

CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

**MEETING TO BE HELD AT 10.00 AM ON FRIDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2021
IN COMMITTEE ROOMS 6/7, LEEDS CIVIC HALL, CALVERLEY ST,
LEEDS, LS1 1UR**

This meeting will be held in Committee Rooms 6&7, Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR.

There will be very limited capacity for observers of the meeting. If you would like to attend to observe the meeting in person, please email: governanceservices@westyorks-ca.gov.uk to request a place, clearly stating the name, date and start time of the committee and include your full name and contact details, no later than 24 hours before the meeting begins.

Please note that the pre-booked places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis and once pre-booked capacity has been reached there will be no further public admittance to the meeting.

Coronavirus is still circulating so please follow all the Covid safe rules. Even if you have had the vaccine but have Coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste, you should NOT attend the meeting and stay at home and get a PCR test. For those who are attending the meeting, you are encouraged to bring a face covering.

This meeting will be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Combined Authority's internet site. If you have any queries regarding this, please contact Governance Services on governanceservices@westyorks-ca.gov.uk.

A G E N D A

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
To note apologies for absence and confirm quorum of 11 members is met.
- 2. DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**
- 3. POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**
- 4. NOTES OF INQUORATE MEETING HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2021**
(Pages 1 - 4)

5. SCRUTINY AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

(Pages 5 - 8)

6. CHAIRS COMMENTS AND UPDATE

7. CORPORATE SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME

(Pages 9 - 24)

8. MAYOR'S QUESTION TIME - TRACY BRABIN

To question the Mayor of West Yorkshire Tracy Brabin on matters pertaining to the remit of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

(Pages 25 - 28)

9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING - 21 JANUARY 2022

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BGM', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Managing Director
West Yorkshire Combined Authority**

Notes of **Inquorate** Corporate Scrutiny Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2021

Item 1 – Welcome and apologies

Attendees (9/11): Jeanette Sunderland, Carol Thirkill, Bob Felstead, George Robinson, Andrew Cooper, Mel Stephen, Jacob Goddard, Peter Harrand, Betty Rhodes

Apologies (8): Geoff Winnard (DC), Mike Barnes, Jane Dowson, Megan Swift, Paul Davies, Nadeem Ahmed, David Jones, Rachel Melly

Officers: Ben Still, Jon Sheard, Louise Porter, Khaled Berroum

Skipped items 2 and 3 as the meeting was inquorate.

Item 4 – Scrutiny and governance arrangements

Members received an outline of scrutiny standing orders and other governance arrangements established at the Combined Authority annual meeting.

In questions and discussions, members discussed a number of things, including:

- How the climate and environment brief was split between the three committees – due to the lack of a dedicated climate/environment focused committee, each of the three scrutiny committees would look at the environment from their POV. Economy would look at private / green sector, Transport at transport and Corporate would look at it from an internal corporate and strategic/assurance POV.
- Substitutes for parties that don't have alternate members from their party and district on another committee – it was agreed that the scrutiny officer will coordinate with governance team to find a compromise within the framework of current legislative and constitutional limits
- Work programme / remit overlap – Chairs will meet and liaise regularly to ensure the committees are staying within their remits and agree where there are overlaps or encroachments. It will help if the committees' workplans are presented in a unified way – one work programme, in three parts, so that members can clearly see what the others are doing.
- Hybrid meetings – Theoretically hybrid meetings are legally possible if there are enough voting members physically present for quorum and then additional members can attend and participate, but not vote, via zoom on a screen, at the Chair's discretion. However, the CA does not yet have the technology to do so. It is being explored in the new CA HQ building but that is some time away, 2022 at least.
- Number of meetings does not leave much time to scrutinise a lot – committee must prioritise strictly. Likely to be reactive to Mayor's agenda and activities but should take care to identify key issues and scrutinise them in the right format.
- Call-ins – It was noted that it has never happened. Scope for more proactive system where officers help members look at certain upcoming decisions in an informal manner and sound out members for any potential issues so that by the time call-in period begins members are in a stronger position to call something in.
- Quorum is a challenge – As evidenced by this meeting, even if a call-in is made, if the subsequent meeting is not quorate or cannot get enough members than the call-in will expire without proper scrutiny and a decision on whether to recommend it. It is important that meetings are quorate.

