

**Report to** Cabinet  
28 June 2016  
**Report of** Executive head of regeneration and development  
**Subject** The devolution of powers and resources to East Anglia

**Item**

**3**

## **KEY DECISION**

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### **Purpose**

To consider Norfolk and Suffolk's ambition for and approach to devolution based on the East Anglia Devolution Deal announced by the Chancellor in the Budget on 16 March 2016 and the Government commitment to enhance local autonomy through devolution, reflected in the *Cities and Local Government Devolution Act*.

To consider the progress made in the Devolution proposal by the sixteen local authorities in the Norfolk and Suffolk area and details the process for the next stages in the devolution programme and the latest elements of the devolution proposal

Having regard to the debate of council, to consider the approach for moving to the next stages of the devolution process.

### **Recommendation**

- 1) To endorse the signing of the Norfolk and Suffolk devolution agreement by the Leader and the following associated recommendations:
  - a) That, on the basis of the Governance Review, and having regard to any impact on equalities explored in the Equalities Impact Assessment (EQiA) attached, the Authority concludes that the establishment of a Mayoral Combined Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk is the option which most fully permits the effective discharge of the functions that Government is prepared to devolve to this area.
  - b) That the Authority endorses and supports the publication of the draft Scheme for a Norfolk and Suffolk Mayoral Combined Authority as attached to this report for consultation purposes, subject to such final revisions as may be approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, and prior to the commencement of the formal consultation exercise. Such formal consultation, on the Scheme, to commence once all Norfolk and Suffolk Councils have considered the matters in this report and, in any event, no later than the 4 July 2016. In the event that a Constituent Authority named in the attached Scheme does not agree to endorse the Deal Agreement and/or the Scheme, the Authority authorises, through its Chief Executive the

relevant changes to be made to the Deal Agreement, the Scheme and the Governance Review to reflect that Authority's non-participation.

- c) That the outcome of the consultation exercise is submitted to the Secretary of the State by the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, by 9 September.
- d) That council meets by 28 October 2016 to consider giving consent to an Order establishing a Mayoral Combined Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk.
- e) Insofar as any of the matters referred to in this report concern the discharge of functions ancillary to the endorsing and signing of the Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Agreement and the publication of the Scheme, authority is delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, to take all necessary steps and actions to progress the recommendations detailed in this report.
- f) Negotiations on the Deal agreement have only recently been concluded and the Review and Scheme have been subject to last minute change. In the event that additional powers are required by the Combined Authority to deliver the Deal Agreement, authority is delegated to the Chief Executive in agreement with the other Chief Executives across Norfolk and Suffolk to make the necessary changes to the Scheme
- g) That further reports are presented to the Authority as appropriate as the Devolution process develops.

**OR**

- 2) Not to continue to support the process leading to the establishment of an elected mayor and combined authority for the East Anglia region and authorises, through the Chief Executive the relevant changes to be made to the Deal Agreement, the Scheme and the Governance Review to reflect that Authority's non-participation.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority a prosperous and vibrant city

### **Financial implications**

The resource implications are dependent on the next stages of the development of the devolution process. Most will involve the use of existing officer time and resources.

If it is agreed to move to the next stage of the process all council leaders have agreed that the administration costs of setting up the mayoral combined authority will be kept to a minimum, using existing resources within their councils

**Ward/s:** All Wards

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Waters - Leader

**Contact officers**

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**Background documents**

## Report

1. With reference to all of the papers considered by Council as part of the report on the devolution of powers and resources to East Anglia, Council has been asked to inform cabinet of the above recommendations.
2. The paper considered by Council is attached to this report and should be considered by Cabinet in reaching its decision.
3. Comments made by Council will be considered at the Cabinet meeting
4. The following documents form part of the papers for Cabinet to consider:

Report to Council 28 June 2016

Appendix A The Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Deal Agreement

Appendix B The Norfolk and Suffolk Governance Review

Appendix C Norfolk and Suffolk Scheme of Governance

Appendix D Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix E The principles to be applied to the housing funding

Appendix F Norfolk and Suffolk scheme of governance consultation arrangements

## Integrated impact assessment



**NORWICH**  
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with completing the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

### Report author to complete

<b>Committee:</b>	Cabinet
<b>Committee date:</b>	28th June 2016
<b>Head of service:</b>	Executive head of regeneration and development
<b>Report subject:</b>	The devolution of powers and resources to East Anglia
<b>Date assessed:</b>	17 June 2016
<b>Description:</b>	

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	It depends on the outcome of business rates retention, high value voids determination and further reductions in public expenditure.
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See above
Financial inclusion	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	See above
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Recommendations from impact assessment**

**Positive**

**Negative**

**Neutral**

**Issues**