

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
WEST YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY  
HELD ON THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2023 AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1,  
WELLINGTON HOUSE, 40-50 WELLINGTON STREET, LEEDS**

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**Present:**

Mayor Tracy Brabin (Chair)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe	Bradford Council
Councillor Stewart Golton (Substitute)	Leeds City Council
Councillor James Lewis	Leeds City Council
Councillor Shabir Pandor	Kirklees Council
Councillor Rebecca Poulsen	Bradford Council
Councillor Jane Scullion (Substitute)	Calderdale Council
Councillor Andrew Waller	City of York Council
Mark Roberts	Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership

**In attendance:**

Ben Still	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Melanie Corcoran	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Angela Taylor	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Dave Haskins	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Liz Hunter	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Dave Pearson	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Alan Reiss	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Philip Witcherley	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Caroline Allen	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Ian Parr	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

**63. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Carter, Cllr Holdsworth, Cllr Jeffery, Cllr Morley, Cllr Robinson, and Cllr Swift.

**64. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Mark Roberts declared an interest in item 9 – LEP Governance, owing to his current position as Interim Chair of the LEP. It was clarified that no decisions on the current meeting agenda are affected, however the Interim LEP Chair will not be involved in any future discussions regarding the Independent Remuneration Panel or any decisions it makes.

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

The Mayor noted that appendices 1, 2, and 3 of item 13 were identified as exempt from the press and public.

**Resolved:** That in accordance with paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of appendices 1, 2, and 3 to Agenda item 13 on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information and for the reasons set out in the report that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

**66. Minutes of the Meeting of the Combined Authority held on 8 December 2022**

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority held on 8 December 2023 be approved and signed by the Chair.

**67. Business Planning and Budgets**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Director of Finance and Commercial Services to approve the 2023/24 outcome-led business plan, and to consider and approve the proposed revenue budget and transport levy for 2023/24, the revised position for 2022/23, the indicative capital budget and programme and treasury management statement.

Officers noted that much has been achieved, despite the significant budget pressures caused by the ongoing cost of living crisis and other economic challenges. Decisions have already been taken to tackle the budget pressures, including freezing the local authority transport levy, and identifying more efficiency and cost-saving measures. The Combined Authority remains committed to delivering an inclusive economy, embedding equality, diversity, and inclusion, and tackling the climate emergency.

Officers noted the plans on page set out the key aims for each directorate, all of which have a spending plan against which progress will be reported. The presented budget is not without risks, so proposals are being made to ring fence some savings on concessionary reimbursement, to add to savings which have already been identified.

Officers explained that the Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) funding can support the ambitions of the Combined Authority, especially since the existing Bus Recovery Grant funding is expected to end in March 2023. Decisions on this matter will be made by the Transport Committee and update reports will be made to the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee and Combined Authority.

Officers clarified that this budget is the first to be set around the Combined Authority's new directorate structure. All officers are aware of the budget

pressures, though once a more established pipeline of projects is developed the Combined Authority will be ready to take advantage of future opportunities. Members asked if comparisons are made against the plans of other Mayoral Combined Authorities, officers responded that this is the case and further information can be included in future reports. Members requested further details on what is being spent towards longer-term outcomes, officers responded that further discussions are forthcoming, but that sustainability and income generation are both important to meet long-term aims.

Members raised concerns that the Economy Scrutiny Committee meeting was held in private. Officers clarified that there was an open session of the committee, as well as a private session. The public session was inquorate due to illness and so had to be held as an informal meeting, however the conversations still took place as planned. The Mayor noted the Combined Authority has three separate scrutiny committees which is more than most other Mayoral Combined Authorities, and encouraged as many people as possible to view the proceedings of the other committees for a broader understanding of the work of the Combined Authority.

**Resolved:**

That the outcome led business plans for 2023/24 be approved.

That the revised outturn budget for 2023/24 be approved.

That the indicative capital programme and budget for 2021/22 – 2024/25 be approved.

