

The framework below sets out the statutory functions of **Mayoral Strategic Authorities (MSAs)** as set out in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill and other legislation.

As set out in the Devolution Framework in the English Devolution White Paper, different categories of Strategic Authorities are also guaranteed access to other non-statutory offers, including partnership and funding arrangements.

General Mayoral Powers – not included in the Devolution Framework but included in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill:

The Mayoral Powers of Competence are suite of powers which will be conferred on Mayoral Strategic Authorities. The powers provide new legal force to Mayors’ existing “soft powers” and convening role, and will help drive growth, collaboration and improvement across geographies. **The MPC is made up of:**

| Statutory Function | Governance – where “Standard” means: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voting is a simple majority inc. the Mayor• Exercised solely by the SA | Related Clauses |
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| The General Power of Competence This is an existing broad general power which will enable Mayoral Strategic Authorities, and their Mayors, to do anything an individual can do in relation to their areas of competence | To be used at the discretion of the Strategic Authority and its Mayor independently of each other. | Clause 20 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill & Schedule 4 in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |

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| <p>A Power to Convene and a Duty to Respond</p> <p>This will enable Mayors to convene local partners to address local challenges. It will also place a duty on local partners to respond to a Mayor's request when they make use of the power to convene. The specific local partners covered will be set out in subsequent secondary legislation.</p> | <p>To be used at the discretion of the Mayor of a Strategic Authority.</p> | <p>Clause 21 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> |
| <p>A Duty to Collaborate</p> <p>This will ensure that Mayors of neighbouring Strategic Authorities have a formal process by which they can enter into collaboration with one another.</p> | <p>To be used at the discretion of the Mayor of a Strategic Authority.</p> | <p>Clause 22 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> |

Area of Competence – Transport and Infrastructure

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| <p>Local Transport Authority functions</p> <p>Strategic Authorities are the Local Transport Authority for their area, with responsibility for preparing and publishing a local transport plan and powers to secure the provision of passenger transport services where not otherwise provided. Strategic Authorities also have powers and duties to prepare a bus strategy for carrying out their bus functions, enter into partnerships with bus operators, enter into franchising schemes, and manage travel concessions.</p> | <p>Standard, with the exception that functions relating to Local Transport Plans and the decision on whether to make a proposed franchising scheme are exercisable only by the Mayor.</p> <p>However, final approval of a Local Transport Plan is subject to a simple majority vote of constituent members where the Mayor must be in the majority. If the vote is tied, the Mayor has an additional casting vote.</p> | <p>Clause 29 and Schedule 9 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Transport Act 2000 – Part 2</p> <p>Transport Act 1985 – Parts 4 and 5</p> |
| <p>Transport Levy</p> <p>Strategic Authorities can issue levies to their constituent authorities to meet the cost of exercising their transport functions, where otherwise not met.</p> | <p>Standard.</p> <p>Apportionment between constituent councils is subject to the Transport Levying Bodies Regulations 1992.</p> | <p>Clause 13 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Local Government Finance Act 1988 – s.74</p> |

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| <p>Agreements between authorities and strategic highways companies</p> <p>This allows Strategic Authorities to enter into agreements with local highway authorities (upper-tier local authorities) and/or National Highways to delegate or share the maintenance and improvement of roads.</p> | <p>Standard, with the exception that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The function is exercised concurrently with local authorities. • Use of these functions requires the consent of the relevant constituent authority where the function would be exercised. | <p>Clause 24 and Schedule 6 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Highways Act 1980 – s.6 and 8</p> |
| <p>Civil enforcement of road traffic contraventions</p> <p>These powers enable Strategic Authorities to enforce parking, bus lane, and moving traffic contraventions through penalty charge notices. This is only possible if the relevant constituent council already has those functions and consents to the SA using them. The SA must follow existing statutory guidelines for charge levels for Fixed Penalty Notices and provide information on appeals processes.</p> | <p>Standard, with the exception that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The function is exercised concurrently with local authorities. • Use of these functions requires the consent of the relevant constituent authority where the function would be exercised. | <p>Clause 25 and Schedule 7 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Part 6 and Schedule 8 of the Traffic Management Act 2004</p> |
| <p>Key Route Network</p> <p>Mayoral Strategic Authorities will have a duty to set up and coordinate a Key Route Network. This</p> | <p>This function is exercisable only by the Mayor, on behalf of the Strategic Authority.</p> | <p>Clause 27 and Part 1 of Schedule 8 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> |

