

REPORT OF THE
Cabinet
PART I

1 COUNTY DEAL UPDATE

- 1.1 On 2 February the Government published the [Levelling Up the United Kingdom](#) White Paper which confirmed the opportunities that exist for a County Deal and aligned devolution opportunities potentially beyond the Pan-Hampshire geography involving bordering areas,
- 1.2 On 8 February 2022 Cabinet received a report 'Learning to live with Covid-19 and working towards Economic Recovery', including an update to Cabinet on the continuing work and direction of travel of a Pan Hampshire County Deal as referred to in the Cabinet report. Details in particular are set out at paragraphs 41 – 47 of the Cabinet report, attached as Appendix 1b to this report.
- 1.3 Also included at Annex 3 to the Cabinet report is a Statement of Common Ground, agreed by all Leaders across Pan Hampshire, and at Annex 4 to the Cabinet report a draft County Deal Prospectus, as endorsed by Cabinet in December 2021. A copy of the Cabinet report is included at Appendix 1b to this report. Copies of the Statement of Common Ground and draft County Deal Prospectus are included for ease of reference at Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 to this report.
- 1.4 Cabinet agreed amended recommendations, noting the opportunities that were set out in the Levelling Up the United Kingdom White Paper and endorsing the continuing work and direction of travel of a Pan Hampshire County Deal and aligned devolution opportunities beyond the Pan Hampshire Geography involving bordering areas, as set out in the White Paper, the draft County Deal Prospectus and the further opportunities developed through workshops with key stakeholders in November and December. Cabinet recommended the County Council note and endorse the continuing work and direction of travel of a Pan Hampshire County Deal and aligned devolution opportunities potentially beyond the Pan-Hampshire geography involving bordering areas as set out in the Cabinet report and in line with the White Paper.
- 1.5 Cabinet agreed an additional recommendation, endorsing the continued work and direction of travel for a Hampshire County Deal, to include the Unitary Authorities should they wish. In addition, that the County Council will continue the work that has been carried out towards the creation of an Economic Prosperity Board which will ideally include Surrey and the Unitary Authorities. The Cabinet Decision record is included for reference at Appendix 1a to this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the County Council:

- a) Notes the opportunities that were set out in the “Levelling Up the United Kingdom” White Paper.
- b) Endorses the continuing work and direction of travel of a Pan Hampshire County Deal, and aligned devolution opportunities potentially beyond the Pan-Hampshire geography involving bordering areas, as set out in the Cabinet report of 8 February 2022 [Learning to live with Covid-19 and working towards Economic Recovery](#) in line with the White Paper.
- c) Endorses the continued work and direction of travel for a Hampshire County Deal, to include the Unitary Authorities should they wish. In addition, that the County Council will continue the work that has been carried out towards the creation of an Economic Prosperity Board which will ideally include Surrey and the Unitary Authorities.