



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
English Devolution*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Your reference:
Our reference:

The Mayors of England's Combined and
Combined County Authorities; and
The Mayor of London

By email

3 April 2025

Dear all,

Today the Government has published guidance on the governance and oversight of Mayoral Development Corporations. This is in response to a recommendation in the report from the Tees Valley Review, which was commissioned by the previous Government to consider Tees Valley Combined Authority's oversight of the South Tees Development Corporation and Teesworks Joint Venture. The report was published on 29 January 2024 and can be accessed on gov.uk: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/independent-review-teesworks-joint-venture>.

As you know, as mayors of combined (county) authorities, you can establish, oversee and ultimately dissolve Mayoral Development Corporations in your area, and of course some of you have already set up MDCs or are actively considering it. They are important vehicles for growth and investment, and I know they are already beginning to make a difference in some areas.

We hope that you and your officials will find this guidance helpful in either the ongoing review of how existing MDCs are operating or in providing helpful steers should you wish to start the process of establishing new ones, and we would very much welcome your views on its contents. The guidance is available on gov.uk: www.gov.uk/government/publications/mayoral-development-corporations-in-combined-authorities-and-combined-county-authorities-guidance-on-legislation-and-scrutiny

The intention is for Government to publish an updated version of the guidance in due course to address the stranded liabilities element of the recommendation made by the Tees Valley Review to MHCLG. We are, however, keen to get your feedback on the current version of guidance and to consider any specific suggestions from you and your officials on how the guidance can be improved. My officials will therefore be writing to your Chief Executives to formally request feedback to enable us to then incorporate them into an updated version of the guidance.

I would also draw reference to the English Devolution White Paper which has a number of proposals for strengthening governance, accountability and oversight as we deepen devolution in England, which I know you will be considering in the round too.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim McMahon." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP
Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution