

Appendix 2

Key points proposed to form the basis of additional commentary to be submitted on the Bay and North Cumbria proposal.

Introduction

It is proposed that the following points will be used to form the basis of additional commentary to be submitted on the Bay and North Cumbria proposal

The Bay and North Cumbria unitaries –

The Bay = the areas of Barrow, South Lakeland and Lancaster, **North Cumbria** = the areas of Copeland, Allerdale, Carlisle and Eden

North Cumbria is a working title to describe the area covered by Allerdale, Carlisle, Copeland and Eden districts.

Points with regard to North Cumbria

- 1. North Cumbria and the Bay would be two unitaries above 300,000 population.**
These significant and sizeable local councils would be viable in scale, sustainable for the future and able to attract quality staff to focus on their priorities.
- 2. North Cumbria and the Bay would reflect how natural geography influences services.**
Greater coherence than other proposals around credible areas, natural communities and local places
- 3. North Cumbria and the Bay could deepen integration with respective local NHS Integrated Care Systems.**
Alignment of councils and health is a vital alignment between public services at the local level with potential to deliver significant additional outcomes.
- 4. North Cumbria could excel in low density large distance service delivery.**
A diversity of service delivery models would be possible in the two unitaries without forcing a less effective single solution for different contexts of the north and south
- 5. North Cumbria and the North East have potential to connect as energy coasts.**
The North East, Tees Valley, Lancashire and Cumbria have shared strengths in advanced manufacturing businesses and energy generation facilities
- 6. North Cumbria and the Bay have distinct economic geographies.**
The Local Industrial Strategy for Cumbria recognises there are major differences in the economic and social challenges across different parts of Cumbria recognising the North and South.
- 7. North Cumbria would strengthen the potential of the Borderlands**
North Cumbria would provide a clear focus on the investment for that region, and accelerate the regions economic development, jobs and future investment opportunities
- 8. North Cumbria, the Bay and future unitaries in Lancashire could build a powerful combined authority.**
Working together the Bay, North Cumbria and potential future arrangements in Lancashire can make a powerful case for the right arrangements across the North West to accelerate the 'levelling-up' agenda and a devolution geography for the North of England.
- 9. North Cumbria and the Bay is a two unitary solution that delivers on the aims of the northern districts.**
North Cumbria and the Bay provides strong, viable authorities that can realise the benefits sought by the northern four districts in their proposals.
- 10. North Cumbria and The Bay have the potential for strengthening representation at every level**
The unitaries would bring local councils closer to the people and communities they represent with greater clarity and accountability for who is responsible for what services.

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Points with regard to Lancashire

- 11. Creating the Bay still leaves 1.36m people within Lancashire- enough for three or four unitaries above the 300,000 population threshold.**
Including Lancaster in the Bay still enables the remainder of Lancashire to create sensible sized unitaries in the future, should they so desire
- 12. The Bay reflects a credible geography without stopping different solutions elsewhere.**
The position of Lancaster to the north of Lancashire means that its inclusion in the Bay would not impact alternative arrangements for the remainder of the Lancashire region
- 13. The Bay could accelerate integration with the existing local NHS Integrated Care System of Lancashire and South Cumbria.**
Integration and alignment between councils and the health service is a long held policy goal and widely shown to be fundamental to better care outcomes. Focussed on a local community approach
- 14. Lancashire continues as a ceremonial county.**
The creation of the Bay and changes to the local government boundary are not changes to the ceremonial county. Boundaries used for sporting, social and community events, leagues and festivals etc will continue to transcend the arrangements of local government.
- 15. The Bay is a crucial junction in strategic corridors north to south and east to west.**
The Bay acts a junction for both the southern link of the 'Energy Coast' corridor and the West Coast-Sheffield corridor
- 16. North Cumbria, the Bay and future unitaries in Lancashire could build a powerful combined authority.**
Working together the Bay, North Cumbria and potential future arrangements in Lancashire can make a powerful case for the right arrangements across the North West to accelerate the 'levelling-up' agenda and a devolution geography for the North of England
- 17. The Bay unitary could unlock change in Lancashire.**
Establishing the Bay could help trigger a further opportunity to put in place unitary arrangements across Lancashire
- 18. In their Proposition for Local Government Reorganisation, Lancashire County Council recognise current arrangements need to change.**
They want to facilitate joint working and stronger partnerships, including co-terminosity with health. This is what the Bay would achieve