

West Midlands Regional Assembly

Speaking out for the region

The Regional Assembly will meet at **Staffordshire County Council, County Buildings, Martin Street, Staffordshire on 25 April 2007** commencing at **11.30a.m.**

The agenda and reports referred to are available on the Assembly Website: <http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=106>

AGENDA

1. **Apologies**
2. **Members' Disclosures of Interests**
3. **Chairman's and Vice-Chairs' Reports** (oral update)
4. **Decisions of the:**
 - 4a. **Assembly Meeting held on 17 January 2007**
 - 4b. **Assembly Board held on 9 March 2007**

CORPORATE ISSUES

5. **Company Secretary's Report** - Corporate issues to include:
 - **2007-10 Business Plan & Budget**
To seek the adoption of the final version of the 2007-10 Business Plan & Budget as submitted to Government Office.

Recommendation

That following the approval of the Board of Directors at their March meeting, the Regional Assembly is asked to formally adopt the 2007-10 Business Plan & Budget.

- **Corporate Governance Issues**
To update the Regional Assembly on Corporate Governance issues and activity as noted by the Board of Directors.

Recommendations

- That the Regional Assembly notes:
 - (a) the detail of the report.
 - (b) the information on Company Law Reform and that each Assembly Member should personally familiarise

themselves with the changes in respect of Directors duties.

- (c) the need to update the Register of Interests and that each Assembly Member should **submit** an updated declaration form.

- **Alignment of WMLGA Executive Committee and the WMRA Board of Directors**

Members of the Regional Assembly are advised of the Executive Committee's decision to seek to align future meeting dates of the Board and WMLGA Executive Committee and of the agreement of the Board of Directors to endorse this principle.

For more information please contact Olwen Dutton 0121 678 1032 or email o.dutton@wmra.gov.uk

POLICY ISSUES – Items for consideration and discussion

6. Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) – Verbal report from John Deegan, Strategic Director – Environment & Economy, Warwickshire CC

An Executive Summary will be available at the meeting. To view a full copy of the AMR visit <http://www.wmra.gov.uk/page.asp?id=52>

7. Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

To provide the Regional Assembly with an update on the current progress in bringing forward the revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

Recommendation

That the contents of the report be noted.

For more information please contact Rose Poulter 0121 678 1024 or by email r.poulter@wmra.gov.uk

8. Regional Economic Strategy (RES) - Update from AWM

To provide an update on the review of the West Midlands Economic Strategy (WMES). A copy of the near final version of the consultation draft of the WMES is attached. Please note that this draft has yet to be considered by the Advantage West Midlands Board and may therefore be subject to further change.

Recommendation

That progress to date with the WMES review be noted.

For more information please contact Philip Aison 0121 380 3500 or by email PhilipAison@ADVANTAGEWM.CO.UK

9. Climate Change Action Plan

To seek the endorsement of the Regional Assembly to the Climate

Change Vision for the Region, the arrangements for governance and accountability and the process for the preparation and consultation on the Draft Climate Change Action Plan.

Recommendations

That the Regional Assembly:

- Endorses the Climate Change Vision for the Region;
- Supports the proposed arrangements for governance and accountability for measures to tackle climate change within the Region, as set out in this report and Appendix 1;
- Endorses the process for the preparation and consultation on the Regional Climate Change Action Plan.
- As a first step to encourage all local authorities in the region to sign up to the Nottingham Declaration or similar local declarations by the anniversary of the Regional Conference in October 2007.

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

10. Future Regional Governance Arrangements

The purpose of this Report is to present to Assembly members a critique of the context for regional governance, current issues affecting this and to assist a discussion for Assembly members about the options to develop this within the West Midlands.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- (a) to give consideration to the development of a regional strategic partnership; and the key issues which should be contained within that to deliver most effectively the key strategic issues for the region.

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

11. European Strategic Review

To present the findings from the strategic review examining the approach taken at a strategic level to regional engagement with the European agenda. The complete report, "Its Only Brussels?", can be accessed on the Assembly's website.

Recommendation

That the Assembly

- discuss and endorse the findings of review panel
- approve those recommendations made for the Regional Assembly and for the European and International Partnership

For further information please contact Dagmar Waller on 0121 678 1054 or by email d.waller@wmra.gov.uk

FOR INFORMATION

12. Regional Policy Partnerships Activity

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.

For further information please contact Rose Poulter on 0121 678 1024 or by email r.poulter@wmra.gov.uk

13. Scrutiny and Strategic Review

To provide an update to the Assembly in respect of recent Scrutiny and Strategic Review activity.

Recommendation

The Assembly is requested to note the content of the report and offer comments as appropriate.

For more information please contact Dagmar Waller on 0121 678 1054 or by email at d.waller@wmra.gov.uk

NB: Following the full Assembly meeting there will be a Health Conversation Meeting commencing at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber of the County Council