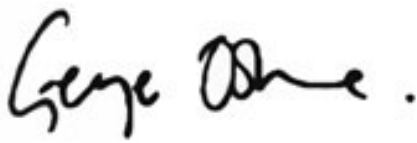




The East Anglia Devolution Agreement

Implementation of this agreement is subject to the completion of the statutory processes and approval of all local authorities which are party to the deal.

The agreement below sets out the current devolution proposal which it is agreed that leaders will take to each council for full debate and consultation with relevant local stakeholders. This process is to be completed by no later than the end of June. In preparing the secondary legislation, to which all councils to which it applies must consent, and through which the deal will be implemented, the Government will have regard both to this agreement and to any resolutions the councils concerned may pass when considering this agreement. The consenting councils may include additional councils to those which are party to this agreement if such councils decide no later than the end of June (allowing the statutory process to be launched in early July) that they wish to become a party to the deal.



.....
The Rt Hon George Osborne
Chancellor of the Exchequer



.....
Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State, Communities and
Local Government



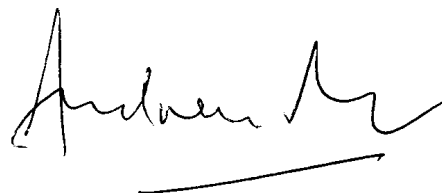
.....
Lord O'Neill
Commercial Secretary to the Treasury



.....
Cllr Jennie Jenkins
Leader, Babergh District Council



.....
Cllr Michael Wassell
Leader, Breckland District Council



.....
Cllr Andrew Proctor
Leader, Broadland District Council



.....
Clr Steve Count

Leader, Cambridgeshire County Council



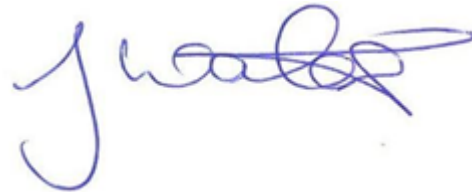
.....
Clr James Palmer

Leader, East Cambridgeshire District Council



.....
Clr John Clark

Leader, Fenland District Council



.....
Clr James Waters

Leader, Forest Heath District Council



.....
Clr Graham Plant

Leader, Great Yarmouth Borough Council

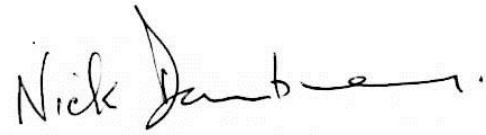


.....
Clr Jason Ablewhite

Executive Leader, Huntingdonshire District Council



.....
Cllr David Ellesmere
Leader, Ipswich Borough Council



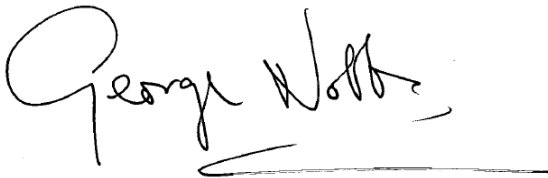
.....
Cllr Nick Daubney
Leader, King's Lynn and West Norfolk



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Cllr Derrick Haley
Leader, Mid Suffolk District Council



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Mark Pendlington
Chair, New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership



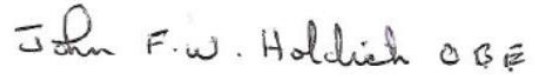
.....
Cllr George Nobbs
Leader, Norfolk County Council



.....
Cllr Tom Fitzpatrick
Leader, North Norfolk District Council



.....
Cllr Alan Waters
Leader, Norwich City Council



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Cllr John Holdich
Leader, Peterborough City Council



.....
Cllr Ray Manning
Leader, South Cambridgeshire District Council



.....
Cllr John Fuller
Leader, South Norfolk District Council



.....
Cllr Colin Law
Leader, Waveney District Council



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Cllr John Griffiths
Leader, St Edmundsbury Borough Council



.....
Cllr Ray Herring
Leader, Suffolk Coastal District Council



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Cllr Colin Noble
Leader, Suffolk County Council

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The East Anglia Devolution Agreement

This document sets out the terms of an enabling document for a proposed agreement between Government, the 22 local authorities covering Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership to devolve a range of funding, powers and responsibilities. Building on but separate to the Greater Ipswich City Deal, Greater Norwich City Deals agreed in 2013 and the Greater Cambridge City Deal agreed in 2014 and the New Anglia and Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Growth Deals agreed in 2014 and 2015, this Devolution Agreement marks an important next step in the transfer of resources, powers and accountability from central Government to local partners. The agreement below sets out the current devolution proposal which it is agreed that leaders will take to each council for full debate and consultation with relevant local stakeholders. This process is to be completed by no later than the end of June. In preparing the secondary legislation, to which all councils to which it applies must consent, and through which the deal will be implemented, the Government will have regard both to this agreement and to any resolutions the councils concerned may pass when considering this agreement. The consenting councils may include additional councils to those which are party to this agreement if such councils decide no later than the end of June (allowing the statutory process to be launched in early July) that they wish to become a party to the deal. In return for this level of devolution and local control Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk will establish a Combined Authority, with a directly Elected Mayor in place by 2017 with interim arrangements in place in 2016/17.

The Opportunity

The Government and the Three Counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire and unitary Peterborough recognise a generational opportunity to accelerate growth in the local and national economy whilst improving the life chances and quality of life for every resident in each of the three counties of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Unitary. Collectively these areas represent East Anglia, a geography that is known locally, nationally and abroad by business, residents & visitors alike. It is a diverse and dynamic area including cities, rural and coastal communities with a globally significant economic offer.

In a short time, Leaders of Councils and the LEP have come together to recognise the potential for a truly ambitious and radical devolution proposal which places economic growth, wealth creation and improving wellbeing at its heart. East Anglia has the ability to grow the UK economy and generate tax receipts in the immediate future and is best placed to continue to be a substantial net contributor to the Exchequer in furtherance of the Government's long-term economic plan.

East Anglia has a phenomenal opportunity of a better connected region, spreading and retaining the wealth generated by the global technology hub of Cambridge to the wider East Anglian area building the rural economy and improving the digital and broadband offer in supporting SMEs. With dramatically improved connectivity between the three counties and city growth nodes of Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge and Peterborough, the region has set out a compelling vision with the scale and opportunity to exploit local Global Leadership in addressing the grand

challenges facing long-term human, environmental and economic sustainability to make a step change in the local economy.

Delivering on this opportunity

But there is much more to be done and this deal can only be the start. The deal represents an invitation to local Councils and Business to come together and set out a compelling Business Plan of Connected Growth for how this programme can be implemented and identify further reforms and mechanisms for unlocking new avenues of investment.

East Anglia will work with local Councils, LEPs, Government Departments and Agencies on their comprehensive business plan for East Anglia to be drawn up over the next six months. This will build on the diversity of assets across the East Anglia economic area such as it's: ports, all energy coastline, world class universities and research; its leading role in advanced manufacturing and ICT and will identify ways to grow its economy. Central to this model of connected growth East Anglia sets out a number of core initiatives:

- A step change infrastructure delivery with an integrated approach to planning of road, rail and digital connectivity alongside land for new housing and business
- The principle of Double Devolution of powers to local areas working with the Mayor to take responsibility and accountability for housing and infrastructure delivery in their own areas
- Making East Anglia the UK's truly connected region in respect of communications and transport connections. Linking research-based growth in the Cities with even the most rural villages. Improvements to road & rail infrastructure and using smart ticketing will make it easier for residents to participate fully in the economy across transport modes.
- Devising new models of private/public infrastructure & housing funding to fund strategic capital infrastructure
- A new partnership between the universities and FE providers in the region to drive a programme of co-ordinated skills and educational improvement to deliver the knowledge based economy

This business plan will form the basis of a second devolution proposal from East Anglia in the Autumn with the ambition of empowering the directly elected Mayor with the powers, tools and resources to unleash the potential of East Anglia with the main objective to build a successful and dynamic economy in the short term and make a substantial contribution to keeping the United Kingdom in the first economic rank of nations for generations to come. Exploiting these powers at a local level will to make a substantial contribution to this.

This document provides for the transfer of significant resources and powers from central government to the region including for infrastructure, housing, economic development, and employment and skills, which will positively impact on the lives of residents by helping create more jobs, improving the skills and employment prospects of residents and boosting the productivity of East Anglia.

Summary of the proposed devolution agreement between government and the leaders of the 22 local authorities with the support of the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership.

A new, directly elected Mayor will act as Chair to The East Anglia Combined Authority and will exercise the following powers and functions devolved from central Government:

- Responsibility for a multi-year, consolidated and, devolved local transport budget
- Responsibility for a new Key Route Network of local authority roads that will be managed and maintained by the Combined Authority on behalf of the Mayor
- Powers over strategic planning and housing, including £175m (out to 20/21) ringfenced funding to deliver an ambitious target of new homes, the responsibility to create a non-statutory spatial framework for East Anglia and to develop with government a Land Commission and to chair The East Anglia Joint Assets Board for economic assets

The new East Combined Authority, working with the Mayor, will receive the following powers:

- Control of a new additional £30 million a year funding allocation over 30 years, to be invested to The East Anglia Single Investment Fund, to boost growth
- Responsibility for chairing an area-based review of 16+ skills provision, the outcomes of which will be taken forward in line with the principles of the devolved arrangements, and devolved 19+ adult skills funding from 2018/19.
- Joint responsibility with the government to co-design the new National Work and Health Programme designed to focus on those with a health condition or disability and the very long term unemployed.

Further powers may be agreed over time and included in future legislation.

