

APPENDIX 3

Liverpool City Region Governance Review

Report of Consultation – Interim Findings

3 September 2013

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 2 August 2013, the Liverpool City Region authorities, Merseytravel and their partners began consultation on a review of strategic governance arrangements for the sub-region. The consultation is still ongoing and is due to close on 6 September. This report contains the interim findings of this consultation exercise as at 3 September. A full Report of Consultation will be available after 6 September.
- 1.2 This consultation seeks views on the option for of a Liverpool City Region Combined Authority model, including the functions currently exercised by the Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority (MITA) and Halton's strategic transport function. This would give legal form to the close working relationships that already exist between the six Local Authorities, the Integrated Transport Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnership by creating a sub-regional body with legal personality and a governance mechanism that can act across the combined area.
- 1.3 This interim report summarises how the authorities and their partners have engaged with stakeholders, partners and the public regarding the proposals, through communications, workshops, events and meetings. The report also contains a brief summary of the findings of this consultation exercise to date, including the detail of how stakeholders have responded to the proposals so far. This analysis will be expanded on in a final version of the Report of Consultation, which will be made available following the conclusion of the consultation period.

2. About the Consultation

- 2.1 The consultation has involved a range of activities aimed at engaging a wide range of stakeholders, partners and members of the public. This has included making materials available on Local Authority and partner websites, and publicising this through media releases, news stories, social networking tools and internal and external briefings. In addition, each Local Authority has targeted consultation materials to a wide range of partners, stakeholders and other interested parties within their area. Specific communications were sent to selected contacts inviting them to interviews, meetings, events, public drop in sessions and workshops associated with the consultation. A detailed list of all of these activities will be included in the final Report of Consultation.
- 2.2 The consultation materials included a specific feedback form, containing key questions. In addition, many respondents returned detailed letters or email with the wider thoughts on the proposals. All responses were returned to each

