

Time commenced - 6:00pm
Time finished - 6.52pm

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 2 November 2022

Present: The Mayor, Councillor Robin Wood, and Councillors Atwal, Barker, Bonser, Care, Carr, Cooper, Dhindsa, Eyre, Evans, Froggatt, A J Graves, A W Graves, Hassall, Hezelgrave, A Holmes, M Holmes, C Ingall, P Ingall, Jennings, J Khan, S Khan, Kus, Lind, Lindsey, Lonsdale, Naitta, Nawaz, Pandey, Pattison, J Pearce, T Pearce, Peatfield, Potter, Poulter, Prosser, Repton, Roulstone, Shanker, Skelton, Smale, Swan, Testro and Whitby.

58/22 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hussain, Martin, Rawson, Sandhu, Webb, West and Williams.

59/22 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

60/22 Devolution Deal – Draft Proposal for an East Midlands Combined County Authority

A report of the Director of Policy, Insight and Communications was received in relation to the establishment of a Mayoral Combined County Authority for the areas of Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

The report noted that on 30 August 2022, the four constituent upper-tier councils for the area had signed a devolution deal with the Government estimated to be worth £1.14 billion over a thirty-year period, intended to reverse historically low investment in the East Midlands and provide a platform for accelerated growth.

The report noted that under the terms of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (the Bill), a public consultation was required on the draft East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) proposal. Upon completion of a period of consultation and final approval by the constituent councils, the proposal would be submitted to the Government for approval by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The report sought approval for the draft proposal and to enter consultation with residents and other stakeholders alongside Derbyshire County Council, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. The proposal was appended to the report and accompanied by a document detailing the intended consultation approach and a high-level Equalities Impact Assessment.

It was noted that the other constituent councils were seeking approval for the draft proposal and to agree consultation arrangements at meetings to be held in the week commencing 31 October 2022.

The draft proposal detailed the context, vision and priorities for the EMCCA, which included homes, skills, transport and reducing carbon emissions. Under the proposal, the EMCCA would access control of £38 million of funding per year over a thirty-year period, as well as devolved powers to improve and better integrate local transport infrastructure. The document also detailed the proposed composition and governance arrangements for the EMCCA, which would comprise of 17 members including a directly elected Mayor and representation from both the constituent councils and non-constituent councils across the Combined Authority area.

Alternative options were set out in the report. It was noted that failure to approve a draft proposal would limit the ability to secure the maximum amount of devolved funding and powers. In addition, failure to adequately consult on the proposal would not meet the requirements of the Bill and the timeline set by the Government.

The recommendations contained in the report were moved by Councillor Barker and seconded by Councillor Poulter. The Mayor encouraged councillors to focus their contributions on the substantive motion, noting that the consultation outcome and final proposals would be considered by Council in due course.

Councillors offered their reflections on the draft proposal, broadly welcoming the opportunity for additional powers and funding; some councillors expressed reservations as to whether the deal represented the best possible deal for residents in Derby.

The recommendations were put to the vote and carried.

Resolved:

- 1. To approve the draft Proposal attached at Appendix 1 of the report to create an East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) for the areas of Derby City, Derbyshire County, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils.**
- 2. To formally consult on the draft Proposal with residents and other stakeholders of Derby and the wider EMCCA area, in partnership with Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council.**
- 3. To approve the approach to the consultation set out at Appendix 2 to the report.**
- 4. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve any typographical or technical amendments to the draft Proposal in agreement with the Chief Executives of the other constituent councils and in consultation with Council Leaders, prior to the start of the consultation.**

MAYOR