

## Devolution Deal EOI

<b>Preferred Geography (Upper-tier local authorities in the area)</b>	<p>We have and continue to engage widely with Local Authorities across Sussex and want to work with them going forward on a shared vision for devolution.</p> <p><b>Our preferred geography is Brighton and Hove, East Sussex and West Sussex.</b> We believe this footprint would meet the ambitions of devolution: a sizeable and sensible economic geography with a cohesive identity.</p> <p>Devolution discussions must also include key partners in Sussex Police, East and West Sussex Fire Authorities, our three Universities (Brighton, Sussex and Chichester), Sussex ICS and the diverse range of strategic businesses forming the functional economic areas of Sussex. We know that convening these stakeholders and partners will be key to a successful devolution solution for Sussex.</p>
<b>Initial Preference on Mayoral/Non-mayoral devolution</b>	<p>We recognise that the current levels of devolution and governance models are subject to change pending the publication of the government’s new framework.</p> <p>We are open to discussions on evolving these models to better fit local needs and priorities, ensuring that any new arrangements are effective, inclusive, and tailored to the unique context of Brighton &amp; Hove and the wider Sussex region, while ensuring strong devolution of power and authority to drive economic growth across Sussex.</p> <p>We look forward to working collaboratively with government partners to explore these options further and develop a devolution deal that maximises local autonomy, accountability, and impact.</p>
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