Reports from Constituent Council Representatives on the Combined Authority



The following meetings have taken place in January 2024

Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 9 January Councillors A Bradnam and M Goldsack Decision Summary Link: <u>Overview and Scrutiny Committee (1)</u>

Skills and Employment Committee, 15 January

Councillor L Nethsingha Decision Summary Link: <u>Skills and Employment Committee</u>

Business Board, 15 January Decision Summary Link: <u>Business Board</u>

Transport and Infrastructure Committee, 17 January

Councillor N Shailer Decision Summary Link: <u>Transport and Infrastructure Committee</u>

Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee, 22 January

Councillor L Dupré Decision Summary Link: <u>Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee</u>

Audit and Governance Committee, 26 January

Councillor G Wilson Decision Summary Link: Audit and Governance Committee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 29 January

Councillors A Bradnam and M Goldsack Decision Summary Link: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (2)

Combined Authority Board Committee, 31 January 2024

Councillor L Nethsingha Decision Summary Link: <u>Combined Authority Board</u>



Apologies received from Anne Hay, Cllr Maureen Davis, Cllr Tim Griffin, Cllr John Fox and Cllr Judith Rippeth substituted by Cllr Peter Fane

2 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

3 Corporate Strategy & Medium Term Financial Plan Consultation

RESOLVED

- a) The Committee commented that as there was no detail on the precept currently provided that they would reserve commenting until further information on what the level of precept would be, what it would pay for, the level of social value it provided and requested that a robust and detailed report be provided to the Committee on the Mayor's precept for the January meeting for members to consider.
- b) The Committee welcomed that the MTFP, Corporate Plan and the Mayoral ambitions were now all linked as it brought all the pieces together, the Committee requested that a good narrative that provided the detail that OSC required to scrutinize effectively be included in the final budget.

4 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 29 January 2024, 11:00 am



The Chair announced a change to the running item so that Item 9 on the published agenda (Growing Sector-based Talent Pipelines) would now be heard at item 5. The decision summary is laid out in the revised order with the numbers in brackets referring to the original agenda item number as published on the website.

Apologies were received from Cllr Benney and Nitin Patel, Business Board Representative. No declarations of interest were made.

2 Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting on the 6 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record. The action log was noted by the Committee.

3 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

4 Combined Authority Forward Plan

RESOLVED

a) That the Combined Authority Forward Plan be noted.

5(9) **Growing Sector-based Talent Pipelines**

RESOLVED

The members of the Employment and Skills Committee resolved to;

a) Note the approach to growing Sector-based Talent Pipelines in advance of a formal plan coming to the Skills & Employment Committee in March.

6(5) **Adult Education Budget (AEB) External Evaluation**

RESOLVED

a) To note the presentation on the external evaluation of AEB+, the changes to the AEB funding rules in 2024/25 and the potential impact on delivery.

7(6) ESOL Planning Partnership Annual Report

RESOLVED

- a) To receive the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Local Planning Partnerships Annual Report for the 2022-23 academic year, and to note the progress made with delivery and partnership development.
- b) To note the outcome of the procurement for the ESOL Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

8(7) Skills Bootcamps 2024-25 FY



RESOLVED

The members of the Employment and Skills Committee resolved to;

- Note the Combined Authority's Grant Proposal to the Department for Education (DfE) in September 2023 for £2,899,390 to deliver (Wave Five) Skills Bootcamp provision during the 2024-25 Financial Year – and to note that we received confirmation from the DfE on 12 December 2023 that our Grant Proposal has been successful.
- 2. Accept the full grant funding offer from the DfE of £2,899,390 and approve corresponding expenditure across two budgets; one for the training funding allocation totalling £2,635,800 and one for the management funding allocation totalling £263,580 of the Wave Five Skills Bootcamps in the 2024-25 budget.
- 3. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to:
 - a. Arrange for the awards and enter into grant funding agreements or service contracts with training providers to deliver Wave Five Skills Bootcamps. This can either be with existing providers, or where the Combined Authority follows a procurement exercise compliant with the Combined Authority's Constitution and procurement legislation.
 - b. Extend and/or vary contracts with existing providers where appropriate.

9(8) Further Education Cold-Spots Feasibility Study

RESOLVED

a) To note the approach being taken by external consultants engaged to carry out the Further Education Cold-Spots Feasibility Study.

