
Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 23 March 2018

Subject: **Devolution**

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1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To update members on progress towards securing devolution to Leeds City Region.

2 Information

- 2.1 Members have received regular verbal updates on progress towards securing devolution to Leeds City Region. Progress made in the past year is summarised elsewhere on the agenda.
- 2.2 Following an offer made by the Secretary of State in February to consider detailed proposals for a 'One Yorkshire' deal, Leaders met on 5 March and agreed to submit their devolution proposition to Government and publish it more widely in the interests of transparency. The submitted proposal is included for information in **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 2.3 The proposal is to secure a deal for the widest possible Yorkshire geography by 2020, including Leeds City Region, with a directly elected Yorkshire mayor and Combined Authority (with cross party Overview and Scrutiny Arrangements), having the ambition of securing a broad range of devolved powers and funding, in ways that do not create net additional cost and bureaucracy.
- 2.4 The deal proposes powers and funding aimed at raising living standards for everyone in the Region, closing the UK jobs gap by delivering 200,000 jobs, boosting productivity via an extra £12bn of economic growth, and moving towards becoming a net contributor to the public purse.

- 2.5 Leaders have submitted the proposal as a basis for initiating negotiation with Government, recognising that further work will be ongoing to identify any specific place based investment asks, develop and agree detailed governance arrangements for the operation of the Yorkshire Combined Authority (including voting arrangements and representation), demonstrating how the Region is a functional economic area and preparing a public facing version of the deal which explains the proposals and benefits in plain English.

3 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications directly arising from this report.

5 Staffing Implications

- 5.1 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

6 External Consultees

- 6.1 No external consultations have been undertaken.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 Members are requested to note the progress that has been made and to comment on the proposals submitted to the Secretary of State.

8 Background Documents

None.

9 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Yorkshire Devolution Agreement Submission