

IBP AWARDS ENTRY

DAVID PARSLEY
PROPERTY WEEK

david.parsley@propertyweek.com

07912 694581

SCOOP OF THE YEAR

Article

Regions win billions in
Tory devolution deal
By David Parsley

10th October 2014

Property Week

propertyweek.com

NEWS

ANALYSIS

MARKETS

PROFESSIONAL

Segro portfolio on market
GVA chief talks Bilfinger

p4 Open Plan
p16 Regeneration debate

p34 Landlords' market in Bristol
p38 Cadbury and Filton Airfield

p43 Green buildings make money
p59 Mixed-use school sites
p61

Regions win billions in Tory devolution deal

BY DAVID PARSLEY

The government is set to take its first major step in devolving powers from Westminster to the English regions next week, with the announcement it is handing spending powers worth billions of pounds to a swathe of new metropolitan super-authorities.

Property Week can reveal that cities minister Greg Clark will claim at next week's MIPIM UK conference that the new deal for the regions is a potential bonanza for property firms.

The first area to receive the new powers is expected to be Greater Manchester, which through the Greater Manchester City Region will benefit from a £1bn-plus agreement with the Treasury. This will enable it to retain 100% of the uplift from business rates revenue, as well as revenues gained from property development and investment.

Prime minister David Cameron is giving his full backing to Clark's plans, and believes they will replicate in the regions what the government-backed development of London's Docklands did for the East End in the 1980s.

Cameron said: "For the first time ever, housing infrastructure and other funding is being brought together in a single pot, and put directly into the hands of local authorities and businesses to spend the way they know best."

At least six other metropolitan authorities are currently beginning talks with the Treasury to agree their own financial settlement. Birmingham and Bristol are setting up authorities, alongside a North East group, a Sheffield-based group, a Leeds-based group and a Merseyside group.

The government is also planning a raft of new city mayoral elections outside London.

The changes will give cities control over billions of pounds of revenue that is currently paid into Treasury coffers, linking up with the government's existing City Deals initiative and allowing them to retain cash for local priorities.

Speaking exclusively to Property Week Clark said: "Manchester will be just the first, and this will roll out to other cities. Our cities are effectively nationalised at the moment. This new economic deal ensures we set our cities free to make their own decisions."

During his speech to MIPIM UK Clark is also expected to announce multi-billion pound projects for 150 new roads, 150 new housing developments and 20 new rail stations across England, as well as revealing more about the latest regeneration projects connected to the development of the High Speed 2 rail project.



The end of the American dream?

US fashion retailer American Apparel is to slash its UK presence after a turbulent year that saw its chief executive and founder Dov Charney ousted from his position in the summer.

The brand is understood to have appointed agents to market its stores in Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Nottingham and Covent Garden.

See News page 4 for full details >>

About the article

The exclusive revelations of the Government's plans came a few weeks before Chancellor George Osborne confirmed every element of the story. The topic of devolved powers to the English regions remains a major plank of Government policy and this story was the first to reveal Greater Manchester would be the first region to benefit, with its Northern Powerhouse. The story not only contained great detail of Government plans, it also outlined the other cities and regions the Government is planning to award devolved powers to. The story also revealed new fund raising powers for Manchester, and the introduction of an elected Mayor in the region, as well as plans for mayor in other regions.

The scoop was initially born from conversations with senior civil service contacts and Conservative Party advisers. Following the gathering of detailed information the reporter, David Parsley, put his findings to Cities Minister Greg Clark MP, whom he managed to get 'on the record' during an exclusive interview. Following the confirmation from the minister the reporter contacted No.10 Downing Street, which provided a confirmation quote from Prime Minister David Cameron.

The story focuses on a issue of huge importance to not only Property Week readers, but also to a far wider and general audience.

The follow-up on the story was instant. The Times newspaper put it on it's website home page on the evening of publication in Property Week, and then lead page 2 of the printed newspaper with the story the following day. Then, following, George Osborne's confirmation of the story on 3 November 2015 the story led BBC Breakfast's news coverage that morning. It was also the subject of more than 500 follow-ups in regional, national and international publications. We have included just a small example of these articles, and links.

Follow up to the article



Ukip secures historic victory in Clacton

Laura Pitel and Lucy Fisher Political Correspondent

Updated 17 minutes ago
Nigel Farage last night declared Ukip to be "the most national of all the parties" as it wrought havoc in by-elections in both the Tory south and Labour's northern heartland. The party made political history by winning the Clacton poll and finally breaking into Westminster. In the Greater Manchester...

- Post a comment
- Slideshow
- Miliband dealt punishing blow by Ukip



Scientists close to a cure for diabetes

A cure for diabetes is within reach after scientists developed a treatment that eliminates the need for sufferers to inject insulin. The therapy involves a one-off transplant of laboratory-grown pancreatic cells, which scientists have finally succeeded in producing in large enough volumes...

- Profile: Professor Melton
- Missed threat to children's lives

London student suspected of gun terror plot



- Shock over arrest of 'normal boys'

Devolved powers for northern cities

Billions of pounds and greater powers are to be devolved to city regions across England in response to the Scottish referendum, under measures to be unveiled next week. Greg Clark, the cities minister, will set out the...

- English home rule put at heart of election
- 4 Comments

ROLEX

There is no way.
Only a way.

EXPERIENCE THE RO

The Economist

November 8, 2014
U.S. Edition

Let them fly; Decentralisation

SECTION: BRITAIN

LENGTH: 1013 words

DATELINE: LEEDS

Why George Osborne and his rivals want to free England's cities

"THE same people have been running Britain since 1854," declares Keith Wakefield, the matter-of-fact leader of Leeds City Council. Regardless of which political party has been in power, he says, it is the London-based civil service, established around that time, that has always run the country. Today Britain is still one of the most centralised states in the world.

Increasingly, however, politicians are vying to show the likes of Mr Wakefield that they want the centre to let go. In recent weeks they have issued a series of pledges offering its cities and regions greater freedom from Whitehall's diktats. On November 3rd George Osborne, the Conservative chancellor of the exchequer, unveiled a scheme to give **Manchester**, the most thrusting of England's provincial cities, new powers over infrastructure and training, as well as an elected mayor. Partly thanks to pressure from Nick Clegg, the Liberal Democrat deputy prime minister, he will announce similar packages for Leeds and Sheffield next month. On October 31st Ed Miliband, leader of the Labour Party, had announced his own offer: under Labour, control of bus services and business rates would pass to the leaders of big cities. He has since added that he would replace the House of Lords, the upper chamber of Parliament currently occupied by appointees, with a senate of elected regional and city representatives.

This race to devolve is surprising. In the 1980s Margaret Thatcher clipped local authorities' wings after far-left councils splurged public money on ideological boondoggles. Some efforts to give away power since then have been half-hearted. Labour's bid to create regional assemblies in 2004, for example, lacked the backing of senior ministers. Others have simply flopped: when the current government put the idea of elected mayors to ten cities in 2012, nine said no. Moreover, the Treasury is Whitehall's most centralising department and Mr Osborne is a powerful chancellor. So why **devolution**, and why now?

The newly centrifugal mood is as welcome as it is counter-intuitive. Most of Britain's main city economies lag behind their foreign counterparts and even the national average gross value-added (a measure of income). Last month a commission led by Jim O'Neill, a former banker, estimated that raising the 15 biggest metropolitan areas to the national growth rate by 2030 would be worth £60 billion (\$96 billion) to the British economy. **Devolution** could also make Britain fairer: a working paper from the IMF in April found that decentralising government expenditure and revenue can smooth income differences. In Canada, Spain and Germany competition between regions has led to better public services, adds Andrés Rodríguez-Pose of the London School of Economics (LSE).

Such reforms are not just desirable, but necessary. The best explanation for Westminster's recent willingness to devolve is that Britain's budget deficit--equivalent to around 5% of GDP this year--requires it to do more with less. Devolving budgets to municipal leaders is astute on two levels. It spreads the blame for cuts and helps ensure that spending reflects local needs (one former minister recalls being asked by civil servants to choose between a new bypass and a new bridge in an area he barely knew). This latter argument dominated an influential government report on boosting growth written by Lord Heseltine, a Conservative grandee, in 2012.

Scotland's referendum on independence in September was another factor. In their panic to prevent a nationalist victory, during the campaign the Conservative, Lib Dem and Labour parties offered Edinburgh home rule. That stoked the appetite for **devolution** in England, especially in the Labour Party, which is traditionally strong in the big regional cities. Political expedience also endears **devolution** to some Conservatives. Squeezed by the populist UK Independence Party (UKIP) in some of their southern seats, Tory strategists are hoping to pick off the odd Labour seat in the urban or suburban north.

The dual rise of UKIP and the Scottish nationalists illustrates the decline of faith in Westminster (partly a reaction to London's broader economic and cultural dominance) that further adds to the case for **devolution**. A survey commissioned by the BBC last month found that 71% of Britons think that national politicians do not understand what is best for the rest of the country. Trust in local authorities, by contrast, remains relatively high.

But talking about devolving power--however enthusiastically--is not the same as doing it. So far, caution has reigned. Few of the bolder bits of Lord Heseltine's report have been tried. "City deals", packages of funding negotiated case-by-case, have been successful but timid. Vacillating by the Treasury has delayed some payments to Leeds by as much as two years. Andrew Lindsay, a director at the city's chamber of commerce, says municipal authorities deserve more credit from Whitehall. They have "grown up" since the chaotic clashes of the 1980s, he asserts, citing the success of London's 14-year-old elected mayoralty.

