

REPORT TO: WEST OF ENGLAND COMBINED AUTHORITY COMMITTEE

DATE: 26 JANUARY 2024

REPORT TITLE: TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY

<u>Key Decision</u>	No
<u>Purpose of Report</u>	
To update Committee on progress across the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Transformation Programme.	
<u>Recommendation</u>	
That Committee:	
1) Note progress across the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Transformation Programme.	
<u>Reasons for recommendation</u>	
This report sets out a further update to Committee on progress across the Transformation Programme. While there are no formal decisions to take at this stage, officers have committed to regular updates to Committee to ensure there is appropriate oversight for progress. Committee is therefore asked to note progress.	
<u>Voting arrangements</u>	
The paper is to note and no vote is required.	
<u>Publication Requirements</u>	
For publication.	

Background

1. The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Transformation Programme was established in Spring 2023 following an external audit report and Independent Peer Review that highlighted actions that the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority should take to strengthen its operations.
2. As highlighted at previous meetings of the Committee, a clear structure for the programme has been established with members of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Corporate Leadership Team leading each workstream. Figure 1 provides a reminder of the structure of the Transformation Programme. Regular updates on the programme are provided to the regional CEO group, ensuring collective oversight for the programme.
3. This report details progress across the Transformation Programme since the Committee was last updated in October 2023.

Key Considerations

4. As noted above, a West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Transformation Programme has been in place since Spring 2023. In line with updates to previous Committee meetings, this paper provides an update on action that has been taken across the programme since Committee last reviewed progress.
5. Figure 1 reminds Committee of the structure in place for the Transformation Programme and the headline aim of each workstream.
6. Figure 2 provides a summary of progress across the programme since it was established.

Figure 1: Transformation Programme structure and aims overview



Figure 2: Summary of key action to date across the Transformation Programme



7. The following sections of the report provide an update on each workstream across the Transformation Programme. Key progress to note since the October 2023 Committee discussion include:
 - 14 actions across the programme now having been completed as transformation actions and clear arrangements in place for ongoing activity to be managed via business-as-usual arrangements. Having robust business-as-usual arrangements has been an area of focus for the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Corporate Leadership Team. The closing of a large number of actions within the Transformation Programme demonstrates the progress that has been made in strengthening organisational processes.
 - Significant steps to strengthen the corporate core of the organisation with the recruitment to a number of new roles that have been assessed as required to manage the delivery of the range of work the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority is now responsible for.
 - The Terms of Reference for the Programme Review Board have been refreshed, subject to Committee approval, ensuring it has a clear assurance role across the portfolio of West of England Mayoral Combined Authority delivery.
 - The 2024/25 Budget setting process has been conducted with effectiveness and efficiencies as a core principle for all Budget planning. The Budget is going through rigorous review to ensure it places the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority on a strong footing to deliver.
8. As noted in the update tables below, there are some areas across the Transformation Programme where further action is required. For example, while all Mayors and Leaders have engaged in initial discussions around the role and purpose of the Combined Authority, this work is yet to reach a conclusion. These discussions will unlock a number of the other actions in the programme.
9. Grant Thornton have recently delivered their interim VfM report for 2022/23, which points to progress against a number of issues highlighted in previous reports. The 2022/23 report notes that further work is planned in relation to considering governance arrangements and internal controls. We will review the Transformation Programme once Grant Thornton deliver this work and build in any further actions required.
10. The following sections of the report provide updates across each action in the Transformation Programme. A number of actions across the programme are now complete. The updates below note if actions are:
 - closed because action was standalone activity that has now been

undertaken; or

- whether steps taken means activity associated with the action are now managed as part of business as usual.
11. For ease of tracking, we do not propose to keep reporting on completed transformation actions and they will not appear in future updates on the Transformation Programme.
 12. Actions across the programme reflect the conclusions of the Grant Thornton Audit report, the Independent Peer Review, and the Committee approved action plan. Across these reports there has been a degree of duplication and overlap in conclusions and recommendations. The Transformation Programme streamlines actions into a clear set of activity. The detail of this mapping was included in the last report to Committee.
 13. Grant Thornton have recently delivered their interim VfM report for 2022/23, which points to progress against a number of issues highlighted in previous reports. The 2022/23 report notes that further work is planned in relation to considering governance arrangements and internal controls. We will review the Transformation Programme once Grant Thornton deliver this work and build in any further actions required.

