



**CORNWALL**  
**COUNCIL**  
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**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**

**Public consultation  
on the proposed**

# **Cornwall Devolution Deal**

9 December 2022 – 17 February 2023



# Introduction

The Government and Cornwall Council have negotiated a proposed Devolution Deal, through which Government gives additional powers and funding to Cornwall Council. The Deal will give Cornwall Council more funding to invest in Cornwall's future, and more control over the decision-making that affects Cornwall's residents and businesses.

The Government has set an important condition: if Cornwall Council is to receive more powers and funding, it needs to change the way the Council is governed, from the current system of a Council Leader, elected by the 87 Cornwall Councillors every year, to a Mayor directly elected by the people of Cornwall every four years.

Before the Deal can come into effect, Cornwall Council will need to decide whether to approve the Deal and agree to change its governance model from a Leader and Cabinet model to an elected Mayor and Cabinet model. Those decisions are 'two sides of the same coin'. The Government have made it repeatedly clear that the Council will not be able to secure the proposed Deal if it doesn't change its governance model.

## What are we consulting on?

We are consulting on a new proposed **Devolution Deal** that Cornwall Council has negotiated with Government (we will refer to it as 'the Deal' in this document). The powers and funding that the Deal brings are intended to help deliver on the priorities set out in the Cornwall Plan 2050.


We are also consulting on the proposed **governance changes** which are a requirement of the Deal.

The results of this consultation will be considered by Cornwall Council before any decisions are made to approve the Deal including making the required change to the Council's governance. The results will also be shared with Government who will consider the outcome of the consultation to determine if the statutory tests are met to pass the additional powers and funding to the Council.

## What is a Devolution Deal?

A devolution deal is an agreement in which Government powers and funding are devolved (handed over) to a local authority.

The Government's approach to devolution was outlined in the **Levelling Up White Paper**, published in February 2022.

 [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1052708/Levelling\\_up\\_the\\_UK\\_white\\_paper.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1052708/Levelling_up_the_UK_white_paper.pdf)

If the Deal is accepted and implemented, powers and funding would move from Government and other public bodies, directly to Cornwall Council. This means more decisions about Cornwall being made in Cornwall.



### The Government offers three levels of Devolution Deals:

1

**Level 1** – offers devolution to local authorities with joint working arrangements, with fewer powers and less devolved funding on offer

2

**Level 2** – offers devolution to single local government institutions without a directly elected Mayor such as combined authorities, or a single upper tier local authority covering a functional economic area or the whole county geography with a Leader and Cabinet governance model. Cornwall already has many of the level two deal powers in place as part of the 2015 deal.

3

**Level 3** – offers the most comprehensive package of powers and funding, for areas with a single institution over a sensible geography, with the strongest and most accountable leadership, such as a mayoral combined authority (MCA), or a single unitary authority like Cornwall Council, or a county council covering a functional economic area or the whole county geography with a directly elected Mayor.



**Cornwall Council has negotiated a Level 3 deal to acquire the maximum level of powers and funding currently available.**

## Why do we need a Level 3 devolution deal?

Cornwall Council was the first rural unitary authority to negotiate a devolution deal with Government in 2015. That deal allowed Cornwall to deliver better public transport. It allowed us to retain and reinvest business rates in Cornwall. It allowed us to press ahead with deep geothermal exploration, using our natural resources to address the question of energy security in the future. It delivered real and lasting benefits for Cornwall's residents, communities and the local economy.

Given the unprecedented global financial challenges we are currently experiencing, Cornwall Council wants to secure the maximum powers and funding available through a Level 3 deal. This Deal would help provide stability and certainty and enable us to continue to invest in the future of Cornwall: growing our economy and creating homes and jobs for local people; protecting

and enhancing our environment, supporting the transition to a carbon neutral Cornwall, strengthening vibrant communities, our heritage and culture.

The benefits of a Level 3 deal go beyond the powers and funding that this proposed Deal brings and opens up further opportunities for devolved funding and powers in the future.

### What other options are there?

A Level 2 deal doesn't require changing to an elected Mayor. However, through the 2015 Deal, Cornwall Council already has most of the powers and funding available at Level 2, with the exception of the Adult Education Budget. There is currently no Level 2 deal on the table. We would need to start negotiations again – and there are no guarantees this would be possible.

# What are the key points from Cornwall's proposed devolution deal?

The Deal would provide a total of £390m to help us deliver the priorities set out in the Cornwall Plan 2050.

## Secure long term funding for local priorities

Control of a new

**£360m**

Cornwall investment fund over 30 years to drive growth and take forward our priorities over the longer term.



Up to

**£10m**

for a 3-year innovation programme to invest in innovative businesses that will help rebalance the Cornish economy.



## Grow a creative and innovative carbon zero economy

A boost to Cornwall's ability to capitalise on our natural clean energy resources

Support to create a Cornwall Floating Offshore Wind Commission.

Help to fast-track connecting the Langarth development to a zero-carbon geothermal heat source.

More influence over the planning of our future energy infrastructure.

More control to ensure training and skills provision meets the needs of the local economy and helps local people to get good jobs, including:

Devolution of the core Adult Education Budget.

Input into the new Local Skills Improvement Plans.



## Address the housing crisis

A Cornwall Land Commission to increase the delivery of new affordable homes and regeneration schemes on public sector-owned land.



The ability to designate Mayoral Development Areas, and set up Mayoral Development Corporations to help deliver regeneration.



Additional funding:

**£8.7m**

of funding for the next two years to support the building of new homes on brownfield land.



**Up to £7m**

capital funding to support affordable housing delivery.

**£238,000**

funding to develop a pipeline of affordable housing schemes for future Government investment.

Closer joint working:



To develop practical and sustainable solutions to manage the impact of tourism on the housing market.



To encourage landlords to stay in the private rented sector and improve standards.

## Improve Cornwall's transport connections

Support to expand on the success of our 2015 devolution deal, creating a transport system that is integrated, provides reliable journey times for those getting to work or doing business, and meets the needs of our residents and helps us to achieve our ambitious target of net zero by 2030, including:

**£500,000**

to accelerate the Cornwall Transport Plan by developing a pipeline of transport schemes for further Government investment.

**A new rail partnership**

with Great British Rail (the successor to Network Rail) to develop integrated ticketing on rail and buses.



Collaboration on innovative local active travel schemes.

