

## Decisions of West of England Combined Authority Committee on 15 March 2024

Decision notice issued on: 19.03.2024

The call-in procedure set out in Standing Order A31.4 applies to the decisions set out below unless stated

Deadline for requests for call-in: 5pm 26.03.2024

Earliest date for implementation of decisions: 27.03.2024

| NUMBER | AGENDA ITEM              | DECISIONS  |
|--------|--------------------------|--|
| 10.    | Transformation programme | <p>1) Note that Government issued a Best Value Notice to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority on 5th March 2024 setting out specific action the Authority is required to take in order to continue improvement.</p> <p>2) Note progress and planned next steps across the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Transformation Programme; and that the Programme will be reviewed and updated as required to respond to the issues set out in and required action contained in the Best Value Notice.</p> <p>3) Note that, in line with previous Committee decisions, work will soon commence to support the SOLACE 'one year on' report to follow on from the Independent Peer Review they delivered in March 2023</p> |
| 11.    | Governance Update        | <p>(1) Adopt, with effect from 3 May 2024, the LGA Model Code of Conduct (Appendix 1).</p> <p>(2) Adopt, with immediate effect, the Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure (Appendix 2) in accordance with Section 28(6)(b) of the Localism Act 2011.</p> <p>(3) Appoint, with immediate effect, Tony Drew, Roger Morris, Marc Hole, and Ian Carrington-Porter as Independent Persons in accordance with the requirements of Section 28(7) of the Localism Act 2011</p>  |

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|--------|--|---|
| 12.    | Employment and Skills - Strategic Working Approach and Funding Request | <p>(1) To create the Employment and Skills Fund with an initial allocation from the Investment Fund of £15.68m to fund the first two years of delivery against the objectives of the Employment and Skills Plan.</p> <p>(2) A formal review of the Employment and Skills Fund is presented to Committee 18 months after establishment of the Fund, covering performance to date and recommendations for the next allocation.</p> <p>(3) If further UK Shared Prosperity Fund is confirmed for skills delivery by government, where possible this will replace the Investment Fund allocation within the Employment and Skills Fund and return it to Investment Fund headroom.</p> <p>(4) Delegation of authority to the West of England Combined Authority Strategic Director of Economy and Skills, in consultation with equivalent Directors from the Unitary Authorities, to agree and administer funds (through the approval of Full Business Cases and Feasibility and Development Applications) and ensure delivery of initiatives under the Employment and Skills Fund (through approval of grant and/or contract funding recommendations). In event of consensus not being reached at Director level, decision making will be escalated to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in consultation with Unitary Authority CEOs</p> |
| 13.    | Climate and Ecological Strategy and Action Plan (CESAP) 2023           | <p>(1) Note the progress on actions for the 2023 action plan – sections 6 -23, with detail in Appendix 2;</p> <p>(2) Approve the approach to develop Corporate Carbon Management for the Combined Authority over the next 12 months – sections 26-31;</p> <p>(3) Approve the updated action areas, and the enhanced focus on climate resilience and green infrastructure over the next 12 months – section 32-39.</p>   |
| 14.    | Investment Fund Programme  | <p>(1) Approve the Feasibility and Development Funding Application for the Digital Office Pilot, as set out in paragraphs 6 -10, and the award of £2.519m to produce a Full Business Case by March 2027, and to delegate the approval of the detailed scope of work and ongoing oversight of the project to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority's Strategic Director of Economy and Skills in consultation with Unitary Authority Economy and Skills Directors. In the</p>   |

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|        |                                    | <p>event of a consensus not being reached at Director level, decision making will be escalated to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in consultation with the Unitary Authority CEOs.</p> <p>(2) Approve the Feasibility and Development Funding Application for the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Fund Bid and the award of £268k to support the activity until April 2027, as set out in paragraphs 11-13.</p> <p>(3) Approve the Feasibility and Development Funding Application for Green Infrastructure Implementation, as set out in paragraphs 14-15, and the allocation of £423k to support this work until October 2025, and delegate the finalisation of the detail of delivery to the Mayoral Combined Authority Director of Environment in consultation with the Directors of Environment of the Unitary Authorities. In the event of a consensus not being reached at Director level, decision making will be escalated to the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority's Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Unitary Authority CEOs.</p> <p>(4) Approve the Outline Business Case for the Bath and North East Somerset section of the Bath to Bristol Strategic Corridor and the development of a Full Business Case by October 2025, as set out in paragraphs 25-27.</p> |
| 15.    | Delivery Assurance                 | Approve the change requests for schemes within the current programmes as set out in Appendix 1   |
| 16.    | Combined Authority Budget Forecast | That Committee notes the forecast position for the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Revenue Budget as set out in Figure 1 and the forecast position for the Mayoral Revenue budget as set out in Figure 7. Notes the changes to the Capital Forecast as set out in Appendix 2.   |