



BUSINESS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY 29th November 2016

REPORT TITLE:	LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE
REPORT OF:	THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

REPORT SUMMARY

This report is to give Members an update of the work of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. Members are requested to note the contents of the report which provides an update on the developments of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

To ensure members of the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee are updated on the developments of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The Liverpool City Region consists of the six local authority areas covering Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. The Combined Authority is made up of the Mayor of Liverpool and Leaders of Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral local authorities, along with the Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership. The LCRA is a strategic authority with powers over transport, economic development and regeneration. Transport policy of the combined authority is delivered by the Merseytravel functional body.

3.2 To support the Combined Authority, a Scrutiny Panel has been established to:

- Provide 'critical friend' challenge to policy and strategy development;
- Undertake scrutiny reviews into areas of strategic importance for the people of the Liverpool City Region; and
- Monitor the delivery of the Authority's strategic plan.

4.0 SCRUTINY PANEL MEETINGS

4.1 The Scrutiny Panel last met on 19th October 2016 and the following key items were discussed:

4.2 Short-Hop Bus Fares Scrutiny Review

A report was presented to the Scrutiny Panel which highlighted the response of Merseytravel to the Short-Hop Bus Fares Scrutiny Review (**Appendix 1**). A further progress report will be presented to the Scrutiny Panel in 12 months' time.

4.3 Governance and Revised Constitution

A report on the latest developments around the delivery of the Liverpool City Region Devolution Deal was presented to the Scrutiny Panel. A paper has also been produced proposing the principles by which the LCRCA will operate scrutiny in the future (**Appendix 2**). These principles will be incorporated into the revised constitution of the LCRCA once the provisions of the Orders are known. The views of the Scrutiny Panel Members were requested at the

meeting which will then be reported to the Combined Authority as part of the development of the revised constitution.

4.4 Scrutiny Work Programme

A report on the Scrutiny Work Programme was presented to the Scrutiny Panel. It was reported that once the work has been completed on the Apprenticeships review it will have finished its original work plan. Members' initial guidance was sought on developing its next programme of work, which, it was suggested could again be a mixture of formal review work and reports on specific issues brought to the formal meetings of the Scrutiny Panel. It was suggested that any initial views could be further considered at one of the evidence sessions being organised for the Apprenticeships work with a formal work programme being drawn up and brought to the January Scrutiny Panel meeting.

5.0 TASK & FINISH SCRUTINY REVIEWS UPDATE

5.1 The Scrutiny Panel is currently carrying out a Task & Finish Scrutiny Review on Apprenticeships in the City Region. The aim of the review is to ensure there are arrangements in place across the Liverpool City Region that make best use of available resources to deliver first class apprenticeships that are most likely to lead to permanent full-time employment. The review is scheduled to be carried out over four evidence sessions with a final report likely to be reported to the formal Scrutiny Panel meeting in January 2017.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

The delivery of the scrutiny work programme will be met from within existing resources.

9.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

10.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

11.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

This report is for information to Members and there are no direct equality implications.

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APPENDICES.

- 1. Short Hop Bus Fares Scrutiny Review**
- 2. LCRCA Scrutiny Principles**

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date