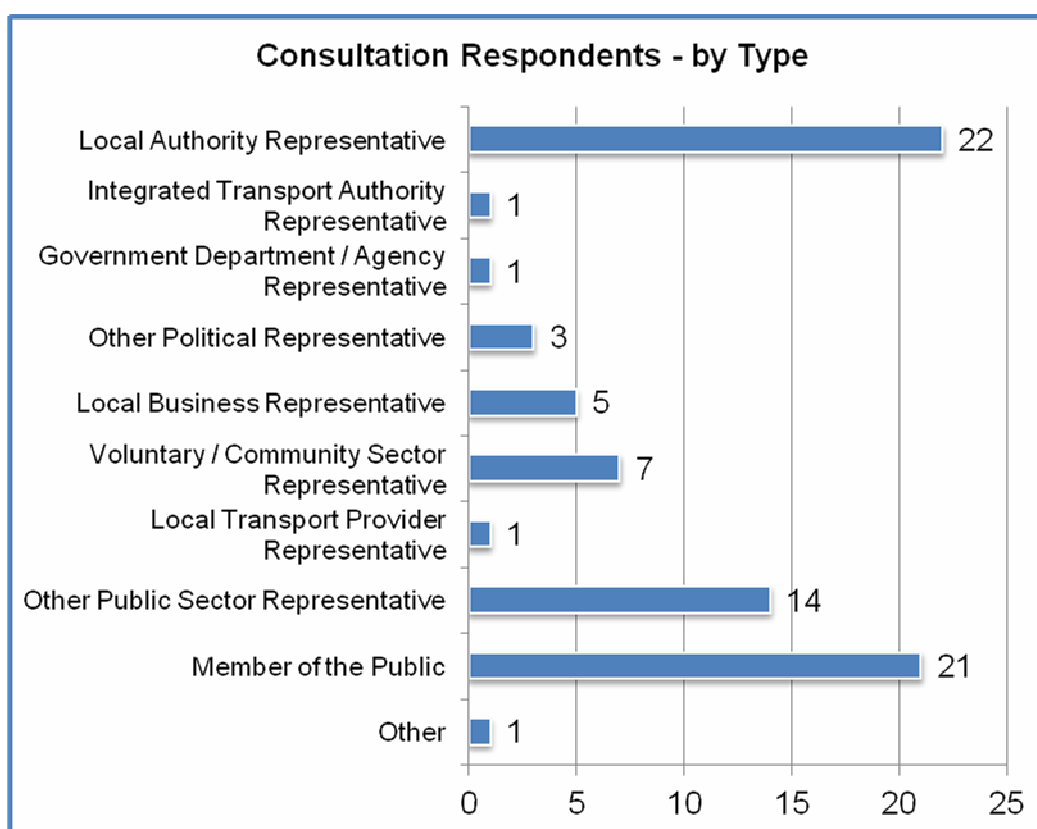
APPENDIX 3

Local Authority and MITA, and collated centrally for the purpose of summary and analysis.

- 2.3 Responses were analysed in terms of their feedback on the key questions set out in the feedback form, as well as in terms of any additional commentary provided. Where specific questions were not answered, answers were attributed from the more general comments made, where appropriate.

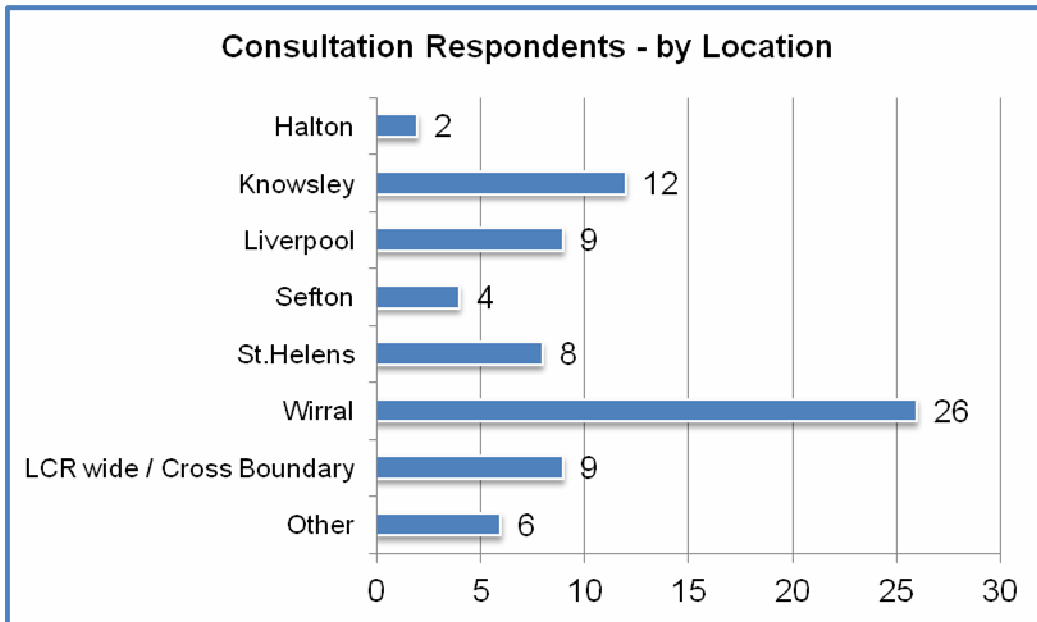
3. Summary of Responses to date (3 September 2013)

- 3.1 In total, **76 responses** have been received to date. This includes 36 emails and letters, and 40 specific consultation feedback forms. It is expected that this response rate will increase significantly as the consultation period progresses and particularly following the various consultation events still planned for the week commencing 2 September 2013 are processed. In comparison, the consultation has already received more than half the level of total responses of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority consultation (104 responses), and has far exceeded the number received for the Sheffield City Region consultation (3 responses).
- 3.2 Of the 76 total responses received, a large proportion (22 responses) has been received from Local Authority Representatives. In addition, 21 responses were from Members of the Public. Smaller numbers of responses have also been received from the Voluntary and Community Sector Representatives and other Public Sector Representatives, and also additional sectors.



