

PART B: RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

DATE: 23 NOVEMBER 2017

REPORT OF THE: CHIEF EXECUTIVE (INTERIM)

**CLARE SLATER** 

TITLE OF REPORT: DEVOLUTION UPDATE

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 For Members to consider the current position regarding a future combined authority to include the Ryedale District Council area

## 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members support the development of a combined authority to include Ryedale, with officers attending any future discussions, on the principle of a partnership of the willing.
- 2.2 That the preferred geography for a Combined Authority to include Ryedale to be that which includes as great a portion of the Yorkshire Region as possible and including as a minimum, York, North Yorkshire and East Riding.

## 3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members continue to demonstrate the support of the Council for the development of a combined authority and devolution deal to include the Ryedale area.

#### 4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 That the Ryedale area is not included in a combined authority and any related devolution deal.
- 4.2 That the view of the Members of Ryedale District Council are not included in any future discussion on the geography of a combined authority and devolution deal for any part of the Yorkshire region.

#### 5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

- 5.1 In April 2016 Members resolved that support be given to officers to continue discussions with government on a devolution deal based on a York, North Yorkshire and East Riding of Yorkshire geography on a formal basis alongside other options.
- 5.2 Members have agreed to not have a Leader and that the Council should not have a political representative at any of the Yorkshire Leaders' Board or the Yorkshire Leaders Devolution meetings. The Chief Executive (Interim) currently attends these meetings and provides a briefing to Members as requested by Council through the Group Leaders.

## **REPORT**

### 6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 The options currently being discussed by the Leaders are as follows:
  - One Yorkshire a devolution deal to include the whole of Yorkshire
  - ii) Greater Yorkshire a devolution deal for the areas of Yorkshire not covered by the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal.
- 6.2 The majority of Leaders who attend the meetings of the Yorkshire Leaders Board continue to support the development of a One Yorkshire devolution deal. The government continue to support the South Yorkshire Devolution Deal.
  - In order to clarify the position in relation to the South Yorkshire Deal and the prospects of a devolution deal for the whole of Yorkshire, a meeting has been requested with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and all of the Leaders who comprise the 'coalition of the willing'.
- 6.3 The date of the next Yorkshire Leaders Board is 12 January 2018 in York, and the next proposed Yorkshire Leaders Devolution meeting is scheduled for 4 December 2017 in Leeds.

## 7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
  - a) Financial
     Currently none identified as any discussions on a possible devolution deal are not yet advanced.
  - b) Legal
    Currently none identified as any discussions on the governance arrangements for any combined authority are not yet advanced.
  - c) Other None

# **Clare Slater**

# **Chief Executive (Interim)**

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# **Background Papers:**

None