

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
WEST YORKSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY
HELD ON THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2025 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 Jane Scullion	Calderdale Council
Councillor Carole Pattison	Kirklees Council
Councillor James Lewis	Leeds City Council
Councillor Denise Jeffery	Wakefield Council
Councillor Peter Kilbane (Substitute)	City of York Council
Mandy Ridyard	West Yorkshire Business Board
Councillor Martin Love	Bradford Council
Councillor Stewart Golton (Substitute)	Leeds City Council
Councillor Alan Lamb	Leeds City Council

In attendance:

Councillor Barry Anderson	Chair of Scrutiny Committee
Ben Still (Chief Executive)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Simon Warburton (Executive Director for Transport)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Felix Kumi-Ampofo (Director of Inclusive Economy, Skills & Culture)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Sarah Eaton (Director of Strategy, Communications & Intelligence)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Mike Birch (Director of Mass Transit)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Liz Hunter (Director of Policing, Environment & Place)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Paul Matthews (Director of Bus Franchising)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Simon Pope (Transport Capital Programme Director)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Kate Taylor (Director of Finance & Commercial Services)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Jo Dent (Assistant Director, People & Transformation)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Satinder Sahota (Assistant Director Legal, Governance & Compliance)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Alexander Clarke (Strategic Head of Bus Franchising Transition/Mobilisation)	West Yorkshire Combined Authority

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting of the Combined Authority and thanked members for their participation.

She noted that John Roberts, Chief Fire Officer for West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Services, was in attendance and would be joining the discussion on the Local Remediation Action Plan. The Chair extended her thanks to Mr Roberts for attending and expressed her anticipation for the forthcoming conversation.

Acknowledging the breadth of the agenda, the Chair requested that members focus on asking questions rather than making statements, in order to ensure the meeting could progress efficiently. She advised that, due to time constraints, it might be necessary to move swiftly through the agenda items.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sue Holdsworth (Calderdale Council) and Claire Douglas (York Council). Councillors Stewart Golton (Leeds Council) and Peter Kilbane (York Council) attended as their respective substitutes.

3. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of interests given at the meeting.

4. Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Chair advised members that **Agenda Item 6 – Bus Franchising Update (Appendix 1)** contained exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. Officers had assessed that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosure, as outlined in the report. Members unanimously agreed to proceed accordingly.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of **Agenda Item 6 – Bus Franchising Update (Appendix 1)**, on the grounds that it was likely that exempt information would be disclosed, and that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of the Combined Authority held on 24 July 2025

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the Combined Authority held on 24 July 2025 were approved as a correct record.

6. Mayor's Update

The Chair provided a brief update on recent developments, noting changes in key Ministerial roles. She had spoken that morning with Steve Reed, the new Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, and Miatta Fahnbulleh, the new Minister for Devolution and Local Growth, who confirmed continued support for the English Devolution Bill.

She reported on discussions at the recent Mayor's Council, covering health, transport, and fiscal devolution. She welcomed the introduction of the 'Right to Request' process within the Bill, which would enable Mayors and Strategic Authorities to formally request new powers from Government ahead of fiscal events. Under the proposed legislation, Government would be required to either accept the request or provide clear justification for refusal—marking a shift towards greater transparency and accountability.

The Chair also noted that she had given oral evidence to the Public Bill Committee earlier in the week in her capacity as Chair of UK Mayors. Her evidence focused on the importance of embedding devolution across Government and Whitehall, the need for clarity and consistency in the powers available to Mayors, and the opportunity the Bill presents to strengthen local leadership and delivery. She appeared alongside fellow Metro Mayors and other stakeholders to support the Bill's ambitions and advocate for further reforms.

7. Bus Franchising Update

The Combined Authority considered a report updating progress on franchising plans and service permit consultation. Officers introduced the report outlining network specifications, transition arrangements, and delegated authority for statutory consultation.

Prior to consideration of Appendix 1 to Agenda Item 6, the Chair, referring to the resolution at Agenda Item 3 and citing paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, advised that due to the confidential nature of the item, any discussion would require the exclusion of the press and public and the suspension of the livestream.

Members confirmed they were satisfied to proceed without discussion of Appendix 1, allowing the meeting to remain in public session.

Members discussed the transition to the new franchised bus system, welcoming the due diligence undertaken and the ambition to improve performance while maintaining continuity on day one of operation. Members raised the importance of engaging communities on future service development, including circular routes and access to park and ride facilities from places such as the Five Towns (Castleford, Pontefract, Featherstone, Normanton, and Knottingley).

