

# City Regions Board

## Agenda

Monday, 18 June 2018  
2.00 pm

Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith  
Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

## **Guidance notes for members and visitors**

### **18 Smith Square, London SW1P 3HZ**

Please read these notes for your own safety and that of all visitors, staff and tenants.

#### **Welcome!**

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The LGA also offers the Govroam network, a Wi-Fi network which gives Members seamless roaming internet access across multiple public-sector locations if you have also signed up for this service. This network is enabled throughout our Westminster building and allows Members and staff from other authorities who are part of the Govroam network to seamlessly connect to our Wi-Fi.

**Further help**

Please speak either to staff at the main reception on the ground floor, if you require any further help or information. You can find the LGA website at [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk)

City Regions Board  
18 June 2018

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There will be a meeting of the City Regions Board at **2.00 pm on Monday, 18 June 2018**  
Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ.

**Attendance Sheet:**

Please ensure that you sign the attendance register, which will be available in the meeting room. It is the only record of your presence at the meeting.

**Apologies:**

Please notify your political group office (see contact telephone numbers below) if you are unable to attend this meeting.

<b>Conservative:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3223	email: <a href="mailto:lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk">lgaconservatives@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Labour:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3334	email: <a href="mailto:Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk">Labour.GroupLGA@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Independent:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3224	email: <a href="mailto:independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk">independent.grouplga@local.gov.uk</a>
<b>Liberal Democrat:</b>	Group Office: 020 7664 3235	email: <a href="mailto:libdem@local.gov.uk">libdem@local.gov.uk</a>

**Location:**

A map showing the location of 18 Smith Square is printed on the back cover.

**LGA Contact:**

Benn Cain

[Benn.cain@local.gov.uk](mailto:Benn.cain@local.gov.uk) | 020 7072 7420 | 07554 334 900

**Carers' Allowance**

As part of the LGA Members' Allowances Scheme a Carer's Allowance of up to £7.83 per hour is available to cover the cost of dependants (i.e. children, elderly people or people with disabilities) incurred as a result of attending this meeting.

## City Regions Board – Membership 2017/2018

Councillor	Authority
<b>Conservative ( 5)</b>	
Cllr. Robert Light (Deputy Chair)	Kirklees Metropolitan Council
Cllr. Robert Alden	Birmingham City Council
Cllr. Abi Brown	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Cllr. Donna Jones	Portsmouth City Council
Cllr. Tim Warren	Bath & North East Somerset Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr. Barry Anderson	Leeds City Council
<b>Labour ( 13)</b>	
Sir Richard Leese CBE (Chair)	Manchester City Council
Cllr. Susan Hinchcliffe (Vice-Chair)	Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Cllr. Samantha Dixon	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Cllr. Martin Gannon	Gateshead Council
Mayor Marvin Rees	Bristol City Council
Cllr. Jean Stretton	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council
Mayor Joe Anderson OBE	Liverpool City Council
Cllr. Jon Collins	Nottingham City Council
Cllr. Peter John OBE	Southwark Council
Cllr. Timothy Swift	Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Cllr. Debbie Wilcox	Newport City Council
Cllr. Warren Morgan	Brighton & Hove City Council
Cllr. Sue Jeffrey	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr. Andrew Morgan	Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Cllr. Darren Rodwell	London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
Cllr. Roger Lawrence	City of Wolverhampton Council
<b>Liberal Democrat ( 2)</b>	
Cllr. Abigail Bell (Deputy Chair)	Hull City Council
Cllr. Paul Crossley	Bath & North East Somerset Council
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Ben Dowling	Portsmouth City Council
<b>Independent ( 0)</b>	
<b>Substitutes</b>	
Cllr. Clarence Barrett	Havering London Borough Council

