

Appendix 2 - Long list of potential devolution asks for Warwickshire

The recommendations of the Member Working Group are presented below.

Common proposals – these proposals have been regularly included in recently published devolution deals		
Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
Single Integrated, multi-year Transport Fund	Pooling of transport funding into single, flexible transport fund. Allocation over a longer period (e.g., 5 years), with an agreement on key outcomes to be delivered but no allocations to individual projects.	Creates more certainty, enables longer-term planning, flexibility to move funding around as circumstances require
Single long-term 'Warwickshire' Investment Fund	WCC would receive a long-term single investment fund - locally decision-making used for spending. Subject to 5-year gateways that would need to show the investments have supported economic growth of the region and levelling up missions	WCC would be able to invest in initiatives that suited the needs of local communities without having to go through lengthy, costly bidding processes for investment funding.
Devolution of the Adult Skills Budget and flexibility of use of the apprenticeship levy	Devolution of the adult skills budget to WCC to enable WCC to commission and manage contracts locally. Flexibility on use of apprenticeship levy to be able to fund salaries as well as training costs	Better alignment with business needs. Increased local flexibility to meet changing demand. Increased skills and productivity.
Relocating at least one Government department/public body to Warwickshire	Work with Government to commit to relocating at least one Government department/unit/arms-length body to Warwickshire	Significant new employment and investment within one of our key towns. Increase income and local spend in area.

<p>Local Area Energy Planning and Infra structure to support a greener economy</p>	<p>Funding / grant support to improve energy efficiency in industrial Small to Medium Sized enterprises (SME's), education providers and county households via environmental and energy education (low carbon, net zero and behavioural changes), and technology and retrofit opportunities. Targeted investment to promote renewable / low energy industry and strengthen local networks (working in conjunction with local industry leaders –battery technology, electric car, electricity grid). Direct funding to identify increased opportunities for using the public estate to generate low carbon energy.</p>	<p>Support for wider technologies - Anaerobic Digestion (AD), Energy from Waste (EfW), Solar, Wind etc. Energy security, cost of living, (heat network reviews have been undertaken by Warwick District Council). Promotes economic growth, local employment markets. Supports rural economies.</p>
--	---	---

Sustainability		
Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
<p>Set up a number of Rural Electric Vehicle charging hub pilots</p>	<p>Partnership between WCC and Office for Zero Emission Vehicles to co-develop and pilot Rural EV Charging Hubs</p>	<p>Supports rural communities to shift to EV vehicle use. Raises profile of Warwickshire in this space. Stronger relationship with Office for Zero Emissions Vehicles.</p>
<p>Scale up housing retrofit in line with sustainable futures ambitions</p>	<p>Powers, funding and capacity to develop and deliver a joined-up approach at scale to influence on a county scale, work with partners (particularly the boroughs and districts), co-produce solutions to housing</p>	<p>Ability to link with WMCA to develop scaled regional approaches complementing their targets.</p>

	<p>retrofit, energy networks and co-ordinated infrastructure.</p> <p>To enable the capacity and county-wide spread to establish and implement net zero hub based on LAD2 trials, whole street approaches and whole house innovation retrofit.</p>	
--	---	--

Skills & Education		
-------------------------------	--	--

Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
Devolution of Careers Hub funding & powers	<p>Government provides funding for Careers Hubs across the country to provide support to schools. WCC already invests in this work itself and could lever significant added value if this Careers Hub funding was devolved and aligned with WCC investment.</p> <p>Request some powers to provide increased incentive to schools to undertake careers activities.</p>	<p>Enhanced educational and employment outcomes.</p> <p>Increased aspirations.</p> <p>More efficient use of resources.</p> <p>Improved links between business and education.</p>
Create a skills testbed area for providers to rapidly design and deploy training to match business	<p>Linked to adult skills - a test cell structure would be established where training providers could quickly design and test new training materials and enable rapid deployment</p>	<p>More dynamic skills system which can quickly adapt to new areas and demands from business.</p> <p>Increased skill levels.</p> <p>Attractive for businesses locating in the county.</p>
Powers to establish our own Education Investment Areas in Warwickshire	<p>Education Investment Areas (EIAs) are established by central government and are prioritised for extra funding and support by</p>	<p>Would allow us to prioritise areas of greatest need and promote certain schools to the government to receive</p>

	the government to improve standards. WCC would have the powers to establish our own EIAs in the county to support areas that underperform consistently	additional funding and support
Powers to expand relationship with further education institutions	Powers to establish formalised working relationships with local colleges to support the achievement of our education strategy and goals	Working in a closer and formalised way with further education institutions to raise aspirations of school children and help develop clear career pathways

