

Review of September Devolution Proposals – Key Requests

Land/Assets

- Transfer of Government land to local Asset Board
- Establishment of Growth Zones/UDCs/EZs
- Specific help with identified sites/new towns

Planning

- Permissive powers to develop strategic planning functions
- Ability to accelerate Local Plans
- Amendments without approval from Planning Inspector
- Local fee setting powers
- Flexing of permitted development rights

Business Support

- Local control of national business service/devolution of funding
- Devolution/ring fencing of UKTI funding/activity and/or greater local control

Transport

- Devolved, consolidated multi-year transport infrastructure funding
- Local control over franchised bus services
- Local control over rail franchising
- Better engagement with Transport England and Network Rail on strategic transport network

Skills

- Co-design of local skills provision
- Local control over FE revenue and capital
- Powers to drive improvement in careers provision and schools
- Influence/control over form and nature of apprenticeships
- Youth Pledge / Obligation – local co-ordinated approach

Employment

- Devolved DWP budgets / development of new local employment service
- Access to / control over JCP Flexible Support Fund
- Explore new payment by results mechanisms to better incentivise locally relevant support

Finance

- Retention of business rates
- Development of infrastructure and housing investment funds (using HCA funding & assets)
- Retain proportion of stamp duty
- Consolidated 5 year total settlement for local area
- Social Impact Bonds
- Removal of cap on housing revenue account borrowing
- Greater local control on Council Tax

Public service reform

- Adopt PCC powers and explore extension across other blue light services
- Joint approach to emergency services / “public safety” (including probation, prisons)
- Extend Troubled Families initiative to wider cohort of adults with complex needs
- Improved data sharing between bodies
- Single transformation fund, and shared transformation dividends