Item 5 – Chairs comments and announcements

The Chair, who previously chaired Overview & Scrutiny prior to the new expanded structure, introduced himself to new members and noted that:

- He and the Deputy Chair met with the other scrutiny chairs and senior officers to better understand the CA's corporate and strategy functions and activities going forward.
- the Transport Committee is currently under an internal review which is likely to change its terms of reference and membership significantly and effect the formal scrutiny of transport issues and services. Although the Corporate Scrutiny Committee's remit includes governance, it was agreed that Transport Scrutiny Committee would take the lead on responding to the review if required, after draft proposals were agreed.

Item 6 – Corporate functions and priorities overview

Members received a high-level overview of the corporate services and activity delivered by the CA as well as an outline of current corporate priorities, projects and strategies.

Questions and discussion centred around:

- How focus on equality and diversity has increased significantly since the Mayor's election as it's a key priority and pledge of hers. Many corporate priorities are being reviewed with that in mind. An equality and diversity officer has been hired. Overall, it is a work in progress.
- How often KPI data is collected and monitored: KPI data is collected monthly and reported quarterly. The current set is from Q1 of 2021/22 financial year (April-June). It was suggested that KPI data could be uploaded monthly to a suitable place where it could be monitored by scrutiny more regularly. Scrutiny might also find it useful to know which KPIs have improved, stalled, or regressed since the previous reporting period – in addition to the RAG ratings outlining if the overall targets are being achieved. Officers agreed to consider these suggestions.
- Opportunities to harmonise internal systems as each partner authority upgrades them: there is a 'Partnerships' workstream within the CA's internal 'MCA Ready' programme which is responsible for identifying corporate opportunities like that.
- Budget setting process and pressures on the budget: There are two budget working groups – one focusing on overall strategy, and one focusing on transport spending in particular. There are many pressures on the budget this year due to the aftermath of COVID on various industries. This could be a particular focus of scrutiny this year when it scrutinises the budget.
- Methodology of impact assessments – such as carbon: The CA is currently undergoing a project to audit the carbon impacts of all its service areas and projects as part of the wider climate action plan and internal carbon reduction plan. Officers agreed to check if local climate commissions are involved in consultations in this area, and also anyone else being engaged with.

Item 7 – Corporate Scrutiny Work Programme discussion

The Chair and members discussed a number of principles and approaches to work programming, topic selection and future meetings – including:

- Acknowledging the level of resource capacity and time available to scrutiny – one scrutiny officer and three further committee meetings, with limited support from the wider officer corps when needed.
- responsibility to read reports which are requested and take up officers' time, otherwise officers scarce time is taken up inappropriately

- Chair suggested consideration of any mayoral pledge directly related to corporate and in general looking at the financial, resource and deliverability capacity of the CA in general.

Members' discussion, questions and suggestions included the following:

Partnerships, soft power and other opportunities:

- WY internal: how well does the Combined Authority work with the five constituent authorities (and York) in all matters – from officer liaison, policy development, project and service delivery, communications and any other cooperation? What are the 'joined-up working' processes like? How effective is joint working currently? Where are the gaps, obstacles and areas of improvement? What are relationships like between the CA and between councils? How is knowledge sharing by officers across the five councils?
- External: what other partnership opportunities exist? What is being done to foster greater relationships between WYCA and central government, the public, key stakeholders and operators? Or relationships between combined authorities and metro-mayors? How well does the mayor cooperate with the other mayors, particularly on pan-northern and cross-CA border issues, such as through the M10 (which has its own secretariat and workstreams)? Are any new partnerships and being pursued?
- Comms/engagement: what is the focus of the CA's current comms/marketing/engagement strategy, particularly since the Mayor's election? How well does the CA engage with elected members and the public on its schemes during consultation stages?

