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Sefton Council 

MEETING: CABINET (EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING)

DATE: Monday 14th November, 2016

TIME: 3.00 pm

VENUE: Town Hall, Bootle

DECISION MAKER: **CABINET**

Councillor Maher (Chair)
Councillor Atkinson
Councillor Cummins
Councillor Fairclough
Councillor Hardy
Councillor John Joseph Kelly
Councillor Lappin
Councillor Moncur
Councillor Veidman

COMMITTEE OFFICER: Steve Pearce
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The Cabinet is responsible for making what are known as Key Decisions, which will be notified on the Forward Plan. Items marked with an * on the agenda involve Key Decisions

A key decision, as defined in the Council's Constitution, is: -

- any Executive decision that is not in the Annual Revenue Budget and Capital Programme approved by the Council and which requires a gross budget expenditure, saving or virement of more than £100,000 or more than 2% of a Departmental budget, whichever is the greater
- any Executive decision where the outcome will have a significant impact on a significant number of people living or working in two or more Wards

If you have any special needs that may require arrangements to facilitate your attendance at this meeting, please contact the Committee Officer named above, who will endeavour to assist.

We endeavour to provide a reasonable number of full agendas, including reports at the meeting. If you wish to ensure that you have a copy to refer to at the meeting, please can you print off your own copy of the agenda pack prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

Items marked with an * involve key decisions

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Subject/Author(s)</u>	<u>Wards Affected</u>	
1	Apologies for Absence		
2	Declarations of Interest Members are requested to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests and the nature of that interest, relating to any item on the agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, before leaving the meeting room during the discussion on that particular item.		
3	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order Report of the Chief Executive	All Wards	(Pages 3 - 32)

Report to:	Cabinet	Date of Meeting:	14 November 2016
Subject:	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order	Wards Affected:	All
Report of:	Chief Executive		
Is this a Key Decision?	Yes	Is it included in the Forward Plan?	No – Rule 27 Process Followed
Exempt/Confidential	No		

Purpose/Summary

This report outlines the final legal and governance requirements to establish the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Mayoral Model with devolved powers and functions agreed as part of the Devolution Deal by all of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority in November 2015

The Department for Communities and Local Government has confirmed that the acceptance of the draft Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order is an executive decision and cannot therefore be taken by a full meeting of the Council.

Recommendation(s)

- (1) the next steps required for the implementation of the Liverpool City Region Devolution Agreement be noted;
- (2) the scrutiny principles (as attached as Appendix B to this report) be approved and it be noted that these will be incorporated into a revised Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Constitution.;
- (3) delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, to agree the detailed terms of the Order, and take all necessary steps required to implement the LCR Devolution Agreement.
- (4) it be noted that the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services) had given his/her consent under Rule 27 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules and Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for this/these decision(s) to be treated as urgent and not subject to "call in" on the basis that it/they cannot be reasonably deferred because the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order will need to be laid before Parliament in November 2016 in order to have sufficient time for it to be in place for the election of the Liverpool City Region Mayor in May 2017. All of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority need to consent to the Order before it is laid in November 2016.

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How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

	<u>Corporate Objective</u>	<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Jobs and Prosperity	✓		
3	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
4	Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Children and Young People		✓	
6	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
7	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
8	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy	✓		

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order will need to be laid before Parliament in November 2016 in order to have sufficient time for it to be in place for the election of the Liverpool City Region Mayor in May 2017. All of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority need to consent to the Order before it is laid in November 2016.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

See Financial Implications below

(B) Capital Costs

See Financial Implications below

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

Financial

The 2015 Devolution Agreement provides propose the devolution of resources from Central Government to the City Region, and includes the following headline financial implications:-

- An additional £30m of investment for economic growth for 30 years, equating to

£900m of total additional investment. This is subject to five-yearly gateway assessments;

- A devolved and consolidated transport budget (subject to the Government's Spending Review);
- A commitment, for Government to establish a single pot of funding to invest in economic growth;
- Greater influence and decision-making responsibilities over a range of national programmes including the Work Programme, adult education budget, and potentially housing funds. Although such budgets will continue to sit formally with Government Departments in the immediate future, the City Region can direct and influence how these will be spent; and,
- Ongoing consultation on the Government's proposed Business Rates reforms.

All additional and directly devolved funding streams will be managed by the Combined Authority and the newly elected City Region Mayor.

It will be for the City Region itself to agree the arrangements for how these resources will be managed and allocated as part of the implementation plans.

The Agreement also commits the Combined Authority to:-

- Continue to set out proposals for how local resources and funding will be pooled;
- Agree overall borrowing limits with HM Government;
- Agree a process to manage local financial risk relevant to the proposals in the draft Agreement; and,
- Continue to progress service transformation amongst local authorities, including streamlining back office functions and sharing data and services.

Officers will continue to engage with Government officials to set out how these commitments will be implemented on an individual basis. At that point, the detailed financial implications on any individual proposal will be set out for the Combined Authority to consider and agree.

Legal

Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral Combined Authority Order 2014

Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009

The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016

Human Resources

There are no specific human resources implications associated with the implementation of the recommendations in this report.

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Equality

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. No Equality Implication | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Equality Implications identified and mitigated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Equality Implication identified and risk remains | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Paragraph 67 of the Devolution Agreement sets out that the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority will continue to adhere to its public sector equality duties for existing and newly devolved responsibilities.

Impact of the Proposals on Service Delivery:

The establishment of the Mayoral Combined Authority will support economic growth within the Liverpool City Region through the discharging of additional powers and the deployment of additional funding.

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

The Head of Corporate Resources (FD 4376/16) and Head of Regulation and Compliance (LD 3659/16) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

Implementation Date for the Decision

With immediate effect. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Regulatory, Compliance and Corporate Services) has given approval under Rule 46 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules for the 'call-in' period to be waived in respect of an executive decision because the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order will need to be laid before Parliament in November 2016 in order to have sufficient time for it to be in place for the election of the Liverpool City Region Mayor in May 2017. All of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority need to consent to the Order before it is laid in November 2016.

