

# NEWSLETTER

Cheshire East Residents Hub



Issue 3 - June 2025

## Headlines:

On the 8th May Chief Executive of Cheshire East, Rob Polkinghorne received [Best Value Notice](#) from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government!



Chief Executive responds to this notice on 19th May  
Read his response [here](#)

## Who Are We?

### What we are not....

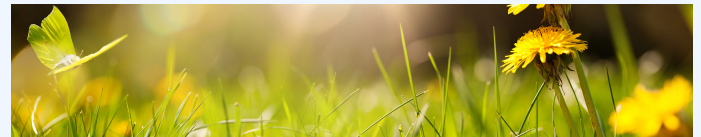
We are not professional writers or professional website designers, neither are we particularly savvy when it comes to Social Media! So, it's taken us a while but we are finally EXCITED to launch our new Facebook Page

[PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE HERE](#)



### What we are....

We are a team of excellent researchers who are passionate about council spending and raising awareness of important local issues that affect local residents.



## EXCITING UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JUNE 2025

### POYNTON PARTY IN THE PARK

Saturday 7th June - 2pm - 10pm

### MIDDLEWICH BOAT AND FOLK FESTIVAL

Friday 13th - Sunday 15th June

### WOODFORD SUMMER FAIR

Sunday 15th June - 11am - 4pm

### WILMSLOW ARTISAN MARKET

Saturday 21st June - 10am - 4pm

### SHAVINGTON VILLAGE FESTIVAL

Saturday 28th June - 12pm - 4pm

Click [here](#) for Cheshire East Ranger Events

**THANK YOU TO OUR NEW SUBSCRIBERS  
FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!**



# In Focus!

## DID YOU KNOW?



**Cheshire East Council, together with Cheshire West and Chester and Warrington Borough Council are running full steam ahead in the race to achieve DEVOLUTION!**

## What does this mean?

It is understood that each council will retain full autonomy of their current position, however, DEVOLUTION would mean that the three councils would be "constituent councils of the proposed Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority".



The Combined Authority Mayor would be elected by the voters on 7th May 2026.

The elected Mayor would be required to appoint a deputy Mayor from among constituent members and would be permitted to appoint a maximum of one political advisor.

Each council would appoint two representatives to be constituent members meaning there would be six constituent members in total with automatic voting rights.



Cheshire and Warrington Combined Authority's six constituent members would then be able to appoint a maximum of six non-constituent (who could be given voting rights at the discretion of the Combined Authority) and associate members (with no voting rights) to support the delivery of their work programme.

