



**LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

To: The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Dear Member,

You are requested to attend a meeting of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on **Wednesday, 1st August, 2018** at **1.30pm** in the Authority Chamber - No.1 Mann Island, Liverpool, L3 1BP.

If you have any queries regarding this meeting, please contact Trudy Bedford on telephone number (0151) 330 1330.

Yours faithfully

Interim Head of Paid Service

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

1. **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON**
2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**
3. **APOLOGIES**
4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
5. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
 - a) **25 OCTOBER 2017**

(Pages 1 - 6)
 - b) **24 JANUARY 2018**

(Pages 7 - 12)
 - c) **18 APRIL 2018**

(Pages 13 - 18)
6. **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

To consider the report of the Monitoring Officer.

(Pages 19 - 22)
7. **FEEDBACK FROM THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AIR QUALITY TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

At its meeting on 29 June 2018, the LCR Combined Authority considered the final report of the Air Quality Task and Finish Group. Accordingly, the LCR Combined Authority agreed the recommendations contained in the report.

To support the implementation of the recommendations the LCR Combined Authority agreed an action plan which is detailed for Members information. Members are asked to note the action plan.

(Pages 23 - 26)

8. FEEDBACK FROM THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WELFARE REFORM TASK AND FINISH GROUP

At its meeting on 29 June 2018, the LCR Combined Authority considered the final report of the Welfare Reform Task and Finish Group. Accordingly, the LCR Combined Authority agreed the recommendations contained in the report.

To support the implementation of the recommendations the LCR Combined Authority agreed an action plan which is detailed for Members information. Members are asked to note the action plan.

(Pages 27 - 30)

9. WORK PROGRAMME 2018/19

The Committee will receive a verbal report summarising the discussions held during the Informal Workplanning session and confirming the topics which the Committee will consider during the municipal year.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRPERSON DEEMS TO BE OF AN URGENT NATURE

This page is intentionally left blank

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At an inquorate meeting of the Liverpool City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Authority Chamber - No. 1 Mann Island, Liverpool, L3 1BP on Wednesday, 25th October, 2017 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

Councillor K Wainwright

Vice-Chairperson of the Committee
(in the Chair)

Councillor P Murphy, Councillor T Brennan, Councillor Ms S Spall, Councillor D Dutton, Councillor J Johnson, Councillor P Hurley, Councillor L Robertson-Collins, Councillor C Thomas, Councillor P Sinnott and Councillor B Woolfall.

6. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors S McGuire, T Anderson, D Baines, M Bond, C Cashman, A Dean, M Sullivan and Daniel T Lewis.

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of interest had been received.

8. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 JULY 2017

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Liverpool City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 26 July 2017 be approved as a correct record.

9. LIVERPOOL CITY REGION GROWTH PLAN

The inquorate meeting of the LCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a presentation from Mark Basnett, Managing Director, LCR Local Enterprise Partnership, which provided an update on the development of the LCR Growth Strategy and Action Plan.

Accordingly, the presentation highlighted the following:-

- Reported that the LCR Growth Strategy had been informed by 'The State of Liverpool City Region Report: Making the most of devolution' which had been produced by Professor Michael Parkinson CBE.
- Explained the overriding City Region vision which was to build on the core strengths and capacity for innovation and to create a globally competitive City Region at the heart of the Northern Powerhouse.
- Summarised the three pillars of the LCR Growth Plan which were Productivity, People and Place.

- Outlined how the Growth Strategy would be supported by an Action Plan and highlighted how this Action Plan would provide the City Region with a dynamic performance management tool to annually measure the impact and outcomes of the Growth Plan.
- Highlighted the key activities, such as engagement, collation, alignment and collaboration with key stakeholders.
- Set out the next steps which included continued engagement, developing the evidence base to support the development of a comprehensive evidence base to inform a City Region Investment Strategy and encourage the development of projects to fulfil the priorities within the Investment Strategy.

In considering the presentation, Members of the Committee raised the following questions and comments:-

- Welcomed the informative presentation and the development of robust indicators to ensure the Growth Strategy had the desired impact across the City Region.
- Requested that for future meetings the Committee receive timely information to support Members in their role and enrich the outcomes of the Committee's work.
- Clarity was sought on whether the suggested increase in productivity outlined within the Strategy was realistic in comparison to recently published evidence which indicated that productivity was actually declining.

Members were informed that the issue of productivity was challenging, however it was effective in creating jobs. It was recognised that for the City Region to compete on a global market than it was imperative that people were upskilled and SME's were encouraged to invest.

- The importance of ensuring digital inclusion was included within the Growth Plan, with particular reference to those who may not have access to the internet and could become digitally excluded.
- Clarity was sought on what actions were being undertaken to encourage entrepreneurship within the disability community?

The Committee was informed that a range of interventions were being considered around gender and ethnicity. In undertaking this work the disability community would also be engaged.

- As the Strategy was fairly new, clarity was sought on whether an Annual Report would be produced and how would the performance indicators be measured?

The Committee was informed that an Annual Review would be produced in January 2018 and this would reflect how performance against key indicators.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the presentation and comments raised be noted; and
- (ii) Mark Basnet, Managing Director, LCR Local Enterprise Partnership be thanked for his informative presentation.

10. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF APPRENTICESHIPS - PROGRESS UPDATE

The inquorate Committee considered a report of the Lead Officer: Employment and Skills which provided an update on the progress made in implementing the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel in relation to the review of Apprenticeships. These recommendations were endorsed by the previous Panel members in March 2017 and then subsequently agreed by the LCR Combined Authority.

Members attention was drawn to Appendix A of the report now submitted which set out the progress achieved to date against the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Panel.

Members also received a presentation which:-

- Explained that the Apprenticeship Levy had been introduced in May 2017 which nationally had seen a fall in apprenticeship starts but this had not been reflected in the City Region, where apprenticeship starts had remained steady;
- Indicated that lobbying of Central Government continued over the deployment of the Apprenticeship Levy;
- Summarised the outreach events and Skills Shows which had taken place across the City Region to promote the apprenticeships available to young people;
- Outlined the Labour market information, in particular the LCR Skills for Growth which set out the skills needs of business across the City Region;
- Provided a summary of the data dashboard, which highlighted that there had been a slight increase in the number of apprenticeship starts during 2016/17. However, there had been a reduction in the number of 16-17 year olds accessing apprenticeship provision but there had been an increase in the number of 25 year olds and above accessing apprenticeship provision;
- Summarised the work of the Skills for Growth team, which consisted of Skills Brokers who would work with various employers across the City Region to identify appropriate skills training for their employees;
- Reported that over 25 young people, who had previously been apprentices, were now acting as ambassadors to encourage other young people to participate in an apprenticeship programme; and
- Outlined a number of key next steps.

In considering the progress made against the recommendations of the Apprenticeship Review and the presentation, Members raised the following questions and comments:-

- Clarity was sought on whether the attendance at the Skills Shows had been impacted upon by the low take up of the Apprenticeship levy?

Members were informed that the purpose of the Skills Shows was to promote the apprenticeships available to young people and this was done through the Ambassadors. Furthermore, a significant number of employers continued to attend the Skills Shows despite the concerns relating to the Apprenticeship levy.

- What support was in place for those who were NEET and entering into the Apprenticeship scheme?

Members were informed that mentoring support was available for those who were NEET. It was important that young people had access to the right support and provision during their apprenticeship and for some young people they would be provided with support before they entered the employment market.

- Clarity was sought on the Apprenticeship Levy, in particular the advice provided to large levy paying public sector employers and the continued negotiations with Government regarding the deployment of the unspent Levy.

Members were informed that larger public sector employers were supported to ensure they were able to maximise the benefits of the Levy. With regards to the Levy underspend, lobbying would continue with Central Government to allow the unspent Levy to be retained within the City Region so that it could be deployed to reflect the needs of the City Region.

- Concern was expressed regarding school's not being engaged in the promotion of the Apprenticeship programme and supporting pupils to ensure they were ready for work once they left school.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the progress being made against the Panel's recommendations be noted;
- (ii) the plans for further development of the Apprenticeship dashboard be noted; and
- (iii) further updates be brought to a future meeting of this Committee.

11. METRO MAYORS 100 DAY PLAN

The inquorate meeting of the Committee received a presentation from Metro Mayor S Rotherham which summarised the following achievements made to date as part of his 100 Day Plan:-

- Explained the 100 Day Plan had been informed by the manifesto pledges of Ambitious, Fair, Green, Connected and Together and summarised the meaning of each;
- Highlighted the appointment of the 7 Mayoral Advisors, who had been appointed for being experts in their respective fields and where:-
 - Professor Janet Beer – Higher Education
 - Reverend Canon Dr Ellen Loudon – Voluntary and Community Sector
 - Gideon Ben-Tovim OBE – Natural Environment
 - Barbara Spicer – Social Housing Growth
 - Kate Farrell – Homelessness
 - Luciana Berger MP – Mental Health
 - Sara Wilde-McKeown – Visitor Economy
- Explained that as part of his community engagement he would be spending a day a month in each constituent Local Authority area;
- Outlined his vision for utilising the tidal power from the River Mersey; and
- In conclusion, invited Members to his key note speech which would be taking place on 14 November 2017.

Members welcomed the presentation and in doing so raised the following questions and comments:-

- Clarity was sought on the publication of the LCR Brownfield List and when this would be available?

The Committee was informed that the LCR Brownfield List had been completed, however it was subject to further consultation with constituent Local Authorities. It was envisaged that following this consultation would be concluded shortly and the LCR Brownfield list would then be published accordingly.

