

**REPORT OF** Chief Executive  
**To:** Full Council  
**Subject:** Devon and Torbay County Combined Authority (D&T CCA) – Advisory Boards and Team Devon Joint Committee  
**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 **Reference:**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To approve the Constitution of the Team Devon Joint Committee and appointments to advisory boards.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The informal Team Devon (Leaders and Chief Executives) partnership that brings the County Council, District Councils, National Park Authorities and Devon Association of Local Councils together has enabled a joint approach to common issues and shared challenges. Since the pandemic, its work has covered areas such as the housing crisis, accommodation for children in care, homelessness, financial vulnerability and hardship, water pollution, and the Devon & Torbay devolution deal.

The Legislation that brings into being the D&T CCA is The Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority Regulations 2024 and the first Board meeting of the CCA is scheduled to take place on 19 March 2025.

The structure of the CCA in addition to the more general governance committees (Scrutiny and Audit) also allows for the formation of several advisory boards, which will provide expert advice and support the work of the CCA.

**2. REPORT**

Local authority partners in Devon came together in 2018 to form the Team Devon partnership. The County Council, Devon’s District, City and Borough Councils (East Devon District Council, Exeter City Council, Mid Devon District Council, North Devon Council, South Hams District Council, Teignbridge District Council, Torridge District Council and West Devon Borough Council), and wider county stakeholders (including Devon’s two national parks and the Devon Association of Local Councils which represents Devon’s town and parish councils) formed an informal partnership which allowed for the pursuit and discussion of shared matters.

This partnership proved invaluable during the pandemic and paved the way for a closer working arrangement in pursuit of joint ambitions and needs. Whilst it continued on an informal basis the partnership now believes the time is right to bring it onto a formal footing, which will also enable a clearer and more transparent operating model.

It is proposed that the Team Devon Joint Committee will comprise the Leader of each of the nine local authorities (i.e. the County Council and eight district, city and borough councils) and a member of the Dartmoor and Exmoor National Park Authorities. The Chair of the



Devon Association of Local Councils would be an associate member along with representatives of the NHS and police.

The Joint Committee will operate on the basis of one member, one vote. Scrutiny will be undertaken by each of the constituent authorities' own scrutiny arrangements. The proposed functions of the Team Devon Joint Committee are to:

- Support continuous improvement and value for money in the ways that Devon's National Park Authorities, parish, town, district and county councils exercise their duties and responsibilities. This could include aligning performance measures and sharing or integration of services.
- Contribute to the following environmental, economic and social wellbeing objectives for Devon's people and communities:
  - Economic development (incorporating green growth)
  - Housing and homelessness.
  - Transport infrastructure
  - Climate change.
  - Natural and cultural heritage.
  - Health and wellbeing inequalities.
  - Migration and asylum.

The Team Devon Joint Committee Constitution is attached as appendix 1.

Within the overall structure of the D&T CCA there is a Housing Advisory Board, which will provide advice and support to the CCA Board on matter relating to Housing across Devon and Torbay. Prior to the formation of the CCA there already existed a Housing Task Force, an informal group, which had representatives from each of the Districts and the Leader of the Council was the representative for TDC.

Moving forward with the actual formation of the D&T CCA and the establishment of a Housing Advisory Board within that structure we need to formally appoint a Member from TDC to sit on that Board. Across the other Districts within Devon that role currently sits between a mix of Leaders and Housing Portfolio holders / Lead Members and it is up to Full Council to appoint the TDC Member.

### **3. IMPLICATIONS**

#### Legal Implications

Full Council must approve all

#### Financial Implications

While

#### Human Resources Implications

None.

#### Sustainability/Biodiversity Implications

n/a

#### Equality/Diversity

n/a

#### Risk Management

n/a



Compliance with Policies and Strategies

n/a

Data Protection (GDPR) Implications

n/a.

Climate Change

n/a

Ward Member and Lead Member Views

Consulted – Cllr Ken James (Leader).

I have and continue to represent Torridge alongside the other Devon District Leaders on an informal basis and is good that these meetings are now being placed on a formal basis alongside the formation of D&T CCA, which provides much greater openness and transparency.

**4. CONCLUSIONS**

With the implementation of the Devon & Torbay Combined County Authority it is the responsibility of Full Council to approve Members that represent Torridge District Council at various levels within that structure.

**5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended Full Council approve that:

- The Leader of the Council is the Torridge District Council member of the Team Devon Joint Committee.
- A Member be appointed to Devon and Torbay CCA – Housing Advisory Board

To note:

- That the Leader of the Council has been appointed by the Devon District Forum to sit on the D&T CCA Audit Committee

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Consultations:                      Date of Consultation – 20 February 2025  
   Officers Consulted – Staci Dorey, Head of Legal & Governance  
   (Monitoring Officer), Gordon Bryant (Finance Manager s151  
   Officer0

Contact Officer:

Background Papers:



