



**Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee
19 September 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.

This is not a key decision.

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.

Further detail can be found here <http://liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/>

3.1 LCR MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY'S DRAFT '100 DAY PLAN'

The Mayor recently launched the 100 Day Plan with an overview of key progress and activity in his first few months of office. The Plan is structured around five thematic pillars – 'Ambitious; Fair; Green; Connected; and Together' each of which has a four time slices of 25 working days to drive delivery and track progress. Significant delivery of the programme is already underway, particularly with regards to the Single Investment Fund.

A snapshot of some of the activity and developments in recent months includes:

3.2. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SKILLS

- 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

Ongoing implementation and activity to support economic growth, including over 100 projects submitted seeking in excess of £300m of Single Investment Fund (SIF). Many more projects will be approved in the coming months, delivery is underway across the LCR

The CA recently agreed capital funding of almost £9 million through its Local Growth Fund (which forms part of the SIF) to support skills and learning opportunities across the LCR, including funding to improve facilities at Wirral Met College.

3.3. BUSINESS AND BREXIT PORTFOLIO

- Activity in recent months includes the development of the Growth Hub which had supported 4,000 businesses; the identification of export opportunities; creating a unified voice across the City Region to generate inward investment; looking at how growth sectors such as digital, creative and science can capitalise on investment; and development of a structured approach to business engagement for SMEs.

- A key focus is the 2018 International Business Festival and how it aims to promote multiple business networks and partners.
- Consideration is also being given to the key factors which could impact upon the City Region as a result of the Brexit vote - including exports and imports, the labour force and access to funding.

3.4. TRANSPORT PORTFOLIO

Key strategic rail issues include the High Speed Rail development and engagement with HS2 Ltd, Transport for the North and National Infrastructure Commission to make the case for the new West-East rail link. There is an ongoing focus on the commitment to improve local rail connectivity, including continuing to make the case for cross-boundary rail improvements through Wales and Borders, and the introduction of the new Merseyrail fleet in 2020.

Recent achievements include the successful delivery of the Wirral rail line track improvements which have been completed on time. Further improvements to the network include the scheduled improvements to Lime Street Station. The first phase of this work will begin on the 30th September 2017 and end on the 22th October 2017. A further station closure is planned for Phase Two of the work in summer 2018.

3.5. HEALTH, ADULTS SERVICES AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES PORTFOLIO

A wide range of developments and activity are underway to consider how the LCR can address significant health and social care challenges - working with community and statutory partners and wider partners, such as employment, skills, economy and housing to expand on the wider determinants of health.

Focus is on the potential for greater collaboration and partnership working with the NHS and Local Authorities to improve the quality of service and reduce costs, developing a joined up service across health and care and improving access for patients, improving outcomes for individuals and enabling them to stay at home for longer.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 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	12 July 2013
Cabinet	8 August 2013
Cabinet and Council	19 September 2013
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
Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee	4 July 2017