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Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection

Appendices:

Appendix A Powers to be conferred on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Liverpool City Region Mayor

Appendix B Liverpool City Region Mayoral Combined Authority Scrutiny Principles

1. Introduction/Background

1.1 The Council at its meeting held on 19 November 2015 considered a report on the proposed devolution of powers and resources from the Government to the Liverpool City Region and resolved:

That this Council:

- (1) Notes the report and supplementary report of the Chief Executive;
- (2) Approves the Liverpool City Region Devolution Agreement as outlined in Appendix 1 and agrees to adopt a Directly Elected Mayor with effect from May 2017 based on the Governance Principles outlined in Appendix 2 of the supplementary report;
- (3) Notes that the Governance Principles will be incorporated into a formal constitution and will be the subject of a further report in due course;
- (4) Agrees to explore with Government further opportunities for devolution, noting that any proposals will be presented to future meetings of the Council for consideration and approval before being agreed and implemented; and
- (5) Reserves the right to withdraw from the Devolution Agreement if Government fail to deliver on the proposals as outlined in the Devolution Agreement attached in Appendix 1 of the supplementary report.

1.2 Following the agreement to the Liverpool City Region Devolution Agreement by all of the constituent local authorities in November 2015, an initial Order was passed through Parliament in July 2016 to establish the office of City Region Mayor and to make arrangements for the election of a Liverpool City Region Mayor in May 2017.

1.3 The Cities and Local Government Act 2016 is the enabling legislation which provides the framework for the devolution of powers and functions to take place. This legislation requires specific Combined Authority and Mayoral powers to be conferred through a Parliamentary Order, which must have the consent of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority itself.

1.4 Further steps are now required to progress the Parliamentary processes and put in place the Parliamentary Order to ensure that the Liverpool City Region Devolution Agreement can be implemented in full.

1.5 The Liverpool City Region Order will need to be laid before Parliament in November 2016 in order to have sufficient time for it to be in place for the election of the Liverpool City Region Mayor in May 2017. All of the constituent local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority need to consent to the Order before it is laid in November 2016.

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2. Powers to be conferred on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

- 2.1 The legislation covering combined authorities is detailed in Sections 103-113 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and was amended by the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 so that an existing combined authority may be changed into a Mayoral Combined Authority through a further Order from the Secretary of State.
- 2.2 The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 originally provided that a combined authority could only undertake functions related to economic development, regeneration, or transport, or other functions which its member authorities agreed to transfer to it. The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 removed these limitations, and will permit the Secretary of State to transfer statutory functions or the functions of public bodies to combined authorities. This must be done via an Order for each individual combined authority.
- 2.3 Before the enactment of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016, the functions which could be conferred on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority by order were limited to transport functions mainly inherited from the former Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority and functions of the constituent councils relating to economic development and regeneration. These could be exercised instead of, by or concurrently with the constituent councils.
- 2.4 The amendments by the 2016 Act now enable an Order to be made to confer on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority:-
- Any function of a constituent council (no longer limited to transport, economic development or regeneration);
 - Any function of a public authority (including that of a Minister of the Crown or a Government Department) which is exercisable in relation to Liverpool City Region; and,
 - Any functions corresponding to a function which a public authority has in relation to another area.
- 2.5 In order for the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority to acquire additional functions and functions to implement the 2015 Devolution Agreement, it must go through a statutory process set out in legislation. The process comprises a review of the Combined Authority's governance, the publication of a draft Scheme setting out the powers requested, and a public consultation exercise.
- 2.6 These steps are now all complete and were considered by the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority in June 2016 and August 2016.
- 2.7 The powers to be conferred on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority/Mayor were set out in the Governance Review and Draft Scheme on which the Combined Authority consulted with stakeholders and the public earlier in 2016. It should be noted that legislative changes are not required to implement all aspects of the 2015 Devolution Agreement.

2.8 The proposed powers as set out in the Scheme are set out in **Appendix A**. The acceptance of the draft Order is an executive decision and cannot therefore be taken by a full meeting of the Council. Members are therefore asked to note that a decision whether to accept the draft Order must be taken by the Cabinet.

3. Overview and Scrutiny of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

3.1 The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 contains specific provisions covering scrutiny. The general provisions in the Act are standard in relation to scrutiny activities and are familiar to local authorities. The two major differences are:-

- The arrangements must include provisions to hold the City Region Mayor to account for executive decisions he/she takes; and,
- There is provision for further direction by the Secretary of State to be made by Order which, amongst other things, could include directions about:-
 - the membership of an overview and scrutiny committee;
 - the person who is to be the Chair of such a committee; and,
 - how and by whom matters may be referred to an overview and scrutiny committee.

3.2 The principles by which the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority will operate scrutiny are set out at **Appendix B** and will be incorporated into the Combined Authority's Constitution of the LCRCA (consistent with the provisions set out in the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order).

4. Devolution Agreement – Governance Principles

4.1 When approving the Devolution Agreement in November 2015, the local authorities and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority agreed a number of Governance Principles. These Principles will form the basis of the revised Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Constitution to apply from May 2017.

4.2 The Combined Authority has already amended its Constitution to establish an Appointments Panel to enable it to recruit and employ staff directly and also to establish an Investment Committee to consider project investment decisions for the Single Investment Fund.

4.3 A review will be undertaken in order to draft a revised Constitution in order to reflect the powers and functions contained within the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Order and how they will be implemented.

