

Sheffield City Region Devolution – Consultation Questionnaire

Have your say

Please get involved and tell us your views on the proposals to implement the Sheffield City Region devolution deal before consultation closes on Friday 12 August 2016. Responses will be reviewed by Ipsos MORI, and a report on the public consultation process will form part of Sheffield City Region's submission to the government in September.

Further information and how to respond

We recommend that you visit Sheffield City Region's devolution website before completing this questionnaire, which contains a range of information about the devolution deal and the proposals on which we would like your views. This can be found at www.sheffieldcityregiondevolution.org.uk

Please tick the box(es) as appropriate and write your responses clearly in black ink within the appropriate sections. If your response is too large to fit into the boxes, please attach additional evidence. If you do so, please make it clear which questions you are answering and number any additional pages you send.

Send your completed questionnaire free of charge to the address below:

Freepost RTSU-YRJJ-SCRK, SCR Devolution, Ipsos MORI, Kings House, Kymberley Road, Harrow, HA1 1PT

We cannot accept responsibility for responses that are sent to any address other than the one stated above. Thank you for your participation.

If you have any questions on the consultation, please contact the Ipsos MORI team at SCRDevolution@ipsos.com

About you

The following questions will help us to understand the range of people and organisations who have responded to this consultation and to identify local issues. The information you provide will not be used for any purpose other than assessing responses to this consultation.

S1. Name (optional)

S2. Postcode (optional)

S3. Are you responding on your own behalf or on behalf of an organisation or group?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- Providing my own response
- Providing a response on behalf of an organisation or group



S4. In which, if any, of the following local authorities do you live?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Bolsover District Council
- Chesterfield Borough Council
- Derbyshire Dales District Council
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- North East Derbyshire District Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sheffield City Council
- Other (please specify)

The Government is offering people in England the chance to have greater responsibility and control on decisions about economic development, transport, skills, housing and infrastructure planning that affect their local areas. This process of transferring powers and decisions from a national to a more local level is called "devolution".

Examples of this chance for greater responsibility and control are:

- having more control over how buses are run
- controlling skills funding for those aged 19 and over
- retaining business rate growth giving local areas the ability to invest in their own priorities.

Q1. To what extent, if at all, do you support or oppose the principle of more decision-making powers being transferred from the government in Westminster to groups of local councils (on issues such as economic development, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning)?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Strongly support | Tend to support | Neither support nor oppose | Tend to oppose | Strongly oppose | Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Q1b. Why do you say this?

PLEASE WRITE IN BELOW



There is currently a proposed devolution scheme under consideration for Sheffield City Region Combined Authority. A Combined Authority is a group of local councils who work together on issues such as economic development, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning. The idea is that if they work together on these issues, they can work more effectively.

Sheffield City Region Combined Authority currently includes Sheffield City Council, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, and the scheme proposes extending this to include Chesterfield Borough Council and Bassetlaw District Council.

The scheme also proposes giving the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority new powers in relation to areas such as:

- the economy;
- skills and employment;
- housing and infrastructure planning; and
- transport.

For the government in Westminster to approve these new powers, a new role of a directly-elected Sheffield City Region Mayor needs to be established. This directly-elected Mayor would make decisions on the issues outlined above, alongside the six existing Council Leaders.

The scheme does not propose to include powers in relation to health, policing or local planning issues. The six existing local councils would not be replaced and their boundaries would not be changed as a result of this scheme.

To read more about these proposals in detail, please see the Governance Review and scheme, a document prepared by officers from the Sheffield City Region Team. This is available at www.sheffieldcityregiondevolution.org.uk and is also available on request.

Q2. The following are examples of some powers which could be devolved to the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority. For each please state how important, if at all, you think it is that such powers are controlled locally by the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority rather than nationally by the government in Westminster?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY FOR EACH ROW

	Essential	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Transport.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skills and employment.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing and infrastructure planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2a. Are there any other powers that the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority should consider securing from government in the future? **PLEASE WRITE IN BELOW**

The scheme proposes that the Mayor will work with members of the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority, including the six existing locally-elected Council Leaders. Other models (e.g. the London Mayor) do not require the same level of engagement with elected Council Leaders.

Q3. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree that a directly-elected Sheffield City Region Mayor should be obliged to work with locally-elected Council Leaders on decisions relating to the local economy, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Sheffield City Region Combined Authority currently includes Sheffield City Council, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, but the scheme proposes extending this to formally include Chesterfield Borough Council and Bassetlaw District Council.

