**M10 Devolved Mayors Network Terms of Reference**

**Membership:**

The Network will be open to all directly elected Mayors with devolution agreements with Government.

**Purpose:**

The Network will represent the interests of directly elected Mayors with devolutions agreements at a political and official level. Its primary activities will be to:

* Share best practice/develop common approaches to supporting Mayors, powers that they have and issues that they represent
* Work with government ministers and officials to lobby for change on common issues and further devolution
* Help newly elected mayors to grow and establish themselves
* Work together to collectively commission/develop practical new approaches to common issues e.g. retrofit, transport issues. This will be done at the discretion of the Mayors and may incur additional cost
* Work with think tanks, businesses and other organisations to represent and advance the Mayor’s interests
* Monitoring the impact of Mayors and their devolved powers and forming a consistent narrative to further arguments for devolution and the role of a directly elected Mayors.

**Ways of working:**

* The network will endeavour to gain consensus amongst Mayors on points of common interest but accepts that this is not always possible
* Where full consensus is not possible, work will proceed at the individual Mayor’s discretion

**Chair of the Network:**

Members of the Network will select a Chair Mayoral Authority for two years (during September). The Mayor of the chosen authority will act as the Chair of the Mayors meetings and the Chief Executive will act as the Chair of the CEO meetings. Mayors may Chair the network for longer than two years, but the question of Chairing will be formally posed to the network once every two years.

**Meeting regularity:**

* Mayors and officers from the network will meet on a regular basis but with a minimum of four times a year
* The Secretariat will programme in a series of meetings at the beginning of each year. Meetings will be scheduled for the following groups:
  + Mayoral meetings
  + CEO meeting
  + Policy leads meetings

**Role of the secretariat**

* Manage meetings for the relevant network groups (mayors, CEO, policy leads)
* Provide agenda setting and minute taking roles for meetings of the network, including government engagement with civil servants or ministers
* Policy support at an officer and senior manager level to provide briefings and policy positions to support the network
* Co-ordinate engagement with government on behalf of the network, civil servants and ministers. This will include scheduling meetings, agenda setting and minute taking.
* Project management and co-ordination to commission specific research or bespoke projects as required by the Network.
* Co-ordinate and develop an annual evidence base to show the impact of Mayors and devolved powers that can agreed by CEOs and Mayors and be used to promote the role of Mayors across multiple forums.
* Engagement with key stakeholders on behalf of the network, including think tanks, government departments, other member networks (LGA, Core cities etc)
* Manage sharing of best practice amongst the network and wider audiences

**Date Agreed: May 2023**