- It was important to recognise that the Digital Strategy sought to address those that were excluded from accessing the internet.
- Had further work been undertaken in respect of the devolution of crime and disorder?

Members were informed that the Rt Hon Jane Kennedy, Merseyside Police and Crime Commissioner had been appointed as the portfolio holder for Criminal Justice to the LCR Combined Authority. This would support a collaborative approach between both organisations and with records to the next stage of Devolution Asks, talks were ongoing to determine this.

- In terms of the 100 Day Plan was this information publicly available?

Members were informed that the 100 Day Plan information was available on the LCR Combined Authority website.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the presentation and comments raised be noted; and
- (ii) the Metro Mayor S Rotheram be thanked for his informative presentation.

12. WORKPLAN AND SCRUTINY REVIEWS 2017/18

The Committee considered a report of the Lead Chief Executive Officer: Scrutiny which set out the Committee's work programme, including the details for the Task and Finish Groups for 2017/18.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the Work Programme 2017/18 set out at section four of the report now submitted be agreed;
- (ii) Air Quality, Welfare Reform and Universal and Spatial Development Strategy Programme be identified as topics for Task and Finish Groups during 2017/18; and
- (iii) the meeting arrangements for Spatial Development Strategy Programme as set out in section 5 of the report now submitted be noted.

Minutes 6 to 12 be received as a correct record on the 24th day of January 2018.

Chairperson of the Committee

(The meeting closed at 12.03 pm)

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At an inquorate meeting of the Liverpool City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Authority Chamber - No. 1 Mann Island, Liverpool, L3 1BP on Wednesday, 24th January, 2018 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

Councillor P Murphy

Vice -Chairperson of the Committee
(in the Chair)

Councillor T Brennan, Councillor D Dutton, Councillor T Anderson, Councillor M Sullivan, Councillor D Baines, Councillor M Bond, Councillor P Hurley, Councillor L Robertson-Collins, Councillor C Thomas, Councillor P Sinnott, Councillor B Woolfall and Councillor G Wood.

13. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors S McGuire, K Wainwright, C Cashman, S Spall, J Johnson, A Dean and D T Lewis.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of interest had been received.

15. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2017

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Liverpool City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25 October 2017 be approved as a correct record.

16. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

The inquorate meeting of the LCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a report of the Lead Chief Executive: Scrutiny which provided an update on the progress of the two outstanding Task and Finish Groups relating to Welfare Reforms and Universal Credit and Air Quality. It was also reported that the Spatial Development Strategy Task and Finish Group had recently concluded and the recommendations from this review would be presented to a future meeting of the LCR Combined Authority.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that the proposed meeting schedule for the Task and Finish Groups for Welfare Reform and Universal Credit and Air Quality as set out in section four of the report now submitted be agreed.

17. VERBAL UPDATE FROM METRO MAYOR S ROTHERAM

The inquorate meeting of the Committee received a verbal update from Metro Mayor S Rotheram which set out the following activities which he had been engaged in:-

- Provided an update on the progress of the Mersey Tidal project, which sought to harness the tidal power of the River Mersey. Brent Cheshire from DONG Energy, had also been appointed as the Chair of the Mersey Tidal Project.
- The Shadow Vice Chancellor John McDonnell MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Rebecca Long-Bailey MP and Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury Peter Dowd MP had recently visited the City Region to consider the proposals for the Mersey Tidal project.
- Reported on the vision to join all six Constituent Councils via a digital loop which was based in Daresbury and connected to North America.
- Explained how the Combined Authority had received £27m from the Transforming Cities Fund which would support the Housing First programme.
- Highlighted that the six Metro Mayors and Mayor of London had joined together to sign a number of letters expressing concern to Government on a number of issues, including the devolution of the Adult Education Budget which was still to be resolved.
- Reported that the International Business Festival (IFB) 2018 would take place in the City Centre in June. The festival provided a platform for the City Region to showcase its business opportunities on a global stage.
- Explained that the LCR Combined Authority had been designated as the first Combined Authority to be paying the real living wage to its employees. This had been the catalyst for Liverpool FC and Everton FC to also commit to paying their employees the real living wage too.
- Summarised the regular public question time sessions which the Metro Mayor had been hosting. The sessions provided the opportunity for members of the public to attend and ask any question of the Metro Mayor.
- Highlighted that the Combined Authorities Corporate Plan was in the early stages of development and encouraged Members to share their views on the content and format.
- Provided an update on the recruitment to senior positions within the LCR Combined Authority.

In considering the verbal update, Members of the Committee raised the following questions and comments:-

- A Member welcomed the informative update, however, in recognising that the Government had not provided funding to resource the Combined Authorities staffing arrangements, clarity was sought on the Metro Mayor's proposals to address this?

The Metro Mayor reported that the funding secured through the devolution deal could not be used towards the Combined Authorities running costs, therefore alternative sources had to be identified.