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| <p>will allow the most important local roads to be strategically managed.</p> <p>Mayors will also hold a Power of Direction over constituent highway authority exercise of their traffic, permit, street and local highways authority powers on Key Route Network roads to support delivery of the Mayor's agreed Local Transport Plan. This means Mayors can direct councils with responsibilities for roads in their area to use their powers in a certain way; for example, to create a bus gate.</p> | <p>However, final agreement of which roads are included in the Key Route Network will be subject to a simple majority vote where the Mayor must be in the majority.</p> | <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 – s.107ZA</p> <p>Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 – s.22-24</p> |
| <p>Transfer of duty of principal councils to make reports on Key Route Network roads</p> <p>Mayoral Strategic Authorities will be required to prepare reports assessing local road traffic levels and forecasting their growth on their Key Route Network. These reports may include targets and proposals for achieving these targets.</p> | <p>Standard</p> | <p>Clause 27 and Part 2 of Schedule 8 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>The 1997 Road Traffic Reduction Act - s2</p> |
| <p>Road User Charging</p> | <p>Standard, with the exception that this function can only be exercised jointly with the relevant constituent local traffic authority (the upper-tier</p> | <p>Chapter I of Part III of the Transport Act 2000</p> |

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| These powers enable a Strategic Authority to make a joint road user charging scheme (e.g. congestion charging) with relevant constituent councils. | local authority) where the scheme would take place. | |
| On-Street Micromobility Schemes These powers enable Strategic Authorities, in their role as the Local Transport Authority, to license micromobility schemes operating on public roads and pavements. This allows them to have greater control of bike and e-bike rental schemes run by private companies. Other types of shared micromobility impacting on public space could also be included in the framework in the future. | Standard | Clause 23 and Schedule 5 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |
| Lane Rental Scheme Approval The power to approve local highway authorities to operate lane rental schemes. Lane rental schemes are charges for occupying busy roads, incentivising quicker, coordinated street works. | This function is exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. | Clause 25 and Schedule 7 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |

Area of Competence: Skills and Employment Support

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| <p>Adult Education Functions</p> <p>Subject to a transition period for new Strategic Authorities, some powers of the Secretary of State relating to education and training of adults will be devolved to Strategic Authorities. These powers support the delivery of devolved adult skills funding.</p> <p>Powers relating to apprenticeships and people subject to adult detention are not devolved.</p> | <p>Standard, except that the relevant functions in section 90 and 100 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 are exercised concurrently with the Secretary of State.</p> | <p>Clause 30 and Schedule 10 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 - s.86, s.87, s.88, s.90, s.100(1), s.100(1B)</p> |

Area of Competence: Housing and Strategic Planning

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| <p>Spatial Development Strategy</p> <p>All Strategic Authorities will have a duty to produce a Spatial Development Strategy. These documents enable them to strategically plan for development across their whole area.</p> <p><i>(Note: This duty will also be mirrored for all principal local authorities in areas without Strategic Authorities, where authorities will be required to collaborate via Strategic Planning Boards where necessary.)</i></p> | <p>This function is exercised by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority.</p> <p>However, approval of the strategy requires a simple majority vote of the Mayor and constituent members. The Mayor must be included in the majority for a vote to be carried. If the vote is tied, the Mayor gets an additional casting vote.</p> | <p>To be introduced through clause 52 of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill: Part 1A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004</p> |
| <p>Housing and Land Powers, concurrent with Homes England</p> <p>These additional powers allow Mayoral Strategic Authorities to acquire housing and land for specific purposes (set out in the governance arrangements column). This includes powers to acquire land using the compulsory purchase powers previously solely held by Homes England.</p> <p>They also include the ability to provide financial assistance to any person (again in line with the</p> | <p>These functions are exercised concurrently with Homes England.</p> <p>Mayors exercise the compulsory purchase function on behalf of the Strategic Authority. Before exercising their compulsory purchase powers, Mayors must consult the local planning authority where the power is to be exercised.</p> | <p>Clause 34 and Part 1 of Schedule 15 (Acquisition and development of land) in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 – s.4A,; 5-10; 19; Sch.2; Sch.3; Sch.4</p> |

