

COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

18th October 2022

Red Kite Room,
New Shire Hall,
Alconbury Weald,
Huntingdon
PE28 4YE

Cambridgeshire County Council Notice of Meeting

The meeting of the County Council will be held in the Red Kite Room, New Shire Hall, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon PE28 4YE on Tuesday 18th October 2022 at 10.30a.m.

Agenda

Apologies for Absence

1. Minutes – 19th July 2022 and Motions Log (pages 5 - 20)
[available at [County Council meeting 19/07/2022](#)]
2. Chair's Announcements (oral)
3. Declarations of Interests (oral)
[\[Guidance for Councillors on declaring interests is available here\]](#)
4. Public Question Time (oral)

To receive and respond to questions from members of the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.3.
5. Petitions (oral)

To receive petitions from the public in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9.4.
6. Report of the Staffing and Appeals Committee - Appointment of interim Monitoring Officer (pages 21 - 23)
7. Proposed Changes to the Constitution (pages 24 - 29)
8. Appointments to Outside Bodies (pages 30 - 33)
Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee

9. Motions submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10

Motion from Councillor Philippa Slatter

This Council notes that:

- Evidence from the International Transport Forum¹ indicates that the risk of death is about 4-5 times higher in collisions between a car and a pedestrian at 30mph (50km/h) compared to 20mph (30km/h).
- There is good evidence² that road casualties are reduced by introducing 20mph speed limits, with air quality and active travel also likely to be improved – although the evidence around air quality and active travel benefits is currently limited and therefore considered weak.
- Most new housing developments are designed to encourage travel by cycle and on foot, and with surface materials that indicate where spaces are shared between motor vehicles and other road users.
- The default speed limit on new residential roads adopted by Cambridgeshire County Council is currently 30mph, even in areas where 20mph zones are already in place.
- The default speed limit on new residential roads adopted by Cambridgeshire County Council is currently 30mph, even where new schools, playgrounds and health facilities have been built.
- Additional funding would be required to progress the Traffic Regulation Order signage, and any required traffic calming for such historic sites.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Highways and Transport Committee to:

- i) establish a policy of 20mph as the default speed limit on new residential roads as soon as possible as part of the planning process.
- ii) reduce the speed limit on roads in new residential roads recently or about to be adopted to 20mph unless local factors suggest otherwise.

[The Monitoring Officer advises that the motion relates to a matter for the Council to determine and that the motion is therefore in order as drafted]

¹ [International Transport Forum - Speed and Crash Risk](#)

² [The state of the evidence on 20mph speed limits with regards to road safety, active travel and air pollution impacts](#)

10. Questions

(a) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Council Procedure Rule 9.1) (pages 34 - 58)

(b) Questions on Fire Authority Issues (pages 59 - 64)

Report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

(c) Written Questions (Council Procedure Rule 9.2) (oral)

To note responses to written questions from Councillors submitted under Council Procedure Rule 9.2.

Dated 10th October 2022

Fiona McMillan
Monitoring Officer

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For more information about this meeting, please contact Michelle Rowe at the County Council's Democratic Services on Cambridge (01223) 699180 or by email at: michelle.rowe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Full Council Motion Log

This is the updated Motion Log as of 10th October 2022. It captures the actions arising from motions agreed at meetings of full council and updates members on the progress in complying with delivery of the necessary actions.

Motions from Full Council on 20th July 2021					
Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Steve Tierney	Highways	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	An immediate audit of roads and footpath and cycle paths across the County, focussing first on areas of high deprivation.	Update: 09.09.2022 Officers are preparing a report comparing the road and footway condition in the ten most deprived areas of the county, including information on the overall condition of all roads and footways within the county.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Work with the CPCA and GCP to audit access to public transport across the County, with a particular focus on access to post-16 education.	Update: 12.09.2022 Evidence has been shared with the Greater Cambridge Partnership and Combined Authority regarding access to post-16 education, in particular showing service routes and frequency of closest bus stops. The Combined Authority is the Passenger Services Authority, with overarching responsibility for passenger transport.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for	Achieve improvements in highways according to need advised by officers.	Update: 11.07.2022	Ongoing

		Place and Sustainability		The Highways Asset Management approach ensures the funding available for maintenance is directed in the most effective value-for-money way in the long term, to help avoid or slow deterioration of the state of highways. Following the work to see if there is a lower road condition in deprived areas, officers will assess if there is a need to redirect any funding to achieve the optimum maintenance regime across the County.	
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Motions from Full Council on 9th November 2021

Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Mark Goldsack	Protecting homes and property from unnecessary surface water	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Undertake a full audit of known issues with underground highways assets to identify narrow bore piping issues and determine, under present conditions and stresses, whether they can be expected to cope with the regular and anticipated deluges and subsequent surface water of the like now regularly seen.	Update: 16.09.2022 The Highways Flooding Location Mapping and Risk-based Priority Assessment work is mostly completed. An initial programme of proposed sites for drainage works is being priced with the intention of commencing works later in the year.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Use the audit and local plans to predict which systems will be overwhelmed and to incorporate that into planning discussions with local planning authorities.	Update: 31.08.2022 The flood team is awaiting the outcome of the audit before this can progress.	Ongoing

		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Ensure the findings of the Section 19 reviews of the Winter 2020 flooding are reflected as soon as possible in the forthcoming Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to address surface water management and consider incorporation of these issues in future highways asset management system procurements.	<p>Update: 16.09.2022</p> <p>The findings of these reviews were incorporated into the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, adopted by the Environment and Green Investment Committee on 3 March 2022. Procurement for the new Highways Asset Management System is due to commence in October 2022. Included in the specification of the system is the ability to record asset inventory information and condition. The system will be able to hold details of drainage systems, including pipe size, invert levels and lengths, which can be used to inform potential flood alleviation schemes.</p>	Complete
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Commit to the people of Cambridgeshire that anywhere small bore pipework is causing an issue it will be addressed by carrying out an assessment of a fully costed of a programme of works to either replace the small-bore soak away pipework, with appropriate higher bore pipe work solutions that bring immediate relief and also future proof as predicted or supply full details of alternative solutions in those areas with fully costed plans of actions that will mitigate and protect property in areas of known puddling.	<p>Update: 11.07.2022</p> <p>The investigations following the recording and mapping of the Highways Flooding Locations will result in a list of proposed works to improve system capacity with estimated costs. Designs for schemes will include providing additional capacity where required, to cope with the forecast increases in intensity of rainfall as a result of climate change, where this is achievable. Where not achievable, the Highways team will work with the Flood and Water Management team to implement suitable mitigation measures.</p> <p>Investigations will follow the risk mapping exercise, with completion due in September 2022. Designs and works on the ground will</p>	Ongoing

			Consideration of solutions and costs for addressing surface water flooding issues to go through the Council's ongoing business planning process.	follow, in line with the level of investment we can achieve.	
		Chief Executive	Note the ongoing work by the HDM Team to review drainage strategies for new developments in line with Local Lead Flood Authority advice, and ask the Chief Executive to write to all planning authority chairs, along with Internal Drainage Boards, water companies, and other relevant agencies to seek their input on these strategies, highlighting our concerns about how we can future proof the installation of larger bore pipework to all new developments to avoid surface water run off on highways and other areas as a result of development.	Update: 31.08.2022 A letter was written and issued by the Chief Executive on 21 July 2022. Responses have been received from most authorities, and the Flood team continues to request these and will arrange an inaugural meeting shortly.	Complete
Councillor Tom Sanderson	Afghan Refugees	Interim Deputy Director, Communities	Proactively identify employment (including apprenticeship) opportunities for Afghan citizens within the Council;	Update: 04.10.2022 The Council's Human Resources service has produced an information pack to explain the process of applying for a job at the Council, aimed at refugees. This aims to clearly set out what is needed and what can be expected from	Complete

				the application process and can be found on the Council's website.	
		Employment and Skills.	Ensure our adult skills service, Cambridgeshire Skills, develops bespoke English-language courses to meet the needs of new arrivals where the national offer falls short, or where more specialist language training is necessary, and to deliver it in ways that are accessible to our new residents.	Cambridgeshire Skills provides English language courses for all refugee groups and an English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) local planning group is in place which oversees local ESOL provision. The Council will continue to work closely with Cambridgeshire Skills to ensure that English language and other skills and training opportunities are available for all refugees in Cambridgeshire.	Complete
Councillor Lucy Nethsingha	Free school meals	Director of Education	Work with partners to set up a funding scheme to support children and young people whose families are on Universal Credit or free school meals to have reduced cost access to out of school activities, in order to support them to reach their educational and personal potential.	Update: 20.09.22 Officers have worked with school leaders to develop a scheme to support all children who need catch up outside of the government-funded academic tuition route. This will include options for wider curriculum opportunities, clubs, visits, etc. The scheme will be launched for bids in the autumn and agreed projects will commence in January 2023. A report setting out further details will be presented to the Children and Young People Committee in October 2022.	Ongoing
Councillor Lorna Dupre	Land use framework	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Engage with partners bringing together a county-wide group with the necessary skills and approaches who will design, advise and lead this process.	Update: 26.08.2022 The Food, Farming and Countryside Commission (FFCC) continues to meet and adapt the framework proposal, and a meeting was held with the Council on 9 September 2022.	Complete