A number of funding options had been explored. However, subject to approval by the LCR Combined Authority, it was to be proposed that for the 2018/19 financial year the six Constituent Authorities would fund the Combined Authority running costs with a view to securing a sustainable funding model for the 2019/20 financial year.

- Clarity was sought on how the Committee could engage in the development of the Corporate Plan?

Members were informed that they would have an opportunity to engage in the process at a future meeting.

- Concern was raised regarding the introduction of a Combined Authority precept, in particular during the ongoing period of austerity and the financial difficulties residents were facing.

The Metro Mayor acknowledged the financial difficulties Local Authorities were facing. However, he highlighted the importance of ensuring that the Combined Authority had the resources and capacity to develop pipeline projects and access additional Government funding to bring about transformational opportunities for the City Region.

He emphasised the importance of the Combined Authority securing a sustainable funding model and in doing so referred to the Devolution Deal which had set out that there was an expectation that the Combined Authority would introduce a Mayoral precept.

In conclusion, the Metro Mayor provided a breakdown of the Single Investment Fund programmes which had been approved. He also confirmed that the Combined Authority had been successful in securing additional funding for projects such as the Housing First programme. He also emphasised that to continue to attract additional funding from Central Government the Combined Authority had to identify major infrastructure projects at an early stage and be able to demonstrate that they could be delivered, which required the appropriate capacity.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the verbal update and comments raised be noted; and
- (ii) the Committee consider a report on the development of the LCR Corporate Plan at a future meeting.

18. UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY STAFFING STRUCTURES

The inquorate meeting of the LCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered a report from the Interim Head of Paid Service which provided an update on the progress of the implementation of the staffing structures of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

In this respect, Members received a presentation from John Fogarty, Director of Corporate Services, which set out the following:-

- Provided a summary of the evolution of the LCR Combined Authority since its establishment in 2014, including the responsibility to manage LGF 1 and LGF 2 programmes;
- Summarised how the LGF programmes had evolved during the second year of the Combined Authorities operation, explained how additional responsibility had been granted for Employment and Skills, Economic Development, Highways and Housing;
- Explained the Single Investment Fund which was introduced in 2016 and equated to funding in the region of £185m from Central Government.
- Highlighted that with the agreement of the Devolution Deal and the receipt of the Single Investment Fund it was recognised that the Combined Authority would require dedicated capacity to deliver the devolution deal.
- Summarised the progress made to date on the Combined Authority staffing structure, including the appointment of the Director of Commercial Development and Investment and the Director of Corporate Services.
- Outlined the core aspects of the Combined Authority budget setting process and explained how the 2018/19 budget had been developed; and
- Explained how the Combined Authority would need to explore and agree a sustainable funding model for 2019/20.

Members welcomed the presentation and in doing so raised the following questions and comments:-

- Clarity was sought on whether there was a potential conflict of interest with Officers acting in a joint capacity for Merseytravel and the LCR Combined Authority.

Members were informed that Merseytravel and the LCR Combined Authority were a joint organisation and as such no conflict between Officers existed.

- In terms of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), it was noted that the LCR Combined Authority had a close working relationship with the LEP. As such would this Committee have an opportunity to scrutinise the work of the LEP?

Members were informed that the Chair of the LCR LEP was a member of the LCR Combined Authority and this had supported the development of a strong working relationship between both organisations. Furthermore, Central Government was currently undertaking a review of the operation of LEP's and the outcome of this could be brought to a future meeting.

- Clarity was sought on the proposed funding arrangements for the Metro Mayor's office?

Members were informed that the Combined Authority budget proposals would be considered by the LCR Combined Authority at their meeting on 2 February 2018.

- As part of the budget proposals to be considered by the LCR Combined Authority, would this include the introduction of a precept?

Members were informed that the Order provided the provision for a precept to be introduced. However, the budget proposals were not presenting this as an option for 2018/19. For the 2018/19 financial year it was proposed that each constituent Local Authority would make a contribution towards the running costs of the Combined Authority.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the presentation and comments raised be noted; and
- (ii) a finance seminar be arranged for the LCR Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Minutes 13 to 18 be received as a correct record on the 18th day of April 2018.

Chairperson of the Committee

(The meeting closed at 11.41 am)

This page is intentionally left blank

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Liverpool City Region Overview and Scrutiny Committee held in the Authority Chamber - No. 1 Mann Island, Liverpool, L3 1BP on Wednesday, 18th April, 2018 the following Members were

P r e s e n t:

Councillor S McGuire
Chairperson of the Committee
(in the Chair)

Councillor K Wainwright, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor T Brennan, Councillor Ms S Spall, Sullivan, Councillor T O'Brien, Councillor L Robertson-Collins, Councillor C Thomas, Councillor P Sinnott, Councillor G Wood and Councillor B Woolfall

19. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors T Anderson, D Baines, M Bond, C Cashman, D Dutton, J Johnson, P Hurley and D T Lewis.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was reported that no declarations of interest had been received.

21. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCR OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:-

The inquorate meeting of this Committee noted the minutes of the following meetings as a correct record:-

- (a) 25 October 2017; and
- (b) 24 January 2018

22. FEEDBACK FROM THE LCR COMBINED AUTHORITY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TASK AND FINISH GROUP

The Chairperson informed the inquorate meeting that she had presented the findings of the Spatial Development Strategy Task and Finish Group to the LCR Combined Authority at their meeting on 9 March 2018.

The LCR Combined Authority had welcomed the findings of the Task and Finish Group. The LCR Combined Authority had agreed an action plan which would ensure the implementation of the recommendations. The action plan was attached for Members information.

The Committee welcomed the action plan and requested that timely updates of the implementation of the recommendations be provided.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the action plan be noted; and

- (ii) timely updates be brought to future meetings of this Committee.

23. VERBAL UPDATE FROM METRO MAYOR S ROTHERAM

The inqorate meeting of the Committee received a verbal update from Metro Mayor S Rotheram which set out the following activities he had recently been engaged in:-

- Reported that the LCR Combined Authority had been recently approved its budget for 2018/19. He highlighted that by securing a budget for the next 12 months this would address some of the capacity issues, along with supporting the continued development of key Mayoral priorities such as the Mersey Tidal project, digital connectivity and transport.
- Informed Members that Mark Bousfield would be joining the LCR Combined Authority as Director of Commercial Development and Investment and Kirsty Pearce had been appointed to the position of Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning and would be joining the LCR Combined Authority in May 2018. Furthermore, a number of other key senior management appointments had been made.
- Explained that the Households into Work programme had commenced in March 2018. 24 advocates were based across the City Region and working with 800 unemployed families to support them back into work. The advocates were working with the families to identify and address barriers to return to work, such as child care, debt and skills gaps.
- Reported that the LCR Combined Authority had recently approved its Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2048. The Strategy enabled £300,000 per year to be committed to cultural activities which included the yearly initiative of the 'Borough of Culture', the Annual Liverpool City Region Cultural Awards and region wide events.
- Highlighted that it was National Apprenticeship week and along with Councillor I Maher, Portfolio Holder: Employment and Skills the Metro Mayor aimed to increase the number of apprenticeships to 20,000 by 2020. In particular he outlined the importance of having gold standard apprenticeships available and identifying industries of growth.
- Reported that the first Liverpool City Region Mental Health Summit had taken place on Friday 2 March. The summit was part of a wider programme to raise awareness and understanding of mental health issues across the City region and he co-hosted it with Luciana Berger MP, the Mayoral Advisor for Mental Health.
- Outlined the beneficial impact of his recent visit to MIPIM, which was an intensive 4 day event at which he provided 27 speeches to a global audience setting out why they should invest across the City Region.
- Reported that Transport for the North had held its inaugural meeting at Mann Island. This had provided a great opportunity for the North to have one voice on transport matters. Furthermore, working in conjunction with Mayor Andy Burnham lobbying would continue to ensure continued investment and access on the North/South East train line.

- In conclusion, the Metro Mayor thanked the Chair and Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for their contribution during the municipal year and recognised that Scrutiny played an integral role to the governance arrangements of the LCR Combined Authority.

In considering the verbal update, Members of the Committee raised the following questions and comments:-

- A Member highlighted that bus fares across the City Region were high and clarity was sought on what actions would be implemented to address this?

The Metro Mayor highlighted that the concessionary travel scheme was the most generous outside of London. He referred to the Bus Service Bill 2017 and the options this provided the City Region to review bus service provision.

- Further clarity was sought on the Households into Work programme.

The Metro Mayor reported that this was a pilot programme operating across the City Region. The programme was supported by 24 trained advocates. The advocates were based in each of the six Local Authority areas and were targeting households who had been unemployed for long periods of time. The aim was to return 1,600 people per year into employment during the course of the pilot programme.

- The Metro Mayor also reiterated that the attendance at MIPIM had been funded by the private sector. He stressed that attendance at such events increased the City Region's profile and encouraged inward investment. Furthermore, Liverpool was recognised as a global brand and it was important that the City Region maximised this opportunity.

- A Member sought requested that this Committee be provided with detailed information on the budget setting process of the LCR Combined Authority. Furthermore, concern was expressed regarding the payment of allowances to Transport Committee Members.

The Metro Mayor informed the Committee that information relating to the budget setting process was available for their consideration. In terms of the staffing arrangements between Merseytravel and the LCR Combined Authority he reported that both organisations were working collectively.

With regards to the payment of allowances, the Metro Mayor recognised the significant contribution the Chair of the Transport Committee made to the City Region. He also highlighted that each of the six Local Authorities paid the allowances to their respective Members on the Transport Committee, as part of their Allowances Scheme.

