

**20 MARCH 2020**

**REPORT SUMMARY SHEET**

**COMBINED AUTHORITY & MAYORAL BUDGET OUTTURN – APRIL 2019 – JANUARY 2020**

### **Purpose**

To present the forecast revenue budget financial outturn information for WECA and the Mayoral budget for the financial year 2019/20 based on actual data for the period from April 2019 to January 2020.

### **Summary**

This report includes the following key information:

#### **Mayoral budget:**

- The Mayoral Fund's forecast revenue outturn position for 2019/20 (see Appendix 1) is £549k higher than the original budget. This is due to slippage on previous year grant fund feasibility projects. As these projects are funded by grants which were carried forward, the net position remains balanced.
- A contribution of £396k will be made to an earmarked reserve, in line with budget, to meet the estimated costs of the next Mayoral election in 2021.

#### **WECA revenue budget:**

- WECA's estimated outturn revenue position for 2019/20 (see Appendix 2) is a net surplus of £305k, £280k of which is due to higher income received from cash balances. The budget includes a transfer to general reserves of £100k, as approved in the original budget, with an increase of £250k into a specific reserve to fund Programme Management Office staff, as approved in July 2019.
- The forecast spend on Transport functions remains as originally budgeted. As part of the integration of transport functions from 1 April 2020, WECA will take over the direct delivery of grant funding for Community Transport. The appropriate budget is included as part of the transport levy from the constituent unitary authorities to honour the existing 2020/21 funding arrangements for Community Transport. The report recommends that the award of grants to Community Transport providers for 2020/21 is delegated to the WECA Director of Infrastructure.
- Spend on specific projects (see figure 3) is forecast to be £10.05m lower than originally budgeted, which is due mainly to the timing and planned use of grant funding.
- Bus services: the report seeks approval of a drawdown of £57k from the WECA General Reserve to cover the shortfall in costs for the No.17 Southmead Hospital to Keynsham bus route up to 28 February 2021.

## **Recommendations**

Members of the Combined Authority Committee are asked to:

- a) Note the Mayoral Fund and WECA revenue forecasts as set out in Appendices 1 and 2;
- b) Delegate the award of grants to Community Transport providers for 2020/21 to the WECA Director of Infrastructure;
- c) Approve a drawdown of £57k against the WECA General Reserve to fund the No.17 bus route between Southmead Hospital and Keynsham from April 2020 to February 2021. The reserve to be replenished upon the receipt of new revenue bus funding from government.

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