Strategic and financial decision-making:

- Budget and business planning process: what are the biggest pressures on the budget this year and how are they being mitigated? What are the biggest risks (and mitigations)?
- Financial/spending: How does the Mayor and CA decide what to invest in, how are spending priorities determined? For example, how are decisions about what Gainshare is spent on arrived at? How does the strategic investment framework fit in with this? What is the process for consideration and monitoring?
- Sources of funding: availability of funding determines what can be done. What opportunities for new or extra funding are available to the CA to potentially pursue? What are other MCAs doing? What is the current progress on business rate retentions or plans on precept?
- Overall priorities and consistencies: How are priorities ultimately determined – particularly when a conflict between two different priorities arises? (E.g. it could be argued that commitment to carbon reduction vs road building. Or something like creating jobs / economic growth vs climate action and carbon reduction). What priorities have been left out – and why?
- Impact assessments (E.g. carbon impact, EDI etc assessments): what is the methodology and process, how is it assessed during decision making (E.g. in committee meetings etc.)
- Evolution and effectiveness of new governance and scrutiny structure: these have changed significantly since the Mayor's election – how are they coming along? Are there any concerns already evident? When will they be reviewed for effectiveness – and how?

Workforce and internal systems:

- How was the workforce evolved over the last few years – particularly since the MCA was established? What are future expectations and current plans to prepare for

them? What are the biggest challenges? Are there any areas of concern – such as resources, recruitment/retention or overall delivery capacity?

- How are we utilising and attracting talent (local talent in particular) during recruitment? How well are we retaining this talent within the organisation? How well are staff developed and 'up skilled' long term?
- What's the internal approach to apprenticeships and across the five councils? Is there cooperation?
- Which internal systems are due for an upgrade? Is there a capacity to engage in more harmonisation between the constituent authorities on corporate matters and systems used such as HR, finance, etc or a shared project management hub?
- What is the CA's approach to cyber security and ICT resilience? How has this approach evolved since the pandemic as reliance on technology and vulnerability to system/information security has increased?

Next meeting date – 19 November 2021, MAYORS QUESTION TIME, venue to be confirmed (most likely Leeds Civic Hall – Committee Room 6/7)



Report to: Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19 November 2021

Subject: **Scrutiny and governance arrangements**

Director: Angela Taylor, Corporate and Commercial Services

Author: Khaled Berroum, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To note any changes in scrutiny and governance arrangements pertaining to the Overview and Scrutiny function in general and the Corporate Scrutiny Committee in particular.
- 1.2 To note changes in membership since the last meeting.

2. Information

Membership changes

- 2.1 The following changes in membership have occurred since the last meeting:
 - Cllr Tony Homewood replaces Cllr Nadeem Ahmed (Wakefield, Conservative)

Amendments to Scrutiny Standing Orders – substitute arrangements

- 2.2 Following discussion at the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 24 September 2021, amendments to Scrutiny Standing Orders (Part 4 Procedure Rules, Section 4.6 of the Constitution) to clarify substitute pool arrangements and allow scrutiny members currently without a substitute (from the same party and authority on another scrutiny committee) to nominate an additional member to act as their permanent substitute are being proposed at the next Combined Authority meeting on 9 December.
- 2.3 The proposal is that the paragraphs of Scrutiny Standing Order 1 are amended as follows:

Proposed wording for SSO 1:

- 1.2 *A member of any overview and scrutiny committee may substitute for any member of a different overview and scrutiny committee from the same party and district.*
- 1.3 *Where a member has no substitute alternate from the same party and district on another overview and scrutiny committee, an additional substitute from the same party and district may be nominated and appointed to act as their substitute.*

2.4 As soon as the amendment is effective, the following Members are entitled to nominate a substitute from their party and group:

Member	District	Party	Committee
<i>Jeanette Sunderland</i>	Bradford	Liberal Democrats	<i>Corporate</i>
Amanda Parsons-Hulse	Calderdale	Liberal Democrats	Transport
<i>Andrew Cooper</i>	Kirklees	Greens	<i>Corporate</i>
Anthony Smith	Kirklees	Liberal Democrats	Transport
Robert Finnigan	Leeds	Morley Borough Independents	Transport
Jonathan Bentley	Leeds	Liberal Democrats	Economy
<i>Rachel Melly</i>	York	Labour	<i>Corporate</i>

Amendments to Scrutiny Standing Orders – number of meetings

- 2.5 Scrutiny Standing Orders currently obligate scrutiny committees to a certain number of meetings per municipal year. Following a review of constitutions and standing orders in the partner authorities, neighbouring authorities and other mayoral combined authorities, it will be proposed, at the same Combined Authority meeting, that the wording be amended to reflect the current practice that it is up to scrutiny to decide how often they should meet to perform their duties.
- 2.6 The proposal is that the following paragraph in Scrutiny Standing Order 9 is amended as follows.

Proposed new wording in SSO 9:

- 9.1 *Overview and scrutiny committees will schedule regular meetings and meet as often as required to effectively discharge their functions.*

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1 To note the changes in membership since the last meeting.

10.2 To note the amendments to Scrutiny Standing Orders being proposed at the next Combined Authority meeting on 9 December 2021 as outlined in paragraphs 2.2 – 2.6.

11. Background Documents

[Scrutiny Standing Orders](#) (Part 4, Section 6- WYCA Constitution) (2021/22)

12. Appendices

None.

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Report to: Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19 November 2021

Subject: **Scrutiny Work Programme 2021/22**

Director: Angela Taylor, Director of Corporate & Commercial Services

Author: Khaled Berroum, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To approve the Corporate Scrutiny Work Programme for 2021/22.
- 1.2 To consider any additional agenda items, formal referrals to scrutiny, reviews, call in, and any other tasks, issues or matters the Committee resolves to undertake or consider further.

2. Information

Scrutiny Work Programme

- 2.1 The Work Programme outlines the work the Committee has resolved to undertake, investigate further and focus on in the current municipal year (June 2021 – June 2022) within the resources, remit and powers available to it.
- 2.2 The work programme is set at the beginning of the year and, as a live document, is considered at each meeting where it can be amended and changed as the year progresses.

Referrals to scrutiny

- 2.3 Under Scrutiny Standing Order 7, any Scrutiny Member, any Combined Authority Member or any elected Member of a West Yorkshire council (or the City of York Council) may formally refer a matter to the Committee for consideration. The referral must be in writing to the Statutory Scrutiny Officer. The Committee must then consider and discuss the referral and respond to the referrer explaining whether or not it will consider the matter further and why.
- 2.4 There are no formal referrals for this committee to consider.

Agenda items and topics for consideration 2021/22

- 2.5 At the last committee meeting, members considered the Combined Authority's corporate priorities and plan alongside the Mayor's Pledges and, following further questions and discussions with senior officers, discussed a number of possible topics and items to consider further this year.
- 2.6 The resultant work programme is attached at **Appendix 1**. The document also includes the topics to be considered by the other two scrutiny committees.

Key decisions and call in

- 2.7 Scrutiny members may call in any decision of the Mayor, Combined Authority, a decision-making committee and any key decisions taken by an officer (with the exception of urgent decisions). Key decisions are defined as any decision incurring a financial cost or saving of £1 million or more, or a decision likely to have a significant effect on two or more wards.
- 2.8 Decision-makers have two days to publish notice of a decision, at which point scrutiny members have five working days to call in the decision, delaying its implementation, and formally requiring the decision maker to reconsider.
- 2.9 Any five scrutiny members – including at least one member from two different constituent councils (West Yorkshire) – may call-in a decision by notifying the Statutory Scrutiny Officer in writing by 4.00 pm on the fifth working day following publication of a decision notice. The relevant scrutiny committee then has 14 days to meet and scrutinise the decision and make any recommendations. Further information is set out in Scrutiny Standing Order 14.
- 2.10 The latest key decisions and forward plans of key decisions are published and available for viewing on the [key decisions section of the Combined Authority's website](#).

