

**Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and Devolution Working Group (the Group)**

**Terms of Reference**

**Membership** (to be appointed at each Statutory Annual meeting of the Council)

Ten members of the Council, inclusive of:

- Leader of the Council
- Opposition Leader(s)

The Group will be attended by the Chief executive, Deputy Chief Executive, and senior officers of the Council where relevant.

**Background**

Following the publication of the government's English Devolution White Paper on 16 December 2024, there was a full Council discussion of a Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation paper on 25 February 2025

<https://democracy.maldon.gov.uk/documents/s37962/Devolution.pdf> the outcome of the Council meeting provided a steer and informed Chief Executive and Leader for further discussions as part of the wider Essex LGR initial response submitted late March 2025. This Group is now established to receive information from the wider LGR Greater Essex Working Groups and to feed into further business case work and submissions and keep members updated on the progress of LGR and Devolution.

**Purpose**

The Working Group will:

- receive updates and provide a Maldon member voice and steer for the Chief Executive and Leader to take back to the wider Greater Essex LGR and Devolution groups.
- provide cross-party member engagement and discussion with officers on documentation and strategic options as these emerge
- provide regular updates to the Council on the progress of LGR and Devolution
- nominate members to attend meetings and feed into the business case workstreams where appropriate

**Scheduling**

The meetings will be scheduled for a regular four-weekly slot (or sooner if an emergency arose), with agendas provided by the Chief Executive.

A Chairperson will be confirmed at the first meeting of the Group.