## LGA City Regions Board – Attendance 2017-2018

	6/10/17	23/11/17	29/1/18	15/3/18
<b>Councillors</b>				
<b>Labour Group</b>				
Sir Richard Leese CBE	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Susan Hinchcliffe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Samantha Dixon	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Martin Gannon	Yes	No	Yes	No
Mayor Marvin Rees	Yes	Yes	No	No
Jean Stretton	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mayor Joe Anderson OBE	No	No	No	No
Jon Collins	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Peter John OBE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timothy Swift MBE	No	Yes	No	Yes
Simon Letts	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Debbie Wilcox	Yes	No	No	Yes
Warren Morgan	Yes	No	No	No
Sue Jeffrey	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Conservative Group</b>				
Robert Light	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Robert Alden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Abi Brown	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Donna Jones JP	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Tim Warren	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Lib Dem Group</b>				
Abigail Bell	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Paul Crossley	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Independent</b>				
Liz Hazell	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Substitutes/Observers</b>				
Roger Lawrence	Yes	Yes		
Ben Dowling		Yes		

## Agenda

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### City Regions Board

Monday 18 June 2018

2.00 pm

Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

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<b>Item</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>1. Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	
<b>PART ONE - CONFIDENTIAL</b>	
<b>2. Industrial Strategy</b>	<b>1 - 6</b>
a) Briefing for discussion with Stephen Jones, Director of the Cities and Local Growth Unit, MHCLG (to be sent as a supplemental agenda item)	
b) Final joint letter from the LGA and the LEP Network to SoS BEIS	7 - 10
c) Letter to the LGA from SoS BEIS	11 - 12
<b>3. Higher Education</b>	<b>13 - 20</b>
a) Evaluation of Leading Places Phase Two Programme	21 - 28
b) Raising the Anchor - Leading Places Phase Two: Findings and Reflections	29 - 44
c) Addressing the Financial Impact of Student Populations on Councils	45 - 48
<b>4. Employment and Skills Update</b>	<b>49 - 52</b>
<b>5. City Centre Management and Community Cohesion</b>	<b>53 - 56</b>
<b>6. Fiscal Devolution - Verbal Update</b>	
<b>7. End of Year Board Report</b>	<b>57 - 62</b>
<b>8. Note of last City Regions Board</b>	<b>63 - 68</b>

PART TWO - NON-CONFIDENTIAL

- |            |   |         |
|------------|---|---------|
| <b>9.</b>  | <b>Devolution Improvement Support Offer</b> | 69 - 74 |
| <b>10.</b> | <b>Trade and Investment Update</b>          | 75 - 77 |

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday, 6 September 2018, 1.00 pm, Westminster Room, 8th Floor, 18 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ



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## Devolution Improvement Support Offer

### Purpose

For discussion and direction.

### Summary

This paper provides members with an overview of the LGA devolution support offer, including to established and aspiring combined authorities, in the light of the current devolution policy landscape and asks members to consider the devolution support needs of metropolitan authorities in the coming year.

### Recommendations

That the City Regions Board:

1. **Note** the national context relating to devolution policy and the LGA's engagement with the seven combined authority mayors.
2. **Consider** the LGA's devolution support offer for the coming year: against the needs of metropolitan authorities and current and emerging combined authorities.

### Action

Subject to Members comments, continue to deliver the LGAs devolution support offer, reflecting the current national emphasis on mayoral combined authorities.

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**Position:** Senior Adviser  
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## **Devolution Improvement Support Offer**

### **Overview**

1. This report provides an overview of the current devolution policy landscape and describes how this has influenced the direction of the LGA's proposed devolution support offer for the coming year.
2. Members of the City Regions Board are asked to consider this overview, reflect on the LGA's proposed offer and comment on whether this is likely to meet the needs of metropolitan authorities and established and aspiring combined authorities.

