

West Midlands Regional Assembly

Speaking out for the region

The Regional Assembly **Annual Meeting** will meet at **Austin Court** on **18 July 2007** commencing at **11.30 a.m.**

The agenda and reports referred to are available on the Assembly website: <http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=347>

The agenda will be: -

1. **Apologies**
2. **Members' Disclosures of Interests**
3. **Chairman's and Vice-Chairs' Reports** (oral update)
4. **Election of Chairman 2007/08**
The Assembly Chairman shall be the nominee of the Local Government Sector.
5. **Election of Vice Chairs' 2007/08**
The three Assembly Vice-Chairs' shall be the nominees of the Local Government sector, the Business sector and the Other Stakeholders group.
6. **DRAFT Decision notes of the Full Assembly Meeting held on 25 April 2007 and Matters Arising**
7. **Assembly Board of Directors 2007/08**
To agree membership of the Board of Directors for 2007/08 in accordance with the amended constitution; all to be full Members of the Assembly: -

Chair and three Vice-Chairs of the Assembly
Fourteen Government sector
Four Business sector
Four Other Stakeholders sector

Each sector shall ensure that the Chair and Vice-Chairs' of the Regional Planning Partnership are included in their nominations to the Board.

8. **West Midlands Regional Assembly Membership 2007 – 2008**

Purpose

To present the current Assembly Member structure and seek endorsement to the arrangements to approve outstanding membership issues.

Recommendations

- (a) *That the current membership structure of the Assembly as set out in this report be noted.*
- (b) *That the Assembly endorse the Board decision that in the spirit of openness and transparency members of all three sectors and across the Assembly's governance structures should be encouraged to make available for publication on the Assembly's website Members' contact e.mail addresses.*
- (c) *That the Assembly's nominating bodies finalise their nominations to the various groups at the earliest opportunity.*
- (d) *That the Assembly endorse the current lead member arrangements, and delegate authority to the Chairman and Vice-Chairs of the Assembly to approve outstanding nominations, for the following officers for 2007/8: -*
 - (i) **Regional Planning Partnership/Executive**
Chair – Local Government nominee
Vice-Chair – Business sector nominee
Vice-Chair - Other Stakeholder nominee
Vice-Chair - Local Government nominee
 - (ii) **Regional Housing Executive / Partnership**
Chair – Local Government nominee
Vice-Chair – Business sector nominee
Vice-Chair - Other Stakeholder nominee
Vice-Chair - Local Government nominee
 - (iii) **Regional Transport Partnership**
Chair – Local Government nominee
Vice-Chair – Business sector nominee
Vice-Chair – Other Stakeholder nominee
 - (iv) **Regional European and International Affairs Partnership**
Chair – Local Government nominee

Vice-Chair – AWM Board Member

- (v) **Regional Environment Partnership**
Chair – currently Local Government nominee
Vice Chair – to be confirmed
- (vi) **Regional Health Partnership**
Chair – currently Local Government nominee
Vice Chair – Other Stakeholders Group nominee
- (vii) **Regional Equalities and Diversity Partnership**
Chair – currently Local Government nominee
Vice Chair – currently Other Stakeholder Group
- (viii) **Strategic Review Group**
Chair – currently Other Stakeholder nominee
Vice Chair – currently Local Government Nominee

9. CORPORATE ISSUES

Chief Executive and Company Secretary's Report - Corporate issues to include:

9.1 2007-10 Business Plan & Budget

Purpose

To update the Assembly on the 2007-10 Business Plan & Budget.

Recommendation

*That the Assembly **notes** the detail of this report.*

9.2 Strategic Plan for 2007-08

Purpose

To signpost the Assembly to the 2006-07 Final Progress Report which was submitted to Government Office in April and duly reviewed and approved.