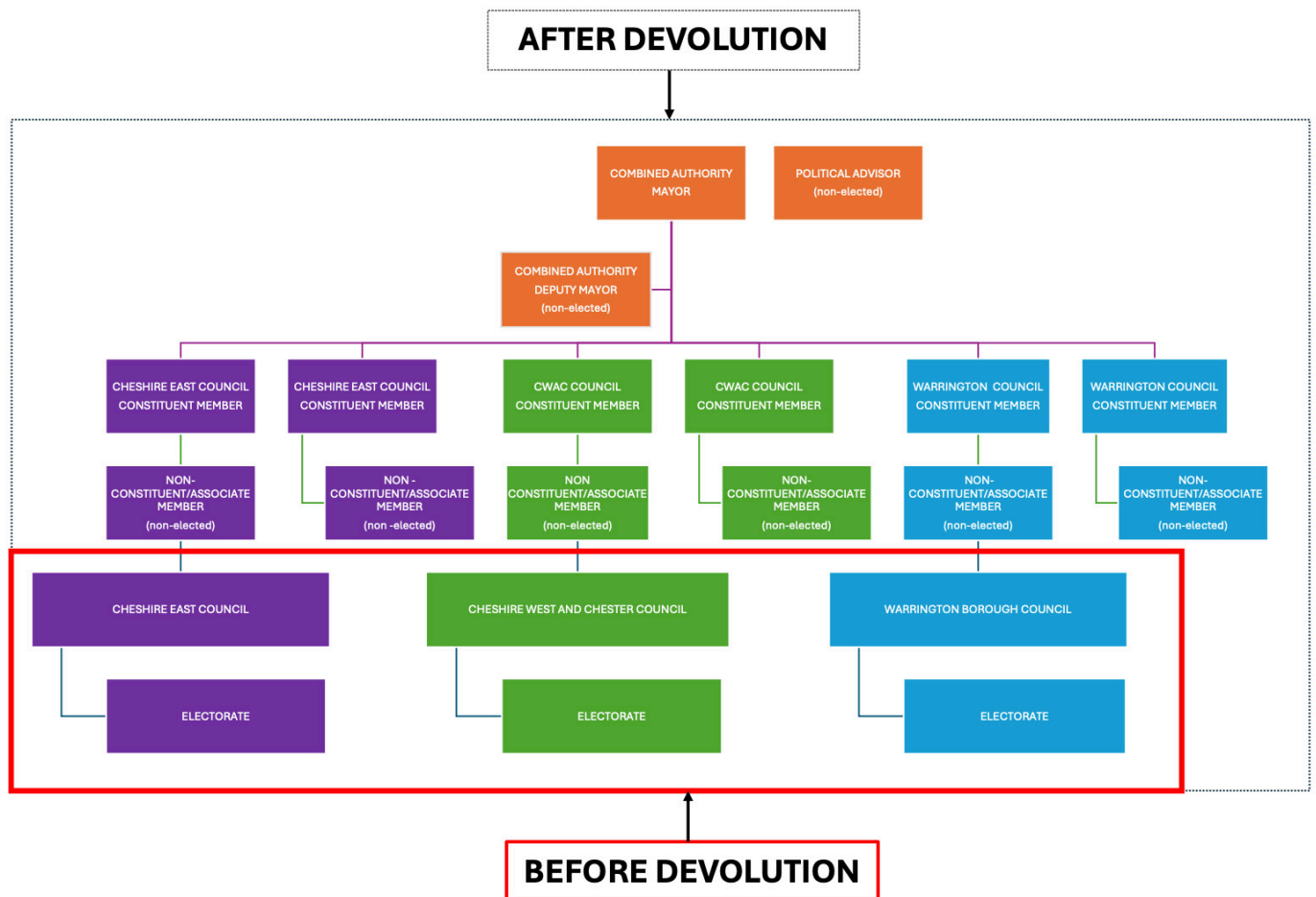
**More information and updates in next months issue!**

# In Focus!

## DID YOU KNOW?



## What a Cheshire and Warrington Mayoral Combined Authority will look like!



IS THIS WHAT MORE OR LESS BUREACRACY LOOKS LIKE???

# In the Spotlight!

## HANDFORTH GARDEN VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT



**TOTAL APPROVED BUDGET: £64.7 MILLION**  
**£21.7 MILLION FUNDING GRANT FROM HOMES ENGLAND**

In February 2023 the Economy and Growth Committee met to discuss their ambitious plans to develop a "new sustainable settlement with approx. 1,500 new dwellings (of which 30% will be affordable homes), a new village centre and high street, a through school, sports facilities, and sustainable transport routes"



A computer generated image of how the new garden village at Handforth could look (Image: Engine of the North)

The £21.7 MILLION Funding Grant from (HIF) "must be invested on the primary infrastructure to enable development".

An External Assurance Review was carried out in August 2024 by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) who strongly suggested that "The council should put a pause on this project and consider the various options available in deciding how to proceed with it. One of these options should include disposal." (copy can be found on our [website](#))



Fast forward to March 2025 and the same Committee "approves the Council entering into an exclusivity agreement with MADE Partnership to explore the principle of forming a joint venture partnership that would lead the development".

With 2 reports being held back as "CONFIDENTIAL" the lack of transparency makes it unclear as to exactly what the Council's intentions are in relation to this project. More updates will be provided as we get them.





# HAVE YOUR SAY!

DESPITE THE GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER YET TO HAVE IT'S FIRST PARLIAMENTARY HEARING WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON DEVOLUTION? IN THIS MONTHS POLL WE'LL KEEP IT SIMPLE - DEVOLUTION - YES OR NO?

**TAKE PART IN OUR POLL - YOUR VIEWS MATTER TO US!**

**Congratulations to the WINNER of our second monthly prize draw! We hope you enjoy spending your voucher!**



## Public Consultations worth reviewing:



First draft Local List Supplementary Planning Document.  
(Heritage & Conservation Planning Document)

**Closes Wednesday 11th June**



Lane Rental Scheme Consultation 2025

**Closes Thursday 26th June**

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR YOUR LOCAL MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

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