

# REPORT FOR DECISION

<b>DECISION OF:</b>	CABINET
<b>DATE:</b>	13 January 2016
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Cities and Devolution Bill
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	The Leader
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Jayne Hammond, Assistant Director - Legal and Democratic Services
<b>TYPE OF DECISION:</b>	<b>CABINET (KEY DECISION)</b>
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:</b>	This paper is within the public domain
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	To update members on the status of the Cities and Devolution Bill and the next steps to implementation
<b>OPTIONS &amp; RECOMMENDED OPTION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To note the progress of the Bill and next steps required for implementation</li> <li>2. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council to consent to the terms of the Order required to establish the role of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) elected Mayor; and to provide for the Mayor to exercise the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner in relation to the Greater Manchester Police area.</li> <li>3. To delegate to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council the authority to consent to the terms of orders required to enable GMCA to carry out health related functions from April 2016.</li> </ol>
<b>IMPLICATIONS:</b>	
<b>Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:</b>	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework?      Yes
<b>Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</b>	There are no direct financial implications _____
<b>Health and Safety Implications</b>	None

<b>Statement by Executive Director of Resources (including Health and Safety Implications)</b>	This report is necessary to ensure the GMCA and Mayor are able to conduct Police and Health related functions in line with expected timescales.  There are no wider resource implications.
<b>Equality/Diversity implications:</b>	There are no equality or diversity implications.
<b>Considered by Monitoring Officer:</b>	Yes <span style="float: right;">JH</span>
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Scrutiny Interest:</b>	

**TRACKING/PROCESS**

**DIRECTOR: Interim Executive Director of Resources and Regulation**

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Cabinet Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet/Committee	Council	

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Cities and Devolution Bill went through the report stage in the House of Commons on 7 December 2015. The Bill went back into the House of Lords on 12 January 2016 and it is anticipated that it will receive Royal Assent shortly after.
- 1.2 The Bill was discussed extensively at Committee and Report stages in the House of Commons and amended to take into account Government proposals and respond to amendments made to the Bill in the House of Lords.

**2.0 CITIES AND DEVOLUTION BILL**

- 2.1 As confirmed in previous reports, the Bill as currently drafted is enabling legislation (law that gives appropriate officials the authority to enforce or implement the legislation).The detail of the additional powers to be provided to the Elected Mayor and the GMCA will be set out in Orders confirmed by Parliament through the “affirmative process” and any subsequent secondary legislation that may be required. The Bill in its current form does therefore meet the requirements of the Greater Manchester devolution deals.

**3.0 NEXT STEPS**

**3.1 First Order**

- 3.1.1. Discussions have taken place with DCLG on the timetable for implementation of the Orders required. The first Order is that to create the Greater Manchester Mayor role and to provide for the Mayor to exercise the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner for the Greater Manchester police area. It also provides for the election of the Mayor in May 2017 for an initial three year term and removes the requirement for a GM Police and Crime Commissioner election in May 2016.
- 3.1.2. It is anticipated that the Order will be laid immediately after Royal Assent to meet the timetable required to stop the Police and Crime Commissioner election. The Order requires the consent of GMCA and the 10 constituent Councils.

### **3.2 Orders required for April 2016**

- 3.2.1. As members are aware, under the devolution deals, certain powers will be exercisable by the Mayor alone, some Mayoral decisions require the approval of GMCA members and other powers will be exercisable by the GMCA as a body.
- 3.2.2. GMCA will require the ability to exercise health related functions from April 2016 to enable it to play a full part in health and social care devolution. It is proposed that this will be by way of providing for the GMCA to have the function that all local authorities have under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to take appropriate steps to improve the health of people who live in their area.
- 3.2.3. Further work is taking place on other additional powers required to implement devolution from April 2016.

### **3.3 Full implementation**

- 3.3.1. The totality of powers to be granted to the GMCA and Elected Mayor will need to be finalised by November 2016. This process will begin in March 2016 with a 3 month period for drafting, CA engagement and Ministerial approval. It is envisaged that the orders will then be laid before Parliament in May/June 2016. There will be a combination of orders, as there are a number of devolution deals across the country. It is likely that there will be one order with general applicability for all Combined Authorities; and specific bespoke orders covering those issues which are not generic to all authorities.
- 3.3.2. Detailed work is now commencing on the precise requirements of GMCA in relation to those orders, which covers financial functions, including borrowing powers; Police and Crime Commissioner and Fire authority functions; functions to enable the implementation of the GM Spatial Development Strategy; and Housing and development functions.
- 3.3.3. Further reports will be brought back to the Cabinet as this work develops.

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#### **List of Background Papers:-**

Report to the Combined Authority – 18 December 2015

#### **Contact Details:-**

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