

# Report to Council

**29 October 2024**

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Subject:</b>         | Reports from the Council's representative on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority  |
| <b>Director:</b>        | Assistant Chief Executive – James McLaughlin<br><a href="mailto:james_mclaughlin@sandwell.gov.uk">james_mclaughlin@sandwell.gov.uk</a><br><br>Mike Jones, Assistant Director Legal and Assurance and Monitoring Officer<br><a href="mailto:Mike1_Jones@sandwell.gov.uk">Mike1_Jones@sandwell.gov.uk</a> |
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## 1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Council receives updates from the Council's representatives on the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for the West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority.

## 2 Reasons for Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council, at its annual meeting on 24 May 2011, approved an arrangement whereby members nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 to answer questions on the discharge of the functions of any joint authority or any joint board of which the Council is a constituent authority (Section 41 members) would report to the Council twice a year on important and contentious matters relating to the joint authority/board, and on any other occasion by exception. Procedural Standing Orders provide that any member of the Council shall be entitled to ask questions of the relevant members and the Council on these reports.

Reports are attached in respect of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for the West Midlands, West Midlands Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority.

### 3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Growing Up in Sandwell       | The involvement of Council representatives in the decision-making process of joint authorities will encourage better understanding of local and wider needs and viewpoints. |
| Living in Sandwell           |   |
| Thriving Economy in Sandwell |   |
| Healthy in Sandwell          |   |
| One Council One Team         |   |

### 4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 Council will receive an update on the work undertaken by West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority, Transport for the West Midlands, Police and Crime Panel and West Midlands Combined Authority from the member nominated pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act.

### 5 Alternative Options

5.1 It is usual practice to receive six monthly update reports.

### 6 Implications

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|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Resources:</b>            | There are no strategic resource implications arising from this report.   |
| <b>Legal and Governance:</b> | Under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985, arrangements have been made for enabling questions on the discharge of a joint authority's functions to be put in the course of the proceedings of any constituent district council. A member is nominated by the joint authority for that purpose (the Section 41 member). |



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
|                              | It is customary for the Council to receive six monthly reports from those members appointed pursuant to Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985 to answer questions put to them at council meetings relating to the discharge of functions of joint authorities. This was the case in respect of the West Midlands Police Authority until the Police and Crime Commissioner [PCC] took office on 22 November 2012. The West Midlands Police Authority ceased to exist at that point. The West Midlands Police and Crime Panel, on which the Council is represented, now holds the Police and Crime Commissioner to account. |
| <b>Risk:</b>                 | There are no direct risks associated with this report.  |
| <b>Equality:</b>             | There is no requirement for an equality impact assessment.  |
| <b>Health and Wellbeing:</b> | There are no direct health and wellbeing implications from this report.   |
| <b>Social Value</b>          | There are no direct social value implications from this report.   |
| <b>Climate Change</b>        | There are no direct implications arising from this report.  |
| <b>Corporate Parenting</b>   | There are no direct implications arising from this report.  |

## 7. Appendices

- Appendix A – West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service update.
- Appendix B – Transport for West Midlands update.
- Appendix C – West Midlands Police and Crime Panel update.
- Appendix D – West Midlands Combined Authority update.

## 8. Background Papers

None

