Feedback about the devolution proposals for the West of England.

This is the full record of responses to our request for feedback from parish councils, and from the public, on the West of England devolution proposals. It contains 78 responses in total: 10 from parish councils, 68 from individuals.

From late April we have invited comment on the devolution proposals as published at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/devolution with the aim to “help North Somerset councillors better understand people’s opinions about the devolution proposals”. This is not a formal consultation, but an informal exercise to provide an additional channel for people to give their views to all councillors.

This report is provided to precede the Extraordinary Full Council meeting to be held on 7 June. The 78 responses received since the last interim report (interim report 4, 27 May) are marked by asterisks in the report below.

The feedback form on the North Somerset website asked:

What do you think about the proposed devolution deal? (250 characters limit).

Do you live and/or work in North Somerset?

Some comments were received separately by letter or email. These are included here. Where two responses have been received from the same organisation, by different channels, the fuller of the two responses is included here. Where two identical response have been received (probably copy-and-paste) we have only included one. There were two such duplicates removed.

Responses have been spellchecked for clear errors, and all rendered in sentence-case.

In addition to the comments, individual respondents left their home postcode and said whether they live and/or work in North Somerset. 64 of the 68 individual respondents said they live in North Somerset. One doesn’t live but does work in North Somerset. One neither lives nor works in North Somerset. And such information is lacking for two respondents.

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What do you think about the proposed devolution deal?

Responses from parish councils (10 responses)

*Long Ashton. The Parish Council is not in favour of the proposal for a Metro Mayor and combined authority and that it believes that the four unitary authorities could work effectively together without the Metro Mayor as they do now.

*Pill & Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council. This parish is situated in the greater Bristol economic area, as indeed are all the towns and parishes of North Somerset. We have particular concerns related to the local infrastructure, especially transport and local housing provision and wider spatial planning issues. Currently the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership, with its associated arms, is the body responsible for engaging with a wide range of activities over the West of England area, such as strategic planning, transport and skills. Projects affecting this area, the Joint Spatial Plan, the Metro West rail and Metrobus, along with the funding for the university campus at Weston super Mare, have come through this conduit, which has its own existing bureaucracy and officer network. There are significant concerns about the governance and democratic scrutiny of this body and its spending. The introduction of a metro mayor and/or a combined authority (such as already exists for other functions like the Avon Fire Authority) would certainly increase the democratic accountability of a West of England-wide organisation and increase public input into both the projects themselves and the spending priorities associated with them. It would also be foolish to ignore the promise of increased central government funding for an area which has been historically very poorly supported financially and which has very great growth pressures upon it over the next several decades. This parish supports in principle further examination of the offer and would urge all the councils in the West of England to: 1. Request from central government a longer time frame in which to get this right – why, when we have the Local Enterprise Partnership as an interim solution, do we need to rush to a yes/no decision? A quick ‘no’ for partisan political reasons is no substitute for better-constituted ‘yes’. In particular: 2. Understand and debate the options for governance and democratic accountability of the proposed body. A form of combined authority, directly or indirectly, would be a greater priority than a metro mayor, who in essence may well be merely the elected chair of the combined authority. There are very likely to be other options, such as those adopted in the Cornish devolution settlement. 3. Fully understand the scope of the function. There is certainly no need to duplicate existing unitary council work, however our residents surely deserve better regional transport, spatial planning, skills and business development networks, amongst those powers suggested for the new body. Please take these comments into consideration at your Council meeting on 7th June.

*Blagdon Parish Council considered the issue at their meeting on 17th May 2016 and based on the limited information available would support NSC in resisting this devolution deal.

*Winscombe & Sandford Parish Council does not support the deal with a directly-elected metro major as this will add another unnecessary level of bureaucracy to the
decision making process and the procedure adopted is considered to be undemocratic.

*Wrington.* Having now considered the wording and terms of the Deal offer the following comments. First, we are concerned about what we feel is a lack of detail provided for what is potentially a fundamental change to regional decision making. We feel strongly that there should be a wider and longer formal consultation before any decision is taken. As it stands there are differing views, with this in part a result of the minimal factual information available, with varied opinions about the value and potential effectiveness of what is proposed. However, we can accept that the West of England Authority as proposed could be a worthwhile economic unit, although we have deep reservations about any individual having a decision making role and responsibility as a ‘Mayor’. We consider transport, strategic planning and further education might be suitably included in an Authority’s powers as there are circumstances in which strategic policy might need to be considered and implemented. On the other hand, we believe that local issues should be determined locally, whether at the local authority level, or within and by towns and parishes. Decisions imposed by an individual, especially one with no local connection, would not seem to fit with the concept of localism, and we would much prefer that if there is to be a West of England Authority then it should be managed by a body of elected councillors. We are reminded that in a recent B&NES referendum it was agreed by a clear majority that the electors did not want a Mayor. We are confident that a similar referendum in North Somerset would produce the same result, the implication being that imposing a Mayor for these local authority areas would not be democratic. We will now comment on selected details of the proposed Devolution agreement dated 16 March 2016, as follows:

Overview. The first paragraph refers to ‘the Bristol Mayor and other..etc......to devolve…..and responsibilities to a West of England Combined Authority and a new directly elected mayor for the city region.’ This is ambiguous as no explanation is provided on how the proposed West of England Mayor might relate to or interact with the Bristol Mayor, if in fact it is intended that the latter will stay in place. It would seem irrational to have two Mayors and we suggest that there is conflict here with the wording in paragraph 46. Summary: Bullet Point 3 - Responsibility for a new Key Route Network of local authority roads is proposed without any reference to local consultation (as is required for bus services in the preceding bullet point). This is not democratic. Bullet Point 4 - Again, the implication is that a Mayor would have powers to make decisions outside of the local authorities and without local consultation. While we can accept the potential benefits associated with a Joint Spatial Plan and a West of England Transport Study, at least in terms of studies and policy support, we would have a fundamental objection to a Mayor having the powers to take decisions independently. Bullet Point 5 - It might have been expected that information would have been provided on the ‘West of England Single Investment Fund’. What are its aims and objectives?

Governance: Paragraph 1. We are pleased to see it proposed that the integrity of the four existing authorities is to be protected. Para 2 & 3. But, the statement made in para 1 above conflicts with what is stated here, since it would then appear irrational
to have an ‘autonomous’ Mayor. To have a single ‘elected Mayor’ for the Combined Authority is unnecessary and we suggest that the four existing authorities should operate jointly by creating a more democratically representative body for the combined authority area. Paras 4 & 5. There are four constituent councils forming the proposed combined authority. In the circumstances there can be no two-thirds majority, even if a Mayor is added in. You cannot have two-thirds of four, or five, a fact which perhaps emphasises how poorly this proposal has been thought through.

Fiscal: While a wide-reaching and ambitious series of aims, no information is provided on how these will be managed and prioritised, and by whom. We note that the proposed government funding will be directed towards the ‘development areas’.

Skills, Employment & Supporting and attracting business: We offer no comment here, other than to suggest that the aims and objectives appear to be directed more towards city areas.

Energy: Whatever the merits of any tidal energy schemes, there are flood risk issues related to both the estuary, with the prospect of an increasing risk associated with rising sea levels, and inland surface water flooding if this cannot drain away efficiently. These should not be ignored in any consideration of the potential for energy generation. Also, and of particular sensitivity, the Severn Estuary has international wildlife importance, with this illustrated by Slimbridge (WWT) attracting many thousands of visitors each year. While tidal energy might appear attractive it could be that the impacts might prove detrimental in the longer term.

European Funding: The relevance of this is unclear.

Housing and Planning: We are concerned about the proposals set out here. While we can appreciate the potential value of a Joint Spatial Plan, we do not accept the rationale behind the suggested approach. The Joint Plan should be considered alongside the Local Plans of the four local authorities, which must be best placed to judge how and where development should be permitted. Para 41: We have a fundamental objection to the powers suggested for a Mayor, in particular that he/she would be able to ‘prepare, submit and determine planning applications for agreed schemes’. There must be ongoing local involvement and local consultation if democratic principles and localism are to be upheld. Para 41(f): We find it hard to see the benefit of Mayoral Development Corporations, whatever these might be. There seems no obvious reason to create other bodies with powers outside of the local authorities, when these already have expertise and responsibility for local plans and other planning matters. Para 43: While consideration might be given to improving the planning process, as a statutory consultee we really don’t see where there is scope for accelerated decision making, not that this appears necessary. Any streamlining of the process should be not at the expense of statutory consultees, such as town and parish councils. Para 44: There are deep concerns about a Mayor having responsibility ‘for a Key Route Network’ of local roads’, as suggested here. This is felt to be unrealistic. Para 45: What are ‘appropriate local traffic and highway powers’? To be meaningful this requires clarification.
Conclusion: Having reflected at length on this proposal, a particular concern is the possibility, if not probability, that an elected West of England Mayor could have a disproportionate politically based influence. This is because the suggested powers are significant and a city or urban orientated Mayor could take decisions which have wide ranging impacts, especially on rural communities and areas well outside Bristol, Bath and the more built up parts of the region. As it would be unlikely that a Mayor could be elected who is free from any political ties, we must object to any proposal for a regional Mayor, and certainly for a role which has the powers outlined in the proposed ‘Deal’. We would urge NSC to at least oppose this part of the agreement.

Portishead Town Council at its meeting on 18th May 2016 under Minute No. 2604, wish to decline devolution: i) devolution to create the West of England Combined Authority, a reincarnation of Avon Council which was a failure for Portishead, ii) and the forced imposition of a Metro Mayor appointment, iii) but to continue with North Somerset Council as a collaborative member of the four separate councils. Please contact the office if you have any queries or concerns.

Kingston Seymour Parish Council is strongly opposed. The 4 UAs should work together on strategic matters but this would create more bureaucracy inimical to Government's stated aim of devolving decision-making to local communities. No return to Avon!

Brockley Parish Council would like to raise the following concerns with regard to the proposed Devolution Deal: i) a West of England mayor as proposed in the preliminary agreement would add another layer of undesirable bureaucracy and control that would, amongst other outcomes, inevitably slow down the process of service delivery and take control of key local services out of the hands of local government; ii) it is strongly believed that a West of England Combined Authority cannot adequately serve the two cities of Bristol and Bath as well as meet the diverse needs of the predominantly rural communities of North Somerset. On these grounds, the Parish Council wishes to petition North Somerset Council to reject the proposed Devolution Deal.

At the annual Parish Meeting in April it was unanimously concluded by Hutton Parishioners that the devolution deal would have no benefit to parishioners, in fact the opposite was felt to be the case.

Banwell Parish Council are unanimously against this proposed devolution deal.

Within Portbury and our Parish Council we have been considering the various documents and briefings we have received concerning the propose Devolution “deal” for the West of England. Whilst the information given to us is comprehensive, we are concerned that as always that “the devil is in the detail” and we are very sceptical about the potential for this arrangement to be of overall benefit to our region in general and to smaller villages, like Portbury. What we cannot determine from the information available is whether the projected £30m per annum of investment over the next 30 years is genuinely “new” money. The tendency of Central Government and in particular the Treasury is to ensure that initiatives are cost neutral or are part of an overall efficiency drive due to the continued imposition of austerity measures in
public finances. You and your council may be in a better position to judge this from your own briefings and analysis. In my most recent meeting with you I gathered that there was some doubt, for example, about how interest payments on infrastructure loans would be dealt with. You felt that the indications were that these would no longer be supported by the Treasury, leading to more demand on recurrent budgets to be able to service loans. This reduces our confidence that the new West of England body will actually result in a positive balance of funds compared to now. Given this background we are very concerned therefore that a new body will be formed, bearing its own extra costs of administration, which will have, effectively, less money to spend than now. In that circumstance we are of the firm view that this would be ineffective and wasteful of resource. Further to this point we also are of the view that small villages such as ours will be further distanced from the decision making centre of our region, which will inevitably become dominated by the larger urban conurbations, Bristol and Bath. The proposal for a directly elected Mayor is not appealing to residents in our village of 827 people compared to Bristol (428,100), Bath (83,992) and over 1,000,000 people in the new region. Our assumption is that an elected mayor will almost certainly be focussed principally on Bristol and this risks a skewing of investment towards urban priorities. Again we do not know enough of the detail to be able to consider this more closely and therefore we are very wary of this “Metro Mayor” proposal which has been rejected by other regions in the Country.

Responses from individuals (68 responses)

*I do not consider that devolution would improve the management of North Somerset. Leave as now. 02/06/2016

*I don't like the idea of a very powerful regional mayor who may come/go quite quickly at elections, but prefer continued, collaborative action amongst the 4 Councils. Local government is more in touch with local aspirations and needs. 31/05/2016

*In my view this is just a big step back 20 years to Avon. Keep NS control. Do not support this. Remember how our Council Tax dropped in 1996 and how much done since e.g. to our schools and roads compared to how little before. We're not Bristol run! 30/05/2016

I am sceptical about the potential for this deal to bring new money to the Region. With an extra layer of administration and continued efficiency measures from the Treasury it is hard to see how budgets will not be reduced. I am not in favour. 26/05/2016

250 Characters is a derisory allocation - (including spaces and punctuation!) in which to provide my full comments - I shall write to my councillor instead. I am not in favour of the deal. 26/05/2016

This is a great deal that will bring added resources to NS. Vote yes. 25/05/2016
I am very much against these plans - feel devolution would be very bad for management and future of North Somerset. 24/05/2016

I don't agree with this. All the evidence I have seen, e.g. from the West of England LEP, indicates that devolution will result in a Bristol oriented authority i.e. the return of the County of Avon. 23/05/2016

This is a re-incarnation of the old discredited Avon C.C. by another name; that was completely Bristol centric with rural areas suffering as a consequence. N. Soms is predominantly rural & there is no indication this new plan will address this issue. 23/05/2016

We are 100% against devolution, we were against becoming Avon and fought for us to return to being North Somerset let us remain the way we are. 23/05/2016

I do not agree with the proposal, my preference would be for it to remain the same. I fear smaller villages will be overlooked and monies spent in large areas or wsm. 20/05/2016

I think devolution has potential but it can be tricky to find the balance between urban and non urban transport & housing needs. I hope it goes ahead and the metro mayor is neutral between counties so we all benefit from this. Good luck & yes, I'm in! 20/05/2016

I am strongly opposed to the devolution deal and am very concerned about the potential of important decisions being made further away from the small rural communities in North Somerset. It is my view that the current structure works fine. 20/05/2016

The idea of the new authority is madness. The region is too diverse. Bristol would obviously dominate and be overbearing. 20/05/2016

I think it will be another waste of money as Avon was. I think local people understand local issues and it should be left that way, or smaller areas will end up being forgotten. 20/05/2016

I find it difficult to see how devolution will work in WoE and I am anxious that North Somerset may lose out to Bristol if we choose devolution. Thank you. 19/05/2016

Good opportunity to be part of a new funding stream, get more powers locally and be able to have a seat at the ‘devolution table’ to access future opportunities. Benefits will more than outweigh the added layer of local government costs. 19/05/2016

A great idea, a mayor for the region will give a strong political voice and mean we can coordinate decisions over transport and skills. We rely on Bristol's economy, we are fooling ourselves to think otherwise. 19/05/2016

I am against any powers devolution, this seems to be the old Avon coming back, it didn't work in the 70's & 80's & won't work now! The centre would be based in Bristol & North Somerset does not fit within a Greater Bristol! 19/05/2016
Having reviewed the devolution deal in some detail I am fully supportive and am concerned that some of the views expressed by NSC Leaders are factually incorrect. Can they explain how they think they will access funding if not through the devolution. 18/05/2016

I think it would be a good idea if it is bringing more money to the area, after all it, might stop council tax going up a bit, and get more jobs here. 18/05/2016

This is another layer of government we shall all pay for and is not needed. It is part of the EU plan to break up the UK into smaller ‘manageable’ bits so it can more easily impose its will on us. I say no to a Metro Mayor. 16/05/2016

I like it that much more control be exercised here and remove central government from local issues. I would like a referendum on the proposals in all 4 of the council areas affected. I am concerned our interests may be over ridden by Bristol's. 15/05/2016

I am opposed to the devolution proposals. Avon CC was a complete failure and a regional mayor will lead to total domination by Bristol-based interests. North Somerset has its faults, but leave things as they are. 14/05/2016

Devolution, merging authorities no! Metro mayor definitely not! A larger authority would not work and the mayoral position gives one person too much power. I do not feel I gave the council authority to make this important decision for me. 14/05/2016

The deal has flaws, but it does address the biggest problem we face locally - transport. While some progress has been made a lot more needs to be done. A mayor and combined authority plus £900 million would be an improvement on the present set up. 13/05/2016