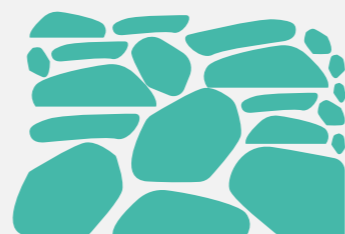
## Protect and enhance Cornwall's natural environment and landscape

Measures that would help us to do more:

**To improve and grow nature,** including by leveraging in more private sector funding.



**To maintain and protect** important features of our landscape, such as **Cornish hedges**.



## Promote the Cornish culture, language and heritage

**£3m**

capital funding to support the delivery of **heritage schemes**.



**£500,000**

to support **Cornish distinctiveness** as part of commitment to support the ongoing protection and promotion of Cornish in private and public life.



Commitment to **include Cornish** in any list of regional and minority languages that appears in relevant forthcoming legislation to enable greater awareness and use of the Cornish language.



## Improve Cornwall's health services

### Collaboration

on **new initiatives to improve public service delivery** for example to help residents with multiple complex needs



Collaboration to **test innovative ways for improving public health** and tackling complex health issues such as childhood obesity and healthy ageing.



### A boost for plans

to regenerate a site in Pool to provide a new Health Hub alongside new housing for local people.



# The powers and funding in more detail

The full text of **the proposed Cornwall Devolution Deal** can be found:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/cornwall-devolution-deal-kevambos-digresennans-kernow](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cornwall-devolution-deal-kevambos-digresennans-kernow)

The new powers and funding included in the Deal reflect the priorities for a cleaner, greener, fairer and more inclusive Cornwall set out in the Cornwall Plan 2050, which was developed on the back of extensive public engagement through the 'Cornwall We Want' listening campaign in 2020. The Deal also reflects Cornwall Council's priorities for creating a carbon neutral Cornwall where everyone can start well, live well and age well, which were consulted on as part of the 2022-23 budget & business plan consultation.



## The Cornwall Plan

The Cornwall Plan 2050 sets out a vision for Cornwall in 2050. It was created on behalf of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Leadership Board in 2020 following an extensive public listening campaign to hear more from people about 'The Cornwall We Want' for our children and grandchildren.

### The Cornwall Plan 2050:

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/your-council/gyllyn-warbarth-together-we-can-the-cornwall-plan/](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/your-council/gyllyn-warbarth-together-we-can-the-cornwall-plan/)

### The Cornwall We Want:

<https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/overview>

To achieve the shared vision for a cleaner, greener, fairer and more inclusive Cornwall by 2050 the plan sets out six 'transitions' that chart a course towards the Cornwall we want for the future. The Deal reflects these transitions:

- A creative carbon zero economy
- Equality, education and entrepreneurship
- Sustainable food, land and seas
- Safe, healthy, resilient communities
- Thriving places with decent, affordable homes
- A digital revolution for sustainable living

## Securing long term funding for local priorities >>

The Deal outlines a new £360 million Investment Fund for a period of 30 years, providing much-needed certainty over money coming to Cornwall. This would be used for long-term investments to achieve the transformational changes we set out in the Cornwall Plan 2050.

This funding, alongside funding secured from other Government initiatives including £132 million from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, £99 million from the Towns and Future High Streets Fund and £14.3 million from the Getting Building Fund, would seek to support a number of significant and emerging growth sectors in Cornwall.

Control of a new

**£360m**

investment fund over 30 years to drive growth and take forward our priorities over the longer term.



A new Cornwall Innovation Programme would see up to

**£10m**

invested over 3 years in innovative businesses



## Growing a creative and innovative carbon zero economy >>

### Rebalancing the Cornish economy

Cornwall has the potential to be at the cutting edge of the drive towards a carbon zero economy. There are a number of significant and emerging growth sectors that the Deal seeks to support:

- **Clean energy resources** – capitalising on unrivalled natural resources.
- **Geo-resources** – harnessing expertise and the critical minerals necessary for the low-carbon transition, in a sustainable way.
- **Space and communications** – exploiting the unique physical, digital and intellectual assets in the region, such as Spaceport and Goonhilly Earth Station.
- **Visitor economy** – potential to be a global leader for low-carbon experiences for visitors and residents, maximising links to the environment, heritage and culture.
- **Agri-food** – creating a productive and sustainable sector maximising market opportunities for land and marine management, and food processing/production.

Collaboration with Government on these sectors would also help address some of the challenges that Cornwall's economy faces, such as low productivity; low levels of higher qualifications; significant pockets of deprivation; lack of grid capacity; and a business sector with low research and development investment levels.

**A new Cornwall Innovation Programme** would see up to £10 million invested over 3 years in innovative businesses to help rebalance

the Cornish economy. These are businesses that are creating high paid jobs, investing in research and development and bringing new products on the market.

### Capitalising on our clean energy resources

The Deal would give a boost to Cornwall's ability to capitalise on our natural clean energy resources:

The Deal would give Cornwall a lead role nationally in developing and benefitting from the potential of **Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) energy**

- Cornwall Council's aim for a Carbon Neutral Cornwall includes the ambition to create a floating offshore wind park to generate renewable energy.
- This fits with the Government's British Energy Security Strategy stated aim to deliver up to 50GW of offshore wind energy by 2030, including up to 5GW of innovative floating wind energy.
- The Government supports Cornwall's ambition to create a Cornwall FLOW Commission which puts Cornwall in a lead role nationally in developing and demonstrating the potential of Floating Offshore Wind energy. The Cornwall FLOW Commission will bring together key organisations in the FLOW industry. It will aim to streamline the development process, minimise marine ecological impact and maximise benefits for the economy and jobs creation.

The Deal would give Cornwall a lead role nationally

in developing and benefitting from the potential of Floating Offshore Wind (FLOW) energy



The Deal would help Cornwall Council in **making the most of our Geothermal heat sources** and to fast-track connecting the Langarth development to a zero-carbon Geothermal heat source.

- Parts of Cornwall are suitable for releasing geothermal energy as a zero-carbon heat source. Geothermal energy is about using the heat that naturally occurs in certain layers under the surface of the earth to generate electricity or to provide a heat source for buildings.
- The Government is introducing new regulations that will give Cornwall Council powers to designate 'heat network zones' which will enable us to put in place the infrastructure to make efficient use of the geothermal heat energy potential of Cornwall.
- Those powers won't come into force until 2025. In the meantime, the Deal commits Government to continue supporting Cornwall Council to try and put in place the infrastructure needed to connect the Langarth development to the long-term, sustainable supply of geothermal heat energy.

