



Black Country Executive Joint Committee
Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton

BLACK COUNTRY EXECUTIVE JOINT COMMITTEE

Wednesday 7 May 2014, 11.15am

Held at:

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council,
The Council House, Committee Room 1

DRAFT MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Mike Bird, Walsall MBC
Councillor Roger Lawrence, Wolverhampton CC
Councillor Darren Cooper, Sandwell MBC

NON VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Judy Foster, Dudley MBC
Ninder Johal, Black Country LEP Board

IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Sheehan, Walsall MBC
Tim Johnson, Wolverhampton CC
John Polychronakis, Dudley MBC
Jan Britton, Sandwell MBC
Sarah Middleton, The Black Country Consortium Ltd

INVITED GUESTS

1. **Apologies**

Councillor David Sparks, Dudley MBC
Stewart Towe, Black Country LEP Board
Simon Warren, Wolverhampton CC

2. **Notes of previous meeting held on 26 March 2014**

14/0010 **It was resolved that:**

The notes are approved as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising**

14/0011 **It was resolved that:**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. **Collaborative Agreement**

Paul Sheehan, Chief Executive at Walsall MBC referred to the City Deal and Growth Deal Collaborative Agreement document that had been previously circulated and confirmed that all Black Country Chief Executives and Heads of Legal were happy with its content which sets out how the four Black Country Authorities will work together to deliver the City Deal and Growth Deal.

The five main areas it deals with are:

Collaboration – is at the heart of City and Growth Deal to achieve a coherent region approach to City and Growth Deal.

Project Management – the establishment of a working group of regeneration officers from each Council to bring forward project proposals to the Advisory board, and Joint Committee, including an update and progress reporting mechanism.

Defined roles – for each project under City and Growth Deal there will be a:

- **Accountable Body** – this is the Council ultimately responsible for the government funding stream and accountable to the government for its expenditure in accordance with the government terms and conditions of funding.
- **Lead Body** – the Council(s) that will be responsible for the activity of implementing individual projects or elements of projects.

Project Audit – For each project, the Council(s) responsible as Lead Body for that Project or elements of it will ensure audit arrangements are in place.

Government grant terms and conditions – are to be adhered to at all times by the Councils, and where claw-back of funding is made, it should be repaid in proportion to the expenditure within each Councils area, unless any administrative irregularity is determined by an auditor.

14/0012 **It was resolved that :**

the Joint Committee note the contents of the report and the underlying principals of the City Deal and Growth Deal Collaboration Agreement.

14/0013 **It was resolved that :**

the Joint Committee approve the City Deal and Growth Deal Collaboration Agreement and agree for each Council Leader and Chief Legal Officer (or equivalent) to sign the Agreement on behalf of their Local Authority.

***Councillor David Sparks, Leader of Dudley
Councillor Darren Cooper, Leader of Sandwell
Councillor Mike Bird, Leader of Walsall
Councillor Roger Lawrence, Leader of Wolverhampton
Sarah Middleton, Chief Executive of The Black Country Consortium Ltd
signed the City Deal and Growth Deal Collaborative Agreement during the
Association of Black Country Authorities meeting which was held prior to the
Black Country Executive Joint Committee.***

The Meeting Closed at 11.25am..

Date of future meetings

- Black Country Joint Committee – Friday 20 June 2014, 11.15am at Walsall MBC
- Black Country Joint Committee – Wednesday 17 September 2014, 11.15am at Wolverhampton CC
- Black Country Joint Committee – Wednesday 3 December 2014, 11.15am at Dudley MBC