GOVERNANCE

1. Strengthened governance is an essential pre-requisite to any further devolution of powers to any local area. Through this deal East Anglia will establish a Combined Authority and introduce a directly elected Mayor over the Combined Authority's area, with the first elections in May 2017. This takes the next step in transferring resources and powers from central Government to East Anglia. There is no intention for the Combined Authority to take existing powers from local authorities or existing city deal governance structures or funding without agreement.
2. The local authorities of East Anglia recognise and have agreed that the principle of subsidiarity should apply to the discharge of functions by the Mayor and Combined Authority and governance of this devolution deal. Given the East Anglia's geographical extent, the Government and East Anglia agree to work on a model of devolution that aligns the regional strategic ambition expressed by the Mayor & Combined Authority with local accountability and incentives for delivery at a local level based on functional economic geographies.
3. The directly elected Mayor for The East Anglia Combined Authority will autonomously exercise new powers. The Mayor will chair the Combined Authority, the members of which will serve as the Mayor's Cabinet (unless determined otherwise as part of the Authority's constitution). The Mayor and the Combined Authority will be scrutinised and held to account by the Overview and Scrutiny committee(s). The Mayor will also be required to consult the Combined Authority Cabinet on his/her strategies and his/her spending plans, which it may reject if two-thirds vote to do so. The nature of voting arrangements for particular decisions within the 2/3 majority will be determined unanimously through the Authority's Constitution.
4. The East Anglia Mayor will be required to consult The East Anglia Combined Authority on his/her transport plan, which it may reject if two thirds vote to do so, subject to that majority including the votes of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils, and Peterborough City Council.
5. Proposals for decision by the Combined Authority may be put forward by the Mayor or any Cabinet Member. The Mayor will have one vote as will other voting members. Any questions that are to be decided by the Combined Authority are to be decided by a majority of the members present and voting, subject to that majority including the vote of the Mayor, unless otherwise set out in legislation, or specifically delegated through the Authority's Constitution.
6. The Mayor and the other members of the Combined Authority will be required to work closely together. Specifically:
 - a. the Mayor will provide overall leadership and chair Combined Authority meetings;
 - b. the Cabinet Model, where the leaders have a clear portfolio of responsibilities, will act as a supporting and advisory function to the Mayor and Combined Authority in respective policy areas; and

- c. the Mayor will also be a member of the LEP, alongside the other members of the Combined Authority, recognising the importance of the LEP's role and the private sector in any growth strategies or delivery.

FINANCE AND FUNDING

7. The Combined Authority will create and manage a single pot which will be used by the Combined Authority to invest in economic growth, helping to accelerate housing delivery and job creation. The Government will work with the Combined Authority to agree specific funding flexibilities which will be pooled into the Single Pot. This will comprise a flexible, multi-year settlement providing the freedom to deliver its growth priorities, including the ability to re-direct funding to reflect changing priorities, whilst upholding statutory duties. Government expects to disburse this agreed settlement to the Combined Authority annually in advance.
8. The Government agrees to allocate an additional £30m per annum of 60% capital and 40% revenue for 30 years, which will form part of and capitalise the Combined Authority single pot. This will be invested in Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Norfolk and Suffolk. The Combined Authority will use these funds to unlock investment in infrastructure and deliver economic growth potential. The fund will be subject to 5-yearly gateway assessments to evaluate how spend has contributed to national growth.
9. Following the implementation of the necessary primary legislation, the Mayor will be given the power to place a supplement on business rates to fund infrastructure, with the agreement of the local business community through the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership and the Greater Cambridgeshire, Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership, up to a cap.
10. Through devolution, the area is seeking greater influence and decision making in respect of the European Structural Investment Funds 2014-2020 (European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Funds (ESF) and the EU Growth Programme element of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)). This will allow the area to integrate and align investments with other aspects of the devolution deal and local economic priorities, to improve performance and maximise economic impact. In order to deliver these objectives the Combined Authority is seeking Intermediate Body Status for ERDF, ESF and the EU Growth Programme part of EAFRD funding. Government will work with the Combined Authority to test whether it will be possible to implement and if so, Government and the Combined Authority will work together to agree a timescale to put this in place and develop an agreement between each Managing Authority and the Intermediate Body that will contain details of delegated responsibilities and accountabilities, performance management, resources, their funding and payment arrangements and other relevant details.
11. The Government and local partners will explore how funding for infrastructure can be raised through Community Infrastructure Levy, taking account of the outcomes of the CIL Review.
12. The Combined Authority and Government will extend the existing pilot allowing Cambridgeshire and Peterborough authorities to retain 100% of any additional business rate growth beyond an agreed baseline to apply across Norfolk and Suffolk.

13. Government will work with local authorities in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to shape and influence the design of the new Local Government Finance system based on the localisation of business rates in advance of its universal introduction in 2020.

HOUSING AND PLANNING

14. The Combined Authority, with its partner authorities, will use the powers and infrastructure resources devolved from central government, alongside local public and private investment, to substantially increase housing delivery.
15. They will support an ambitious target for increasing new homes delivery, jointly agreed with the Department for Communities and Local Government, which reflects latest assessments of housing need, and will report annually on progress against this target.
16. They will bring forward proposals as an integral part of the business plan by the summer on how they will do this. This will include proposals to deliver the immediate 69,000 homes needed over the period 2016-2021 and 275,000 homes over the longer period of Local Plans.
17. In addition to gainshare funding as part of this, local authorities will bring forward within six months a non-statutory strategic infrastructure delivery plan which identifies infrastructure needed to support the increased funding of new homes, and proposals to fund this through devolved infrastructure funds, through national programmes and through local funding.
18. The Combined Authority will work with Government and its agencies to co-invest in new homes, unlock barriers to growth, and plan and prioritise investment in associated infrastructure (including transport, schools and healthcare).
19. All planning authorities in East Anglia commit to have adopted or published Local Plans by 2017 which reflect overall assessments of housing need.
20. Recognising the unique housing market conditions in Greater Cambridge Government will ringfence £175 million of capital grant (out to 20/21) for East Anglia to deliver an ambitious target of new homes in line with national targets. This will primarily be to deliver Shared Ownership, but East Anglia will have flexibility over 15% of the funding to achieve the right tenure mix for the area. This 15% could include rental products as well as affordable homeownership. East Anglia will need to agree specific proposals for all of these funds with the Government to ensure value for money and sufficient housing outputs. East Anglia will be free to recycle receipts from any resulting sales to reinvest in new housing.
21. Subject to the Housing and Planning Bill, local authorities in East Anglia will by agreement with the Secretary of State retain a proportion of the receipts from the sale of high value assets, to fund additional homes. The proportion will be agreed with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
22. The Mayor will exercise strategic planning powers to support and accelerate these ambitions. These will include the power to:

- a. Create a non-statutory spatial framework, which will act as the framework for planning across the Combined Authority area, and for the future development of Local Plans. The spatial framework will need to be approved by unanimous vote of the members appointed by constituent councils of the mayoral Combined Authority. This approach must not delay the production of Local Plans.
 - b. Create non-statutory supplementary planning documents subject to the approval process [above].
 - c. Be consulted on planning applications of strategic importance in the Combined Authority area.
 - d. Create Mayoral Development Corporations or similar delivery vehicles, with planning and land assembly powers, which will support delivery of strategic sites in the Combined Authority area. This power will be exercised with the consent of the cabinet member in which the development corporation is to be used.
23. To support delivery of these commitments the Combined Authority and Government agree to:
- a. Establish a Joint Investment and Assets Board to review all land and property (including surplus property and land) held by the public sector (including central Government departments, the NHS and MoD land), building on the success of the One Public Estate Programme and to work together to invest in our strategic infrastructure priorities. The Board will include senior representatives from Government.
 - b. The Board will ensure there is a sufficient, balanced supply of readily available sites for commercial and residential development to meet the demands of a growing economy. It will create a Land Commission to develop a comprehensive database of available public and private sector land (prioritising large sites), identify barriers to its disposal/development, and develop solutions to address those barriers to help the Combined Authority meet its housing goals and to unlock more land for employment use.
 - c. Strong partnership to support key large housing sites (1,500 homes +) with brokerage at the local (through Homes and Communities Agency support) and central government level to help resolve barriers, with utility companies, or government agencies, which are holding up the development process. There will be continued discussions to secure longer term frameworks for funding of key sites, subject to the development of a business case, value for money and other funding criteria.
 - d. Work with local areas' ambitions for new housing settlements, including a new settlement in Fenland and West Norfolk based on garden town principles. [Subject to Parliament, the Government intends to strengthen legislation to make it easier to set up new town style vehicles].
 - e. Stronger partnership and strategic decision-making arrangements with the Homes and Communities Agency to ensure that the strategic housing objectives are delivered, and that centrally and locally managed investment is in strategic alignment.

- f. Support the development of proposals for ambitious reforms in the way that planning services are delivered, and which can enable greater flexibility in the way that fees are set, with a particular focus on proposals which can streamline the process for applicants and accelerate decision making.
 - g. Government will work with the Combined Authority and LEP to support local regeneration by helping the Combined Authority to create a strong portfolio of investment opportunities.
24. Government will support the work of the Ipswich Vision partnership to deliver their ambitions to regenerate the town; supporting town centre redevelopment by improving the retail offer and introducing more leisure, commercial and residential provision. Government will explore opportunities around transport led regeneration in Ipswich and will support improvements to Ipswich’s retail offer, diversification of the night time economy and improvements to the public realm by offering Ipswich the opportunity to undertake a Digital High Street pilot and identifying opportunities to fund public realm improvements, such as through the Coastal Communities Fund.
25. Cambridge is internationally renowned for its world-leading university and its global strengths in technology and life sciences. In addition to the commitments to support housing delivery outlined above, the Combined Authority will also work with Government and Greater Cambridge partners to support delivery of the existing Greater Cambridge City Deal which is ensuring the future success of the city and surrounding district of South Cambridgeshire by investing in the transport infrastructure, housing and skills needed to see future economic growth.
26. Peterborough is one of the fastest growing cities in the country, with strengths in environmental goods and services, financial services, digital and food and drink, sectoral strengths that could be crucial to driving future growth across East Anglia as a whole. Local partners want to work with Government to build on this, including developing plans for University Centre Peterborough to attain Taught Degree Awarding Powers and, as outlined below, Government will be discussing with them how best they might progress their aspirations in this area, specifically, and across other, wider growth opportunities.
27. Greater Norwich is one of the fastest growing parts of the country and establishing itself as a leader in science, technology and manufacturing. The Combined Authority will work with Government and the Greater Norwich Growth Board to support the delivery of the Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk Joint Core Strategy. Building on the Greater Norwich City Deal to fulfil the area’s economic potential with particular focus on turning world class knowledge and ideas into world class jobs, building on existing opportunities such as: the Norwich Research Park, City Centre digital creative cluster, Norwich International Airport aviation cluster and proposed Food Hub.

THE CONNECTED ECONOMY- TRANSPORT AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

28. East Anglia recognises that for the Combined Authority to meet and exceed its ambitious targets for growth and wealth creation it needs to connect people and places to enable them both physically and digitally transforming from a local hotspot to a powerful connected City Region. Better connecting East Anglia has the

potential to reduce inflationary pressures and give the Cambridge hub access to an area of huge housing growth, high quality of life and centres of science, technology, innovation and advanced manufacturing, and drive up the standards of education and life opportunities across the entire area.

29. The Government commits to engaging with the Mayor and Combined Authority on a number of specific initiatives to improve the physical and digital connections within the area with the ambition of making East Anglia a truly connected region with two principle themes.

- a. Transport & the physical connections between communities, which is the key to unlocking sustainable growth
- b. Digital infrastructure and the connected economy with the objective of making a truly digitally connected region of the UK.

30. A new, directly elected Mayor of the proposed Combined Authority will:

- a. Take responsibility for a devolved and consolidated multi-year local transport budget for the area of the Combined Authority (i.e. the areas of the constituent councils). This will form part of the single pot to be controlled by the directly elected Mayor. Functions will be devolved to the proposed Combined Authority accordingly, to be exercised by the Mayor. The devolved budget will not form part of the Investment fund's gateway reviews.
- b. Take responsibility for a new Key Route Network of local authority roads; the management and maintenance of which will be undertaken by the proposed Combined Authority on behalf of the Mayor. To support this all relevant local roads maintenance funding will be devolved as part of the Mayor's consolidated multi-year local transport budget. This will support the delivery of a single asset management plan, working towards shared procurement frameworks and operational delivery for road maintenance amongst all partners across the Key Route Network and local authority network in the Combined Authority area.
- c. Have the ability to franchise bus services in the city region, subject to necessary legislation and local consultation and agreement. This will be enabled through a specific Buses Bill which will provide for the necessary functions to be devolved. This will support the Combined Authority's ambitions in delivering a high quality bus network and in enhancing the local bus offer, although the Combined Authority will also be exploring the use of an 'Enhanced Partnership' model for local bus services in the constituent local authorities subject to local consultation. This includes the delivery of smart and integrated ticketing, local branding and provision of minimum standards across the network.

31. In addition and as part of the deal:

- a. In order to meet the needs of local communities, the Combined Authority seeks to adopt an integrated approach to local buses, community based transport, the local network of car clubs and, in partnership with rail operators and Network Rail, rail services.
- b. The Combined Authority will build on existing smart ticketing knowledge and expertise developed locally through schemes including the Managed Service Smart Ticketing Pilot in Norfolk, funded by the Department for Transport and the

Endeavour Card funded and delivered by Suffolk County Council to determine the best method for a smart and integrated ticketing system across its area.

- c. In establishing the Combined Authority, appropriate local transport functions will be conferred to the Combined Authority and exercised by the Mayor. In addition, a single policy and delivery body will be created covering the same area in order to determine, manage and deliver the Mayor's transport plans and the delivery of integrated public transport networks for the region.
32. Local partners will consider how best to establish a Statutory Transport Body (STB) to ensure that East Anglia and its neighbouring areas, notably Essex and the Cambridge-to-Oxford arc, can best work together to influence strategic national transport investment, in line with the STBs being progressed in other parts of the country, such as Transport for the North (TfN) and Midlands Connect.
 33. The Government reaffirms its commitment to help unlock the £4.5bn economic benefits and 50,000 new jobs from rail improvements, identified by the work of the Great Eastern Main Line Taskforce. This includes replacement rolling stock as part of the new East Anglia franchise and infrastructure upgrades. The Government will also continue to assist the West Anglia Main Line Task Force as it develops a business case for improving the rail corridor between Kings Lynn and London Kings Cross via Cambridge.
 34. The Combined Authority recognises the significance of the development at Wyton Airfield and will work on plans to address airfield access, including the option of a river crossing at Hartford.
 35. The Combined Authority recognises the significance of the dualling of the A47 Acle Straight and the third river crossing for Great Yarmouth.

FLOOD DEFENCE AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT

36. Government recognises that Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are subject to significant strategic and local flood risk. To manage and mitigate these risks the Combined Authority will work with Government and relevant bodies to create a fully integrated approach to flood and coastal risk management. This is required in order to secure timely decisions and funding that maximise our ability to reduce risk and to deliver additional economic growth. This will be achieved through:
 - a. Alignment of investment plans in using resources to unlock new business development opportunities and attract additional funding including private contributions, whilst maintaining and, where possible, enhancing national and local commitments to protect people, property and land from flooding
 - b. Pre-emptive action to deliver solutions to reduce risk and increase resilience during severe weather events, preventing blight and increasing economic confidence
 - c. A consistent approach to assessing flood and coastal risk, benefits across schemes and maintenance plans to maximise economic and social impact

- d. Simplification and alignment of funding mechanisms in order to make processes transparent, locally accountable, efficient and deliver targeted local investment needs
 - e. Integrating local understanding of needs and benefits into the flood and coastal erosion risk management economic assessment approach
37. Following the scoping report currently underway, the government will work with local partners in Bacton and Walcott, which will help protect local communities from coastal erosion.

LEARNING AND SKILLS

38. To ensure continued collaboration the Combined Authority will, with the Regional Schools Commissioner and other key local education stakeholders establish an Education Committee. The Regional Schools Commissioner will work with the committee to provide strategic direction on education across the Combined Authority area.
39. The Government commits to an Area Review of post-16 education and training, currently expected to start in November 2016, excluding Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft where a Review has already been conducted during 2015. As part of the Area Based Reviews, the Combined Authority will gather data to feed into the development of a potential proposal for an Institute of Technology (IoT) for regionally significant sectors, and will discuss with Government the extent to which this meets the criteria which are being developed for IoTs nationally. The outcome of the Area Review will be taken forward in line with the principles of the devolved arrangements. The review will include all post-16 education and training provision in the initial scoping phase and school sixth forms will be included in the detailed review if the school decides to be involved in the process. Recommendations will be focused on General FE and Sixth Form Colleges, however the Regional School Commissioner and the relevant local authorities will consider any specific issues arising from the reviews for school sixth form provision.
40. Government recognises the progress the LEP, local colleges and providers and the private sector have made in improving skills provision across East Anglia. The New Anglia Employment and Skills Board will consider if further refinement of their local skills strategies will be required after the conclusion of the Area Reviews to ensure that post-16 providers are delivering the skills that local employers require. It is expected that the LEP Skills Board will continue to collaborate with colleges and providers, with appropriate support from the Education Funding Agency to work towards delivering this plan.
41. The Government will enable local commissioning of outcomes to be achieved from 19+ Adult Education Budget starting in academic year 17/18; and will fully devolve budgets to the Combined Authority from academic year 2018/19 subject to readiness conditions). These arrangements will not cover apprenticeships.
42. The Combined Authority will focus a greater proportion of its devolved Adult Education Budget on learning that delivers sustained job outcomes, productivity and economic growth.

43. Devolution will proceed in two stages, across the next three academic years:
- a. Starting now East Anglia Combined Authority will begin to prepare for local commissioning. For the 2017/18 academic year, and following the area review, government will work with The East Anglia Combined Authority to vary the block grant allocations made to providers, within an agreed framework.
 - b. From 2018/19, there will be full devolution of funding. The East Anglia Combined Authority will be responsible for allocations to providers and the outcomes to be achieved, consistent with statutory entitlements. Government will not seek to second guess these decisions, but it will set proportionate requirements about outcome information to be collected in order to allow students to make informed choices. A funding formula for calculating the size of the grant to local/combined authorities will need to take into account a range of demographic, educational and labour market factors; it will also need to take account of costs of implementing devolution and continuing operational expenditure.
44. The readiness conditions for full devolution are that:
- a. Parliament has legislated to enable transfer to local authorities of the current statutory duties on the Secretary of State to secure appropriate facilities for further education for adults from this budget and for provision to be free in certain circumstances.
 - b. Completion of the Area Review process leading to a sustainable provider base.
 - c. After Area Reviews are completed, agreed arrangements are in place between central government and the Combined Authority to ensure that devolved funding decisions take account of the need to maintain a sustainable and financially viable 16+ provider base.
 - d. Clear principles and arrangements have been agreed between central government and the Combined Authority for sharing financial risk and managing failure of 16+ providers, reflecting the balance of devolved and national interest and protecting the taxpayer from unnecessary expenditure and liabilities.
 - e. Learner protection and minimum standards arrangements are in agreed.
 - f. Funding and provider management arrangements, including securing financial assurance, are agreed in a way that minimises costs and maximises consistency and transparency.
45. Government recognises that East Anglia has a world-class higher education offering, with the University of Cambridge consistently ranked amongst the foremost universities in the world and a wealth of strengths in others such as the University of East Anglia, University Campus Suffolk, Norwich University of the Arts and Anglia Ruskin University. This higher education offer has a vital role in enhancing the innovation and productivity of the area's economy. Local partners want to work with Government to build on this, including investing in the institutions to develop their academic and research offer, such as progressing plans for University Centre Peterborough to attain Taught Degree Awarding Powers and, in the longer-term, to establish an independent university institution in the city. Likewise, University Campus Suffolk will attain independent university status as the University of Suffolk

during 2016. Other proposals include plans in Ipswich by BT, Cambridge University and University Campus Suffolk focused on future developments in ICT and the Internet of Things. The Single Pot funds made available through this devolution deal could act as an important source of investment for this project and Government commits to discussing with local partners how best they might progress their aspirations in this area.

APPRENTICESHIPS

46. Government recognises Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's commitment to delivering more apprenticeships. The East Anglia Combined Authority will assume responsibility for the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers (AGE). The AGE funding must be used alongside mainstream apprenticeship participation funding to incentivise employers to offer apprenticeships, but The East Anglia Combined Authority is free to vary the criteria associated with the grant (e.g. size and sector of business) to meet local needs. The Skills Funding Agency will work with The East Anglia Combined Authority to identify an appropriate share.
47. The Combined Authority and the government will collaborate to maximise the opportunities presented by the introduction of the apprenticeship reforms, including the levy, and to work together on promoting the benefits of apprenticeships to employers in order to engage more small businesses in the apprenticeship programme. The Combined Authority will explore the potential of introducing an Apprenticeship Training Agency to the area, funded through local resources.

EMPLOYMENT

48. The Combined Authority will work with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to establish a locally integrated employment service which joins together the elements of the employment system to achieve better outcomes. This includes:
49. The Combined Authority commits to working with Government to ensure all young people are either earning or learning including supporting Jobcentre Plus in the delivery of the Youth Obligation from April 2017.
50. Government commits to ensuring all young people are either earning or learning and to exploring opportunities for links with local employment services to support this aim, including building in good practice from the present local MyGo service and other local provision. The Combined Authority commits to supporting the Youth Obligation by utilising its strong local links to business to create work-related training and labour market opportunities for young people including encouraging the provision of apprenticeships and work placements in the local community. It will also work with Government to investigate the potential for social investment, in particular Social Impact Bonds, for disadvantaged young people not in education, employment or training who may not be in receipt of support from Jobcentre Plus.

