

**REPORT TO: WECA OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE: 23 JANUARY 2019**

**REPORT TITLE: REVIEW OF WECA COMMITTEE AND JOINT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To review the current WECA Committee and Joint Committee forward plans (as published) and to identify any items to be included in the WECA Overview and Scrutiny Committee's forward agenda plan.

#### **Background / Issues for Consideration**

2. The latest published update of the WECA Committee and Joint Committee Forward Plan is attached as appendix 1.
3. This latest update provides as much information as was available at the date of publication about decisions to be taken at WECA Committee meetings and Joint Committee meetings.
4. The current plan, most recently published on 18 December 2018 goes as far as 31 May 2019. As well as being a vehicle for giving advance public notice of decisions, the forward plan is also a key business planning tool for the Combined Authority. The CA is committed to being as open and transparent as possible about forthcoming decisions and intends to move as quickly as possible to the plan giving as much information as possible about decisions anticipated to be taken in the next 12 months. The Plan will be updated regularly, published and shared with scrutiny members at each publication date.
5. Given that the Forward Plan will aim to give as much information as possible about the next 12 months' decisions, this should assist scrutiny members to identify, at an early stage, if there are any particular items that they would like brought as more detailed briefings or reports, to enable their input to be made well in advance of actual decisions being taken. It is suggested that the requests for such briefings/reports should be as targeted and focused as possible, i.e. so that the scrutiny input will add value to the decision-making process. Such detailed

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briefings/reports will usually be discussed at a public meeting of the scrutiny committee, although, depending, on the issue, there may be circumstances where an informal/non-public briefing may be considered more appropriate.

6. In terms of their next scheduled meeting on 27 February 2019, it is suggested that members may wish to request a detailed briefing on the progress of the 2018-19 Combined Authority Business Plan and on the 2019-20 Business Plan.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the latest Forward Plan update and identifies any particular items to be included as part of the committee's forward agenda plan for more detailed consideration. It is suggested that members may wish to request a detailed briefing at their next meeting on the progress against the 2018-19 Combined Authority Business Plan and on the 2019-20 Business Plan.
2. That the Forward Plan continue to be considered as a standing item on each WECA Overview & Scrutiny Committee agenda, with a view to assisting the committee in developing their own forward agenda plan on an ongoing basis.

#### **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 / Tim Milgate on 0117 332 1486; or by writing to West of England Combined Authority, 3 Rivergate, Temple Way, Bristol BS1 6ER; email: [democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@westofengland-ca.gov.uk)