- A Member welcomed the announcement by the Metro Mayor to ensure that digital connectivity across the City Region was inclusive for all and ensuring it was embedded within the skills agenda.

However, lobbying of Central Government was still required in relation to the Apprenticeship Levy. The Levy continued to be difficult for employers to access. The closures of JobCentres across the City Region was also highlighted as concerning, particularly when the Department for Work and Pensions appeared not to be considering co-location with other public sector organisations.

The Metro Mayor highlighted that he had raised the concerns of the closure of a number of JobCentres with senior officials from the Civil Service and had suggested they consider co-location with other public bodies.

He confirmed that the City Region was ambitious about digital connectivity and to support this ambition, proposals would be presented to a future meeting of the LCR Combined Authority for them to consider. With regards to the Apprenticeship Levy, the Metro Mayor reported that the Combined Authority continued to lobby central Government on the forecasted underspend of the Levy.

- A Member referred to the review into Welfare Reform which had just been concluded by this Committee. He highlighted that the review one of the recommendations identified was to encourage partners and the Department of Work and Pensions to work collectively. In particular, noting that the Department for Work and Pensions had not engaged in the review. Therefore, clarity was sought on how the Metro Mayor could influence Central Government in this process.

The Metro Mayor indicated that issues such as this would benefit from a collective City Region approach.

- What was the LCR Combined Authority doing to encourage employers to employee people from diverse backgrounds?

The Metro Mayor reported that the LCR Combined Authority had established a Fairness and Social Justice Advisory Board (FASJAB) who were in the early stages of creating an employment charter for the City Region. The Board was in its early stages of development and it was envisaged that they would continue to develop ideas to promote equality and diversity across the City Region.

- It was highlighted that as part of the Devolution Deal it contained no provision for capacity building. Therefore, how would this funding be identified in the 2019/20 financial year,

The Metro Mayor reported that the Devolution Deal did not allow for the funding received from Central Government to be used for running costs, such as staffing. The Metro Mayor highlighted the approached Greater Manchester Combined Authority had introduced which was a combination of subscription and precept. He highlighted that consideration had been given to the introduction of a precept for the 2018/19 financial year.

To create further capacity and develop pipeline projects the LCR Combined Authority had to identify a sustainable funding model for the 2019/20 financial year.

The inquorate meeting RESOLVED that:-

- (i) the verbal updates and comments raised be noted; and
- (ii) Metro Mayor S Rotheram be thanked for his informative update.

24. REPORT OF REVIEW INTO AIR QUALITY ACROSS THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

The inquorate Committee considered the findings of the review into Air Quality across the Liverpool City Region. The Chairperson, Councillor S McGuire, welcomed the draft report and placed on record her thanks to those who had provided evidence and had allowed the Task and Finish Group to understand the importance of Air Quality and its increasing importance across the City Region.

Members welcomed the report and noted the impact poor air quality had on health.

The inquorate meeting resolved that:-

- (i) the report of the Review into Air Quality across the Liverpool City Region as set out in Appendix One to this report be approved; and
- (ii) the report be presented to the LCR Combined Authority for their consideration and feedback be provided to a future meeting of this Committee.

25. REPORT OF REVIEW INTO WELFARE REFORM

The inquorate Committee considered the draft report of the Scrutiny Review into Welfare Reform.

Councillor K Wainwright, informed the Committee that Welfare Reform and in particular Universal Credit was a significant issue for the City Region, He highlighted that Halton Borough Council had already rolled out the programme and this experience had informed the work of the Task and Finish Group. He wished to place on record his thanks to all those who had participated in the Task and Finish Group.

In considering the report, the Committee requested that the recommendations reflect the approach of Halton Housing Trust in working with Local Authorities.

The inquorate meeting resolved that:-

- (i) in addition to the recommendation identified above, the report of the review into Welfare Reform and Universal Credit as set out at Appendix One to the report now submitted be approved; and
- (ii) the report be presented to the LCR Combined Authority for their consideration and feedback be provided to a future meeting of this Committee.

26. SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

The inquorate Committee considered a report which provided Members with an opportunity to consider the draft Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18. The report also sought Members views on the future operation of the Overview and Scrutiny function.

The Chairperson, Councillor S McGuire, commended the work of the Committee during the municipal year, in particular the three Task and Finish Groups which had considered the Spatial Development Strategy, Air Quality and Welfare Reform. However, she noted that attendance continued to present challenges for the Committee. In conclusion, she wished to place on record her thanks to Officers for supporting the scrutiny function.

The inquorate meeting resolved that:-

- (i) The Scrutiny Annual Report 2017-18 as set out at Appendix One to the report now submitted be agreed; and
- (ii) Endorse the development of a scrutiny questionnaire and for it to be circulated to Members of this Committee.

