



**EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD
Cabinet Member**

REF No: 190.24

A1 Service Area	The Staffordshire Leaders' Board.
A2 Title	Adoption of the updated Terms of Reference for The Staffordshire Leaders' Board Joint Committee.
A3 Decision Taken By	Leader of the Council.
A4 Chief Officer	Please print name: Andy O'Brien Please sign name: (Approval via email 25/06/24)
A5 Leader / Deputy Leader	Please print name: Councillor Michael Fitzpatrick Please sign name: (Approval via email 25/06/24)
A6 Date of Decision	25 th June 2024

Confidential or Exempt Information

A7 Does this decision contain Confidential Information?	No
A7.1 Does this Decision contain Exempt Information as described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972?	No
A7.2 If yes, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972.	N/A



Conflict of Interest

Are there any conflicts of interest to declare? No

(If "Yes" please contact the Chief Executive before making the Decision. A note of dispensation should be attached).

Scrutiny/Audit

A8 Which Committee should this decision be submitted to? *(Please tick as appropriate)*

- Scrutiny (Value for Money Council) Committee ✓
- Scrutiny (Regeneration Development and Market Hall) Committee
- Scrutiny (Health and Wellbeing) Committee
- Scrutiny (Climate Change and Environment) Committee ✓
- Audit Committee

B1 What is the Decision?	To approve and adopt the updated Terms of Reference for The Staffordshire Leaders' Board Joint Committee.
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B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?

ESBC, the County Council, Stoke on City and Staffordshire's eight District and Borough Councils have worked together over a number of years in many ways to benefit residents. This includes our collective response to the pandemic, supporting businesses and the economy, creating jobs and opportunities, reducing waste and increasing recycling, tackling climate change, and by reimagining and reshaping our High Streets and Town Centres.

The Leaders Board was created to build on this collaboration by recognising that a formal joint committee would be able to speak to central Government for the area and our communities. It also provides the foundation for exploring the potential of a deal with government, when the right time comes to do so, for the devolution of powers and funding to the area.

Although Stoke on Trent were not one of the original members of the Leaders Board it was always hoped that they could be brought on board at some point, and agreement has now been reached to enable this to happen. This will however require a number of amendments to be made to the Terms of Reference of the Board, and these amendments need to be considered and agreed by all parties, hence this decision.

Further to the previous Terms of Reference (2022), the key changes to note are summarised below:

a. Stoke-on-Trent City Council are added as a 'constituent authority', with the Board comprising of all ten authorities across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

b. The Terms of Reference now include a clause allowing the Board to exercise additional functions given to it by members.

c. The remit section has been reworded in a number of places largely to change the emphasis around the Board's role (e.g. "oversee" rather than "lead and oversee").

d. Health, Housing and Homelessness remain in the Terms of Reference but with the Board's role being one of coordination.

e. The Terms of Reference now make clear that the scope of any potential Devolution Deal is not limited by the Terms of Reference themselves.

f. The Terms of Reference now reserve the co-option of additional non-voting members and winding up the Board to the constituent authorities rather than being dealt with by unanimous voting at the Board.

g. The notice period for exit has been reduced to three months.

The remit for the Leaders Board will be:

a. To develop options for a devolution deal or deals for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent with HM Government.

b. To oversee the alignment of relevant local authority action on Climate Change, Waste and Sustainability.

c. To oversee the alignment of relevant local authority plans for enterprise development and organisation of business voice.

d. To coordinate the alignment of local authority interaction with the Health sector in Staffordshire.

e. To oversee the alignment of relevant local authority plans for future development and infrastructure.

f. To coordinate the alignment of relevant local authority plans in relation to Housing and Homelessness.

g. To develop Staffordshire-wide joint initiatives to enhance local government efficiency and effectiveness.

h. To develop plans and coordinate delivery for strategic economic growth that spans local boundaries.

i. To develop opportunities for joint action with respect to addressing social inequalities across the geography.

<p>B2 Alternative options considered and rejected?</p>	<p>j. To act as a conduit for coordinated engagement with other sub-regional and regional bodies the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect.</p> <p>k. Where appropriate, to agree shared priorities and bids for funding to existing and new external funding sources.</p> <p>l. To monitor and evaluate projects and programmes of activity commissioned directly by the Committee.</p> <p>m. To communicate and, where collectively agreed, to align activity across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent on a range of other key public priorities that affect citizens.</p> <p>n. To prioritise and make decisions on the use of the funding that the Committee may influence or control.</p> <p>The full updated Terms of Reference proposed for the Leaders Board are attached to this decision.</p> <p>Not applicable given the reason for the decision, above.</p>
<p>B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving Local Democracy. - Creating a prosperous East Staffordshire
<p>B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?</p>	<p>There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.</p>

Financial Implications

<p>B5 What are the financial implications?</p>	<p>There are no financial issues arising from this decision.</p>
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Revenue	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26

Capital	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26

The finance section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:	Please print name: Lloyd Haynes Please sign name: (Approval via email 25/06/24)
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Policy Framework

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?	Yes
B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	NA
B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?	Yes
B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	NA

Equalities Implications

B8 What are the Equalities implications: NA
B8.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): NA
B8.2 Negative (Threats): NA
B8.3 The subject of this decision is not a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality impact assessment is not required.
B8.4 [The equality impact assessment identified the following actions to be carried out:] NA

Risk Assessment

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications: NA
B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): NA
B9.2 Negative (Threats) NA
B9.3 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register.

Legal Considerations

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:

B10.1 There are no significant legal issues arising from this decision. Nevertheless the Joint Committee will continue to act as a Joint Committee under Section 9EB of the Local Government Act 2000 and pursuant Regulation of the Local Authorities (Arrangement for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012.

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team

Please print name: John Teasdale

Please sign name: (Approval via email 25/06/24)

Environmental Impacts

B11 What are the Environmental Impacts: NA

Consider impacts related to the Climate Change & Nature Strategy aims:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions (climate change mitigation)
- Preparing for future climate change (adaptation)
- Protecting and enhancing nature
- Using resources wisely and minimising waste and pollution

B11.1

The impacts are **not significant**. However, it is noted that a key remit of the Board is to oversee the alignment of relevant local authority action on Climate Change, Waste and Sustainability. This will further benefit the Council's Climate Change agenda.

(note – a **significant** impact will likely result from any project, policy, procurement exercise or service change that has a direct or indirect effect on energy or fuel use, water use, land use, other physical resource use, waste generation, pollution, regeneration or construction – If unsure contact the Council's Climate Change and Adaptation Officers.)

B11.2 Positive Impacts (Opportunities/Benefits): As above, B11.1

B11.3 Negative Impacts (Threats/Mitigation): NA

Health & Safety Implications

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:

B12.1 A Risk Assessment has not been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks because there are no significant hazards or risks arising from this decision.

B12.2 [The significant hazards and risks have been identified in the Safety Media Risk Assessment numbered []. Any financial implications to mitigate against these hazards and risks are considered above.] NA

B12.3 [Control measures and an action plan have been identified for any significant hazards and risks identified in the risk assessment. The positive/negative impacts are set out below] NA

B12.3.1 Positive (Benefits) NA

B12.3.2 Negative (Threats) NA

Key Decision

B13 Is this a Key Decision? No

Note: A Key Executive Decision is one where:

- 1. REVENUE – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000**
- 2. CAPITAL – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000**
- 3. A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.**

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would seriously prejudice the public interest?

NA

B13.2 If yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?

NA

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

The questions contained in this questionnaire are not to be altered in any way. If you have any queries regarding the contents of this document, please contact Democratic Service Ext 1306/1608 or refer to Part 3 Section 6 of the Constitution.

Please send the original signed document to:
democratic.services@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

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