

West Midland Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Meeting
8th March 2021

This meeting was not quorate.

Members had received a large agenda for this meeting. There was some concern in respect of the accuracy of the minutes however, these were accepted. During discussion of the Economic Funding Tracker the Chair raised that this was not an open and transparent process. However, other Members of the Committee did not agree with this.

There was disagreement during a debate in respect of questions related to the Budget. The Chair, in particular felt that there had been a lack of progress, currently and historically, in this area. Officers advised the Committee of additional information in this area and answered many of the concerns raised.

The Future Plan was discussed with a focus on public sector and WMCA funding for green issues. It was explained that the implementation costs of the plan were extremely high, and that there would be an opportunity to assess the implementation at various points in the process. It was confirmed that this document would be presented to the board meeting on the March 19th 2021.

The Black Country Strategy item was considered by the Committee. Members were not all in agreement that the WMCA strategy reflected the needs of the area. However, the strategy was accepted by the Committee.

Concerns were raised regarding transport arrangements for the region and that they were not clear.

This was the last meeting of this administration some Members expressed their concern regarding the quality and depth of scrutiny that was being undertaken by the Committee. It was hoped that this would improve in the future.