APPENDIX 3

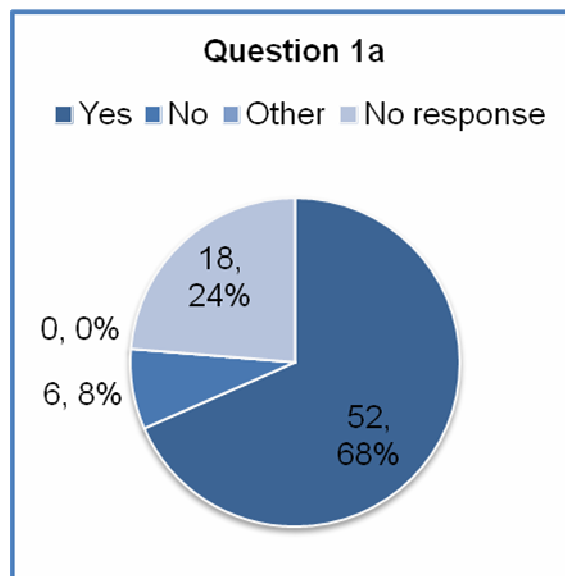
3.3 In terms of geographical locations, the largest proportion of responses has come from individuals and organisations in Wirral (26 responses). This reflects the fact that Wirral are the only authority so far to have a specific consultation event, which generated a large number of responses.



3.4 The following sections set out the responses to the five specific questions on the consultation feedback form. Where no answer was given, or was identified to be attributed, "no response" was given. The final Report of Consultation will include some more detailed analysis of these responses.

1. **Does the evidence presented enable you to arrive at the conclusion that a Combined Authority for Liverpool City Region would improve:**

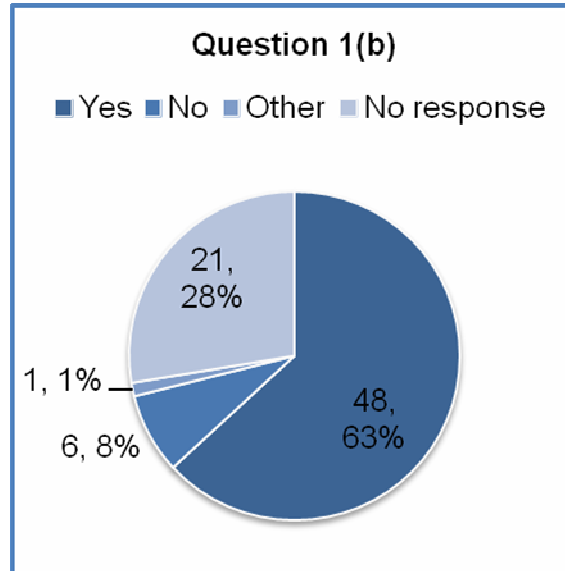
(a) **The exercise of statutory functions relating to economic development, regeneration and transport in the area?**



APPENDIX 3

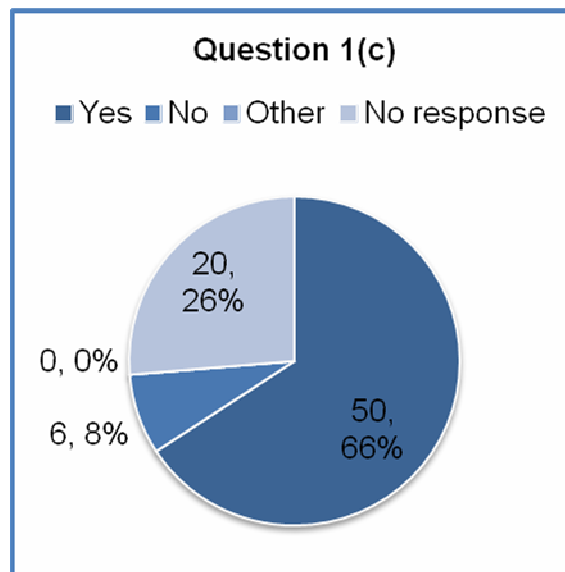
1. Does the evidence presented enable you to arrive at the conclusion that a Combined Authority for Liverpool City Region would improve:

(b) The effectiveness and efficiency of transport?



