



SECRETARY OF STATE'S ANNUAL REPORT ON DEVOLUTION 2015-16



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

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Presented to Parliament pursuant to Section 1 of the Cities and Local
Government Devolution Act 2016

Autumn 2016

Department for Communities and Local Government



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Telephone: 030 3444 0000

Print ISBN 9781474138574

Web ISBN 9781474138581

ID P002844776 11/16

Printed on paper containing 75% recycled fibre content minimum

Printed in the UK by the Williams Lea Group on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office

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Foreword from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Rt. Hon. Sajid Javid MP

Every action taken by this Government happens with one overarching goal in mind: making Britain work for everyone, not just the privileged few.

Devolution is a crucial part of that agenda. In the EU referendum, the British people sent a clear message that they wanted more control over their lives, that they felt disconnected from democracy when governed by a distant elite. That means there's no point in us taking power back from Brussels only to hoard it in Westminster.

If we're serious about re-enfranchising Britain and delivering sustained economic growth in communities right across the country, we have to give real power to the people affected most by decisions on everything from housing to healthcare.

As this report shows, the work we have already done to meet this goal has proved hugely successful. We've secured devolution deals and established strong Combined Authorities and elected Mayors. We've brought together investment and ambition around the Northern Powerhouse and Midlands Engine. And, through the ongoing work of Local Enterprise Partnerships across the country, we have given local areas the tools to drive growth and create economic opportunity.

The next 12 months will see even more milestones reached. From 2017 we will see a new wave of directly elected, visible and accountable Mayors. A further round of Local Growth Deals will see local areas continuing to take the lead in shaping investment in growth. And our radical reforms to business rates will fundamentally change the relationship between central and local Government.

Devolution is already making Britain a better, fairer place for millions of people. I look forward to continuing with this vital work in the months and years ahead.



THE RT HON SAJID JAVID MP

1. Introduction

1.1 This Annual Report on Devolution has been laid before both Houses of Parliament by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government pursuant to section 1 of the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 ('the 2016 Act').

1.2 This Annual Report brings together information about devolution agreements reached between Government and areas up to 31 March 2016.

1.3 These devolution agreements, in response to proposals from areas, are agreements in which the Government undertakes to devolve powers and budgets to an area in return for step changes in local governance and local political accountability.

1.4 Devolution within England aims to provide local areas with the levers they need to boost local economic growth and improve and integrate public services.

2. Areas with agreements

Legislative requirement: Section 1 (2)(a) of the 2016 Act requires the Report to provide information on the areas of the country where agreements have been reached.

2.1 Up to 31 March 2016, the Government has reached agreements with the areas described below:

- On the 3 November 2014, an agreement was reached for Greater Manchester, comprising of the local government areas of Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan. Subsequent agreements were reached on 27 February 2015, 8 July 2015, 25 November 2015 and 16 March 2016.
- On 22 July 2015, an agreement was reached for the local government area of Cornwall.
- On 2 October 2015, an agreement was reached for the Sheffield City Region, comprising of the local government areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, and Sheffield.
- On 23 October 2015, an agreement was reached for the North East, comprising of the local government areas of Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, and Sunderland.¹
- On 23 October 2015, an agreement was reached for Tees Valley, comprising of the local government areas of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees.
- On 17 November 2015, an agreement was reached for the West Midlands, comprising of the local government areas of Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall, and Wolverhampton.

¹ Subsequently, on 6 September 2016, four of the seven constituent members of the North East Combined Authority voted against proceeding with a public consultation on their scheme document, which would have been necessary before Parliamentary Orders could be laid to establish the office of Mayor, and therefore that area chose to withdraw from the devolution deal that they had previously agreed

