

Council 14 December 2015

Item 7a refers

Recommendation from Executive meeting of 30 November 2015

Recommendation 2

PROPOSED LEICESTER AND LEICESTERSHIRE COMBINED AUTHORITY

The Executive considered the report attached, it examined the scheme for the combined authority, the governance review and received the details of the public consultation.

The Executive noted the caveats which existed in relation to voting in particular for planning matters (including planning for future housing and employment land provision) whereby the any district council affected by the proposals must form part of the majority vote

There had been a high level of public support for the combined authority proposals. The responses to the consultation enabled the nine constituent councils to proceed as established at the start of the consultation period

RECOMMENDED THAT

- i) the Scheme for the Combined Authority (“the Scheme”) be approved
- ii) the Governance Review be approved;
- iii) the publication of the Scheme and its submission to the Department for Communities and Local Government be authorised;
- iv) the Corporate Director Community Services, following consultation with the Leader, be authorised to make any final amendments to the Scheme and Governance Review prior to their submission to the Department for Communities and Local Government in December 2015 or January 2016;
- v) the Corporate Director – Community Services following consultation with the Leader, be authorised to enter into discussions with the Department for Communities and Local Government and such other Government departments and other persons as are considered necessary by the Corporate Director to agree the terms of Order establishing the Combined Authority and to approve the final form of the Order on behalf of the District Council; and
- vi) the Corporate Director – Community Services, following consultation with the Leader be authorised:
 - (a) To negotiate, agree and execute all ancillary documents in support of the operation of the Combined Authority, including (without limitation) the constitution of the Combined Authority; and
 - (b) To take all decisions and actions necessary to enable the establishment of the Combined Authority.

Summary of Reasons

The Scheme and Governance Review documents are both requirements under the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 for any area wishing to establish a combined authority. Approval from all the constituent councils is required before the Government will consider making an Order to establish the Combined Authority.

The nine councils in Leicester and Leicestershire are considering the Scheme, Governance Review and outcome of the consultation during November and December 2015. It may be necessary to make some minor amendments to the Scheme or Governance Review as a result of this process. In addition to the Order, the Combined Authority will require a full constitution and other operational documents.