

Agenda Item 3 - East Anglia Devolution: Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Proposal (full text of the motion)

That Council endorses the signing of the Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Agreement by the Leader.

That while it recognises the Government's current insistence on the establishment of a Directly Elected Mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk before it is prepared to devolve the functions in this agreement to a Combined Authority for this area, nonetheless proposes to enable the residents of Norfolk & Suffolk to make their views clear as to whether they support having a Directly Elected Mayoral post being established.

That the Council endorses and supports the publication of the draft Scheme for a Norfolk and Suffolk Mayoral Combined Authority as attached to this report for consultation purposes, subject to such final minor revisions as may be approved by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, and prior to the commencement of the formal consultation exercise. Such formal consultation to commence once all Norfolk and Suffolk Councils have considered the matters in this report and, in any event, no later than the 4 July 2016. In the event that a Constituent Authority named in the attached Scheme does not agree to endorse the Deal Agreement and/or the Scheme, the Authority authorises, through the Chief Executive the relevant, necessary changes to be made to the Deal Agreement, the Scheme and the Governance Review to reflect that Authority's non-participation.

That the Council ensures that every form of Suffolk County Council's consultation on the Mayoral Combined Authority includes a clear and dedicated question to the consultees asking whether they support the establishment of a Directly Elected Mayor.

That the outcome of the consultation exercise is submitted to the Secretary of the State by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader.

That Council meets by no later than the 28 October 2016 to consider giving consent to an Order establishing a Mayoral, or non-Mayoral, Combined Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk.

Insofar as any of the matters referred to in this report concern the discharge of non-executive functions, authority is delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, to take all necessary steps and actions to progress the recommendations detailed in this report.

In the event that any technical changes are required to reflect legislative requirements and the contents of the Deal Agreement, authority is delegated to the Chief Executive, in agreement with the other Chief Executives/Managing Directors across Norfolk and Suffolk to make the necessary changes to the Scheme.

That further reports are presented to Council and Cabinet as appropriate as the Devolution process develops.