- On 17 November 2015, an agreement was reached for the Liverpool City Region, comprising of the local government areas of Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and the Wirral. A further agreement was reached on 16 March 2016.
- On 16 March 2016, an agreement was reached for the West of England, comprising of the local government areas of Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset, and South Gloucestershire.²
- On 16 March 2016, an agreement was reached for East Anglia, comprising of the local government areas within Cambridgeshire (within which are situated the districts of East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire, but not the district of Cambridge City); Suffolk County (within which are situated the districts of Babergh, Forest Heath, Ipswich, Mid Suffolk, St. Edmundsbury, Suffolk Coastal and Waveney); Norfolk County (within which are situated the districts of Breckland, Broadland, Great Yarmouth, Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, North Norfolk, Norwich and South Norfolk); and Peterborough.³
- On 16 March 2016 an agreement was reached for Greater Lincolnshire, comprising of the local government areas of Lincolnshire County (within which the districts of Boston, City of Lincoln, East Lindsey, North Kesteven, South Holland, South Kesteven and West Lindsey); North Lincolnshire; and North East Lincolnshire.⁴

Links to the devolution deal agreement documents published up to 31 March 2016 are provided in Annex B.

Devolution to London is not within the scope of the 2016 Act; however, a brief summary is provided at Annex C.

²Subsequently, on 7 June 2016, North Somerset Council voted against ratifying the deal agreement at this time, and therefore the deal area now excludes the local government area of North Somerset.

³Subsequently, following engagement with communities and councils across East Anglia, local leaders in Norfolk have confirmed their intention not to proceed with a Norfolk and Suffolk deal. We have therefore agreed to take forward a deal across a smaller geography, covering the areas of the whole of Cambridgeshire (including Cambridge City) & Peterborough.

⁴Subsequently, in November 2016, Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Council confirmed their intention not to proceed with the devolution deal that they had previously agreed. These local decisions mean that the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal agreed in March 2016 can no longer go ahead.

3. Areas that have submitted proposals

Legislative requirement: Section 1 (2) (b) of the 2016 Act requires the Report to provide information on the areas of the country where proposals have been received by the Secretary of State and negotiations have taken place but agreement has not yet been reached.

3.1 Additional to the areas cited above in which agreements have been reached, the Secretary of State has received proposals from local partnerships (including local authorities, LEPs and others) in England as listed below. These descriptions were put forward by the local partnerships making the proposals. Agreements for these areas had not been reached by 31 March 2016.

- Cheshire and Warrington
- Cumbria
- Dorset
- D2N2 (Derbyshire, Derby, Nottinghamshire and Nottingham)
- Gloucestershire
- Greater Brighton
- Greater Essex
- Greater Yorkshire
- Hampshire and the Isle of Wight
- Heart of the South West
- Herefordshire
- Hull, Yorkshire, the Leeds City Region and the Northern Powerhouse
- Lancashire
- Leeds City Region (West Yorkshire Combined Authority)
- Leicester and Leicestershire
- Medway
- Northamptonshire
- Oxfordshire
- Shropshire
- Surrey, West Sussex & East Sussex
- Swindon
- Telford & Wrekin
- Thurrock
- Wiltshire
- Worcestershire
- York, North Yorkshire and East Riding

3.2 The proposals received vary significantly in detail and scope, with several taking the form of an initial expression of interest or statement of intent. The pace and nature of the work undertaken by local partnerships to develop proposals locally and engage in negotiations with Government has similarly varied. Some geographical areas and local authorities remain part of more than one proposal. The Government has been clear that the deal process is locally led and that proposals should as far as possible be based on local consensus on geography and governance arrangements.

4. Functions that have been devolved

Legislative requirement: s.1(2)(c) of the 2016 Act requires the Report to provide information on functions exercisable by a Minister of the Crown that have been devolved as a result of agreements so as to become exercisable by a mayor for the area of a combined authority (including information as to any such functions that remain exercisable by a Minister of the Crown as a result of an agreement providing for functions to be exercisable jointly or concurrently).

4.1 The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 received Royal Assent and commenced in January 2016. As of March 2016, therefore, no functions exercisable by a Minister of the Crown had yet been devolved as a result of an agreement so as to become exercisable by a mayor for the area of a combined authority.

4.2 However, a number of functions exercisable by a Minister of the Crown are in the process of being devolved as outlined in 'Future legislation' below.