Devolution, merging authorities, metro mayor- The answer is no. The disadvantages far outweigh the advantages. I do not think that the general public in this area like me, understand that this can be done without reference to the electorate. Bath & Bristol were given a referendum to decide if they wanted a mayor, why aren't we? When an authority becomes too large it becomes ineffective due to political infighting and self-interest, and to give one person the power to make the final decision is ludicrous, let alone the cost of paying their salary. I have watched Bristol with interest since a mayor was elected, it doesn't work. Too much effort put in to one person's pet projects with it seems no accountability. I know the Government is pushing this through regardless. They want another layer of authority to blame like the EU before they become accountable for anything. If it does go through I would have to ask what all the MPs in Westminster be doing to earn their excessive salaries? If North Somerset Council agree to the changes without further reference to the general public in their area there will be a political backlash, as like me many do not feel that it has been given the authority to make this important decision on our behalf. We will certainly want to know how each individual councillor voted. Finally one editorial in Life magazine regarding these proposals is not enough, probably 70% of the magazines distributed are never read. You need to make people more aware by
other means. I could not send this to the e-mail given in the magazine as it seems to be contaminated. 12/05/2016

We are resident of Portbury and are concerned about the proposed devolution in the West of England and potential of a Metro Mayor. I just want to make it clear that as residents of the area we are deeply against these proposals and very concerned about the possibility of local affairs and decision making happening centrally and away from the local areas. With North Somerset perhaps being the more rural of the four areas included in the proposal the prospect of urban sprawl, development and further decision making coming out of a city such as Bristol is very worrying - not only because they will have an entirely different political and social agenda. The area of North Somerset and the people living in its villages and towns need to be protected and in turn looked after by people who live, understand and care about the area. 11/05/2016

This is a quick way of re-creating the unloved, unwanted and crazy 'County of Avon', please do not go for this option because the people of North Somerset do not need it. The authority can exist very well by co-operating with all including Som. 11/05/2016

My wife and I are totally against this devolution deal. It has not been mandated by the people of North Somerset. This is just another example of a Central Government idea being forced on us locally. It is a divide and rule tactic and added bureaucracy. 11/05/2016

I believe it proposes an excellent opportunity for us. So long as all 4 council leaders could mutually agree on spend. The funding for transport is needed in our area, I would like to see us having better control over public transportation. 11/05/2016

I am completely opposed to both proposals for West of England elected Mayor in 2017 and the West of England Combined Authority. My rural community has little in common with the culture of what will be the dominance of the City of Bristol. 11/05/2016

I would strongly oppose any suggestion of devolution for North Somerset. I am convinced it would mean North Somerset losing its identity and its independence. 09/05/2016

I object most strongly to the proposal for a Metro Mayor and all its associated implications. I do not want this rural area to be dominated by the urban policies of Bristol. The former County of Avon did not work effectively; this is too similar. 09/05/2016

Yes, North Somerset must go for it, otherwise we will be left in the 'slow lane' again! We desperately need infrastructure investment, especially in new roads as the existing network cannot cope and is at times on the verge of total gridlock. 08/05/2016

I don't think that 250 characters is enough for me to give a reasonable and helpful response. Still, just for starters, what is proposed about the payment by B&NES of
my local authority pension based on my service in Avon and then B&NES? 249,250.

I believe this to be yet another way of spending money unnecessarily. The present system adequately covers the requirements of the county without any further worthless spending. I object to this proposal. 08/05/2016

I am totally opposed to the appointment of a Metro Mayor without the opportunity for the public to have a vote. I do not think such an appointment will benefit N Somerset at all, but only Bristol and S Glos. 08/05/2016

I consider that it is essential that such a decision is made following a referendum and is based upon the wishes of the N Somerset electorate. My personal opinion is that N Somerset should not be controlled by a 'Metro Mayor'. 07/05/2016

Big is never beautiful. I think we should stay as we are. When has government interference ever been good? 06/05/2016

Object strongly that a West of England Mayor will be forced on us without a referendum to decide if we want such a mayor. N.Somerset is excellent as it is, leave well alone. 06/05/2016

I think it's a bad idea. Would not like it. 06/05/2016

I am against any proposal of what in effect would recreate the former County of Avon. 06/05/2016

I am against the proposal for devolution. This is a re-hash of the Avon area authority we had to fight against. It is also an insult to democracy not permitting input from the public regarding this very important issue. 06/05/2016