Actions for the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

- 2.11 As outlined in Scrutiny Standing Order 17, the statutory scrutiny officer provides support to a scrutiny committee's work programme and all scrutiny members in exercising their scrutiny duties and fulfilling their objectives.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

10.1 To approve or amend the Scrutiny Work Programme

11. Background Documents

None.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Joint Scrutiny Work Programme 2021/22

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Scrutiny Work Programmes 2021/22

Summary of main topics

Committee	Topics	Meetings
Corporate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Partnerships and mayoral soft power 2. Budget and business planning 3. Overall strategic and financial decision-making 4. Workforce and corporate systems 	19 November 2021 (MQT) 21 January 2022 11 March 2022
Transport	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Buses (franchising and improvement plans) 2. Behaviour change in decarbonisation 3. Freight (incl waterways) 4. Road management and policy 5. Rail reforms 	18 November 2021 20 January 2022 (MQT) 10 March 2022
Economy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. COVID-19 recovery: growth, jobs and skills 2. Impact of inward investment (Incl. Channel 4 & culture) 3. Rural issues 4. Housing pledge and powers 	17 November 2021 19 January 2022 ?? February 2022 – possible II/C4 workshop 9 March 2022 (MQT)
<i>All Committees</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (Relevant) Mayors Pledges 2. Work programme 	9 July 2021 – induction intro workshop

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Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Summary:

1. Partnerships and mayoral soft power
2. Budget and business planning
3. Overall strategic and financial decision-making
4. Workforce and corporate systems

Topic	Sub-topics	Objectives	Meetings	Notes and tracking
Partnerships and mayoral soft power	West Yorkshire partnership	<p>Understand how well the CA works with the five authorities and York in all matters – incl. possibly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • officer liaison, • knowledge sharing, • policy development, • project management, • service delivery, • communications / engagement, • and any other cooperation <p>Explore quality of current relationships between CA + councils and between councils and potential areas for improvement in joint working.</p>	TBC	
	External partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what is being done to strengthen relationships with other Mayors/MCAs (on pan-northern and cross-border things) and central government (and other key stakeholders such as operators). • Understand what other partnership opportunities are being identified and how they are pursued. 	TBC	

	Communications & Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the Mayor / CA's comms/marketing/engagement strategy to raise their profile. Explore how well the CA engages with elected members and the public (particularly consultation on schemes) 	TBC	
Budget and business planning	Budget setting and business planning 2022/23	Explore the biggest pressures and risks and possible mitigations in budget setting (2022/23).	January 2022 Possible December 2021 Workshop	
	Budget performance 2021/22	Monitor budget performance in the current financial year (2021/22).	Standing Item	
Overall strategic and financial decision-making	Gainshare, strategic investment framework and other spending priorities	Understand and explore how the Mayor / CA decide what to invest in – particularly Gainshare (E.g. Strategic Investment Framework.)	January 2022 Possible December 2021 Workshop	
	Sources of funding	Understand what possible extra funding sources are available to the CA – including government funding, business rates and precepts.	January 2022 Possible December 2021 Workshop	
	Strategic prioritisation and consistency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how strategic priorities are determined. Explore how conflicts between priorities are resolved and which priorities had to be left out. 	January 2022 Possible December 2021 Workshop	
	Impact and performance assessment	Understand the process and methodology of performance and impact assessment and how it is considered during decision making (E.g. carbon impacts, EDI)	January 2022 Possible December 2021 Workshop	
	New governance and scrutiny structures	Monitor the effectiveness of the new governance and scrutiny structures	March 2022	