5. Additional financial resources and public functions that have been devolved

Legislative requirement: s.1(2)(d) of the Act requires the Report to provide information on additional financial resources and public functions (so far as not falling within paragraph (c)) which have been devolved as a result of agreements.

5.1 Financial resources which have begun to be devolved to deal areas

Funding stream	Description	Accountable Government Department	Place(s) affected	Total amount	Payment schedule	Commentary
Greater Manchester Housing Investment Fund	Loan from HM Government to be used as a loan or investment to a private sector entity to deliver new homes	Department for Communities and Local Government	Greater Manchester	£300m total	First instalment drawn down in July 2015, with three further instalments subject to meeting the requirements of a Facility Agreement with Government	A minimum of 80% of the loan must be repaid by the final repayment date of 31 March 2028

Funding stream	Description	Accountable Government Department	Place(s) affected	Total amount	Payment schedule	Commentary
Multi-year transport budgets	Multi-year consolidated transport grants, integrating relevant existing transport grants from government into one payment to the Combined Authority or Unitary Authority.	Department for Transport	Cornwall, East Anglia, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, Tees Valley, West Midlands, West of England	Based on formula and grant allocations determined by the Department for Transport	Annual First payments drawn down to date: Cornwall (paid to Unitary Authority as previously); Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, Tees Valley and West Midlands – all April 2016	Payments made to the Combined Authority or Unitary Authority by Section 31 grant. Multi-year transport budgets will be treated by Combined Authorities as part of a flexible 'Single Pot' for local investment, alongside additional Investment Fund money from Government (see below) and, optionally, Local Growth Fund monies secured by the Local Enterprise Partnership(s) through a separate competitive bidding process.

Funding stream	Description	Accountable Government Department	Place(s) affected	Total amount	Payment schedule	Commentary
Investment Funds	Additional investment funding allocated by Government, to be treated as part of a flexible Single Pot alongside multi-year transport budgets (see above) and, optionally, Local Growth Fund monies secured by the Local Enterprise Partnership(s) through a separate competitive bidding process.	Department for Communities and Local Government	East Anglia, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, Tees Valley, West Midlands, West of England	£5.7bn (over 30 years)	Annual First payments drawn down to date: Greater Manchester: April 2015 West Midlands: August 2016 Tees Valley: September 2016 Liverpool: November 2016 (All other areas still in process of meeting readiness conditions to receive first payment)	Payments will be made by Section 31 grant. Payments commence when a place has met the following readiness conditions: ratification of the deal in all constituent local authorities; establishment of the Combined Authority; completion and sign-off by DCLG of a local assurance framework; and consent to the legislative steps required to establish the elected mayor. The funding is subject to 5-yearly 'Gateway Review' assessments whereby an independent evaluation panel of experts will assess how investments have contributed to economic growth. Once Government receives the panel's reports, they will make a decision on the funding allocated for the subsequent 5-year period. Local Single Pot Assurance Frameworks for each of these places assure Government that projects will be appraised in line with departmental standards and describe how places will ensure that money is spent with regularity, propriety and value for money, as per statutory requirements and within the system set out in the Local Government Accountability System Statement. These local assurance frameworks are based on published guidance. ⁵

⁵ Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/516215/Single_Pot_Assurance_Framework.pdf

Funding stream	Description	Accountable Government Department	Place(s) affected	Total amount	Payment schedule	Commentary
Apprenticeship Grant for Employers	Financial incentive for local employers to hire apprentices	Department for Education	East Anglia, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, West of England	£14m	Payments made in August 2016 to East Anglia, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, West of England	Payments will be made by Section 31 grant. The funding must be used alongside mainstream apprenticeship participation funding to incentivise employers to offer apprenticeships, but areas are free to vary the criteria associated with the grant in line with key economic needs.