### **Devolution**

3. The UK is one of the most centralised democracies in the world. Within this context devolution presents one of the most fundamental changes to the way decisions are made for local areas and how public services are funded.
4. Since 2014, devolution in some parts of England has meant a transfer of power and funding from national to local government. In line with the Government's preferred model for devolved governance, in all but two areas, Cornwall and London, this transfer of powers has been contingent on the creation of a Mayoral Combined Authority.
5. There are now seven Mayoral Combined Authorities across England. These are mostly concentrated in urban areas. The eighth Mayoral Election will take place in North of Tyne in May 2019.
6. While the 2017 Conservative Manifesto proposed a new devolution framework, widely interpreted as a mechanism for securing devolution outside the combined authority governance model, recent intelligence has suggested that the Government is likely to focus its efforts in the short term on consolidating the position of the mayoral combined authorities rather than seeking to roll out the devolution deal model to a significant number of new areas.
7. Reflecting this context, it is proposed that the main focus of the LGA's devolution improvement and support offer this year will be to provide support to established combined authorities. The key components of this offer are set out below.
8. However, the LGA remains keen to work with and hear from areas that are looking to propose devolution deals outside of the combined authority model. We also wish to support those areas minded to join existing combined authorities either as full or associate members. If and when the devolution framework emerges we will also provide support for those areas seeking to secure additional powers and resources through it.
9. Without further devolution, decisions will continue to be made in Westminster, removed from communities that they affect. The LGA will therefore continue to pursue this agenda, pushing the Government for further detail on a framework for devolution suitable for the whole country.



10. Separately, it has been suggested that Local Industrial Strategies may provide a parallel mechanism for the devolution of powers and resources related to productivity and inclusive growth. In line with commitment above we will continue to explore the potential of this approach both within and outside the structure of a mayoral combined authority.
11. Given this context **members are asked to offer their thoughts on where the LGA's wider devolution support offer might be tailored to better meet the particular needs of metropolitan authorities.**

### **Support to Combined Authorities (CAs)**

12. The LGA has continued to develop and deliver a bespoke offer of support for existing and prospective combined authorities. This support is financed by MHCLG's funding to the LGA. The deliverables and expectations aligned to this funding are set out in the recently agreed memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the LGA and MHCLG, and are based on a continuation of our work programme.
13. The nature of the support provided varies in response to the needs of individual areas. However key elements of the support provided to date include:
  - 13.1. **CA Chief Executive Network** - chaired by Eammon Boylan, Chief Executive of Greater Manchester CA, the network continues to provide an opportunity for chief executives and chief officers to share learning and experiences, have space to discuss practical challenges and focus collectively on some of the key areas of policy development emerging within CAs.
  - 13.2. **Officer Networks**- After discussion with the CA Chief Executives network a number of policy area officer networks have been set up and are supported by the LGA. Three networks, each of which have already met at least twice, are organised by the LGA and are focused on the following policy areas:
    - 13.2.1. Finance;
    - 13.2.2. Employment & Skills; and
    - 13.2.3. Housing & Planning<sup>1</sup>.
    - 13.2.4. These meetings are for officers from both current and aspiring CAs. A small budget has been earmarked for each network for improvement support purposes.
    - 13.2.5. At the CA Chief Executives meeting in March it was agreed that three further networks could be set up:
      - 13.2.5.1. Governance/Scrutiny;
      - 13.2.5.2. Communications – the first meeting has taken place; and

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<sup>1</sup> A fourth network focused on transport issues is supported by ADEPT, the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport.

13.2.5.3. Economic Development

13.3. **The Finance group has commissioned some work on fiscal devolution** - this work assesses the extent and nature of financial freedoms that have been provided to Combined Authorities and whether and how these have been used in practice. This report is due to be published in the coming months.

13.4. **CA peer support** – it was recognised that the sector needs a process through which it can reflect upon progress to date, consider areas for improvement, prepare for government reviews and identify where external support would be helpful. Therefore, following a meeting of the Chief Executive Network, it was agreed that a peer support tool be scoped with input from the CAs.

13.5. Initial thoughts around this tool are that it should include:

13.5.1. sector led support;

13.5.2. external input – e.g. private and other sector challenge; and

13.5.3. help to prepare for Gateway or government reviews.

13.5.4. The timing of the tool's use needs to be appropriate for the CA in question. This tool will be developed over the coming year.