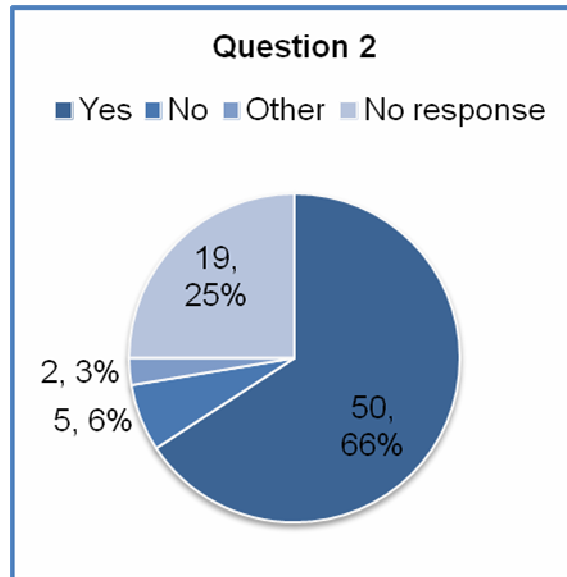
1. Does the evidence presented enable you to arrive at the conclusion that a Combined Authority for Liverpool City Region would improve:

(c) The economic conditions in the area?

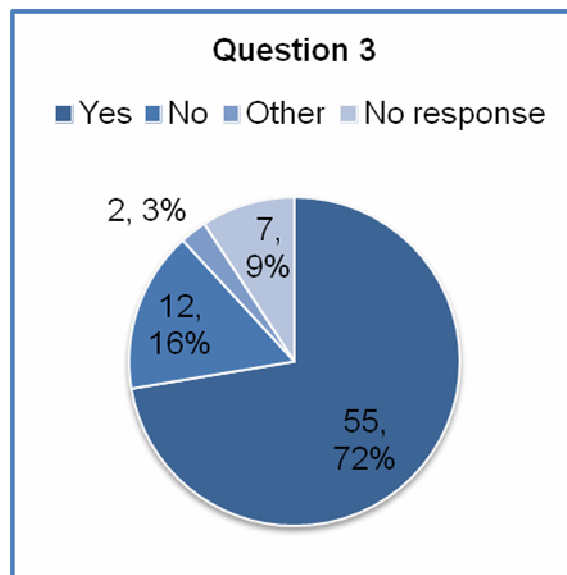


APPENDIX 3

2. Do you think the draft Scheme proposed supports the economic rationale for Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral to come together to drive jobs and growth in the Liverpool City Region?

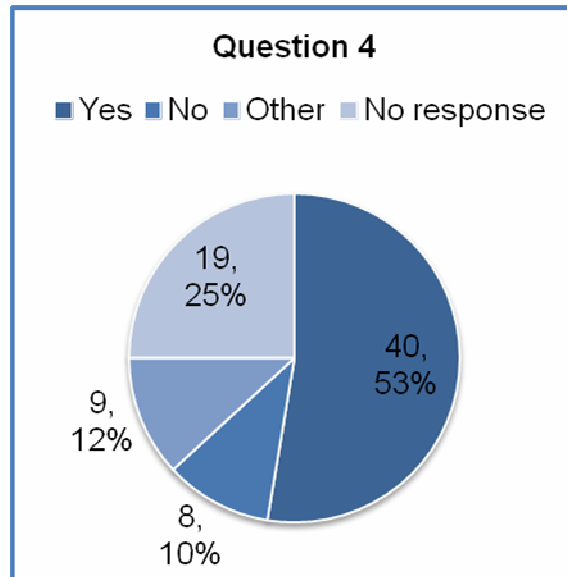


3. Can you support the establishment of a Combined Authority which will provide strategic leadership on economic development, transport, housing and employment and skills?