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**POWERS TO BE CONFERRED ON THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY
AND LIVERPOOL CITY REGION MAYOR**

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
Skills and Employment	
<p>Local commissioning of 19+ adult skills budget starting in academic year 2016/17 and fully devolve budgets to the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority from academic year 2018/19.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Sections 1.4 and 1.6</i></p>	<p>The Combined Authority would have the ability to reshape and restructure skills provision across the City Region, aligning post 19 provision with locally determined priorities to ensure residents have the skills to help businesses to grow. These functions would enable the Combined Authority to inform the right balance and mix of provision, including greater specialisation where needed and support a more highly skilled and appropriately qualified workforce to meet employer demand. The Combined Authority would more effectively deliver both the generic and sector specific Skills for Growth priorities to meet future needs of the economy via a more targeted allocation of the post 19 Adult Education Budget. This would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver improvements to the curriculum offer of general and specialist provision in terms of availability, access and quality and improve the relevance of post-19 education and training to learners and employers; • better target provision to what is being specified by employers and enable skills gaps to be addressed; • help tackle specific challenges in literacy, numeracy and digital skills; • increase the pace and responsiveness of the skills system to meet employer demand; • support the narrowing of the City Region’s historic attainment gaps for disadvantaged young people; • address the fitness for purpose of the FE college estate; and • allow for information sharing to take place and the Combined Authority to be able to require governing bodies to publish certain information.
<p>Area Based Review of post-16 education and training.</p> <p>No specific powers required</p>	<p>The Combined Authority will chair an Area Based Review of post-16 education and training. This will consider options and make recommendations for infrastructure changes to post 16 provision in Further Education Colleges, Sixth Form Colleges and other providers agreed as in scope. Following this, the Combined Authority will work in partnership with businesses, local colleges and providers to publish a local Skills Strategy: this will build on the Combined Authority’s existing Skills for Growth work.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Local priorities fed into the provision of careers advice, through direct involvement and collaboration with the government in the design of local careers and enterprise provision for all ages.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 1.2</p>	<p>Support for all age careers provision is currently disjointed, ineffective and inefficient. The Combined Authority will set up a Careers Hub to co-ordinate the multiple initiatives on careers education and information advice and guidance would ensure that careers advice for all ages is employer-led, integrated and meets local needs. This will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality and availability of careers education and advice within the City Region; • Contribute to the narrowing of the skills gap by being clearer with young people as to the needs of employers and providing support for them to access opportunities; • Improve the consistency of careers education and advice by having a focused Careers Hub which will hold all relevant materials; • Improve the efficiency of careers education and advice provision by taking a more strategic and integrated approach to planning support; and • Engage more businesses in careers education and advice services and thus improve the relevance of the support on offer.
<p>Maximise opportunities presented by the introduction of the apprenticeship reforms (including the levy) and promote the benefits of apprenticeships to employers.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Sections 1.3 - 1.5</p>	<p>The promotion of apprenticeship opportunities will increase the take up of apprenticeships by learners and secure more apprenticeship places with employers, particularly SMEs. It will maximise local usage of the apprenticeship levy by employers. Targeted promotion will include a focus on apprenticeship frameworks and standards to support new growth opportunities, resulting in an increased breadth of opportunities. This would increase both the quality and level of apprenticeships on offer through a greater and consistent focus from employers and the Combined Authority. Employers would be better informed on the new apprenticeship standards and support mechanisms will be put in place (through the Apprenticeship Hub) to help them to engage with apprenticeship employer routed funding. This would lead to be a more responsive and resilient provider base, which is better able to provide the supporting that businesses require.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Work with DWP to co-design the future employment support, from April 2017, for harder-to-help claimants, many of whom are currently referred to the Work Programme and Work Choice.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 1.1</p>	<p>The Liverpool City Region continues to suffer from high levels of long term unemployment and large numbers of residents access sickness benefits. Locally designed programmes and support have had some positive impact and these have tended to be flexible, rooted in local communities and linked to job opportunities. The Combined Authority will work with Government to co-design and co-commission future employment support for harder to help residents to ensure support meets their needs and is connected back into local communities. Local public services will be joined up to improve outcomes, through greater integration with other public services (such as health and housing), and local involvement in design will improve performance.</p>
<p>Work with DWP to develop a business case for an innovative pilot to support those who are hardest to help, taking a household approach.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 1.1</p>	<p>The City Region recognises the importance of working with and better understanding household poverty and unemployment. Local insight shows that many residents are trapped in a low pay, no pay cycle and analysis shows there are at least 40,000 low income households with children. To address this, there is a need to work with whole households to improve the retention and progression of residents in work, reduce the number of Universal Credit claimants and support private sector economic growth and productivity. The City Region will work with DWP to develop a business case for an innovative pilot to take a household approach leading to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduction in out of work benefit claimants through the provision of more effective and locally integrated back to work services; • Making the best use of public funding by aligning national and local responsibilities and priorities through joint working with contractors, councils, health, housing and other local partners; • Greater leverage over those providers delivering back to work services through the Combined Authority’s ongoing involvement in the performance management of this provision;

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more efficient and simplified delivery landscape and clear responsibilities for delivery; • Residents accessing employability services at the right time to support them back into work, reducing duplication and maximising value for money; • Improved engagement of health, housing and other local partners leading to improved understanding of back to work services, shared outcomes and a greater opportunity to seek additional investments; and • It would allow for information sharing to take place.
Housing and Planning	
<p>Development of a Single Statutory City Region Framework to support the delivery of strategic employment and housing sites.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Sections 2.1 - 2.3</i></p>	<p>In order to ensure that development, including employment and housing proposals, are in the right location for the Liverpool City Region to support its wider aspirations, a Liverpool City Region Statutory Spatial Framework will be adopted. This will provide a strategic overview for development and will be supported by the Local Plans of the six local authorities. This Framework will ensure that development maximises its contribution to creating economic growth in the City region, particularly by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring that employment land need and demand is met in a sustainable way; • ensuring that housing need and demand is met in a sustainable way by improving both supply and quality of housing; • ensuring that all development contributes to the sustainability agenda; and • supporting other elements of the devolution agenda, such as public sector reform, including reducing the financial burden on health and welfare budgets. <p>As part of the development of the Statutory Spatial Framework, the Liverpool City Region is developing and will adopt a City Region wide "Duty to Co-operate" Protocol. This document will set out how the six local authorities within the Liverpool City Region will work together as well as how they will work with other neighbouring authorities and partner organisations on planning issues. This will provide a strategic City Region wide approach ensuring that there is a Combined Authority consistency to our work.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Power to be consulted on and/or call-in planning applications of strategic importance.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 2.4</i></p>	<p>To provide the City Region Mayor with powers to support appropriate development and ensure that there is a strategic overview of major development proposals that are City Region significant or are contrary to the adopted Liverpool City Region Statutory Plan, the Mayor will have the powers of referral and Call-in. This will ensure that the Mayor will have oversight of those development proposals (which go through the local planning system) and that they accord with the growth goals of the City Region and the Mayor's Statutory Spatial Framework. These Call-in powers will be exercised with the agreement of the respective local authorities.</p>
<p>Identification of key economic sites to support the Mayoral Development Corporation approach.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 2.5</i></p>	<p>The power to create a Mayoral Development Corporation to support the delivery of the City Region's key sites through Mayoral Development Zones will further strengthen accountability, transparency and capacity for maximising the potential of the range of additional powers and functions from government at a City Region level.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>The ability to undertake Compulsory Purchase Orders.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 2.6 and 2.7</p>	<p>Compulsory Purchase Order powers, to acquire land by agreement to build the houses, commercial space and infrastructure that is needed in the Liverpool City Region to ensure its future growth and to allow its further development and regeneration, will need to be a function of the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and elected Mayor to make the most impact. If developments of City Region significance are to be taken forward at pace and with certainty and if Mayoral Development Zones are to be effective, it is important that the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Mayor has the power to make decisions and control processes around CPOs rather than decisions being taken and processes handled by individual local authorities. The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority and Mayor, however, will not be able to exercise any of their compulsory purchase powers without the consent of the constituent local authorities.</p>
<p>Develop a Land Commission.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 2.8</p>	<p>The power of Liverpool City Region Combined Authority to jointly (with central government and other public sector partners) develop a Land Commission will support the coordinated use of public land. This power acknowledges the comparatively high percentage of public land /assets in the Liverpool City region. These land assets provide an opportunity to further stimulate economic growth and housing in line with the Statutory Spatial Framework. A Land Commission will increase the availability of sites for economic growth, housing and improved communities and give Liverpool City Region the tools and powers to be able to direct and allocate those resources more effectively against local objectives as well as meet government priorities for public sector land disposal and receipts.</p>
Transport and Highways	
<p>Devolved and consolidated local transport budget, including all relevant highways funding.</p> <p>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.1</p>	<p>The creation of a single budget for transport will bring greater co-ordination and ensure increased value for money from funds that have previously been delivered through numerous, small-scale initiatives. It will strengthen the Mayoral Combined Authority’s ability to plan and deliver transport interventions over the next five years and ensure that transport spend is fully aligned with the City Region’s wider economic development and investment requirements. It will provide greater long term certainty and allow the City Region to allocate funds in a more strategic way over successive financial years. The creation of the consolidated budget allows the City Region to match this with other funding sources, providing greater scope for leverage and enhanced delivery. Over time, the budget could be expanded to accommodate further devolved funding, giving the Mayoral Combined Authority greater flexibility and freedoms.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Ability to franchise bus services, subject to legislation and local consultation.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.2</i></p>	<p>The bus network has not experienced growth and usage has declined over many years. It has not been responsive to changes in employment or housing areas and is complex to use, with different operators, different standards, different tickets and different fare structures. The complex governance and disconnect that currently exists between highway powers, land use planning powers and powers over bus policy and bus-related investment have not aided an integrated approach to the delivery of enhanced bus services. Governance and decision-making locally will be strengthened as a result of the wider, multi-modal powers that the Mayoral Combined Authority model is seeking to assume.</p> <p>A strong partnership approach is proposed to deliver the Liverpool City Region’s Bus Strategy to enhance the local bus offer and achieve 10% growth in bus patronage by March 2017. This includes the delivery of smart and integrated ticketing, working as part of Transport for the North on their plans for smart ticketing across the North. The City Region’s devolution agreement provides powers to introduce bus franchising, should a local assessment result in a recommendation to do so. This will be enabled through the emerging Buses Bill and an assessment of franchising, alongside other models of delivery of bus services (e.g. enhanced partnership powers), will be required. The existence of ‘enabling’ powers to potentially introduce franchising provides a core component of the Mayoral Combined Authority’s multi modal transport remit.</p>
<p>A Key Route Network of roads.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.3</i></p>	<p>Responsibilities for strategic transport issues have long been fragmented across the Liverpool City Region. The creation of the Combined Authority in April 2014 brought the strategic transport powers of Merseyside and Halton into a City Region-wide body for the first time. However, local highway powers and responsibilities sit with the constituent local authorities, and are separated from wider transport policy and funding responsibilities that sit with the Authority. The City Region’s devolution agreement has addressed these complex arrangements by giving the new Mayoral Combined Authority model widened powers over a defined Key Route Network of local roads. This network would be managed and maintained by the Combined Authority on behalf the City Region Mayor from May 2017, and supported by a single asset management plan, working towards streamlined contractual and delivery arrangements across the City Region.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
	<p>The City Region will work with government to establish appropriate local traffic and highway powers which would be conferred on to the Mayor as part of the Key Route Network. This approach would benefit all road users by strengthening the City Region’s ability to govern, develop, manage and maintain a highway network that is safer, has more reliable journey times, smoother traffic flows, better ride comfort and lower levels of congestion. This would lead to a more efficient and consistent approach to delivery across the City Region, which may include elements such as greater consistency of lighting standards, maintenance regimes, winter maintenance, cleansing, road works and other duties.</p> <p>It would allow the City Region to fully align decisions around the highway network with the needs of all users of the highway and lead to more consistent approach to delivery across the city region. The model also provides a means to better integrate land use planning and transport decision-making at a strategic level and linked to the City Region’s land use planning framework powers set out in the devolution deal, for example, by aligning investment on the highway network with areas of planned economic or housing growth. This will also aid the Mayoral Combined Authority’s multi-modal remit, building on the strong and highly effective ways of working enjoyed by Transport for London.</p>
<p>A long term Special Rail Grant Settlement for the Merseyrail network.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.4</i></p>	<p>The Merseyrail rolling stock is the oldest in the UK and is becoming life expired. Capacity is a major problem on many services and new stock, with additional capacity, is needed to ensure that the network is able to cater for continued growth in the City Region. Securing long-term revenue funding through the devolution deal will allow Merseytravel to progress the locally funded procurement of new trains to allow this necessary investment to take place. This will support continued growth in the use of local rail, to provide access to key employment, retail, leisure, educational and housing sites, and to ensure that the success and attractiveness of the Liverpool City Region is not harmed by rising congestion, and worsening environmental conditions.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Proposals for the local management of rail stations.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.5</i></p>	<p>In the first instance, the devolved control of rail stations would focus on the Merseyrail Electrics network. Subsequently, this would be expanded to all stations in the Liverpool City Region and could, potentially, be extended to wider rail infrastructure assets. It will enable the Mayoral Combined Authority to make decisions in the long term interest of stations, users and the local community. This will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of rail station management, by simplifying the management of assets and responsibilities and creating an operating model for stations with the potential for enhanced scope in future. It seeks to create a better passenger experience, with an improved and more consistent passenger experience throughout the City Region rail network, and better integration between rail and other transport networks.</p> <p>Localised control of planning and investment will also increase local influence in the rail decision making process. It will improve the integration and coordination of rail planning and city region spatial planning, including better utilisation of station land and surrounds. This will promote growth and economic development, lead to higher patronage throughout the City Region rail and wider public transport network, and stimulate local regeneration at and around rail stations. It will secure better value for money for the local portfolio of City Region stations, and longer term investment and more certainty.</p>
<p>Review the tolls on the Mersey Tunnels.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.6</i></p>	<p>The City Region’s two Mersey Tunnels (Queensway and Kingsway) were planned and constructed as locally-promoted schemes and are now the responsibility of the Combined Authority. They are tolled crossings as they do not form part of the national road network. The tolling mechanism is governed by the Mersey Tunnels Act 2004, parts of which are considered out-dated and inflexible, and through the Combined Authority and directly elected Mayor there is the opportunity to review the legislation to give the Liverpool City Region direct influence over tolls and the management of the tunnels. For example, this could include offering discounts for new entrants into the job market, off peak discounts and variable tolls based on the environmental credentials of vehicles. The review will also consider options to reduce the cost of tunnel tolls and review impacts on infrastructure and the ability to accelerate economic growth.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Explore ways to implement Clean Air Zones to help achieve Air Quality Plan objectives at both the national and local level.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 3.5</i></p>	<p>Poor air quality across the Liverpool City Region is predominantly caused by transport emissions and several Air Quality Management Areas have been declared as a result. The exploration of Clean Air Zones, as a means of helping to reduce emissions, will help the City Region to achieve Air Quality Plan objectives at both the national and local level, which in turn will impact on public health and wellbeing and improve the economic attractiveness of the Liverpool City Region. This also reduces the financial risk of fines being levied locally in the event that targets are not met.</p>
Business Support	
<p>Develop and implement a devolved approach to business support and deliver more integrated working in investment and trade</p> <p><i>No specific powers required</i></p>	<p>The City Region has significant challenges to address in terms of low levels of entrepreneurship and business density. A simplified and rationalised business support system which is locally delivered and demand led will help the city region improve business growth and performance and contribute to the government objectives to rebalancing the economy and improving productivity. The business support landscape must be simplified for businesses and rationalised to ensure that resources are focused on providing the support services which businesses need to establish and grow. National programmes need to reflect local business needs and be delivery at the local level to maximise take-up of those services.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
Energy	
<p>Development of a tidal power scheme proposal for the River Mersey.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 4.1</i></p>	<p>The Liverpool City Region estuary has one of the largest tidal ranges in the UK and is considered as one of the best locations in the UK for a tidal power scheme. The River Mersey and Liverpool Bay area is a key asset that has the potential to drive growth within the Northern Powerhouse and the government has committed to supporting Liverpool City Region by providing guidance to support Liverpool City Region’s development of a cost-effective tidal power scheme proposal for the River Mersey or Liverpool Bay that could generate low carbon energy for businesses and consumers.</p>
Culture	
<p>The government will work with Liverpool City Region to support a place-based strategy and the city region's plans for a Local Cultural Partnership (LCP).</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 5.1-5.3</i></p>	<p>Culture and creativity are key to the Liverpool City Region drive to accelerate economic growth, improve skills and further develop its distinctive visitor offer. The culture sector (arts, heritage and sport) and the creative and digital industries already make a large contribution to the city region but the aim is to achieve more through strategic collaboration. A Cultural Partnership will be established in May 2016 to drive forward the vision for Culture to accelerate economic growth, improve skills, engage residents and further develop the distinctive visitor offer in Liverpool City Region. The Cultural Partnership will be a place-making partnership that brings together the interests of the Metro Mayor, the Combined Authority and the Cultural Sector with the regional, national and international funding and investment partners who share the vision of Liverpool City Region as a Cultural Powerhouse.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
Finance	
<p>A Single Investment Fund that draws together city region and agreed national funding streams. Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 7.6</p> <p>Supplement on Business Rates. Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 7.4</p> <p>Prudential borrowing powers. Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 7.5</p>	<p>Despite improvements in the performance of the City region’s economy, there remain substantial economic challenges. Average GVA per head is only 75% of the national average and this gap has remained largely unchanged over the last decade. As a result, the City Region suffers from an £8.2bn output gap compared to nationally. To unlock our economic potential and play a full part in the Northern Powerhouse, the City Region requires co-ordinated intervention and an ambitious investment programme. This will mean a step change in the way the City Region invests in the critical infrastructure and economic assets needed to support our growth plan. To support this, Liverpool City Region will create a Single Investment Fund (SIF) that draws together local and national funding streams to deliver a £1 billion plus investment programme. Government have committed to support this approach and provide an additional £30m p.a. for 30 years, forming part of and capitalising the SIF.</p> <p>Local partners are committed to capitalising the SIF with appropriate city region funding streams. In order to maximise the potential impact and size of the SIF, prudential borrowing powers are sought. In addition, Government legislation also provides for the Mayor – subject to consultation – to establish a precept upon local business rates of up to 2% for the purposes of a Mayoral investment fund.</p>
<p>Business rate pilot. Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 7.7</p>	<p>The City Region will undertake a pilot with Government on 100% retention of business rates, considering all issues of implementation including the appeals system. Fiscal devolution and the ability to control resources locally, with control vested in those best placed to make decisions is a fundamental element of the Liverpool City Region devolution agreement. A business rates retention pilot offers the opportunity to consider how greater fiscal devolution through devolving business rates should operate in Liverpool City Region in support of the economic growth and public service reform agenda.</p>