Programme level workstream actions

Action No.	Action	Progress update	Key dates
TP1	Bring together recommendations and actions from independent reviews and West of England Combined Authority Committee agreed action plan into a single Transformation Programme plan	Creation of a single Transformation Programme has taken place with workstreams approved by CEOs. This document brings the approved programme into a single programme plan.	April – May 2023 ACTION COMPLETE
TP2	Independent progress reviews to be carried out , monitoring progress of the Transformation Programme and should be reported to Committee	A one-year on progress report following the Independent Peer Review will commence in Spring 2024. The Peer Reviewer who conducted the 2023 review will carry out this work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress report: work to commence March 2024 • Report will be delivered Summer 2024.
TP3	Senior Officers will continue to meet collectively and on a 1:1 basis going forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of senior officer groups are in place, including fortnightly meetings of CEOs. Attendance and regularity of meetings will be monitored via independent progress reports. 1 to 1 discussions between the West of England CEO and the Unitary Authority CEOs take place regularly. • As noted in action DE2, the ToR for the Programme Review Board (PRB) have been reset to ensure it provides a clearer assurance role across the MCA portfolio of delivery. • With strong senior officer collaboration forums now cemented as part of the MCA structure, this action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed as part of business-as-usual action. 	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery
TP4	Senior Leaders and officers will: a. Work collaboratively and engage in meaningful consultation when developing solutions and proposals to help leaders to mitigate points of contention where possible ahead of West of England Mayoral Combined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As noted above (TP3), strong officer collaboration is in place, which is helping ensure potential areas of contention are identified early and steps taken to seek to tackle potential challenges. The reduction in amendments to papers tabled at Committee and recommendations voted down is evidence of progress in this area. 	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery

	<p>Authority Committee meetings. Where possible, flagging matters of contention in good time to allow for solutions to be developed ahead of West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Committee meetings.</p> <p>b. Commit to promoting a culture of respect and understanding at all times.</p> <p>c. Seek mediation at an early stage if required to ensure working practice continue and solutions can be developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As noted below (PS1), a programme of work to consider the role and purpose of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority is underway. This action will contribute further to strengthening collaboration. The MCA has arrangements in place to be able to access mediation if required. With strong arrangements in place to support collaboration or further action planned elsewhere in the Transformation Programme, action TP4 will be closed. 	
TP5	<p>A forward plan of decisions and activities will be developed to help with planning / resourcing / engagement for CEOs meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is underway to extend the forward plan to all key decisions with a 12 month horizon rather than 28 days. CEO review of Committee items has now been strengthened with initial reviews approx. 2 months before Committee meetings and papers fully reviewed by CEOs approx. one month before Committee dates. Committee briefing meetings to provide Mayors and Leaders with an opportunity to raise specific questions or comments around Committee papers are in place. These arrangements have been in place since June 2023 and are scheduled in advance of all future committee meetings. Once the forward plan of key decisions is extended out to 12 months, this action will be closed in the Transformation Programme and will be managed as business as usual. 	<p>A forward plan for Committee and Officer decisions was published in December. Officers are working towards a 12 month forward plan.</p>