Minutes 19 to 26 be received as a correct record on the 6th day of June 2018.

Chairperson of the Committee

(The meeting closed at 11.41 am)

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: The Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting: 1 August 2018

Authority/Authorities Affected: All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINY MEMBERS TO THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek nominations from the Committee for four members to sit on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee. This Committee, requiresd the appointment of two Labour Councillors, one Liberal Democrat Councillor and one Conservative Councillor and to appoint the substitute member's on the same basis.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

- (a) Four Members comprising of two Labour Councillors, one Liberal Democrat Councillor and One Conservative Councillor to sit on the Audit and Governance Committee; and
- (b) Four substitute Members comprising of two Labour Councillors, one Liberal Democrat Councillor and One Conservative Councillor to act as substitutes on the Audit and Governance Committee.

3. BACKGROUND

Membership of the Audit and Governance Committee

- 3.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is composed of 7 Members as follows:

- 6 elected Councillors which are drawn from both the Combined Authority and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
- 1 Independent Member.

- 3.2 The Combined Authority at its annual meeting agreed the allocation of seats to its various Committees. Of the six seats allocated to Members for the Audit and Governance Committee, two are allocated to Members of the Combined Authority. These appointments have been confirmed as Cllrs Long and Maher (substituted by Cllrs Morgan and Polhill should that prove necessary). The remaining four seats are allocated to Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Likewise any substitutes are similarly drawn from Overview and Scrutiny members. In order to ensure political balance across the City Region there are two seats allocated for Labour Party members and one each for the Liberal Democrat and Conservative Party members.
- 3.3 Interviews were undertaken by officers in June 2018 to appoint an Independent Person to the Audit and Governance Committee. Unfortunately no applicants were successful. In these circumstances, further consideration is being given as to how the Independent Person can be identified and appointed to the Audit and Governance Committee as soon as possible.

Terms of Reference for the Audit and Governance Committee

- 3.4 The Combined Authority also agreed to a number of amendments to the Audit and Governance Committee. This included the merging of the Standards Committee with that of the Audit Committee and it being renamed the Audit and Governance Committee. The rationale for this change was to reflect the broader remit of the audit function within the public sector. This merging of functions would also ensure that Audit and Governance Committee members would be apprised of developments in standards issues at programmed meetings as opposed to convening a specially called meeting.
- 3.5 The Audit Committee had also been inquorate during 2017/18 and to address this the LCR Combined Authority agreed that substitutes be allowed. It must also be noted that the introduction of substitutes was considered for this Committee, however, it was felt that this would be difficult to administer by requiring a total of 40 members for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

There are no financial issues arising from this report.

4.2 Human Resources

There are no human resource issues arising from this report.

4.3 Physical Assets

There are no physical asset issues arising as a consequence of this report.

4.4 Information Technology

There are no Information Technology issues arising from this report.

5. RISKS AND MITIGATION

5.1 There is a risk that should the appointments to the Audit and Governance Committee not be made this would be detrimental to the principle of good governance for the LCR Combined Authority.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct equality and diversity implications as a result of this report.

7. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

7.1 There are no direct communication issues arising from this report.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 It is anticipated that the proposed appointments will support the operation of the Audit and Governance Committee. Once Members have been appointed arrangements will be made for appropriate training.

JILL COULE
Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer(s):
Trudy Bedford, Committee Services Manager (0151 330 1330)

Appendices:
None

Background Documents:
None

This page is intentionally left blank

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT ON AIR QUALITY

JUNE 2018

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer(s)	Agreed Action	Date
1.	That the Metro Mayor, on behalf of Combined Authority, acts as a political “champion” for a series of long term measures to improve air quality across the Liverpool City Region, involving a wide range of influential bodies and decision-makers. The preliminary air quality feasibility study which is in the process of being finalised, and the action plan that needs to be developed in response, should be formally considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in due course. This will come ahead of consideration by the Combined Authority.	Lead Officer – Transport and Air Quality Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning	To develop a Combined Authority air quality action plan that will be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee initially.	End of October 2018
2.	Allied to this, the Metro Mayor and the Combined Authority should champion a communications plan to set out a commitment to engage with people across the LCR. This should be targeted as follows:- a) to engage with schools and young people who are particularly vulnerable to the effects of poor air quality, aided by consistent educational materials and best practice across the LCR;	Lead Officer – Transport and Air Quality Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning	To forge ever closer alliances with the health sector (Directors of Public Health, CHAMPS and Public Health England) in order to jointly develop communications and campaigning matters on air quality and transport choices. With the Mayoral Advisor for the Natural Environment and other key partners, promote	Ongoing During 2019

