

Decisions of West of England Combined Authority Committee on 17 March 2023

NUMBER	AGENDA ITEM	DECISIONS
10.	Climate and Ecological Strategy and Action Plan 2023	<p>The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note progress on Climate and Ecological Strategy and Action Plan 2022 actions, as set out in Appendix 2. 2. Adopt the Climate and Ecological Strategy and Action Plan 2023 as set out in Appendix 3. 3. Support expansion of the Green Recovery Fund by £10m to invest in priority projects that target the climate and ecological emergencies, including allocating £6m from the existing Combined Authority Investment Fund headroom as shown in Table 8.1 of this Report. 4. Note that, as part of the Green Recovery Fund expansion, further development work will take place to determine supply and demand for green construction skills, building on the Post 16 Education and Infrastructure Report and aligning with a refreshed West of England Employment and Skills Plan, with an update to come to June 2023 Committee meeting.
11.	Investment Fund Programme	<p>The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the Strategic Outline Case for Bath Central Riverside and the award of £548k to develop the masterplan by March 2025, as set out in paragraph 2.6. 2. Approve the funding application for Walking and Cycling Scheme Development for completion by March 2025 and the award of £200k as set out in paragraph 2.6. 3. Approve the Feasibility and Development Funding application for CRSTS South Gloucestershire Council Specialist Support and the award of £670k as set out in paragraph 2.6. 4. Approve the allocation of up to £670k for CRSTS resourcing in Bath and North East Somerset Council and delegate the approval of the detail through a Feasibility and Development Funding application to the Combined Authority Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Directors of Infrastructure of the constituent Councils, as set out in paragraph 2.6.

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		<p>5. Amend the approved capital programme for individual project approvals agreed at the January Committee and within this report, as set out in appendix 2.</p> <p>6. To note that a provision of £4m has been set aside to manage programme risks as set out in paragraph 2.8.</p> <p>7. The Committee endorses and approves the approach for the £18.75m DLUHC in-year capital funding as set out in the supplementary report;</p> <p>8. That the additional DfT Pothole Funding for 2023/24 be passported to the relevant West of England Unitary Authorities in line with proportions agreed for the Highways Maintenance Capital Grant as set out in the supplementary report.</p>
12.	Investment Fund Delivery Assurance	The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED to approve the change requests for schemes within the current programme as set out in Appendix 1.
13.	Indicative Meetings Timetable 2023/2024 and managing the period prior to the Annual Meeting	<p>The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED:</p> <p>1. That the indicative Timetable of Meetings for 2023/2024 as set out in Appendix 1 be endorsed for formal agreement by the West of England Combined Authority Committee at its Annual Meeting in June 2023, subject to any changes arising following consultation.</p> <p>2. That the date of the Annual Meeting of the West of England Combined Authority Committee be agreed as 16 June 2023.</p> <p>3. That the Interim Acting Chief Executive be delegated the authority to act, at his discretion, in response to any matter requiring decision prior to the Annual Meeting, subject to no objections by the Chief Executive Officers of the Constituent Councils.</p>
14.	West of England Combined Authority and Mayoral Budget Forecast Outturn	The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED to:

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	2022/23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and comment on the Mayoral Fund revenue budget and forecast as detailed in Appendix 1. 2. Review and comment on the Combined Authority revenue budget and forecast as detailed in Appendix 2. 3. Approve that the Combined Authority undertake a line-by-line budget review on all funding programmes with progress to be reported back to the Committee in June 2023.
15.	Audit Action Plan: Feedback from Audit and Overview & Scrutiny Committees and Progress Report	<p>The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider feedback from the Audit and Overview & Scrutiny Committees and approve the action plan as a living document that will continue to be refined as work continues. 2. Note progress in delivering the emerging action plan. 3. Agree in principle the broad areas as set out in paragraph 2.3 and presented by the Solace peer reviewer, and delegate to the Combined Authority Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Executives of the Unitary Authorities, to incorporate into the action plan as appropriate.
16.	Combined Authority Committee Constitutional Update	<p>The West of England Combined Authority Committee RESOLVED that an additional paragraph 3.8 (e) is added to the functions of the Monitoring Officer in the Authority's constitution:</p> <p>(e) Combined Authority Officers and Members are prohibited from obtaining legal advice without the written agreement of the Combined Authority Monitoring Officer. All legal services will be commissioned in accordance with arrangements settled by the Monitoring Officer from time to time. These arrangements will be set out in a legal services protocol which will be published on the authority's internet.</p>