

## **EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM**

### **DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

COUNCILLOR ANITA LEECH, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET MEMBER FOR THE LOCAL PLAN

### **KEY DECISION: NO**

### **PORTFOLIO AREA: THE LOCAL PLAN**

**PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: THE LOCAL PLAN**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS**

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**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF LIVERPOOL CITY REGION SPATIAL  
PLANNING STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND**

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## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That the Liverpool City Region 'Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground' be approved;**
- (2) That the Corporate Director for Economic and Housing Growth be given delegated authority to agree minor wording changes to the Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground if subsequently proposed by other Liverpool City Region Districts or the Combined Authority;**
- (3) That the Deputy Leader of the Council/Cabinet Member for the Local Plan signs the final approved 'Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground' on behalf of Wirral Council once the document has been approved by the Combined Authority;**
- (4) That the Cabinet Member for the Local Plan approve and sign any future versions of the 'Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground' in future years.**

## **2. REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

Under the Localism Act 2011 Wirral Council has a legal 'duty to co-operate' to engage constructively and actively, and to address strategic cross-boundary matters when preparing Local Plans. Paragraph 27 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019) states that this should be demonstrated through joint preparation of statements of common ground. When submitted to the Secretary of State, the Wirral Local Plan will be required to be accompanied by one or more Statements of Common Ground. Approval of the Liverpool



City Region Spatial Planning Statement of Common Ground will form part of the evidence required to demonstrate compliance with the duty to co-operate requirements in relation to the other local authorities in the Liverpool City Region.

### 3. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

### 4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

<b>Signed:</b>  <b>Executive Member:</b> ANITA LEECH  <b>Date:</b> 8/8/19. <b>Also present:</b> 	<b>Signed:</b>  <b>Chief Officer:</b> Assistant Director  <b>Date:</b> 8 August 2019.
<b>Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s):</b>	

**A list of background papers on this issue is held with:**

Contact Officer:

John Entwistle, 0151 691 8221

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**Date of Publication:**

**Date of Expiry of Call-In Period:**