Areas with the most advanced devolution deals such as Cornwall would have more influence over the planning of our future energy system. This would help us to **address Energy Infrastructure Capacity**

- A major factor limiting the growth or renewable energy production in Cornwall is the capacity of the grid to distribute that energy effectively across the country. The Government recognises the need for major investment in the UK's onshore and offshore electricity networks to ramp up the generation of renewable and low-carbon power. That's why Government has already agreed to support Cornwall Council to work with energy firms (including Western Power who operate the grid in Cornwall) to develop a pioneering 'Local Area Energy Plan' to identify and plan the improvements needed so that future investment can be unlocked.

## Skills and education

Our ambitions to grow and transform our economy are dependent on being able to develop the knowledge and skills of our workforce. We want employers in Cornwall to be able to find the skilled workers they need locally – and we want to help local people develop the skills they need to get good jobs in Cornwall and increase their prospects. National policies are not always suited to deliver the improvements we need locally.

The Deal would provide us with a massive opportunity to upskill our workforce, giving us more control to ensure education and skills development programmes meet the needs of people and businesses in Cornwall.

- The Deal would devolve the budget for the provision of adult education to Cornwall Council. This would give us flexibility to tailor the adult education provision to local needs and priorities.
- The Deal refers to support for other plans that are in process that will bring more opportunities to Cornwall to ensure employment support aligns with our economic priorities, for example through the development of the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Local Skills Improvement Plans that the Federation of Small Businesses are leading on.
- The Deal reaffirms Cornwall’s status as an Education Investment Area, which brings future opportunities to work with Government to tackle low educational attainment.

**More control to ensure training and skills provision meets the needs of the local economy and helps local people to get good jobs**



## Addressing the housing crisis >>

One of our top priorities is to increase the provision of decent affordable housing for local people in Cornwall. We want young people to be able to live in the places they grew up, not priced out of the market because of a shortage of housing stock and a high number of homes used as holiday rentals.

Cornwall Council already has broad powers to acquire and dispose of land to build houses, commercial space and infrastructure, for growth and regeneration.

The Deal would give Cornwall significant extra funding and powers to tackle Cornwall’s housing crisis head-on:

The elected Mayor would be able to designate **Mayoral Development Areas** (MDAs) for regeneration or development. A **Mayoral Development Corporation** (MDC) is a statutory body created to bring forward the regeneration of a designated Mayoral Development Area. An MDC has the powers to acquire, develop, hold, and dispose of land and property, as well as securing Government investment to regenerate and revitalise the MDA to create jobs.

The Deal would enable Cornwall Council to create a **Cornwall Land Commission** that would oversee the efficient use of all of the public sector estate. This could be used for example to identify all publicly owned brownfield sites that can be considered for use as locations to provide housing, economic growth or nature recovery.

### The Deal would bring additional funding to Cornwall:

- Cornwall Council will be awarded **£8.7 million of devolved capital funding** across 2023/24 and 2024/25 to support the building of new homes on brownfield land, subject to sufficient eligible projects for funding being identified.
- The Government will also provide up to **£7 million of capital funding** in 2023 to support the delivery of affordable housing.
- Cornwall Council will be able to work directly with Government and Homes England to develop **a pipeline of affordable housing projects** on sites large and small across Cornwall. Affordable housing sites in Cornwall are usually not large enough to attract government funding, but by working with Homes England to develop a pipeline of several projects we will also have a better chance of attracting investment from the Government to deliver these projects. This will greatly improve the prospects of us achieving our ambition to double the delivery of affordable housing in Cornwall.
- To support Cornwall Council to identify and bring forward a pipeline of housing projects, the Government will also provide **£238,000** of revenue capacity funding across 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

**£8.7m**

over 2 years for housing schemes on brownfield land



### The Deal would also bring benefits through closer joint working on key issues affecting the housing market in Cornwall:

- The Deal would provide opportunities for Cornwall Council to work with Government on developing practical and sustainable **solutions to manage the impact of second homes and short term lets on the housing market**. In recognition of the acute and growing challenges Cornwall faces as a popular tourism destination in managing the supply of tourist accommodation and the knock-on impact this has for housing local residents, Government and Cornwall Council aim to work together to investigate legislative changes that will help to support the supply of safe and sustainable short term holiday accommodation and the effective management of Cornwall as a tourism destination.
- The reduction in **private sector rented housing** has fuelled Cornwall’s current housing crisis – so Cornwall Council is keen to make it more attractive for landlords to remain in (and return to) the private rented sector. As part of the Deal, Government commits to working with Cornwall Council to develop a pilot scheme to trial improved enforcement of standards in the private rented sector in a way that will encourage landlords to remain in the sector and invest in their properties.
- **Housing retrofit** - Cornwall Council has been at the forefront in efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of its social housing stock while tackling fuel poverty by ‘retrofitting’ houses – upgrading them with better insulation, more effective heating, solar panels etc. The Government recognises that this approach could potentially be useful in other areas as well. Through the Deal, the Government commits to working with Cornwall Council to explore if and how retrofit measures could be effectively rolled out further in Cornwall and elsewhere.

## Improving Cornwall's transport connections >>

Improving Cornwall's transport connections is a key priority to better connect our communities, our businesses and help residents get out and about. We need sustained investment to create a decent affordable transport network.

Cornwall Council will be provided with an additional **£500,000** of revenue capacity funding across 2023/24 and 2024/25. This will provide Cornwall Council with **the opportunity to design a high-quality pipeline of transport schemes** aligned with their wider strategic priorities. The funding will also support the Council to develop a detailed decarbonisation plan of action that sets out what Cornwall needs to do to meet the commitment to be carbon neutral in transport by 2030.



### Integrated Public transport

Through our 2015 Cornwall Devolution Deal the Council already has some increased powers over public transport provision within Cornwall, which has allowed us to create "Transport for Cornwall" with better integrated public transport services and smart ticketing.

Government recognises Cornwall's ambition to encourage more passengers to use public transport. A level 3 deal would enable us to take the next steps towards realising our ambitions for a fully integrated, high quality public transport offer in Cornwall. This includes:

- **Integrated ticketing across all modes of transport** (including rail). This brings the future possibility of using the 'tap on – tap off' ticketing system on journeys involving both bus and train – and extending a 'reduced fares' policy (such as the bus journey subsidy scheme which is funded through £23.5 million from the Government) to cover such multi-modal journeys as well.

- **More control and influence over bus service provision.** Cornwall Council already has a strong and enhanced partnership with transport operators to deliver high quality bus services. The Deal could lead to franchising powers and the Bus Services Operators Grant to be devolved to Cornwall Council, giving more say to determine routes, timetabling and fare prices.
- **More influence over improvements in the rail network.** A good example of our ambitions is the Mid Cornwall Metro project, for which we recently submitted a bid to Government for £50 million from the Levelling Up Fund. The project aims to create a direct coast-to-coast rail link between Newquay and Falmouth via St Austell and Truro, but also to use that link as a springboard for economic regeneration of areas such as the Clay Country.