That in accordance with the powers contained in the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended) and by virtue of article 9(6) of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order and the Transport Levying Bodies Regulations 2015 (as amended) a levy of £103 million be determined for the year ended 31 March 2024.

That the Director, Finance and Commercial Services be authorised to issue the levy letter in respect of the financial year ending 31 March 2023 to the five District Councils in West Yorkshire.

That a payment of £5.09 million be made to the five District Councils in accordance with Table 1 of the report.

That authorisation be given to the Director, Finance and Commercial Services to arrange appropriate funding for all expenditure in 2022/23 and 2023/24 subject to statutory limitation, including the most appropriate application of capital funding as set out in the report.

That approval be given to the continuing of the policy, effective from 2017/18, for recovering the Combined Authority costs of managing the capital programme against the capital programme spend being mainly West Yorkshire plus Transport Fund, Transforming Cities, Getting Building Fund, Brownfield Housing, Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport and any schemes developed in year.

That the adoption of the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in Public Services be reaffirmed.

That the treasury management policy as set out in Appendix 5 be approved.

That the prudential limits for the next three years as set out in Appendix 5 be adopted.

## **68. Pipeline Development Priorities**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Director of Strategy, Communications and Intelligence to endorse proposals for the next phase of development of programmes to support the delivery of the West Yorkshire Investment Priorities and associated outcomes, and to approve in principle £5 million additional capacity funding to support pipeline development within the local authorities.

Officers noted that since 2020, a key focus has been supporting communities and businesses through the pandemic, and similar programmes have also been agreed to tackle the crisis in the cost of living and doing business. Longer-term issues should also be addressed in a sustainable way, so future programmes should wherever possible contribute to more than one investment priority, and also towards one of the aims of growing an inclusive economy, tackling the climate emergency and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. By identifying which projects meet the criteria the Combined Authority will be able to take advantage of any available and future funding as quickly as possible. Projects that do not meet the criteria can be scaled back or put on hold until they become viable, and all projects will proceed through the assurance framework at the appropriate time.

The Mayor thanked officers for their work in developing the pipeline of project delivery, and noted that there are numerous upcoming cultural projects already under way that will bring employment and training opportunities to many people, and additionally will make a strong case for further investment in the region.

Members asked if the development on investment zones a direct response to the government's proposals, officers responded that it is not directly related as the original proposals have since been withdrawn. The work is undertaken proactively and includes more areas than those suggested by the government which can work cohesively instead of as one predetermined zone.

### **Resolved:**

That the proposed direction of the programmes for development set out above be endorsed. Funding allocations and approvals to spend will be considered as programmes become ready. Any proposals to be brought forward will be progressed in line with the Combined Authority's Assurance Process.

That £5m funding per year from the Single Investment Fund to Local Authorities to support capacity issues and enable pipeline development work to be undertaken against the Investment Priorities be indicatively approved in principle. Full approval will be granted once the project has progressed through the assurance process in line with the Combined Authority's Assurance Process.

That the approval for programme to pass through Decision Point 2, totalling no more than £10m of funding from the Single Investment Fund be delegated to the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee.

## **69. Bus Service Funding Update**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Director of Transport Operations and Passenger Experience to provide an update on current issues affecting bus services in West Yorkshire and the actions to be taken to mitigate these risks and issues in 2023/24.

The Mayor noted that she continues to urge the government for longer-term funding for bus operators outside of London. Without continued funding some operators may need to reduce services, potentially leaving some communities cut off. The Mayor raised that there is not enough funding to cover every at-risk route, and so there is a need to consider how BSIP funding can be used to help stabilise network. Members highlighted the key role that buses play in supporting the local economy, and the Mayor confirmed that a meeting with the Minister for Transport is being arranged, where the issue will be addressed in greater detail.

The Mayor's Fares scheme has been operating for three months, and initial assessments have shown 7.2 million journeys have benefitted, saving passengers roughly £3.6 million. Passenger levels have risen from 81% of pre-pandemic levels to 87%, and more detailed figures will be presented to the Transport Committee. The Mayor expressed thanks to the people of West Yorkshire who have contributed to supporting bus services.

