

## LIVERPOOL CITY REGION DEVOLUTION GOVERNANCE

### *Preamble*

*These Governance principles, to be developed and agreed, will be incorporated into a formal and legally binding Constitution. This Constitution will incorporate the terms of the current Constitution of the LCR Combined Authority, which will be amended to reflect the revised Combined Authority with an elected mayor governance model.*

*The revised Constitution will replace the current LCR Combined Authority Constitution and will be the primary document in respect of the governance of the LCR Combined Authority with an elected mayor.*

### PRINCIPLES

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) will adopt a model of a directly elected City Region Mayor over the Combined Authority's area with the first elections in May 2017.

No existing powers will be taken from local authorities without their agreement. The Combined Authority will protect the sovereignty of local authorities in the Liverpool City Region.

The Liverpool City Region directly elected Mayor ("the directly elected Mayor") will be a member of the LCRCA.

The directly elected Mayor will chair the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority.

The remaining members who have been appointed by constituent councils will continue as members on the LCRCA. ("the constituent council members").

The LEP member ("the LEP member") of the LCRCA will continue to sit on the LCRCA.

The directly elected Mayor will appoint one of the members of the LCRCA to be the Deputy Mayor.

The directly elected Mayor will have power to act on behalf of the LCRCA on the following terms:

The directly elected Mayor will be required to seek the unanimous approval of the constituent council members to exercise those powers set out at Appendix 2 (a) attached;

The directly elected Mayor will be required to consult the Combined Authority on those matters set out in Appendix 2 (b) which can be rejected/amended provided two-thirds of the constituent council members agree to do so; and

The directly elected Mayor will have full delegated authority pursuant to the provisions of any statutory order to exercise those powers set out in Appendix 2 (c) attached.

The directly elected Mayor and the LCRCA will be scrutinised and held to account by the LCRCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee(s).

Matters for decision by the LCRCA may be put forward by the directly elected Mayor, any of the members who have been appointed by constituent councils, or the LEP member.

The directly elected Mayor shall appoint individual LCR members to Portfolio roles to support the directly elected Mayor and assist in the delivery of the LCRCA's functions.

The directly elected Mayor will have one vote as will other voting members.

Any matters that are to be decided by the LCRCA are to be decided by a majority present and voting subject to that majority including the vote of the LCR Mayor, unless otherwise set out in legislation, or specifically delegated through the LCRCA's Constitution.

The directly elected Mayor and the members who have been appointed by constituent councils will work closely together.

Specifically the:

- directly elected Mayor will provide overall leadership and chair Combined Authority meetings;
- the members who have been appointed by constituent councils shall have a clear portfolio of responsibilities, and will act as a supporting and advisory function to the directly elected Mayor and the LCRCA in respective policy areas.

***The following appendices are subject to the development of the formal and legally binding constitution and to any requirements already prescribed within the agreement dated 17 November 2015.***

Appendix 2a

The directly elected Mayor will be required to seek the unanimous approval of the constituent council members to exercise the following powers, as set out below:

- All matters relating (including any changes, amendments or alterations) to the LCRCA Constitution;
- The development of a single Statutory City Region Framework supporting the delivery of strategic employment and housing sites throughout the City Region;
- All matters relating to the management, maintenance and funding of the key route network;
- Any other matters which the LCRCA shall determine from time to time shall require the unanimous approval of the constituent council members for the directly elected Mayor to exercise save for those matters in relation to which the voting requirements are already prescribed within the Agreement. Appendix 2b The directly elected Mayor will be required to consult the LCR Combined Authority on the following:
  - All matters relating to the setting of the LCRCA's annual budget, and all financial or budgetary matters, including any changes, amendments or alterations to agreed budgets or spending plans;
  - All matters relating to the setting of any LCRCA strategy, strategic framework, strategic policy or plan, including any changes;
  - All those powers of the LCRCA not specified in Appendix 1 and 3. The strategies and/or spending plans may be rejected /amended if two thirds of the constituent Council Members agree to do so. Appendix 2c The directly elected Mayor shall have full delegated authority to take all steps to deliver on a day to day basis the strategies and/or spending plans agreed by the LCRCA in accordance with Appendix 2 and all other matters that may be specified from time to time by the LCRCA.