The Executive Director for Transport confirmed that while initial operations would closely reflect the current network, the Weaver Network principles and consistent customer service standards would bring early benefits. He

emphasised that future network development would be evidence-led, with local engagement channels used to gather input and inform decision-making.

Members queried the financial model and budget implications, particularly in light of declining patronage. The Executive Director clarified that the franchising assessment had been based on a conservative decline scenario, audited by Grant Thornton, and that a phased 18-month process was underway to monitor financial viability and market response.

Cross-boundary services and permit arrangements were also discussed, with members highlighting the need for coordination between West Yorkshire and neighbouring authorities. The Executive Director confirmed that services operating beyond the region, such as into Manchester, would be aligned with local transport outcomes.

The Chair welcomed the collaborative approach and noted the progress being made, including the development of the first fully branded Weaver bus stations at Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, and Dewsbury.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted and endorsed the strategic approach to developing network service specifications for Round 1 of bus franchising, as set out in the submitted report and accompanying appendix.
2. Noted progress on the development of a service permit scheme and the proposed conditions to be attached to permits ahead of the planned start date of the Franchising Scheme.
3. Approved the authority for the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, to undertake statutory consultation on the service permit scheme and associated conditions, in line with relevant legislation.
4. Noted the requirement to develop an approach to future network changes and the progress made to date, including measures to protect service continuity during the transition to franchising.
5. Endorsed the network service specification output to inform Round 1 of bus franchising, as detailed in Appendix 1.

8. Mass Transit Programme

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining progress and funding needs for the Mass Transit programme. Officers introduced the report detailing schedule changes, consultation plans, and delegated decisions to maintain delivery momentum.

Members expressed strong support for the scale and ambition of the programme and raised queries around risk management, financial assurance, and legislative certainty. The Director of Mass Transit confirmed that a comprehensive risk tracker was in place and could be shared with the Combined Authority. He explained that the Transport and Works Act

application was scheduled for 2027, with consent expected in 2028, aligning with the target for construction to begin. He noted that while legislative processes could not guarantee immunity from future political decisions, the programme had been designed with financial resilience in mind.

The Chair emphasised the importance of building a compelling case for the programme, highlighting its significance for communities across West Yorkshire and the strong political will to deliver it. She also noted the importance of developing in-house expertise to reduce reliance on external contractors.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted progress and the current position of the West Yorkshire Mass Transit programme.
2. Approved a revised timeline for submission of the Strategic Outline Case (SOC) by March 2026, and noted updates to the Integrated Master Schedule, with continued commitment to key milestones including spades in the ground by 2028.
3. Noted the future Key Decisions to be brought forward, as outlined in paragraph 6.1 of the submitted report.
4. Approved that, outside of those Key Decisions, officers exercise delegated authority on all other matters, including non-material schedule changes, to be assessed and accepted by the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor of West Yorkshire.
5. Approved a change request to allocate up to £40,487,682 in Combined Authority funding for development activity through to SOC submission, taking total programme approval to £121,377,839, enabling continued progress on the Outline Business Case and Transport and Works Act Order application.
6. Noted that future approvals would follow the assurance pathway and approval route set out in the report, subject to the scheme remaining within agreed tolerances.

9. West Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining nature recovery strategy and pre-consultation draft approval. Officers introduced the report summarising engagement work and biodiversity threats across West Yorkshire and England.

Members endorsed the strategy and highlighted the scale of ecological decline in the region, particularly in wetlands and river health. The importance of water management was emphasised as central to successful nature recovery, with benefits for flood resilience, urban cooling, and carbon storage.

Discussion acknowledged the need to balance environmental priorities with housing and planning pressures, particularly the challenge of protecting green

spaces while delivering new homes. Members stressed the value of investing in biodiversity as a driver for tourism, public wellbeing, and economic regeneration—citing the Aire Valley and post-industrial landscapes as key opportunities.

The potential for business engagement was also raised, with interest in exploring how the private sector could support biodiversity through initiatives such as habitat boxes and sustainable development practices.

The Chair welcomed recent changes to housing appraisal frameworks and noted the opportunity devolution presents to align housing and environmental objectives more effectively.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the engagement and strategy development work undertaken in collaboration with partners.
2. Approved the pre-consultation draft of the West Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy for public consultation, subject to editorial amendments and feedback from supporting authorities.