### Other benefits of the Deal include:

- **EV charging infrastructure** - The Government is looking to invest £450m to improve public electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The Deal would put us in a good position to bid for a share of this funding once that is available.
- **Road safety on A38** - Government has committed to give special consideration to road safety improvements when considering the merits of proposals to enhance the A38 in Cornwall as part of Roads Investment Strategy 3. This increases the prospects of those plans progressing.

- **Active travel** – The Deal would commit Government to work with Cornwall Council and Active Travel England to develop innovative local active travel schemes, including walking and cycling schemes.
- **Tamar Crossings** - The Deal would commit Government to working with Cornwall (and its partner Plymouth City Council) to plan for a sustainable future for the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry.



## Supporting, protecting and enhancing our natural environment and landscape >>

Cornwall's natural environment is a core part of our identity and heritage – as well as to our health and prosperity. But nature is fragile, and Cornwall Council has been working hard to go beyond conserving and protecting nature, to enhancing and growing nature. We are now recognised as a leading local authority nationally for nature recovery.

The Deal would give us tools and practical support to get actively involved in the emerging markets for private finance of nature (ie the carbon credits market). We already have a pipeline of nature recovery projects and this would help us to attract private funding to deliver them.

Cornwall Council will continue to play a lead role in the development of the Government's initiative to put in place **Local Nature Recovery Strategies** that bring together local communities and stakeholders. Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly have already been a pilot area for the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. These strategies will be

important, for example because the new environmental land management schemes (replacing EU schemes like the Countryside Stewardship Scheme) will be implemented in line with the locally identified environmental priorities of the Strategy.

Through the Deal, the Government also acknowledges the importance of **Cornish Hedges**. As they are neither considered hedgerows nor drystone walls, they do not always enjoy the same level of protection and attention. The Deal would open up ways to ensure better management and restoration of existing Cornish hedges – as well as encouraging the creation of new ones.

**Maintain and protect** important features of our landscape, such as **Cornish hedges**



## Promoting the Cornish culture, heritage and language >>

The Deal would see closer partnership working between the Government's Department of Culture, Media and Sports and its agencies (these include Arts Council England, English Heritage and Sport England) and Cornwall Council to invest in initiatives to develop the contribution of sports, arts, culture, heritage and the creative industries to our communities and economy.



### Cornish language

The protection and promotion of the Cornish language is a long-standing priority of Cornwall Council. In 2002 the language was formally recognised by the UK Government under the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages. The Deal commits Government to work with the Council to explore ways to further support the ongoing protection and promotion of Cornish in private and public life.

- As part of the Deal, where appropriate, Government commits to including Cornish in any list of regional and minority languages that appears in forthcoming legislation to enable greater awareness and use of the Cornish language.
- Government will provide £500,000 of funding in 2023/24 to support Cornish distinctiveness, including the protection and promotion of the Cornish language.



**£500,000**

to support **Cornish distinctiveness** as part of commitment to support the ongoing protection and promotion of Cornish in private and public life

### Heritage

Cornwall has a number of historic sites that are managed by English Heritage. The Deal means English Heritage would continue to work with Cornwall Council on these sites to raise awareness of the Cornish as a national minority and to ensure the presentation, interpretation, and marketing of those sites reflect Cornwall's distinct and unique landscape, culture and heritage.

- The Government will also provide up to **£3 million of capital funding** in this Spending Review period to support the delivery of heritage schemes across Cornwall.

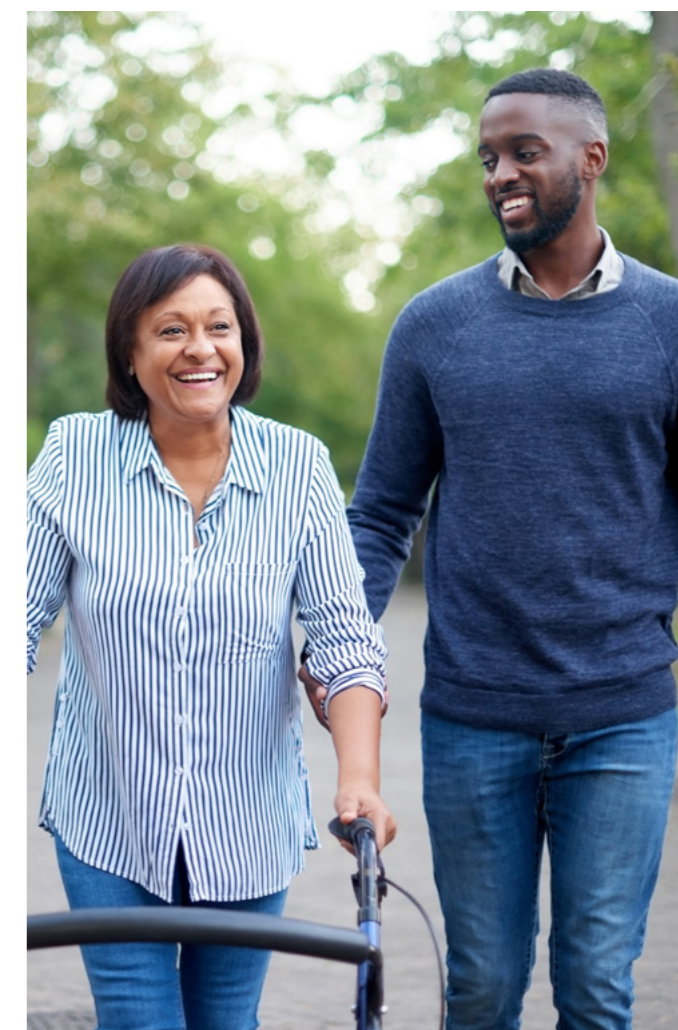
## Improving health services >>

The investment through this Deal in housing, infrastructure, employment and skills opportunities would all contribute a health gain for those living in Cornwall and targeted at those with poorest health. The Deal also includes specific benefits in relation to improving services.

Initiatives like the **Tri-Service Safety Officers** ([www.cornwall.gov.uk/fire-and-rescue-service/about-cornwall-fire-and-rescue-service/blue-light-collaboration/tri-service-safety-officer](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/fire-and-rescue-service/about-cornwall-fire-and-rescue-service/blue-light-collaboration/tri-service-safety-officer)) have built a reputation for Cornwall as a pioneer for public service reforms focusing on creating safe, healthy, resilient communities. The Deal commits Government to working with the Council and partners to **explore initiatives to improve delivery of public services**, such as how best to support residents with multiple complex needs. This may lead to devolving further powers to Cornwall in future.

