

Briefing Note for Northern Devon Futures – Devolution

Context and background

The proposed devolution deal for Devon and Torbay was announced by the then Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities and published by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) on 25 January 2024.

In February 2024, Devon County Council and Torbay Council agreed to support the proposed Devon and Torbay devolution deal and carry out a joint public consultation on the draft proposal to establish the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (DT CCA). A six-week consultation on the draft proposal for the DT CCA was undertaken between 12 February 2024 and 24 March 2024.

Devon County Council and Torbay Council considered the results of the consultation and submitted the final proposal for the DT CCA to Government on 1 May 2024.

Government officials and DCC/TC officers worked together on a draft of the secondary legislation (a “statutory instrument”) needed to bring the DT CCA into being.

The July 2024 general election and change of Government meant that that statutory instrument was not laid in Parliament.

Recent developments

The Leaders of Devon County Council and Torbay Council wrote to the new Deputy Prime Minister/Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP, on 16 July 2024 asking for a meeting with her and her team to discuss the establishment of the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority. They have not yet received a response from MHCLG.

A prospectus has been published and shared describing what has been agreed with Government. It is available here - [Devon and Torbay leaders seek meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister - Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal \(devontorbaydeal.org.uk\)](https://devontorbaydeal.org.uk)

Officers have prepared a first draft of the constitution of the DT CCA.

We await feedback on the proposed £16million capital programme that is part of the devolution deal.

Applicants for membership of the Devon and Torbay Business Advisory Group are currently being interviewed. [Business advisory group recruitment - Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal \(devontorbaydeal.org.uk\)](https://devontorbaydeal.org.uk)

On 11 September 2024, Devon County Council’s Cabinet is due to consider a proposal to establish the Team Devon Joint Committee whose membership will comprise one member from each district council, the two national parks, Devon Association of Local Councils and the County Council.