5.2 Future financial resources to be devolved

Funding stream	Description	Accountable Government Department	Place(s) affected	Total amount	Payment schedule	Commentary
Adult Education Budget	Brings together funding for adult education, outside of apprenticeships and loan funding for higher-level skills provision; Community Learning; and Discretionary Learner Support (help with extra costs to overcome barrier to learning).	Department for Education	East Anglia, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, Sheffield City Region, Tees Valley, the West Midlands and the West of England	TBD – formula-based allocation of national budget	Full budgetary devolution for deals agreed to date is due to take place in 2018/19, subject to places meeting agreed readiness conditions.	Secondary legislation under the Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 will be required to confer the relevant statutory duties relating to this budget on Combined Authorities. Devolution of the Adult Education Budget is also subject to places meeting specific readiness conditions set out in deal agreements.

5.3 Public functions

As of 31 March 2016, no public functions had yet been devolved as a result of agreements.

However, as of 31 March 2016:

- The functions of a police and crime commissioner have been conferred on the mayor for the area of the Greater Manchester combined authority under The Greater Manchester Combined Authority (Election of Mayor with Police and Crime Commissioner Functions) Order 2016 No 448 which was made on 29 March 2016. These functions will be exercisable by the mayor for the area of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority from 8th May 2017.
- The Tees Valley Combined Authority Order 2016 No 449 was made on 29 March 2016. This order created the Tees Valley Combined Authority which was established on 1 April 2016. The order delegates to the combined authority certain transport functions of the constituent councils such as those which would have been exercised by an Integrated Transport Authority in Tees Valley had one existed. The order also provides for economic development and regeneration functions of the constituent councils to be exercised concurrently with the combined authority. The combined authority is funded by contributions from the constituent councils and will be given the power under regulations made under section 74 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 to raise a levy for transport functions should it decide to do so.

Subsequently:

- The West Midlands Combined Authority Order 2016 No 653 was made on 16 June 2016. This order created the West Midlands Combined Authority which was established on 17 June 2016. The order confers on the Combined Authority the functions previously exercised by the West Midlands Integrated Transport Area and also provides for economic development and regeneration functions of the constituent councils to be exercised concurrently with the combined authority. The combined authority is funded by a levy for transport functions to be made under section 74 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (these regulations will carry over the arrangements from the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority) and contributions from the constituent councils for economic development and regeneration functions.

6. Future legislation

As set out in the devolution deal agreements, the Government is committed to bringing forward the necessary secondary legislation to give effect to deals, including to create new combined authorities, establish directly elected Mayors and confer statutory functions on combined authorities. Over summer 2016 a number of deal areas have consulted on proposals in connection with statutory schemes. All of these commitments are subject to: full and proper consideration of the statutory tests and any schemes for the creation of combined authorities and the conferral of functions on combined authorities; and to local consents.

The Government envisages that the process of making the secondary legislation necessary to give effect to devolution deals will, like the deals themselves, be iterative and continue throughout the course of the current Parliament.

The Government also intends, subject to Parliamentary approval, to make three generic orders under the 2016 Act:

- The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees and Audit Committees) Order will apply to all combined authorities and make provision for the membership, proceedings and chairing of overview and scrutiny committees, and audit committees, of combined authorities
- The Combined Authorities (Mayoral Elections) Order will make essential provision in preparation for the introduction of directly elected mayors for combined authorities. The order provides the rules by which these Combined Authority Mayoral Elections will be conducted, including setting nomination arrangements, deposits and spending limits for candidates, and rules relating to the conduct of the poll itself, for example, polling stations and provisions for counting votes
- The Combined Authorities (Mayors) (Filling of Vacancies) Order will make essential provision in preparation for the introduction of directly elected mayors for combined authorities. The order provides the rules by which vacancies are to be declared in the office of Mayor, and the procedure by which these are to be filled through by-elections

Some elements of devolution deals requiring statutory provision will be implemented under different legislation.

In particular:

- Business rates pilots are planned to be implemented by an affirmative order under the Local Government Act 2012, where these relate to additional growth. Where pilots relate to 100% business rate retention, approaches are being discussed which can be delivered through existing legislation.
- Mayoral bus franchising powers are planned to be implemented through the Bus Services Bill.
- Mayoral powers to place a supplement on business rates to fund infrastructure are planned to be implemented through the forthcoming Local Growth and Jobs Bill.

