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Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

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Dead Mr Still,

I am replying to your letter of 5 March to my predecessor, Sajid Javid, which enclosed a short outline of proposals for devolution to authorities within Yorkshire. A copy of this letter is going to the leaders of the eighteen local authorities who signed this letter to Dan Jarvis who subsequently has been elected Mayor for the Sheffield City Region; and to the leaders of Rotherham, Sheffield, North Lincolnshire, and North East Lincolnshire councils, since those four authorities share functional economic areas with authorities who have signed up to the initial outline proposals.

As the previous Secretary of State indicated, we are prepared to consider any proposal submitted to us, on the same criteria that we have used to consider devolution proposals elsewhere. However, as you know the Government has always been clear that the first step to any devolution deal across Yorkshire is the full implementation of the 2015 Sheffield City Region devolution deal.

Dan Jarvis was elected as Mayor of SCR in May for a four year term, with a commitment first to implementing in full the SCR devolution deal before seeking devolution on a wider geographic basis. Until the Sheffield City Region deal is fully implemented, the Government is not prepared to enter into any discussion about wider devolution arrangements that would include some or all of the SCR authorities.

Yours rincerely

RT HON JAMES BROKENSHIRE MP