


**Select Committee for Policy Review
Policy Assessment Framework**

Appendix 1

Name of document		Adult Safeguarding Strategic Plan	
Date agreed	2015	Date for review	2018 (but refreshed annually)
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy • Sandwell's Safeguarding Children Board 	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMCA aim to increase healthy life expectancy by 2030. • WMCA are enabling the growth of the region's leisure, cultural and visitor economy offer to support action to improve the health and wellbeing of local people. 	
Partner involvement		Police, all local NHS organisations, voluntary sector	
Strategic importance		With the implementation of the Care Act from April 2015 each Local Authority (which has the lead responsibility) must set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). The SAB ensures that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in its area who meet the criteria" (for safeguarding).	
Notes		Plan is owned by the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board, a partnership body responsible for adult safeguarding arrangements across Sandwell and for overseeing and coordinating the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies.	

Name of document	Anti-Poverty Action Plan	
Date agreed	2016	Date for review
Ambitions could support		
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Health and Wellbeing 	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<p>Aims of the WMCA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average earnings of working age population will be 13% above UK averages with the living wage as the foundation minimum wage. • Proportion of people qualified to NVQ4 or above will have increased to 36% to match the national average and the number with no qualifications will have fallen to 9% to match and then better exceed the national average. • Unemployment rate will be below the national average. • Significant increase in the percentage of residents with access to jobs. • The combined authority's public service reform programme currently focuses on employment and skills. • Public service reform and the transformation of lives in the West Midlands - to improve life chances for all. • 153,000 fewer people with no formal qualifications and 156,000 more people with level 4 qualifications or above. • 0.5 million increase in job numbers. 	
Partner involvement	SCVO, voluntary sector, statutory organisations.	

Strategic importance

Sandwell has one of the highest levels of deprivation in England. Low pay, insecure employment, continuing welfare reform changes and on-going cuts to public spending continue to hit our residents hard.

This action plan sets out the additional activities that agencies will carry out, out and above the range of on-going work – to test out new way of working and new approaches.


The actions have been grouped into 7 key aims and addressing child poverty is an objective throughout:


1. Help people and families to maximise their income and reduce costs
2. Create pathways into local employment
3. Creating stronger communities as a means of meeting local need
4. Local agencies use their powers to address anti-poverty
5. Respond to food poverty
6. Work together to share information, maximise impact and maximise use of resources
7. Develop collaborative information and take up campaigns and use local intelligence to influence policy

Name of document		Black Country Core Strategy	
Date agreed	2011	Date for review	Under review 2017 – expected adoption of new Strategy in 2021
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black Country LEP Strategic Economic Plan 	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan		<p>The WMCA SEP states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HS2 and its supply chain potential provides an important opportunity to demonstrate the value of investment in research and development and innovation to businesses in the Black Country. In parts of the area, most notably the Black Country, there is an urgent need to improve the level of business births and survival and the continued growth of medium-sized businesses. Addressing the significant productivity challenges in the Black Country. Balancing the scale and place-shaping potential of the regeneration opportunities in the Black Country. Black Country is UK No. 1 for Manufacturing Technology jobs. 	
Partner involvement		<p>Local authorities partnership: Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton. Joint working, through the Black Country Consortium. Advantage West Midlands (AWM), The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), four Local Strategic Partnerships. Transport proposals: Integrated Transport Authority, Highways Agency and Network Rail.</p>	


Strategic importance


This strategy will allow the centres to have a much stronger role at a regional and sub-regional level and has been prepared in the context of spatial and economic relationships with adjacent areas.


Name of document		Black Country LEP Strategy Economic Plan	
Date agreed	2014	Date for review	Drafted 2017
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Country Core Strategy 	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chairs and officers of the Black Country, Greater Birmingham and Solihull and Coventry and Warwickshire LEPs already meet as part of a well-established West Midlands LEP chairs forum. 	
Partner involvement		<p>Four Black Country councils: Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton. Neighbouring LEPs. Local councils and the voluntary sector. Transport, business, housing and education partnerships.</p>	
Strategic importance		<p>Focused on the Aerospace, Automotive and Building Technologies Sectors. These sectors have been selected based on extensive evidence of growth globally and nationally. The Black Country is well located in terms of supply chains and economic clusters, ensuring we are a leading player in the delivery of the UK Industrial Strategy. Our Strategic Economic Plan will deliver additional growth in these sectors. It will also help us to accelerate improvements to the Black Country as an attractive place in which to live, work, visit and invest. Our aim is to grow our global supply chain with the world class skills it demands, to maximise the benefits of our location, to exploit our industrial and geological heritage and to provide high quality housing to meet the needs of a balanced growing population.</p>	