To realise the full benefits of **devolution**, politicians must have more faith in municipalities. Tony Travers of the LSE argues that the government "needs to be radical if voters are to notice things are changing". Likewise, Professor Rodríguez-Pose notes that **devolution** only moderates inequality if regions win substantial fiscal powers. Sir Richard Leese, head of **Manchester's** council, welcomes Mr Osborne's proposal but says he wants something much bigger: the transfer of all £22 billion of government spending in his region.

Devolution on that scale would contradict all the controlling instincts of Whitehall and Westminster. Even **devolution** on the government's more limited scale will sometimes go wrong (on November 4th commissioners were sent into Tower Hamlets, a London borough, where the elected mayor was accused of misusing public money). Mr Osborne and his pro-**devolution** rivals should be ready for some bumps in the road.

[Return to List](#)

2 of 25 DOCUMENTS

Estates Gazette

November 8, 2014

BYLINE: Chris Berkin

SECTION: 03 NEWS

LENGTH: 535 words

Manchester strikes devo settlement

Greater **Manchester** has struck an "historic **devolution** settlement" with government, opening up transport, planning and housing policies to the region.

A directly-elected mayor will be created for the region, while control of a Housing Investment Fund of up to £300m will be created and devolved to **Manchester**.

Manchester will also acquire greater planning power, including the ability to create statutory spatial strategies.

Additionally, the region will be granted a longer-term budget by central government to enable better transport planning co-ordination, with Greater **Manchester** granted control over new bus franchises and an Oyster card-style ticketing system.

The deal was struck with George Osborne, who had previously called for a "northern powerhouse" to build on the work of the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority, established in 2011.

It will also include a number of public service reforms, responsibility for skills, business and health and social care.

The mayor of GMCA will appoint cabinet members from leaders of each of Greater **Manchester**'s 10 local authorities, with the first mayoral elections expected in 2017.

The existing police and crime commissioner's role will also be merged with the Greater **Manchester** mayor's role.

GMCA chair Lord Peter Smith said: "Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous day for Greater **Manchester**. It gives us greater control over our own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster.

"This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localised level."

GMCA vice chair and leader of **Manchester** city council Sir Richard Leese said: "Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate. It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

"We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK.

"Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22bn a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount."

Osborne said: "This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the northern powerhouse. This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy.

"I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester**'s lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

"The northern powerhouse is becoming a reality. We plan to make major investments in northern transport and science, now we have agreement on the first metro area mayor. This is what we have achieved in just a few months. Giving cities power is part of our long-term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between North and South, London and the rest."

chris.berkin@estatesgazette.com

LOAD-DATE: November 10, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Magazine

[Return to List](#)

3 of 25 DOCUMENTS



November 8, 2014

Leading article: Devolution vs democracy**BYLINE:** The Spectator**SECTION:** THE WEEK**LENGTH:** 892 words

Imagine if, in one of her first acts as First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon announced that, in spite of the result of September's independence vote, Scotland was to declare independence anyway, on the basis that opinion polls now showed a majority of people in favour of independence and therefore there was no need for the decision to be approved in a referendum. David Cameron and his government would surely treat it as an outrage.

Why, then, has the Chancellor this week seen fit to announce that the people of Greater **Manchester** are to have a directly elected mayor? Two years ago the very same question was put to the people of the City of **Manchester** in a referendum and the answer was a resounding 'no'. They, along with residents of eight other cities, decided that they did not wish to have an expensive extra layer of municipal government to indulge the latest fashions in Whitehall. Yet now they are to get one, whether they like it or not.

The Treasury argues that the soon-to-be-imposed mayoralty differs from the one Mancunians rejected because it covers the whole of Greater **Manchester**, as opposed to just the city of **Manchester**. But the fact that it covers a much wider area, and involves the transfer of more powers than the plan rejected in 2012, is all the more reason for obtaining a popular mandate for the change. Back then, nine out of 11 cities who were asked if they wanted a mayor replied that they did not. The Chancellor seems to believe that northerners are there to be invoked rather than consulted.

As we have seen so many times with referendums on EU treaties in other countries, the people are being treated with contempt for giving the wrong answer. The referendum over,

it was - to quote the failed Democrat candidate Dick Tuck - a case of 'the people have spoken, the bastards'.

There is plenty of political rationale behind the announcement of a Greater **Manchester** mayor. Polls show that 80 per cent in England like the idea of greater **devolution** of power to the regions, as more power is being devolved to the Scottish Parliament. George Osborne knows that his programme to reduce the deficit is only half done and, indeed, is going backwards at present. As a result, the cuts needed after the election will be far harsher, going far deeper (especially as the gargantuan NHS budget is being 'protected'). Devolving budgets to a regional mayor creates a buffer between himself and the councils who so bitterly opposed his last round of cuts.

This has a certain logic: every lollipop lady taken from the streets, every closed day centre, will be down to decisions taken in town halls. But scheming of this kind is apt to backfire. Mrs Thatcher calculated that residents shocked by their inflated poll tax bills would chuck overspending Labour councils out of office so as to reduce their bills. But instead they blamed the government for introducing the poll tax. By creating regional political powerhouses George Osborne risks inflating opposition to Westminster reforms. The result is likely to resemble France, where strong regional government locks horns with central government and makes reform more difficult.

The London mayoralty has not yet really suffered from this problem, because for only two years of its 14-year existence has the incumbent of City Hall come from a party other than that in Downing Street. (Although elected as an independent the first time around, Ken Livingstone quickly returned to the Labour fold.) No London mayor can complain of decisions being imposed from afar, since the national government sits only two miles away. The Greater **Manchester** mayoralty will be very different. It would take an extraordinary piece of gerrymandering to deny Labour victory in a Greater **Manchester** mayoral election. The reality will be supercharged local government opposition whenever the Conservatives are in power.

What is it about the governance of Greater **Manchester** which the government finds so unsatisfactory? The city has been one of the great regional success stories of the last 20 years. Money and people have flowed into the city, reversing decades of decline. The absence of a Greater **Manchester** mayor has not prevented the city from building a tram system nor from developing Britain's only two-runway airport other than Heathrow - a rare triumph of public sector ownership.

The places which are struggling at the moment are not the big cities which may be next for elected mayors - Leeds, Sheffield, Newcastle - but the secondary places: the Blackburns, the Sunderlands, the Bradfords. But these seem likely to be left out of Osborne's vision for Northern powerhouses, with no grandly-titled mayors, no high-speed rail services and not much road investment either. And has any city been more badly let down by local government than Birmingham?

This week has hardly been a good one for the concept of directly elected mayors. Communities Secretary Eric Pickles has seized control of Tower Hamlets after a report by accountancy firm PwC condemned mismanagement and a crony culture on the part of the elected mayor, Lutfur Rahman. There is a good reason why the people of **Manchester**

Leading article: Devolution vs democracy The Spectator November 8, 2014

rejected the idea of creating a new fiefdom over their city, perhaps envisaging some of the same problems which have occurred in Tower Hamlets. It is a shame that George Osborne has chosen to ignore them.

LOAD-DATE: November 11, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Magazine

Copyright 2014 The Spectator Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

4 of 25 DOCUMENTS



Building

November 7, 2014

Greater **Manchester** region to get London-style mayor

BYLINE: Allister Hayman

LENGTH: 557 words

HIGHLIGHT: 'Metro mayor' will have powers over transport, housing and strategic planning across 10 city region councils

Greater **Manchester** has agreed a landmark deal with the government that will see the city region governed by a London-style mayor with powers over transport, housing and strategic planning.

Chancellor George Osborne announced the deal this week, which includes proposals to devolve further powers to the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority (GMCA), including over support for business growth, skills and help to join up health and social care budgets.

Osborne said the deal, which ends years of opposition from the 10 councils across Greater **Manchester** to the metro-mayor model, would create a powerful devolved administration with strong political leadership that can drive through policy to stimulate economic growth and plan strategically across the city region.

The metro mayor will control a £300m housing investment pot, and will be handed powers over strategic planning, transport and policing (see box). The government will now prepare legislation to enable the change, with the first mayoral election likely to take place in 2017.

Manchester rejected taking on an elected mayor in a referendum in 2012, although the mayoral model voted on at the time was for a mayor for **Manchester** council, not the wider city region. Although there are other city mayors across the country, such as in Liverpool and Bristol, this will be the first time a city region, comprising multiple local authorities, has taken on the metro-mayor model outside of the capital. The mayor will be scrutinised by the 10 councils that comprise the city region and can have decisions blocked if opposed by seven of the 10 council leaders.

Osborne said he hoped **Manchester** would be the first of many big cities to take advantage of a greater **devolution** of powers, with the government expected to announce further powers to be devolved to Leeds and Sheffield ahead of the Autumn Statement next month. Osborne said the deal would "give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy".

"I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

"Giving cities power is part of our long-term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between north and south, London and the rest."

Lord Peter Smith, GMCA chair and leader of Wigan council, said: "Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous moment for Greater **Manchester**. It gives us greater control over our own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster."

The city region had been seeking additional powers over business rates, as well as its welfare budget. Sir Richard Leese, vice chair of GMCA and leader of **Manchester** council, said the deal was a first step on the road to further **devolution**.

"Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22bn a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount," he said.

"We recognise that this cannot happen overnight and there needs to be a staged approach based on evidence that **devolution** delivers increased economic growth and better public services."

LOAD-DATE: November 7, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Magazine

Copyright 2014 UBM Information Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

5 of 25 DOCUMENTS

Manchester Evening News

November 7, 2014 Friday
Edition 1;
National Edition

England .needs voice

SECTION: FEATURES; Pg. 10,11

LENGTH: 233 words

ADAM Jupp's homely aphorisms may have some validity at a personal level (We get what we want because we dare to ask for it, M.E.N., November 3) but to find equivalence for this in the political arena is too simplistic.