Members questioned the availability of data from the Mayor's fares scheme, officers responded that there had been delays retrieving the data from operators, however a full report will be provided to the members of the Transport Committee. The Chair and deputy Chairs of the Transport Committee are holding ongoing meetings with operators and reporting back to the Transport Committee.

Officers explained there is further information due to be circulated regarding the successful Levelling Up Fund bid of £41 million. The funding will be used to support a wide array of improvements across West Yorkshire including to bus stations and stops, funding to improve access to buses, and funding towards specific schemes which will improve bus priority and encourage active travel.

Members questioned if the bus patronage will increase to pre-pandemic levels, officers responded that bus use by under 19s is growing and is potentially higher than 2019. There are other demographics that have fallen

in use, especially for those commuting to work. Use of the free bus pass has also fallen which may be linked to the relative health concerns experienced by bus pass holders.

**Resolved:** That the actions being taken to manage bus service costs in 2023/24 be noted.

## **70. Adult Education Budget Rates**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Interim Director of Inclusive Economy, Skills and Culture to provide an update on progress with devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB), to seek approval for an increase to the AEB Funding Rate as recommended by the Employment and Skills Committee, and to seek approval for the proposal regarding Residential Uplift funding.

The Mayor noted that the recommendation made by the Employment and skills committee addresses the government's pre-devolution decision to freeze the funding rate for the last decade. Similar decisions are being taken across the Mayoral Combined Authorities where the AEB is also devolved, and without further funding providers have reported they may scale back or cut their courses entirely.

Members added that the recommendations have arisen as a result of multiple discussions at the Employment and Skills Committee and other conversations with education providers and employers. The Combined Authority has already saved over £1 million in administration fees due which has been put back in to benefitting learners.

**Resolved:**

That the proposal for an AEB rate increase, as outlined in 2.26 be approved

The decommitment to residential uplift funding, as outlined in 2.36 be approved

## **71. LEP Governance**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Head of Legal and Governance Services to seek approval to proposed changes to the LEP Constitution and governance arrangements following the approval of the LEP Integration Plan. The report also seeks approval to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to advise the Mayor and the Combined Authority on the level of allowance for the LEP Chair.

The Mayor noted that the Levelling Up White Paper provided clarity for the role of LEP boards and their integration with Mayoral Combined Authorities. The Combined Authority has now received the approval with no changes, and so the proposed governance arrangements will allow the integration to progress. The Mayor expressed thanks to the private sector members for their input and their support of the LEP, and also to Mark Roberts for his interim leadership so far.

**Resolved:**

That the proposed LEP governance arrangements as set out in the draft Articles at Appendix 1 and draft Terms of Reference at Appendix 2 and the revised Recruitment and Appointment Procedure for Private Sector Representatives as set out at Appendix 3 for consideration by the LEP Board at its meeting on 8 March 2023 be endorsed.

Subject to 10.1, the Head of Legal & Governance Services, in consultation with the Mayor and the Chair of the LEP Board as appropriate, be authorised to:

- finalise the Articles, Terms of Reference and the Recruitment and Appointment Procedure
- make such consequential amendments to the Authority's Constitution as are necessary
- set a date from which the proposed changes are brought into effect.

That the Head of Legal & Governance Services be authorised to convene an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Mayor and the Combined Authority as to the allowance that shall be payable to the LEP Chair.

**72. Assurance Framework Annual Review**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Interim Chief Operating Officer to report on progress on the annual review of the Leeds City Region Local Framework, and to request the Combined Authority to review and approve the proposed revisions to the Leeds City Region Assurance Framework.

Officers explained that the assurance framework was initially developed in 2015, and is required to be updated annually, incorporating any new government guidance. The amendments include clarifications about the AEB and Multiply funding, and further reviews will be undertaken with a network group for peer review and presented at a future Combined Authority meeting. Members noted the need for partnership in put into the framework, as well as the need for all projects to be delivered at speed and to represent value for money.

