

REVISED 14TH JANUARY 2016

LETTER FROM LEAD COMMISSIONER, RMBC TO SECRETARIES OF STATE, DCLG AND DfE – NOVEMBER 2015

PROPOSED RESTORATION OF EXECUTIVE POWERS

Introduction

Since the commencement of the intervention in February 2015, Commissioners have encouraged senior Councillors to have ideas, represent local views, challenge officer reports constructively and otherwise comment on all decision reports. This broad involvement will continue.

However Commissioners now think that certain functions can be restored to Councillor executive decision-making and accountability.

The proposal is that Councillors chosen to be part of the (Advisory) Cabinet will once again be responsible for leadership, standard-setting, decision-making and quality monitoring and should be accountable to the public and to scrutiny Councillors, for the following functions:

1. Education and schools; education for 14-19 years in all settings; school admissions and appeal system; youth services.
2. Public Health
3. Leisure services; events in parks and green spaces.
4. Customer and cultural services, libraries, arts, customer services and welfare programmes.
5. Housing
6. Planning and transportation policy; highways maintenance.
7. The Council's area assembly system and neighbourhood working; responsibilities under the Equalities Act.
8. Building regulation, drainage, car parking, business regulation and enforcement (not including licensing)*, emergency planning.
9. Financial services, including revenues and benefits (not including audit)*, ICT; legal and democratic services; corporate communications; corporate policy; procurement.
10. Budget control in these areas, and budget planning.
11. Policy arising from Sheffield City Region.

**Please note - 8 and 9 have been revised slightly since the original list of functions were included in the Lead Commissioner's 9 month letter to the Secretary of State for Communities.*

Executive responsibilities to be retained by Commissioners:

1. Economic growth
2. Town centres
3. External partnerships
4. Children's safeguarding and all other children's social care services

5. The licensing function and licensing policy
6. Community safety
7. Adult social care and the Council's partnership with the NHS
8. Asset management
9. Performance management
10. Human resources
11. Waste collection
12. Grounds maintenance
13. Audit
14. Complaints and formal requests (for the Commissioners' Office)