WIRRAL

Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee
4 July 2018

REPORT TITLE:	**LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE UPDATE**
REPORT OF:	**THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE, COUNCILLOR MIKE SULLIVAN**

REPORT SUMMARY

This report is to give Members an overview of the work of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION/S

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

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

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

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Not Applicable

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) consists of the six local authority areas covering Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral. Membership includes the Liverpool City Region Metro Mayor, five local authority leaders of Halton, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral Councils, the elected Mayor of Liverpool City Council and the Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership.

3.2 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. The Combined Authority also works with the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership to promote and deliver economic growth and to ensure that the views of businesses are represented in strategic decision making.

3.3 To hold the directly elected Mayor of the Combined Authority to account, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee will:

- Provide a ‘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 APPOINTMENTS TO THE LCRCA OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 2018/19

4.1 Each constituent Council of the Liverpool City Region has appointed members of that constituent Council to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview & Scrutiny Committee. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2018/19 is made up of 20 Members as follows:

- 3 Members from each constituent Council.
- 1 Member from the largest opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography as directed collectively by the largest opposition party.
- 1 Member from the second largest opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography as directed collectively by the second largest opposition party.

4.2 The membership of the LCRCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee for 2018/19 is detailed in the table below:

Cllr. Mike Sullivan (Labour) Cllr. Jean Stapleton (Labour) Cllr. Tom Anderson (Conservative)	Wirral
Cllr. Paula Murphy (Labour) Cllr. Samantha Marshall (Labour) *To be confirmed* (Labour)	Sefton
Cllr. Ken McGlashan (Labour) Cllr. Edna Finneran (Labour) Cllr. Carl Cashman (Liberal Democrat)	Knowsley
Cllr. T O'Brien (Labour) Cllr. P Hurley (Labour) *To be confirmed* (Labour)	Liverpool
Cllr. David Baines (Labour) Cllr. Martin Bond (Labour) Cllr. Nova Charlton (Labour)	St. Helens
Cllr. Kevan Wainwright (Labour) Cllr. Bill Woolfall (Labour) *To be confirmed* (Labour)	Halton
One Member from the largest opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography as directed collectively by the largest opposition party. *(To be confirmed)*	
One Member from the second largest opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography as directed collectively by the second largest opposition party. Cllr. Dr. John Pugh	Sefton

5.0 COMMITTEE TIMETABLE AND WORK PLANNING

5.1 The LCRCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee is currently scheduled to meet three times in the 2018/19 municipal year (5th September 2018, 5th December 2018 and 6th March 2019). A meeting on 8th June has been cancelled due to a number of appointed Members recently taking up positions of Deputy Portfolio Holders of the LCR Combined Authority. There is now a requirement to appoint new Members to the Committee.

5.2 Subject to availability, the meeting originally scheduled for 8th June will be rearranged to enable a Chair and Vice Chair for the Committee to be formally appointed.

5.3 A work programme planning session to identify topics for scrutiny review is to be arranged. These will be a combination of officer report and Task & Finish Reviews and will be presented to Committee for approval.

6.0 SUMMARY OF TASK & FINISH SCRUTINY REVIEWS COMPLETED IN 2017/18

6.1 Three Task & Finish scrutiny reviews were undertaken in the 2017/18 municipal year. These are summarised below.

6.2 Spatial Development Strategy

This review focused on:-

- The process for preparing the LCR Spatial Development Strategy programme;
- The stages needed to be achieved to ensure the adoption of the Strategy;
- The ability of the Combined Authorities structure, governance and resources to achieve the adoption of the Strategy within the timescales set out in the Devolution Deal; and
- A review of best practice of other Combined Authority Spatial Development Strategies.

The final report can be found here:
http://liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/meetings/lcrca_agenda_090318.pdf

6.3 Review into Welfare Reform and Universal Credit

The objectives of the review were:

- To understand the welfare reforms being introduced by Department for Work and Pensions through the rollout of Full Service Universal Credit;
- To capture the experience of the rollout in Halton, the impact on residents and services, and to identify the support that would have smoothed this process; and
- To identify lessons that can be applied in other areas during rollout.

The final report can be found here:
http://liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/meetings/LCRCA_OSC_Agenda_180418.pdf

6.4 Review into Air Quality across the Liverpool City Region

The objective of the review was to examine and challenge the Combined Authority's strategic role in addressing poor air quality across the Liverpool

City Region, aided by an understanding of the risks to public health that are presented, and the plans, policies and proposals of both Authority and the six constituent local authorities in seeking to address these air quality problems.

The final report can be found here:
http://liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/uploadedfiles/meetings/LCRCA_OSC_Agenda_180418.pdf

7.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

8.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

9.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

Not Applicable

10.0 RELEVANT RISKS

Not Applicable

11.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

12.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

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

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APPENDICES: **None**

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date