Workstream 1: Purpose and strategy

Action No.	Action	Progress update	Key dates
PS1	The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority will engage in a facilitated structured conversation to revisit and clarify its core role and purpose including the policy areas where we agree working together regionally to develop strategies and plans is beneficial. Discussions on role and purpose will also consider when and how to engage with partners outside the combined authority, potentially including deepening partnership arrangements where appropriate.	<p>All Mayors and Leaders have met with the independent facilitator supporting structured conversations around the role and purpose of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. CEOs have approved proposals for the next phase of this work and a further round of discussions with each Mayor and Leader to confirm their agreement to plans will take place . A joint workshop, attended by Mayors and Leaders is proposed for early 2024 as diaries allow.</p> <p>In line with the recommendation in the MCA Budget Report also on the Committee agenda today, it is proposed this work will report back by Autumn 2024.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO approval of next phase of programme: Nov 2023 • Mayors and Leaders discussions: proposed March 2024 • Work to report back by Autumn 2024
PS2	The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority, in dialogue with partners, will co-produce a Regional Economic Strategy , providing a common narrative for all regional stakeholders to be able to promote the economic vision of the region to external audiences. Through this work, highlighting investment opportunities across the region.	<p>Regional engagement on priorities for a refreshed regional strategy has continued. Workshops with regional partners are planned for the early part of 2024 to test initial conclusions and inform the finalisation of a strategy.</p> <p>A refreshed regional strategy is anticipated to be published in Spring 2024.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target publication: Summer 2024
PS3	Using independent facilitation, work with the business and partner community to refine a Terms of Reference for a Business Board to advise, support and challenge the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. Through this work, delivering a LEP integration plan	Work is progressing towards the establishment of a West of England Business Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target date for completion by end of financial year
PS4	Align the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and the Joint	When feasible, these meetings will be set up as required to deliver the business of each Committee.	ACTION COMPLETE

	Committee into the same business meeting.		
PS5	Activity to agree regional priorities including allocation of resources.	A regional priorities workshop took place in February 2023. Out of this, Mayors and Leaders agreed work to progress a revised regional strategy; work to support refinement of regional investment opportunities; work to strengthen our investment in the region; and a strengthened focus on working together to deliver. The regional strategy will be refreshed on a regular basis as required. The conclusions of this workshop are being taken forward across the Transformation Programme.	Transformation action complete - workshop in Feb 2023. Ongoing work flowing from the Feb 23 workshop embedded across the Transformation Programme.
PS6	Board members to be involved at an earlier stage in setting strategic regional direction	As noted in actions above, a range of steps have been taken to ensure Board members are involved at an earlier stage in setting strategic direction, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a clearer forward plan of key decisions and Committee lead-in process (enabling Board members to highlight where they would like to input). • Co-producing a regional strategy (ensuring the views of Board members are reflected in the development of this work). • Strengthening senior officer collaboration to ensure the views of Board members are fed into strategic direction at an earlier stage. With stronger arrangements in place, this action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and supported via business as usual.	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery

Workstream 2: workforce and culture

Action No.	Action	Progress update	Key dates
WC1	Through 'Step Change' programme, develop revised leadership structure for the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority organisation including review of senior pay and grading structures and titles and creation of consistent 'job families' across the authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A revised senior officer leadership structure for the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority has been put in place. Senior pay and grading work was completed as part of the agreed Pay Policy in June 2023. Work is currently underway to create a consistent set of job families across the Authority at all levels. It is expected that this work will be complete by the end of the financial year. <p>Once action is complete on the creation of consistent job families across the organisation, this action will be complete.</p>	<p>Revised leadership structure: completed Nov 2023</p> <p>Senior pay structure: completed June 2023</p> <p>Creation of consistent job families: target date end of March 2024</p>
WC2	Through 'Step Change' programme, establish working behaviours and principles for the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and revised values for the organisation, using established LA networks as appropriate	Corporate values were agreed in September 2023 following full staff engagement and were shared with all staff in September 2023 at an all staff awayday. Further work on core behaviours to underpin the values has been completed and will be brought to CLT for approval in January 2023. Once approved by CLT, this action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.	<p>Corporate values: approved Sept 2023</p> <p>Core behaviours: due for completion Jan 2024</p>
WC3	Through 'Step Change' programme, strengthen the function of the 'corporate core' of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority organisation	<p>Recruitment to a number of core roles to help strengthen the corporate core of the organisation has taken place. Roles now recruited to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent Section 73 Officer Assistant Chief Executive Head of Performance Health and Safety Manager <p>Further recruitment is planned to ensure the corporate core of the organisation has the resourcing required for the scale of delivery the</p>	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery

		<p>West of England Mayoral Combined Authority is now responsible for.</p> <p>With a clear recruitment plan in place, this action will now be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.</p>	
WC4	<p>Complete management restructure to fill interim posts permanently in consultation with the LAs, with external support, and in line with the constitution of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. Ensure Monitoring Officer role is at Director level</p>	<p>A senior officer recruitment round has concluded with a new permanent Section 73 Officer now in post. The recruitment to the permanent Monitoring Officer role will be revisited in early 2024.</p> <p>A stable senior officer team is now in place.</p>	<p>Recruitment to permanent Monitoring Officer to commence early 2024.</p>
WC5	<p>Ensure performance reviews are formally recorded</p>	<p>Performance reviews completed across the organisation at all levels in August 2023. Revised approach and new system to continuous Performance Management across the West of England Combined Authority has been agreed by the Corporate Leadership Team and will be implemented by January 2024.</p> <p>Once the new performance Management system is in place, this action will be closed in the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.</p>	<p>All performance reviews by August 2023</p> <p>New performance approach implemented by Jan 2024 (action will be complete at that stage)</p>
WC6	<p>Consideration of the GT Auditing Culture report made by the Head of HR in consultation with UA HR leads (and others as relevant), and recommendations for improvement made for consideration by the constituent member CEO group</p>	<p>Action to be closed. Regular meeting between the HR leads of the authorities are already in place. GT culture report has been considered as part of wider culture work covered in action WC2 above.</p>	<p>ACTION COMPLETE</p>
WC7	<p>Agree process for sharing performance indicators and information with member organisation relating to organisational culture and health</p>	<p>HR dashboard is in place and metrics agreed. Action to be closed as part of the Transformation Programme and will be managed via business-as-usual arrangements.</p>	<p>Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery</p>

WC8	<p>Review of recruitment and attraction strategy to ensure that the Authority can bring in the right people with the right skills and reduce interim usage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resourcing strategy for Infrastructure recruitment has been and is being delivered – recognising this is an area of specific need for the Authority. • A review of Learning and Development has been completed, with an action plan for delivering L&D interventions now being managed under business as usual • A new careers website is in development, improving the information we are able to provide to job applicants. New site due to be in place by Spring 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L&D review: COMPLETE • New careers website: target completion date Spring 2024
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Workstream 3: governance and structures

Action No.	Action	Progress update	Key dates
GS1	<p>Following discussions on the role and purpose of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority , develop revised West of England Mayoral Combined Authority operating principles as part of revisions to the Constitution of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. Have regard to the Constitutions of other CAs as revisions are made. In reviewing the Constitution, revise the scheme of delegations.</p>	<p>A review of the Constitution will take place following the outcome of the role and purpose discussions. The timing and scope of this work is dependent on the outcome of these discussions.</p>	<p>At conclusion of role and purpose discussions</p>
GS2	<p>Establish a set of meetings with the purpose of enhancing ownership and collaboration of the agenda and the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority. Committees to have clear ToR, forward timetable and training programme to support implementation. This work should be independently supported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear arrangements for Audit and Scrutiny Committee have been put in place with additional meetings scheduled to ensure effective oversight. • Clear arrangements in place to work with the Chairs of each Committee on forward planning. • The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny are continuing to support oversight committees. • The scale of the Legal and Governance Team has been increased to support effective delivery. • As noted under TP5, arrangements to support CA Committee 	<p>Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery</p>

		meetings have been strengthened. The action taken to strengthen arrangements around meetings is now embedded. This action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements	
GS3	Consider assigning Leader portfolios and CEO portfolios to support Leaders.	Through discussions on role and purpose of the West of England Combined Authority, the question of Leader portfolios can be considered as and when appropriate.	TBC - Following role and purpose discussions
GS4	West of England Mayoral Combined Authority officers will ensure Cabinet Members from Unitary Authorities can request briefings from senior West of England Mayoral Combined Authority officers as required	The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Chief Executive has offered briefings to all Local Authority member portfolio holders in advance of committee meetings. There will now be a standing agenda item at CEO meetings where requests for briefings can be made and discussed/actioned. This action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery
GS5	Regional Monitoring Officers will meet regularly to discuss matters regarding the constitution that need addressing	The MCA's Interim Monitoring Officer has established a programme of meetings with the Monitoring Officers from its four partner UAs. These are intended to take place at least monthly. As strong arrangements are now in place to support MO collaboration, this action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery
GS6	Following the 2023 local elections, highlight the opportunity of joining the Audit and Scrutiny Committees to UA members.	New Committees are now in place and information was shared with members about the opportunity to join Audit and Scrutiny.	ACTION COMPLETE