13.6. **Bespoke support to CAs** – a range of financial, communication and in-kind support has been provided to existing and prospective CAs. The Principal Policy Adviser and Senior Adviser have recently met with the majority of the Mayoral CA Chief Executives to discuss their ongoing support needs and to understand the issues faced in year one. Examples of this include:

13.6.1. policy support;

13.6.2. preparing for a Mayoral Election;

13.6.3. implementation of communication recommendations; and

13.6.4. leadership support.

**Support to elected CA mayors**

14. As of the 3 May 2018, there are now seven elected mayors across the following areas: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, the Sheffield City Region, the Tees Valley, the West of England and the West Midlands.

15. Following on from the 2017 elections the LGA offered support and a 'home' for the new directly elected mayors. This included developing a package of support for mayors both as individuals and as a collective. As Chairs of their CA, it was agreed Mayors would automatically become members of the LGA.

16. During the first year, the LGA took steps to engage with the new mayors and the Mayoral CAs this has been replicated for the 2018 Mayoral election including;

- 16.1. Telephone calls to CA Mayors by Group Leaders during the weekend following the elections.
- 16.2. A letter sent from the Chairman to CA Mayors congratulating them on their election, welcoming them to the LGA, outlining our support offer and highlighting the programme of key mayoral events.
- 16.3. Meetings between LGA representatives and selected CA mayors.

## **17. Mayoral Support**

**17.1. Support to coordinate joint Mayors and CA work:** In parallel to the support provided to CAs through the Chief Executive Network, we have established a Mayoral forum. The Mayors have currently met twice in this format. The first event was hosted in partnership with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum in London. This event brought the new mayors together for the first time and introduced the Mayors to the LGA support offer. The second forum was hosted in partnership with the University of Birmingham and the WMCA. This event was attended by seven government departments. Future mayoral forums will involve relevant Ministers as well as senior officials and will be focused on one or two key topics.

**17.2. Bespoke political support:** available through the LGA group offices.

**17.3. Leadership development and top team support:** the transition to a Mayoral CA has required new ways of working for mayors, council leaders, frontline councillors and partners. The LGA is working with combined authorities and LGA Principal Advisers on support in this area for some CAs. LCR are working with the LGA on a leadership support offer which involves a member conference for all councillors within the CA area. We hope to share the principles and learning of this approach with other CAs.

**18. Members are asked to note the support provided to combined authorities and the engagement with elected mayors and to consider whether the LGA's devolution support offer to established and aspiring Combined Authorities meets their needs for the coming year.**



## Trade and Investment Update

### Purpose

For discussion and direction.

### Summary

Following discussion with members at the last Board meeting this paper sets out the headline elements of a survey of council trade and investment activity and asks Members to agree next steps regarding timing and outputs.

### Recommendations

Members of the City Regions Board are asked to:

1. **Note** the context for the LGA's work relating to trade and investment – **paragraphs 1- 4.**
2. **Consider and comment** on the focus and timing of the proposed survey of council trade and investment activity – **paragraphs 5 - 6.**

### Action

Subject to the comments of Members and the comments of Members from the People and Places Board, officers will undertake a survey of the LGA's membership regarding council led trade and investment activity and report back to the next board meeting.

**Contact Officer:** Philip Clifford  
**Position:** Senior Adviser  
**Telephone No:** 07909 898327  
**Email:** Philip.Clifford@local.gov.uk