10. West Yorkshire Local Remediation Acceleration Plan

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining the Local Remediation Acceleration Plan and its approval. Officers introduced the report detailing safety risks, remediation targets, and future roles under devolution.

Members endorsed the strategy, emphasising the importance of ensuring all residents feel safe in their homes. The plan had been developed in partnership with the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service, whose continued involvement was welcomed.

The Chief Fire Officer confirmed the joint commitment to accelerating remediation and maintaining strong partnerships with local authorities. Members noted visible progress, including works at Leeds Dock, and welcomed the Combined Authority's proactive role.

The Chair acknowledged the future responsibilities for fire under the Devolution Bill and thanked the Fire Service for its ongoing contribution to public safety.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Adopted the West Yorkshire Local Remediation Acceleration Plan as set out in Appendix 1 of the submitted report and delegated any final amendments to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor.
2. Delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor, to approve future minor amendments to the Plan.

11. Cluster Action Plans

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining strategic plans to accelerate growth across six key sectors. Officers introduced the report detailing cluster priorities, delivery frameworks, and long-term ambitions for regional resilience.

Members welcomed the plans and acknowledged their alignment with the work of the Economy Committee and Business Board. The importance of supporting both growth sectors and the foundational economy was noted, alongside the need for clear accountability and private sector involvement in delivery.

The Director of Inclusive Economy, Skills & Culture confirmed that work was underway to develop metrics and KPIs, and that future papers would address support for struggling sectors. He outlined how sub-clusters and cross-cutting themes—such as trade, skills, and premises—would be integrated into the approach to ensure depth, inclusivity, and targeted impact.

Members stressed the need for balanced growth, regional collaboration, and recognition of talent beyond university settings. The Chair concluded by noting the opportunity to align cluster ambitions with international trade missions and wider economic strategies.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Approved the six Cluster Action Plans developed to accelerate growth across West Yorkshire's priority sectors and clusters, as set out in Appendices 1–6 of the submitted report.
2. Delegated authority to the Economy Committee to oversee the ongoing evolution of the Cluster Action Plans.

12. Healthy Working Life

The Combined Authority considered a report updating Healthy Working Life plans and Trailblazer funding arrangements. Officers introduced the report outlining programme progress, partnership roles, and delivery plans for year two.

Members endorsed the programme and emphasised the importance of measuring both inputs and outcomes. The Director of Inclusive Economy, Skills & Culture confirmed that while it was too early to report definitive results from year one, the programme aimed to slow the rate of economic inactivity by at least 1,300 people. He acknowledged challenges with national data reliability and noted that local structures and partnerships had enabled rapid deployment and delivery.

The Chair provided further context, referencing a community jobs hub that had successfully supported individuals with complex needs into employment. She reiterated the scale of the challenge and the importance of sustained collaboration to deliver meaningful change.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Discussed and commented on the proposed approach to developing the delivery plan for the second year of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer, as outlined in the submitted report.
2. Approved the acceptance of funding for the second year of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer.
3. Endorsed the delegation of delivery plan development to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and the Chair of the Economy Board, to enable consideration by the Healthy Working Life Board.

13. Wakefield Futures and Early Years Workforce

The Combined Authority considered a report on skills development in Wakefield and the Early Years sector. Officers introduced the report highlighting strategic priorities, local collaboration, and workforce planning to support growth.

Members endorsed both strands of work, recognising the importance of aligning strategic objectives with local delivery. The Wakefield Futures proposals had been submitted to the new Secretary of State for Skills, with the aim of securing improved opportunities for residents.

Members also welcomed the focus on quality education and childcare as part of a more productive economy and expressed support for the benefits these initiatives could bring to Wakefield and the wider region.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Considered and endorsed the recommendations set out in the Wakefield Futures Commission Final Report.
2. Considered and endorsed the recommendations contained within the Early Years Workforce Plan.

14. Driving Innovation Across the Region

The Combined Authority considered a report on boosting regional productivity through innovation and strategic investment. Officers introduced the report outlining sector strengths, partnership opportunities, and plans for innovation-led growth.

Members supported the approach and noted the potential of devolution and partnership working to deliver tangible outcomes. The need to maintain a clear link between innovation activity and business growth was also raised.

The Chair reiterated the case for greater delegation of innovation funding to Mayors, ensuring local leadership could drive forward inclusive and place-based innovation.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Approved the approach set out in the submitted report.
2. Approved the establishment of an Innovation Board and its draft terms of reference, as detailed in Appendix 1, to provide independent oversight and expertise for regional innovation activity, reporting to the Economy Committee and supporting readiness checks for UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) funding.

15. Project Approvals

Bradford City Village – Phase 2 Development Funding

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Approved the change request to the Bradford City Village scheme to release development funding of up to £1,231,107 to progress Phase 2 to decision point 4 (full business case).
2. Approved that the Combined Authority enter into a funding agreement with English Cities Fund for expenditure of up to £1,231,107.
3. Approved that future approvals be made in accordance with the assurance pathway, approval route, and tolerances outlined in the submitted report.

Huddersfield Bus Station

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Approved the change request for the Huddersfield Bus Station scheme to release further development funding of £993,160 for the Kirklees Bus Station Canopy element, increasing the allocation from £1,070,000 to £2,063,160. This brought the total scheme development costs to £5,044,987.
2. Approved that the Combined Authority enter into an addendum to the existing funding agreement with Kirklees Council for expenditure of up to £2,063,160 from the Transforming Cities Fund.
3. Approved that future approvals be made in accordance with the assurance pathway, approval route, and tolerances outlined in the submitted report.

16. Portfolio Summary

The Combined Authority considered a report summarising funding impacts from recent and delegated project approvals. Officers introduced the report detailing transport programme updates and financial implications across major funding streams.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the portfolio summary information outlined in the submitted report.

17. Future Organisation State

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining organisational changes in response to future devolution legislation. Officers introduced the report detailing structural reforms, benchmarking insights, and evolving roles under new governance models.

The Chief Executive was invited to introduce the accompanying report. He began by issuing an apology regarding a formatting error in the recommendations section of the paper. Specifically, he noted that Recommendation 2.2 referred to paragraph numbers which did not correspond correctly with the content of the report. He therefore suggested a minor amendment to Recommendation 2.2, suggesting that it be revised to more generically endorse the proposals “set out in the report itself,” rather than referencing incorrect paragraph numbers.

The Chair moved the proposed amendment and sought the agreement of members to revise Recommendation 2.2 accordingly. She confirmed that the updated recommendation would read:

“To endorse the proposals set out in the report not to implement arm’s length bodies at this time.”

Members indicated their agreement with the change, and the revised recommendation was duly adopted.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the work undertaken on the future direction of the organisation.
2. Endorsed the proposals set out in the report not to implement arm’s length bodies at this time.
3. Endorsed the proposals relating to the operating model and structure of the Combined Authority, with a decision paper on structure to be presented later in the year.

18. Future Resourcing Readiness

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining future workforce strategy to support organisational transformation. Officers introduced the report detailing resourcing principles, talent planning, and readiness for expanded regional responsibilities.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted progress on the approach to the Resourcing and Talent strategic priorities.

2. Noted the alignment of this approach with the Combined Authority's transition to an outcome-focused operating model.

19. Integrated Business, Budget and Resource Planning

The Combined Authority considered a report outlining future planning cycles and budget consultation for 2026/27. Officers introduced the report detailing strategic alignment, devolution impacts, and multi-year resource planning priorities.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the multi-year planning approach (2024–2028) being undertaken for the 2026/27 planning cycle.

2. Noted the implications of Devolution and the forthcoming Integrated Settlement on business, budget, and resource planning over the coming years.

3. Received an update on the proposed approach to budget consultation for the 2026/27 financial year.

20. Scrutiny Update: "School Travel" policy Call In and "Mayoral Soft Power" Recommendations

The Combined Authority considered a report on school travel policy and mayoral soft power recommendations.

The Chair introduced the item, thanking the Scrutiny Committee for their constructive engagement on both the School Travel Policy decision and the wider discussion around Mayoral Soft Power. She confirmed that the Committee had resolved to release the School Travel Policy decision for implementation.

Councillor Barry Anderson, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee, welcomed the Mayor's response and noted that further recommendations would be considered at the upcoming Scrutiny meeting. He reflected on the lessons learned from the call-in procedure and thanked all those who participated.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the outcome of the Call In meeting held on 22 August and the Mayor's response to the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations on "Mayoral Soft Power".

21. Governance Arrangements

The Combined Authority considered a report on committee appointments and strengthening financial governance arrangements.

The Chair introduced the item, noting that it had been omitted from the online pack due to a technical error but was now circulated in hard copy for

members' information. She proposed the items in the report as a motion.

The report was then discussed by Satinder Sahota, Assistant Director, Legal, Governance & Compliance. Members confirmed receipt of the hard copy and agreed to accept the motion as proposed.

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Appointed Karl Oxford as Deputy Chair of the Place, Regeneration & Housing Committee.
2. Appointed Mandy Ridyard as Deputy Chair of the Economy Committee.
3. Approved the appointment of Jayne Close as Deputy Section 73 Officer, effective from 19 September 2025.

22. Minutes for Information and Summaries of Committee Meetings

RESOLVED: – That the Combined Authority:

1. Noted the minutes, notes, and agendas of committee meetings published on its website, along with the matters deliberated within the committees, as summarised in the submitted report since the previous Combined Authority meeting.

23. Chair's Closing Remarks

The Chair concluded the meeting by formally recognising Satinder Sahota, Assistant Director, Legal, Governance & Compliance, on the occasion of his final meeting. She thanked him for his significant contribution to the organisation, describing him as a trusted and steady presence who had guided the Combined Authority through change and challenge. The Chair extended her best wishes for his next steps and remarked that any future organisation would be fortunate to have him. Members joined the Chair in expressing their appreciation.

24. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Combined Authority was scheduled to take place on Thursday 16 October 2025.

25. Decision Log

The Decision Log is appended below.

Title:	Decision Log
Report of:	The West Yorkshire Combined Authority
Meeting Date:	18 September 2025

Agenda Item	Report Title	Report Recommendations	Action
6.	Bus Franchising Update	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>That the Combined Authority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Notes the approach to the development of the network service specifications to be adopted for the franchise contracts for Round 1 of bus franchising set out in this report. (ii) Endorses the network service specification output to inform Round 1 of bus franchising set out in Appendix 1. (iii) Notes progress with the development of a service permit scheme, and an associated notice of the conditions, or descriptions of conditions that may be attached to a service permit, to be put in place before the planned start date of the Franchising Scheme (iv) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the Mayor, to undertake the consultation on a service permit scheme pursuant to the Franchising Scheme (Service Permits) (England) Regulations 2018 and a consultation on the conditions, or descriptions of conditions, that may be attached to a service permit pursuant to section 123R Transport Act 2000. (v) Notes the requirement to develop an approach, and progress to date, for an approach to future network change, including protecting continuity of service during the transition to franchising. 	Approved
7.	Mass Transit Programme	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>That in relation to Mass Transit, the Combined Authority is requested to:</p>	Approved

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note progress and the current position in relation to the West Yorkshire Mass Transit programme. ii. Approve near-term revision to the submission of SOC, forecast to be March 2026 and notes that the Integrated Master Schedule is currently being updated to take account of the challenges set out in this report, but that the team continue to work towards spades in the ground by 2028, submission of the TWAO in 2027 and operational Trams on Phase 1 by mid-2030s. iii. Note the future Key Decisions that will be brought forward to the Combined Authority (as set out at paragraph 6.1 of this report). iv. Approves that, outside the Key Decision points highlighted in 6.1, officers will exercise their delegations to reach decisions on all other matters. This will include future schedule changes that do not materially impact the overall programme timescales, which will be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer of WYCA and the Mayor of West Yorkshire to assess and accept. v. Approve the change request to the Mass Transit Programme to provide up to £40,487,682 of Combined Authority funding for development of activity 2 (strategic outline business case) until SOC submission, aligned with the current forecast submission date of the updated SOC to the Department for Transport (DfT). This takes the total approval to £121,377,839. This funding will enable completion of the updated SOC and, importantly, continued progress on key parallel workstreams, including the development of the OBC and the TWAO application through to SOC submission, to continue to progress the longer-term programme at pace and to meet the Mayoral commitment of spades in the ground by 2028. The proposed drawdown remains within the overall funding envelope previously approved by the DfT. vi. Notes 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. 	
8.	West Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the Combined Authority notes the engagement and Strategy development work undertaken with partners. (ii) That the Combined Authority approves the pre-consultation draft West Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy for consultation (subject to editorial changes and comments received from supporting authorities). 	Approved
9.	West Yorkshire Local Remediation Acceleration Plan	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That the Combined Authority adopts the West Yorkshire Local Remediation Acceleration Plan as set out in Appendix 1 to this report and delegates any final amends to the Chief Executive in consultation 	Approved

