

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: April 2019

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 decision-maker(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 www.merseysidewda.gov.uk. 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:

26th April 2019 21st June 2019 (AGM) 20th September 2019 22nd November 2019 07th February 2020 (Budget Meeting) 24th April 2020

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 www.merseysidewda.gov.uk

Contacts

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

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2018/19

COUNCILLOR	Responsibilities	Address and Contact Details
Tony Concepcion (Chair) (Liverpool)	 Scrutiny Public Consultation MWDA Portfolio Forward Planning Member's Panel Appeals Committee Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd 	24 Woodbourne Road Liverpool L14 2DA Tel: 078742 16868 Email: tony.concepcion@liverpool.gov.uk
Diane Roscoe (Deputy Chair) (Sefton)	 Scrutiny Public Consultation Audit & Governance Committee Investigating and Disciplinary Committee Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd 	15 Cambridge Avenue Crosby Liverpool L23 7XN Tel: 07557649055 Email:diane.roscoe@councillors.seft on.gov.uk
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CONTENTS

Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
External Audit Plan 2018-19	K06-19	26/04/2019	P. Williams
Internal Audit Plan 2019-20	K07-19	26/04/2019	P. Williams
Service Delivery Plan	K08 -19	26/04/2019	P. Williams
Code of Corporate Governance	K09-19	26/04/2019	P. Pocock
Internal Audit Report - RRC	K10-19	26/04/2019	P. Williams
Internal Audit Report – Veolia Contract	K11-19	26/04/2019	P. Williams

Title	External Audi	t Plan			
File Reference	K06-19				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority	,			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – please specify				
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to approve the external auditor's audit plan for the 2018-19 year				
Scrutiny area	Finance				
Date for decision	26 April 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A				
Risk Management Implications	External audit is a statutory requirement for the Authority – Members understanding of the risks they identify and their response to those risks is critical for good governance				
Prior consultation	N/A				
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams@	by email to merseysidewda	a.gov.uk		

Title	Internal Audit	Plan			
File Reference	K07-19				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority	,			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – please specify				
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The internal audit plan for 2019-20 requires Members to review and approve before it can be implemented				
Scrutiny area	Finance				
Date for decision	26 April 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A				
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the risks identified by Internal Audit and their proposed plan to review the Authority's arrangements and the assurance they provide in order to ensure the Authority's Governance arrangements are effective.				
Prior consultation	N/A				
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams@	by email to @merseysidewda	a.gov.uk		

Title	Service Delivery Plan			
File Reference	K08-19			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Corporate
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to consider how Service Delivery Plan for 2018-19 has been completed and to take that into account in considering the proposed Service Delivery Plan for 2019-20			
Scrutiny area	Corporate Performance			
Date for decision	26 April 2019			
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A			
Risk Management Implications	Members need an understanding of how effectively the Authority has been in delivering services for 2018-19 and how it plans to deliver services for 2019-20 if it is to continue to meet the Corporate Plan			
Prior consultation	N/A			
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams@	by email to @merseysidewda	a.gov.uk	

Title	Annual Governance Statement				
File Reference	K09-19				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority	,			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – please specify Governance				
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	To consider the annual review of the Authority's governance arrangements and approve the Annual Governance Statement.				
Scrutiny area	Governance				
Date for decision	26 th April 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	Annual Governance Statement				
Risk Management Implications	Failure to review corporate governance and internal control arrangements is a statutory requirement and may lead to weaknesses in the direction and control of the Authority's functions.				
Prior consultation	Primary Assurance Group				
Representations	In writing to or by email to paula.pocock@merseysidewda.gov.uk				

Title	Internal Audit Report - RRC				
File Reference	K10-19				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority	,			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Operational and contracts				
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to note the findings of the internal auditor				
Scrutiny area	Authority				
Date for decision	26 th April 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A				
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the risks and responses to those risks so that they can understand the control environment in which they operate.				
Prior consultation	N/A				
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams@	by email to merseysidewda	a.gov.uk		

Title	Internal Audit Report – Veolia contract				
File Reference	K11-19				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority	,			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Operational and contracts				
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to note the findings of the internal auditor				
Scrutiny area	Authority				
Date for decision	26 th April 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A				
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the risks and responses to those risks so that they can understand the control environment in which they operate.				
Prior consultation	n/a				
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams(by email to @merseysidewda	a.gov.uk		