Not impressed! We have lived in the area and been Somerset, Avon and now North Somerset. We were very pleased with the demise of Avon which still lingers on. We are not happy to have an expensive Mayor imposed upon us who will concentrate on cities. 05/05/2016

Total objection to the deal. Metro Mayor very scary. We have pulled ourselves together after Avon, let's not go backwards again. 05/05/2016

I am suspicious of the deal on offer which would offer the carrot of more infrastructure money in exchange for a Metro Mayor with substantial powers to override local wishes. Prefer continuance of existing cooperative arrangements. Want to say more. 05/05/2016

Having experienced the running of the old Avon County Council, we do not wish to see anything similar resurrected. We are very happy to be living in North Somerset, completely free of Bristol administration and with our own Mayor, not Bristol's. 05/05/2016

I think that this is a very bad idea, and will put too much power in one person, which will most likely be in Bristol. It's hard enough to get any meaningful contact with our present council officers. Devolution will make matters worse. 05/05/2016
I think it is a level of bureaucracy and expense that is unnecessary. The 4 councils already work well together. This would be a repeat of the old Avon council. It is undemocratic not to have a vote. We do not want a metro mayor. 04/05/2016

Not a good idea. It seems like the dead hand of the EU attempting to reduce the UK to smaller devolved areas. As was attempted in the North of England. They don't give up and our government seems keen to help them. So my answer is a clear no.

04/05/2016

It seems to me that the former 'Avon County Council' which was abandoned as a too large area hence very poorly managed is being re-created through the back door. We do not need an additional layer of just a single person with so much power to be born. 04/05/2016

We do not agree in having a metro mayor for our area and would want to carry on as we are with a programme that fits our local circumstances. 04/05/2016

No, no, no back to Avon every investment goes to Bristol everyone else fights for the scraps. It happens in N Som everything to Weston everyone else pick up the scraps. At least it stays in N Som. 04/05/2016

Disagree with a regional mayor being appointed. Leave matters as they are. They are not worth the expense. Bristol mayor has been a complete failure as far as we are concerned. We never now go shopping in Bristol. Hospitals are difficult to reach. 04/05/2016

I am strongly against the appointment of a Mayor for the 4 councils. It would not be in the best interests of residents in North Somerset and would not be democratic. 04/05/2016

The deal seems ok but do we want another Avon? No thank you. Also we do not need or want a mayor at another cost to local tax payers. So I am really against the deal and think we should stay as we are. 04/05/2016

This smacks of an EU decision to develop autonomous regions in England within its target of a super state. My own advice is to reject the whole deal especially as it involves another layer of administration that the population has not called for. 03/05/2016

An excuse for government to force extra layers of control on people. Rather like regionalisation, which I thought we had got rid of. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. We do not need metro-mayors to run our lives. 03/05/2016

We are completely against this proposal, it would mean a 'takeover' by Bristol of our more rural area, i.e. return to Avon. The needs of a large city are completely different from this area and the majority of legislation/funding based in Bristol. 03/05/2016

I am not in favour of the proposed devolution deal. We do not need a change from how we are now. Surely this is a backward step. We have been through it in years past with Avon County Council when it was split up. Why go through it all again! 03/05/2016
I would only support counties south of the river joining, the original Somerset authorities. Definite no to any Bristol/Gloucester authorities. 03/05/2016

Strongly disagree with this proposal. Having lived in the area almost all our lives, we have experienced Avon County! We want our current format of local government left well alone to continue as at present. 03/05/2016

We had 'metro' before, Avon, it was a disaster! Therefore we do not want to revisit. 03/05/2016

Logistically, it would make sense to develop the 4 counties by using Bristol as the hub and moving out. This would be more cost effective than trying to select isolated pockets within villages that will prove expensive to provide new infrastructures. 26/04/2016

First I think it is happening too fast, second it seems to be an ever decreasing budget as the £30m a year is not index linked, third the admin and setup costs will be substantial. Finally I believe North Somerset will lose out to other areas. 23/04/2016

I don't believe the deal offers any advantages over the joint-working already in place with other councils. The transport package sounds attractive, but is woefully underfunded to achieve much! 22/04/2016

Compared to the manner in which North Somerset Executive Committee currently function, any change can only be good for the local area. The current Council Leader is only opposed to a Metro mayor as it would reduce the amount of control he has. 22/04/2016