

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY

To: Chair and Members of the Liverpool City Region
Combined Authority Scrutiny Panel

Meeting: 6 July 2016

Authority/Authorities Affected: All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM: No

REPORT OF THE LEAD OFFICER – SCRUTINY

DECISIONS OF THE COMBINED AUTHORITY (CA)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to draw Panel members' attention to the significant decisions the CA has made since the Panel last met.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Panel:

- (1) notes the report; and
- (2) if necessary, requests further information on the decisions previously made by the CA.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to draw Panel Members' attention to the significant decisions made by the Combined Authority (CA) since the Panel last met. The Panel agreed at a previous meeting that a report such as this will be brought to each meeting. This will allow Panel Members:

- to scrutinise those decisions and hold the CA to account;
- to use that information to develop further work programme topics;
- to follow progress on the major issues dealt with across the City Region;
- provide feedback to the CA as the Panel sees fit.

- 3.2 Full details of each issue can be followed at the link to the website below, if members wish to find out more. This report covers the following CA meetings:

- 15 April 2016
- 17 June 2016

<http://councillors.knowsley.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CommitteeId=890&StyleType=standard&StyleSize=none>

15 April 2016 meeting of the Combined Authority

Liverpool City Region Growth Deal Schemes

The Combined Authority (CA) considered a report that updated Members on the progress of developing the shortlisted Liverpool City Region Transport Schemes and approved the releasing of a further £5.67m of Local Growth Fund monies to support the Halton Curve rail scheme.

Identifying a Key Route Network for the Liverpool City Region

The CA considered a report which sought their agreement to the first stage in defining a Key Route Network of strategically significant roads across the City Region. The proposals stemmed directly from the commitments contained within the Liverpool City Region Devolution Deal. The CA supported the recommended proposed approach.

Highways Maintenance and Integrated Transport Block Funding Allocations for 2016/17

The CA approved the allocation of both Highway Maintenance and Integrated Transport Block funds to the constituent authorities for the 2016/17 programme.

Sustainable Travel Transition Year Revenue Competition 2016/17

The CA considered a report which reported on the progress of the submission by the Liverpool City Region to the Dept for Transport Sustainable Travel Transition Year Revenue Competition 2016/17.

It was reported that the Sustainable Travel Transition Year (STTY) would operate as a competition. Bids would have to demonstrate evidence of building on previously successful initiatives and must articulate a future strategic vision for sustainable travel in relation to accessing jobs, skills, education and training.

Rail North

The CA considered a report which provided an update on the progress of Rail North. The CA approved the signing of the modified Members' Agreement, which had reflected comments from all potential members of Rail North.

Devolution of Stations to Liverpool City Region

The CA considered a report which reported on one of the key aims of the devolution Agreement which was to consider alternative proposals for the management of rail stations on the Merseyrail Electrics Ltd network and agreed the process to be followed to develop the initiative further.

Delivering an Improved Bus Offer

The CA considered a report which presented a final draft of the LCR Bus Strategy and set out the principles of the City Region Bus Alliance. Both documents had been supported by the Merseytravel Committee and were approved by the CA.

Liverpool City Region Devolution Agreement: Intermediate Body Status for EU Funding

The CA considered a report which provided an update on the Intermediate Body status for EU Funding. It was reported that the request to have Intermediate Body status was made as part of the City Region's devolution negotiation and was committed in the Devolution agreement with Government in 2015. It was agreed that the CA becomes an Intermediate Body, which would allow it to make the final decision on European investments.

Co-design of Back to Work Support

The CA considered a report which provided an initial outline of the development work under way on the co-design and co-commissioning of the new Work and Health Programme as part of the implementation of the devolution deal.

17 June 2016 meeting of the Combined Authority

Single Growth Strategy – Liverpool City Region

The CA gave approval to the focus, vision and themes of the Single Growth Strategy.

Direct Rail Services between Southport and Manchester Piccadilly and Manchester Airport

The CA's attention was brought to a motion that had been unanimously approved by Sefton Council in respect of the new Northern Rail Franchise and how it could affect Southport's rail services.

Liverpool City Region – Growth Deal Schemes

The CA approved the full business case for the M58 Junction 1 improvements major scheme to commence delivery in 2016/17.

Apprenticeship Grant for Employees

The CA considered and agreed the arrangements for devolution of the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers' funding to the CA and the actions required to implement it.

Devolution of Executive Powers and Resources to the City Region – Proposals for Executive Capacity

The CA agreed a detailed approach to developing the necessary Executive support arrangements identified as necessary to successfully deliver the CA's agenda.

Minutes

The minutes of the Merseytravel Committee held on 3 March 2016 were considered.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

There are no direct resource issues as a result of the recommendations contained within this report.

4.2 Human Resources

There are no direct human resource issues as a result of the recommendations contained within this report.

4.3 Physical Assets

There are no direct issues as a result of the recommendations contained within this report.

4.4 Information Technology

There are no direct issues as a result of the recommendations contained within this report.

5. RISKS AND MITIGATION

5.1 There are no risks associated with this report or its recommendations.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no specific implications related to this report.

7. COMMUNICATION ISSUES

7.1 There are no specific communications issues contained in this report.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 The report has been prepared for members in order to keep them apprised of decisions of the CA.

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