Workstream 4: effectiveness, efficiencies and delivery

Action No.	Action	Progress update	Key dates
DE1	Review the process for project evaluation of Business Cases , having regard to the models used in other Combined Authorities –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A streamlined approach for smaller scale, less complex transport schemes was launched in April 2023 and has been used by 10 	Work on track for any proposed changes to be

	ensuring business case assessment and decision-making is transparent and streamlined, and that criteria are clear.	<p>schemes to date allowing business cases to be produced more efficiently.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wider review of both the business case and grant application information and processes is underway, ensuring the requirements of these processes are proportionate, transparent and meet the requirements of the National Local Growth Assurance Framework guidelines. • Opportunities for streamlining processes will be identified as an aspect of this work. 	implemented for 2024/25 financial year
DE2	Use the Programme Review Board to review progress on agreed projects , providing challenge and support to ensure more timely delivery of all projects.	<p>A revised Terms of Reference for the Programme Review Board (PRB) was presented to its Board in November. The ToR revisions seek to clarify the role and purpose of the Board, ensuring a distinct role in providing assurance for delivery across the MCA's portfolio. It is planned that the revised Terms of Reference will be presented to the January Committee as part of the Investment Fund paper for approval.</p> <p>The revised ToR ensures PRB works effectively alongside other meetings of senior officers, which have a broader focus on supporting collaboration in setting strategic direction.</p> <p>PRB is a standing part of the officer governance structure, but once the revised PRB ToR are agreed this action will be closed in the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements.</p>	Revised PRB ToR to be approved at January 2024 Committee.
DE3	Use the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Corporate Governance Board to strengthen governance throughout the organisation.	The Corporate Governance Board now has a clear remit within the organisation to support statutory officers in oversight of organisational processes and standards, financial management, employment practice, audit and risk, and health and safety. The Board is now embedded and will remain part of business-as-usual arrangements. This action will therefore be closed within the Transformation Programme.	Transformation action complete with clear business as usual arrangements in place for ongoing delivery
DE4	Review approach to existing investment funds providing CEOs with up-to-date position on commitments, headroom, delivery timeframes.	The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority has initiated a detailed line by line review of projects both in infrastructure and across the totality of the West of England Combined Authority's operations. This work is underway and challenge sessions are taking	An update will be provided to the January meeting of the West of

		<p>place with all West of England Mayoral Combined Authority directors and relevant officers in unitary authorities.</p> <p>Key work has been shared with UAs for information and action, work continues to progress and will be reviewed by PRB.</p>	England Mayoral Combined Authority Committee
DE5	<p>Bring forward proposals for revisions on how we invest current funds and proposals for new investment approaches to help money go further</p>	<p>The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority is finalising a concept paper on how it could develop its role as an investment organisation to complement its existing grant giving responsibilities.</p> <p>This work has been progressed with input from UA colleagues.</p> <p>Opportunities to mature our approach to investment will be considered via the finalisation of the refreshed regional strategy.</p>	The approach for Maturing our Investments will be brought to June 2024 Committee.
DE6	<p>Through a programme of effectiveness and efficiency reviews:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. consider the appropriate routes to allocating the final 10% of the staffing budget increase agreed at Jan '23 Committee b. Consider areas for 'shared services' 	<p>The 2024/2025 Budget setting process has been carried out over recent months. This exercise has been approached with effectiveness and efficiencies robustly in mind, ensuring the organisation is allocating resources in ways that support timely and efficient delivery.</p> <p>The Budget setting process includes review by CEOs (during December 2023) and Committee (January 2024).</p> <p>Effectiveness and efficiency across the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority has been strengthened by the action taken across the Transformation Programme that is detailed in this paper. Regular discussions on this matter take place with the MCAs external auditors, which provides external assurance of the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation.</p> <p>The Audit Committee received an update from the external auditors at their December meeting.</p> <p>Consideration of potential areas for sharing resources, especially the new ones required as part of the 2024/25 budget process, is being explored as part of the shared services workstream to identify any opportunities. Progress will be reported to UA CEOs by summer 2024.</p> <p>Given the breadth of activity across the Transformation Programme, contributing the efficient and effective running of the Combined Authority, a formal programme of effectiveness and efficiency reviews was not progressed in 2023/24. As a result the 10%</p>	2024/25 budget setting process will be subject to approval at Jan 2024 Committee