		established after the Mayor's election – and review as appropriate.		
Workforce and corporate systems	Workforce planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how the workforce has evolved since the MCA was established – and future expectations. Explore current preparations and any challenges or areas of concern (such as funding, resources, and delivery capacity). 	March 2022 Possible workshop February	
	Recruitment, retention and apprenticeships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how well the CA attracts, recruits, utilises and retains talent – (local talent in particular) and explore current challenges in these areas. Understand the current position with regards to apprenticeships within the CA. 	March 2022 Possible workshop February	
	Upgrade of corporate systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand plans to upgrade internal systems. Explore the capacity for greater harmonisation of systems across the five member authorities and CA e.g. in finance, HR, ICT and project management. 	March 2022 Possible workshop February	
	Cyber security and ICT resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the CA's current position re: cyber security and ICT resilience. Explore current risks and how the CA will evolve now the pandemic exposed increasing reliance on technology and system/information security vulnerability. 	March 2022 Possible workshop February	

Transport Scrutiny Committee

Summary:

1. Buses (franchising and improvement plans)
2. Behaviour change in decarbonisation
3. Freight (incl waterways)
4. Road management and policy
5. Rail reforms

Topic	Sub-topics	Objectives	Meetings	Notes and tracking
Buses <i>(in parallel with behaviour changes)</i>	Bus franchising	Understand ambitions for bus franchising and the statutory process (including lessons learned from Greater Manchester)	November 2021 March 2022	
	Bus improvement plans: 1. network coverage – rural and urban 2. connectivity and integration with modes (e.g. Rail, cycling and walking) 3. reliability and frequency of services (including use of technology) 4. costs and ticketing 5. partnership working (with transport operators and councils)	Understand the current position of the bus network in WY and explore bus improvement plans – with a focus on the subtopics.	November 2021 March 2022	
Behaviour changes (and inclusion) in decarbonisation	Research, data and general understanding	Explore current understandings in the transport sector about: 1. why people travel how they do	November 2021 January 2022	

<i>(in parallel with bus improvement plans)</i>		2. how habits changed over time 3. what changes habits		
	'Seldom heard groups'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the challenges faced by 'seldom heard groups' (e.g. disabled, neurodiverse) in using transport and how well they are engaged in consultations. Explore if their needs are being taken adequately into account. 	November 2021 January 2022	
	Youth engagement	Understand current engagement with young people and explore what more could be done.	November 2021 January 2022	
	Unlikely transport users	Understand how unlikely transport users are defined, identified, considered and engaged.	November 2021 January 2022	
Freight (incl. waterways)		Understand current position on freight and explore how assets such as waterways/canals have been considered as decarbonisation and commercial/economic opportunities.	Possible workshop	
Road policy and management		<p>Understand current position on roads and explore how roads and highway policy/management is harmonised and coordinated across the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> how it works now, why it wasn't changed with devolution how it could work in future 	TBC	
Rail reforms		Monitor national plans and reforms in the rail sector and explore	TBC	

		possible implications for West Yorkshire.		
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Economy Scrutiny Committee

Summary

1. COVID-19 recovery: growth, jobs and skills
2. Impact of inward investment (Incl. Channel 4 & culture)
3. Rural issues
4. Housing pledge and powers

Topic	Sub-topics	Objectives	Meetings	Notes and tracking
COVID-19 recovery: economic growth, job creation, skills, and other opportunities	Data and intelligence	Understand economic picture, what economic/social data is analysed and how it influences CA activity.	November 2021 January 2022	
	Influence and impact of CA/LEP activity – outputs, outcomes & additionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand what levers the CA has to make an impact on the economy. • Explore return on investment and whether a) targets are being achieved and b) if this constitutes additionality. 	November 2021 January 2022	
	Jobs and skills strategy – short and long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand job creation strategy and explore outcomes. • Understand how CA can help plug short term demands (such as shortages in HGV drivers, agricultural workers, service, retail, hospitality and security staff etc) 	November 2021 January 2022	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore long term AEB strategy and how local labour needs and are calculated and considered. 		
	Local growth – strengths and assets vs weaknesses and gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand region’s unique assets/opportunities and ‘growth engines’ and what other strengths could be developed and utilised to drive growth – particularly long term and ‘future proof’ sectors. Understand the region’s economic weaknesses (e.g. productivity and innovation) what gaps there are in the current recover/growth strategy and explore possible mitigations. 	November 2021 January 2022	
	Other post-pandemic opportunities	Explore potential post-pandemic opportunities e.g. rise in ‘entrepreneurship’ as alternate ‘job creation’ and local ‘community economies’.	November 2021 January 2022	
	Partnership working – partner councils	Understand current joint working with partner councils to avoid duplication and fit in with local strategies.	November 2021 January 2022	
Impact of inward investment	Return on investment and additionality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore whether targets are being met and 	Possible workshop February 2022	