7. Consideration of devolving powers to local government

Legislative requirement: s2 (e) of the Act requires the Report to provide information on the extent to which consideration has been given by a Minister of the Crown to the principle that powers should be devolved to combined authorities or the most appropriate local level except where those powers can more effectively be exercised by central government.

The Government's approach to devolution is bottom-up, with local areas bringing forward proposals to Government for the devolution of powers, budgets, freedoms and flexibilities which are then considered by Government on a bespoke basis. Government is open to considering any such proposals from local areas for devolution. Any resulting devolution agreements between areas and Government are collectively agreed by Ministers across Government.

The Government is clear that devolution should be an ongoing process, not a one-off opportunity. In addition to commitments involving the immediate transfer of budgets and functions, deals negotiated to date include a wide range of commitments to further joint working between local partners and Government, including the development of business cases and Memoranda of Understanding on particular themes. Areas are fully expected to seek to build on these opportunities, as well as to come forward with additional ideas where they have the capacity and vision to drive further growth and reform in their areas. This is likely to accelerate with the visible, high-profile local leadership provided by the new Mayors.

At Budget 2016, the original deals negotiated by Greater Manchester and the Liverpool City Region were expanded to include additional functions, responsibilities and ambitions. Meanwhile, the move to 100% local business rate retention will also empower and incentivise local areas to invest in growth.

8. Additional context

8.1 Implementing devolution deals

Devolution deal areas are pressing ahead with developing implementation plans setting out how deal commitments will be delivered. The Government works closely with places in developing implementation plans and governance and legislative requirements, and coordinates closely across Departments to ensure that the Government's commitments are being delivered.

In addition to commitments which specifically require secondary legislation or transfer funding to local areas, places are implementing a number of other deal commitments which involve broader agreements to improved partnership working between different local and central agencies, in order to ensure that local partnerships can better shape policy and spending in their local areas. Examples include commitments from Government to local areas to give them greater influence on the design and commissioning of programmes or services previously run solely by central Government.

The support provided to places in developing their plans has included place-based workshops covering a number of issues within a particular place, and policy-specific workshops bringing places together to share knowledge and experience, as well as on-going support via the Cities and Local Growth Unit. These initiatives have been supported across Departments.

As part of the implementation process, devolution deal agreements also commit local places to work with the Government to develop monitoring and evaluation plans, as well as written summaries of where accountability will sit for each devolved power or funding stream.

8.2 Ensuring a strong business voice

The Government has been clear that a strong voice for local private sector interests, primarily through Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) is critical to the success of devolution. LEPs should play a key role in devolution deals, with their Strategic Economic Plans providing a key basis for investment decisions. LEPs already fulfil an integral role in allocating Local Growth Fund spend, alongside their continued responsibility for delivery of existing projects.

The increased powers and funding for local areas secured through devolution deals present an unprecedented opportunity for LEPs to provide a strategic business voice in a wider range of decisions. In areas where a 'Single Pot' for investment has been agreed as part of a deal, the combined authority and LEP(s) will be required to agree how they will work together to share the new powers through their local Assurance Framework. Mayors will also require agreement from their LEP(s) before exercising their new power to levy a 2p in the pound supplement on business rates bills to fund new infrastructure projects.

Government is working with LEPs on a continuous basis to ensure strong governance and accountability arrangements, including implementation of new recommendations on small business representation announced in the March 2016 Budget. Government also continually works with LEPs to oversee their performance, including through the annual performance conversation.

Annex A: Underpinning legislation

The Cities and Local Government Devolution Act 2016 (the 2016 Act) received Royal Assent on 28 January 2016. It amends the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 to facilitate the implementation of far more ambitious and wide-ranging devolution agreements with combined authority areas and with other areas. It is enabling legislation which provides a legislative framework which can be applied flexibly to different areas by secondary legislation. In particular, secondary legislation may:

- confer any local government function on a combined authority
- confer any public authority function on a combined authority⁶
- provide for an elected mayor for a combined authority's area who would exercise specified functions individually and chair the authority
- provide for the mayor to undertake the functions of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the combined authority area (in place of the Police and Crime Commissioner), and
- confer any public authority function on a county council or district council.