11 Employment and Skills Board Update

The verbal update was noted by the Committee

12 Budget and Performance Report

RESOLVED

a) To note the financial position of the Skills Division for the financial year 23/24 to end of November 2023

13 Skills and Employment Committee Agenda Plan

RESOLVED

a) To note the Agenda Plan

14 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 4 March 2024





Business Board: Decision Summary

Meeting: 15 January 2024 Published: 17 January 2024

- 1.1 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest Apologies for absence were received from Mike Herd, Nitin Patel and Councillor Anna Smith. No declarations of interest were made.
- 1.2 Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. The Business Board noted the Minutes Action Log.
- 2.1 Combined Authority Forward Planning The Chair asked members of the Business Board to flag any topics with officers that they feel it would be beneficial for the board to discuss or hold a specialised session around.
- 2.2 Business Board Chair's Update The Chair updated the Board on important meetings that had taken place since the last Business Board meeting. He also confirmed that further recruitment is taking place for additional members and that a new Vice Chair for the board is sought.
- 2.3 CPCA Director's Update The Executive Director for Economy and Growth updated the Board on items of interest national and locally since the last meeting.

3.4 Peterborough Station Quarter

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) To note progress with the implementation of the Peterborough Station Quarter Project and provide comments which contribute to maximising the economic impact of the Project
- 2.4 Business Board Feedback from Thematic Committees Verbal updates were received from the Business Board representatives on the Combined Authority's Thematic Committees

3.1 Budget and Performance

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the financial position of the Business Division for the financial year 23/24 to November 2023.
- b) Review the consultation on the Combined Authority's Draft Corporate Strategy and Medium-Term Finance Plan and agree the Board's formal response to the consultation



- 3.2 Strategic Funds Management Review
 It was resolved unanimously to note the recommendations that were put to the Skills and Employment Committee to:

 a) To note the updates contained within this report
- 3.3 Market Towns Programme Management Update It was resolved unanimously to:
 - a) Note the latest delivery position for projects funded under the Market Towns Programme (Phase 1).
 - b) Note the latest progress reporting for Market Towns Programme (Phase 2).
- 3.5 Sector Skills Strategy A presentation was received on progress to date.



Apologies were received from Cllr Elsey substituted by Cllr Bisby.

Cllr Seaton declared an interest as he was a trustee of FACT Community Transport and also Chairman of Hereward Community Rail Partnership. These were deemed non-pecuniary interests and therefore would not affect his participation in items on the agenda.

2 Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting on 15 November were approved as an accurate record. The action log was noted by the Committee.

3 Public Questions

The public questions received had been published on the CPCA website, under additional meeting documents, and were read out at the meeting by the Governance Manager.

4 Combined Authority Forward Plan RESOLVED

a) To note the Combined Authority Forward Plan

- 5 Director's Highlights Report RESOLVED
 - a) To note the Director's highlight report

6 Bus Reform

RESOLVED: (UNANIMOUS)

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr McDonald, it was resolved:

- a) To note the progress of the Bus Reform business case, independent audit and recommendation to be considered by the CPCA Board
- b) To comment on and agree the principle of proceeding with Franchising as the preferred model for bus reform (sections 2.14 - 2.18), for consideration of the CPCA Board
- c) To note the Draft Proposed Franchising Scheme as described and set out in the exempt Appendix A
- d) To note that the CPCA Board will receive the updated business case, report of the independent auditor and recommendation to proceed to public consultation.

2

7 Bus Strategy Update

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS)

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Wakeford, it was resolved:

- a) To recommend to the CPCA board the proposals for the two remaining tendered bus services which were placed under review and the bus services which data was previously unavailable.
- b) To note the submission of the Zebra round 2 bid to the Department for Transport and update on Bus Stop Infrastructure work.

8 Transport Funding Decision

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS)

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bisby, it was resolved:

- a) To note the Royston and Granta Park study and progress undertaken by Cambridgeshire County Council
- b) To approve the drawdown of £135,000 from the Transforming City Funds (TCF) from subject to approval funding to approved funding, to contribute towards the A505 Royston to Granta Park Study by Cambridgeshire County Council
- c) To note the progress on the Regional Transport Model
- d) To approve the drawdown of £78,430 from the Regional Transport Model subject to approval to approved to aid the delivery of works by Peterborough City Council on the Peterborough Transport Model (PTM4) as part of works for the Regional Transport Model project

9 A10 Corridor Project

RESOLVED

a) To note the verbal update

10 Peterborough Station Quarter Update

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bisby, it was resolved:

- a) To recommend to the Combined Authority Board to approve the Outline Business Case and approve the commencement of the Full Business Case (Subject to the approval from the Department for Transport of the Outline Business Case).
- b) Note that the Director of Place and Connectivity has the delegation to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement up to £1 million in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

11 Budget and Performance Report – January 2024

RESOLVED

- a) To note the financial position of the Transport division for the financial year 23/24 to November 2023
- 12 Transport and Infrastructure Committee Agenda Plan RESOLVED
 - a) To note the agenda plan

13 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED

a) To remain in Public Session



14 Kings Dyke Update

RESOLVED

a) To note the contents of the report

15 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 13 March 2024



1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest Cllr Smith, Chair of the Committee was unable to attend the meeting so the Vice-Chair, Cllr Davenport-Ray took up the Chair.

Apologies were received from Cllr Smith, who was substituted by Cllr Sandford, Cllr Elsey who was substituted by Cllr Day, and Cllr Laws.

No declarations of interest were made.

2 Minutes and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting on 13 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record, subject to the following amendments:

- That Cllr Goodearl be removed from the list of attendees, as work commitments meant he had been unable to attend the November meeting.
- That an addition be made to minute 6.2 (j) as follows: "The LNRS steering group had representation from each of the constituent authorities, except for one-East Cambridgeshire District Council which had decided to not get involved in the development of the strategy but to comment on its proposals later."

The action log was noted by the Committee.

3 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

4 Combined Authority Forward Plan

RESOLVED

- a) To note the Combined Authority Forward Plan
- 5 Director's Highlight Report RESOLVED
 - a) To note the Director's Highlight Report

6 Affordable Housing Report

RESOLVED

a) To note the update in the report

7 Climate Action Plan

RESOLVED

- a) To note progress on the refresh of Climate Action Plan
- b) To note the climate mitigation targets and monitoring

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS)



On being proposed by the Chair, Cllr Davenport-Ray, and seconded by Cllr Goodearl, it was unanimously resolved to:

c) Recommend to the CA Board that that the Climate Commission be reconvened as soon as possible to review the CPCA's progress on their recommendations.

8 Joint Chalk Streams Programme

RESOLVED

a) To note the verbal update on the joint Chalk Streams Programme

9 £100k homes – Conditional release of resale price restrictions RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS)

The recommendations, as set out in the report, were set aside and instead, on being proposed by the Chair, Cllr Davenport-Ray, and seconded by Cllr Dupre, it was unanimously resolved to:

 a) Ask officers to explore the options available including; more conventional types of affordable housing units, social rents, retention by the CPCA or replacement agreements with the Local Housing Authority East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC). The paper to examine the pros and cons of each option and as part of the exercise to speak to current homeowners and officers at ECDC.

10 Budget and Performance Report – January 2024

RESOLVED

a) To note the financial position of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Division for the financial year 23/24 to November 2023

11 Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee Agenda Plan RESOLVED

a) To note the Committee Agenda Plan and additional items discussed during the meeting.

March meeting:

- Discussion and proposed recommendations to Board on declaring a Climate Emergency
- Update on Care Home Retrofit Programme
- Update on Net Zero Villages Project
- Revisions to the Climate Action Plan

June meeting

Outcomes from the MTFP

For future Consideration – yet to be allocated:

- Locally Determined Contributions
- £100k Homes
- Drought affected Roads
- Local Area Energy Plan
- Update on the Waterbeach Solar Panels and Charging Project

12 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 11 March 2024



Apologies were received from Cllr Graham Wilson substituted by Cllr Alison Whelan.

No declarations of interest were made.

2 Chairs Announcements

The recruitment timetable for the Independent Person is progressing with the aim that the advert should go out mid-February with the closing date mid-march. Shortlisting latest end of March, recruitment by end of April at the latest, ready for the first AGM in May.

The Chair had met with Elise Wilson, a member of the independent improvement board, to gain a perception of how things were going with the improvement journey and could report back positive feedback.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 17 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record, and the action log noted.

