

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE, RESOURCES, AND CORPORATE COMMITTEE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2021 AT CITY EXCHANGE, 11  
ALBION ST, LEEDS LS1 5ES**

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**Present:**

Mayor Tracy Brabin (Chair)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Sir Roger Marsh OBE DL (Deputy Chair)	Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership
Councillor Debra Coupar (Substitute)	Leeds City Council
Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe	Bradford Council
Councillor Tim Swift MBE	Calderdale Council

**In attendance:**

Angela Taylor	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Jonathan Sheard	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Louise Porter	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Ben Kearns	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Pandor, Councillor Jeffery and Councillor Lewis.

**2. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests at the meeting.

**3. Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There were no items that required the exemption of the press and public.

**4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 August**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 August be approved.

**5. Finance Overview**

Members considered a report which set out the capital budget monitoring for 2021/22 as at quarter 1 as well as the recommendations for the Leeds Public

## Transport Investment Programme Review part 2.

The summary of spend for 2012/22 as at July 2021 was attached at appendix 1. Members noted that significant programmes were in delivery with some challenging timescales with deadlines approaching.

Members noted the minor amendments around projects funded through the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme.

Members expressed concern around the timescales for delivery of the Getting Building Fund (GBF) and the Brownfield Housing Fund and how delivery of the latter was managed alongside the pledge for 5000 sustainable and affordable homes. Members requested a breakdown of the projects making up the GBF to better understand the risk of underspend. Officers would provide a full breakdown of the projects to members.

Members expressed frustration regarding the national targets attached to the funding which did not correspond to local ambitions around the mayoral pledges. Members also recognised that capacity funding was likely to be required to ensure that there were enough officers on the ground to deliver the schemes in full.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) That the financial position be noted.
- (ii) That in reference to the Leeds Public Transport Investment Programme Review Part 2 the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee approved:
  - (a) The reprofiled (updated) indicative allocations, as set out in the updated version of Appendix 2 (table 2).
  - (b) The Leeds City Council costs for rail package schemes, as set out in the updated Appendix 2 (table 3).
  - (c) That the Combined Authority issues addendums to the existing Funding Agreements with Leeds City Council for expenditure from the LPTIP Fund for the LCC costs for rail package schemes.
- (iii) That in relation to the funding for Leeds City Council on the bus delivery package schemes the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee approved:
  - (a) The LCC costs for bus delivery package schemes, as set out in Appendix 2 (table 4).
  - (b) That the Combined Authority issues addendums to the existing Funding Agreements with Leeds City Council for expenditure from the LPTIP Fund.
- (iv) That in relation to the Leeds Integrated Station Masterplan expenditure the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee approved:

- (a) That the Combined Authority issues an addendum to the existing Funding Agreement with Leeds City Council for expenditure of £1,000,000 from the LPTIP Fund to the Leeds Integrated Station Masterplan (LISM) project.

## **6. Budget Planning - Next Steps**

Members considered a report which set out the budget planning process and established two working groups, one on transport and one on strategy, to progress the budget work in greater detail. Membership of the groups would be finalised following the meeting.

Members noted that the directors of finance of each local authority were meeting with officers from the Combined Authority monthly.

Members noted that the Combined Authority would be able to borrow for economic purposes but needed to agree a debt cap with government. Members discussed the importance of negotiating a high debt cap with government to ensure that the Combined Authority wasn't constrained in its borrowing.

Members requested clarity around how much headroom for additional borrowing the debt cap allowed and how much would cover existing borrowing. A note would be circulated to members after the meeting.

Members expressed concern that government had set the debt cap at a lower level than other Mayoral Combined authorities on the basis that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority was a newly formed Mayoral Combined Authority. Members were disappointed at the short term arrangements for setting the debt cap in 3 year intervals which constricted the possibility for long term planning.

### **Resolved:**

- (i) That the report be noted.
- (ii) That two task and finish working groups be established.

## **7. Corporate Planning & Performance**

Members considered a report which provided an update on the corporate planning and performance activities for the 2021/22 financial year.

Members noted that the business plans for each directorate would feed into a public facing Corporate Plan for 2021/22. The Corporate Plan would include strategic targets and ambitions for the region in addition to the detailed targets relating to the Combined authority's specific contribution.

Members noted the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion information included in

the key performance indicators (KPIs) as well as some quantifiable targets on some KPIs.

Members discussed the interplay between the KPIs and the Mayoral pledges and the need for them to be closely aligned. Members also asked that a direction of travel be added to show the trend of each KPI.

Members noted that the HS2 and NPR indicator remained unchanged and that it was vital for the region that this this was delivered in full.

**Resolved:** That the report be noted.