In addition, there is commitment in this Deal for Government, the NHS and Cornwall Council to work together to **improve public health, health and social care services** and invest to address key issues in the health care system in Cornwall:

- The Deal would provide a boost to joint plans by Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and Cornwall Council to regenerate a site in Pool to provide a new Health Hub alongside new housing for local people.
- The Government would work with Cornwall Council to develop innovative ways for improving public health. A key focus would be on reducing rural and coastal health disparities and tackling complex health issues such as childhood obesity and healthy ageing.



### Collaboration

on **new initiatives to improve public service delivery** for example to help residents with multiple complex needs



# Required governance changes – including an elected Mayor for Cornwall Council

In order that powers and funding are given to Cornwall Council, Government requires the Council to make changes to its governance arrangements. The main change is to move to an elected Mayor who would provide a single point of accountability to the people of Cornwall. They could serve as an ambassador for Cornwall at a national and international level to attract more investment to Cornwall.

**In summary, the proposed governance changes would include:**

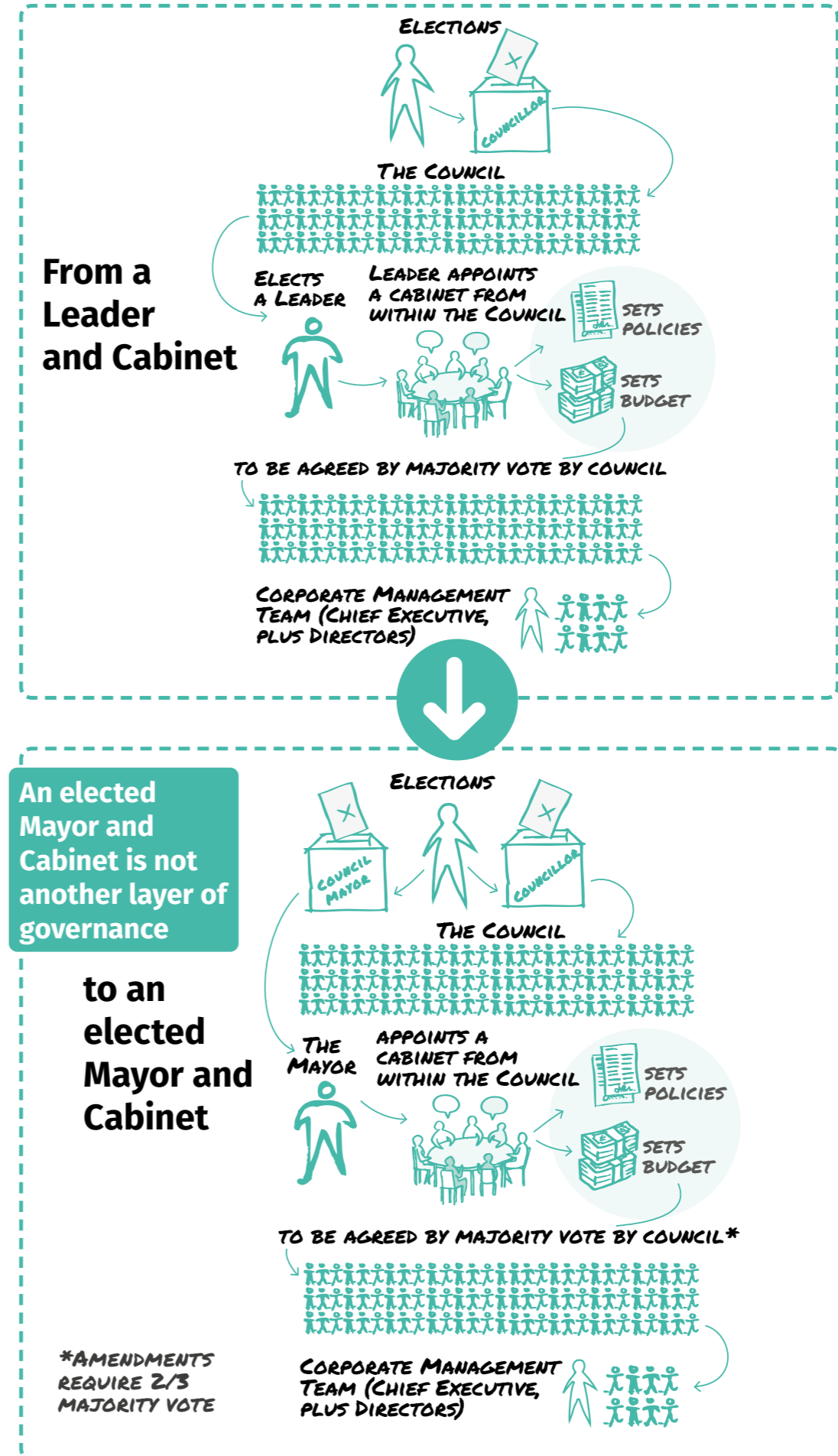
- Changing from a Leader and Cabinet to an elected Mayor and Cabinet. Currently the Leader is elected by the 87 members of the Council. The elected Mayor would be directly elected by Cornwall residents eligible to vote. The elected Mayor would appoint between 2-9 members of the Council to form their Cabinet just like the Leader does now.
- The annual budget and plans and strategies proposed by the elected Mayor and Cabinet would continue to require a majority vote at Council to pass. Any amendments, not accepted by the Mayor and Cabinet would change from requiring a majority vote to a two-thirds vote at Council to pass.

- At least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee that would hold the elected Mayor and Cabinet to account on matters relating to the Devolution Deal. It is proposed that this Committee would have a Chair and Vice Chair from a different political party to the elected Mayor.
- Decisions currently taken by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (CIoS) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) would become the responsibility of the Council.

## Changing to an elected Mayor and Cabinet Model

The Council must change its governance model from Leader and Cabinet to an elected Mayor and Cabinet. The diagram and table set out the key differences and similarities between the two models.

**The proposals in the devolution deal means the Council's governance would have to change...**





### Current Leader and Cabinet model

### Proposed Elected Mayor and Cabinet model

Appointment	Simple majority vote of Council	Most votes at public election (the elected Mayor is an additional post to that of the 87 elected Member seats on the Council)
Term	Annual	Due to rules on first term, if first election is May 2024, first term will be 5 years. Thereafter from 2029 Mayoral elections will coincide with local elections and term will be 4 years.
Removal during election term	<p>a. Resignation of post;                  b. No longer a member of the Council (i.e. statutory disqualification/death);</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>or</b> c. Member 'Motion to remove the Cabinet Leader' at Extraordinary Council meeting (that met the requirements of the Constitution and was supported by a majority vote at Council).</p>	<p>No change compared to current model.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Possible to have Member 'vote of no confidence' (which doesn't itself remove but can often put significant pressure to resign). This is therefore a similar position to that of elected Members generally who cannot otherwise be removed from office.</p>
Powers to appoint Cabinet	Appoints all Executive members (minimum of 2, maximum of 9, of which one shall be Deputy Leader)	No change compared to current model. One shall be Deputy Mayor.
General extent of decision-making powers	<p>Limited to Executive functions which may be delegated to members of the Cabinet, committees of Cabinet, area committees or an officer.                  Requirement for Overview and Scrutiny Committees</p>	No change compared to current model.
Decisions re: new corporate plan / strategy (including annual budget)	Simple Majority vote of Council	Simple majority vote of Council bar an amendment which requires 2/3rd majority vote.
Divisional responsibility	Yes	None. The elected Mayor does not have responsibility for an electoral division.
Change of governance model	<p>By Council vote providing such is not within:</p> <p>a. 5 years of a previous 'change of governance' resolution creating an elected Mayor and Cabinet</p> <p>.....</p> <p>By referendum:</p> <p>a. At any time following a previous change implemented by resolution only;                  b. In the event of a previous 'change' referendum, at least 10 years have passed since the referendum for a Mayor and Cabinet</p>	<p>No change compared to current model.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>(NB. a Mayor cannot make the decision to abolish or retain the post – such a decision must be via Council resolution or referendum as outlined. In the event of abolition of post, Mayor continues in post for remainder of the mayoral term).</p>

## First election of the Mayor

If the Deal is accepted, the first election for a Mayor would be in May 2024. That election would be combined with the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner election to reduce the overall cost. In accordance with national legislation, Mayors are elected under a ‘First Past the Post’ system. The first term of the elected Mayor would be five years and thereafter the elections would coincide with the local elections and the term would be four years – as shown below.

- May 2024 First Council Mayor election**  
[Mayor initially serves for five years]
- May 2025 Cornwall Council elections**  
[87 members]
- May 2029 Second Council Mayor election and Cornwall Council elections**  
[87 members]
- May 2033 Third Council Mayor election and Cornwall Council elections**  
[87 members]

## Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership

Decisions currently taken by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (CioS) Local Enterprise Partnership (CioS LEP) would become the responsibility of the Council. The Council is engaging with its local partners and with Government in taking steps to establish alternative governance arrangements which reflects the fact that the functions of the CioS LEP covers both the areas of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Cornwall Council, in consultation with the Council of the Isles of Scilly and the LEP will submit an integration plan to Government for approval which sets out the alternative governance arrangements.

Engaging with the private sector and continuing to give our businesses a voice is very important to the Council, both in terms of economic development, regeneration and the wider delivery of services. We have already established the Economic Prosperity Board to oversee the delivery of the £132m Shared Prosperity Fund. This is a Joint Committee between Cornwall Council and the Council of the Isles of Scilly. This Joint Committee has set up the CioS Prosperity Advisory Panel to engage business voices in the Council’s decision making processes to maintain a culture of constructive challenge and scrutiny. We intend to build on this in the future.

Engaging with the private sector and continuing to give our businesses a voice is very important to the Council, both in terms of economic development, regeneration and the wider delivery of services.



## Cornwall Fire and Rescue Service / Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner

The proposed Deal has no direct implications for the Council’s governance of the Fire and Rescue Service, which will remain the responsibility of Cornwall Council. The proposed Deal also has no direct implications in respect of Cornwall Council’s relationship with the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner. As set out in the Deal, “Cornwall Council, in partnership with Government, will work with the Devon and Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) to agree an appropriate arrangement to ensure close collaboration and productive joint working on public safety between the elected Mayor of Cornwall Council and the PCC.”

**“ Cornwall Council, in partnership with Government, will work with the Devon and Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) to agree an appropriate arrangement to ensure close collaboration and productive joint working on public safety between the elected Mayor of Cornwall Council and the PCC. ”**

Cornwall Devolution Deal

## What would an elected Mayor cost?

The governance change to an elected Mayor would be cost neutral to the Council until at least the end of March 2025. It will be covered by £750,000 of mayoral capacity funding provided by the Government. Further mayoral capacity funding beyond that date would be subject to the Government’s Spending Review for the period 2025/26 to 2027/28, and therefore cannot be guaranteed.

- **Allowance** - The allowance for the proposed elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor for Cornwall Council has not been set yet. An Independent Remuneration Panel will consider whether these amounts should be greater than the current allowances paid to the Leader and Deputy Leader and will make recommendations to Council who will make final decisions at its meeting expected to take place in July 2023. It should be noted that the current allowances are already in the Council’s budget, so it is only any increase in allowances that need to come from the mayoral capacity fund.
- **Support staff** - The position of Leader already receives support from the Council’s Cabinet and Civic Team. That support could be used for the elected Mayor in future. An elected Mayor is able to appoint a political advisor. Additional support may be needed as a result of the Council’s remit and responsibility increasing through the Deal. If so, we would consider redirecting existing staffing capacity, before any new and additional support is acquired and paid for from the £750,000 mayoral capacity fund.

# More information

You can find **more information about the Devolution Deal** and the proposed governance changes on the Cornwall Council website, including answers to frequently asked questions.

[www.cornwall.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/devolution)

# How the consultation will work

**The consultation begins on 9 December and will end at midnight on 17 February 2023.**

During the consultations, we will be holding a series of meetings, some of which will be virtual (online). These meetings will be an opportunity to find out more about the proposals to help inform your response to the consultation. The events will include information about the proposed Deal, including the related change to a directly elected Mayor, and will provide an opportunity to ask questions about these proposals.

Please visit

[letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal](http://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal) for an up-to-date schedule of events.

To submit your views, please fill out the consultation questionnaire and make sure it reaches us by midnight on 17 February 2023 at the latest.

The questionnaire is available online on

[letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal](http://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal)

Paper copies of the questionnaire are available by calling **0300 1231 118** and at Library and Information Service points across Cornwall.

**If you are able to, please complete the questionnaire online as it will save us money.** You can send your completed questionnaire to the following address:

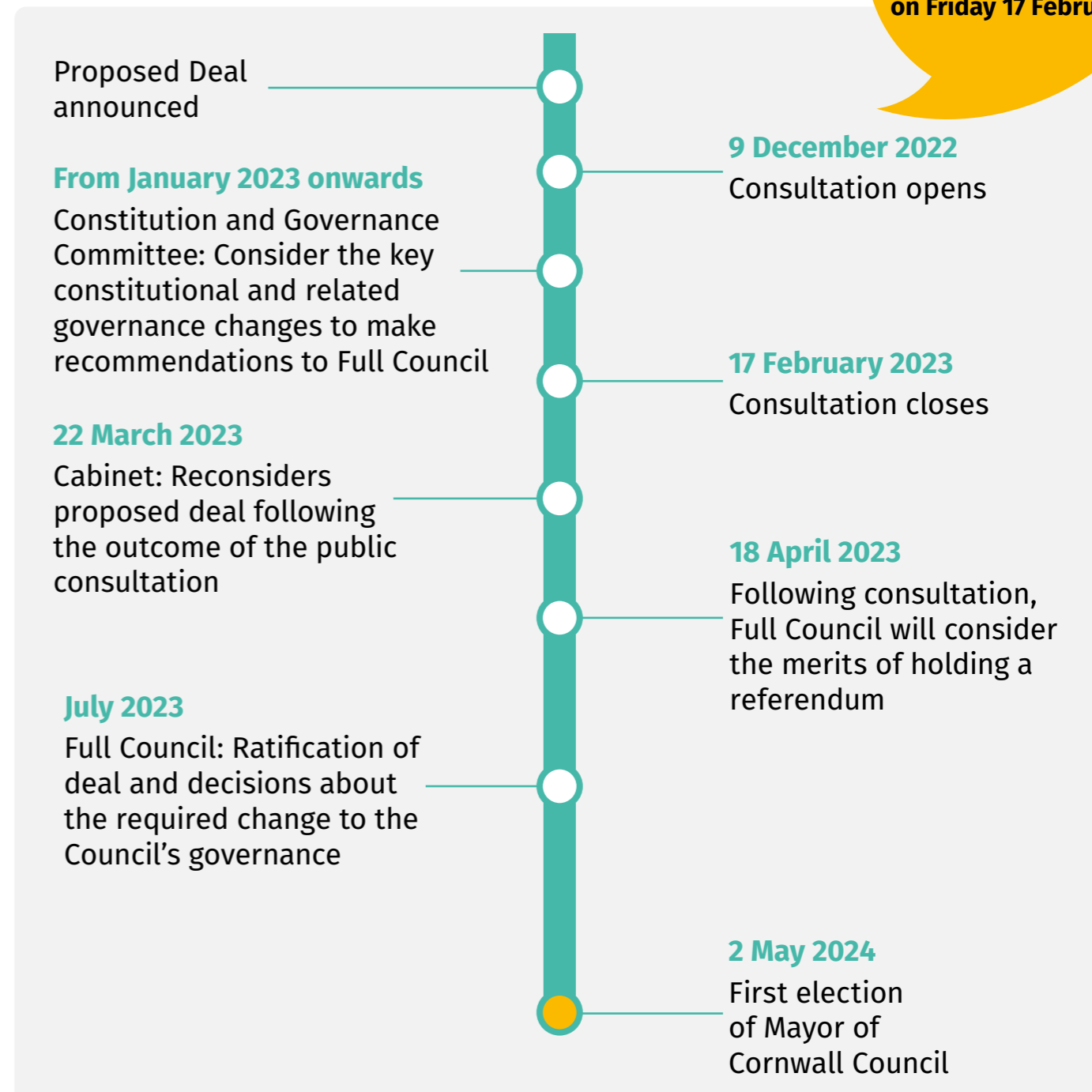
Big Deal for Cornwall  
 Cornwall Council  
 Have Your Say  
 Room 4S, New County Hall  
 Truro  
 TR1 3AY

Alternatively, you can submit your views in writing by letter to the above address or by email to **bigdeal@cornwall.gov.uk** or by calling **0300 1231 118**

For general enquiries and comments about this consultation phone **0300 1231 118** or email **bigdeal@cornwall.gov.uk**

# What happens next?

Consultation opens on Friday 9 December and closes midnight on Friday 17 February



➤ **Following the consultation, the feedback received will be analysed.** A detailed report with the results of this consultation will be published. This report will be taken into consideration by the Council and help inform decisions at the following meetings:

- Cabinet 22 March 2023**
- Council 18 April 2023**
- Council July 2023 (specific date TBC)**



**CORNWALL  
COUNCIL**  
*one and all • onen hag oll*

**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**

# Consultation Questionnaire

## Proposed Cornwall Devolution Deal.

### **Privacy Notice**

We will use the information you provide to help inform decisions in relation to the Cornwall Devolution Deal, including the decision whether or not to accept the Deal, including the change to an elected Mayor, which is a requirement of the Deal.

The Data Controller for the information you provide in this survey is Cornwall Council, New County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro TR1 3AY. Data Protection Registration Number: Z1745294. Once the survey has closed, your data will be held within Cornwall Council's secure network and premises for up to 2 years. Where we ask you to supply personal data on this form, we will only make access to this data available to authorised members of staff who are required to process it for the purposes outlined in this privacy notice. Please note that other information you provide, such as responses to open questions, may be published in full. If you are responding formally on behalf of a business or organisation, please note that your responses may be attributed to you and/or your organisation.

**[letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/BigDeal](https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/BigDeal)**

Q1) **In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?** (Please tick all that apply).

- I am a resident of Cornwall
- I represent a business
- I represent a voluntary and community sector organisation
- I represent a public sector organisation (ie NHS, Police)
- I represent a parish or town council
- I am a local councillor (ie Cornwall Councillor, Parish or Town Councillor)
- Other (please specify)

Q1a) **If you've indicated above that you represent a business or organisation, please provide the following details:**

Name of business / organisation:

Your role within the business / organisation:

Your name:

**Is your response the formal response of your organisation?**

- Yes     No

NB: If you answer 'yes' to the above question, please note that your responses may be attributed to you and/or your organisation in the consultation feedback report.

## Your views on devolution

If the Cornwall Devolution Deal is accepted and implemented, powers and funding will move from Government and other public bodies, directly to Cornwall Council. This means more decisions about Cornwall being made in Cornwall. Cornwall would also secure more funding to support future regeneration and ultimately deliver better outcomes for residents and local communities.