**Resolved:**

The proposed revisions to the Leeds City Region Assurance Framework be reviewed and approved.

That delegated authority be given to the Combined Authority's Chief Executive in consultation with the LEP Chair and the Combined Authority Chair to approve the final Local Assurance Framework, in case any further changes are needed to be made to the Local Assurance Framework prior to its publication.

### **73. Project Approvals**

#### **Investment Priority 1: Good Jobs and Resilient Businesses**

Members received a report from the Interim Director of Inclusive Economy & Skills on the progression of, and approval of funding for schemes.

#### High Growth Enterprise Programme

Members noted the scheme will last for three years, providing support for up to 2,400 new businesses across west Yorkshire with targeted support and advice. Officers added that the scheme builds upon previous successful support packages, and incorporates funding from external sources such as the Prince's Trust to increase the array of eligible businesses.

#### Digital Enterprise

Officers noted that the Digital Enterprise scheme will support businesses with their growth at a time when the central government has dropped its own 'Help to Grow Digital' programme. Support will be available for up to 450 businesses, with around 30 high-impact grants available for specialist support. The progress of the scheme will be monitored and evaluated alongside providers. Members noted that investment in digital enterprise is crucial to support the development of new jobs, and ensuring West Yorkshire is on the front foot as the sector continues to develop.

#### **Resolved:**

With respect to the High Growth Enterprise Programme the Combined Authority, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team, approved that:

(i) The High Growth Enterprise scheme proceeds through decision point 2 to 4 (Business Justification) and work commences on activity 5 (Delivery).

(ii) The Combined Authority's contribution of £5,000,000 be given. The total scheme value is £10,352,563.

(iii) The Combined Authority enters into a Funding Agreement with Leeds City Council for expenditure of up to £5,000,000.

(iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report, any change requests are delegated to the Business, Economy and Innovation Committee. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

With respect to Digital Enterprise the Combined Authority approved that:



(i) The Digital Enterprise scheme proceeds through decision point 2 to 4 (business justification) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).

(ii) The Combined Authority's contribution of £4,676,147 be given. The total scheme cost is £8,686,772. 214

(iii) The Combined Authority enters into a Funding Agreement with Leeds City Council for expenditure of up to £4,676,147.

(iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report, any change requests are delegated to the Finance, Corporate and Resources Committee. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report

### **Investment Priority 3: Creating Great Places and Accelerated Infrastructure**

Members received a report from the Director of Policing, Environment & Place on the progression of, and approval of funding for schemes.

#### Capital Flood Risk Management Programme

Officers noted that the Combined Authority has previously invested in flooding management. The approval relates to next phase of the programme, developing the business case and identifying further opportunities.

#### Flood Alleviation Scheme 2

Officers explained this scheme is on-site, however the impact of cost inflations has resulted in delays to delivery.

Members questioned if the schemes provide opportunities for local apprentices, officers responded that they do, and in this case the apprentices are managed by Leeds City Council. The number of apprentices can be disclosed outside of the meeting.

#### BHF Armley Tower Works

Officers noted that the BHF Armley Tower Works Scheme and Galem House were indicatively approved by the Place, Regeneration and Housing committee at its inquorate meeting on 5 January 2022, and are being presented to the Combined Authority for full approval.

Officers explained the scheme will support 50 affordable homes, including six apprenticeships.

#### Galem House

Officers explained the scheme will develop 77 new apartments in Bradford city centre. The apartments will all be available for rent and maintained by the developer, creating jobs and apprenticeships. Members asked if the apartments will be affordable rent, officers offered to find out and respond outside of the meeting.