It is the 'ground-breaking **devolution** deal done by Greater **Manchester**' that evokes his praises.

The Cities Commission, covering many cities as well as **Manchester**, has recently reported and recommended that all cities should be given more powers.

Often, in the past, many such reports have been prepared on which the government has failed to act and they have been allowed to gather dust.

I would suggest that it is the recent referendum in Scotland, and the promise of additional powers, that has galvanized the government into action.

The manifest unfairness in allocation of resources and the democratic deficit experienced in England has brought the government to the point where it had to act.

Of course the north requires additional expenditure on infrastructure especially and this is undeniable when compared to expenditure in London.

But let's be clear, these announcements by the Chancellor of the Exchequer will in no way deal with a constitutional imbroglio that exists in Westminster, resulting from an incomplete

England .needs voice Manchester Evening News November 7, 2014 Friday

devolution arrangement in 1998 that excluded England. If fairness and justice have any meaning then England, too, should have its own voice.

Tom Jackson via email

LOAD-DATE: November 7, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

JOURNAL-CODE: MEN

Copyright 2014 **Manchester** Evening News
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

7 of 25 DOCUMENTS



Local Government Chronicle (LGC)

November 5, 2014 Wednesday

This momentous day for **Manchester is just the beginning**

LENGTH: 491 words

Devolution isn't about structures, it's about delivering for local people, writes Lord Smith, chair of the combined authority

It builds on the work we have been doing for decades to show what we can achieve together working across political and district boundaries for the greater good - work that accelerated with the establishment of the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority.

This momentous day for Manchester is just the beginning Local Government Chronicle (LGC) November 5, 2014 Wednesday

And it recognises the mounting evidence that if areas are empowered to make their own decisions based on their own needs and priorities, they can achieve better results than by having one-size-fits-all solutions centrally imposed on them.

This is not about taking powers from our local authorities. It isn't.

It's about powers and freedoms being handed down by central government to enable us to increase our economic growth and improve the quality of life of people in Greater **Manchester**.

The two things are very much intertwined. We want to create more jobs and opportunities. And we want to have a confident, independent, healthy population with the skills to seize them.

This is about powers and freedoms being handed down by central government

This isn't about changing political structures, it's about making a difference to the lives of Greater **Manchester** residents.

For example, the new powers will unlock huge transport improvements and helps tens of thousands more Greater **Manchester** residents into work.

Our public service reform programme, which provides the support that people and families trapped in a cycle of benefit dependency need, has already helped thousands of people. These include more than 6,000 troubled families.

This **devolution** deal will allow us to scale up this work to help up to 50,000 people back into work.

It allows us to give incentives to ensure that the skills, which are being provided in further education, match the skills employers need for the new jobs that are being created.

It allows us to ensure that businesses get the right support, at the right time, to help them grow and innovate.

It will allow us to oversee better bus services, guide further public transport improvements and introduce an Oyster card-style ticketing system which can be used on all modes of public transport across the region.

Inevitably many of the headlines will be about an elected mayor. But it's important to stress that this mayor will be working in partnership with the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority and building on the structures we have already pioneered.

This isn't about any individual. It's about how we will be able to work together to deliver better outcomes for Greater **Manchester** and make a bigger contribution to the national economy.

This is a momentous day but we hope it's not the destination but an important staging post on the journey to even greater **devolution**. To achieve that we need to demonstrate results. It's over to us.

Lord Smith (Lab), chair, Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority, and leader, Wigan MBC (Lord Peter Smith)

This momentous day for Manchester is just the beginning Local Government Chronicle
(LGC) November 5, 2014 Wednesday

LOAD-DATE: November 5, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Magazine

JOURNAL-CODE: Local Government Chronicle

Copyright 2014 Emap Ltd
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

8 of 25 DOCUMENTS



birminghampost.co.uk

November 4, 2014 Tuesday 1:39 PM GMT

**Chancellor George Osborne hints at West Midlands mayor;
George Osborne has suggested a new figure could head up a combined
authority with powers across the region**

BYLINE: By Graeme Brown

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 587 words

George Osborne has made his clearest indication yet that this region could have a mayor covering Birmingham, the Black Country and beyond.

The Chancellor told the Commons that talks would need to take place with the region's civic leaders and MPs about which plan to pursue, although he added the move to a mayoral model could be "perhaps just in the city".

The Greater **Manchester** region is set to be the first area to benefit from Mr Osborne's proposals to give cities greater freedoms and more powers, including an elected "metro mayor".

Chancellor George Osborne hints at West Midlands mayor; George Osborne has suggested a new figure could head up a combined authority with powers across the region
birminghampost.co.uk November 4, 2014 Tuesday 1:39 PM GMT

The Post reported last week that shadow business secretary Chuka Umunna wanted the region to have a metro-mayor with genuine devolved powers.

This comes as talks take place about setting up a combined authority across the region, with some councillors in Solihull thought to be the principal opposition.

Mr Osborne also said he was open to discussions with any metropolitan area wishing to follow **Manchester's** lead, in an attempt to reduce the "decades old gap between North and South".

During Treasury questions, Mr Osborne was pushed to outline his thoughts on Birmingham's future.

The Chancellor replied to Labour's Gisela Stuart: "I don't think any one area is the same as any other area and there was a specific model for Greater **Manchester** and the Greater **Manchester** councils have worked well together as a combined authority.

"Clearly Birmingham City Council is much larger than **Manchester** City Council alone.

"So it's a conversation I would like to have with you, with (Birmingham City Council leader Albert Bore) and with other civic leaders in Birmingham about whether we can move to a mayoral model, perhaps just in the city, but that's a discussion to be had with local people."

Ms Stuart, MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston, had asked Mr Osborne: "You opened the door for other metropolitan areas to go down the route of the northern powerhouse.

"Have you given some consideration as to what you regard as the optimum size for those units? In the West Midlands would you look for a greater Birmingham and the Black Country metropolitan area or for the entire West Midlands?"

Earlier, Mr Osborne told MPs: "I hope **Manchester** will be the first of many cities to take advantage of the greater **devolution** of powers and I open my door to discussions with any metropolitan area that wants to move to a new model of governance."

Labour's Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield) questioned why it had taken Mr Osborne four-and-a-half years to raise the "northern powerhouse" idea.

He noted Yorkshire was a "bit canny", adding he was worried it was raised with the general election in mind.

While he noted there is support from Yorkshire for the idea, Mr Sheerman also asked: "Where's the money coming from? I haven't seen, we haven't seen any resources for it."

Mr Osborne replied: "We have already made investments over the last four years in things like the northern hub and the electrification of the TransPennine railway, which of course would help your constituency.

"I welcome your support for the northern powerhouse.

"This agreement with Greater **Manchester** was an agreement struck with Labour leaders of **Manchester** councils as well as the Conservative leader of Trafford and indeed the Liberal Democrat leader of Stockport, so I would want to work across party divides with local Labour civic leaders and indeed local Labour MPs to see what we can do for

Chancellor George Osborne hints at West Midlands mayor; George Osborne has suggested a new figure could head up a combined authority with powers across the region
birminghampost.co.uk November 4, 2014 Tuesday 1:39 PM GMT
Huddersfield and other towns in the North of England so they're connected to the northern powerhouse."

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper; Web Publication

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBBP

Copyright 2014 Trinity Mirror
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

9 of 25 DOCUMENTS

London Evening Standard

The Evening Standard (London)

November 4, 2014 Tuesday
Edition 1;
National Edition

Devolve powers to all of Britain

SECTION: LETTERS; Pg. 55

LENGTH: 499 words

THE call for greater **devolution** to London is perfectly sensible. London's population is greater than Scotland's yet the city enjoys far less autonomy; there is an elected mayor who national politicians can be confident will get the blame, or praise, for his decisions if more power is devolved; and local tiers of government should ideally spend money they raise themselves.

Devolve powers to all of Britain The Evening Standard (London) November 4, 2014
Tuesday

But London is part of a much bigger debate about city and regional government in England. The Chancellor has just announced that Greater **Manchester** will receive similar powers to London and have its own mayor from 2017. Merseyside is engaged in discussions about getting more powers. And, though they have received little encouragement from Westminster, areas such as Devon and Cornwall are also making requests.

Because of its relative size and highprofile leadership, it could be argued that London should be near the front of the queue for more powers. But any future government will need to demonstrate that it is acting fairly with regards to other parts of the country. Government must be clear whether powers go to areas based on their size, competence, or - as arguably happens now - their ability to win arguments and influence Westminster's decisionmakers. If it does not, the accusation that the UK remains instinctively London-centric will be difficult to answer.

Tom Gash, Institute for Government IF London had greater control of tax revenue generated in the capital, perhaps we could put a roof over the heads of 180,000 households currently on housing waiting lists. These people might no longer have to wait 5-10 years for a home. Maybe we could help more Londoners on middle incomes gain a foothold on the housing ladder; and maybe areas that have been neglected for decades could become desirable to live in.

Imagine what London could achieve if these new powers were combined with mayoral control of all Government-owned land in the capital. The Mayor, local authorities and their partners could provide for the 10 million people who will be living here by 2030. We could create lasting value to be enjoyed by all Londoners, beautiful new green spaces and homes to stand the test of time.

Brendan Sarsfield, chair, g15 group of London's largest housing associations FINANCIAL Secretary to the Treasury David Gauke was refreshingly honest to admit the £9.3 billion Stamp Duty Land Tax raised last year was "frankly... money we need".