Q2) **To what extent do you agree or disagree that devolving powers and funding from Government to Cornwall Council is a good idea?**

- |                          |                          |                            |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agree strongly           | Somewhat agree           | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree        | Disagree strongly        | Don't know               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Why do you say this?**

## Your views on the powers and funding the Deal would bring

The Deal would help us to deliver the priorities set out in the Cornwall Plan 2050.

In the current tough economic times, this Deal would help provide stability and certainty and enable us to continue to invest in the future of Cornwall: growing our economy and creating homes and jobs for local people; protecting and enhancing our environment; supporting the transition to a carbon neutral Cornwall; strengthening vibrant communities; our heritage and culture; raising living standards and reducing inequalities and poverty.

Q3) For each of the following powers and funding included in the Deal, please indicate how important these are for you, your business or organisation.

Key powers and funding the Deal would bring:	Very Important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Control of a £360 million investment fund over 30 years to drive growth and take forward our priorities over the longer term	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Up to £10 million for a 3-year innovation programme to invest in innovative businesses that will help rebalance the Cornish economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A boost for green energy, including support for Floating Offshore Wind, geothermal heat and more influence over our future energy infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More control to ensure training & skills provision meets the needs of the local economy and helps local people to get good jobs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Cornwall Land Commission to increase the delivery of new affordable homes on public sector-owned land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The ability to designate mayoral development areas, and set up Mayoral Development Corporations to help deliver regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional funding to bring forward schemes and deliver new homes for local people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Closer joint working to manage the impact of tourism on the housing market and to encourage landlords to stay in the private rented sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding and support to develop a pipeline of transport schemes and create an integrated and reliable transport system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support to improve and grow nature and to maintain and protect important features of our landscape, such as Cornish hedges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding and support for heritage schemes and the protection and promotion of the Cornish language in private and public life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More collaboration between Cornwall Council, the NHS and Government to improve local health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Deal has been negotiated with Government to secure the powers and funding that would help deliver the priorities set out in the **2050 Cornwall Plan**, which can be viewed at <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/your-council/gyllyn-warbarth-together-we-can-the-cornwall-plan/> namely: a cleaner, greener, fairer and more inclusive Cornwall; and also deliver the Council's mission of creating a carbon neutral Cornwall where everyone can start well, live well and age well.

Q4) To what extent do you agree or disagree the powers and funding set out in the proposed Deal would help Cornwall Council to deliver the priorities for Cornwall?

Agree strongly	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Disagree strongly	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why do you say this?

## Your views on accepting the Deal, including the change to an elected Mayor which is a requirement of the Deal

In order that powers and funding are given to Cornwall Council, Government requires the Council to make changes to its governance arrangements. The main change is to move to an elected Mayor who would provide a single point of accountability to the people of Cornwall. They could also serve as an ambassador for Cornwall at a national and international level to attract more funding to Cornwall.

### The proposed governance changes would include:

- Changing from a Leader and Cabinet to an elected Mayor and Cabinet. Currently the Leader is elected by the 87 members of the Council. The elected Mayor would be directly elected by Cornwall residents eligible to vote. The elected Mayor would appoint between 2-9 members of the Council to form their Cabinet just like the Leader does now.
- The annual budget and plans and strategies proposed by the elected Mayor and Cabinet would continue to require a majority vote at Council to pass. Any amendments, not accepted by the Mayor and Cabinet would change from requiring a majority vote to a two-thirds vote to pass.
- At least one Overview and Scrutiny Committee that would hold the elected Mayor and Cabinet to account on matters relating to the Devolution Deal. This Committee would have a Chair and Vice Chair from a different political party to the elected Mayor.
- Decisions currently taken by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly (CIoS) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) would become the responsibility of the Council.

The decision whether to accept the Deal and make the required change to an elected Mayor and Cabinet governance model would need to be agreed by a majority vote at Council. The proposed Deal and the proposed change in governance go hand in hand. Without this change in governance there is no Deal, so accepting the Deal means accepting an elected Mayor for Cornwall Council.

### Q5) To what extent do you agree or disagree that Cornwall Council should accept the proposed Deal including the change to an elected Mayor which is a requirement of the Deal?

- |                          |                          |                            |                          |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agree strongly           | Somewhat agree           | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree        | Disagree strongly        | Don't know               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### Why do you say this?



**Q6) Do you have any other comments or anything else we should consider about the proposed Deal including the changes to an elected Mayor which is a requirement of the Deal and the other proposed governance changes? This includes any positive or negative impacts on you.**

## About you

Cornwall Council is committed to ensuring that our services, policies and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice and that they meet the needs of all the community. For us to check we are providing fair and effective services, we would be grateful if you would answer the questions below.

You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you do.

**NB If you are responding on behalf of an organisation please leave blank**

**Please enter the first four digits of your postcode**

**What is your sex?**

Female  Male

**Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?**

Yes  No

**Which of the following age bands do you fall into?**

10-19  20-29  30-39  40-49  50-59  
 60-69  70-79  80-89  90+

**Which of these best describes your ethnic group?**

White Cornish  White British  White Other  
 Asian Cornish  Asian British  Asian Other  
 Black Cornish  Black British  Black Other  
 Mixed Cornish  Mixed British  Mixed Other  
 Other ethnic group

**Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

Yes  No

**If you have answered 'Yes', please select the definition/s from the list below that best describes your impairment:** (Choose all that apply)

Learning disability / difficulty  
 Long standing illness or health condition  
 Mental health condition  
 Physical or mobility impairment  
 Sensory Impairment  
 Other condition (cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease or epilepsy)

**Do you look after, or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either long-term ill-health, disability, or problems related to old age?** (do not count anything you do as part of paid employment)

Yes  No

**Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?**

Straight or Heterosexual  
 Gay or Lesbian  
 Bisexual

Other sexual orientation, namely:

**How do you describe you religion or belief (if any)?**

Buddhist  
 Christian (includes Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)  
 Hindu  
 Humanist  
 Jewish  
 Muslim  
 Pagan  
 Sikh  
 None

You can send your completed questionnaire to the following address:

**Cornwall Devolution Deal Consultation  
Cornwall Council  
Room 4S, New County Hall  
Truro  
TR1 3AY**

Please make sure your completed questionnaire reaches us by **17 February 2023**.



**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY**

For more information about this consultation or the proposed Cornwall Devolution Deal, please visit

 [\*\*www.cornwall.gov.uk/devolution\*\*](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/devolution)

 [\*\*letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal\*\*](http://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/bigdeal)

**If you need this information in another format please contact:**

Cornwall Council, County Hall,  
Treyew Road, Truro TR1 3AY

**Email:** [customerservices@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@cornwall.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 0300 1234 100