

Milton Keynes City Council
Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes
MK9 3EJ

Dear Cabinet,

On behalf of Milton Keynes Development Partnership LLP ('MKDP'), I am writing to you in support of the proposed amendments to the Members Agreement by Council officers.

During my time as Independent Chair, I have witnessed MKDP go from strength to strength. Over the past ten years, we have been pleased to be able to support many of the Council's key strategic objectives. More recently, this has involved broadening our remit to include the development and retention of affordable housing, the management of important city landmarks (such as Milton Keynes Market), and by taking a leading role in city centre placemaking.

To be able to continue at this pace, it is essential that MKDP's structure reflects its operation. With this in mind, I am particularly proud of the work that has been undertaken on improving our governance arrangements. We are committed to ensuring that all governance, policies, and procedures remain fit for purpose and supportive of our relationship with the Council.

Part of this work has included a review of our internal procurement rules with the support of external legal advisors. During this review, it became apparent that to successfully deliver multiple high-profile projects in a timely and agile way, it would be beneficial if certain high-level constitutional amendments were made to support MKDP's independence.

Ultimately, the constitution of MKDP is a matter for its members. We are therefore grateful that the Council has recommended the proposed amendments which support the relinquishing of its own management control and supervision. We are pleased that the Council is enabling MKDP this opportunity to operate in a more cost-effective, efficient, and flexible manner which will aid the delivery of many important projects for the city.

On behalf of MKDP, thank you to all Councillors who have served on the MKDP Board since its incorporation. Their involvement has been invaluable in ensuring MKDP's success. We look forward to continuing to develop our relationship with Councillors more generally and through the Owners Advisory Group.

MKDP is committed to continuing to engage and consult with all Councillors on site specific developments. We are looking forward to supporting the Council by making Milton Keynes a better place to live and work.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Sawford
Independent Chair of the MKDP Board.