Based on independent research carried out by SQW, the local authority areas of Chesterfield and Bassetlaw have strong economic links with the local authority areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield. This research is available at www.sheffieldcityregiondevolution.org.uk (click on the link to 'SCR Combined Authority Constituent Membership Expansion Research').

The scheme therefore proposes that these six local authorities work together more closely on issues such as the economy, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning.

Q4. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree that local authorities should work together formally where there are strong economic links with neighbouring areas?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

The scheme proposes that the Mayor would take decisions on issues such as the economy, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning. These would directly affect the existing Combined Authority areas of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, as well as the new areas of Bassetlaw and Chesterfield. It is therefore proposed that residents in these areas should elect the Sheffield City Region Mayor in May 2017.

Existing arrangements for local council elections would not be affected by this.

Q5. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree that people living in the areas listed above should be given a vote as to who the Sheffield City Region Mayor should be?

PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

There are many ways in which Mayors are held to account in different systems around the world. The Sheffield City Region scheme proposes setting up a formal 'scrutiny committee'. This is a committee, held in public, made up of existing locally-elected Councillors from different political parties who would challenge and shape policy and decisions.

Other ways could include a 'Mayor's assembly', which involves electing other local representatives at the same time as the Mayor to hold him or her to account, or a 'citizen's jury', which involves a group of people discussing local issues in the same way a Jury would do in a courtroom.

Q6. Other than the formal scrutiny committee outlined above, in what other way(s), if any, do you think a directly-elected Mayor should be held to account? Please also think of the role the general public could play in holding the Mayor to account. **PLEASE WRITE IN BELOW**

Overall, the scheme proposes to (a) extend the Combined Authority to include Bassetlaw District Council and Chesterfield Borough Council, and (b) provide new powers so decisions can be made locally on things like the economy, skills, transport, housing and infrastructure planning. The main objective is to improve how local councils create economic growth and work more effectively together across the Sheffield City Region.

Q7. Do you think there are any alternative ways to achieve this objective?
PLEASE WRITE IN BELOW

If you represent an organisation, please complete questions Q8-Q10 only. If you are answering as an individual, please go to Q11.

More about you

Q8. Position in the organisation

Name of the group or organisation

Q9. Please use the space below to provide further detail about your role or organisation.
PLEASE WRITE IN BELOW

Q10. What category of organisation or group are you representing?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- Academic
- Action group
- Business
- Elected representative
- Environment, heritage, amenity or community group
- Local Government
- Transport, infrastructure or utility organisation
- Statutory agency
- Other category of organisation or group (please specify)

Prefer not to say

If you are answering as an individual, please answer questions Q11-Q16.

Equality and Diversity

To help ensure that we are meeting our obligations under the Equality Act 2010 we would be grateful if you could fill in the following diversity survey. Completing the survey is voluntary and is not a requirement for your response to be accepted. The survey will not be linked to the information you have provided in your response and we will not share the information with anyone else. We will use the survey results to provide a summary of the types of people and organisations who responded to this consultation. It will not identify individuals.

Q11. Are you...?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

...male

...female

...transgender

Q12. What is your age?
PLEASE WRITE IN

Years

Q13. Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? **PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY**

- Yes, limited a lot Yes, limited a little No

Q14. Which of these activities best describes what you are doing at present?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- Employee in full-time job (30 hours plus per week)
 Employee in part-time job (under 30 hours per week)
 Self-employed full or part-time
 On a government supported training programme (e.g. Modern Apprenticeship/Training for Work)
 Full-time education at school, college or university
 Unemployed and available for work
 Permanently sick/disabled
 Wholly retired from work
 Looking after the home
 Doing something else (**TICK AND WRITE IN BELOW**)

Q15. In which of these ways does your household occupy your current accommodation?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owned outright | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent from Housing Association/Trust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buying on mortgage | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent from private landlord |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rent from council | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Q16. What is your ethnic group?
PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ONLY

White

- English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
 Irish
 Gypsy or Irish traveller
 Eastern European
 Any other White background

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups

- White and Black Caribbean
 White and Black African
 White and Asian
 Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background

Other ethnic group

- Arab

Asian/Asian British

- Indian
 Pakistani
 Bangladeshi
 Chinese
 Kashmiri
 Any other Asian background

Black/African/Caribbean/Black British

- African
 Caribbean
 Any other Black/African/Caribbean background

- Other ethnic group

Thank you for responding to the consultation.

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