

Report To:	CABINET
Date:	29 JANUARY 2024
Heading:	EAST MIDLANDS COMBINED COUNTY AUTHORITY UPDATE
Executive Lead Member:	LEADER
Ward/s:	ALL
Key Decision:	NO
Subject to Call-In:	NO

Purpose of Report

To provide Cabinet with an overview of the developing East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA).

Recommendation(s)

- For Cabinet to note the progress of the establishment of the EMCCA.
- For Cabinet to note the EMCCA governance arrangements, investment plans and priority focus.
- For Cabinet to note the potential impacts for Ashfield, aligned to the Corporate Plan

Reasons for Recommendation(s)

To ensure that Cabinet are kept informed of the development of the EMCCA and proposed focus.

Alternative Options Considered

This report is for information only.

Detailed Information

Background

Following the Government's publication of the Levelling Up White Paper in February 2022, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Derby and Nottingham agreed to collaborate in the creation of a new devolution deal for the East Midlands, delivered through the establishment of a Mayoral Combined County Authority (the East Midlands Combined County Authority, EMCCA).

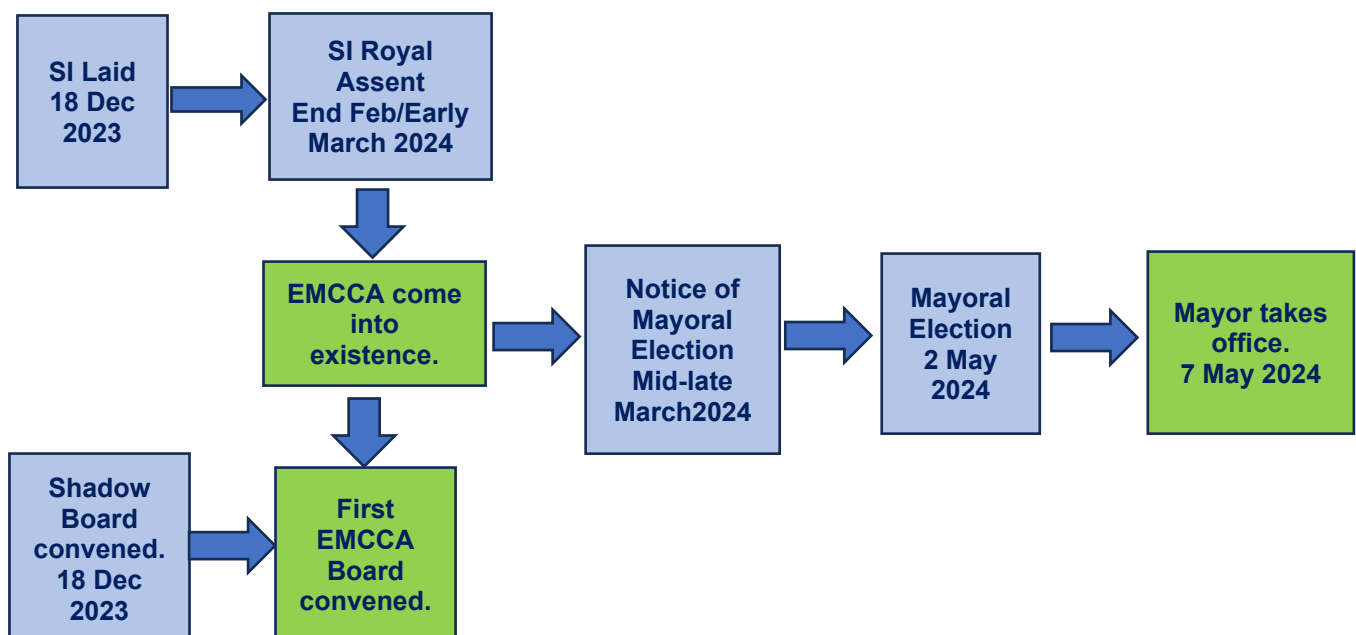
A devolution deal was agreed between the four Constituent Councils (Nottinghamshire County Council, Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council) and the Government, on 30 August 2022.

The vision outlined in the deal, and subsequently published in the Proposal for creation of the EMCCA, is for the 2.2 million people who live and work in the area to enjoy better health, greater prosperity, and an increased sense of wellbeing, with shared objectives of:

- a. Boosting productivity, pay, jobs and living standards.
- b. Spreading opportunities and improving public services.
- c. Restoring a sense of community, local pride and belonging.
- d. Empowering local leaders and communities.

The aim is to use a devolution deal to help address historic under-investment in the East Midlands.

