

Regional Reference Group for the Review of the West Midlands Economic Strategy

Terms of Reference

1. Introduction

The next update of the West Midlands Economic Strategy will be published in 2007 and Advantage West Midlands is leading the work to ensure that the region achieves this. The review was launched at the end of March 2006, jointly by the Agency and the Regional Assembly under the heading "Help Shape Your Future".

This sets out a number of stages throughout the review, each of which offers the opportunity for all partners to engage and influence the review.

2. Purpose of the group

The purpose of the group is to help ensure that the WMES produced in 2007 is effective in addressing the economic issues for the region, and that it is owned by the region.

To achieve this, group members are being asked:

- To offer advice and support on the extent and process for the review;
- To provide advice and suggestions on the emerging issues and how to address them;
- To act as champions for the review within and outside the region; and
- To act as two way communications channels with their relevant constituent groups and partners.
- To provide and ensure synergy and alignment with other regional strategies, especially the Regional Spatial Strategy.

3. Membership

The membership has been chosen to reflect a wide range of regional organisations and partnerships, which will be critical for the eventual delivery of the Strategy. (See Annexe A)

4. Meetings

- The Reference group will meet four times during the review process, to coincide with the phases of the review.
- The dates for these meetings are: 5th June 2006; 1st September 2006; 3rd April 2007; 30th July 2007.
- Advantage West Midlands will chair and provide the secretariat for the group. The aim is to circulate papers 10 days in advance by email, and keep them short.

Annexe A

WMES Review Regional Reference Group Membership

Title	Forename	Surname	Position	Organisation
Mr	John	Edwards (Group Chair)	Chief Executive	Advantage West Midlands
Dr	Roger	Sumpton	Corporate Director Strategy & Communications	Advantage West Midlands
Ms	Rose	Poulter	Policy Director	WMRA / WMLGA
Ms	Katherine	Kerswell	Chief Executive	Solihull MBC (Regional Chief Executives Group)
Ms	Carolyn	Downs	Chief Executive	Shropshire County Council (Regional Chief Executives Group)
Mr	Peter	Davenport	Head of Policy Development	Staffordshire County Council (Shires Advisor)
Ms	Trudi	Elliot	Regional Director	Government Office for the West Midlands
Mr	John	Hart	Chairman	West Midlands Business Council
Mr	Gerard	Coyne	Midlands Regional Secretary	Transport & General Workers Union
Mr	David	Cragg	Regional Director	Learning & Skills Council
Prof.	Michael	Wright	Chair	WMHEA - c/o University of Wolverhampton
Dr	Rashmi	Shukla	Regional Director	West Midlands Public Health Group
Mr	Richard	Quallington	Chair	Regional Action West Midlands
Mr	Bernard	Doyle	Chair	Sustainability West Midlands
Mr	Brian	Woods-Scawen	Chair	Culture West Midlands
Mr	Chris	Clifford	Regional Director	CBI
Mr	Mike	Beasley	Chair	Regional Skills Partnership
Mr	Norman	Price	Chair	Enterprise Board & Regional Finance Forum
Dr	Clive	Hickman	Chair	Innovation and Technology Council
Ms	Alison	McLean	Vice Chair	Rural Affairs Forum
Mr	Brian	Summers	Chair	Tourism West Midlands
Mr	Mohammed	Nazir	Chair	Ethnic Minority Business Forum
Clir	Roger	Phillips	Chair	Regional Transport Partnership
Clir	Jo	Jones	Chair	Regional Equalities and Diversity Partnership
Clir	Rex	Roberts	Chair	Regional Planning Partnerships
Mr	Ron	Pugh	Chair	Association of Colleges
Ms	Glynis	Whiting	Director	West Midlands in Europe
Mr	Simon	Murphy	Project Director	Our City Region
Mr	Roger	McKenzie	Regional Secretary	Trade Union Congress
Mr	Mark	Sitton-Kent	Midlands Regional Director	Environment agency

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