Name of document	Digital Strategy
Date agreed 2016	Date for review
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate ICT Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<p>WMCA strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative and digital: further developing the area's vibrant and flourishing sector • More skilled workforce in the digital sector. • Adopting a comprehensive approach to the productivity challenge, supported digital and wireless technologies. • Urgent need to identify additional major strategic sites as an asset for the CA area, as a whole transport and digital connectivity is crucial. • Digital as a driver of public service reform. • The CA will develop a programme that captures and exploits the benefits of the creative and digital sector in order to contribute to the delivery of the vision of the creative and digital sector. • Triple the productivity of the sector. • By 2030, in the creative and digital sector: +£7bn GVA, +29,000 jobs, +18,000 NVQ4+, -3,000 no qualifications. • Increase awareness of the benefits to businesses of mobile, digital technologies. • Businesses that use digital technology have 22% higher revenues.


Partner involvement	Black Country Local Authorities (Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton), iSandwell, Sandwell's Community and Voluntary sector.
Strategic importance	The government is moving towards a digital vision with the potential to save between £1.7 and £1.8 billion every year, and has reinforced the importance of channel shift to councils. Being digitally inclusive and IT literate reduces social exclusion and interaction, opens up opportunity for education, employment and training and increases access to information and support needed by vulnerable people.


Name of document	Early Help Strategy
Date agreed 2017	Date for review 2019
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Children Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WCMA recognises it has the highest proportion of people aged 24 and under in England – 32.7%, compared to an average of 30.4% across all LEP areas. It also acknowledges the Black Country LEP has the fourth highest proportion of under 15 year olds in the country at 20.6%. • The WMCA has actioned focus on public service reform and the transformation of lives in the West Midlands - to improve life chances for all, especially those facing multiple disadvantages.
Partner involvement	Schools, health workers, voluntary and community organisations, Sandwell Police and Fire, and Sandwell Council Children’s Services.
Strategic importance	<p>5 priority areas to build an excellent Early Help Partnership:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased knowledge of universal services 2. Grow the Early Help Partnership 3. Develop better partnership working between providers 4. Develop intelligence-led commissioning practice 5. Increase Capacity and Capability at Community Level
Notes	Developed to set out a range of activities that will be undertaken between 2017-2019 with the aim of improving the life and prospects of children and families in Sandwell.

Name of document	Green Space Strategy
Date agreed 2010	Date for review 2020
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WMCA recognises greenspace is an important indicator of the way people can enjoy the towns and cities they live in, with an important measure having green space sites within 300 metres of where people live. • One of their priority actions is regarding environmental technologies, to secure transformational environmental improvements. • Introducing a new approach to planning and urban design to improve the environment for everyone who lives and works in the West Midlands.
Partner involvement	Communities, The Town-Tasking team, Primary Care Trust, Friends group network.
Strategic importance	Green Spaces are vital for our economic, social and environmental well being, along with the general image of the area that can affect investment levels in the borough. Sandwell is the only Metropolitan Borough with almost no access to the wider Countryside and car ownership is below national average so it is important to focus on the green spaces we have. The strategy is to refocus how green space is regarded, managed, maintained and developed linked to the Sandwell “Climate Change Action Plan”.
Notes	This strategy was produced by Sandwell Parks and Countryside Service

Name of document		Housing Strategy	
Date agreed	2012 (revised 2016)	Date for review	2023
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies		Black Country Core Strategy	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new approach to planning and urban design will enable an increased rate of housebuilding. • Vision by 2030 to have a wide choice of housing with more than 1.9 million homes. To improve the quantity of high quality, readily available development sites to high quality locations that meet housing needs. • Supporting the powerful economic links between the economic heartland of the West Midlands and the potential for economic and housing growth in the places and communities across the three LEP geography. • £500 million of the WMCA development programme is dedicated to housing. • The WMCA is working with the construction sector to ensure capacity to deliver an increased rate of house building. • Devolution agreement: The HCA is to work with the combined authority to develop a joint strategic approach to housing. 	
Partner involvement		Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), Supporting People, Black Country local authority neighbours.	
Strategic importance		This strategy aims to ensure the successful delivery of coordinated housing services to both support the housing and wider social and economic ambitions of the borough.	