A final proposal was submitted to the Secretary of State on 1 November 2023 following the coming into force of the relevant provisions of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 (LURA). The Secretary of State confirmed that the requisite statutory tests for the establishment of the East Midlands Combined County Authority have been met. The Statutory Instrument (SI) to formally create the EMCCA was laid before the House of Lords on 18th December 2023. The Regulations are expected to come into force in approximately February/March 2024 (allowing 8 weeks for the SI to be considered), when the EMCCA will immediately come into existence. Timeline and key dates are shown in below: -



A Combined County Authority is a new model of devolution introduced in the LURA to reflect the specific governance arrangements of areas with two-tier government. The EMCCA will be the first ever Combined County Authority, with Constituent Council membership of the upper-tier local authorities in the region. The East Midlands will pioneer this type of governance, with other areas in the region expected to follow.

The Mayor and the EMCCA will be focused on the strategic issues which affect the whole region – including transport, net-zero, and housing. They will champion major infrastructure projects in the region, lobbying the Government. The Mayor will champion the interests of the region nationally and internationally, deliver on local priorities and provide greater local accountability and decision-making power, working in partnership with the EMCCA and its Constituent Councils, and more widely with other public service providers, including District and Borough Councils.

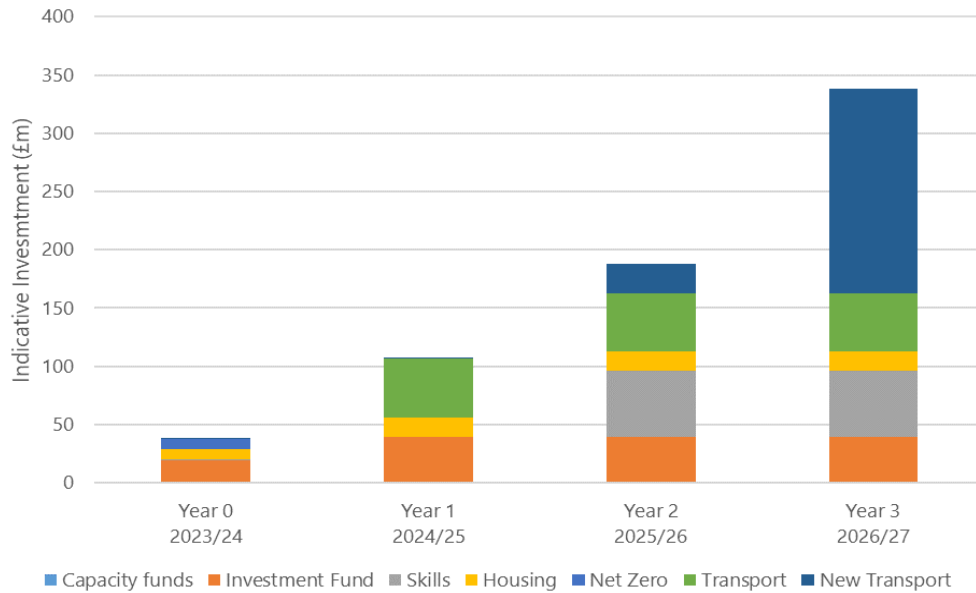
A Mayoral Combined County Authority also provides the chance to take advantage of strategic opportunities, such as the East Midlands Freeport, the East Midlands Development Company, and the East Midlands Investment Zone. It also provides additional opportunities to tackle persistent and systemic deprivation, which drives significant inequalities in some parts of the region, and to raise levels of social mobility, for which the East Midlands is the poorest performing region in the country.

The EMCCA proposal sets out longer term aspirations to seek further powers from Westminster, placing more decisions at local level, as devolution has done with other areas like the West Midlands and Greater Manchester. The Autumn Statement 2023 confirmed that the proposed EMCCA will be in consideration for deepening the current devolution deal in the future once the Mayor is in place (potential to move from level 3 to level 4). This could result in even more new powers and funding for the region in addition to the current deal in areas like skills, transport, and housing, bringing EMCCA closer to the ‘trailblazer’ level 4 deals. Alongside this, further opportunities for public service reform at a local level that would help councils and their partners deliver the best possible services for residents and businesses will be explored.

Key areas of funding and investment are: -

- A £1.14 billion devolved investment fund for the East Midlands region – at least £38 million per year over 30 years.
- A brand-new City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement of over £1.5bn.
- Devolution of Adult Education Budget to improve local skills worth approximately £50m per year.
- An East Midlands Investment Zone worth up to £160m to unlock growth and jobs.
- Significant additional funding – £18m early investment into the area on housing and Carbon Net Zero, £17 million for the building of new homes on brownfield land, and new funding for capacity building as we establish the new authority.

An indication of the scale of funding committed, or indicated to flow through the EMCCA, in its first few years is shown below: -

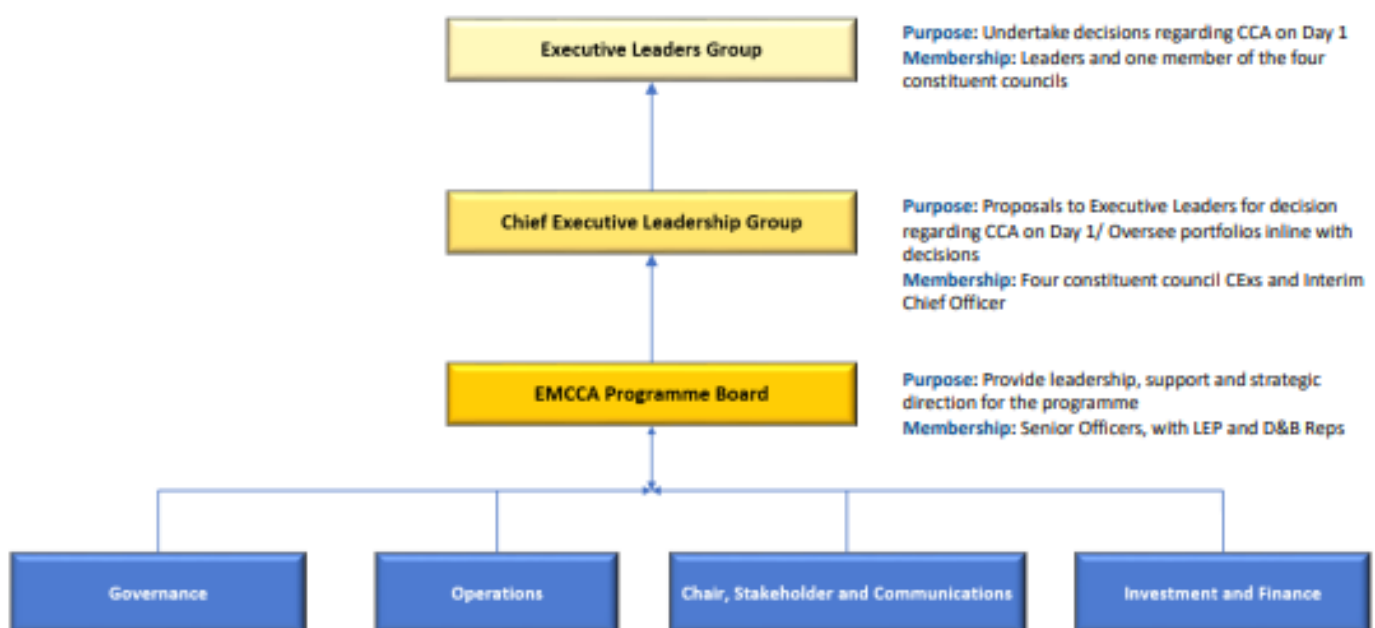


Governance

Transitional Phase

A system of informal nominations and representation has been put in place with district and borough councils before the EMCCA is formally established. The Constituent Councils have established a programme of work to provide for the establishment of the EMCCA and the inaugural Mayoral Election in May 2024.

An Executive Leaders Group, comprising the eight leaders and deputies from the constituent councils and four representatives from district and borough councils, oversees the programme under a clear governance structure. Councillor Paul Peacock, Leader of Newark and Sherwood District Council, and Councillor Milan Radulovic, Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council, represent Nottinghamshire district and borough councils, supported by John Robinson, Chief Executive, Newark and Sherwood District Council.



A Programme Board made up of senior officers from each of the Constituent Councils and local partners manages a series of workstreams to operationalise the new powers and funding. Dedicated programme capacity is in place to work alongside partners to deliver the plans that are in place, subject to the passing of the Regulations. John Robinson, Chief Executive, Newark and Sherwood District Council, represents Nottinghamshire district and borough councils on this board.

As the Constituent Councils have all consented to the passing of the Regulations, the current transitional phase has moved into a phase of operating as a Shadow Authority to support a smooth transition to the fully established EMCCA (which will come into existence the day after the coming into force of the Regulations, which is likely to be in February/March 2024).

The Shadow Authority will oversee the planning and implementation of establishing the EMCCA. It will not be a legal entity but will continue to operate as currently: collaboratively from within the Constituent Councils and in an advisory capacity until the EMCCA can be formally established in early 2024. It will prepare for and put in place capacity for operational day one capability. District and borough councils remain critical partners and will continue to be actively engaged in the programme, including through continued representation in the shadow governance arrangements. The first meeting of the Shadow Board took place on 18th December 2023.

EMCCA Established

The LURA sets out general provisions which apply to all combined county authorities and the Regulations set out the governance arrangements for the EMCCA, comprising up to 17 members in total as follows:

- The directly elected Mayor.
- 8 Constituent Members (each Constituent Council appointing 2 members)
- No more than 8 non-constituent members and associate members in total.

The Mayor is required to appoint one of the members of the EMCCA from the Constituent Councils as a deputy mayor.

As set out in the Proposal, 4 non-constituent members will represent the district and borough councils within the Area (two for each county area) and an associate Member will represent the business voice. It will be for the EMCCA to determine whether the remaining three additional Memberships will be used, and if so, what interests those Memberships should seek to represent on the EMCCA. These arrangements are not specified in the Regulations as the appointment of non-constituent and associate members is a matter for the EMCCA.

District and borough representatives will be appointed by district and borough's – via two joint committees (one for Derbyshire; one for Nottinghamshire). These non-constituent members will sit on the EMCCA Board as representatives of all districts and boroughs and not solely of the district or borough for which they are Councillor. Programme for creation of the EMCCA already draws on the work of the two sub-regional committees – the N2 Economic Prosperity Committee and the D2 Economic Prosperity Committee/Strategic Leaders' Board. Prior to establishment of the EMCCA, the two existing joint committees nominated two representatives to the shadow authority together with two substitutes on an informal basis. This is so that the composition of the shadow authority can mirror, as closely as possible, the EMCCA. The terms of reference of the 2 joint committees will be amended to include the function of nominating non-constituent representatives to the EMCCA and other associated committee/advisory group representatives as and when requested. Nomination rights will be formalised for district and borough representatives to the EMCCA Cabinet for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire lower tier authorities respectively. Further work is also

underway to develop and improve the structures, arrangements, and practices for wider district and borough involvement and that of key regional stakeholders in the work of the shadow EMCCA, now established.

There are a range of governance issues that will need to be determined before the formal commencement of the EMCCA including the Constitution, provisions around voting, quorum, involvement and role of non-constituent members – guided by the requirements of legislation.

Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees

The LURA requires the EMCCA to have at least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee whose role will be to review and scrutinise the decision-making of the EMCCA and the Mayor, to ensure that the decision-making is appropriately focussed on community needs, and that high quality delivery is taking place for the benefit of the Area.

It will also have an Audit and Governance Committee to review and assess the authority in the areas of corporate governance, risk management, internal controls, external audit, internal audit, financial reporting, and other related areas to ensure that the financial and governance decision-making position of the EMCCA, and the Mayor is sound.

Other Advisory Boards

It is expected that EMCCA will have a small number of advisory committees from its inception and principally be focused on business representation, skills, transport, and investment.

The voice of business will be a critical component in the future EMCCA, given that a key area of focus will be economy, industry, and business. The EMCCA will appoint an Associate Member to the CCA who can represent the views of business moving forward and establish a business-focused Advisory Board, which will be inclusive of the diverse range of businesses operating in the area. This includes SMEs within both urban and rural localities, and from all parts of the region. Whilst the Advisory Board would not be a formal committee of the EMCCA, it is intended it would be part of the formal governance arrangements and would exist to provide advice to the EMCCA on all issues of business and economy relevant to the EMCCA.

There is also consideration of how business, Higher Education, Further Education and third sector partners could also sit on other boards and groups within the EMCCA governance structure. The business-focused Advisory Board will include a diverse range of businesses operating in the area, including SMEs within both urban and rural localities, and from all parts of the region.

EMCCA Proposed Powers

The Government introduced a framework of three different levels of devolution deals in the 2022 Levelling Up White Paper, and it has since introduced a 'level 4'.

Areas seeking level 4 devolution must be able to “provide confidence in the capacity, governance and culture of the institution to manage its activities effectively and take on further powers”. They would be required to commit to implementing the scrutiny protocol within a year of taking on the new powers. A framework for 'level 4' deals has been published, which will allow combined authorities with elected mayors to apply for devolved powers over adult skills, local transport, and housing on a par with the trailblazer deals in Greater Manchester and the West Midlands. Level 4 devolution will grant more powers across post-19 skills policy, transport and especially highways, 'strategic housing powers' primarily relating to affordable housing and net zero.

The powers devolved vary across the different devolution deals, with the most expansive powers on offer only to places that adopt mayoral leadership. Each devolution deal is negotiated separately between ministers and local leaders.

- Level 1 deals offer only a limited “strategic role in delivering services”.
- Level 2 deals can be concluded with county councils or combined authorities that are not led by a directly elected mayor. They offer control over the adult education budget, LEP functions, and the UK shared prosperity fund.
- Level 3 deals offer more expansive powers and require the adoption of a mayor – either as directly-elected leader of a county council, or as chair of a combined authority. In addition to level 2 powers, they offer expanded powers over transport, local roads, urban regeneration and 30-year investment funds that combined authorities can allocate flexibly to support economic growth. Most of the existing CCAs hold the level 3 package of powers, as will the new mayoral deals going live in 2024 and 2025.
- Level 4 deals will be on offer to existing level 3 institutions subject to their meeting capacity, governance and institutional culture criteria. They offer extra powers around skills, careers and transport functions as well as a role in local energy planning. They will also offer flexible ‘consolidated pot’ funding in two areas, local growth and place, and housing and regeneration.

The Constituent Councils have requested powers from Government for the EMCCA, focussed on finance and governance, planning, housing and regeneration, education and skills, and public health. Powers relating to education and skills are not included in the Regulations, because they are due to be provided by a subsequent specific statutory instrument (SI). In addition, powers relating to net zero are provided to the EMCCA through consequential amendment to the Environment Act 1995, by the introduction of a new section 86(c).

Investment

The Shadow Authority will develop an investment framework for decisions that will be made from the start of the 2024/25 year, with input from partners and stakeholders where necessary.

The Government announced in March 2023 that 8 new Investment Zones will be created across the UK in combined authority areas, including one in the East Midlands. The proposed East Midlands Investment Zone (EMIZ) will be clustered around growth sectors to attract business, boost growth and unlock opportunities right across our region.

The Shadow Authority (and then the EMCCA once established) will oversee the implementation of EMIZ, focussed on the key growth sectors of advanced manufacturing and green industries. Work is ongoing with Government, the constituent councils and other local partners, and regional partners such as the East Midlands Freeport to align initiatives in the region to maximise their impact and confirm the governance and delivery model. The Autumn Budget announced doubling the flexible funding envelope for each investment zone from £80 million to £160 million by extending the programme and associated tax reliefs from five to ten years. Further work is also underway with the East Midlands Development Company to consider how best to proceed with plans to fully realise the opportunities for the area in the sites they have in scope.

Research partners (University of Nottingham, University of Derby and Nottingham Trent University) and the D2N2 LEP are actively engaged in the development of EMIZ.

Priority Workstreams and Operational Model

The EMCCA will focus initially on five broad priority areas that will drive long-term, targeted, and strategic investment.

Appendix 1 shows the current EMCCA programme operating model. The Operations Portfolio specifically focussed on priority themes and delivery. Within this portfolio, the 'Strategy & Delivery' work strand, comprises the following priority themes:

- Land & Housing
- Net Zero & Environment
- Business Growth & Innovation
- Skills and Adult Education
- Public Health

The structure of the Strategy & Delivery workstream is intended to reflect the powers contained in the deal. Each theme group under this workstream has been assigned a nominated technical lead (also referred to as a theme group lead).

Transport sits within its own discrete workstream, recognising the significant body of complex work which must be completed by May 2024. Close links have been developed and maintained between this workstream and the four strategy and delivery themes, to manage interdependencies and to ensure effective co-ordination and alignment of work. Technical leads have responsibility for convening working groups under their themes, and in driving the work required to stand up a Combined Authority in 2024.

The Shadow EMCCA will now move towards a strategic framework that will underpin the delivery plan and investment strategy, focused on: -

- Constitution – setting out how the new EMCCA model will work.
- Organisation – aiming for agreement January/February to final organisational design.
- Priority themes – currently being worked on including arrangements for wider stakeholder engagement across the area.
- A Unified Delivery Plan will be developed by March 2024 that aligns work and priorities across the 5 work streams.

Transport

The majority of transport functions and powers will not be discharged by the EMCCA from day one but will instead be held concurrently with the Constituent Councils to enable a period of transition. The way those powers will transition, will be dealt with by way of an Inter-Authority Agreement ('IAA'). As the EMCCA is established it will take on greater responsibility for transport functions with associated changes to how transport is planned, delivered, and operated across the region. The announcement of £1.5bn for transport investment for the EMCCA area as part of the Government's Network North proposals, along with commitments to longer term funding certainty for the EMCCA, will enable a transformational improvement in local transport.

Working with the constituent councils, the EMCCA will lead the development of a draft area-wide Local Transport Plan (LTP) for public consultation, intended to be ready for stakeholder engagement around Spring 2024, public consultation in Autumn 2024 and publication in Spring 2025. Preliminary work has already started within each of the Constituent Councils, with support

from the devolution programme. The LTP will provide a clear and visionary policy framework that will underpin an ambitious programme of local transport investment, thereby taking full advantage of the £1.5bn of new transport funding announced by government in early October, which is expected to be awarded to the EMCCA through the second round of City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement (CRSTS2) funding.

The EMCCA will also work with Constituent Councils to coordinate a joint approach to highways asset management and define the Key Route Network, collaborating and standardising approaches on key roads.

The EMCCA will also work closely with strategic partners such as the East Midlands Development Company and the East Midlands Freeport, pan-regional partnerships such as Midlands Connect, and form long-term relationships with Great British Railways and train, tram and bus operators.

Transition planning is underway to consolidate the public transport powers into the EMCCA, including for supported bus services, smart ticketing, and passenger information. Due to the complexities of the various functions currently managed by the Constituent Councils, it is expected that the transition will take place at an appropriate point during the two-year Transition Period agreed with Government, rather than at the start. It is intended that the IAA will be the mechanism under which the transition will be governed.

Land and Housing

The EMCCA intends to work with local authorities, landowners, developers, and the full range of housing providers, to create affordable, good quality housing options and to retrofit existing homes to be more environmentally sustainable. To support local authorities in the delivery of strategic housing priorities, devolved housing capital will support the building of new homes on brownfield land, worth £16.8 million in 2024/25 – supported by the provision of £918,000 capacity funding over 2023/24 and 2024/25 for development of a pipeline of housing sites. Allocations for locally led brownfield development beyond that year is subject to future spending reviews. Through devolution, the region has already benefited from £9 million of additional housing capital to support the delivery of housing priorities across 2022/23 and 2023/24 for development of a pipeline of housing sites.

The EMCCA and Mayor specifically will also secure a range of broad new housing and land powers to: acquire and dispose of land to build houses, commercial space and infrastructure, for growth and regeneration; land assembly and compulsory purchase powers, subject to the agreement of the Constituent Councils and, where applicable, the district/borough council(s) where the relevant land is located; power to designate Mayoral Development Areas and to create Mayoral Development Corporations to support delivery on strategic sites across the area, again subject to the agreement of local partners. Over time, the EMCCA will work with partners on a plan to tackle homelessness and support people who are at risk of homelessness.

Net Zero

The EMCCA will put the shift towards reducing carbon emissions and creating a green economy at the heart of its approach to economic growth. The region is well placed to lead the move away from fossil to fusion and play its part in achieving the national ambition to achieve net zero by 2050. EMCCA will work with partners in the area to become a leader in pioneering new forms of clean energy generation and will act as an exemplar for climate change adaptation.

Devolution has already brought new investment of £9 million capital funding in 2022/23 and 2023/24 for investment in projects that will drive these net zero ambitions. This includes the provision of a new retrofit construction skills centre to support the delivery of the wider, retrofit programme.

Additional investment monies are also increasing access to digital connectivity in the EMCCA area, by connecting public service buildings, such as rural schools, doctors' surgeries, and libraries, to gigabit broadband and widening the range of locations, adding up to 118 additional premises to the original 235.

Business Growth & innovation

This priority theme is based on the development of a strategic approach to enabling business growth across the region. A focus on digital connectivity and supporting region-wide innovation to increase productivity of both individual businesses and the sector. Working in partnership, EMCCA will develop an aligned approach to inward investment, presenting a unified prospect to potential investors. As the region evolves towards a clean energy production future over the next 10-20 years, there will be significant opportunities for innovation growth in the advanced engineering and energy technology clusters. This will drive the need to evolve and grow the wider business supply chain and support SMEs. Accessing skills learning and development through our learning providers will help to support local businesses innovate product development and generate access to high value jobs.

Skills and Adult Education

Subject to meeting the government's readiness conditions and Parliamentary approval, which is expected to be met in the first year following its establishment, the EMCCA will take on the fully devolved adult education budget (AEB) from the academic year 2025/26. The devolution of the relevant powers from the Department for Education to the EMCCA will be subject to separate secondary legislation, anticipated to be laid in early 2025. The Constituent Councils understand the value of this budget is approximately £53 million per year on current values. These arrangements do not cover apprenticeships or traineeships, even though the latter is funded through the AEB. The government has provided support for local preparations for taking on these relevant functions, including providing £0.738m revenue over 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 of implementation funding.

Devolution of the AEB and associated functions will enable the EMCCA, working with partners, to make allocations to providers and target spend to tackle the needs of people, businesses, and communities, to stimulate productivity, create new local jobs, whilst simultaneously benefiting the regional economy.

The EMCCA is also expected to take responsibility for the regional design and delivery of the Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) programme, with a value of approximately £24m per year. The programme is focussed on people without a level 3 qualification who earn below the National Minimum Wage annually. Managing the FCFJ alongside AEB will enable EMCCA to take a strategically aligned approach in commissioning appropriate skills provision across the region.

The work of the D2N2 LEP People & Skills Advisory Board provides a foundation for future thinking about how the skills system should operate in the region and will feed into further work to build on the evidence base and development of future EMCCA strategies and policies.

Communications and engagement

It is expected that there will now be a focus on strengthening communications and engagement with key stakeholders and the public: -

- Communications activities, including significant media engagement to raise awareness of, and support for, devolution plans amongst residents across the region.

- Plan and deliver a programme of detailed, structured, and proactive stakeholder sessions to create an ongoing dialogue between the shadow authority and its key external partners. Current plans are for a stakeholder webinar to be held in January 2024, followed by an in-person event in March 2024.
- Deliver a programme of communications and engagement activity around the inaugural Mayoral elections, with the goal of increasing voter turnout.
- Commitment to ensuring draft agendas of the Shadow Board are circulated five working days in advance so there is sufficient time to consider and input via the two district and borough reps.

Potential Impacts for Ashfield

Early Initiatives

Even prior to the coming into force of the LURA; millions of pounds in funding, made possible because of plans for devolution in the East Midlands, has already been agreed and is to be spent on improving housing, transport and the skills of local people. Some of the initiatives that are already underway or completed that will benefit Ashfield are:

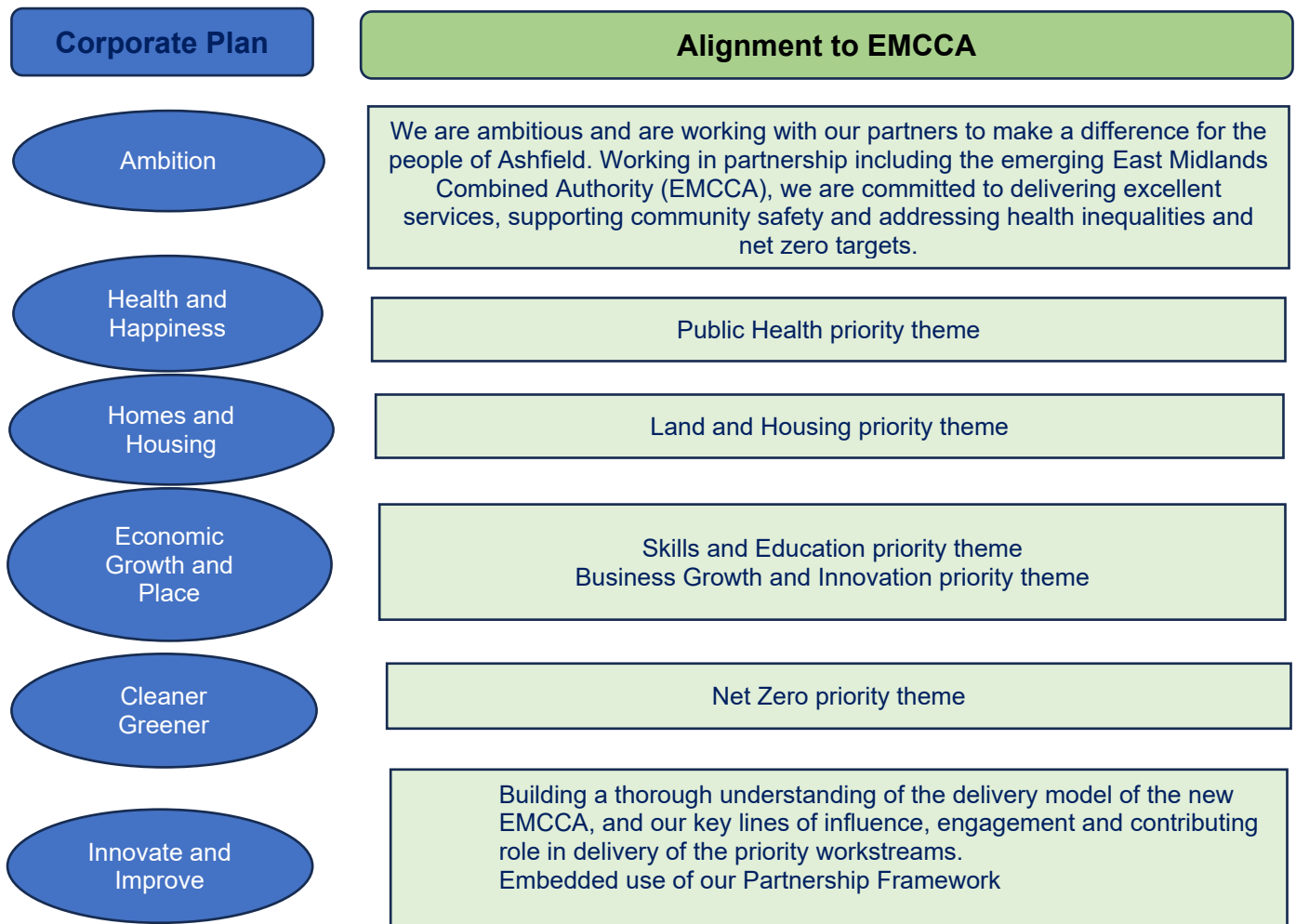
- £9.92m for Retrofit across the whole area to deliver domestic energy efficiency and low carbon retrofit activities. Grant offer letters have been issued to each council and the first payment of £1.984m has been released. Ashfield District Council have received £583,000 funding through the Midlands Net Zero Hub which will be used for solar panels on our social housing. In line with funding requirements, the retrofit project needs to be completed by August 2024.
- £1.2m for new gigabit broadband for Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham. It will mean that an extra 118 rural public sector schools and libraries will be connected to gigabit broadband.
- £1.5m for a new growth through green skills. The investment will enable the creation of a new £5.4m flagship skills centre and low carbon demonstrator in the region, to be operated by West Nottinghamshire College, as well as two electric minibuses for getting students to and from the site, to support the growth of a future low carbon economy as we work towards net zero. £981k has been spent to date, which includes the purchase of electric minibuses and IT Equipment.