51. The Combined Authority will work with DWP to co-design the new National Work and Health Programme designed to focus on those with a health condition or disability and the very long term unemployed.
52. The respective roles of DWP and the Combined Authority in the co-design will include:
- a. DWP sets the funding envelope, the Combined Authority can top up if they wish to, but are not required to.
 - b. The Combined Authority will set out how they will join up local public services in order to improve outcomes for this group, particularly how they will work with the Clinical Commissioning Groups/third sector to enable timely health-based support. There will be a particular focus on ensuring the integration of the new programme with local services, in order to ensure that national and local provision works well together, and opportunities for greater integration are identified and levered.
 - c. DWP set the high-level performance framework and will ensure the support appropriately reflects labour market issues. The primary outcomes will be to reduce unemployment and move people into sustained employment. The Combined Authority will have some flexibility to determine specific local outcomes that reflect local labour market priorities, these outcomes should be complementary to the ultimate employment outcome. In determining the local outcome(s) the Combined Authority should work with DWP to take account of the labour market evidence base and articulate how the additional outcome(s) will fit within the wider strategic and economic context and deliver value for money.
 - d. Before delivery commences, DWP and the Combined Authority will set out an agreement covering the respective roles of each party in the delivery and monitoring of the support, including a mechanism by which each party can raise and resolve any concern that arise.
 - e. DWP to facilitate protocols for data sharing and transparency by tackling some of the obstacles and developing solutions to enable the Combined Authority to develop a strategic needs assessment for the area.
53. The Combined Authority will co-commission the Work and Health programme with DWP. The respective roles of DWP and the Combined Authority will include:
- a. DWP sets the contracting arrangements, including contract package areas, but should consider any proposals from the Combined Authority on contract package area geography.
 - b. The Combined Authority will be involved in tender evaluation.
 - c. Providers will be solely accountable to DWP, but DWP and the Combined Authority's above-mentioned agreement will include a mechanism by which the Combined Authority can escalate to DWP any concerns about provider performance/breaching local agreements and require DWP to take formal contract action where appropriate.

Further activity to Improve Life Chances

54. The Combined Authority will set out how they will join up local public services across health, skills and employment in order to improve outcomes, particularly how they will work with local Clinical Commissioning Groups/third sector organisations and NHS England / the Health and Work Unit nationally to enable timely health-based support.
55. DWP will work with the Combined Authority and other partners to put in place workable data sharing arrangements which enable the integration of services and reduce duplication in order to support more people into work.

Career and pay progression.

56. The Government will work with the Combined Authority to ensure that local priorities are fed into the provision of career advice, through direct involvement and collaboration with the government in the design of local careers and enterprise provision for all ages, including continued collaboration with the Careers and Enterprise Company and the National Careers Service.
57. The Combined Authority will develop a business case for an innovative pilot to support career and pay progression for those claiming Universal Credit. The business case will set out the evidence to support the proposed pilot, cost and benefits and robust evaluation plans to enable the proposal to be taken forward, subject to Ministerial approval and an agreed investment plan.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

58. Government will participate in and support the work of The East Anglia's Productivity Commission, as a National Pilot Project to improve the productivity of the local economy by:
- a. Examining the productivity challenges facing local key sectors and the definition of productivity in each sector
 - b. Examining best practice locally, nationally and globally, at tackling these challenges
 - c. Building on the government's 10-point plan for rural productivity
 - d. Assessing how central and local policies are assisting with the productivity challenges and how they can be made to work better
 - e. Developing a Productivity Plan bringing together best practice and policy recommendations
 - f. Overseeing implementation of the plan and evaluate its impact
 - g. Making available findings and actions for roll-out in other parts of the country
59. The East Anglia's Productivity Commission will be chaired by a senior business figure, co-ordinated by the LEP, funded by local partners and able to capitalise on business-led sector group structures established by the LEPs.
60. Local partners will successfully deliver the Cambridge Compass, Alconbury-Weald and the New Anglia Enterprise Zones and the extension to the Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft Enterprise Zone as announced on 25 November following the 2015

application round. DCLG will agree with the LEP memoranda of understanding about the high level management and delivery of both the new EZs and the extension. Government commits to supporting local partners in promoting and supporting the delivery of the Enterprise Zones as well as considering any further proposals subject to future funding rounds.

61. The LEP will continue to deliver strong Growth Hubs, providing business support tailored to meet local needs across East Anglia. Government will provide funding to help embed the Growth Hubs in 2016/17 and 2017/18.
62. The Combined Authority, Local Authorities and LEPs commit to greater alignment of economic development resources to maximise impact of support for businesses and ensure the most efficient and effective use of public funding. This will include agreeing joint objectives to support the delivery of the Strategic Economic Plans and local plans and explore the pooling of staffing and resources.
63. Government recognises the work of the New Anglia Oil and Gas Task Force, established to support the businesses and employees who are being affected by the recent downturn in the oil and gas sector. The New Anglia Task Force will provide intelligence on the state of the local sector to Government's Inter Ministerial Group, to help shape national policy to support for the sector. Government will engage with the Task Force to ensure that UK Oil and Gas workforce plan which is currently under development aligns with and enhances measures being taken locally.
64. New Anglia LEP and the Combined Authority commit to working with UKTI, strengthen joint working to increase inward investment and exporting. Local partners will invest in a concerted campaign to help more businesses, particularly smaller companies, export.
65. New Anglia LEP, the Growth Hubs and Local Authorities will work with Government to develop a strategic approach to regulatory delivery, building on the Better Business for All national programme which will remove regulatory barriers to growth for businesses.
66. Government supports the vision for innovation set out by East Anglia and recognises the importance of the delivery of this vision for the region's future economic growth. The government will offer East Anglia expert advice and support through the Smart Specialisation Advisory Hub, and associated workshops, to support activities part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund. Government also recognises Norwich's growing capability in the area of food and health research, as evidence by the announcement of the Quadram Institute in Budget 2016, and would be interested in the area's views on how East Anglia can capitalise on this strength.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

67. East Anglia faces significant demographic challenges that are putting pressure on resources now and in future years. For example, the population of the area contains more residents over the age of 75 than the average for England and this group is expected to continue to grow significantly.