In addition, the 2016 Act's amendments to the 2009 Act streamline the process for establishing and changing the area of a combined authority, remove geographical limitations as to the establishment of combined authorities, and provide for streamlined governance reforms where these are agreed by one or more of the councils involved.

⁶Excludes the power to make regulations or other instruments of a legislative character (s.105A (9) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009) or a regulatory function if the regulated function is itself exercisable by the combined authority (s.105A (5)).

Annex B: Devolution agreements with areas up to 31st March 2016

Links to the devolution deal agreement documents published on GOV.UK:

Greater Manchester

First deal: 3 November 2014; second deal: 27 February 2015; third deal: 8 July 2015; fourth deal: 25 November 2015; fifth deal: 16 March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/devolution-to-the-greater-manchester-combined-authority-and-transition-to-a-directly-elected-mayor>

Cornwall

22 July 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cornwall-devolution-deal>

Sheffield City Region

2 October 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sheffield-devolution-deal>

North East⁷

23 October 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/north-east-devolution-deal>

Tees Valley

23 October 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tees-valley-devolution-deal>

⁷ Subsequently, on 6 September 2016, four of the seven constituent members of the North East Combined Authority voted against proceeding with a public consultation on their scheme document, which would have been necessary before Parliamentary Orders could be laid to establish the office of Mayor, and therefore that area chose to withdraw from the devolution deal that they had previously agreed.

West Midlands Combined Authority

17 November 2015

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/west-midlands-devolution-deal>

Liverpool City Region

First deal: 17 November 2015; second deal: 16 March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/liverpool-devolution-deal>

West of England

16 March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/west-of-england-devolution-deal>

East Anglia⁸

16 March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/east-anglia-devolution-deal>

Greater Lincolnshire⁹

16 March 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greater-lincolnshire-devolution-deal>

⁸ Subsequently, following engagement with communities and councils across East Anglia, local leaders in Norfolk have confirmed their intention not to proceed with a Norfolk and Suffolk deal. We have therefore agreed to take forward a deal across a smaller geography, covering the areas of the whole of Cambridgeshire (including Cambridge City) & Peterborough.

⁹ Subsequently, in November 2016, Lincolnshire County Council and South Kesteven District Council confirmed their intention not to proceed with the devolution deal that they had previously agreed. These local decisions mean that the Greater Lincolnshire Devolution Deal agreed in March 2016 can no longer go ahead.

Annex C: Devolution to London

Significant progress has been made in devolving powers to London in partnership with the Greater London Authority and London boroughs. However, for the purposes of this report the powers in the 2009 Act as amended by the 2016 Act do not extend to London, and devolution to London is therefore out of scope of the requirement of Section 1 of the 2016 Act.

The Greater London Authority (GLA) Act 1999 established the GLA to provide a city-wide democratically elected government made up of: a directly elected Mayor, 25 London Assembly members, and five functional bodies. Since then, the Greater London Authority Act 2007 and Localism Act 2011 have strengthened the Mayor of London's powers and responsibilities across a wide range of policies, including transport, planning, housing, regeneration, fire and policing.

London's 32 boroughs (and the City of London) work increasingly closely with the GLA to deliver local public services and provide strategic direction for economic development in London. Sub-regional partnerships bringing together a number of boroughs have also played an increasingly important role.

Throughout the development of the devolution agenda, there has been an awareness that London's position is unique. However, it is recognised across Government that the capital needs the flexibility and autonomy to address its unique opportunities and challenges, for the benefit of the whole UK economy. The Government is fully committed to working with the Mayor and London boroughs to support London's continued success and growth as a leading global city.

In this Parliament the Government is already devolving further powers on planning and skills to the Mayor; jointly commissioning employment support (outside the Jobcentre Plus regime) with the Mayor and the London boroughs; and supporting London partners' plans for developing and testing different elements of health and care devolution through the London Health Devolution Agreement.

ISBN 978-1-4741-3857-4



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