FUNCTION	RATIONALE
<p>Intermediate Body Status for ESF and ERDF.</p> <p><i>No specific powers required</i></p>	<p>The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority will become an Intermediate Body for EU funds, with greater powers and influence over decision making for determining project selection. The Combined Authority and LEP have endorsed a series of investment strategies around business support, capital investment, innovation and low carbon investment which are aimed at aligning available resources to achieve the best impact and outcomes. EU funding should be more closely aligned to these strategies and their implementation processes.</p> <p>In order to achieve this and maximise outcomes of economic growth, job creation and productivity, the City Region is seeking maximum devolution of decision making powers for this funding, which will be achieved through Intermediate body Status. The Combined Authority will have enhanced powers to set the local strategic contents for calls for projects and also with regard to agreeing which projects best address local strategic fit.</p>
<p>Information Sharing</p>	
<p>Data sharing provisions.</p> <p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 6.1-6.2</i></p>	<p>Information sharing is key to carrying out the widening range of functions which Liverpool City Region Combined Authority will be charged with exercising. At the current time, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority is at a disadvantage in not being designated as a relevant authority in several pieces of relevant legislation. The Scheme proposes that this is provided for and, in so far as it is possible to do so, that Liverpool City Region Combined Authority be provided with a general power enabling the requiring of data sharing in the exercise of its functions.</p>