	(Channel 4 as a case study)	<p>whether there is an appropriate return on investment vs resources dedicated to supporting incoming enquiries and outgoing proactive bids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore level of – and evidence of – additionality and whether investment makes a difference in relocations and leads to economic outputs. • Understand implications of possible competition between areas within WY and between MCA areas. • CASE STUDY: Explore if Channel 4 investment delivered promised outcomes – immediate (number of jobs created) and strategic (catalyst for growth in local creative sector). 		
Rural issues	Strategic gap	Understand how well rural-specific issues have been considered in wider strategies/plans, analysis and support services – in particular, agricultural/food business in the context of local supply chain resilience,	January 2022	

		skills shortages and business support/grants.		
	Digital connectivity	Explore current activity aiming to improve digital connectivity in rural areas.	January 2022	
Housing pledge and powers	Powers – current and future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand CA's current housing powers in the absence of spatial strategy and other devolution planning powers – and how CA's functions are expected to change in the future? • Understand how CA can enable housing development within current powers while housing remains an LA function. 	January 2022	
	Delivering pledge and coordination with partner councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore steps which could be taken to ensure homes are affordable and targets are met. • Understand how local plans will be taken into consideration. 	January 2022	

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Report to: Corporate Scrutiny Committee

Date: 19 November 2021

Subject: **Mayor's Question Time**

Director: Angela Taylor, Director of Corporate & Commercial Services

Author: Khaled Berroum, Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1. Purpose of this report

1.1 To introduce the Mayor's Question Time session.

2. Information

2.1 Every year the Mayor of West Yorkshire is invited to each of the Combined Authority's Scrutiny Committees at least once to answer the Committee's questions on any matter related to that committee's remit.

2.2 It is an opportunity for Scrutiny Members to hold the Mayor directly to account for the policies they adopt, the money they spend, the decisions they make, the services they are delivering and the outcomes they are achieving for the people of West Yorkshire.

2.3 The session will be divided into sections, each with a topic heading, which members can ask related questions on. Every member will have the opportunity to speak and ask follow-up questions to their original question.

2.4 This session will aim to focus on the following corporate-related areas, amongst others, including:

- Devolution – current and future
- Soft power and influence
- Partnership working across West Yorkshire
- Gainshare spending
- Budget and business planning
- Mayoral Pledge on corporate matters

- 2.5 The Mayor is permitted to invite relevant senior officers of the Combined Authority – such as the Managing Director or a relevant Director – to join them at the session. This session will include the following officers:
- Managing Director
 - Director of Corporate & Commercial Services

- 2.6 This year the Mayor is scheduled to attend the following Mayor’s Question Times at scrutiny committees:

Date	Committee	Time	Location
19 November 2021	Corporate Scrutiny	10am	Civic Hall, Leeds
20 January 2022	Transport Scrutiny	10am	Wellington House, Leeds
9 March 2022	Economy Scrutiny	10am	Wellington House, Leeds

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1 There are no climate emergency implications directly arising from this report.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1 There are no inclusive growth implications directly arising from this report.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1 There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

8. Staffing Implications

- 8.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

- 9.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1 To question the Mayor of West Yorkshire on matters pertaining to the remit of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee.

11. Background Documents

None.

12. Appendices

None.

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