



**ARTICLE NO: 1A**

**CORPORATE & ENVIRONMENTAL  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**MEMBERS UPDATE 2013/14  
ISSUE: 2**

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**Article of: Assistant Director Housing and Regeneration**

**Relevant Managing Director: Managing Director (Transformation)**

**Contact for further information: Mr B Livermore (Extn. 5200)  
(E-mail: bob.livermore@westlancs.gov.uk)**

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**SUBJECT: LIVERPOOL CITY REGION GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

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Wards affected: Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF ARTICLE**

1.1 To advise Members of the Council's response to the above consultation.

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## **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 On the 19<sup>th</sup> August, the Council received a copy of the Governance Review (Appendix A) of the Liverpool City Region and were invited to comment as part of the consultation process.

2.2 The closing date for the consultation was 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013. In accordance with established protocols, both Political Groups were invited to comment so that a response could be agreed and sent as the view of West Lancashire Borough Council.

## **3.0 CURRENT POSITION**

3.1 The response at Appendix B is the Council's response to the consultation on the Liverpool City Region Governance Review.

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### **Background Documents**

There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Article.

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

This article is for information only and does not have any direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and/ or stakeholders. Therefore no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

## **Appendices**

Appendix A - Copy of Liverpool City Region Governance Review

Appendix B - Copy of West Lancashire Borough Council's response to the consultation on the Liverpool City Region Governance Review.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tracy Brennan [mailto:Tracy.Brennan@sefton.gov.uk]

**Sent:** 19 August 2013 09:09

**To:** Tracy Brennan

**Subject:** Liverpool City Region Review

**Chief Executives Office**

Town Hall  
Southport  
Merseyside PR8 1DA

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2013

Our Ref: ML/TB

Your Ref:

**Please contact: Mark Long**

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Dear Consultee

**Liverpool City Region Review**

The Liverpool City Region has undertaken a Governance Review to further strengthen the delivery of strategic economic development, regeneration and transport to increase economic growth and jobs, and provide greater transparency.

The councils, (Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral), Merseytravel and the Local Enterprise Partnership believe that the current way of delivering these can be improved to accelerate economic growth.

Based on the current available evidence, this has led to a preferred option being recommended by the Liverpool City Region Cabinet which could see a "Combined Authority" being set up. This would strategically lead work on economic development, transport and employment and skills in the City Region to support jobs and growth.

A Combined Authority would not mean the creation of a "Super-Council" - it is about formalising the existing positive informal arrangements and being able to draw-down powers and resources from Central Government for local use.

It would provide clear leadership and greater transparency, while creating a legal entity which would be in a position to attract funding and devolved powers from Government. Many other areas across the country are also pursuing changes to their governance arrangements and this recommendation would enable the Liverpool City Region to compete with them.

Two documents have been produced which will be available to download from the Local Authority and Merseytravel websites. These are:

- [Governance Review](#) ( 336kb) which looks at how functions are organised at the moment, reviews the options for change and recommends that a Combined Authority is consulted upon
- [Draft Scheme](#) ( 332kb) which sets out the possible functions of a Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

- In addition a [Frequently asked questions](#) ( 120kb) document has been provided

The next stage of the process is to collect feedback from stakeholders on the review of strategic governance and the potential operation of a possible Combined Authority as part of the ongoing review process.

This will run between August 2 and September 6, 2013, and stakeholders are invited to send their feedback to [lcr.governance@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:lcr.governance@knowsley.gov.uk).

In addition, two Sefton-based consultation sessions are being held to which you are invited to receive a presentation and ask questions:

**North Sefton session - 3rd September, 12 noon for 12.15 start, Churchtown Room, Town Hall, Lord Street, Southport**

**South Sefton session - 5<sup>th</sup> September , 12 noon for 12.15 start, Committee Room, Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle**

Following this consultation period, a final recommendation will come back to individual Cabinet and Council meetings in September, and if agreed by all City Region Councils, a formal submission will be made to Government on September 30th.

Yours sincerely

**Margaret Carney  
Chief Executive  
Sefton MBC**