

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee
4 July 2017

REPORT TITLE	UPDATE ON LIVERPOOL CITY REGION DEVELOPMENTS
REPORT OF	ROSE BOYLAN, POLICY & STRATEGY MANAGER

REPORT SUMMARY

This report sets out a brief overview of latest developments at the Liverpool City Region (LCR), including activity underway to implement the City Region devolution deal.

This matter affects all Wards within the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Committee is requested to note and comment on latest developments.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

Committee have requested regular updates and consideration of City Region developments.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2.1 N/a

3.0 LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

A wide range of ongoing activity continues to be delivered. Latest developments include:

3.1. LCR Mayoral Elections

The LCR Mayoral election was held on 4th May 2017. Steve Rotheram was elected for 3 years with 59% of the vote (171,167). The next election is scheduled for 2020.

3.2. Combined Authority Annual Meeting

The Combined Authority (CA) Annual Meeting was held on 26th May 2017, when a number of appointments and nominations were agreed as set out below.

3.3. LCR Combined Authority Member Appointment

In recognition of experience and expertise offered, the CA agreed to co-opt Cllr Liam Robinson (previous Chair of Merseytravel Committee) as a Member of the Combined Authority. At the subsequent Combined Authority meeting on 16th June 2017, a further appointment was agreed, when Jane Kennedy (Police and Crime Commissioner) was co-opted to the Combined Authority, with responsibility for the Criminal Justice portfolio, given that she currently chairs the Merseyside Criminal Justice Board and Community Safety Partnership. This Portfolio will form part of ongoing devolution negotiations and wider public service reform.

3.4. Portfolio Nominations

The CA agreed the following Portfolio Leads for specific policy areas:

Business and Brexit	Asif Hamid, Chair LEP
Economic Development and Culture	Cllr Phil Davies, Wirral Council
Energy and Renewables	Cllr Rob Polhill, Halton Council
Housing and Public Service Reform	Mayor Joe Anderson OBE, Liverpool CC
Health, Adult and Children's Services	Cllr Andy Moorhead, Knowsley Council
Skills and Apprenticeships	Cllr Ian Maher, Sefton Council

Spatial Planning, Environment and Air Quality	Cllr Barrie Grunewald, St Helens Council
Policy, Finance & Resources, Digital & Innovation	Mayor Steve Rotheram
Transport	Cllr Liam Robinson (<i>non-voting co-opted member</i>)
Criminal Justice	Jane Kennedy (<i>non-voting co-opted member</i>)

3.5. Mayor's Advisory Team

Also at the Combined Authority meeting on 16th June, the Mayor announced his Advisory Team - an initial group of strategic advisers to support the Mayor's administration on areas including; Higher Education, Voluntary and Community sector, Natural Environment, Social Housing Growth, Homelessness, Mental Health and the Visitor Economy. The Advisors are set out below.

The Mayor announced that '*the role of the advisers is about utilising experts from right across Merseyside and Halton who are doing pioneering work in their fields to improve business opportunities and the lives of ordinary people*'.

HIGHER EDUCATION:

Professor Janet Beer. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool is also Chair of the Board of the Equality Challenge Unit and a Board member of UCAS and a Trustee of the British Council.

HOMELESSNESS:

Kate Farrell. Director of Crisis Skylight Merseyside – a homeless organisation that supports thousands of people each year. She is a long standing campaigner with a renowned national reputation who is a Committee Member of BBC Children in Need.

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR:

Rev Canon Dr Ellen Loudon is Canon Chancellor at the Liverpool Cathedral. Dr Loudon was appointed the Director of Social Justice for the Diocese of Liverpool and is currently the Area Dean and Vicar at St Luke's Walton.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Gideon Ben-Tovim OBE is Chair of the Innovation Agency, having previously served as Chair of the Liverpool NHS Primary Care Trust and Chair of NHS Merseyside. He is also Chair of Nature Connected, the Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership.

SOCIAL HOUSING GROWTH

Barbara Spicer CBE is Chief Executive of the Plus Dane Group. Ms Spicer is a Commissioner at the UK Commission for Employment and Skills and was formerly Chief Executive of the Skills Funding Agency.

MENTAL HEALTH

MP Luciana Berger has been the Labour Member of Parliament for Liverpool Wavertree since 2010. She has also served as a Shadow Minister for Mental Health.