68. Local progress has already been made towards greater integration of health and social care in a number of locations – Suffolk, North East Cambridgeshire and Norfolk have all developed local integrated services that support and improve the delivery of health and social care for people in their areas.
69. There is appetite to build on these foundations and make further progress on health and social care integration in order to deliver the Spending Review commitment to integrate health and social care by 2020, and to make the most efficient and effective use of public resources to meet the demographic challenges that lie ahead. Integrating such complex services will require re-shaping the whole system, which can only be achieved through careful planning, a shared vision and strong co-operation between local partners. This Devolution Deal signals a commitment to take forward the goal of improving local services and building resilience for future generations.
70. To deliver this shared vision, partnerships between local authorities, clinical commissioning groups, service providers and other local partners will need to be strengthened significantly. Therefore, these parties will work together, with support from Government, NHS England and other national partners as appropriate, to support each of the counties through their Sustainability and Transformation Planning process to set out plans for moving progressively towards integration of health and social care, bringing together local health and social care resources to improve outcomes for residents and reduce pressure on Accident and Emergency and avoidable hospital admissions.
71. NHS England and local organisations will remain accountable for meeting the full range of their statutory duties.

PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM

72. The Government and the Combined Authority will work with relevant central and local statutory and non-statutory sector partners to explore innovative and integrated approaches to redesigning sustainable public services across Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with a focus on prevention and early help.

THE EAST ANGLIA COMBINED AUTHORITY COMMITMENTS

73. The Combined Authority is accountable to local people for the successful implementation of the Devolution Deal; consequently, HM Government expects the Combined Authority to monitor and evaluate their Deal in order to demonstrate and report on progress. The Cities and Local Growth Unit will work with the shadow / proposed Combined Authority to agree a locally resourced monitoring and evaluation framework that meets local needs and helps to support future learning. This framework must be approved to the DCLG Accounting Officer prior to delivery.
74. The Combined Authority will be required to evaluate the additional £30 million per annum of funding for 30 years, which will form part of and capitalise the Combined Authority single pot. The £30 million per annum fund will be subject to:

- a. Gateway assessments for the £30 million per annum scheme. The Combined Authority and Government will jointly commission an independent assessment of the economic benefits and economic impact of the investments made under the scheme, including whether the projects have been delivered on time and to budget. This assessment will be funded by the Combined Authority, but agreed at the outset with Government, and will take place every five years. The next five year tranche of funding will be unlocked if Government is satisfied that the independent assessment shows the investment to have met the objectives and contributed to national growth;
 - b. The gateway assessment should be consistent with the HM Treasury Green Book, which sets out the framework for evaluation of all policies and programmes, and where relevant with the more detailed transport cost-benefit analysis guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT). The assessment should also take into account the latest developments in economic evaluation methodology; and
 - c. The government would expect the assessment to show the activity funded through the scheme represents better value for money than comparable projects, defined in terms of a Benefit to Cost ratio.
75. The Combined Authority will write a single local assurance framework for the Single Pot, based on guidance produced by DCLG, to outline decision-making processes to allocate funding, and project appraisal. This local assurance framework will be signed off by the Government.
76. The constituent local authorities of the proposed Combined Authority, and the Combined Authority when formed, will work with government to develop a full implementation plan, covering each policy agreed in this Deal, to be completed ahead of implementation. This plan will include the timing and proposed approach for monitoring and evaluation of each policy which will take into account the latest developments in economic evaluation methodology and help supports future learning. This implementation plan must be approved by the DCLG Accounting Officer prior to delivery.
77. The Combined Authority and government will agree a process to manage local financial risk relevant to these proposals and will jointly develop written agreements on every devolved power or fund to agree accountability between local and national bodies on the basis of the principles set out in this document.
78. The Combined Authority will continue to set out their proposals to HM Government for how local resources and funding will be pooled across the region.
79. The Combined Authority will agree overall borrowing and capitalisation limits with the Government and have formal agreement to engage on forecasting. The Combined Authority will also provide information, explanation and assistance to the Office for Budget Responsibility where such information would assist in meeting their duty to produce economic and fiscal forecasts for the UK economy.
80. The Combined Authority will continue to progress programmes of transformation amongst authorities to streamline back office functions and share more services and data, including on assets and property.

81. The Combined Authority will continue to adhere to their public sector equality duties, for both existing and newly devolved responsibilities.
82. The government will support the constituent members of the proposed Combined Authority by leveraging existing monitoring and evaluation frameworks and, where applicable, by providing assistance to ensure consistency and coordination of metrics and methodologies with other areas receiving a devolution agreement. As part of this commitment, government will work with the constituent members of the proposed Combined Authority to explore options for the coordinated application of high quality impact evaluation methods in relation to certain policies, which may include i) local commissioning of 19+ skills; and ii) employment support.