**Resolved:**

With respect to the Capital Flood Risk Management Programme the Combined Authority approved that:

- (i) The Capital Flood Risk Management Programme proceeds through decision point 1 (strategic assessment) and work commences on the development of individual business cases.
- (ii) Development costs of £113,735 be approved taking the total scheme approval to £113,735.
- (iii) The principal that £10,000,000 of Combined Authority funding is utilised in order to engage and leverage funding from other funding sources and that work commences on the development of individual business cases, which will seek approval through the Assurance Framework.
- (iv) Approval of individual business cases through the Assurance Framework be delegated to the Place, Regeneration Housing Committee.
- (v) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report and where required, any change requests for the Capital Flood Risk Management Programme are delegated to the Place, Regeneration and Housing Committee. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

With respect to the Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme 2, the Combined Authority approved that:

- (i) The Leeds Flood Alleviation Scheme (Step 2) scheme proceeds through Decision Point 1 to 4 (business justification) and work continues on activity 5 (delivery), subject to assurances on a two outstanding questions from Government's Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
- (ii) The Combined Authority's contribution of £12,565,000 be given. The total scheme cost is £125,826,000.

- (iii) The Combined Authority enters into a funding agreement with Leeds City Council for expenditure of up to £12,565,000. 246
- (iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within tolerances outlined in this report.

With respect to the Brownfield Housing Programme delegation for pipeline of schemes, the Combined Authority approved that:

- (i) The existing delegation, as approved by the Combined Authority in July 2021, to the then Director of Delivery to make changes to the pipeline of schemes in the Brownfield Housing Programme, be transferred to the Director of Policing, Environment and Place.

With respect to BHF Armley Tower Works the Combined Authority approved that, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team:

- (i) The BHF Armley Tower Works scheme proceeds through decision point 2-4 (business justification) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).
- (ii) The Combined Authority's contribution of £932,775 be given. The estimated total scheme cost is £9,909,032.
- (iii) The Combined Authority enters into a funding agreement with Yorkshire Housing Ltd for expenditure of up to £932,775.
- (iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in the original report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in the original report.

With respect to BHF Galem House the Combined Authority approved that, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team:

- (i) The BHF Galem House scheme proceeds through decision point 4 (full business case) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery)
- (ii) The Combined Authority's contribution of £1,200,000 be given. The total scheme cost is £9,752,717.
- (iii) The Combined Authority enters into a funding agreement with Trident House Development Limited for expenditure of up to £1,200,000.

- (iv) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in the original report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

## **Investment Priority 5: Future Transport**

Members received a report from the Interim Director of Transport Policy and Delivery on the progression of, and approval of funding for schemes.

### Transformational – North East Calderdale

Officers explained the scheme was originally a part of the West Yorkshire Plus Transport Fund. If approved, the project will proceed to the outline business case and also allow for the development of bus priority measures to prepare the area for larger-scale development.

### CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement Programme and Off Highway Walking and Cycling Network

Officers explained the three City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS) schemes were made possible due to the devolution deal. The Combined Authority has worked closely with the Department for Transport to ensure the funding is used appropriately. The scheme will promote active travel across West Yorkshire through maintenance and development of existing infrastructure.

### CRSTS Network Management Renewals and Enhancements

Officers explained the bid will fund the replacement of outdated traffic control systems. Members highlighted the need to consider the types of replacements used, as other authorities are experiencing difficulties with the supply of necessary components.

### CRSTS Safer Roads

Officers explained the aim of the scheme to deliver a variety of traffic-calming measures and active travel enhancements across West Yorkshire. The local authorities will decide upon their own lists of priorities for action, which will be reviewed periodically.

### Leeds City Centre – City Square Plus – Thirsk Row

Officers explained the scheme is a part of the Leeds City Square plus scheme, and concerns converting Thirsk Row from a one-way street to two-way operation, which is key to improving the bus routing and improving access for pedestrians and cyclists.

