



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

## **Agenda Item No.9**

### **LEADERS' UPDATE MARCH 2017**

This report provides information for Combined Authority Members to update colleagues on devolution activity that has taken place during March. It is intended to be a basis for an update that Leaders may wish to add to.

### **COMBINED AUTHORITY WELCOMED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SIGN OUR DEAL**



The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, visited Wisbech on 16 March. Leaders of the Combined Authority updated the Secretary of State on the pace with which our first devolution deal is being delivered, and signalled a strong intent to secure further deals for the benefit of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The visit culminated with the Combined Authority and the Secretary of State formally signing the devolution agreement.

### **COMBINED AUTHORITY FORMALLY CREATED BY PARLIAMENT – AND OUR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN IS ALREADY WITH GOVERNMENT**

The Parliamentary process needed to form the Combined Authority into a legal entity was completed on 3 March – and in the days that followed the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Implementation Plan has been submitted for Ministerial consideration



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This is a requirement of all devolution areas, and sets out how the devolution agreement will be achieved. Once approved, it will be made available on the Combined Authority website, alongside other key documents.

## **FIRST £40M OF COMBINED AUTHORITY FUNDING RECEIVED**

On 20 March the first set of funding agreed in the devolution deal will reach Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. £40.5m of funding will be passed to the Combined Authority to begin delivery of the housing and infrastructure needs of our area. This will be followed in April by a further £70.5m as we move into a new financial year.

## **HOUSING: DEVELOPING OUR STRATEGY AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

In early March Leaders held a housing strategy development session, informed by the work led by Cllr Peter Topping as Portfolio Lead for Housing.

This session considered the business plan that has been developed for the first tranche of housing investment, and considered the wider strategic issues needed to produce an effective Combined Authority plan.

The results of this session, and other work to date, are captured in a report being considered by the Combined Authority Board Meeting on 20 March.

## **MAYORAL ELECTION 4 MAY**

In the build up to the election on the 4th May of the Mayor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, who will Chair the Combined Authority Board, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) are funding a campaign to raise awareness of the election and the encourage people to use their vote.

<https://ourmayor.campaign.gov.uk/>

