



ENGLISH DEVOLUTION

APCC FORTNIGHTLY UPDATE 27th June 2025

A roundup of recent announcements and developments regarding English Devolution with a focus on policing and fire governance.

UPDATE FROM THE APCC

Coming soon: APCC guidance – Transfer of police powers to a Mayoral authority

The APCC is putting the finishing touches to a new report aimed to assist OP(F)CCs on the transfer of police and crime functions to a new mayoral authority. The government's devolution agenda in England will change the landscape of how policing and crime is governed. Amongst the Government's plans for devolution in England, is for more mayors to take on the functions of Police and Crime, and Police, Fire and Crime Commissioners.

Prepared by the APCC in collaboration with [Leapwise](#), and published in partnership with the Local Government Association (LGA), the report aims to help answer the question of how to manage successful transfers of P(F)CC functions, and guide areas where devolution is happening. We outline challenges and opportunities for policing governance in mayoral models, and the design considerations that need to be made as new authorities are being established. We set out implications for managing the transition process itself, and broad recommendations for central and local government, and others involved in the process.

The report is scheduled for release w/c 7th July at a launch event that will be advertised shortly.

UPDATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

23rd June 2025 - Written Ministerial Statement – [Local Authority Governance](#)

A statement from Jim McMahon, Minister for Local Government and English Devolution on the Government's plans to review governance arrangements for local authorities in England.

17th June 2025 – [Proposals for local government reorganisation in Surrey](#), MHCLG

A Government consultation relating to the structure of local government in Surrey.

3rd June 2025 – [Local government reorganisation: summary of feedback on interim plans](#), MHCLG

Provides an overview of the responses from the 21 two-tier areas in England to the Government's invitation to develop interim plans for Local Government Reorganisation and submit them by 21 March 2025.

The APCC continues to press the MHCLG to engage more closely with P(F)CCs and OP(F)CCs as part of its English Devolution work. Earlier this month, a Q&A session with MHCLG and Home Office officials was held for the OP(F)CCs within the [Devolution Priority Programme](#) areas. The APCC will look to convene further sessions of this type in the coming months. Indications from Ministers are that the English Devolution Bill will be published imminently and before summer recess (22nd July).

IN THE NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY

Forthcoming: 14th July 2025 [How devolution can address health inequalities](#), Institute for Government. Details of an online event to explore how mayors and local leaders can use devolved powers to reduce health inequalities.

20th June 2025 [The State of Intergovernmental relations in England](#), Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place, Liverpool John Moores University.

This report draws on interviews with regional politicians to give insight into the relationships shaping regional policy, including, what mayors and combined authorities are learning from each other, and highlights further opportunities for government from devolution.

11th June 2025 – [Everything you need to know about metro mayors](#), Centre for Cities
A straightforward guide to what mayors do and what that means for other local politicians and councils.

10th June 2025 – Emergency Services Times podcast [For Every Response](#)– interview about devolution with Jo Coles, Deputy Mayor for Policing, Fire and Crime for York and North Yorkshire.

4th June 2025 – Devolution Diaries: [In Focus - Hampshire and the Solent](#) , Cratus Group
A short article looking at how devolution is playing out around the Solent.

4th June 2025 - The Centre for Cities [Q&A with Clive Betts MP \(Lab\) to discuss recent progress on English devolution](#),

A recording of an interview with the MP for Sheffield South East on recent progress on English devolution, the next steps set out in the English Devolution White Paper, and why devolution matters for local economic growth.

7th May 2025 – [Delivering the Government’s Devolution Revolution](#), National Centre for Social Research

A briefing looking at the implications for local authority powers and accountability based upon a small case study conducted in Sussex. The findings offer learning that could be useful in other areas.

15th April 2025 – [English Devolution: Where is it at?](#) The MJ

A look at what lies ahead for the six Devolution Priority Programme areas and the other areas destined for devolution.

LINKS TO KEY DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

[English Devolution White Paper](#) - MHCLG

[Devolution White Paper: On-the-day factual briefing](#) – LGA

[English devolution: mayoral strategic authorities](#) – House of Commons Library

[The devolution and Local Govt reorganisation hub](#) – LGA

[Metro mayors explainer](#) – Institute for Government

[The Local Authority Podcast Devolution series](#)

[APCC response to government white paper on English devolution](#)

Institute for Government – Mayor profiles

A series of short briefings profiling the current picture in each mayoralty and illustrating the devolution journey each is taking.

[Greater Lincolnshire](#)

[Hull & East Yorkshire](#)

[North East](#)

[East Midlands](#)

[York & North Yorkshire](#)

[London](#)

[West Midlands](#)

[South Yorkshire](#)

[Greater Manchester](#)

[West of England](#)

[West Yorkshire](#)

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[Cambridgeshire &
Peterborough](#)

[Tees Valley](#)

CONTACTS

APCC – Richard.martin@apccs.police.uk

Home Office – policingdevolution@homeoffice.gov.uk Alex.miller@homeoffice.gov.uk

MHCLG - Tom.andrew@communities.gov.uk

LGA - localism@local.gov.uk

PREPARED BY THE APCC SECRETARIAT

Feedback and suggestions for future content please to Richard.martin@apccs.police.uk