
Council



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title:	Report on Special Urgency	
Paper No:	COU/SE/16/018	
Paper to and date:	Council	27 September 2016
Documents attached:	None	

1. **Part 4, Access to Information Procedural Rules, of the Constitution (paragraph 18.3)** requires the Leader of the Council to submit quarterly reports to the Council on the Executive decisions taken (if any) in the circumstances set out in Rule 17, Special urgency in the preceding three months.
2. Accordingly, the Leader of the Council reports that the following executive decision was taken under the Special Urgency provisions of the Constitution, with the agreement of the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

Subject

Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Agreement

Reason why decision could not reasonably be deferred

3. Although the matter of Devolution had previously been published on the Decisions Plan and was due to be considered by Cabinet on 14 June 2016, due to the challenging nature of the Government led timetable and the evolving process, it was not possible for the process to be completed in time for Cabinet to make any decisions on 14 June 2016.
4. A decision was required to endorse and support the publication of the draft scheme for a Norfolk and Suffolk Mayoral Combined Authority by no later than 4 July 2016. This would then enable public consultation. That decision had been considered as technically being an 'Executive' decision and as such, in order to ensure that the Council had taken the proper level of decision the Cabinet met immediately following the Council meeting on 28 June 2016, to decide upon this.

5. As provided for under Part 4 of the Constitution under the Overview and Scrutiny Rules paragraph 14.4, and also paragraph 17.1 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules, the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee had agreed that:
 - the decision proposed was reasonable in all the circumstances; and
 - given the restricted timescale set by Central Government in which the decision was required to be made, it should be treated as a matter of urgency and therefore could not reasonably be deferred or be subject to call-in.
6. Council is requested to **NOTE** the taking of the above executive decision under the Special Urgency provisions of the Constitution.