

West Midland Combined Authority  
Monday 16th July Sandwell Council house

The Chairman Cllr Paul Hughes introduced himself and welcomed everyone, then as is usual we all introduced ourselves.

There then followed a presentation by Ms Deborah Cadman OBE Chief Executive WMCA

She was committed to O&S and emphasized the notion of "inclusive Growth" to mean that all sections of the community should be aware of and benefit from the progress made by the WMCA.

She continued with the concept of a "Local industrial Strategy" and joined this to the partnership with the LEPs.

On transport she anticipated that no one would be more than 40 minutes from the HS2 hubs at Birmingham and Solihull by public transport and the completion of the 35K of Metro *heading North unfortunately.*

She suggested that the £172M budget should be nearer £500M and that this needed to come from Government, local sources and global inward investment.

Her final quote and philosophy was "Act fast alone, far reaching, deep action together" indicating that she intended to work closely with the LAs.

Mr Paul Clarke WMCA Executive Business Manager pointed out how O&S could serve the WMCA by :

- Supporting and forming policies

- Challenging action

- Giving reassurance to all

- And building understanding between groups.

The chairman extended this by linking LA O&S to\with WMCA O&S with LAs supplying officers to resource Task & Finish groups - *question here for our council.* Also to potentially have graduates supply a research function.

Several suggestions were then put forward as possible T&F. Those most relevant to Redditch were:

The Offsite construction methods for the 215K houses that were to be built by 2031.

The problems connected with the corridor development of A38 and A435.

Two other suggestion were the extension of the budget scrutiny to include the next 5- 10 years to link with the WMCA's long strategy and the quality of the houses to be built.

After a quick sandwich lunch the chairman quickly went through the agenda for the committee. Membership of T&F groups was decided and the forward plan accepted.

The next meeting is 4<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00am