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| <p>objectives set out in the governance arrangements column).</p> | <p>All other functions are exercised by the Strategic Authority and subject to the standard governance.</p> <p>All of these functions must be exercised for the purposes of, or for purposes incidental to the objectives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the supply and quality of housing in the area; • Securing the regeneration or development of land or infrastructure in the area; • Supporting in other ways the creation, regeneration or development of communities in the area or their continued well-being; • Contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and good design in the area. | |
| <p>Housing and Land Powers, concurrent with Local Authorities</p> | <p>These functions are exercised concurrently with local authorities.</p> | <p>Clause 34 (Acquisition and development of land); Clause 35 (Housing accommodation); Part 2 of Schedule 15; and Schedule 16 of the</p> |

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| <p>These powers enable Strategic Authorities to acquire and develop housing and land as well as provide services in relation to housing.</p> <p>The powers of local authorities conferred on Strategic Authorities differ from the powers of Homes England by placing a duty on Strategic Authorities to review housing needs in their area and enabling them to provide additional facilities in relation to housing they provide. The land acquisition powers can also be used for the purpose of providing housing, develop the land, or for planning purposes.</p> <p>These powers are held by lower-tier local authorities ordinarily.</p> | <p>Compulsory purchase powers under the Housing Act 1985 are only exercisable by the Mayor. Whereas all other powers, including compulsory purchase powers under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, are exercised by the Strategic Authority.</p> <p>Before exercising their compulsory purchase powers, Mayors and Mayoral Strategic Authorities (depending on who is exercising the function) must consult the local planning authority where the power is to be exercised.</p> <p>Apart from functions exercised by the Mayor, the standard voting arrangement applies.</p> | <p>English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Housing Act 1985 - s.8, 9, 11, 12, 17, 17A, 18, 56, 57.</p> <p>Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - s.226, 226A, 227, 229, 230, 231. 232, 233, 235, 236, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 246, 271, 272, 274, 275, 276, 278, 306, 336.</p> |
| <p>Mayoral Development Corporations</p> <p>These powers enable Mayors of Strategic Authorities to designate a Mayoral Development Area and subsequently establish a Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for that area. MDCs are statutory corporate bodies which can take broad planning and land assembly powers, have the ability to attract inward investment, and</p> | <p>These functions are exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. This means that the Mayor is responsible for establishing and overseeing a Mayoral Development Corporation.</p> <p>However, the designation of a Mayoral Development Area will be subject to a simple majority of voting members of the Strategic</p> | <p>Clause 36 and Schedule 17 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill.</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Localism Act 2011 – Chapter 2 of Part 8; and Schedule 21</p> |

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| are well placed to harness private sector expertise to drive forward development. | Authority where the Mayor must be in the majority. | |
| Strategic Development Management Powers These powers enable Mayors of Strategic Authorities to intervene in planning applications of potential strategic importance (e.g. especially large or prominent developments) and the ability to call in these applications. | These functions are exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. | Clause 31 and Schedule 11 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill Host legislation: Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Part 1, s2A (call-in); and Part 3, s74(1B) (direct refusal) |
| Mayoral Development Orders These powers give Mayors of Strategic Authorities the ability to prepare Mayoral Development Orders (MDOs). MDOs allow them to grant pre-emptive planning permission for a particular development instead of relying on an application to be submitted. | These functions are exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. | Clause 32 and Schedule 12 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill. Host legislation: Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Part 3, s.61DA-61DE. |
| Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy These powers enable Mayors of Strategic Authorities to charge developers a Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy. This is a charge which can be imposed on new development in their area. It can be used to raise funds to deliver | These functions are exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. This means that the Mayor is responsible for developing and applying the Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy. | Clause 33 and Schedule 14 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill. Host legislation: |