Recommendation

*The Board is asked to **note** the details of the report which is available on the website*

<http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=332>

9.3 IRP for Members Allowances Scheme

Purpose

To provide an update for the Board on the work of the Independent Remuneration Panel who are considering the development of an Assembly scheme of allowances and expenses.

Recommendation

*The Assembly is asked to **note** the detail of the report.*

9.4 Regional Partnership Centre Priorities and Values

Purpose of Report

To inform the Assembly on the establishment of a set of Priorities and Values for the Regional Partnership and to seek Members endorsement.

Recommendation

*That the Assembly **endorses**;*

(a) The Priorities for the Regional Partnerships for the period 2007 to 2010 as set out in Appendix 1

(b) A Statement of Values for the Regional Partnerships attached as Appendix 2.

For further information please contact Olwen Dutton 0121 678 1031 o.dutton@wmra.gov.uk

10. Report of the Finance & Audit Committee – To Follow

POLICY ISSUES – items for consideration and discussion:

11. Sub National Review and Governance of Britain

Purpose

To inform Assembly members about the recent Governance of Britain Green Paper so that they can debate the issues raised.

Recommendation

To discuss the issues raised in this report and for the discussion to inform a response to the Green Paper.

12. Climate Change Action Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek the endorsement of the Regional Assembly to the consultation draft Climate Change Action Plan for the Region, and the arrangements for the consultation and finalisation of the Climate Change Action Plan.

Recommendations

That the Regional Assembly:

Endorses the consultation draft of the Climate Change Action Plan;

Notes and endorses further development regarding proposed arrangements for governance and accountability for Regional Climate Change working;

Supports the proposed arrangements for consultation and finalisation of the plan

Requests its own member organisations to contribute to the development and delivery of the action plan.

13. **Scrutiny Review of Advantage West Midlands: Access to Finance – Final Report**

Purpose

To present the recommendations arising from this scrutiny review to the full Assembly for consideration. The complete report can be accessed on the Assembly's website together with Advantage West Midlands formal response – <http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=85>

Roger Trotman, the Review Panel Chairman will introduce this item.

Recommendation

That the Assembly discuss and endorse the recommendations of the scrutiny review report.

14. **West Midlands Economic Strategy**

a) **WMRA Response to the WMES Consultation**

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to outline the Assembly's response to the draft West Midlands Economic Strategy (WMES).

Recommendation

That the contents of the consultation response be discussed and endorsed by the Assembly with appropriate amendments following the discussion.

b) **Progress Report 2006 - 07**

15. **Councillors Commission**

Purpose

To inform Assembly members about the Councillor Commission consultation and seek endorsement for a draft Regional Assembly/WMLGA response to the Commission.

Recommendation

To endorse the draft response to the Councillor Commission (appendix 1 to the report).

FOR INFORMATION

16. Regional Policy Partnerships Activity

Purpose

To update the Regional Assembly on the current status and activities of Regional Partnerships, established by or working closely with the West Midlands Regional Assembly.

Recommendation

That the Regional Assembly considers the report.

17. Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) – Update on Progress

Purpose

To provide West Midlands Regional Assembly (WMRA) with an update on the progress of Phases 1 and 3 of the revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

Recommendation

That the Assembly note the report.

18. Local Government White Paper – Briefing Notes

19. DRAFT Decision Notes of the Management Board Meeting held on 8 June 2007

20. Rural Affairs Forum Annual Report 2006 – 07 (Circulated with the agenda)

21. Dates of Future meetings:

24 October 2007 – Wolverhampton Science Park

16 January 2008

23 April 2008

9 July 2008

Following lunch at 2.00 p.m. there will be an induction programme for new Members. Please contact Sharon Doak (details below) if you wish to attend.

General Enquiries: Please contact Sharon Doak, Senior Regional Support Officer. Tel No: 0121 678 1042 or by e-mailing: s.doak@wmra.gov.uk

Enquiries about specific reports: Please contact the officers named in the reports.

The agenda and reports referred to are available on www.wmra.gov.uk

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