Infrastructure & Connectivity

Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
Request pilot status to work with Active Travel England to test application of active travel and/or last mile delivery in a shire county	Request official pilot status to work with Active Travel England to explore how approaches need to be adapted in shire county areas. Pilot” Mini-Holland” style approach in identified communities Work with Active Travel England and DfT on quiet lanes and potential utilisation in Warwickshire	Help develop new and more innovative solutions, build relationship with Active Travel England/Govt. departments
Powers to effectively deal with absentee landlords and enable Councils to seek the re-development / re-purposing of identified land/property	Powers that enable LPAs to effectively deal with absentee landlords and enable Councils (or other) to seek the re-development / re-purposing of identified land/property. Enhanced CPO (Compulsory Purchase Orders) powers that enable more local determination and faster resolution.	Facilitates and accelerates strategic land assembly to support regeneration.
Create a 5G testbed in Warwickshire to support	Support to create test bed with a mobile phone	Local gaming companies get

mass participation gaming pilots	operator to invest in core 5G and slice a dedicated part of the bandwidth to support mass participation gaming pilots/testing	advanced access to 5G technology to test new products. Mobile phone operators better understand benefits and potential commercial returns on 5G packages for consumers around gaming
One-off funding to create a revolving, evergreen fund to forward fund infrastructure which is then paid back by developers	Significant funding (possibly from National Infrastructure Bank) to establish revolving fund which can resource up front the required infrastructure (i.e., road improvements, schools, etc.) which is then paid back over time through developer contributions	Enables necessary infrastructure to be put in place on Day 1 of a project. Helps accelerate development of sites, would potentially attract more investment.
Powers to work with Fibre & Mobile Network Operators to roll-out of digital infrastructure	Greater freedoms to work with both Fibre and Mobile Network Operators. Stronger control over funding and the ability to negotiate contracts with providers. Authority to construct contracts with providers that puts greater emphasis on contract delivery timescales and improved default payments.	Accelerate roll-out. Greater focus on delivery in priority areas. Enhanced relationships with fibre and mobile network operators.
Community		
Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
Support devolved budgets at community level to support Health & Wellbeing prevention and early intervention agendas	WCC would receive full control of certain funds to be spent at a community level to encourage early prevention	Funds would be spent in ways that best suited the needs of local communities across Warwickshire and would prevent a 'one-size-fits-all'

		approach to prevention and early intervention
Seek devolution of Warwickshire's share of the Dormant Asset Fund to support Levelling Up work	WCC would use its proportionate share of the national Dormant Asset Fund to reinvest in specific programmes that support Levelling Up primarily, including Sustainable Futures projects	Additional funding would be used to catalyse innovative, local projects and initiatives that may not be applicable for national grants and funding schemes
Financial		
Proposal	What this means	Potential Benefits
Enhanced partnership with UK Research & Innovation to encourage innovation funding	Work with UKRI to increase flow of public sector innovation funding to support business growth. Alignment of public and private funding generates efficiencies and increased impact.	Alignment of public and private funding generates efficiencies and increased impact. Further local offer that would support and increase inward investment and business growth in the county.
Tax Increment Finance for developments to be able to ring-fence and capture uplift in taxes/income in a defined geography for a significant time period	Ability to ring-fence and capture uplift in taxes/income in a defined geography over a significant period (30 years) to enable repayment of borrowing to enable upfront investment	Unlocks key sites/development opportunities; accelerates and facilitates investment in key infrastructure at the start to encourage private sector investment.