The property industry considers SDLT an iniquitous tax, slowing buyer mobility and disadvantaging sellers with properties valued near the thresholds. It is high time it was reformed. But calls for London to retain its SDLT revenue are pie in the sky. It would also create an unacceptable situation whereby London benefitted disproportionately from its higher property values to the detriment of less well-off regions. Nick Salmon, MD, Property Industry Eye

Because of its highprofile leadership, it could be argued that London should be near the front of the queue Tom Gash

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

JOURNAL-CODE: EST

Copyright 2014 Associated Newspapers Ltd.
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

10 of 25 DOCUMENTS

theguardian

The Guardian

November 4, 2014 Tuesday 12:50 AM GMT

Manchester to get elected mayor;
Chancellor unveils plans for mayor with powers over transport, housing
and policing to create northern powerhouse

BYLINE: Alexandra Topping

SECTION: UK NEWS

LENGTH: 653 words

Manchester is to get its own directly elected mayor with powers over transport, housing, planning and policing, under plans unveiled by George Osborne on Monday.

"Devo Manc" is the latest initiative in the chancellor's plan to create a "northern powerhouse" to rival London, with other cities expected to follow.

The plans would see the post of police and crime commissioner for Greater **Manchester** police - established by the coalition government - scrapped and replaced by an elected mayor, while further powers would be devolved to the Greater **Manchester** combined authority (GMCA), including some control over business growth as well as health and social care budgets.

The GMCA eventually hopes for full **devolution** of all £22bn of public spending in the city.

"This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the northern powerhouse," said the chancellor. "After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London.

Manchester to get elected mayor; Chancellor unveils plans for mayor with powers over transport, housing and policing to create northern powerhouse The Guardian November 4, 2014 Tuesday 12:50 AM GMT

"This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard and more investment in skills and the city's economy. I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different and no model of local power will be the same."

Osborne said there were further plans to make investments in northern transport and science. "This is what we've achieved in just a few months. Giving cities power is part of our long-term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between north and south, London and the rest."

The directly elected mayor of Greater **Manchester** would gain control of a £300m housing investment fund, powers over strategic planning, responsibility for franchised bus services and for integrated transport ticketing along the lines of London's Oyster card. The GMCA is to take over responsibility for business support and power to restructure further education.

The government is to legislate to enable the changes, with the mayoral election potentially taking place in 2017.

The mayoralty is the latest in a line of announcements on northern England from the chancellor's office. Last week, Osborne announced plans to develop HS3, a new high-speed rail link designed to improve east-west transport links. In August, he announced plans for a National Institute for Materials Research and Innovation in the north of England and a £60m Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre in **Manchester**.

Lord Smith, chair of the GMCA, said the settlement was a momentous moment for Greater **Manchester**. "It gives us greater control over our own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs, rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster," he said.

"This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localised level."

Sir Richard Leese, leader of **Manchester** city council, said an over-centralised national system had not delivered the best results for the people and economy of the north, but the Devo Manc settlement had shifted the debate. "We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK," he said.

"Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22bn a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount. We recognise that this cannot happen overnight and there needs to be a staged approach based on evidence that **devolution** delivers increased economic growth and better public services. But today's settlement is a huge move forwards and a road map for the future."

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

Manchester to get elected mayor; Chancellor unveils plans for mayor with powers over transport, housing and policing to create northern powerhouse The Guardian November 4, 2014 Tuesday 12:50 AM GMT

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBGNS

Copyright 2014 The Guardian, a division of Transcontinental Media Group Inc.
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

11 of 25 DOCUMENTS



i-Independent Print Ltd

November 4, 2014
First Edition

Manchester to get elected mayor with new powers; DEVOLUTION

BYLINE: Oliver Wright WHITEHALL EDITOR

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 5

LENGTH: 669 words

NOTICE: The i has been contacted by the Dept for Business, Skills & Innovation, which informs us that the new **Manchester** Mayor offering does not include the promise of control over skills and apprenticeships.

Greater **Manchester** will have the opportunity through the agreement to decide what kind of FE provision it needs to meet the skills needs of learner and businesses in the future. The agreement will include all the publicly funded post 19 learning that is currently undertaken by FE colleges and independent providers and delivered in Greater **Manchester**.

Apprenticeships, traineeships, sixth form colleges and school sixth forms will be excluded from the re-commissioning process. Funding and rates for 16-19 vocational training remain set at national level.

Manchester to get elected mayor with new powers; DEVOLUTION i-Independent Print Ltd
November 4, 2014

Plans to set up a network of regional mayors across England with wideranging powers over policing, transport and economic development came a step closer yesterday.

Political leaders in Greater **Manchester** announced they had struck a deal with the Chancellor George Osborne to create a new "metro mayor" for the region with substantial new powers and money devolved from Whitehall.

The agreement, which Mr Osborne claimed would boost economic development in the North, makes it more likely other regions will follow suit.

Focus will now shift to the West Midlands where council leaders in Birmingham, Solihull and the Black Country have been unsuccessfully negotiating over forging closer links for years. Other areas that might also be in line for a new regional mayors include the current North East Combined Authority that brings together Durham, Gateshead, and Sunderland and the Leeds City Region taking in Leeds, Wakefield, Harrogate and Barnsley.

Under the plans in **Manchester** the post of Police and Crime Commissioner for Greater **Manchester** Police will be scrapped and replaced by the new elected mayor.

The new mayor will also be given control of a £300m housing investment fund, strategic planning powers and responsibility for a reformed "earn-back" deal which allows the city to receive up to £30m a year for the growth generated by its economy.

The new mayor will also have responsibility for a devolved and consolidated transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the next Spending Review, and responsibility for franchised bus services and for integrated smart ticketing across all local modes of transport.

Civic leaders in **Manchester** said they ultimately wanted to see full **devolution** of public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22bn a year. The move is also designed to outflank Labour on the issue of **devolution**. Ed Miliband has announced plans to set up a constitutional convention should his party win power to discuss greater **devolution** across England.

How - and where - the system works Most of the elected mayors that have taken office have little more power than council leaders - the usual mix of authority over schools, highways and refuse collection. The areas to have adopted the model are Bedford, Bristol, Doncaster, Leicester, Liverpool, Mansfield, Middlesbrough, North Tyneside, Salford, Torbay, and Watford.

London broke the mould with a system that offers the elected mayor - currently Boris Johnson - complete responsibility for policing, transport and a wide range of powers over economic and housing strategy.

Greater **Manchester's** proposed system would make its mayor potentially more powerful than Mr Johnson. The post of police and crime commissioner will be replaced by the mayor, who will get much the same authority as that of London but also control of a £300m housing investment fund and strategic planning powers.

Where next? West Midlands Birmingham, Solihull and the Black Country have been unsuccessful in forging closer links for years.

Manchester to get elected mayor with new powers; DEVOLUTION i-Independent Print Ltd
November 4, 2014

North East Combined Authority This already exists bringing together Durham, Gateshead, and Sunderland councils.

Leeds City Region A collaboration between Leeds, Wakefield, Harrogate and Barnsley. Tricky to extend due to separate police forces.

LOAD-DATE: November 5, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

JOURNAL-CODE: III

Copyright 2014 Independent Print Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

12 of 25 DOCUMENTS



Architects Journal

November 3, 2014 Monday

Manchester signs 'momentous' **devolution** deal with government

LENGTH: 584 words

Greater **Manchester** has agreed to 'an historic' **devolution** settlement with government which will see the city region gain new 'planning freedoms' and a directly-elected mayor

Under the deal signed with chancellor George Osborne, Greater **Manchester** will be handed greater local control over certain budgets - including a new housing investment fund worth up to £300million.

Manchester signs 'momentous' devolution deal with government Architects Journal
November 3, 2014 Monday

Manchester would also take over responsibility for local transport, which could lead to new tramlinks and a region-wide Oyster card-style ticketing system, and create a statutory spatial strategy to guide investment and development.

The news comes just days after Osborne backed plans for a high-speed rail link (HS3) between **Manchester** and Leeds as part of a wider proposals to create 'a northern powerhouse' to counterbalance the economy.

Peter Smith, chair of the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority, said: 'Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous day for Greater **Manchester**. It gives us greater control over our own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster.'

The chancellor said: 'This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the northern powerhouse. After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London. This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people.

I want to talk to other cities

'I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.'

It is understood the region's first elected mayor would be in place in 2017.

Comments:

Richard Leese, the leader of Manchester City Council

'Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate. It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

'[We] can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK. Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22 billion a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount.'

Gavin Sorby of Manchester-based Buttress Architects

'London is an international City and it does very well, but its relevance to the issues that affect the Country's major cities and regions is increasingly diminished. The authorities best placed to deal with the issues that face our cities and regions and address their needs are those that are embedded in them. We should all expect our local authorities and regional bodies to have the necessary leadership, vision and sophistication to be capable of assuming more powers. **Manchester** has already demonstrated its capability over the past decade. If you want something to fly, the fewer strings you have attached to it the better '.

John Walker of Manchester-based Walker Simpson

'Regional **devolution** and HS3 have the potential to forge stronger links between the Northern Cities that can harness a shared economic and creative identity. This could

Manchester signs 'momentous' devolution deal with government Architects Journal
November 3, 2014 Monday

nurture innovation, and generate skills and jobs through direct council support for initiatives beneficial to the Northern enterprise.'