		<p>with the Mayor.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority delegates approval of future minor amendments to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor.</p>	
10.	Cluster Action Plans	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority Approve the six Cluster Action Plans (CAP) that have been developed to accelerate the growth of West Yorkshire's priority sectors and clusters. (Members are referred to the CAP's appended to this report 1-6).</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority delegates further evolution of the Cluster Action Plans over time to the Economy Committee.</p>	Approved
11.	Healthy Working Life	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority Members comment on and discuss the proposed approach to developing and the delivery plan for the second year of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer as set out in section 3.2.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority Members approve that the Combined Authority accepts the funding for the second year of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer.</p> <p>(iii) That the Combined Authority Members endorse that the development of the Economic Inactivity Trailblazer delivery plan is delegated to the Combined Authority's Chief Executive, in consultation with the Mayor and the Chair of the Economy Board, to enable the Healthy Working Life Board to consider the proposals.</p>	Approved
12.	Wakefield Futures and Early Years Workforce	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority considers and endorses the recommendations in the Wakefield Futures Commission Final Report.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority considers and endorses the recommendations in the Early Years Workforce plan.</p>	Approved
13.	Driving Innovation Across the Region	<p>RESOLVED: -</p>	Approved

		<p>(i) That the Combined Authority Approves the approach set out in the report.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority approves the establishment of an Innovation Board and draft terms of reference (Appendix 1) to provide independent oversight and expertise to innovation activity in the region, with the Board reporting into the Economy Committee and supporting readiness checks for UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) funding.</p>	
14a.	Project Approvals – Investment Priority 3: Bradford City Village	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>The Combined Authority:</p> <p>(i) Approves the change request to the BHF Bradford City Village scheme to release development funding of up to £1,231,107 to progress Phase 2 to decision point 4 (full business case)</p> <p>(ii) Approves that the Combined Authority enters into a funding agreement with English Cities Fund for expenditure of up to £1,231,107.</p> <p>Approves 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.</p>	Approved
14b.	Project Approvals – Investment Priority 5: Huddersfield Bus Station	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>The Combined Authority:</p> <p>(iii) Approves the change request for the Huddersfield Bus Station scheme to release further development costs for the Kirklees Bus Station Canopy element by £993,160 from £1,070,000 to £2,063,160. This takes the overall scheme development costs to £5,044,987.</p> <p>(iv) Approves entering into addendum to an existing funding agreement with Kirklees Council for expenditure of up to £2,063,160 from the Transforming Cities Fund.</p> <p>Future approvals are made in accordance with the assurance pathway and approval route outlined in this report.</p>	Approved
15.	Portfolio Summary	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority notes the portfolio summary information outlined in this report.</p>	Approved

16.	Future Organisation State	<p>(i) To note the work being done on the future direction of the Combined Authority.</p> <p>(ii) To endorse the proposals set out in the report not to implement arm's length bodies at this time.</p> <p>(iii) Endorse the proposals relating to the operating model and structure of the Combined Authority – a decision paper to be brought to the Combined Authority on structure later this year.</p>	Approved
17.	Future Resourcing Readiness	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) Note progress on the approach to the Resourcing and Talent Strategic priorities.</p> <p>(ii) Note the alignment of this approach with the Combined Authority's transition to an outcome focused operating model.</p>	Approved
18.	Integrated Business, Budget and Resource Planning	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority Notes the multi-year planning approach (2024-2028) being undertaken for the 2026/27 planning cycle.</p> <p>(ii) To Note the implications of Devolution and the upcoming Integrated Settlement on business, budget and resource planning for the Combined Authority over forthcoming years.</p> <p>(iii) To receive an update on the approach to Budget consultation for the 2026/27 budget.</p>	Approved
19.	Scrutiny Update: "School Travel" policy Call In and "Mayoral Soft Power" Recommendations	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) To note the outcome of the Call In meeting on 22 August and the Mayor's response to Scrutiny's recommendations on "Mayoral Soft Power".</p>	Approved
20.	Governance Arrangements	<p>RESOLVED: -</p> <p>(i) That the Combined Authority appoints Karl Oxford as Deputy Chair of the Place, Regeneration & Housing Committee.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority appoints Mandy Ridyard as Deputy Chair of the Economy Committee.</p> <p>(ii) That the Combined Authority approve the appointment of Jayne Close as Deputy Section 73 Officer with effect from 19 September 2025.</p>	Approved

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