Constitutional and Governance Issues	
<p>How decisions will be taken.</p>	<p>The governance model of a City Region Directly Elected Mayor will initially be a challenging process to implement for those charged with delivery. Liverpool City Region Combined Authority is committed to a process which provides a strong leadership model whilst maintaining appropriate provisions which enable accountability to be clearly demonstrated. Functions will be divided between Mayoral and Non Mayoral functions. The exercise of powers will be divided between those which are exercised by the Mayor, those which are exercised by Liverpool City Region Combined Authority on its own behalf and those which are exercised by Liverpool City Region Combined Authority on behalf of the Mayor. The basis upon which decisions are taken with regard to voting provisions will be set out in the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Constitution and is summarised in the Scheme.</p>
<p><i>Specific powers/ scheme reference: Section 8</i></p>	

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITY SCRUTINY PRINCIPLES

Introduction

- 1.1 The scrutiny arrangements will ensure decisions made by the City Region Mayor and Combined Authority are effectively scrutinised.

Function of Scrutiny at a City Region Level

- 2.1 Scrutiny exists to achieve greater public accountability over decisions made and services delivered to the whole Liverpool City Region in respect of those functions under the remit of the Elected Mayor and Combined Authority.

- 2.2 The principal ways in which the Elected Mayor Combined Authority will be 'held to account' via Scrutiny are:-

- (i) In the role of 'Critical Friend' ; and
- (ii) Via pre-decision scrutiny (call-in); and
- (iii) Through monitoring the delivery of the CA and Mayor's Strategic Plan and Policies.

- 2.3 Scrutiny will support the Elected Mayor and Combined Authority to:-

- Develop policies to deal with new issues
- Review existing policies which are felt to be in need of review
- Contribute to the formulation and review of the annual budget
- Review policies or actions of agencies external to the local authorities which may be impacting adversely on the quality of life of local people
- To undertake scrutiny reviews into areas of strategic importance for the City Region

- 2.4 The Authority's Scrutiny Panel will consider matters of strategic significance for the Liverpool City Region area with a view to focusing on sub-regional issues that are directly linked to the work of the Elected Mayor and Combined Authority.

- 2.5 The Panel will take a similar approach to a Parliamentary Select Committee. Panel members will collect evidence through a variety of sources, including –

- Questioning expert 'witnesses'
- Receiving reports and other literature
- Undertaking consultation; and

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- Communication with stakeholders

The Panel will work with this information to make suggestions for improvement, acknowledge good practice and make recommendations. The Panel will not deal with individual issues or queries that are more suitably dealt with by a constituent local authority or specific organisation.

