

**Report to:** External Organisations Scrutiny Committee

**Date:**

**Report of:** Chief Executive

**Report No:**

**Contact Officer:** Sean Harriss

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**Report Title:** City Region Governance in Greater Manchester

**Purpose:**

1. To update the External Organisations Scrutiny Committee on city region developments within AGMA
2. To update the External Organisations Scrutiny Committee on national developments related to the city region

In support of the background papers a presentation will be given outlining the key issues and to highlight the role the External Organisations Scrutiny Committee can play in scrutinizing the development of Bolton's and AGMA's response to the proposals.

**Recommendations:**

1. Consider the implications for Bolton and the role of the External Organisations Committee in scrutinizing the agenda
2. Agree future items for scrutiny as appropriate

**Background Doc(s):**

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## 1. Background

The issue of the city region and associated governance arrangements has provoked a great deal of discussion over recent years. The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) has been working with partners across the region to develop a business case for developing stronger city region governance and delivery arrangements in Greater Manchester.

In addition there has been much work within central government over the past 18 months in delivering the new Prime Minister's agenda for economic development and regional competitiveness.

The following key documents, enclosed for your consideration, provide an update on developments in this area at both the sub-regional and national level.

## 2. Enclosures

### 2.1 *Letter of the Chair of AGMA, Lord Peter Smith, and accompanying paper: City Region Governance in Greater Manchester*

The letter of Lord Peter Smith, and attached discussion paper, seeks to update and engage with partners across the Greater Manchester region on AGMA's developing arguments and business case for more devolved governance at a sub-regional level.

The paper sets out AGMA's vision and short term priorities for the city region, as well as some initial proposals for the working arrangements necessary to deliver this agenda.

### 2.2 *LGIU Local Government Information Unit: 'Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration'*

The work of AGMA and the paper led by Lord Peter Smith, has since been given a significant boost by the government's decision to undertake a national review. This review entitled 'Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration' has been commissioned jointly by the Treasury, Department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (the former DTI) and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The review focuses on defining and strengthening roles and relationships at a regional and sub-regional level, in order to deliver economic development and regional competitiveness key economic outcomes.

### 2.3 *Report of the AGMA Executive: Response to Sub-National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration*

Following the initial announcement of the review and its proposals, AGMA has submitted a report to its Executive which sets out a response to the review on behalf of Greater Manchester, and proposals for further work.

The response includes a summary of the review proposals and a review of the implications for the Manchester City Region and AGMA.

## 3 Recommendations

1. Consider the implications for Bolton and the role of the External Organisations Committee in scrutinizing the agenda

2. Agree future items for scrutiny as appropriate