

POLICY DEVELOPMENT: NOT A STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY

Criteria: Existing Grants

This is a living document of the guiding principles the responsibilities working group will apply to its work to consider proposed candidates for devolution alongside rates retention. It is not intended to be prescriptive or definitive and potential candidates do not need to meet each of the criteria or sub-sections. The responsibilities working group will keep these criteria under review as it undertakes its considerations and may amend, add or delete criteria as necessary.

1) 'Rolling in' should support local government's role

- a) It should provide opportunities for greater integration across local services by removing barriers and offering better value for the tax payer.

2) Devolution of a grant should support the drive for economic growth

- a) The responsibility will support local authorities' role in driving local growth, for example through a clear link to local employment, skills or infrastructure policy, and build on the ambition councils have demonstrated through Local Enterprise Partnerships, Growth and City Deals.

3) Devolution of a grant should support improved outcomes for service users or local people

- a) Local authorities should have as much flexibility as possible to tailor local services, for example allowing user-centric, outcomes focused delivery.
- b) Service provision can reflect the distribution of need across the country. Consideration should be given to the effect of devolution on protected groups under the Equalities Act 2010.

4) Devolution of responsibilities should be made with consideration for the future financial impact on local government.

- a) The grant is sensible fit with a business rates-based funding stream, i.e. from a forward planning, governance and technical perspective.
- b) The national cost and demand should be relatively predictable and stable over time, relative to the business-rates based funding stream.
- c) The relative demand for funding between local authorities should be relatively stable over time.
- d) The timeline for devolution will allow sufficient time for preparations at a local level.