



## **CABINET**

**15 JUNE 2016**

**Subject Heading:**

**Local London Inter Authority Agreement**

**Cabinet Member:**

**Councillor Roger Ramsey**

**CMT Lead:**

**Andrew Blake-Herbert**

**Report Author and contact details:**

Kayleigh Pardoe, Policy and Performance Business Partner (Communities and Resources)

**Policy context:**

This is related to the Council's Corporate Plan wherein one of the Council's objectives under 'Working with others to reduce costs' is to continue to work with other boroughs in Local London to make the case for devolution and to secure better funding and resources for Havering

**Financial summary:**

Each Local London Member is required to pay an annual contribution of £50k or such other sum as shall be agreed. Payment for the first year of the Agreement shall be payable with 30 days of the commencement of the Agreement. Payments in respect of subsequent years will be made on or before the 30 April in each year. The funding previously contributed to the North East London Strategic Alliance (NELSA) and East London Solutions (ELS) is no longer required and so can be diverted to this use.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**When should this matter be reviewed?**

April 2017

**Reviewing OSC:**

Overview and Scrutiny Board

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Havering will be clean and its environment will be cared for	<input type="checkbox"/>
People will be safe, in their homes and in the community	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Residents will be proud to live in Havering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**SUMMARY**

This report seeks Cabinet approval for the Local London Inter Authority Agreement, as agreed by the Local London Partnership Members. The Local London Inter Authority Agreement is attached as Appendix A to this report.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Cabinet:

1. Formally **approves** the Local London Inter Authority Agreement and the agreements proposed.
2. **Agrees** to the creation of the Local London Partnership Unit headed by the Director of Local London, who shall lead on the development and management of Local London's programme of work.
3. **Agrees** to the creation of the Local London joint committee and **agrees** to the delegation of functions to this joint committee to discharge executive functions on behalf of the London Borough of Havering and other Local London Members as outlined in the Schedule of Appendix A.
4. **Approves** the London Borough of Redbridge's role as the Accountable Body of Local London, and any duties and responsibilities that are assigned to this role.
5. **Nominates** one representative for the Local London Joint Committee, which will enact executive functions (please see paragraph 3.1). This will usually be the Leader of the Council.

**REPORT DETAIL**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The Local London Partnership was established in February 2016 as the successor to the North East London Strategic Alliance (NELSA). Membership is currently made up of eight London Boroughs (Barking & Dagenham, Bexley, Enfield, Greenwich, Havering, Newham, Redbridge and Waltham Forest). Members of Local London work in partnership with the aims of delivering growth and to identify opportunities for devolution to the sub London region.
- 1.2 Local London Members work with the Greater London Authority and the national government to seek devolution deals which will result in benefits for both local economies and residents. The Local London Partnership will deliver on any responsibilities transferred to them and any specified devolved matters given to its members.
- 1.3 A draft Local London constitution was proposed at the Local London Leaders, Mayors and Chief Executives Strategy Group meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 that outlined the objectives and powers of the Local London Partnership. These arrangements have since been incorporated into the Local London Inter Authority Agreement, agreed upon by the Leaders, Mayors and Chief Executives Strategy Group in March 2016, which is to be formally approved by the executive bodies of each Local London Member. The decision to appoint a Director of Local London to oversee the work of the Local London Partnership Programme was also agreed at this meeting.
- 1.4 At the Local London Leaders, Mayors and Chief Executives Strategy Group meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> February, a proposal was put forward from the London Borough of Redbridge that it would act as the accountable body for Local London. It was provisionally agreed by members that Redbridge would act as the accountable body for Local London.

**2 Local London Inter Authority Agreement**

See Appendix A for the full text to be approved by Cabinet

**3 Joint Committee**

- 3.1 The Local London Joint Committee will enact executive functions, as outlined in The Schedule of Appendix A, on behalf of all Local London Members in so far as they involve joint activities or areas of common concern that relate to devolved matters. As stated in the terms of reference, each Local London Member will nominate one representative to the joint committee who will each have one vote. The use of executive functions by

the joint committee will require approval from the executive bodies of each Local London Member.

#### **4 Accountable Body**

4.1 The responsibilities for the London Borough of Redbridge as the accountable body for Local London are to include:

- Budget and staff hosting (including the annual budget)
- Ensuring that the annual budget is set and monitored in an open and transparent way
- Ensuring revenue is spent appropriately and promotes the agenda of Local London and its members
- Arrangement of Local London meetings
- Development and circulation of papers
- Appropriate sign off processes for key decision making

4.2 A detailed summary of the responsibilities of the accountable body can be found in Appendix A (section 8 of the Local London Inter Authority Agreement).

4.3 Local London Members have agreed in principle to Redbridge's role as the accountable body for Local London but the decision will need formal approval by each member's executive body.

#### **5 Director of Local London**

5.1 Local London Members have agreed in principle to the appointment of a Director of Local London, who will oversee Local London's programme of devolved work by managing the Local London Partnership Unit. The director will provide strategic leadership to the Local London sub-region in developing joint programmes of work, identifying opportunities and developing a case for greater devolution to Local London. The director will work closely with London's other sub-regional partnerships to negotiate effective and meaningful devolution deals with central government to transfer further powers and responsibilities.

5.2 The Leaders, Mayors and Chief Executives of Local London Members will be directly involved in appointing the director through the application and interview processes.

5.3 As the accountable body for Local London, the London Borough of Redbridge will be responsible for employing and hosting the Director of Local London and any subsequent staff they may wish to appoint. Further details on this process can be found in Appendix A (section 8 of the Local London Inter Authority Agreement)

#### **6 Next Steps**

6.1 Moving forward it is important to formalise the structure of Local London as discussions on devolution continue to move apace. Cabinet can approve

the recommendations suggested and in doing so Local London Members can achieve the agreed goal of Local London being fully constituted and operational by early summer 2016.

- 6.2 Local London members will continue to work on the devolved areas previously agreed (skills, employment support and health).
- 6.3 The approval of the Local London Inter Authority Agreement and its agreements will formalise the Local London Partnership and ensure the partnership is in a position to be able to manage and deliver additional devolved responsibilities from central government.

## REASONS AND OPTIONS

### **Reasons for the decision:**

It is necessary for Cabinet to approve the arrangements set out in the Local London Inter Authority Agreement in order for Local London members to collaborate on and coordinate a range of activities and opportunities that arise through a greater devolution of powers from central government.

At the Local London Leaders, Mayors and Chief Executives Strategy Group meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> March, members committed themselves to formally approving the Local London Inter Authority Agreement through their respective governance mechanisms.

### **Other options considered:**

The alternative option available to the Cabinet is not to approve the arrangements set out in the Local London Inter Authority Agreement. This would mean Havering would not formally be a Local London member, which would limit the opportunities presented to the borough through devolution at a sub-regional level. This option is not recommended.

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

### **Financial implications and risks:**

Paragraph 9 of the agreement sets out how the Annual Budget of Local London will work.

## **Cabinet 15 June 2016**

Each Local London Member is required to pay an Annual Contribution of £50k or such other sum as shall be agreed. Payments will be made on or before the 30 April in each year.

Where an underspend occurs in any Financial Year this will be carried forward unless all Local London members agree for an equal reimbursement. Any overspends will be shared in equal parts and further equal contributions made by each of the Local London members.

The annual contribution may also be increased in line with the rate of inflation in accordance with the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) provided a majority of the Local London members agree.

Cleared: Comie Campbell Interim Strategic Finance Business Partner 19/04/2016

### **Legal implications and risks:**

The Council has powers under Section 101 (5) and 113 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, Section 1 (1) (b) of the Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011, and Sections 9EA and 9EB of the Local Government Act 2000 to enter into the arrangements as recommended in the report.

Further, the Local Authorities (Arrangements for the Discharge of Functions) (England) Regulations 2012 enable arrangements for the discharge of executive functions to be made as specified under the Regulations.

Cleared: Shupriya Iqbal, Senior Procurement Lawyer 21/04/2016

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

There are no envisaged Human Resources implications for Havering.

Cleared: Geraldine Minchin, Strategic HR Business Partner 18/04/2016

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

Projects / activities undertaken by Local London will be subject to separate Equalities Impact Assessments.

It is not considered necessary to have an Equalities Impact Assessment for the approval of the Local London Inter Authority Agreement.

Cleared: Savinder Bhamra, Corporate Diversity Advisor 18/04/2016

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None