4 Improvement framework report

RESOLVED

- a) Note the progress made over November and December against stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and Best Value Notice received in January 2023 as reported to the CA Board on 31 May 2023, set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.7.
- b) Note the proposed transition from the current Improvement plan to continuous improvement activity embedded across and down through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority set out in paragraph 2.8.
- c) Note the intention to review the current remit and focus for the Independent Improvement Board following the delivery of stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor and the Best Value Notice set out in paragraph 2.9.
- d) Note the outcome of the recent Internal Audit review of the 'Project planning and delivery' improvement programme set out in paragraph 2.10

5 Corporate risk register

RESOLVED

- a) To note the refreshed Corporate Risk December 2023 register report, risk dashboard and heat map
- b) To note the update on progress of the Risk Software implementation at a service level
- c) To note Monthly Corporate Management Team Risk register reviews

6 Internal Audit Tracker

RESOLVED

a) To note progress on the implementation of internal audit actions

7 External Audit – Draft Audit Results and RESOLVED



- a) To note and comment on the report
- 8 Statement of Accounts & Annual Governance Statement RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):
 - a) To approve the audited Statement of Accounts 2021/22
 - b) To review the Annual Governance Statement 2021/22
 - c) To authorise the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee to sign off any further immaterial changes required to the Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement for 2021/22 prior to publication

9 Draft Financial Strategies

RESOLVED

- a) To review and comment upon the Draft Capital, Investment and Treasury Management Strategies for 2024-25 and the draft 2024-25 Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement
- 10 Internal Audit Progress Report January 2024 RESOLVED
 - a) To note the Internal Audit Report

Code of Conduct Lessons Learnt

11 RESOLVED

- a) To identify areas for further work which may include amendments to the code of conduct and/or hearings.
- b) To consider whether to write to the government and Committee on Standards in public to reconsider the law on sanctions.
- c) The Combined Authority Board Monitoring Officer to come back to the next meeting with a report on possible amendments to the Combined Authority Constitution
- 12 Annual Complaints report and update complains against members 2023/2024 RESOLVED
 - a) The annual report on code of conduct complaints be reviewed and any areas for further work be identified.
 - b) The Committee agreed that complaints and code of conduct report should be bought back to the committee in six months' time to review

13 Review of Committee Arrangements

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- A To note the outcome of the review of the arrangements for the Audit & Governance Committee following the completion of the questionnaire and workshop regarding options for changes following benchmarking with other Mayoral Combined Authority Audit & Governance Committees.
- *B* To approve that there will be an annual review by Members of the Audit & Governance Committee of the arrangements for that committee in sufficient time for any proposed changes to be made in the following Municipal Year.
- *C* To ask the Monitoring Officer to contact other Mayoral Combined Authorities with a view to establishing a forum for the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of their Audit & Governance Committees to discuss issues of mutual concern and benefit.

14 Information Governance Update RESOLVED

A The Audit & Governance Committee is recommended to consider and not contents of this report.



15 Audit and Governance Work Programme

RESOLVED

The Audit & Governance Committee is recommended to consider and note the contents of this report.

16 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 8 March 2024



1	Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest Cllr Griffin substituted by temporary sub Cllr Holloway, and Cllr Maureen Davis
2	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest
3	Public questions No public questions were received.
4	Minutes from the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 27 November and 9 January were approved as an accurate record. The action log was noted.
5	Appointment of Skills Rapporteur RESOLVED a) No nominations received, report to be bought back to the March meeting.
6	Improvement Framework report

RESOLVED

- a) Note the progress made over November and December against stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and Best Value Notice received in January 2023 as reported to the CA Board on 31 May 2023, set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.9
- b) Note the outcome of the recent Internal Review of the Project planning and delivery improvement programme set out in paragraph 2.10
- c) Note the proposed transition from the current Improvement plan to transformation activity embedded across and down through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority set out in paragraph 2.8
- d) Note the intention to review the current role and focus for the Independent Improvement Board following the delivery of stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor and the Best Value Notice set out in paragraph 2.9

7 Bus Reform

RESOLVED

a) To note and comment on the report

8 Mayors Budget 2024/245

RESOLVED

a) To note and comment on the report

9 Mayors Mid-Year Update

RESOLVED

a) To question and note the Mayors responses



10 Combined Authority MTFP & Corporate Strategy Refresh RESOLVED

a) To note and comment on the report.

- 11 Combined Authority Forward Plan RESOLVED a) To note and comment on the plan
- 12 CA Board Agenda

RESOLVED

a) No questions were put forward to the Combined Authority Board

13 O&S Committee Draft Work Programme RESOLVED

- a) To note and comment on the plan
- 14 Date of Next Meeting 18 March 2024

Combined Authority Board: Decision Summary Meeting: Wednesday 31 January 2024 Published: Monday 5 February 2024 Decision Review deadline: Friday 9 February 2024



- 1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest Apologies for absence were received from Darryl Preston (John Peach substituting). There were no declarations of interest.
- 2 Combined Authority Membership Update September 2023 It was resolved unanimously to:
 - A Note the appointment by Peterborough City Council of Councillor Chris Harper as the substitute member from Peterborough 1st on the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
 - B Note the temporary change in substitute member from Peterborough City Council on the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 17 January 2024.
 - C Note the change in substitute member from Cambridge City Council on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 29 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor. The minutes action log was noted.

