

Appendix A – Trailblazer Deal Summary and ‘fit’ with South Yorkshire priorities	
Trailblazer deal headline agreement	Relevance / fit to SY priorities
Funding reform	
<p>Single Settlement Implementation of a single settlement (capital and revenue) with each level 4 area. The settlement will cover in entire spending review period and replace individual grant funding streams.</p>	A single settlement enables the MCA to be more flexible in programming investment over the longer term, reduces the ‘bidding burden’ and removes significant departmental ‘strings’ to funding allocations.
<p>Business Rate Retention Maintain current pilots that mean areas retain the business rates raised.</p>	This has the potential to enable the region to capture the benefits of growth in South Yorkshire. Important to agree a no detriment approach to funding availability, defined in partnership with the Local Authorities – to act as an incentive and reward for accelerating growth.
Accountability	
<p>Enhanced Accountability Arrangements All level 4 areas will deliver the principles within the new Scrutiny Protocol (currently being developed by gov)</p>	This is an expectation of Whitehall in any deal done and is aligned to the Mayor's manifesto commitment to openness and transparency. It is also important to ensure that the public has confidence in the organisation through robust overview and scrutiny arrangements and as we seek to explore opportunities to improve democratic involvement in the MCA.
Transport	
<p>Great British Rail Partnership Formal obligation for greater partnership and integration of rail within local networks</p>	Facilitates enhanced modal coordination on a South Yorkshire footprint and a better relationship with nationally funded bodies delivering rail investment.
<p>Fare integration Commitment to delivering full fares and ticketing integration across bus, rail, tram.</p>	Aligns to previously stated transport ambitions to integrate fares.

<p>Bus service operators grant</p> <p>Devolution of payment of the bus service operators grant to support local transport innovation.</p>	<p>Aligns with the delivery of bus improvements, the current franchising assessment that is underway and our ambitions for an innovative and sustainable bus network.</p>
<p>Business and trade</p>	
<p>Strategic Productivity Partnerships</p> <p>Setting up multi governmental departmental Strategic Productivity Partnerships with the MCAs which will enable them to raise local priorities for future business support and advisory services plus ensure complementarity between national and local commissioning activities.</p>	<p>This type of partnership would be complementary to the recently agreed approach to new business support arrangements, our use of funds like Shared Prosperity Funds, delivery of programmes such as Made Smarter and a host of national programmes that do not always work effectively for South Yorkshire.</p> <p>Potential here to better align national programmes with the emerging Investment Zone opportunity.</p>
<p>Influence over British Business Bank and UK Infrastructure Bank</p> <p>Both trailblazer deals included establishing a role for MCAs in the governance of the next generation of the British Business Bank (BBB) UK funds in their wider geographies and stronger strategic and operational relationships with the UK Infrastructure Bank.</p>	<p>Attracting private investment into businesses and infrastructure is a priority for the MCA. Activity that brings existing agencies with resources available complements our own business support efforts. The development of the Prospectus for Growth enables a much tighter focus for relationships with the BBB and UKIB.</p>
<p>International Trade Partnership</p> <p>Supporting greater funding alignment, joint investment and strategic collaboration with government and combined authorities/regions and where appropriate, co-development of international strategies.</p>	<p>This would support better coordination and more effective delivery of the MCAs emerging International Strategy.</p>
<p>Trade Investment Board</p> <p>GMCA and DBT to explore the possibility of formalising their engagement at the city region level through the creation of a new joint Trade and Investment Board.</p>	<p>As above. Informal arrangements exist – this would strengthen these arrangements and better enable greater national focus on South Yorkshire trade capabilities – and align with Investment Zone work.</p>

<p>Support from Office for Investment</p> <p>Support from the Office for Investment at regional level for transformation investment opportunities (i.e., those in excess of £100m). This will concentrate around two core elements – capital investment and traditional foreign direct investment.</p>	<p>The MCA is engaging with the Office for Investment on promoting (and developing) our investment pipeline – this would support that work further.</p>
<p>Environment</p>	
<p>Net Zero devolution</p> <p>Devolution of net zero funding pilot including buildings retrofit</p>	<p>This has a fit with ambitions on retrofit at both individual council and MCA level.</p>
<p>Leadership of Nature Recovery Strategies</p> <p>Leadership of Local Nature Recovery Strategies with government support to help build lasting capacity and capability to support natural environment financing.</p>	<p>The MCA has already signalled its intention to take on the LNRS duty. The varied urban-rural geography, the diversity and range of SYs topographical and ecological offer make this an area of potential differentiation and focus for South Yorkshire.</p>
<p>Natural Capital Investment</p> <p>Using MCAs as testbeds to explore and develop options for how flood risk management and other adaptation activities can best be addressed and accelerated at the local level.</p>	<p>South Yorkshire’s early start on conducting a Natural Capital Mapping exercise and good relationships with Natural England and other agencies such as the Environment Agency allied with the SY ‘Connected by Water’ flood catchment plan (a best practice example of a regional approach to flood mitigation and adaptation activities with sets out clear priorities and actions that would be supported through natural capital investment) alongside the urban-rural dynamic and the breadth of South Yorkshire’s natural environment makes this an area of focus.</p>
<p>Skills and Employment</p>	
<p>Adult skills funding devolution</p> <p>Devolution of non-apprenticeship adult skills functions and grant funding in the next Spending Review, local flexibilities, which will increase over time, over Free Courses for Jobs and Skills Bootcamps during this Spending Review.</p>	<p>These powers and opportunities enable the MCA to continue to build a more effective and end-to-end skills system. As an existing AEB devolved body this would be in the direction of existing regional policy.</p>

<p>Post-16 Skills Board</p> <p>Greater partnership working with government and key bodies to provide strategic oversight of post 16 education and skills and ensure alignment with local labour market needs</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p>Co-commissioning of employment support</p> <p>Commitment for co-design and co-commissioning of all future contracted employment support programmes in level 4 areas</p>	<p>With the ending of European Structural Investment Funds the ability of regional partners to inform programmes through joint commissioning has been weakened. Alongside the devolved AEB and Shared Prosperity Fund this commitment would enable better alignment of employment and skills programmes at the place level.</p>
<p>Local employment support pilots</p> <p>Trailblazer deals pave the way for discussions with Government on locally specific employment support programmes.</p>	<p>Working Win and a range of locally led and delivered programmes presents a good example of how the region has a track record of developing local schemes that deliver better outcomes for residents than nationally developed projects.</p>
<p>Housing and Regeneration</p>	
<p>Affordable Homes Programme devolution and Housing Quality Pathfinder to tackle poor quality in the private rented sector.</p>	<p>Closer working with Homes England has been a feature of the region's work through the Housing and Infrastructure Board and would enable the region to build on the work it has done to date, including exploring opportunities for implementing a 'decent homes' type approach across the private rented sector.</p>
<p>Brownfield Funding</p> <p>Devolution of brownfield land funding (£150m for GMCA and £100m for WMCA) and funding to support tackling homelessness across each MCA.</p>	<p>The region already delivers the Government's Brownfield Housing Fund programme (£53m). The joint commission with Homes England to prepare a South Yorkshire wide housing pipeline (potentially including greenfield housing opportunities) and the potential establishment of a South Yorkshire Strategic Partnership with Homes England to oversee this work will facilitate the scaling up of housing delivery.</p>
<p>Public Service Reform, health, and resilience</p>	

<p>Levers to support people facing multiple, complex disadvantages</p> <p>New levers to support GMCA's commitment to public service reform and work with people facing multiple and complex disadvantage. Future engagement to discuss whether relevant new funding streams could be devolved as part of the single settlement.</p>	<p>This has the potential to help the MCA and partners to identify particular barriers where programmes of support fail to support individuals with the most complex disadvantages in accessing employment, skills, housing and other critical services. This may be an opportunity for the region to explore longer term and integrated funding support to tackle homelessness.</p>
<p>Public Health</p> <p>A new formal duty on WMCA to improve the public's health. To be explored how Government and WMCA can use their collective resources and expertise to develop and test innovative solutions to shared prevention and population health priorities.</p>	<p>This aligns with the mayor's position as Chair of the Integrated Care Partnership. This proposal gives the MCA the opportunity to explore widening its focus on healthy life expectancy – but this may be an area where the MCA may wish to go further, including exploring the freedoms that Greater Manchester secured in previous devolution deals to invest up front in greater preventative measures.</p>
<p>Support for MCA work with ICBs</p> <p>The government to support the commitment of WMCA to work with integrated care boards and other partners to explore the use of aligned budgets along with its adult education budget, to help tackle workforce shortages in the NHS and the wider health and care system.</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p>Resilience</p> <p>Government to work with GMCA, constituent LAs and the Greater Manchester Local Resilience Forum to establish a programme to pilot and test key aspects of the UK resilience framework, starting in the financial year 2023/24.</p>	<p>The South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum may welcome the opportunity to develop a longer-term focus on resilience.</p>
<p>Culture</p>	
<p>Cultural Investment Partnership</p> <p>A cultural partnership or framework to be established supporting</p>	<p>This would support the recently agreed priority policy area of creative, culture and digital, and build upon work which has established the MCA's legitimacy, credibility and case for action in this space.</p>

greater funding alignment, joint investment and collaboration between cultural arm's length bodies and the MCAs.	
Digital	
Digital Partnership Supporting greater funding alignment, joint investment and strategic collaboration with government and combined authorities/regions	An official digital partnership would support the existing regional partnership working and the enactment of MCAs Digital Infrastructure Strategy Delivery Plan.
Innovation	
Strategic Innovation Partnership Giving Combined Authorities a new role informing the national research and innovation eco-system	Greater influence over the national research and innovation eco-system would support our ambitions to increase the amount of research and development funding in South Yorkshire and ensure South Yorkshire projects receive national recognition. There is also the potential here to better align national programmes with the Investment Zone opportunity.