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer(s)	Agreed Action	Date
	<p>b) to engage with the public protection and public health sectors to jointly raise awareness, which could be through roadshows and events, as examples; and</p> <p>c) to promote National Clean Air Day and related campaigns.</p>		<p>Year of the Environment in 2019 to raise the profile of issues affecting the LCR, including air quality.</p> <p>The Combined Authority is engaged with, and supporting Clean Air Day 2018.</p>	June 2018
3.	<p>The Combined Authority needs to fully utilise and align its funding, transport, planning and economic development powers to create an environment where people have reduced reliance on road transport and make greater use of walking, cycling and public transport. For example, this could be linked to the Authority's emerging digital strategy and the powers that it has over a Key Route Network of local roads. This also needs to be consistently applied through the Authority's plans and strategies, e.g. through the Freight Strategy and Local Journeys Strategy.</p>	<p>Lead Officer – Transport and Air Quality</p> <p>Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning</p>	<p>As an immediate priority, to propose that the utilisation of the city region's Transforming Cities Fund (£134m over 4 years) gives prominent attention to the challenges of poor air quality and the need to develop and encourage walking, cycling and public transport measures as alternatives to the use of the car.</p>	2018 - 2022
4.	<p>The Combined Authority should use its emerging Spatial Development Strategy to address poor air quality and to raise air quality as a policy consideration.</p>	<p>Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning</p>	<p>For air quality considerations to be fully considered as part of evidence base for the Spatial Development Strategy</p>	Ongoing
5.	<p>The Combined Authority should give prominent and consistent consideration to air quality implications in its decision-making processes and in its investment decisions. This could include much better 'before and</p>	<p>Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning</p> <p>Director of Commercial</p>	<p>For air quality issues to be factored into the Investment Strategy and emerging Local Industrial Strategy as an integral component of</p>	Ongoing

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer(s)	Agreed Action	Date
	after' analysis in project and programme evaluations.	Development & Investment	inclusive growth.	
6.	The Combined Authority should support the six constituent local authorities in their statutory duties to monitor and address air quality, and seek to foster a more “high tech”, consistent and extensive air quality monitoring regime across the LCR. The Combined Authority also needs to work collectively with the constituent local authorities and with central government to tackle the problems caused by vehicles and engines that create the most pollution. This should take the form of an LCR air quality task force, convened by the Authority, comprising officers from the local authorities, Combined Authority and public health bodies, to progress the actions needed in order to improve air quality.	Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning	<p>To be considered as part of the scoping of the evidence and intelligence function within the Authority’s Policy and Strategic Commissioning directorate</p> <p>To establish an LCR Air Quality Task Force, led by the Combined Authority</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>September 2018</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE REPORT ON WELFARE REFORM

JUNE 2018

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Agreed Action	Date
1.	<p>That the Metro Mayor writes to Government to inform them of the conclusions of the Scrutiny Review, noting the challenges being faced in the roll out of Universal Credit and specifically the following proposals to improve its delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that DWP engage with all key partners locally to ensure that a broad based approach can be taken to supporting residents; • Request that DWP continue Universal Credit payments levels until an appeal against the sanction decision is taken; • Request that DWP improve the training provided to front line staff to ensure that they are providing consistent advice to applicants and recipients of Universal Credit; • Request that DWP should identify a locally based named case officer for vulnerable applicants to support them through their application process; • Request that DWP review how it could shorten the time it takes to make an early payment of a Universal Credit claim; 	Director of Policy and Strategic Commissioning	Agreed letter to be sent	End of June 2018

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Agreed Action	Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the approach to reclaiming overpayments where this is an error of DWP; • Provide Universal Credit recipients with the option to request housing payments to be made directly to housing providers; and • Review all claim forms across Government (including Health) to ensure that Universal Credit is referenced as a benefit. 			
2.	<p>The Heads of Revenues and Benefits from each Constituent Council should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to share learning and best practice to find the best way of supporting residents, especially as Knowsley, Liverpool and St Helens have their rollout of Full Service Universal Credit in 2018 • Ensure that this learning is shared more widely amongst Councils and local partners; and • Review how they can improve the provision of personal budget support to claimants to ensure that residents can access targeted and bespoke advice. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Heads of Revenues and Benefits meet quarterly and sharing the learning from the impact of Welfare Reform is a regular item. • The learning will be shared with strategic partnerships. • This will be considered as part of implementation planning. 	Ongoing
3.	Housing Associations should:	Interim Mayoral Advisor		

No	Recommendation	Responsible Officer	Agreed Action	Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that they are sharing learning on ways of working that benefit their residents in receipt of Universal Credit; and • Continue to monitor the impact of the introduction of Universal Credit in the Liverpool City Region and report back this impact to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on annual basis. 	– Housing Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of Universal Credit is an agenda item on the regular meetings of Housing Associations and lessons are being shared on a regular basis. • The impact of the introduction of Universal Credit is monitored regularly by Housing Associations and the City Region Child Poverty and Life Chances Commission. This will be reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 5 December 2018. 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>December 2018</p>

This page is intentionally left blank