

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: July 2015

Introduction

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Authority publishes a "Forward Plan" of "Key Decisions".

The Forward Plan is published on a six weekly basis to match the Authority's meeting cycle and covers key issues to be dealt with in the subsequent three months. It is a publicly available document and its purpose is to reinforce the openness and accountability of the Authority's decision-making process.

The Plan seeks to anticipate the issues that will be the subject of a Key Decision during that period. For each item the Plan includes:

- The item's title and a short description of the decision being sought.
- An indication of who will be making the decision.
- The Scrutiny arrangements for the decision.
- An indication of when the decision is expected to be made. This may be a specific date i.e. the date of a meeting, or a period during which the decision is likely to be made.
- A list of Supporting Papers. These will be documents which the decisionmaker(s) will consider or take into account when making the decision.
- An indication of what consultation will take place on the item which is the subject of the proposed decision. This will include an indication as to who will be consulted (i.e. principal groups and organisations) and how that consultation will be conducted.
- An indication of how and to whom representations should be made on the item.

Within the Plan, the items are listed in the chronological order in which it is anticipated that the decisions will be made.

The decision in respect of each key decision is recorded in the minutes for the relevant meeting which are approved at the subsequent meeting of the Authority and are open for inspection at the Authority Offices and on the Authority's web site.

Definition of a Key Decision

The definition of a Key Decision is set out in the Authority's Constitution. It is as follows:-

A Key Decision is an executive decision:-

- (i) incurring expenditure or making savings which are financially significant, unless the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed by the Authority; or
- (ii) which, in the view of the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in Merseyside.

A decision will be considered financially significant if:-

- a) in the case of revenue expenditure, it results in incurring expenditure or making savings of £250,000 or greater;
- b) in the case of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure/savings are in excess of £1 Million;

unless the specific expenditure or savings have previously been agreed by the Authority or have been taken in line with the Authority's Financial Management Policy.

In determining whether a decision is significant in terms of its effect on communities, the Chief Executive and lead Member will give consideration to:-

- a) the number of residents/service users/District Council areas that will be affected;
- b) whether the impact is short term, long term or permanent;
- *c)* the impact on the community in terms of the economic, social and environmental well-being.

Decision-Makers

Key Decisions will be made by the Authority or its committees where relevant powers have been delegated. A report will be submitted to the relevant meeting on each key decision, and Members will also consider, where necessary, any report which has been 'called-in' under the Authority's scrutiny arrangements.

Consultation

The Chief Executive, in taking decisions under delegated powers, will consult with the relevant Authority Members and other key stakeholders, in accordance with those identified in the Forward Plan.

Authority Meetings

The Authority will meet formally approximately every six weeks. Meeting dates are published on the web site <u>www.merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>. Each Authority meeting will be in two parts. The first part of the meeting will consider the Key Decisions contained in the Forward Plan, and any other matters determined by the Chair. The second part of the meeting will be made available for any scrutiny discussions.

The current schedule of meetings is as follows:

25th September 2015 20th November 2015 5th February 2016 (Budget & ordinary meeting) 22nd April 2016

Scrutiny Arrangements

Two Members of the Authority may request that the Chair place a delegated decision matter on the Agenda of an Authority regular meeting as a 'scrutiny item'.

Information Reports

The Authority will periodically publish information reports about its Policies, Strategies and Performance on the web site <u>www.merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>

Contacts

If you have any queries or comments regarding the contents or format of this document please direct them to Mandy Valentine (Clerk to the Authority) on 0151-255-1444 or by e-mail at <u>enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2015/16

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Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
RRC Contract Management Review	K27-15	25/9/2015	C Beer
HWRC Opening Hours	K28-15	25/9/2015	A Murray
Statement of Accounts	K29-15	25/9/2015	P Williams
Auditors report to those charged with governance	K30-15	25/9/2015	P Williams
Waste Development Fund	K31-15	25/9/2015	P Williams

Title	RRC Contract Management Review			
File Reference	K27-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – y Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Implementation of efficiency savings review plan arising from report			
Scrutiny area	Performance/Best Value			
Date for decision	25 th September 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	WIDP Efficiency Savings report 2015			
Risk Management Implications				
Prior consultation	Chairperson			
Representations	In writing to Carl Beer or by email to <u>carlbeer@merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>			

Title	HWRC Opening Hours			
File Reference	K28-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Impact please y specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Opening hours at HWRC proposal			
Scrutiny area	Contracts			
Date for decision	25 th September, 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Impact on waste streams, costs and public acceptance			
Prior consultation	None			
Representations	•	In writing to Alex Murray or by email to <u>Alex.Murray@merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>		

Title	Statement of Accounts			
File Reference	K29-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – ↓ Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The statement of accounts must be approved annually by 'those charged with governance' which in this case is the full Authority or the Audit Committee			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	25 th September 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/a			
Risk Management Implications	The statement of accounts provides a public statement of the Authority's expenditure and income for the year, and the assets and liabilities it managed during the year. It is an important public statement and a statutory requirement for the Authority to approve it by 30 th September			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

Title	Auditors report to those charged with governance			
File Reference	K30-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Those charged with governance at the authority (the Authority or the Audit Committee) are required to receive the report from the auditor before considering whether to approve the annual statement of accounts			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	25 th September, 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	This is a statutory requirement and is key to the governance of the Authority			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to o peter.williams	r by email to @merseysidew	vda.gov.uk	

Title	Wests David	onmont Fund		
Title	Waste Development Fund			
File Reference	K31-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – ✓ Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The Waste Development Fund was distributed under the terms of a MoU signed by all parties. The MoU stipulated that a report would be made to the Authority in September each year setting out progress and plans under the MoU, Members to note the report			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	25 th September, 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	If the report is not made to the Authority the terms of the MoU will not have been met, leading to a risk of challenge			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to o peter.williams	r by email to @merseysidev	vda.gov.uk	