Richard.Waite@emap.com (Richard Waite)

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Magazine

JOURNAL-CODE: Architects Journal

Copyright 2014 Emap Ltd
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

13 of 25 DOCUMENTS



November 3, 2014 Monday 12:16 PM GMT

Manchester to get London-style mayor

BYLINE: Allister Hayman

LENGTH: 883 words

HIGHLIGHT: City region to be governed by a metro mayor with powers over transport, housing, planning and policing

Greater **Manchester** has agreed a landmark deal with the government that will see the city region governed by a London-style mayor with powers over transport, housing, planning and policing.

Manchester to get London-style mayor Building Online November 3, 2014 Monday 12:16 PM GMT

Chancellor George Osborne announced the deal today, which includes proposals to devolve further powers to the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority (GMCA), including over support for business growth, skills and help to join up health and social care budgets.

Osborne said the deal, which ends years of opposition from the ten councils across Greater **Manchester** to the metro-mayor model, would create a powerful devolved administration with strong political leadership that can drive through policy to stimulate economic growth and plan strategically across the city, as well as nationally and internationally.

The government will now prepare legislation to enable the change, with the mayoral election likely to take place in 2017.

Although there are other city mayors across the country, such as Liverpool, this will be the first time a city region, comprising multiple local authorities, has taken on the metro mayor model outside the capital.

Osborne said he hoped **Manchester** would be the first of many big cities to take advantage of greater **devolution** of powers.

He said: "This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the Northern Powerhouse.

"After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London.

"This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy.

"I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

"Giving cities power is part of our long term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between north and south, London and the rest."

Lord Peter Smith, chair of GMCA and leader of Wigan council, said: "Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous moment for Greater **Manchester**.

"It gives us greater control over own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster.

"This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. "It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localised level."

Sir Richard Leese, vice chair of GMCA and leader of Manchester City Council, said: "Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate. It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

"We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK.

Manchester to get London-style mayor Building Online November 3, 2014 Monday 12:16 PM GMT

"Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22bn a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount.

"We recognise that this cannot happen overnight and there needs to be a staged approach based on evidence that **devolution** delivers increased economic growth and better public services. But today's settlement is a huge move forwards and a road map for the future."

What powers will the Greater **Manchester** mayor get?

The Treasury said the directly elected Mayor of Greater **Manchester** would receive the following powers:

- . Control of a £300m Housing Investment Fund
- . Powers over strategic planning, including the power to create a statutory spatial framework for Greater **Manchester**. This will need to be approved by a unanimous vote of the Mayor's Cabinet
- . Responsibility for a devolved and consolidated transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the next Spending Review, and responsibility for franchised bus services for integrated smart ticketing across all local modes of transport
- . Control of a reformed earn back deal, within the current envelope of £30m a year for 30 years - this gives Greater **Manchester** the certainty they need to extend the Metrolink to Trafford Park
- . Take on the role currently covered by the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority will receive the following powers:

- . Responsibility for securing integrated business support services, including through the Growth Accelerator, Manufacturing Advice Service and UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) Export Advice
- . Control of the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers in Greater **Manchester** and power to re-shape and re-structure the Further Education (FE) provision within Greater **Manchester**
- . Control of an expanded Working Well pilot, with central government funding linked to good performance up to a fixed DEL limit in return for risk sharing
- . Opportunity to be a joint commissioner with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for the next phase of the Work Programme
- . The GMCA and Greater **Manchester** Clinical Commissioning Groups will be invited to develop a business plan for the integration of health and social care across Greater **Manchester**, based on control of existing health and social care budgets

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Web Publication

Copyright 2014 UBM Information Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

14 of 25 DOCUMENTS



November 3, 2014 08:45 AM GMT

Manchester strikes devolution settlement

BYLINE: Chris Berkin

SECTION: EGI NEWS

LENGTH: 529 words

Greater **Manchester** has struck an historic **devolution** settlement" with government, opening up transport, planning and housing policies to the region.

A directly-elected mayor will be created for the region, while control of a Housing Investment Fund of up to 300m will be created and devolved to **Manchester**.

Manchester will also acquire greater planning power, including the ability to create statutory spatial strategies.

Additionally, the region will be granted a longer-term budget by central government to enable better transport planning co-ordination, with Greater **Manchester** granted control over new bus franchises and an Oyster card-style ticketing system.

The deal was struck with George Osborne, who had previously called for a northern powerhouse" to build on the work of the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority, established in 2011.

It will also include a number of public service reforms, responsibility for skills, business and health and social care.

The mayor of GMCA will appoint cabinet members from leaders of each of Greater **Manchester's** 10 local authorities, with the first mayoral elections expected in 2017.

The existing police and crime commissioner's role will also be merged with the Greater **Manchester** mayor's role.

Manchester strikes devolution settlement EGi Web News November 3, 2014 08:45 AM
GMT

GMCA chair Lord Peter Smith said: Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous day for Greater **Manchester**. It gives us greater control over our own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster.

This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localised level."

GMCA vice chair and leader of **Manchester** city council Sir Richard Leese said: Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate. It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK.

Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around 22bn a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount."

Osborne said: "This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the northern powerhouse. This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy.

I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

The northern powerhouse is becoming a reality. We plan to make major investments in northern transport and science, now we have agreement on the first metro area mayor. This is what we have achieved in just a few months. Giving cities power is part of our long-term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between North and South, London and the rest."

chris.berkin@estatesgazette.com

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Web Publication

George Osborne overcomes obstacles to pull off Manchester devolution deal; Rivalries within coalition, between Labour local governments and in Whitehall left deal perilously close to collapse The Guardian November 3, 2014 Monday 7:39 PM GMT

[Return to List](#)

15 of 25 DOCUMENTS

theguardian

The Guardian

November 3, 2014 Monday 7:39 PM GMT

George Osborne overcomes obstacles to pull off Manchester devolution deal;
Rivalries within coalition, between Labour local governments and in Whitehall left deal perilously close to collapse

BYLINE: Patrick Wintour, political editor

SECTION: POLITICS

LENGTH: 926 words

George Osborne's announcement of a directly elected mayor for Greater **Manchester** backed by £1bn in devolved funds may prove to be a new model not just to power growth beyond London but also to revive politics in England beyond Westminster.

After Labour's stillborn elected assemblies and the doomed English city mayoral referendums held in 2012, government officials are hopeful that Leeds and Birmingham will look at the Greater **Manchester** deal and want a slice of the action.

The pace of change, alongside reforms in Wales and Scotland, is remarkable. But the deal announced between 10 local government leaders in Greater **Manchester** and George Osborne very nearly did not happen. Rivalries within the coalition and between Labour local governments in the north, as well as in Whitehall, left the deal perilously close to collapse.

It took all of Osborne's political capital to pull it off, and it is a tribute to the determination of his team including his senior policy adviser Neil O'Brien that he succeeded.

As late as Thursday and Friday, local government leaders were holding out for more powers, while some protested at the chancellor's insistence that a directly elected mayor, imposed without a referendum, should be at the heart of the package. In Whitehall some departments, including business, battled to minimise the transfer of powers.

George Osborne overcomes obstacles to pull off Manchester devolution deal; Rivalries within coalition, between Labour local governments and in Whitehall left deal perilously close to collapse The Guardian November 3, 2014 Monday 7:39 PM GMT
Within the Labour party there was anxiety, so close to an election, about Labour councils being seen to be striking a deal with Osborne that might portray the chancellor in a favourable light in north-west marginal seats. Ed Miliband had produced his own blueprint devolving power to city regions in the spring following a report written by Lord Adonis, his adviser on industrial policy.

Labour would have preferred monopoly ownership of this political real estate, and in a visit to **Manchester** last Friday Miliband accused Osborne of coming late to the **devolution** party. Miliband even twice refused to tell local reporters whether he would accept the Osborne **Manchester** offer, and he listed greater tax powers, fairer council funding and better public services as missing from the chancellor's plan.

"Unless he's got answers to all of those things, it's not just that he's late to the party. I don't think he will convince people," Miliband said.

However, Adonis struck a less critical tone, saying: "It is good to see Labour leaders in Greater **Manchester** taking the initiative in setting up an elected mayor for a city region with new devolved powers. It was Labour that first created the first city regional mayor in London which has been a great success in improving transport in particular. It is time for other city regions to be allowed to follow suit, as Ed Miliband said at the weekend."

Labour stressed it should be for local councils to decide whether to go down the elected mayor model, a position that reflects differences inside Labour local government.

Osborne argued that it was impossible to transfer powers without a clear line of responsibility. If power lay with 10 leaders inside the combined authorities, then no one would be accountable if something went wrong.

The deal is bespoke to the north-west, and is not a simple transposition of the London mayoral model. This is a not a Boris for the north, but instead more like the model the Conservatives considered for London before proposing the London Assembly.

The mayor will not be answerable to a London-style elected assembly but to a cabinet comprising the 10 leaders, which must be consulted on mayoral strategies. The mayor, not due to be in place until 2017, may be overruled if two-thirds of the council leaders disagree with a decision.

There is a careful split in the roles of the mayor and combined authorities. The mayor has control of a £300m housing investment fund and will be responsible for strategic planning, including the power to create a statutory spatial framework for Greater **Manchester**. This will need to be approved by a unanimous vote of the mayor's cabinet.

He or she will also have responsibility for a devolved transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the next spending review, and responsibility for franchised bus services, subject to consultation by Greater **Manchester**, and for integrated smart ticketing. They will also take on the role of police and crime commissioner, a further sign that this friendless democratic experiment will end.