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| infrastructure needed to support development in their area. | However, the approval of a charging schedule for the levy is subject to a simple majority vote of the voting members of the Strategic Authority. | Planning Act 2008 – Part 11 |
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Area of Competence: Economic Development and Regeneration

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| <p>Mayoral Council Tax Precept</p> <p>The changes to this power will allow Mayors to issue a precept to generate revenue across all Mayoral and CA/CCA functions. Previously, a Mayor could precept only for Mayoral functions, and not CA/CCA functions.</p> | <p>Voting and governance arrangements will vary, depending on whether the precept is on Mayoral functions, or wider C(C)A functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayors will continue to be subject to voting rules set out in previous legislation on precepts raised against Mayoral functions, which is commonly 2/3 of constituent authorities can vote against or to amend a precept. • A Mayor wanting to raise a precept on wider C(C)A functions would be subject to the standard voting arrangements of a simple majority including the Mayor. | <p>Clause 11 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> |
| <p>Power to borrow up to an agreed cap</p> <p>This power will remove the requirement to lay bespoke SIs for Mayoral Strategic Authorities (MSAs) by automatically conferring on them the power to borrow upon establishment for purposes relevant to their functions. However, an MSA must</p> | <p>Standard, except that this function is exercised concurrent with local authorities.</p> <p>Exercise of the power to borrow will be automatically conferred for functions relevant to transport, police and crime commissioner and fire and rescue functions when an MSA takes on</p> | <p>Clause 12 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> |

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| obtain consent from the Secretary of State before the first exercise of the power to borrow money for a purpose relevant to a function other than its transport, police or fire and rescue functions. | those functions. This power may be exercised by an MSA immediately for these functions only, before a Mayor has been elected. Otherwise, Secretary of State consent will be needed before the power is used. | |
| Local Growth Plans Mayoral Strategic Authorities will have a duty to produce a local growth plan. | Standard | Clause 38 and Schedule 19 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |
| Duty to prepare an assessment of economic conditions Strategic Authorities must prepare and maintain an assessment of the economic conditions of their area. This is a separate duty from the duty to produce a Local Growth Plan but both duties could be satisfied simultaneously. | Standard, except that exercise of function is concurrent with local authorities. | Clause 37 and Schedule 18 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill Host legislation: S.69 of Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 |
| Power to pay grant to a constituent authority | This function is exercisable only by the Mayor on behalf of the Strategic Authority. | Clause 39 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill Host legislation: |

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| <p>This power enables Mayors to pay grants to their constituent councils. This is most commonly used to pass funding for maintaining local roads to councils.</p> | <p>When paying grants for councils' road functions, Strategic Authorities must make sure payments are sufficient for them to exercise their functions.</p> | <p>s.32A of the Local Government Act 2003</p> |
| <p>Powers to encourage visitors and provide entertainment.</p> <p>These powers enable Strategic Authorities to encourage people to visit their area and provide, support, and/or contribute to the provision of entertainments, such as concerts, plays, or exhibitions, and incur expenditure for these purposes. This includes powers to provide premises, facilities, or publicity for cultural and recreational events.</p> | <p>Standard, except that exercise of function is concurrent with local authorities.</p> | <p>Clause 40 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>s.144 and s.145 of the Local Government Act 1972.</p> |
| <p>Power to arrange for publication of information relating to the functions of the Strategic Authority</p> <p>These powers enable Strategic Authorities to arrange for the publication of information related to their functions as well as services available in</p> | <p>Standard, except that exercise of function is concurrent with local authorities.</p> | <p>Clause 42 and Paragraph 2 of Schedule 20 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>Local Government Act 1972 – s.142(2)</p> |

