

**OVERVIEW REPORT - 15 OCTOBER WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED
AUTHORITY COMMITTEE AND WEST OF ENGLAND JOINT COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

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Purpose

1. To update the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the reports due to be considered at the 15 October joint meeting of the Combined Authority Committee and Joint Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the committee identify any comments they wish to submit to the Combined Authority Committee and Joint Committee on 15 October 2021.

15 October reports – overview

2. Reports on the following matters are due to be considered at the 15 October meeting of the Combined Authority Committee and the Joint Committee:

Climate emergency and investing in our region:

a. Supporting the decarbonisation of aviation

At the 21 September West of England Joint Committee meeting, a motion was approved to oppose the latest plans to expand Bristol Airport. In approving the motion, the Joint Committee recognised *‘the importance of the wider aerospace centre of excellence at Filton and its major contribution to our economy, skills base and industrial heritage’* and the *‘ongoing efforts being pioneered locally by industry to decarbonise aviation, including through the Jet Zero initiative’*. The committee requested *‘that West of England Chief Executives bring a report to the October 2021 meeting setting out a range of proposals to support the decarbonisation of aviation’*.

In response, this report will describe the current shape and scale of the aerospace sector in the region and set out what national and regional initiatives are in place (or emerging) to support the industry on the journey to decarbonising aviation.

The report will also highlight a number of possible opportunities to be developed potentially into a joint plan with industry, to ensure the aerospace sector in the West of England can effectively restructure and continue to be a major source of sustainable jobs.

b. Climate emergency - next steps

At their 21 September meeting, the West of England Joint Committee agreed to support the principles for a revised ambition to address the climate emergency.

This report will provide further detail on the next steps for implementing the revised climate emergency action plan, specifically the creation of an Environment Director post and the establishment of a climate panel.

c. Investment Fund report including Green Recovery Fund

This report will set out the latest Investment Fund position and proposals, including detail about the establishment of a Green Recovery Fund.

Improving transport for our residents:

d. City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement update

This report will provide an update on the City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement and next steps, and will seek confirmation for the key principles for managing the Local Contribution to support capital funding.

e. Bus Service Improvement Plan

This report will update on the development of a Bus Service Improvement Plan as required by the National Bus Strategy.

f. Supported bus services

This report will seek approval for the procurement process of supported bus services across the region, specifically the procurement of bus service contracts due to expire in August/September 2022; and for the Cribbs Patchway Metrobus Extension; and for new contracts that may emerge from the Bus Service Improvement Plan/Enhanced Partnership process.

Financial management and governance:

g. Local Enterprise Partnership & Invest Bristol and Bath revenue budget outturn report

This report will present the forecasted revenue outturn for the West of England Joint Committee for the financial year 2021/22 based on data for the period April 2021 to 31 July 2021. The report will cover the Local Enterprise Partnership and Invest in Bristol and Bath revenue budgets.

h. Combined Authority & Mayoral budget outturn report

This report will present the revenue budget forecasted outturn information for the West of England Combined Authority and the Mayoral budget for the financial year 2021/22 based on data for the period April 2021 to 31 July 2021.

i. Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – role of Deputy Mayor

This report will set out the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to their recent review of the role of Deputy Mayor.

j. Overview & Scrutiny and Audit Committee arrangements

This report will confirm the 2021/22 arrangements for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Audit Committee.

3. The above reports are due to be published in the week starting 4 October ahead of the 15 October meeting; as soon as they are published, copies will be sent to the Overview and Scrutiny committee members. Officers will be attendance at the scrutiny committee meeting to brief members on these reports and respond to questions and points of detail.

4. At this meeting, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and formulate any specific comments to submit to the 15 October meeting (a standard slot is included on the agenda to enable the Chair to present any comments on behalf of scrutiny members).

Appendices: None.

West of England Combined Authority Contact:

Any person seeking background information relating to this item should seek the assistance of the contact officer for the meeting who is Ian Hird on 07436 600313; or by email: democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk