

Establishing a Mayoral Combined County Authority across Hampshire, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight and Southampton

Briefing

On the 17 February, the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government launched a consultation to seek views on the effect of establishing a Mayoral Combined County Authority (MCCA) to cover the areas of Hampshire, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, and Southampton (Hampshire and Solent). This would be the Hampshire and Solent Combined County Authority.

The consultation responses will help Ministers decide whether establishing a MCCA is:

- Likely to improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of some or all of the people who live or work in the area.
- Appropriate, having regard to the need to secure effective and convenient local government; and reflect the identities and interests of local communities.

The full consultation document is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Governance

- Five constituent, voting members from:
 - A directly elected Mayor
 - Hampshire County Council (x2)
 - Isle of Wight Council
 - Portsmouth City Council
 - Southampton City Council
- A maximum of five non-constituent and associate (non-voting) members, this could include district councils.

Funding

- Devolved funding from central government for housing and regeneration, local growth, adult skills, and local transport.
- 30-year Investment Fund to drive economic growth
- Capacity funding for set up costs.
- Ability to raise a mayoral precept.

Powers

- Local Transport Authority with duties and powers for buses, rail, road, and active travel. This could improve connectivity between the cities and major towns in the county. The MCCA could choose to introduce different bus transport operating models.
- Devolved adults' skills and supported employment funding and functions. This could mean that the MCCA intervenes to address local skills shortages to meet demand in key sectors like aerospace and defence.
- Housing and strategic planning, including regeneration and spatial development strategy. This could mean the MCCA intervenes to address issues around housing affordability.

- Economic development and regeneration, including business support, local Growth Hubs, research and innovation, and culture, heritage, sport, and tourism. This could mean the MCCA intervenes to support growing sectors in, for example, advanced manufacturing.
- Environment and climate change, including local heat networks, net zero plans, and local nature recovery strategy
- Health, wellbeing, and public service reform, including improving local health outcomes and chairing integrated chair partnerships. This could mean the MCCA intervenes to join up action to address issues around ill health and inequalities across the area.
- May take on Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) responsibilities. The Mayor would take a seat on the Prime Minister's Council of Nations and Regions as well as the Deputy Prime Minister's Mayoral Council.

Consultation Response

Question 1: To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing a Mayoral Combined County Authority over the proposed geography will deliver benefits to the area?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 2: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed governance arrangements for the Mayoral Combined County Authority?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 3: To what extent do you agree or disagree that working across the proposed geography through the Mayoral Combined County Authority will support the economy of the area?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 4: To what extent do you agree or disagree that working across the proposed geography through the Mayoral Combined County Authority will improve social outcomes in the area?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 5: To what extent do you agree or disagree that working across the proposed geography through a Mayoral Combined County Authority will improve local government services in the area?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 6: To what extent do you agree or disagree that working across the proposed geography through a Mayoral Combined County Authority will improve the local natural environment and overall national environment?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer

Question 7: To what extent do you agree or disagree that working across the proposed geography through the Mayoral Combined County Authority will support the interests and needs of local communities and reflect local identities?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Explain your answer