## **Trade and Investment Update**

### **Overview**

1. The Draft Agreement on the Withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union, endorsed in part by the leaders of the EU 27 on 23 March, sets out arrangements for a transition period of 21 months following the UK's departure from the EU on 29 March 2019.
2. As it stands, the UK will be able to negotiate and ratify new trade agreements during the transition period, but these cannot be implemented until 2021. Furthermore, notwithstanding the parameters of the trade deal the UK strikes with the EU 27, it has been estimated that the government may need to conclude at least 56 free trade agreements (FTAs) with countries across the world in order to maintain the status quo as achieved through EU membership.
3. It is currently anticipated that formal agreement on the terms of the UK's withdrawal will emerge at the meeting of EU leaders in October. However, the UK Government has indicated it intends to publish a detailed and wide ranging policy paper in advance of a similar meeting in mid July, which may significantly alter the timing and parameters of the withdrawal negotiation.
4. Nevertheless, in anticipation of an eventual shift in national focus from negotiating the UK's withdrawal to developing Britain's future trading relationship with the rest of the world, at the last meeting of the City Regions Board members proposed that a survey be carried out across the LGA's membership to highlight the depth and diversity of trade and other international links established between councils and global partners, with a view to strengthening the role of sub-national government in future trade and investment activity.
5. Following a subsequent discussion with Lead Members a survey has been drafted with a view to exploring three aspects of this issue:

#### **5.1 Economic profile of local trade and investment activity:**

- 5.1.1 What are the key export sectors in the local area and which markets do they export to?
- 5.1.2 Are there any examples of significant foreign direct investment where the council has played a key role in facilitating this?
- 5.1.3 Has there been any local evidence to suggest that either trade or investment activity is likely to alter as a result of the UK's departure from the EU?

#### **5.2 Local institutional arrangements:**

- 5.2.1 Which institution takes the lead for promoting trade and investment locally?
- 5.2.2 Does the council have a specific resource dedicated to trade and investment activity?
- 5.2.3 Do these local activities form part of a wider sub-national partnership?

5.2.4 Does your area have an Enterprise Zone, with a specific focus on attracting international investment?

5.2.5 Has your area developed a Joint Export Plan or similar with the Department of International Trade as part of a devolution deal?

**5.3 Strategic international links:**

5.3.1 How and with which countries have local institutions developed international links?

5.3.2 Has the council established an overseas 'international office' for the purposes of trade and investment?

5.3.3 Have there been any council led trade missions recently?

6 Work has now begun on the detailed commissioning of the survey using the LGA's research and information service. It is proposed that data collection and analysis will take place over the summer, with a view to presenting the findings at the first board meeting of the next political cycle.

**7 Members are asked to note the context set out above and consider the proposal for a survey to be undertaken as described with a report brought to the next board meeting.**

# LGA location map

**Local Government Association**  
 18 Smith Square  
 London SW1P 3HZ

Tel: 020 7664 3131  
 Fax: 020 7664 3030  
 Email: [info@local.gov.uk](mailto:info@local.gov.uk)  
 Website: [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk)

## Public transport

18 Smith Square is well served by public transport. The nearest mainline stations are: Victoria and Waterloo: the local underground stations are **St James's Park** (Circle and District Lines), **Westminster** (Circle, District and Jubilee Lines), and **Pimlico** (Victoria Line) - all about 10 minutes walk away.

Buses 3 and 87 travel along Millbank, and the 507 between Victoria and Waterloo stops in Horseferry Road close to Dean Bradley Street.

## Bus routes – Horseferry Road

- 507** Waterloo - Victoria
- C10** Canada Water - Pimlico - Victoria
- 88** Camden Town - Whitehall - Westminster - Pimlico - Clapham Common

## Bus routes – Millbank

- 87** Wandsworth - Aldwych
- 3** Crystal Palace - Brixton - Oxford Circus

For further information, visit the Transport for London website at [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk)

## Cycling facilities

The nearest Barclays cycle hire racks are in Smith Square. Cycle racks are also available at 18 Smith Square. Please telephone the LGA on 020 7664 3131.

## Central London Congestion Charging Zone

18 Smith Square is located within the congestion charging zone.

For further details, please call 0845 900 1234 or visit the website at [www.cclondon.com](http://www.cclondon.com)

## Car parks

Abingdon Street Car Park (off Great College Street)

Horseferry Road Car Park  
 Horseferry Road/Arneway Street. Visit the website at [www.westminster.gov.uk/parking](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/parking)