- 2.6 The findings of each review will be submitted to the Elected Mayor and/or Combined Authority for consideration.
- 2.7 There are a number of potential sources for identifying in-depth studies to be carried out by the Panel:-
 - the Scrutiny Panel itself;
 - the Elected Mayor; and
 - the Combined Authority and its members.
- 2.8 The Elected Mayor and/or the Combined Authority may request scrutiny of a particular policy or matter before agreeing a policy or taking a decision.
- 2.9 The Scrutiny Panel may review the outcomes of the Combined Authority or Elected Mayor's Strategic Plans. Any involvement of scrutiny in this activity needs to demonstrate that it adds value to what the Elected Mayor and the Combined Authority, its Boards or Committees are trying to achieve.
- 2.10 Scrutiny will also act when it is concerned about evidence of poor performance and it is not satisfied by the Elected Mayor's or Combined Authority's response to it.
- 2.11 Scrutiny shall have the power of "call-in". Call-in shall apply when **10 members** of the Scrutiny Panel agree, in writing, on the requisite form, which shall be submitted to the Head of Paid Service, to call-in a specific decision made by by the Elected Mayor or the Combined Authority.
- 2.12 Any matter decided by the Elected Mayor or Combined Authority may be called-in not later than 5 working days after the publication of the decision/minutes of the Elected Mayor or Combined Authority. Any matter called-in must be considered at the next meeting of the Combined Authority, which will have power to affirm or reject the decision. If rejected, the Combined Authority may refer the decision back for further consideration. The call-in procedure can only be used once in relation to any particular decision. Once the procedure has been used and a decision confirmed or rejected by the Combined Authority the decision cannot be reconsidered.

- 2.13 Decisions requiring immediate action and so specified in the decision/minutes are excluded from call-in.

3. Scrutiny Panel Membership

- 3.1 Membership of the Scrutiny Panel will be agreed at the Annual General Meeting of the Mayoral Combined Authority. Nominations to the Scrutiny Panel must not be members of the Combined Authority (including substitute members) or the Merseytravel Committee.

- 3.2 The Panel is to be made up of:-

3 nominees from each constituent council = 18

1 nominee from the **largest** opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography - as directed collectively by the largest opposition party = 1

1 nominee from the **second** largest opposition party as calculated across the LCR geography - as directed collectively by the second largest opposition party = 1

Total: = 20

The Leaders of the respective Opposition Groups will collectively agree their party nominations to the LCRCA Scrutiny Panel. The CA will draw up a protocol to ensure political balance on the Panel taking into account appropriate parliamentary orders. The protocol will require annual review based on the election results in any given year.

- 3.3 Any elected member appointed to the Scrutiny Panel by the Authority under these scrutiny arrangements who is also appointed to any Committee of the Combined Authority, cannot participate in the operation of the scrutiny arrangements on any issues which were taken at any meeting of the Combined Authority or any Committee of the Combined Authority at which they were present.

- 3.4 The term of office for members of the Scrutiny Panel will be one year from the date of the annual council meeting of the Constituent Council that nominates them to the Scrutiny Panel, unless:-

- a) they cease to be an elected member of the Constituent Council that appointed them;
- b) they wish to no longer participate in these arrangements; or
- c) the Head of Paid Service is advised by any of the Constituent Councils that it wishes to change one or more of its nominees to the Scrutiny Panel.

- 3.5 Non-voting members may be co-opted to participate in these arrangements from other organisations as the Scrutiny Panel members may decide.

4. Meetings of Scrutiny Panel

- 4.1 The members appointed by the Authority to the Scrutiny Panel will hold at least one annual meeting and may convene additional meetings in accordance with these arrangements.
- 4.2 The Scrutiny Panel members will:-
- a) elect a Chair and Vice Chair and in so doing shall comply with any legislative requirement in respect of any such appointments;
 - b) determine the areas of review and scrutiny that they wish to pursue during the ensuing 12 months, having consulted the Mayor and Authority in developing that plan; and
 - c) agree to establish Scrutiny Working Groups from amongst their number in order to carry out agreed areas of review and scrutiny.
- 4.3 The quorum for the annual meeting and any other meetings is 6, and must include representatives of at least 4 of the Constituent Councils.
- 4.4 The principle of decision-making at any such meeting shall be that, wherever possible, decisions will be made by agreement, without the need for a vote. If a vote is necessary it will be a simple majority of those present and the Chair will not have a casting vote.
- 4.5 The venue for each annual meeting and the usual venue for any other meetings will be the offices of Merseytravel, save that the Scrutiny Panel may choose to hold meetings other than the annual meeting in other venues if this is deemed to assist the scrutiny process.
- 4.6 Notice of the annual meeting and any other meetings will be sent to each Scrutiny Panel member in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 4.7 The Chair will approve the agenda for each annual meeting and any other meetings; however, any member of the Scrutiny Panel will be entitled to require an item to be placed on the agenda for the meeting.
- 4.8 Subject to paragraphs 4.1 to 4.7, meetings will proceed in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Mayoral Combined Authority.

5. Key Principles for the Operation of the Scrutiny Arrangements

- 5.1 The Constituent Councils will work together to maximise the exchange of information and views, to minimise bureaucracy and make best use of the time of members and officers of other bodies or agencies
- 5.2 Members of the Scrutiny Panel will, when considering reviews, determine whether the issue is more appropriately dealt with by one of the Constituent Councils or elsewhere and will not duplicate the work of existing bodies or agencies.
- 5.3 Subject to prior notice being given to them, the Constituent Councils will respond positively to requests for information, or for the attendance of a member or officer at any meetings set up under these arrangements.
- 5.4 While it is ultimately for each Constituent Council to decide who it considers the most appropriate person(s) to speak on its behalf at any meetings set up under these arrangements, consideration will be given to meeting specific requests.
- 5.5 Dates and times for officer and member attendance at any meetings set up under these arrangements should be by agreement.
- 5.6 Members appointed under these arrangements may request the attendance of officers employed by the Constituent Councils to answer questions and give evidence at any meetings set up under these arrangements. All such requests must be made via the Chief Executive of the relevant Constituent Council. If any request is declined by the Chief Executive, he/she must state the reasons for so doing.
- 5.7 The Scrutiny Panel may:-
 - a) invite the Elected Mayor and any member of the Combined Authority to attend before it to answer questions;
 - b) invite other persons to attend meetings of the Panel;
 - c) review or scrutinise decisions made or other action taken in connection with the discharge of any functions of the Elected Mayor and/or Combined Authority;
 - d) make reports or recommendations to the Elected Mayor and/or Combined Authority with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the Elected Mayor and /or Combined Authority.

