

West Midlands Regional Assembly

Speaking out for the region

The Board of Directors will meet at **the Training Suite, the Regional Partnership Centre, Albert House, Quay Place, Edward Street, Birmingham** on **Friday, 8 December 2006** commencing at **9.30 a.m.**

The agenda will be:-

1. **Apologies**
2. **Chairman's and Vice-Chairs' Report (verbal update)**
3. **Board of Directors – Friday 6 October 2006**
 - (a) **Decisions of the Board of Directors (available)**

To advise the Board of matters considered at its meeting on 6 October 2006 which were not otherwise the subject of a report to the full Assembly on 25 October 2006.

Recommendation

The content of the report be noted.
 - (b) **Decision notes of the meeting held on 6 October 2006 and Matters Arising (to follow)**
4. **Draft Decision Notes of the Assembly Meeting held on 25 October 2006 (to follow)**

FOR DECISION

5. **Regional Partnerships Review (available)**

To seek agreement to conduct a review of the work, focus, and direction of the Regional Partnership organisation and approval to the principal terms of reference and methodology.

Recommendations

That:

 - a) the proposals be approved for a wide ranging review of regional partnership activity, as set out in this report, and;
 - b) That the Board notes that the WMLGA Executive Committee approved the use of WMLGA reserves, up to the value of £15,000, in order to meet any additional costs associated with undertaking the review
6. **Draft Business Plan 2007/08 (available)**

To share with the Board the first Draft Business Plan and Budget 2007-08 as will be submitted to Government Office for discussion as part of the business planning process.

Recommendations

- a) That the Board delegates authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairs and Secretary to progress the business planning process with a view to providing a Final Draft Plan for the Assembly's approval at its meeting on 17 January 2007.
- b) The Board supports a request to DCLG for a legal contingency fund carry forward into 2007-08.

7. Company Secretary Report (to follow)

Governance:

- (i) Quorums for meetings
- (ii) Positions of Chair and Vice Chair
- (iii) Review of Memberships of Partnerships
- (iv) Representation on the Rural Affairs Forum

8. Regional Planning Partnership – ratification of the decisions (to follow)

9. Scrutiny and Strategic Review

(a) European Strategic Review – Progress Report (available)

To provide an outline of the progress to date in the Strategic Review of the Region's Relationship with Europe.

Recommendation

That the Board note the update.

(b) Scrutiny and Strategic Review Update (available)

To advise on substantive matters considered by the Strategic Review Group at their last meeting. The agenda and accompanying reports are available via the Assembly's website:

<http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=234>

Recommendation

The Board are requested to note the content of the report and offer comments as appropriate.

FOR DISCUSSION

10. Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and Regional Economic Strategy (RES) Policy Choices (available)

To:

- (i) provide an update on current progress in revising the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (WMRSS) and in reviewing the West Midlands Economic Strategy (WMES);
- (ii) demonstrate that action is being taken to ensure effective linkages between the two processes; and
- (iii) give consideration to the consultation documents on the WMRSS options and the WMES Choices.

Recommendation

That the contents of the report be noted.

11. Health and Wellbeing Strategy (available)

To advise of the emerging priorities and visions in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and for board to agree the proposed consultation process for the strategy

Recommendation

To note the content of the report, offer comments as appropriate and agree the proposed consultation process.

FOR INFORMATION

12. Climate Change – Next Steps (available)

To inform Board Members of steps being taken by the Regional Assembly in response to the climate change challenge following its recent Annual Conference.

Recommendation

That the Assembly Board notes the steps being taken by the Regional Assembly following the Annual Conference on Climate Change.

13. City Regions (available)

To provide the Board with a brief update on City Region activity and copy of the Birmingham, Black Country and Coventry City Region 2020 Vision Statement.

Recommendation

To receive and note this report and the Birmingham, Black Country and Coventry City Region 2020 Vision Statement.

14. The Future of Local Government (available)

To update members on the recent developments affecting the WMLGA and local government in the Region.

Recommendation

To note the content of the report, and consider the on-going activities set out within.

15. Draft Agenda for Assembly Meeting – to be tabled

16. Dates of future meetings – 9 March 2007 and 8 June 2007

Quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors

Members are asked to note that a quorum for Board meetings is subject to a minimum of 8 directors with at least 4 local government Directors, at least 1 business sector Director and at least 1 Other Stakeholder Group Director being present.