The Greater **Manchester** combined authority takes control of public service reform through apprenticeship grants, further education, some welfare funds and the integration of health

George Osborne overcomes obstacles to pull off Manchester devolution deal; Rivalries within coalition, between Labour local governments and in Whitehall left deal perilously close to collapse The Guardian November 3, 2014 Monday 7:39 PM GMT and social care. The last reform comes close to reinstating the strategic health authorities abolished by the former health secretary Andrew Lansley.

This is only possible because local authorities have statutory responsibility for social care. In London, the mayor has no power over either health or social care. The same is true of the proposals to jointly commission the Work Programme with the Department for Work and Pensions.

Much remains unresolved. Education is missing from this deal. No referendum is proposed and at some point a brave politician is going to propose a fresh look at the equalisation of resources across the UK, including tax-raising powers in regions and nations.

Sir Richard Leese, leader of **Manchester** council and an early favourite - ahead of Morrissey - to be the first Greater **Manchester** mayor, was probably not being hyperbolic when he said: "It's revolutionary and ... [a model] other cities around the country would want to adopt and copy."

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBGNS

Copyright 2014 The Guardian, a division of Transcontinental Media Group Inc.
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

16 of 25 DOCUMENTS

The  **INDEPENDENT**
Independent.co.uk

November 3, 2014 Monday 10:31 AM GMT

**Northern cities to get 'Home Rule' like London;
Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield will be given opportunity**

BYLINE: Katie Grant

SECTION: UK POLITICS

Northern cities to get 'Home Rule' like London; Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield will be given opportunity Independent.co.uk November 3, 2014 Monday 10:31 AM GMT

LENGTH: 236 words

George Osborne has agreed to give cities in northern England the chance of self-rule.

Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield will be handed "London-style" powers to run more of their own affairs, including schools, trains, roads and potentially housing.

The Chancellor is expected to announce details of the move towards **devolution** in his Autumn Statement next month.

The arrangement would form part of a major drive by all three parties to offer English regions more **devolution** in the wake of the Scottish independence referendum and ahead of next year's general election.

A summit will be held on Thursday in Leeds at which 300 experts and business leaders from the North will try to generate new plans for **devolution**. The delegates will discuss and vote on ideas for the future of the north, which Mr Osborne hopes to transform into a "powerhouse" of investment.

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg, who is backing the summit, said: "The great cities of the North have been ignored for far too long. It is time to give these cities London-style powers. What is good enough for London is good enough for the similarly great cities of the North."

The Liberal Democrat leader added: "To show that the Coalition is serious, we will be setting out how we intend to devolve power in the coming weeks. It will start with a package for Greater **Manchester**... and will soon be followed by powers handed to the Leeds and Sheffield city regions."

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper; Web Publication

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBI

Greater Manchester devolution deal: Who will make history as our first elected mayor?; AS the chancellor George Osborne hands over a £1bn devolution package to Greater Manchester, we run the rule over who might be the region's most powerful politician
manchestereveningnews.co.uk November 3, 2014 Monday 8:21 PM GMT

[Return to List](#)

17 of 25 DOCUMENTS

Manchester Evening News

manchestereveningnews.co.uk

November 3, 2014 Monday 8:21 PM GMT

Greater Manchester devolution deal: Who will make history as our first elected mayor?;

AS the chancellor George Osborne hands over a £1bn devolution package to Greater Manchester, we run the rule over who might be the region's most powerful politician

BYLINE: By Jennifer Williams

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 1276 words

Devolution worth £1bn is heading for Greater **Manchester** - but our side of the bargain with The Chancellor is that will have an elected mayor. But who will the Manc Boris Johnson be?

As soon as the deal was announced, Ladbrokes released a list of possible contenders, ranging from **Manchester** council leader Sir Richard Leese - at 3/1 - all the way through to David Moyes, at a slightly less promising 200/1.

In a region as dominated by Labour as this one, that party's race will be key.

Certainly Sir Richard, who has helped steer the **devolution** deal through - after spearheading **Manchester's** post-IRA bomb transformation and gaining many national accolades down the years - will be a frontrunner.

However the fraught internal workings of the region's Labour Party might scupper that.

There is much suspicion of **Manchester** by party members in the other nine authorities, who fear any figure from the city will only have its interests at heart, rather than those of the region.

Greater Manchester devolution deal: Who will make history as our first elected mayor?; AS the chancellor George Osborne hands over a £1bn devolution package to Greater Manchester, we run the rule over who might be the region's most powerful politician
manchestereveningnews.co.uk November 3, 2014 Monday 8:21 PM GMT

One to watch could be the young and ambitious Labour leader of Oldham, Jim McMahon. Meanwhile, Stalybridge and Hyde MP Jonathan Reynolds, a vocal proponent of Greater **Manchester devolution**, could also be a contender.

Don't put it past veterans such as police commissioner Tony Lloyd - who will be out of a job thanks to the new role of elected mayor - or Blackley and Broughton MP Graham Stringer, himself a former **Manchester** council leader, to throw their hats in the ring.

Outside of Labour, Baroness Susan Williams, a pragmatic and popular Conservative and former leader of Trafford council, would stand a good chance at selection, if not - in such a predominantly left-wing outpost - at winning.

Meanwhile, there are any number of local celebrities who could seek a different kind of limelight.

Left-leaning stars like Maxine Peake, or Labour party member Sir Alex Ferguson could be worth a punt. Reds star-turned-business mogul Gary Neville, or Tom Bloxham, founder of property developers Urban Splash, are both likely to be encouraged to stand by friends.

'Madchester' cult figure Bez, meanwhile, has already proved his penchant for politics after setting up his own political party.

The devo deal, by George Osborne

Why Greater **Manchester**?

"I think Greater **Manchester** has shown itself able to raise its game and I think they work across party lines - and I think you've got some excellent civic leaders here.

So the combination of that made Greater **Manchester** the place where we wanted to begin this **devolution**.

Greater **Manchester** has agreed that in return for new powers over policing, transport, over skills and the like, they would move towards a directly elected mayor.

So we've been working on this for some months, behind the scenes.

What we are all interested in here is doing what's right for the people of **Manchester**, right for the people of Greater **Manchester** - and I think they will see real practical improvements, not just in transport ... but in the skills investment here, in the jobs we can attract here, in making sure policing is responsive to local wishes.

So I think it's a really exciting moment. I think this is major moment, not just for Greater **Manchester** but for the north."

What happens to the police commissioner and the mayor of Salford?

"Under these arrangements the police commissioner... that role will be taken up by the directly elected mayor from 2017.

And the mayor of Salford remains, absolutely. There are lots of examples not least in London, where you have mayors of particular boroughs in London, where there is the mayor of London. So this does not affect those arrangements at all.

Greater Manchester devolution deal: Who will make history as our first elected mayor?; AS the chancellor George Osborne hands over a £1bn devolution package to Greater Manchester, we run the rule over who might be the region's most powerful politician manchestereveningnews.co.uk November 3, 2014 Monday 8:21 PM GMT
Our leaders want full **devolution** of all public funding. Can you see a point where that might happen?

This is a big step - let's not underestimate what's been achieved today. We've created a directly elected mayor in Greater **Manchester**, we've devolved new powers from Whitehall. So this is a very big step in its own right. I don't think it's the last step on the journey.

But I think we've got to now make this work for the people of Greater **Manchester** and that's a big task but a task I'm confident everyone here is up to."

How soon will powers start to come and how soon will people see a difference?

"The powers are going to start flowing immediately to the combined authority. Over the next few months we will take powers out of the Whitehall departments.

The big set of powers that comes with the directly elected mayor when the directly elected mayor is elected in 2017. That will be total transport budget and the like.

But people are already starting to see improvements. You can already see the benefit of the way the combined authority works together and you're really beginning to see the benefit of the investment in **Manchester**.

I was on the new Metrolink to the airport, open today, an example of investment in **Manchester** paying off."When we'll get our hands on more levers of power

Some powers will be handed over to the existing 'super council' - the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority - more-or-less immediately - while others must wait for new laws to put a mayor in place.

This is the likely timescale:

Early 2015 -backbench councillors report their views back on the deal council leaders begin planning the new Trafford Park Metrolink line, using new 'earnback' powers from government 'interim' unelected mayor appointed by council leaders power handed over for £300m five-year housebuilding programme £500m skills budget handed over

May 2015 general election. If Labour win, legislation to cement the deal could be thrown into question

2015-2016 assuming it is not blocked in Westminster, work begins on mayoral legislation

2016/2017 building starts on Trafford Park tramline

2017 mayoral election full power over transport, including buses, handed over mayor takes over from police commissioner

2019 new tramline opens The Devo Deal: How it will effect key areas of your life

Transport

Probably the biggest, most immediately obvious change will be to our buses and trams.

George Osborne is handing control over local transport investment to Greater **Manchester**, with top priority given to the £450m Metrolink extension to Trafford Park.

Greater Manchester devolution deal: Who will make history as our first elected mayor?; AS the chancellor George Osborne hands over a £1bn devolution package to Greater Manchester, we run the rule over who might be the region's most powerful politician manchestereveningnews.co.uk November 3, 2014 Monday 8:21 PM GMT

New powers over our buses mean the mayor would take control of who ran the routes, to where and how often - and at what cost to the passenger.

That would also mean rolling out a new 'Oyster card' that the Chancellor says will be 'better than London'.

Housing

Greater **Manchester**, like everywhere else, suffers from a dire lack of good quality, affordable homes in the places they are needed.

A new £300m housebuilding budget will be handed over to the region from housing quango the Homes and Communities Agency so new stock could be built over the next five years.

To put the figure into context, the total rebuild of Collyhurst, axed by the coalition in 2010, was said to be worth £250m.

