

Appendix B – Devolution Framework

Table 2.3 Devolution Framework

Level 3 – A single institution or County Council with a directly elected mayor (DEM), across a FEA or whole county area

Level 2 – A single institution or County Council without a DEM, across a FEA or whole county area

Level 1 – Local authorities working together across a FEA or whole county area e.g. through a joint committee

| Function | Detail | L1 | L2 | L3 |
|---|---|----|----|----|
| Strategic role in delivering services | Host for Government functions best delivered at a strategic level involving more than one local authority e.g. Local Nature Recovery Strategies | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Opportunity to pool services at a strategic level | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Opportunity to adopt innovative local proposals to deliver action on climate change and the UK's Net Zero targets | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Supporting local businesses | LEP functions including hosting strategic business voice | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Local control of sustainable transport | Control of appropriate local transport functions e.g. local transport plans* | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Defined key route network* | | | ✓ |
| | Priority for new rail partnerships with Great British Railways – influencing local rail offer, e.g. services and stations | | | ✓ |
| | Ability to introduce bus franchising | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Consolidation of existing core local transport funding for local road maintenance and smaller upgrades into a multi-year integrated settlement | | | ✓ |
| Investment spending | UKSPF planning and delivery at a strategic level | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Long-term investment fund, with an agreed annual allocation | | | ✓ |
| Giving adults the skills for the labour market | Devolution of Adult Education functions and the core Adult Education Budget | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Providing input into Local Skills Improvement Plans | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Role in designing and delivering future contracted employment programmes | | | ✓ |
| Local control of infrastructure decisions | Ability to establish Mayoral Development Corporations (with consent of host local planning authority) | | | ✓ |
| | Devolution of locally-led brownfield funding | | | ✓ |
| | Strategic partnerships with Homes England across the Affordable Housing Programme and brownfield funding | | | ✓ |
| | Homes England compulsory purchase powers (held concurrently) | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Keeping the public safe and healthy | Mayoral control of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) functions where boundaries align [^] | | | ✓ |
| | Clear defined role in local resilience* | | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Where desired offer MCAs a duty for improving the public's health (concurrently with local authorities) | | | ✓ |
| Financing local initiatives for residents and business | Ability to introduce mayoral precepting on council tax* | | | ✓ |
| | Ability to introduce supplement on business rates (increases subject to ballot) | | | ✓ |

* refers to functions which are only applicable to combined authorities

[^] refers to functions which are currently only applicable to mayoral combined authorities