Notes	This strategy has been developed by Homes and Communities.
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Name of document	Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
Date agreed 2016	Date for review 2020
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-poverty strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing healthy life expectancy by 2030. • Performance Management Framework: Fitness and Wellbeing • Devolution Deal 2016: commitment to discussing the outcome of the Mental Health Commission. • Involvement of the shadow combined authority and councils' health and wellbeing boards in the work on the health service sustainability and transformation plans. • Engagement with: DH, NHSE, the West Midlands Academic Health Science Network, universities and local health trusts.
Partner involvement	Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals, West Midlands Fire Service, Sandwell and West Birmingham Clinical Commissioning Group, healthwatch Sandwell, West Midlands Police.
Strategic importance	Services will be designed in true co-production with our people, partners and providers from start to finish. There will be a robust monitoring system in place that measures the Health and Wellbeing Board's success accurately and effectively and ensures that any issues identified are addressed.
Notes	Governed by the Sandwell Health and Wellbeing Board which aims to working with local people to improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities for everyone who lives and works in Sandwell.


Name of document	Licensing Policies
Date agreed 2014	Date for review 2019
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board • Police and Crime Plan
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	Part of the social impact section of the Performance Management Framework is focused on crime.
Partner involvement	Police, authorities, local businesses and people, Public Health and the Community Alcohol Partnership, Sandwell Drug and Alcohol Partnership, (SDAP) the Safeguarding Children's Board.
Strategic importance	<p>The Licensing Authority will carry out the licensing function with a view to promoting the four licensing objectives contained in the Act. These are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the prevention of crime and disorder - - public safety - the prevention of public nuisance - the protection of children from harm


Name of document	Safeguarding Children Board Plan
Date agreed 2016	Date for review 2017
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	Early Help Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WCMA recognises it has the highest proportion of people aged 24 and under in England – 32.7%, compared to an average of 30.4% across all LEP areas. It also acknowledges the Black Country LEP has the fourth highest proportion of under 15 year olds in the country at 20.6%.
Partner involvement	West Midlands Police
Strategic importance	This ensures that the welfare of children is safeguarded and protected. The Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Business Plan sets the strategic direction for the LSCB. The Business Plan also reinforces the specific role of SSCB to lead, challenge and support learning and improvement. The plan identifies specific priorities for action and is clear about roles and accountability.
Notes	Plan is owned by the SSCB, a partnership body responsible for safeguarding arrangements for children and young people across Sandwell and for overseeing and coordinating the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies.


Name of document	Police and Crime Plan
Date agreed 2015	Date for review 2018
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	Adult Safeguarding Strategic Plan Safeguarding Children Board Plan
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	Crime is a focus area of the WMCA's Performance Management Framework.
Partner involvement	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC), health and wellbeing board, children's and adults safeguarding board. Sandwell Drug & Alcohol Partnership, Targeted Youth Support Youth Offending Services (TYS/YOS), Integrated Offender Management (IOM), Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership (DASP), Prevent Strategic Advisory Board, Community Safety Planning Group (CSPG).
Strategic Importance	This plan aims to deal effectively and efficiently with Sandwell's crime and disorder issues, priorities and emerging trends, to ensure that the communities of Sandwell feel safe, protected and confident in their homes and neighbourhoods.
Notes	This is governed by the Safer Sandwell Partnership Police and Crime Board who are accountable to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Closely reflects the priorities in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.


Name of document	Code of Corporate Governance
Date agreed 2017	Date for review Annual (2018)
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Asset Management
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Framework • Governance forms part of the Performance Management Framework of the WMCA. • Devolution deal: one simple governance structure.
Partner involvement	
Strategic importance	In developing this Code, the council has considered best practice and guidance, particularly the seven core principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE framework “Delivering Good Governance in Local Government”.