The budget goes hand in hand with more planning powers for the mayor - which means he or she, with the support of the 10 leaders, would have power to choose where in Greater **Manchester** housing was built.

Jobs, skills and wealth

This is a longer-term aim, but one that is central to the argument for **devolution**.

The mayor would have control over the entire £500m training budget for Greater **Manchester**. The idea is to match up college courses with what companies want and need - meaning they invest in the region and create the jobs, while students due not leave education without a job to go to.

That ties in with a new back-to-work programme, aimed at getting the unemployed into a job they are trained to do. The government's own attempt at that has not been regarded as a stunning success. George Osborne reckons our leaders can do it better.

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper; Web Publication

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBGMWNGMANC

[Return to List](#)

18 of 25 DOCUMENTS

PRESS ASSOCIATION

Press Association Mediapoint

November 3, 2014 Monday 9:48 AM BST

MANCHESTER TO GET GREATER POWERS

BYLINE: David Hughes, Press Association Political Correspondent

SECTION: HOME NEWS

LENGTH: 1116 words

Cities could be given greater freedoms and more powers under plans being set out by the Government, with **Manchester** the first to benefit, George Osborne said.

Ministers hope the reforms, which include an elected "metro mayor" for the whole of the Greater **Manchester** region, will allow cities in the north to become an economic powerhouse to rival London.

As part of the reforms the post of police and crime commissioner for Greater **Manchester** Police - established by the coalition Government - would be scrapped and replaced by the new elected mayor.

Mr Osborne said: "This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the Northern Powerhouse.

"After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London.

"This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy.

"I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

“The Northern Powerhouse is becoming a reality. We plan to make major investments in northern transport and science, now we have agreement on the first metro area mayor.

“This is what we've achieved in just a few months. Giving cities power is part of our long term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between north and south, London and the rest.”

The Government will legislate to enable the changes, with the potential for the mayoral election to take place in 2017.

The Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority (GMCA) eventually hopes for full **devolution** of all £22 billion of public spending in the city.

GMCA vice chairman Sir Richard Leese said: “Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate.

“It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

“We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK.

“Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around £22 billion a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount.

“We recognise that this cannot happen overnight and there needs to be a staged approach based on evidence that **devolution** delivers increased economic growth and better public services.

“But today's settlement is a huge move forwards and a road map for the future.”

Mr Osborne told the BBC the plans were “one of the biggest changes to civic governance in our country's history” and would help bridge the north-south divide.

“It is a big step towards creating that northern powerhouse so that the cities in the north have powerful voices, have control of their own budgets, make sure that local people have their voices heard.

“These are all major steps towards redressing what I think is a big imbalance in our country, that gap between north and south which has been with us for decades.”

The Greater **Manchester** mayor will be given control of a £300 million housing investment fund, strategic planning powers and responsibility for a reformed “earn back” deal which allows the city to receive up to £30 million a year for the growth generated by its economy.

Responsibility for policing will pass to the metro mayor, in the same way that the mayor of London performs the role in the capital.

Greater **Manchester** Police and Crime Commissioner Tony Lloyd said: “Too many people are put off politics by the irrelevance of a Westminster parliament a million miles from their own lives.

“I am bound to welcome the transfer of powers, responsibilities and resources to Greater **Manchester** and bringing important decisions closer to home.

“For this to work it's important that all areas of Greater **Manchester** benefit, and not just the city itself.

“I will continue to work alongside the council leaders to negotiate with central government the best deal for our region but we must ensure that what is agreed is democratically accountable to the people across Greater **Manchester** and carries legitimacy in their eyes.”

Shadow communities and local government secretary Hilary Benn said: “The Tories will tell you that everything has been fixed and the country is on the right track.

“But people in towns and cities across the country are feeling the pain of the longest cost-of-living crisis in a century.

“Labour has radical plans to pass an English **devolution** act and transfer £30 billion over five years from the centre back to city and country regions to boost economic growth and to give them 100% of the additional business rates revenue generated by growth to invest in building further success in our regions.

“Communities are crying out for more powers, but the Tories are playing catch-up on **devolution** and failing to push real power down from Whitehall.

“David Cameron and George Osborne have also hit the areas of the country with greatest need, including our major cities, with some of the biggest spending reductions while a handful of the wealthiest local authorities have been given more money to spend. Only Labour is offering **devolution**, financial reform and a fair deal for England.”

Campaign for Better Transport spokesman Stephen Joseph said: “There's a very welcome consensus that action is needed to give our big cities high-quality public transport networks.

“It won't matter to most passengers whether that comes from elected mayors or from transport operators working together more closely. They just want to see investment in better bus, rail and tram networks.

“We look forward to details from operators and authorities about timescales and fares, and will be keen to work with all of them to get the real improvements promised.”

The chair of the Local Government Association, David Sparks, said: “Today's announcement of more powers for Greater **Manchester** is very good news for people living in the region.

“However, this is only the first step on the road to a much bigger and wider process of **devolution**, not just for the **Manchester** city region, but for the whole of England, which will require different approaches for different areas, including how they are governed.

“Government should seize the opportunity of next month's Autumn Statement to set out a new settlement for England which devolves decisions about housing, transport, skills and economic development as well as health and social care, down to local areas.”

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

Copyright 2014 The Press Association Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

20 of 25 DOCUMENTS

States News Service

November 3, 2014 Monday

MANCHESTER TO GET DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR

BYLINE: States News Service

LENGTH: 1139 words

DATELINE: LONDON

The following information was released by the UK Government:

Part of radical plans to devolve power and control to cities

Greater **Manchester** is to get its own directly elected city wide mayor with powers over transport, housing, planning and policing, Chancellor George Osborne announced today (3 November 2014).

The measure is the latest initiative in the Chancellor's plan to create a Northern Powerhouse to maximise the economic potential of the north.

The proposals also include devolving further powers to the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority (GMCA) including over support for business growth, skills and help to join up health and social care budgets.

Taken together the plans represent a comprehensive package of powers for Greater **Manchester**. The government believes this will create a powerful devolved administration with strong political leadership that can drive through policy to stimulate economic growth and plan strategically across the city, as well as nationally and internationally.

The government hopes that **Manchester** will be the first of many big cities to take advantage of greater **devolution** of powers.

Chancellor George Osborne said:

This is a massive moment for the north of England and our plan to build the Northern Powerhouse. After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London. This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links, an Oyster-style travelcard, and more investment in skills and the city's economy.

MANCHESTER TO GET DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR States News Service November
3, 2014 Monday

I want to talk to other cities who are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead - every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same.

The Northern Powerhouse is becoming a reality. We plan to make major investments in northern transport and science, now we have agreement on the first metro area Mayor. This is what we've achieved in just a few months. Giving cities power is part of our long term economic plan to reduce the decades-old gap between north and south, London and the rest.

Communities Secretary Eric Pickles said:

This landmark agreement shows how serious we are about moving powers out of Whitehall and reinforces the significant authority and finance already given to local communities.

It is an important step in our continuing work to decentralise, to increase local democracy, bring better services and deliver more homes and jobs. Greater power for local government must always come with greater local accountability so people can challenge their council to do better and hold them to account about services they provide.

Lord Peter Smith, chair of GMCA, said:

Make no mistake, this **devolution** settlement is a momentous moment for Greater **Manchester**. It gives us greater control over own destiny in several key areas and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on "one size fits all" dictates from Westminster.

This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localised level.

Sir Richard Leese, vice chair of GMCA, said:

Greater **Manchester** has been in the vanguard of the national **devolution** debate. It was clear that an over-centralised national system was not delivering the best results for our people or our economy.

We are extremely pleased that we can now demonstrate what a city region with greater freedoms can achieve and contribute further to the growth of the UK.

Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around 22 billion a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount.

We recognise that this cannot happen overnight and there needs to be a staged approach based on evidence that **devolution** delivers increased economic growth and better public services. But today's settlement is a huge move forwards and a road map for the future.

A new, directly elected Mayor of Greater **Manchester** will receive the following powers:

control of a 300 million Housing Investment Fund

powers over strategic planning, including the power to create a statutory spatial framework for Greater **Manchester**. This will need to be approved by a unanimous vote of the Mayor's Cabinet

MANCHESTER TO GET DIRECTLY ELECTED MAYOR States News Service November
3, 2014 Monday

responsibility for a devolved and consolidated transport budget, with a multi-year settlement to be agreed at the next Spending Review, and responsibility for franchised bus services (subject to consultation by Greater **Manchester**), and for integrated smart ticketing across all local modes of transport

control of a reformed earn back deal, within the current envelope of 30 million a year for 30 years - this gives Greater **Manchester** the certainty they need to extend the Metrolink to Trafford Park

take on the role currently covered by the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority will receive the following powers:

responsibility for securing integrated business support services, including through the Growth Accelerator, Manufacturing Advice Service and UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) Export Advice

control of the Apprenticeship Grant for Employers in Greater **Manchester** and power to re-shape and re-structure the Further Education (FE) provision within Greater **Manchester**

control of an expanded Working Well pilot, with central government funding linked to good performance up to a fixed DEL limit in return for risk sharing

opportunity to be a joint commissioner with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for the next phase of the Work Programme

the GMCA and Greater **Manchester** Clinical Commissioning Groups will be invited to develop a business plan for the integration of health and social care across Greater **Manchester**, based on control of existing health and social care budgets

The Mayor for Greater **Manchester** will differ from current mayoralties in that the powers are greater and control extends over more than one local authority area. The government will now prepare legislation to enable these changes with the potential for the Mayoral election to take place in 2017.

