

GREATER CAMBRIDGE CITY DEAL GOVERNANCE

To: Full Council

Date: 16th December 2014

From: The Monitoring Officer

Purpose: Council is asked to consider proposals to establish an integrated governance framework for the Greater Cambridge City Deal.

Recommendation: Council is recommended to:

- a) approve the Terms of Reference for the Executive Board attached at Appendix 1;
- b) approve the proposed delegated authorities listed below:

Greater Cambridge Executive Board

- Authority to set and review the objectives to be achieved by the strategic investments made pursuant to the Greater Cambridge City Deal agreement dated 19 June 2014.
- Authority to:
 - Approve single position statements in relation to strategic City Deal issues.
 - Approve projects, including the allocation of project funding, which fall within the ambit of the City Deal agreement.
 - Approve the major priorities under the auspices of the City Deal.
 - Approve plans and strategies necessary or incidental to the implementation of the City Deal agreement.
 - Consider recommendations from the Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly.

Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly

- Authority to advise the Greater Cambridge Executive Board in connection to the achievement of the objectives of the City Deal agreement.
- Authority to prepare and submit reports and/or recommendations to the Greater Cambridge Executive Board.

- c) appoint the Leader of the Council to represent the Council on the Executive Board;
- d) appoint the Chairman of the Economy and Environment Committee as the Council's substitute representative on the Executive Board;
- e) approve the Terms of Reference for the Assembly attached at Appendix 2;
- f) appoint the Council's three representatives on the Assembly, on the basis of political proportionality according to the Council's membership in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, and the Councillors would be drawn therefrom.
- g) instruct officers to investigate at the earliest opportunity arrangements for substitute members on the Assembly.

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1. Background

- 1.1 The Greater Cambridge City Deal document was signed on 19 June 2014 on behalf of all five local partners (Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership and the University of Cambridge) and Government.
- 1.2 The Deal is underpinned by a commitment to deliver transformative economic benefits through investment in infrastructure and through a collaborative governance framework, featuring an Executive Board that brings together the partner organisations and a wider Assembly. An effective and efficient governance structure is recognised in the deal document as key to the delivery of the infrastructure programme and to planning effectively for future growth.
- 1.3 It is envisaged that the governance framework will consist of a five person Executive Board, supported by a 15 person Assembly that comprises a mix of elected Members and wider stakeholders. The Assembly is envisaged to perform an advisory function in support of the work of the Executive Board, which is expected to be the decision-making body for those issues within the remit of the governance framework.
- 1.4 Partners have expressed a preference for the creation of a Greater Cambridge Combined Authority. However, legislation governing Combined Authorities will need to be amended if such a body is to be created for the Greater Cambridge area. An initial consultation was undertaken on potential changes to this legislation by Government earlier this year, to which the partners submitted a combined response. It is unclear at this point when changes to legislation can be expected to be proposed by Government.
- 1.5 In the interim period before a Combined Authority can be established, the partners have committed to set up a Joint Committee to drive greater coordination and closer working.
- 1.6 The Constitution and Ethics Committee considered proposals to establish an integrated governance framework for the Greater Cambridge City Deal at its meeting on 11 November 2014 and endorsed a number of recommendations, which included two amendments, for consideration at full Council on 16 December 2014. The original proposals were also considered and endorsed without amendment by the Economy and Environment Committee on the same day. Similar processes have been followed within Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.
- 1.7 Subject to full Council approval, the terms of reference for the Executive Board will be included in the Council's Constitution.

2. Main Issues

Executive Board

- 2.1 As stated above, the Executive Board is expected to be the key decision-making body within the governance framework. Proposed Terms of Reference for the Executive Board are attached in Appendix 1.

Assembly

- 2.2 It is anticipated that the Assembly will play an advisory role, acting as a forum for discussion with a wider range of Members and stakeholders across the Greater Cambridge area, so that the Board benefits from a wider range of input and expertise in making its decisions. The Assembly will usually meet in advance of Executive Board meetings to pre-scrutinise the issues the Board will be taking decisions on and advise the Board accordingly.
- 2.3 The most appropriate structure for the Assembly to be constituted in order to fulfil its advisory role is a forum (a joint advisory committee) convened by the Executive Board, which allows it to be used in a flexible way in supporting the Executive Board's decision-making.
- 2.4 Proposed Terms of Reference for the Assembly are included in Appendix 2. The proposed change to the Standing Orders agreed by Constitution and Ethics Committee and included in recommendation (f) of this report to Council are included in this Appendix, highlighted and in square brackets for reference should Council agree that change.

Delegated authority

- 2.5 The governance framework will require some delegated authorities in order to fulfil its mandate, which will ultimately be subject to a decision by Full Council.

Source Documents	Location
Constitution and Ethics Committee – Report and Minutes 11 November 2014	http://tinyurl.com/ccce-111114
Economy and Environment Committee - Report and Minutes 11 November 2014	http://tinyurl.com/ccce-111114