

## Item 4, Appendix 4

### **Key points of the sub-national review, as outlined by local government minister John Healey:**

- Government to explore the establishment of statutory city-regions for transport and economic development
- Regional assemblies to be abolished
- Regional economic and spatial strategies to be combined and managed by regional development agencies (RDAs)
- RDAs' oversight to be moved from DCLG to the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform
- Local authorities to hold RDAs to account and approve the regional strategies (the "how" will emerge through consultation)
- Supplementary local business rates under consideration
- Support for local authorities to create multi-area agreements (MAAs), pooling economic responsibility
- Extending regional funding allocations, to give regions more say on transport and regeneration spending
- RDAs to delegate funding to local authorities and sub regions wherever possible
- Introduction of regional select committees (previously announced)
- Regional economic public service agreements to be introduced
- A proposed duty for councils to write local economic evaluations
- Education funding for 14 to 19-year-olds to move from Learning and Skills Council to local authorities
- Giving RDAs a greater role in business support, to help cut the number of schemes down to 100 by 2010

Overall the sub-national review has confirmed the government's commitment, in principle, to the creation of city regions.

The report on local governance and regeneration said that economic development, planning and housing could all benefit from decision-making at a sub-regional level.