



Rt. Hon Greg Clark MP
Secretary of State
Department for Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

04 September 2015

Dear Mr. Clark

Greater Brighton Devolution Prospectus: Platforms for Productivity

As this year's Chair, I write on behalf of the constituent members of the Greater Brighton Economic Board to share with you our Devolution Prospectus.

As you know, Greater Brighton was formed as a legal entity in March 2014, as part of our City Deal Agreement. While we are still in our 'infancy', we are a united partnership that has a detailed understanding of our functional economic area (and the barriers and challenges to increased productivity) and the ability to have 'grown up' conversations to shape priorities and target interventions across our region.

The particular strength of our Board is that it brings together, as a formally constituted partnership, the leaders of our region's five local authorities, two universities, four further education colleges, three business partnerships, the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership and the South Downs National Park Authority, with all members having an equal voice. Our governance is our strength and our ability to deliver is already demonstrable.

The proposals contained within our Devolution Prospectus build on our successful City Deal and Coast to Capital LEP Growth Deal; accelerating growth and increasing productivity continues to be our focus. While we have made enormous progress, we need levers in our hands to use local knowledge, creativity and innovation to create solutions and catalyse significant economic, social and public service change.

We are keen to work in partnership with you and your Treasury colleagues to explore and further develop the proposals contained within our Devolution Prospectus and would like to emphasise, therefore, that the document is a work in progress and very much a starting point in any negotiations. Nevertheless, we hope that it signals our strong commitment to agreeing a Devolution Deal and we would welcome a meeting with you over the coming weeks to begin this process.

In the meantime, we will work with the Three Southern Counties to ensure alignment in our ambitions. We will also continue our emerging dialogue with our neighbouring authorities that may wish to become part of a widened governance arrangement and we will also seek to develop a stronger relationship with the Gatwick Diamond, as the two high growth centres of the Coast to Capital Local Enterprise region.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Parkin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping underline.

Councillor Neil Parkin
Chairman of the Greater Brighton Economic Board
Leader of Adur Council