VISITOR ECONOMY

Sarah Wilde McKeown is the chair of the Liverpool City Region's Visitor Economy Board and a trustee of the Royal Court Theatre Trust. She is also the Managing Director of Liverpool Public Relations agency Influential.

3.6. Lead Officers

Combined Authority appointed Lead Officers to the following thematic roles

Transport	Frank Rogers (Merseytravel)
Business and Brexit	Catherine Garnell (Liverpool City Council)
Economic Development	Catherine Garnell (Liverpool City Council);
Culture	Eric Robinson (Wirral Council)
Energy and Renewables	Catherine Garnell (Liverpool City Council)
Housing	Mike Palin (St Helens Council)
Public Service Reform	Eric Robinson (Wirral Council)
Health and Adults	Margaret Carney (Sefton Council)
Children's Services	David Parr (Halton Council)
Skills and Apprenticeships	Mike Harden (Knowsley Council)
Spatial Planning, Environment and Air Quality	Mike Palin (St Helens Council)
Policy, Finance and Resources, Digital and Innovation	Combined Authority Head of Paid Service
Criminal Justice	David Parr (Halton Council)

3.6. Review of CA progress 2016/17

The CA considered a review of progress over the past year. There has been extensive activity and developments during 2016/17 – key headlines include:

3.6.1. Development of Strategic Framework

'Building our Future: Our Strategic Approach' includes a number of strategic aims:

- (i) **Productivity**
Building on our sector strengths
Growing successful businesses

(ii) People

Attracting, nurturing and retaining talent
Employer led skills interventions

(iii) Place

Improving our transport, digital and green infrastructure
Enhancing and protecting our quality of place

3.6.2. Economic Development

- Delivery of £13.8m Business Support Programme through Growth Hub and ERDF
- Liverpool 2 Deep Water Terminal £1+ billion intermodal infrastructure investment able to service 95% of the world's largest container ships.
- Lego & Dong Energy - World's biggest market for offshore wind farm with the largest number of turbines deployed and in planning

3.6.3. Establishment of Single Investment Fund

- Over 100 projects submitted seeking in excess of £300m of SIF
- 48 projects invited to submit business cases for appraisal
- First 6 projects for SIF funding – £17m
- Many more projects will be approved over the Summer
- Delivery is beginning across the City

3.6.4. Funding

- Secured £72m Local Growth Fund 3 funding over 4 years - one of the highest allocations
- Committed 65% of local EU funding to 32 projects in delivery
- Chrysalis Fund has been novated to the City Region giving greater influence and decision making over a capital fund of £34m

3.6.5. Transport

- £460m project to replace Merseyrail fleet
- Building the case for a direct E-W high speed rail link to LCR; this has the potential to boost the LCR economy by £15 billion
- £340 million investment by Network Rail and LCR funds to maintain long-term efficiency of rail network
- Mersey Gateway progressing
- Developing a 'Key Route Network' of our most important roads

3.6.6. Employment and skills

- Delivery of 30/33 Skills Capital projects worth £21.5m
- £29m Ways to Work ESF programme helping residents into work
- £3m local grant scheme to support apprenticeships
- Completion of Area Based Review
- Working with DWP to improve support for long-term unemployed
- Scrutiny Review of Apprenticeships

3.6.8. Housing and Planning

- Adopted the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Statement of Cooperation

- Produced a non-statutory spatial priorities plan (identifying the key sites for employment and housing)
- Produced the LCR Housing Growth Delivery Strategy
- Commenced work on the evidence base for the LCR Spatial Development Strategy

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Devolution arrangements propose the devolution of resources to City Region.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

N/a

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

At this time, no additional cost is expected to be incurred by LCR local authorities as a result of the new arrangements to deliver the devolution deal.

7.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Wirral, along with City Region partners, continues to brief members and officers; circulate information and raise awareness of LCR developments through a range of methods.

8.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct equality implications associated with this report as it deals with the issue of devolution at a strategic level. Equality analysis will be carried out as part of the detailed implementation as appropriate.

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SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet and Council	10 March 2014
Council	19 November 2015
P&P Regeneration & Environment Committee	18 January 2016
P&P Regeneration & Environment Committee	2 March 2016
Council	13 September 2016
Cabinet	14 November 2016
Council	8 December 2016
Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	6 December 2016
Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	24 January 2017
Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	29 March 2017