		withheld budget was not released. A new recommendation is proposed for the latest budget to bring this programme of reviews for CEO approval by Summer 2024.	
DE7	Strengthen monitoring and evaluation of all projects to meet requirements of the Investment Fund Gateway Review and the CRSTS national evaluation. This will include updating the monitoring and evaluation framework and providing clearer guidance to project managers on proportionate requirements.	<p>Monitoring and evaluation of programmes across the Investment Fund progresses with submission of the midterm report to Government by March 2024.</p> <p>A revised framework to oversee Monitoring and Evaluation activity is anticipated in Q1 2024. Once the revised framework is in place, this action will be closed within the Transformation Programme and managed via business-as-usual arrangements</p>	<p>Gateway Review: next submission by March 2024</p> <p>M&E framework update: by June 2024</p>

Alternative Options Considered

14. This report ensures Committee continues to have ongoing oversight of progress across the Transformation Programme, which officers have been asked to report on in a transparent manner.

Consultation and Engagement

15. West of England Mayoral Combined Authority and Unitary Authority officers have been consulted on the content of this report, ensuring the updates provided set out a clear and up to date assessment of progress against each action in the Transformation Programme.
16. The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Audit Committee received an update on the Transformation Programme at their 11 December 2023 meeting. Members commented and sought assurances that steps were being taken to progress action around discussion of the role and purpose of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority.
17. The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee will have considered this paper by the time West of England Mayoral Combined Authority Committee meets and any comments from Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be provided verbally.

Key Risks

18. Failure to address the issues highlighted in the Grant Thornton Audit report and Independent Peer Review will hamper the ability of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority to deliver for the residents of the West of England. It may also impact on the highly successful track record of attracting additional funding from Government for the region.
19. The Transformation Programme has been structured to ensure the risks identified in external reviews of the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority are dealt with in a clear and structured way. Progress in closing a range of actions across the programme demonstrates that many of the issues identified via external reviews have been clearly addressed and, where appropriate, ongoing action is now embedded in business-as-usual activity across the Authority.
20. Where residual risks remain, this report highlights the action planned, which will serve as mitigating action in relation to the risks noted in paragraph 15.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

21. There are no specific equality implications arising directly from this report at this stage.

Climate Change Implications

22. The West of England Mayoral Combined Authority's Climate & Nature Strategy and Action Plan has been considered in the production of this report and there are no specific implications at this stage. Of particular relevance is the ongoing Regional Strategy work which rightly places action to tackle both the Climate and Nature emergencies at its core.

Financial Implications

23. The financial implications both in terms of supporting expenditure and potential savings are currently under consideration. As work across the Transformation Programme progresses, financial implications will be discussed with the CEO steering group and will be brought to Committee as appropriate for decision. There is a potential risk to ongoing funding if we fail to deliver on the overall programme.

Legal Implications

24. The West of England Combined Authority Committee is empowered to note the contents of this Report by way of Part 8 Article 24 of the West of England Combined Authority Order 2017 (SI 2017/126).
25. There are no additional legal implications set out in the Report.

Human Resources Implications

26. While there are no direct HR implications arising from this report, workstream two in particular highlights a programme of HR-related activity, some of which as noted in the report has already been delivered. Any further HR implications arising from the completion of this work will be highlighted to Committee as appropriate .

Commercial and Procurement

27. There are no specific Commercial and Procurement implications set out in the Report.

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