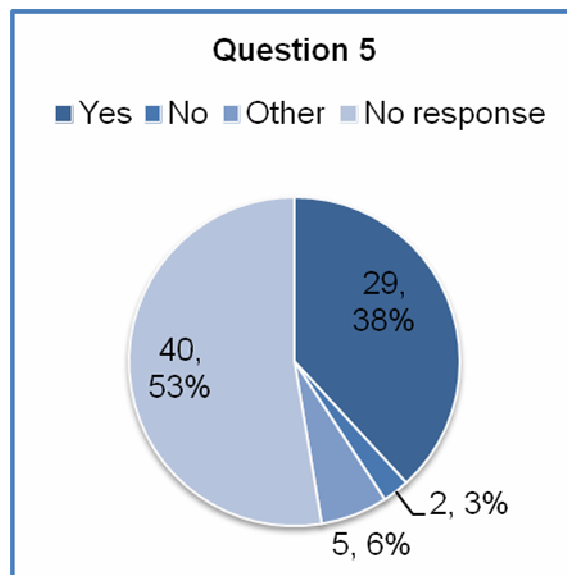


APPENDIX 3

4. Based on the proposed membership of the Combined Authority, will it be able to provide strong strategic leadership to drive jobs and growth in the City Region?



5. Do you feel the proposed links between the Combined Authority and the Local Enterprise Partnership would be strong enough? If not, how do you think this relationship should be further strengthened?



APPENDIX 3

3.5 In addition to quantitative analysis undertaken, the detailed comments made in association with responses have been recorded and summarised. This includes analysis of the general feedback submitted by email or letter, but also analysis of the additional commentary added to the consultation feedback form.

3.6 Several broad themes have been identified in terms of qualitative responses. These are listed below. The final Report of Consultation will include the full summary of the issues raised under each theme, as well as any additional themes identified through the remaining consultation period.

- **Theme 1 – Overall proposal** – comments relating to the overall proposal to create a Combined Authority in the Liverpool City Region
- **Theme 2 – Operation and accountability** – issues raised relating to the potential operation of the Combined Authority, and how it will be held accountable for its responsibilities once operational
- **Theme 3 – Strategic leadership**– comments regarding the potential leadership and governance arrangements within the proposed Combined Authority
- **Theme 4 – Strategic priorities** – issues raised regarding the thematic priorities which could be addressed by the Combined Authority
- **Theme 5 – Geographical coverage** – comments regarding the coverage of the Combined Authority across the Liverpool City Region and wider area
- **Theme 6 – Role of authorities and partners** – comments regarding the relative role of authorities within the Combined Authority, and the roles of partner organisations
- **Theme 7 – Additional partner involvement** – comments regarding the widening of the Combined Authority activities to include additional partners or stakeholders
- **Theme 8 – Wider Impacts** – issues raised regarding the wider impacts of the proposal on local authority activities and the wider sub-region
- **Theme 9 – Miscellaneous** – further issues and matters raised.
- **Theme 10 – Consultation Process** – comments regarding the process of governance review and the corresponding consultation activities.

4. Next Steps

4.1 For the remaining consultation period, the Liverpool City Region authorities and MITA will continue to collate responses from partners, stakeholders and members of the public. There are also several major consultation events planned for the remainder of the consultation period, including:

- Local Enterprise Partnership Event (3 September)
- Sefton (North and South) Consultation Sessions (3 and 5 September)
- Knowsley Business, Partnership, Elected Member and Public Events (5 September)

APPENDIX 3

- 4.2 A final Report of Consultation will be prepared following the conclusion of the consultation period on 6 September 2013.