



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe
Cllr Shabir Pandor
Cllr Denise Jeffery
Cllr Tim Swift
Cllr Judith Blake

Luke Hall MP
Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government

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16 November 2020

Dear Susan, Shabir, Denise, Tim and Judith,

West Yorkshire Devolution Deal

Following your submission to the Secretary of State of the governance review, scheme and consultation required by statute for the implementation of the West Yorkshire devolution deal which we agreed and announced on 11 March, I am pleased to confirm that the Secretary of State is satisfied the statutory tests to implement the deal are met. We are now finalising the necessary Order and I enclose a copy of a near final draft which may be subject to further minor legal drafting amendments. We intend to lay the Order before Parliament in early December, subject to each of your councils and the combined authority consenting to the Order. Accordingly, I am now inviting you to put in place arrangements enabling your council's formal consent to be confirmed.

As you see, the Order will provide for certain functions of local and public authorities to be exercised by the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (the "WYCA"), and for certain specified functions of the WYCA to be exercisable only by the Mayor of the WYCA. It also amends certain governance arrangements. The provisions in the Order correspond to the proposals published in your Governance Review and Scheme with two exceptions in regard to strategic planning powers and strategic infrastructure tariff. Given our intention to reform the planning system (as set out in the "Planning for the Future" white paper) we are committing that we will seek to confer these powers (or equivalent as established through the ongoing planning reform process) to WYCA when the position is clearer.

My officials will keep closely in touch with your officers as the legal drafting of the Order is finalised and your councils give formal consent to the finalised Order.

Finally, thank you for all your hard work to get to this point. Implementing the West Yorkshire deal will be a significant step for everyone in West Yorkshire providing critical support to the economic recovery of West Yorkshire communities from the impact of Covid-19 and I am delighted we are moving forward.

Yours sincerely,

LUKE HALL MP