

## Report from WMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee – Monday 20 January 2025

**A number of items were discussed at the meeting, including the following:**

### English Devolution White Paper

Members noted phrases such as ‘strengthening accountability and building capacity’ in the White Paper and felt this meant that Overview and Scrutiny committees could have more power in future, but wanted to know how this would be taken forward.

This is likely to be a regular item on the committee’s agenda as more detail becomes available.

### Job Rotation Pilot

This is currently taking place in Coventry and is an interesting example of the schemes that the WMCA is able to secure, with the aim of helping local people into work or better jobs by equipping them with the skills needed by employers.

The pilot offers 80 good quality work placements for unemployed residents and provide up to 80 upskilling opportunities for those who are working, together with relevant training, mentoring and support to participants and employers, and then carry out an evaluation at the end of the pilot.

The pilot is being funded by a £740,000 grant from the Department for Work and Pensions, and the WMCA is on track to achieve the target number of placements and training opportunities with employers from a range of sectors.

Councillor Joanna Kane

Redditch BC representative on WMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee