
The **West** of England Partnership

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE & DELIVERY

**Joint Scrutiny Committee
23 September 2008**

WEST OF ENGLAND VISION 2026

PURPOSE OF THE WEST OF ENGLAND PARTNERSHIP BOARD

- Provide leadership, direction and strategic co-ordination to Vision 2026 and Delivery Priorities.
- Approve sub-regional policy, priorities, programmes and resource allocations, in conjunction with Council Cabinets and partner organisations.
- Ensure appropriate delivery arrangements and vehicles, and a performance management framework.

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE? (1)

- Increase public and private investment to match the high levels of growth, ensure a better quality of life for residents, and deliver Vision 2026.
- Demonstrate a decisive and consistent political focus on key strategic issues which require major investment, joint working and devolution of powers; eg. DFT grant conditions; DEFRA PFI conditions; private investors and contractors.

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE? (2)

- Provide the legal basis for collectively securing, holding and allocating resources, managing and sharing strategic risk, and securing more powers and influence.
- Exercise control over investment and risk, and benefit from additional local powers devolved from the region, government audit agencies - as envisaged in the Sub-National Review.
- Strengthen the operation of the Partnership.

KEY OUTCOMES FROM STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE & DELIVERY

- clear direction, policy and priorities maintained
- resources secured, held and allocated effectively
- democratic accountability
- risk to delivery, budgets and reputation shared and managed
- greater public investment, powers and influence secured
- greater private and business investor confidence
- more effective engagement of strategic partners
- more effective lobbying and promotion of the interests of the sub-region

KEY ACTIONS

- Negotiate an MAA to increase the Partnership's focus, powers and investment
- Strengthen Governance
- Set up a company to commission delivery of major infrastructure projects
- Strengthen the Operation of the Partnership

WEST OF ENGLAND PARTNERSHIP

GOVERNANCE: DIRECTION AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

1	COUNCILS. CABINETS.		
Bath & NE Somerset	Bristol	N. Somerset	S. Gloucestershire

2 COUNCIL LEADERS	JOINT COMMITTEES	PROGRAMME BOARD
	Transport. Waste Management.	Planning, Housing & Communities
	Cabinet Members	Cabinet Members

3	STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD
	Leader plus 2 Members for each Council. Strategic Partners & Agencies.

4 JOINT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	SPECIALIST GROUPS
Transport. Waste. Planning, Housing & Environment. Economy & Skills	Culture & Leisure. Rural Strategy
Cross-party Members. Strategic Partners and Agencies	Cabinet Members. Strategic Partners & Agencies.

5 SPECIALIST OFFICER GROUPS	PARTNERSHIP OFFICE
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DELIVERY

A DELIVERY COMPANY
Commission delivery of transport, waste & housing Infrastructure.(accountable to Partnership Board)

B EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS BOARD
and review scope for wider economic role
Business-led. Council Leaders

C HOMES WEST
RSL Consortium delivering affordable homes

JOINT COMMITTEES

TRANSPORT WASTE MANAGEMENT (1)

- Each comprises 4 Executive Members
- Take executive decisions on sub-regional matters within the Councils' Policy and Budget Frameworks, with provision for some to be reserved to Cabinets
- Investment in each local authority area requires the support of its Executive Member

JOINT COMMITTEES

TRANSPORT WASTE MANAGEMENT (2)

- Provision for any authority to reserve a decision to subsequent meeting to provide for further consideration or more formal resolution procedures
- Publish their work programme and key decisions in the Leaders' Forward Plans
- Public meetings administered, convened and conducted as local authority Executives
- Obligation to engage social, economic and environmental partners, be scrutinised and provide for public participation in meetings

JOINT COMMITTEES

TRANSPORT WASTE MANAGEMENT (3)

- Prime role to recommend Policy and Budget Frameworks to the Partnership Board and Cabinets for approval by Council; to implement their provisions, seeking prior approval to any decisions outside the Frameworks
- Formal agreements on cost sharing; formal compliance with local authority financial and procurement regulations
- Joint working (legal) Agreements to underpin the formal relationships, to deal with responsibilities and indemnities and to deal with the consequences of withdrawal from the agreements or projects

LOCAL AUTHORITY DELIVERY VEHICLE

- Advise on specifying and packaging contracts for major infrastructure projects
- Ensure the delivery of major infrastructure projects within agreed timescales, specification and budget, by effective commissioning of consultants and contractors

STRENGTHENING THE OPERATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP

- Officer advisors
- Programme, project and risk management disciplines