**Resolved:**

With respect to Transformational – North East Calderdale the Combined Authority approved that:

- (i) The Transformational North East Calderdale scheme proceeds through decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and work commences on activity 3 (outline business case).
- (ii) An indicative approval to the Combined Authority's contribution of £4,300,000. The total scheme value is £78.400,000 - £88,100,000
- (iii) Development costs of £1,560,000 are approved in order to progress the scheme to decision point 3 (outline business case) taking the total scheme approval to £1,960,000.
- (iv) The Combined Authority enters into an addendum to the existing Funding Agreement with Calderdale Council for expenditure of up to £1,960,000.
- (v) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report and where required, any change requests are delegated to the Transport Committee. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

With respect to CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement the Combined Authority approved that:

- (i) The CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement Programme proceeds through decision point 2 and 4 and delivery continues until the end of quarter 1 of year 2023/24, and work commences on the development of the SOC for year 2.
- (ii) An indicative approval to the total CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement Programme value of £248,000,000 and to the total CRSTS Off Highway Walking and Cycling value of £3,440,000 for Off Highway Walking and Cycling is given.
- (iii) An additional £24,800,000 of development and delivery costs for quarter 3 and quarter 4 of the CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement programme (year 1) be given to provide a total allocation of £49,600,000 for the 2022/23 financial year. For Off Highway Walking and Cycling approval to an additional £344,000 to is given to provide a total allocation for the 2022/23 financial year of £688,800.
- (iv) £12,400,000 of development and delivery costs for quarter 1 for the 2023/24 financial year for the CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement programme be given and approval to £172,000 of development and delivery costs for quarter 1 for the 2023/24 financial year for the CRSTS Off Highway Walking and Cycling.
- (v) The Combined Authority enters into addendums to the existing funding agreements with the partner councils of the apportioned £37,200,000 for Q3 and 4 2022/23 and Q1 of 2023/24 financial year for

CRSTS Asset Management and Enhancement programme and £516,000 for 2022/23 and Q1 of 2023/24 financial year for CRSTS Off Highway Walking and Cycling, up to the amounts shown below:

Bradford - £7,906,412  
Calderdale - £4,979,964  
Kirklees - £7,767,932  
Leeds - £11,375,332  
Wakefield - £5,686,360

(vi) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report and where required, any change requests are delegated to the Transport Committee. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances outlined in this report.

With respect to CRSTS Network Management and Enhancement the Combined Authority approved that:

(i) The CRSTS Network Management and Enhancement programme proceeds through Decision Point 2 and 4 and delivery continues until the end of quarter 1 of year 2023/24, and work commences on the development of the SOC for year 2.

(ii) An indicative approval to the total CRSTS Network Management and Enhancement programme value of £25,000,000 be given.

(iii) An additional £1,862,500 of development and delivery costs for quarter 3 and quarter 4 for the CRSTS Network Management and Enhancement programme (year 1) be given to provide a total allocation of £4,362,500 for the 2022/23 financial year. 300

(iv) Approval to £931,250 of development and delivery costs for quarter 1 for the 2023/24 financial year for the CRSTS Network Management and Enhancement programme (Year 2) be given taking total approval up to £5,293,750.

(v) The Combined Authority enters into addendums to the existing funding agreements with the five partner councils of the apportioned £2,793,750 for Q3 and 4 of 2022/23 and Q1 of 2023/24 financial year taking, up to the amounts shown below:

Bradford - £1,475,000  
Calderdale - £280,000  
Kirklees - £1,006,250  
Leeds - £1,657,500  
Wakefield - £ 875,000

(vi) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances set out in this report.

With respect to CRSTS Safer Roads the Combined Authority approved that:

(i) The CRSTS Safer Roads Programme proceeds through Decision Point 2 and 4, and delivery continues until the end of quarter 1 of year 2023/24, and work commences on the development of the strategic outline case for Year 2.

(ii) An indicative approval to the total CRSTS Safer Roads programme value of £25,000,000 be given.

(iii) An additional £2,500,000 of development and delivery costs for quarter 3 and quarter 4 for the CRSTS Safer Roads programme (Year 1) be given to provide a total allocation of £5,000,000 for the 2022/23 financial year.

(iv) £1,250,000 of development and delivery costs for quarter 1 for the 2023/24 financial (year 2) for the CRSTS Safer Roads programme (Year 2) be given taking total approval up to £6,250,000.

