

Report to: **Cabinet**

Date: **22 September 2015**

By: **Chief Executive**

Title of report: **Devolution – Three Southern Counties Prospectus (3SC)**

Purpose of report: **To report progress on devolution**

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Cabinet is recommended to note the report and endorse the work to date**

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### **1. Background**

1.1 The Queen's speech in June contained an announcement that the Government would bring forward a Devolution Bill which would open up devolution deals similar to that agreed for the Greater Manchester area across the country. Within the SE7 area discussions took place about making an initial expression of interest on behalf of any areas which were interested in working together on a possible bid covering their areas.

1.2 Following these discussions and consultation with our borough and district colleagues, the leaders of East and West Sussex and Surrey County Council submitted a joint letter to Government in June asking for discussions with Government about a devolution bid.

1.3 In late summer the Government announced that devolution bids needed to be submitted by 4 September 2015.

### **2. Prospectus**

2.1 The attached prospectus was submitted to Government on 4 September. It was put together on behalf of all principle local authorities in the three Counties and sets out high level ambitions in two key areas: economic development and skills and public sector transformation. The prospectus aims to help the area to cope with the cost of its current success, ensure all areas can benefit from the prosperity that exists in the south east and has the infrastructure and skills to remain successful in the future.

2.2 In relation to Adult Social Care and Health integration our devolution proposals and plans will not override our commitment to the East Sussex Better Together.

2.3 The prospectus was developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including all local authorities, SALC, the universities, the LEPs, the Fire Authority, the CCGs, the national park authority and the police.

### **3 Next Steps**

3.1 The prospectus will form the basis of further discussion with Government and more detailed work with our partners within the 3SC area and in neighbouring authorities. Any issues which affect the future operation of the County Council will be brought back into the authority for decision by members through our normal democratic processes.

**Becky Shaw**  
**Chief Executive**