The plans are the latest in a series of initiatives to build the Northern Powerhouse:

Last week, the Chancellor announced plans to develop HS3, a new high speed rail link designed to address the poor east-west transport links in the North.

In August, the Chancellor announced ambitious plans for a potential major new National Institute for Materials Research and Innovation in the north of England and a 60 million Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre (GEIC) in **Manchester**. Both projects will capitalise on the North's expertise in cutting edge materials research and development and give the North a global head start in this fast expanding industry.

LOAD-DATE: November 3, 2014

[Return to List](#)

21 of 25 DOCUMENTS

Xinhua General News Service

November 3, 2014 Monday 11:02 AM EST**Manchester** mayor to have powers matching London mayor: Osborne**SECTION:** WORLD NEWS; Science & Technology**LENGTH:** 636 words**DATELINE:** LONDON Nov. 3

Manchester is to become the first region in England to have a powerful, directly-elected mayor with powers matching those of London Mayor Boris Johnson, Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne said Monday.

The new mayor, to be in place by 2017, will have power over a wide sub-region in North Western England, with a population of more than 2.7 million.

Currently, a number of cities in England have directly-elected mayors, but laws do not allow the election of all-powerful mayors covering wider areas.

Mayor Boris Johnson's area spans Greater London, made up of the City of London and a further 32 cities and towns within inner and outer London, with a total population of over 8.3 million.

Greater **Manchester** covers two cities: **Manchester** and Salford and eight boroughs and is seen as the major powerhouse in North West England.

The British government's drive for the introduction of sub-regional or city region mayors is part of an initiative to create bigger administrative areas with greater local powers.

The initiative is part of Chancellor Osborne's drive to create a Northern Powerhouse so cities like Liverpool, **Manchester**, Leeds and Sheffield can fulfill their economic potential and close the gap on London and the South East.

Manchester would be in the vanguard of the change, winning new powers covering transport, housing, planning and policing under the remit of a directly-elected city-region mayor.

The British government says it hopes that **Manchester** will be the first of many big cities to take advantage of greater **devolution** of powers.

Manchester mayor to have powers matching London mayor: Osborne
Xinhua General News Service November 3, 2014 Monday 11:02 AM EST

Osborne said: "After several months of private discussions with local representatives from all three (political) parties, I have reached agreement with the civic leaders of Greater **Manchester** to create the first metro-wide elected mayor outside of London."

"This will give Mancunians a powerful voice and bring practical improvements for local people, with better transport links and more investment in skills and the city's economy," added Osborne.

"I want to talk to other cities that are keen to follow **Manchester's** lead -- every city is different, and no model of local power will be the same," he added.

Like London's Mayor Johnson, the new mayor of **Manchester** would also assume powers over policing in the Greater **Manchester** area. The proposals include devolving further powers for business growth, skills and help to join up health and social care budgets.

The British government's Communities Secretary Eric Pickles described the **Manchester** deal as a "landmark agreement" and an "important step" in efforts to decentralize power from Westminster.

Lord Peter Smith is chair of the Greater **Manchester** Combined Authority, made up of the leaders of the 10 authorities of Greater **Manchester**.

He said: "This **devolution** settlement gives us greater control over our own destiny and the ability to base decisions on local priorities and needs rather than on 'one size fits all' dictates from Westminster."

"This isn't about taking powers from individual Greater **Manchester** authorities. It's about powers coming down from central government to a more localized level," he added.

Sir Richard Leese, political leader of **Manchester** City Council, said: "Our ultimate ambition is for full **devolution** of all public spending in Greater **Manchester**, currently around 22 billion pounds (35 billion U.S. dollars) a year, so that we either influence or control the whole amount."

The British government will now have to introduce legislation in Parliament to change the law to enable the creation of Britain's first provincial sub-regional mayor.

Leaders of all 10 towns and cities within Greater **Manchester** have given their backing to the plan.

LOAD-DATE: November 4, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newswire

[Return to List](#)

22 of 25 DOCUMENTS

The Telegraph

telegraph.co.uk

November 2, 2014 Sunday 4:40 PM GMT

George Osborne to announce 'home rule' for Manchester, Sheffield and Leeds; **George Osborne and Nick Clegg have agreed to give 'London style' self-rule to Leeds, Sheffield and Manchester, with details expected to be announced in the Autumn Statement**

BYLINE: By Tim Ross Political Correspondent

SECTION: NEWS

LENGTH: 529 words

Cities in the North will be given sweeping powers to run their own affairs under plans to be announced within weeks.

George Osborne, the Chancellor, has agreed to give "London style" self-rule to Leeds, Sheffield and **Manchester**, and is expected to announce details in his Autumn Statement next month.

While no extra money will be provided to the regions from central government, they will get far more control over their own affairs, including trains, roads, schools and science as well as potentially housing.

The move - agreed with Nick Clegg, the Lib Dem leader - comes as all three main parties compete to offer English regions more **devolution** at the same time as Scotland is given extra powers to raise its own taxes in the wake of the independence referendum.

Labour has promised to hand more control over local bus services to English regions.

Mr Osborne wants to create a northern economic "powerhouse", including a new high speed rail plan for the north.

A policy "summit" will be held on Thursday in Leeds to gather together hundreds of experts and business leaders from the North in an attempt to generate new plans for **devolution**.

Ideas will be discussed among the 300 delegates and voted on during the day to produce a new plan for the future of the North.

Mr Clegg, the deputy prime minister, is backing the summit and said details of the self-rule plans for Leeds, Sheffield and **Manchester** would be announced in the coming weeks.

"The great cities of the North have been ignored for far too long. It is time to give these cities London-style powers. What is good enough for London, is good enough for the similarly great cities of the North," he said.

"To show that the Coalition is serious, we will be setting out how we intend to devolve power in the coming weeks.

"It will start with a package for Greater **Manchester** that I have been working on with the Chancellor and will soon be followed by powers handed to the Leeds and Sheffield city regions.

"I've always been clear that real **devolution** means more control over money. While there isn't extra money the Government can find for these cities, this goes beyond the powers that have already been secured for them during this government. We can give them much more control over their own budgets and, therefore, over their own decisions and destinies."

Ministers are prepared to offer other parts of the country more control over their own economies in further plans in the future.

"The Coalition Government's door remains open to all parts of the country and I will strive for further **devolution** to other towns and cities in the remainder of this Parliament," Mr Clegg said.

A senior Lib Dem source added: "It's safe to say that the North will be put right at the heart of the Autumn Statement.

"The Lib Dems and the Tories may be disagreeing on a lot of things at the moment, but the transfer of powers to the major cities of the North is something that still very much unites the Coalition Government."

The Tories have been especially keen to give more power to **Manchester**, while the Lib Dems are said to have argued strongly for extending **devolution** to Leeds and Sheffield, where Mr Clegg is an MP.

LOAD-DATE: November 2, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper; Web Publication

JOURNAL-CODE: WEBDTNS

Copyright 2014 Telegraph Media Group Limited
All Rights Reserved

[Return to List](#)

23 of 25 DOCUMENTS

Manchester Evening News

October 31, 2014 Friday
Edition 1;
National Edition

Osborne: Elect a mayor and you get **devolution;**

Chancellor agrees to offer historic multi-million pound package to region.

BYLINE: Jennifer Williams

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 429 words

CHANCELLOR George Osborne has agreed to offer a historic multibillion pound package of **devolution** to Greater **Manchester**, the M.E.N. can reveal - as long as it is willing to elect a mayor.

Months of crunch talks between the Treasury and the most senior council figures in the region have finally come to fruition.

It is understood the majority of the **devolution** demands on their wishlist - including complete control over skills funding and a £450m Trafford Park tram extension - have been agreed by Mr Osborne. But he is sticking to his guns in insisting the region gets an elected figurehead - although that cannot happen until new legislation is passed, which could take at least two years.

Today our 10 council leaders, who make up the region's combined authority, will meet in private to thrash out their response.

It is understood the government is keen to unveil the deal in the coming days.

However, leaders have insisted they must take the plan back to their local councillors before approval.

Meanwhile, they may not all agree the package is enough to warrant signing up to an elected mayor.

The news comes as Ed Miliband arrives in **Manchester** to unveil Labour's own regional **devolution** policy today.

He has been under pressure to match the package under discussion with the Treasury.

His proposals will include total control over bus regulation - one of the key powers being sought by our 'super council'.

He will also pass a law ensuring a raft of new powers not just to Greater **Manchester**, but to groups of councils across the country.

That will include control over transport and housing investment in a package worth £30bn nationwide.

It will 'end a century of centralisation', he will say.

Mr Miliband will meet with leaders of the 'core cities' - including **Manchester** - before a private summit with the eight Labour Greater **Manchester** leaders.

... and now another LibDem says we need more power GREATER **Manchester** should get power over its entire health and social care budget, a Liberal Democrat minister says.

Norman Lamb says he would 'love' to hand control for that spending to our local leaders - arguing it would help slash the health inequality that dogs the region.

It is the second major **devolution** proposal from the Liberal Democrats in weeks. Earlier this month, Nick Clegg told the M.E.N. Greater **Manchester** should get control of all its £8bn welfare spending

Mr Lamb, minister for care and support, said: "I'm all about giving power to communities and I think it would be fantastic if **Manchester** took control and started to align the budgets for health and care."

LOAD-DATE: October 31, 2014

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

GRAPHIC: George Osborne wants a . Greater **Manchester** mayor

PUBLICATION-TYPE: Newspaper

JOURNAL-CODE: MEN

Copyright 2014 **Manchester** Evening News
All Rights Reserved