(v) The Combined Authority enters into addendums to the existing funding agreements with the five partner councils for expenditure of the apportioned £3,750,000 for Q3 and 4 of the 2022/23 financial year and Q1 of the 2023/24 financial year, up to the amounts shown below:

Bradford: £866,250

Calderdale: £330,000

Kirklees: £693,750

Leeds: £1,297,500 301

Wakefield: £562,500

(vi) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances set out in this report.

### **City Square Plus – Thirsk Row**

The Combined Authority approved that:

(i) The change request to approve £939,000 from the CRSTS Fund to progress the Thirsk Row works as part of the City Square Plus scheme to Activity 5 (Delivery), and to extend the delivery timescale to July 2023, is approved.

(ii) The Combined Authority enters into an addendum to the existing Funding Agreement for the City Square Plus scheme with Leeds City Council for expenditure of up to £11,641,000.

(iii) Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report. This will be subject to the scheme remaining within the tolerances set out in this report.

## **74. Governance Arrangements**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Interim Chief Operating Officer to appoint a non-voting advisory representative of the West Yorkshire Housing Partnership to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee, and to appoint a non-voting advisory representative of the West Yorkshire Business Groups to the Business, Economy and Innovation Committee. Further recommendations seek the appointment an Interim Director of Transport Policy and Delivery, and to consider a recommendation for the use of the Chief Executive's powers of delegation in cases of urgency.

Officers clarified the nomination of the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee will add to the existing expertise of the membership, and the case is similar for the Business, Economy and Innovation Committee and the role will be filled on a rotating basis. The proposed changes to the Chief Executive delegation would allow for decisions to be taken swiftly in the case of inquorate committees and other exceptional reasons.

**Resolved:**

That a nonvoting advisory representative from West Yorkshire Housing Partnership to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee be appointed.

That a nonvoting advisory representative of the West Yorkshire Business Groups to the Business, Economy and Innovation Committee be appointed.

That the appointment of Dave Haskins into the post of Interim Director, Transport Policy & Delivery until such time as a substantive Chief Operating Officer appointment is made be approved.

That the Chief Executive be authorised to take decisions which would have been taken by a committee and where, for exceptional circumstances, that committee has been unable to meet, and the decisions are of an urgent nature and cannot wait until the next scheduled meeting.

That the Head of Legal & Governance Services be authorised to make such consequential amendments to the Authority's Constitution as are necessary.

**75. CoSTAR Innovation Hub**

The Combined Authority considered a report from the Interim Director of Inclusive Economy, Skills and Culture providing an overview of an opportunity to bid for up to £51 million UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) funding to create a national innovation centre in the creative industries and to seek approval to be a participant in the bid. The report also seeks an initial release of funding to progress design and enabling works for the Langthwaite Enterprise Zone site.

Officers clarified that the appendices are exempt due to the commercial sensitivities and competitive nature of the bid. The bid is undertaken in partnership with the University of York, one of the leaders in this field, as well as other partners who cannot be named at present. If successful, the



innovation hub will be a centre of innovation excellence in the creative sector and will complement the existing businesses in the area.

**Resolved:**

That the participation as a party in the CoSTAR bid and submission of the non-binding letter of support outlining the potential financial support the Combined Authority is providing to the bid (subject to full Combined Authority Agreement and Assurance) provided at Appendix 2 be approved.

That the principles of the draft Memorandum of Understanding (to which the Combined Authority will be a signatory) outlined at Appendix 3 be approved. Both the letter of support and the Memorandum of Understanding would be in substantially the form attached and subject to further legal input.

The release of £250k in initial resourcing capacity to enter into this bidding process and to enable development of the Langthwaite site, funded through residual Growing Places Fund monies be agreed.

That the indicative funding package for Langthwaite enabling works as detailed in Appendix 1, para 5.1 be noted.

**76. Minutes for information**

**Resolved:** That the minutes and notes of the Combined Authority's committees and panels be noted.