

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE, RESOURCES, AND CORPORATE COMMITTEE
HELD ON THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2023 AT COMMITTEE ROOM 1,
WELLINGTON HOUSE, 40-50 WELLINGTON STREET, LEEDS**

Present:

Mayor Tracy Brabin (Chair)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe	Bradford Council
Councillor James Lewis	Leeds City Council
Councillor Jane Scullion	Calderdale Council
Councillor Matthew Morley (Substitute)	Wakefield Council
Councillor Paul Davies (Substitute)	Kirklees Council

In attendance:

Alan Reiss	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Angela Taylor	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Simon Warburton	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Sarah Eaton	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Katie Wilby	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Rachel Jones	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Lorna Jones	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Simon Linley	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Randall Ghent	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Anna Woodhouse	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

36. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Scott and Cllr Jeffery.

37. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests at the meeting.

38. Exempt Items - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

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

39. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 June.

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June be approved.

40. Organisational Performance

The Committee considered a report that provided an overview of quarter 1 and quarter 2 corporate performance for 2023/24 in relation to the delivery of the Combined Authority's business plans.

Members discussed the Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion plan targets and when progress would be made on those targets with a red rating. A new integrated corporate system, CIAnywhere, was in the process of being implemented and would enable the progression of the EDI plan targets.

Members asked if some of the EDI targets from service delivery could be represented at the corporate level to provide further reassurance and monitoring.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

41. Finance Update

Members considered a report that set out the final outturn position of the Combined Authority in 2022/23 as well as the quarter one financial position for 2023/24.

Members discussed the challenges for delivery in regard of the Brownfield Housing Fund and the impact of internal vacancies.

In respect of the Getting Building Fund members asked about the number of new learners assisted which was much lower than expected. It was noted that post-delivery activities were ongoing and would be reported at a later date.

Members asked about the bank interest earned in the financial year which was expected to be higher than forecast due to the increase in interest rates.

Resolved: That the financial position be noted.

42. Gateway Review Evaluation

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on the 2024 Gateway Review.

Resolved:

- (i) That the progress made in delivering the Local Evaluation Framework
- (ii) That the project timetable, key dependencies, and risk mitigations be noted.
- (iii) That the next stages of the Gateway Evaluation be noted.

43. Business Planning and Budgets

The Committee considered a report that provided an update on the multi-year approach to business planning.

Members discussed the extent to which capital could be used to supplement revenue budgets and this would be developed through the business planning process.

Resolved: That the approach to business and budget planning, and the proposed outcomes, be endorsed.

44. Recruitment of Independent Member

Members considered a report which outlined the decision taken at the Combined Authority on 12 October to recruit an independent member to the Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee.

Recruitment was underway and it was expected that a recommendation for an appointment could be made at the Combined Authority on 7 December.

Resolved: That the decision of the Combine Authority to recruit an independent member to the Committee, and the proposed timeline for recruitment, be noted.

45. Project Approvals

The Committee considered three schemes for progression through the assurance process.

Resolved:

CRSTS - MCard Mobile App Enhancements

The Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee, approved that, subject to the discharge of conditions:

- (I) the CRSTS – MCard Mobile App Enhancements scheme proceeds through decision point 2 - 4 (business justification case) to activity 5 (delivery).
- (II) Approval to the Combined Authority costs of up to £525,000 be given. The total scheme cost is £525,000.
- (III) That 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 outlined in this report. Where required, any future committee level approvals are delegated to the Transport Committee.

West Bradford – Cycle Superhighway Extension

The Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team approved that:

- (i) The TCF West Bradford Cycle Superhighway (Phase 1) proceeds through decision point 4 (full business case) and work commences on activity 5 (delivery).
- (ii) The TCF West Bradford Cycle Superhighway scheme (Phase 2) proceeds through decision point 3 (outline business case) and work commences on activity 4 (full business case).
- (iii) Approval to increase the Combined Authority's contribution by £3,989,429, from £9,140,000 to £13,129,429. This increase is to be funded from TCF Programme contingency funds. The total scheme costs are £26,739,636.
- (iv) An approval to the Combined Authority contribution of £13,129,429 be given:
 - £12,064,636 to deliver the Phase 1 scheme. The total Phase 1 scheme value is £12,064,636
 - £1,064,793 to develop the Phase 2 scheme to full business case
- (v) The Combined Authority enters into an addendum to the existing funding agreement with Bradford Council for expenditure of up to £13,129,429. This will provide £12,064,363 for delivery of the Phase 1 scheme and £1,064,793 to develop the Phase 2 scheme to activity 4 (full business case).
- (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 outlined in this report. Where required, any future committee level approvals are delegated to the Transport Committee.

Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) – BSIP+ Protection and Restoration of Bus Services

The Finance, Resources and Corporate Committee, subject to the conditions set by the Programme Appraisal Team approved that:

- (i) The change request for:
 - The Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), approval to accept the additional funding and increase the indicative costs by up to £7,750,442, to £77,724,512 and to extend the BSIP programme delivery date by one year to March 2026

- An additional BSIP scheme, to be called 'BSIP+ - Protection and Restoration of Bus Services' is included within the BSIP programme, to be funded by the additional Combined Authority contribution of £7,750,442 and that this proceeds through decision point 2 (strategic outline case) and into delivery.
- (ii) The Combined Authority provides funding to bus operators for the 'BSIP+ - Protection and Restoration of Bus Services' scheme by using existing compensation arrangements. The bus routes to be supported and the amount of funding allocated to each bus operator is delegated to the Executive Director of Transport.
- (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 outlined in this report. Where required, any future committee level approvals are delegated to the Transport Committee.

46. Autumn Statement 2023

Members considered a report that set out the West Yorkshire submission to the Autumn Statement 2023.

Resolved: That the West Yorkshire submission to HM Treasury for the Autumn Statement 2023 be noted.