Involvement and Influence

The Councils Corporate Plan 2023-2027 incorporates identified alignments of our Corporate Priorities to the EMCCA priority themes. As such, there is cross organisational alignment and focus to the priority themes (Appendix 2), with the purpose of building a framework through which the Council can seek to influence the EMCCA delivery plans, as appropriate, and maximise benefits from the agreed priorities and projects.

Through DMA, the roles of Executive Director Transformation and Assistant Director Policy and Performance have been given specific responsibilities to support the organisation. The Assistant Director Policy and Performance has specific responsibility for programme management of the Council's Levelling Up/Devolution initiatives, being currently focussed on building robust understanding of the structure, governance, and decision-making mechanics of the developing EMCCA, with the aim of identifying and then supporting the opportunities for effectively influencing local and neighbourhood level needs whilst also showcasing Ashfield's ability to deliver. The

Council should play a key role in the EMCCA, especially regards policy levers on planning and housing, and therefore be fully engaged in relevant decision making.



A local level, the Council also has a strong understanding of our communities, and any specific areas of regional inequality and need for levelling up within the EMCCA region that relate to Ashfield, recognising the strength in the value of district level understanding of our communities and need.

Specific focus is currently on clarifying our engagement on each priority theme, with particular focus currently on the Land and Housing priority theme and the Net Zero priority theme, the latter for which we have built a matrix assessment to identify our involvement in key partnership groups against the 8 Net Zero theme specific priorities (Appendix 4).

Next Steps

- Continue to build and develop our understanding of the EMCCA operating and decision-making structure, clarifying key lines of influence.
- Aligned to our Corporate Plan, the EMCCA priority themes, and the 12 Levelling Up Missions (Appendix 5) – develop and establish detailed place datasets with the aim of bolstering our influence for levelling up to reaching communities of need in Ashfield – bottom-up analysis to inform the building blocks for change, using data to articulate the challenges.
- Enhance our ability to assess benefits realisation of externally funded projects to showcase our ability to deliver and make a difference.
- Continue to listen to our residents to understand what matters locally.

Implications

Corporate Plan:

The Councils Corporate Plan 2023-2027 incorporates identified alignments of our Corporate Priorities to the EMCCA priority themes.

Legal:

The Combined Authorities (Mayoral Elections) Order 2017 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (the Elections Regulations) are proposed to be laid and come into force prior to the coming into force of the East Midlands Combined County Authority Regulations 2023. The Elections Regulations permit the appointment by the Constituent Councils of a combined county authority returning officer (CCARO) for the mayoral election ahead of the creation of the EMCCA.

Other relevant legislation is detailed within the body of the report. [RLD 11/01/2024]

Finance: [PH 10/01/2024].

Budget Area	Implication
General Fund – Revenue Budget	Ashfield District Council has received £583,000 funding through the Midlands Net Zero Hub which will be used for solar panels on our social housing.
General Fund – Capital Programme	
Housing Revenue Account – Revenue Budget	
Housing Revenue Account – Capital Programme	

Risk:

Risk	Mitigation
Inability to robustly influence the EMCCA to benefit the communities of Ashfield through devolved powers and associated funding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to enhance our partnership working, identifying key partnership groups and lines of influence.• Develop and establish detailed place datasets using data to articulate the challenges in Ashfield.

Human Resources: [KH 10/01/2024].

Through DMA, the roles of Executive Director Transformation and Assistant Director Policy and Performance have been given specific responsibilities aligned to the EMCCA.

The Chief Executive is the nominated district chief executive for the Skills and Adult Education priority theme.

Environmental/Sustainability:

This report details the EMCCA Net Zero and Environment priority theme.

Equalities:

A local level, the Council has a strong understanding of our communities, and any specific areas of regional inequality and need for levelling up within the EMCCA region that relate to Ashfield. Our aim is to leverage influence through ongoing partnership working.

Other Implications:

None

Reason(s) for Urgency

Not applicable

Reason(s) for Exemption

Not applicable

Background Papers

None

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