
REPORT TO:	COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM:10
DATE OF MEETING:	11 APRIL 2024	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	MIKE ROYLANCE (01283 595725) mike.roylance@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP BOARD	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members approve the establishment of the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board as a Joint Committee of the Council.
- 1.2 Members approve that none of the Council's functions are delegated to this Joint Committee.
- 1.3 Members note the Terms of Reference, Functions and Responsibilities, Procedural Rules and Information Procedure Rules for the Strategic Leadership Board as set out at Appendix 3.
- 1.4 Members appoint the Leader of the Council as the Council's representative on the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board and the Deputy Leader of the Council as a Substitute.
- 1.5 Members note the intention that the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board be the body for the nomination of District and Borough representatives to the East Midlands Combined County Authority, when established.
- 1.6 Members note that Derbyshire County Council will act as the host authority for the Joint Committee.
- 1.7 Members note the dissolution of the Derby & Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity.
- 1.8 Members note the transfer of the remaining funds and responsibilities for the Business Rate Retention pooled funds currently held by the Derby & Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity to the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board.

- 1.9 Members note the dissolution of the Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee.
- 1.10 Members note the dissolution of the Derbyshire Economic Partnership and note that the Council's existing financial contribution to that body will cease.
- 1.11 Members approve the Council's active participation in the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board together with an annual contribution of £15,000.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix A is a report prepared by Derbyshire County Council which is being considered by local authorities in Derbyshire. Members are asked to consider this and to decide if they wish to resolve to participate in a new Derby and Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board (D2 SLB). Appendix A also includes a short guide to the new Board and its Draft Terms of Reference provided by Derbyshire County Council.
- 2.2 It is understood that all other District Councils in Derbyshire have considered the report and have agreed to participate in the new Board.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Partnership structures in Derbyshire are undergoing a process of rationalisation to reduce overlap and costs, and prepare for the establishment of the East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA). The following structures are in the process of being dissolved:
- Derbyshire Economic Partnership.
 - Derby & Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity.
 - Vision Derbyshire Joint Committee (SDDC is not a member of this).
- 3.2 A new Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board is proposed as a single framework for discussion and decision making, with all local authorities in Derby and Derbyshire invited to participate.
- 3.3 The role of the new Board will be, "to collaborate, co-ordinate and drive forward agendas where it is recognised that more can be achieved by councils working together to improve outcomes for people and places across Derbyshire."
- 3.4 The new Board will be a Joint Committee with the following purpose:
- Provide collective strategic leadership for local government in Derby and Derbyshire.
 - Drive forward shared ambition and collective priorities for local government across Derby and Derbyshire.
 - Improve joint working across local government in Derby and Derbyshire.
 - Form a collective view on matters impacting Derby and Derbyshire.
 - Enable agile, timely and effective decision making.

3.5 The new Board’s remit will include ‘place’, regeneration, broader economic development, business and skills, and transport, together with wider agendas including climate and the environment, and health and wellbeing.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 It is proposed that Derbyshire County Council will act as the host authority for the new Board and provide the necessary executive support for its administration.

4.2 A Programme Team will be created consisting of five new posts (4.5 FTEs), whilst 2 FTEs currently working for the Derbyshire Economic Partnership will also be transferred. Postholders will be permanent employees of Derbyshire County Council.

4.3 The operating costs of the new Board in 2024/25 will be funded as follows:

Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board Funding	£
Derbyshire County Council Funding (40%)	174,883
Derbyshire Economic Partnership Funding	138,142
Business Rate Pool Contribution	109,108
Total	422,133

4.4 Each District Council contributes £15,000 annually towards the cost of the Derbyshire Economic Partnership staff and a small programme fund and it is proposed to transfer this funding to the new Board.

4.5 As such, there are no additional financial implications for District Councils in the first year of the new Board (2024/25) and there are no proposed changes to this level of contribution for future years.

4.6 For 2025/26 and beyond, any further use of the remaining pool monies is subject to a separate decision. However, it is anticipated that future funding will flow from the new East Midlands Combined County Authority, given that the Board will act as the lead forum for collaborative activity between councils on County Combined Authority matters around investment and growth.

4.7 The new Board would take responsibility for the remaining Business Rates Retention Pilot pooled funding, with over £700,000 of the original £7.3 million remaining uncommitted.

5.0 Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

5.1 The new Board will be constituted as a ‘Joint Committee’. This means that, the Council will need to establish it as a new joint committee and the Constitution will be amended to reflect this.

- 5.2 The recommendation is that no functions are delegated to the new Board as the County Council has Economic Development functions which it has delegated to the new Board and therefore no additional District functions require delegation.
- 5.3 The Council can delegate functions to the new Board at a later date.
- 5.4 Derbyshire County Council propose that membership and participation be open to all Derby and Derbyshire Councils, including by Councils which choose not to confer responsibilities in the way that is envisaged and who instead choose to retain full, separate local control.
- 5.5 The draft articles, functions and procedure rules for the new Board are attached at Appendix 3.
- 5.6 It is noted in the Articles that:

Councils may choose to appoint members to the D2 SLB while not delegating decision-making responsibilities for functions. However, all participating authorities, whether or not agreeing to delegate functions, will be required to contribute towards the costs of funding the D2 SLB.

- 5.7 Membership of the new Board will comprise Councillors from participating Councils who will each be enabled to appoint one Elected Member and one substitute. While the new Board is envisaged as making decisions on the basis of consensus, formally, in order to reserve the decision-making rights of authorities delegating functions, it is proposed that voting will be restricted to those representatives who are from authorities which have delegated functions to the Committee.
- 5.8 The Derby & Derbyshire Joint Committee for Economic Prosperity will continue to exist until the new Board is formalised.

Council Plan Implications

- 5.9 The proposed Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board could have a broad remit contributing to numerous aspects of the Council Plan's vision to 'work together to shape our environment, drive our economy and support our communities'.

Risk Impact

- 5.10 There may be drawbacks to not being part of a potentially key decision making body for the County, including influencing policy making and the distribution of funding.

6.0 Community Implications

Consultation

6.1 Derbyshire County Council has consulted with potential participant local authorities.

Equality and Diversity Impact

6.2 There are no equality and diversity impacts at this time.

Social Value Impact

6.3 There are no social value impacts at this time.

Environmental Sustainability

6.4 There are no environmental sustainability impacts at this time.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 If Members are minded to proceed, the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board will aim to enhance joint working on economic development and a range of other matters at a county level.

7.2 It is suggested that the new Board will act as the platform through which to:

- collectively discuss, agree and align Derby and Derbyshire councils' positions on East Midlands County Combined Authority business.
- agree and then feed in Derbyshire's perspective and collective priorities via its representatives on the East Midlands County Combined Authority Board.
- exercise all functions that the East Midlands County Combined Authority is granting.

7.3 Additionally, the new Board is envisaged as providing a potentially appropriate mechanism for agreeing formal nominations for district and borough representation on the proposed East Midlands County Combined Authority.

8.0 Background Papers

None

Appendix A Derbyshire County Council – Cabinet Report 22 February 2024 – Derby & Derbyshire Strategic Leadership Board

Appendix 1: Implications

Appendix 2: Proposed single framework for the D2 Strategic Leadership Board

Appendix 3: Draft articles, functions and procedures rules for
the proposed Derby & Derbyshire Strategic
Leadership Board Joint Committee

Appendix 4: A short guide to the Derby & Derbyshire Strategic
Leadership Board