- 4 Petitions No petitions were received.
- 5 Public Questions

Five public questions were received in advance of the meeting in accordance with the procedure rules in the Constitution. A copy of the questions and responses can be viewed <u>here</u> when available.

6 Forward Plan It was resolved to:

A Approve the Forward Plan for January 2024

7 Combined Authority Chief Executive Highlights Report It was resolved to:

A Note the contents of this report.

8 Committee Calendar It was resolved to:

A Approve the calendar of meetings for the 2024/25 Municipal Year

9 Mayor's Budget



It was resolved to:

- A Note the proposed Mayoral budget for 2024-25, including the proposal to increase the precept by £24 per annum to £36 for a Band D property, and to provide comments to the Mayor regarding the proposed Mayoral Budget
- B Approve the draft Mayoral Budget, including the proposed Mayoral precept noted above.
- C Note the proposed routes to be funded by the proposed precept and the process by which these routes will be finalised and approved
- D Delegate minor changes to the Mayor's budget, due to finalisation of council tax base figures, to the Executive Director of Resources and Performance
- 10 Draft 2024/25 Corporate Strategy and Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024/2028

It was resolved to:

- A Note the consultation feedback received during the consultation period running from 30th November 2023 to 15th January 2024
- B Approve the draft Corporate Strategy following the refresh subject to the inclusion of the final financial information once the budget is approved.
- C Approve the Draft Budget for 2024-25 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024-25 to 2027-28 as contained in Appendices C and D
- D Delegate any minor changes required to the budget to the Executive Director of Resources and Performance.

11 Improvement Plan Update

It was resolved to:

- A Note the progress made over November and December against stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and Best Value Notice received in January 2023 as reported to the CA Board on 31 May 2023, set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.8.
- B Note the feedback from the Chair, Independent Improvement Board following its meeting on 16 January 2024 set out in Appendix B.
- C Note the outcome of the recent Internal Review of the Project planning and delivery improvement programme set out in paragraph 2.9.
- D Note the proposed transition from the current Improvement plan to transformation activity, embedded across and down through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority where delivery against the Improvement plan has been completed; as set out in paragraph 2.10
- E Note the intention to review the current role and focus for the Independent Improvement Board as set out in paragraph 2.11.
- 12 Budget Update Report January 2024 It was resolved to:

A Note the financial position of the Combined Authority

- 13 Recommendations from Transport and Infrastructure Committee It was resolved to approve all the recommendations as set out below: Bus Strategy Update
 - A Approve the proposals for the two remaining tendered bus services which were placed under review and the bus services which data was previously unavailable.



Peterborough Station Update

A Approve the Outline Business Case and approve the commencement of the Full Business Case (subject to approval from the Department for Transport).

- 14 Recommendations from Skills and Employment Committee It was resolved to approve all the recommendations as set out below: Skills Bootcamps 2024-25 FY
 - A To note the Combined Authority's Grant Proposal to the Department for Education (DfE) in September 2023 for £2,899,390 to deliver (Wave Five) Skills Bootcamp provision during the 2024-25 Financial Year – and to note that we received confirmation from the DfE on 12 December 2023 that our Grant Proposal has been successful.
 - B To accept the full grant funding offer from the DfE of £2,899,390 and approve corresponding expenditure across two budgets; one for the training funding allocation totalling £2,635,800 and one for the management funding allocation totalling £263,580 of the Wave Five Skills Bootcamps in the 2024-25 budget.
 - C To delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to:
 - Arrange for the awards and enter into grant funding agreements or service contracts with training providers to deliver Wave Five Skills Bootcamps. This can either be with existing providers, or where the Combined Authority follows a procurement exercise compliant with the Combined Authority's Constitution and procurement legislation.
 - Extend and/or vary contracts with existing providers where appropriate.

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the grounds that exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, would be discussed and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed. That is, information relating to an individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption was deemed to outweigh the public interest in the information's release.

15 Subsidiary Company Update

Officers updated the Board members on time sensitive matters related to the Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited (PropCo2).