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| the area. This means that they can collect, compile, and disseminate such information. | | |
| Power to place staff at the disposal of other authorities These powers enable Strategic Authorities to enter agreements with other Strategic Authorities, local authorities, and other organisations like the NHS, to share staff services for their functions. | Standard, except that the function can be exercised concurrently with other Strategic Authorities, local authorities or other bodies such as NHS England. | s.113 and 146A of the Local Government Act 1972 |
| Power to prosecute and defend legal proceedings These powers allow Strategic Authorities to initiate or defend legal proceedings where they consider it expedient for promoting or protecting the interests of the residents of their area. This includes the ability to prosecute, defend, or appear in any legal action and to institute proceedings in their own name to address local concerns. | Standard, except that exercise of function is concurrent with local authorities. | Clause 42 and Paragraph 3 of Schedule 20 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill Host legislation: s. 222 of the Local Government Act 1972. |
| Research and collection of information | Standard, except that exercise of the function is concurrent with local authorities. | Clause 42 and Paragraph 4 of Schedule 20 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |

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| These powers enable Strategic Authorities to conduct research and collect information on matters concerning their area to support their functions and share their findings. | | Host legislation: s.88(1)(a) and (1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1985 |
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Area of Competence: Environment and Net Zero

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| Heat Network Zoning coordination role This means that Strategic Authorities will be well placed to take forward heat network zones and create zone coordinators. | Standard | s228(5) of the Energy Act 2023 |

Area of Competence: Health, Wellbeing and Public Service Reform

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| A bespoke statutory health improvement and health inequalities duty When considering whether or how to use any of its powers and functions a Mayor or a Strategic Authority will have a duty to have regard to the need to improve the health of people in the Strategic Authority area and the need to reduce health inequalities in the local area. | Standard | Clause 43 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill |

Area of Competence: Public Safety

| Statutory Function | Governance | Related Clauses |
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| <p>Sharing of information in relation to crime and disorder</p> <p>These powers both enable and place a duty on Strategic Authorities to disclose information relating to the reduction of crime and disorder, including anti-social behaviour, to other relevant authorities (such as local authorities, social landlords and the police).</p> | <p>Standard, except that exercise of the function is concurrent with local authorities.</p> | <p>Clause 48 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host legislation:</p> <p>s.17A and s.115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998</p> |
| <p>Police and Crime Commissioner Functions</p> <p>Mayors will be, by default, accountable for the exercise of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) functions where mayoral boundaries align with police force boundaries, or with two police force boundaries when taken together. Transfers will be subject to secondary legislation.</p> <p>The Secretary of State may by order transfer PCC functions to the elected mayor of a CA or CCA where there are coterminous borders. The Secretary of State, at the same time, may alter the boundary of the police area</p> | <p>This function is exercisable only by the Mayor.</p> <p>Mayors will have to delegate PCC responsibilities to a Deputy Mayor (for Policing, Fire and Crime for each police force area for which they have PCC functions).</p> | <p>Clause 44, 45 and 47 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host Legislation:</p> <p>Existing power, in statute in Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sections 5, 7(7), 16, 18, 21, 28, 29, 20, 31(3), 62-63, 64(3) to (4A), 65, 70 and Schedule 1, and the modification of several related pieces of legislation</p> |

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| (or areas) to which the transfer relates to achieve coterminosity. | | |
| <p>Fire and Rescue Authority Functions</p> <p>Mayors will be, by default, accountable for the exercise of Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) functions where FRA and mayoral boundaries align, subject to secondary legislation</p> <p>The Secretary of State may by order transfer FRA functions to a CA or CCA where there are coterminous borders. The Secretary of State, at the same time may alter the boundary of the FRA area (or areas) to which the transfer relates to achieve coterminosity.</p> | <p>Mayors will have the option to delegate FRA responsibilities to a Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime, or a Public Safety Commissioner.</p> | <p>Clause 46 and 47 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill</p> <p>Host Legislation:</p> <p>Existing power, in statute in – Fire and Rescue Services Act, 2004 p2 sections 6-10</p> <p>Transfer functions to a Mayor – Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, Section 107D</p> |