

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: June 2020

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:

26th June 2020 (AGM) 25th September 2020 20th November 2020 5th February 2021 (Budget Meeting) 23rd April 2021

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 Paula Pocock (Clerk to the Authority) on 0151-255-1444 or by e-mail at <u>enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2019/20

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Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
Appointments & Committees	K09-20	26 th June, 2020	Paula Pocock
Scheme of Delegation	K010-20	26 th June, 2020	Paula Pocock
Urgent Action	K011-20	26 th June, 2020	Paula Pocock
Questions of the Discharge of Functions	K012-20	26 th June, 2020	Paula Pocock
Internal Audit	K013-20	26 th June, 2020	Peter Williams
External Audit	K014-20	26 th June, 2020	Peter Williams
Outturn Report	K015-20	26 th June, 2020	Peter Williams
Performance Report	K016-20	26 th June, 2020	Peter Williams
HWRC Opening	K017-20	26 th June, 2020	Ian Stephenson

Title	Appointments of Committees and Representation on other Bodies.			
File Reference	K09-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	У		
Key Decision Criteria	FinancialCommunity ImpactOther – please specifyGovernance			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The Authority's constitution and changes to its membership following District Council AGM's require a review committees and representation on other bodies.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	It is good corporate governance to effectively delegate responsibility to committees and to identify appropriate levels of representation on other bodies			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to o paula.pocock	r by email to @merseysidew	/da.gov.uk	

Title	Scheme of Delegation and Constitution			
File Reference	K010-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	y		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Delegation to year. This rep	y's Constitutior be adopted a port will also ide pution following a	t the Annual M ntify any propos	eeting each sed changes
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Failure to adopt the Scheme of Delegation is a breach of the Authority Procedural Rules			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to o paula.pocock	r by email to @merseysidew	<u>da.gov.uk</u>	

Title	COMMUNITY FUND 2020-21 ALLOCATION URGENT DECISION			
File Reference	K011-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	FinancialCommunity Impact XOther – please 			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Executive in o	note urgent de consultation with y Fund 2020-20	ecision made b n the Chairperso 021	by the Chief on in relation
Scrutiny area	Behavioural Change			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	WDA_03_20 Community Fund Budget Allocation February 2020-21			
Risk Management Implications	Included in re	port		
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to o chris.obrien@	r by email to merseysidewd	<u>a.gov.uk</u>	

Title	Questions on the Discharge of Functions			
File Reference	K012-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Governance Impact specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The Authority is required each year to nominate Members to answer questions at each of the District Council's own proceedings on behalf of the Authority.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Risk of inconsistencies unless a single Member from each District Council is identified to answer questions regarding the Authority's activities.			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to o paula.pocock	r by email to @merseysidew	<u>/da.gov.uk</u>	

Title	Internal Audit plan 2020-21			
File Reference	K013-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	y		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – ✓ Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to approve the internal audit plan for their work at the Authority			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the risk environment at the Authority and the audit review that gives assurance that those risks are being mitigated			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to o peter.williams	or by email to <u>@merseysidev</u>	vda.gov.uk	

Title	External audit plan - audit of accounts 2019-20			
File Reference	K014-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – ↓ Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to approve the external auditor's plan for carrying out their review of the accounts and the Authority's value for money arrangements for 2019-20			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the Auditor's assessment of the risks faced at the Authority and their proposals for confirming that those risks are mitigated			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to o peter.williams	r by email to @merseysidev	vda.gov.uk	

Title	Outturn Report 2019-20			
File Reference	K015-20			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Impact please specify			
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	outturn for th	e asked to not ne year 2019- and Prudential	20 and that the	ne Treasury
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2020			
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A			
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand the financial position of the Authority as it is fundamental to performance decisions they may take.			
Prior consultation	N/A			
Representations	In writing to o peter.williams	r by email to merseysidew	vda.gov.uk	

Title	Service Delivery Plan				
File Reference	K016-20				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority				
Key Decision Criteria	Financial ✓	Community Impact	Other – please specify		
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to note the performance against the service delivery plan for the prior year and to approve the plans for the current year				
Scrutiny area	Performance				
Date for decision	26 th June 2020				
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a				
Risk Management Implications	Members need to understand whether the objectives for the prior year were delivered and to establish delivery plans for the current year.				
Prior consultation	n/a				
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk				

Title	Household Waste Recycling Centres – re-opening of facilities					
File Reference	K017-20					
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public					
Decision Maker	Chief Executive (Urgent Decision)					
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	X Urgent Decision		
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The report informs Members of an Urgent Decision taken by the Chief Executive, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, to re-open certain HWRCs on Merseyside on 4 th May 2020.					
Scrutiny area	Contracts					
Date for decision	26 th June 2020					
List of Background Papers for consideration	Member Briefing paper entitled 'Household Waste Recycling Centres – Operations during the COVID-19 crisis', circulated to Authority Members by email on 24 th April 2020.					
Risk Management Implications	Failure to report the Urgent Decision would not be in accordance with the rules of the Scheme of Delegation.					
Prior consultation	Consultation with Authority Members undertaken on Monday 27 th April 2020.					
Representations	In writing to or by email to <u>@merseysidewda.gov.uk</u>					