Name of document	Corporate Asset Management Strategy
Date agreed 2016	Date for review 2020
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium Term Financial Strategy • Code of Corporate Governance
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic benefits of three LEPs: The economy plus model shows that the scale provided by the combined authority and its three LEP geography will enable further, faster progress in developing innovation, increasing productivity and securing public service reform. In particular the area will benefit from close collaboration between the LEPs and private and public sectors, strengthening the area's ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - pilot new ways of working and then scale up what works across the area - achieve efficiencies and capitalise on assets across the wider geography in delivering more innovation and public service reform - ensure that resources are pooled to maximise the impact of interventions.
Partner involvement	
Strategic importance	<p>The Corporate Asset Management Strategy will support the Council's core priorities, of Great People, Great Place, Great Prospects and Great Performance to continue to make Sandwell a better place for the people that live and work here. This Strategy will challenge why the council holds assets and explore alternative models and approaches in order to achieve the best use of Council Assets to deliver the best possible services at least cost to our citizens.</p>

Name of document	Corporate Parenting Strategy
Date agreed 2017	Date for review 2018
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding Children Board Plan
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<p>WMCA states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploiting the economic geography: making the most of the scale and diversity of the West Midlands' geography to enable community wellbeing throughout the urban core and rural areas. • WMCA has a vision that the West Midlands will be a place that meets people's needs and aspirations throughout their lives and where everyone's life chances, health and wellbeing are improved.
Partner involvement	Children's Social Care, The Looked After Children's Board and Care Leaver Forum.
Strategic importance	Corporate Parenting Strategy to help support children who come into care as the majority of Looked After Children need extra support in their lives because they've experienced a lot of disruption and hurt. Their experiences may make it harder for them to do as well as they could, for example in their school, health and in their relationships. The strategy looks at the areas that are needed to support the young people and over the next 3 years they will focus on 5 key areas.
Notes	This was developed under Children's Services, who pledge to commit to young people so they know what help and support is available and what their rights and entitlements are.

Name of document		Corporate ICT Strategy	
Date agreed	2014	Date for review	2017
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Strategy • Medium Term Financial – cost benefit of using ICT and digital 	
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMCA states Businesses that use digital technology have 22% higher revenues. • Average cost of transactions: face to face £8.62, telephone £2.83, web 15p 	
Partner involvement			
Strategic importance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward looking strategies for ICT infrastructure development to maximise availability and accessibility whilst reducing cost. • ICT enabled service improvements are closely aligned to Council priorities. • Reduce the Carbon Footprint and to put the environmental impact at the forefront of policy development, product sourcing, usage and deployment. • To satisfy demand for smarter, simpler, easier to use software products and services that improve the capture, flow and use of information across the local authority and its partners. 	

Name of document	Medium Term Financial Strategy
Date agreed 2017-18	Date for review 2019-20
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	Corporate Procurement Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WMCA remains committed to its aspiration to create a global institute for insight into economic futures, public service reform and innovation. • Focus on innovation: crucial to the ability to increase productivity and reform public services.
Partner involvement	
Strategic importance	<p>Sandwell MBC continues to face an extremely challenging financial position with funding cuts to Local Government set to continue.</p> <p>The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) sets out how the council will structure and manage its finances now and in the future. The strategy provides a robust and consistent approach that places the council's finances on a sound and stable footing, whilst supporting our transformational 'Facing the Future' programme.</p>

Name of document	Corporate Procurement Strategy
Date agreed 2010	Date for review 2013
Ambitions could support	
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium Term Financial Strategy
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<p>A clear mechanism to assess delivery, activity and the impact of proposed interventions is crucial.</p> <p>The WMCA has commissioned a new, bespoke economic modelling framework - a Dynamic Economic Impact Model (DEIM) – to provide a robust mechanism to measure the economic impact of investments. The WMCA will develop this unique model so it becomes internationally renowned and respected.</p>
Partner involvement	West Midlands Regional Improvement & Efficiency, LEPs.
Strategic importance	<p>The strategies and procedures are aimed to be made available so that aims and objectives can be met.</p> <p>Procurement is a major contributor to ensuring that the Council delivers it's wider social, economic and environmental aims. The strategy will also strengthen procurement processes to achieve sustainable procurement within Sandwell.</p>

Name of document	Risk Management Strategy		
Date agreed	2014	Date for review	Annually
Ambitions could support			
Opportunities for Strategic Alignment with other key strategies			
Alignment with WMCA Strategic Economic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment and skills market shaping. • Skills devolution deal. • Devolution provides the opportunity for a fundamental change in public services through pooling budgets across services and organisations and a new approach to people and technology. 		
Partner involvement			
Strategic importance	Effective risk management is crucial for effective management. This strategy helps the council use public money well and retain high standards.		
Notes	Refreshed Strategy is due for consideration by the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee in January 2018.		