(s):**

Councillor G. Perry – Leader of the Council and Strategy, Partnerships and Communities  
Councillor A. Andrew – Associate Leader and Economic Growth and Regeneration  
Councillor G. Flint – Health and Wellbeing  
Councillor A. Garcha – Resident Access and Housing Support  
Councillor P. Kaur – Education and Skills  
Councillor K. Murphy – Street Pride

**Quorum:**

4 Members

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:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Prescribed description</b>
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>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="719 114 1406 226">(i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or</li><li data-bbox="719 259 1406 519">(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.</li></ul>
--	---

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.

## **Part 1 – Public Session**

### **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. Minutes**

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 24 October 2024.

*(Enclosed, Pages 1 - 7)*

### **4. Declarations of Interest and party whip**

To receive declarations of interest or the party whip from Members in respect of items on the agenda.

### **5. 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.

### **6. Willenhall and Darlaston Train Stations**

To receive a presentation from the West Midlands Rail Executive on the progress of Willenhall and Darlaston Train Stations.

*(Enclosed Pages 8 -11)*

### **7. Underutilisation of Community Assets (Walsall Town Hall)**

For the Committee to consider a report on the underutilisation of community asset including a focus on Walsall Town Hall.

*(Enclosed)*

### **8. Walsall Net Zero 2041 Strategy**

For the Committee to consider the Walsall Net Zero 2041 Strategy.

*(Enclosed)*

### **9. Areas of focus – 2023/24**

To consider the areas of focus for the Committee for the remainder of the municipal year and the working group initiation documents.

*(Enclosed, Pages 12 - 21)*

### **10. Forward Plans**

To receive the latest Forward Plans in respect of the following:

- Executive Forward Plans.
- Black Country Joint Executive Committee.
- West Midlands Combined Authority Board.

*(Enclosed, Pages 22 - 33)*

### **11. Recommendations Tracker**

To consider progress on recommendations from the previous meeting.

*(Enclosed, Page 34)*

### **12. Date of next meeting**

To note that the next scheduled meeting will take place on 14 January 2025.