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5.8 The power to review or scrutinise a decision made, but not implemented under sub-paragraph 5.7(c), includes the power to recommend that the decision be re-considered, but is subject to the following provisions:-

- a) this shall not apply where, in the view of the decision-making body stated when the decision is made, any delay in implementing the decision would prejudice the interests of the Authority or the interests of the public;
- b)
 - (i) in relation to decisions which may be subject to reconsideration, each decision shall be available where possible by electronic means within two working days of being made. Members of the Scrutiny Panel will be provided with a copy of the decision which will bear the date published and indicate it will come into effect on the expiry of three working days after publication;
 - (ii) if two-thirds of the membership of the Scrutiny Panel notify the Head of the Secretariat that they wish the Scrutiny Panel to consider the decision, then the Head of Paid Service will arrange for a meeting of the Scrutiny Panel to be convened at the first available opportunity and in any event within seven working days of the request being notified to him. No action will be taken in the meantime to implement the decision which is subject to the request;
 - (iii) the Scrutiny Panel will consider the matter and if it chooses to, may resolve to request that the decision-maker reconsiders the decision. The Scrutiny Panel must set out the basis upon which reconsideration is requested;
 - (iv) the decision-making body will reconsider the decision and that reconsideration shall take place within seven working days of the Scrutiny Panel's request; and
 - (v) no further requests for reconsideration may be made in cases where decisions have been reconsidered and the decision has been affirmed;
- c) decisions which have been subject to pre-decision scrutiny cannot be recommended for reconsideration unless the decision taken is, in the view of the Head of Paid Service, significantly different from the proposal under contemplation at the pre- decision scrutiny stage.

5.9 Where the Scrutiny Panel makes a report or recommendation under 5.7(d), it may:-

- a) publish the report or recommendations;
- b) by notice in writing, require the Authority to
 - i) consider the report or recommendation;
 - ii) provide a response to the Scrutiny Panel indicating what action (if any) it proposes to take; and
 - iii) where the Scrutiny Panel has published the report or

recommendations, publish the response.

- 5.10 A notice under 5.9(b) will require the Mayor and/or Authority to comply with it within two months, beginning with the date on which the Mayor and/or Authority receives the report or recommendations or (if later) the notice.
- 5.11 The Mayor and/or Authority will comply with a notice given under 5.9(b).
- 5.12 The requirements or power to publish contained in 5.9(a) and 5.11, shall not apply where the reports contain exempt or confidential information.

6. Scrutiny Working Groups

- 6.1 The annual meeting of members of the Scrutiny Panel may establish Scrutiny Working Groups to undertake agreed scrutiny reviews.
- 6.2 Scrutiny Working Groups shall include representatives from at least 4 of the Constituent Councils.
- 6.3 Scrutiny Working Groups established under this Protocol must be appointed to carry out specific scrutiny tasks and be time limited. Their continuation will be subject to confirmation at each annual meeting of the Scrutiny Panel members.
- 6.4 The Mayor and/or the Authority may also, if they choose, request that a Scrutiny Working Group be appointed to examine a specific issue in more detail and report back its findings to the Authority as appropriate.
- 6.5 Scrutiny Working Groups will have no delegated powers and will refer the outcome of their investigations to the Scrutiny Panel for consideration and decision to then, if deemed appropriate, be recommended to the Mayor and/or Authority.

7. Transparency

- 7.1 The process of scrutiny will be an open and transparent process designed to engage the Constituent Councils, their residents and other stakeholders.
- 7.2 Meetings will be held in public unless the meeting decides to convene in private in order to discuss confidential or exempt information, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1972

or Local Government Act 2000.

- 7.3 The terms of reference, timescale and outline of any review will be agreed by Scrutiny Panel members appointed at their annual meeting.
- 7.4 Different approaches to scrutiny reviews may be taken in each case, but members will seek to act in an inclusive manner and will take evidence from a wide range of opinion.

8. *Scrutiny Support*

- 8.1 The scrutiny leads from each Constituent Council will provide guidance to the Scrutiny Panel on its work programme, advice on the scoping of reviews (at different levels) and ensuring the appropriate information and advice is made available during the reviews, where appropriate, through the use of expert witnesses.
- 8.2 The decisions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel will be communicated to the Authority and/or Merseytravel as appropriate, as soon as practicable.

9. *Advice to Scrutiny*

- 9.1 The Scrutiny Panel may ask individuals or groups to assist it on a review by review basis and may ask independent professionals for advice during the course of reviews. Such individuals or groups will not be able to vote.
- 9.2 The Scrutiny Officer of each Constituent Council will ensure that the work programmes and minutes relating to the work carried out by the Scrutiny Panel in scrutinising the Authority and the Merseytravel Committee are circulated appropriately within their own Constituent Council's scrutiny arrangements.
- 9.3 Each Constituent Council will nominate one of the 2 members of that Constituent Council who have been appointed to the Scrutiny Panel to act as that Constituent Council's "Authority Scrutiny Link". The Authority Scrutiny Link will be responsible for reporting back to their own Constituent Council on the scrutiny work carried out by the Scrutiny Panel and will also be responsible for reporting to the Scrutiny Panel any issues identified locally by their own Constituent Council which may warrant scrutiny at a sub-regional level. The nomination of an Authority Scrutiny Link and the way in which this role will be performed will be determined by each Constituent Council.