

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: April 2023

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 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:

21st April 2023 23rd June 2023 22nd September 2023 24th November 2023 02nd February 2024 19th April 2024

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 2022/23

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: 07577280824 Email: tony.concepcion@liverpool.gov.uk
Steve Williams (Wirral)	 Scrutiny Public Consultation Bidston Methane Ltd Board Investigating and Disciplinary Committee Appeals Committee Audit & Governance Committee 	34 Beech Avenue Saughall Massie Upton Wirral CH49 4NJ Tel: 0151 677 8848/07974 717 666 Email: stevewilliams@wirral.gov.uk
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Peter Williams Treasurer	Various delegated matters	dewda.gov.uk 7 th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: Peter.williams@merseysidewda.g ov.uk
Paula Pocock Clerk to the Authority	Various delegated matters	7 th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: paula.pocock@merseysidewda.go v.uk
Ian Stephenson Monitoring Officer	Various delegated matters	7 th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: ian.stephenson@merseysidewda. gov.uk

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Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
Annual Governance Statement	K07-23	21 st April	Paula Pocock
Service Deliver Plan 2023-24	K08-23	21 ST April	Peter Williams
MRWA update on audit recommendations	K09-23	21 ST April	Peter Williams
Contract procurement	K10-23	21 ST April	Peter Williams

Title	Annual Governance Statement				
File Reference	K07-23				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority				
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – Governance please specify				
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	21st April 2023				
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	Service Deliver Plan 2023-24			
File Reference				
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	Members are	asked to note th	e Authority's pe	rformance in the
which a Key Decision is	last 12 months and approve the proposed plans for the year			
required.	ahead			
Scrutiny area	Whole Authority			
Date for decision	21/April 2023			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	If Members do not approve plans for service delivery then the Authority's activities will be delayed and services will be impacted adversely			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

Title	MRWA update on audit recommendations			
File Reference				
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 note progress in responding to the auditor's recommendations			
Scrutiny area	Whole Authority			
Date for decision	21 April 2023			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	One of the recommendations was that an update on the response would be provided at each meeting, this report responds to that recommendation			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

Title	Contract procurement			
File Reference				
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 consider the way forward in determining future service provisions			
Scrutiny area	Whole Authority			
Date for decision	21 April 2023			
List of Background Papers for consideration	n/a			
Risk Management Implications	If a way forward is not determined then delays have the prospect of significant additional costs			
Prior consultation	n/a			
Representations	In writing to or peter.williams@	by email to merseysidewda	a.gov.uk	