		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Share information about relevant initiatives that are already happening in Cambridgeshire, especially at local level.	Update: 26.08.2022 The information about Cambridgeshire datasets was shared with the FFCC.	Complete
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Work with partners in an engagement and listening process, particularly to ensure that marginalised and less-heard voices are included.	Update: 26.08.2022 FFCC listening events have concluded and the results drawn upon for the project formed part of the discussions at the meeting held on 9 September 2022.	Complete
Motions from Full Council on 25 th January 2022					
Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Sam Hoy	Mental Health Hubs	Executive Director of People Services	With decentralisation, work with the CCG to open an Early Help hub in each locality.	Update: 17.09.22 Discussions have been held between the Public Health team and Clinical Commissioning Group colleagues about how to address this. The Clinical Commissioning Group are supportive of the aspiration and will take a recommendation to the Children’s and Maternity Collaborative Board in due course.	Ongoing

Motions from Full Council on 15th March 2022

Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Ros Hathorn	Repair cafes and other reuse, recycling and upcycling initiatives	Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships	A report to be brought to the meeting of the Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee on 21 July 2022 with a model whereby the County Council can support the rollout of new repair, recycling, upcycling and reuse initiatives, to support existing schemes, and consider the efficient use of limited funds and suitable scheme evaluation criteria.	<p>Update: 03.10.2022</p> <p>Meetings have taken place with Cambridge Carbon Footprint with a view to providing some one-off support to enable them in the short-term to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote new repair cafes and other recycling, upcycling and reuse initiatives, particularly in areas of income deprivation that are poorly served by existing initiatives. Use this to address the geographical inequality in provision of these services across the County. Help them to offer the necessary support to such initiatives, particularly those that are already operating but which may be impacted by the cost-of-living crisis. <p>In order to provide longer-term support the Council is approaching one of the voluntary and community sector infrastructure organisations to establish whether its current work programme could include working with Cambridge Carbon Footprint to help develop a framework that can be used by existing and potential repair cafes and other recycling, upcycling and reuse initiatives to ensure their sustainability – thereby</p>	Ongoing

				<p>addressing the Council's request for the development of a model for future support.</p> <p>Once agreement has been reached, a report will be presented to the Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee.</p>	
Councillor Alex Bulat	Elections bill and voter eligibility	Head of Communications	Work collaboratively with District Councils to develop a strategy of communications on voter eligibility including accessible information about changes in eligibility for EU citizens and the range of voter ID options that can be used.	<p>Update: 03.10.22</p> <p>The service has liaised with communications leads in districts holding 2023 elections regarding the promotion of voter eligibility and accessible information. This work reflects an on-going commitment to ensure all future elections address these issues.</p>	Complete
		Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships	Use this programme to increase its efforts to encourage eligible voters who are not registered to vote. For instance, but not limited to, working collaboratively with District Councils who can include information about voter registration and eligibility in council tax letters, council social media communications, local magazines, and through using our County's networks of local partners and community groups where appropriate.	<p>Update: 03.10.22</p> <p>The service has liaised with district partners, who are responsible for maintaining and updating the electoral register so that these approaches can be used to promote voter registration when the electoral registers are refreshed.</p>	Complete
Councillor Hilary Cox-Condron	Inequalities	Executive Director of	Adopt the Public Sector Duty regarding Socio-economic Inequalities so that when the	Update: 04.10.2022	Complete

		Strategy and Partnerships	County Council is making decisions of a strategic nature, about how it exercises its functions, it has due regard to the desirability of exercising these functions in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.	Following the adoption of the socio-economic inequalities' duty, officers have met to consider how the Council reflects this duty following its equalities' strategy refresh, scheduled in 2022. A draft version of this strategy, incorporating this duty, will be presented to the Strategy and Resources Committee ahead of its formal sign-off by Full Council.	
		Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships	Review, develop, and implement training and communications for staff and Members to raise awareness of this duty within our wider Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work, and to develop our understanding of how it applies to our policies and practices, in the services we deliver, and in the services we commission from others.	Update: 04.10.2022 Work is well underway to develop a set of mandatory and wrap around learning for Council employees and councillors regarding different aspects of equality, diversity and inclusion, with input from external experts in this field. The content will include equality impact assessments and will be made available by the end of 2022. A Member seminar was held on 18 July 2022.	Ongoing

Motions from Full Council on 10th May 2022

Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Ros Hathorn	Street planters and green bus stops	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Develop guidance on the Council's website which makes it easier for these projects to move forward, and to provide a briefing paper to members of the Environment	Update: 16.09.2022 The website has been updated to signpost town and parish councils to advice and guidance on design, costs and implementation. This	Ongoing

			& Green Investment and Highways and Transport Committees this summer with a view to communities being able to consider such projects within the year of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee as a way of commemorating this event.	signposting enables customers to access readily available information and useful contacts. A briefing paper outlining the guidance provided to parish councils will be circulated to members of the Environment and Green Investment Committee and the Highways and Transport Committee by the end of October 2022.	
Councillor Lucy Nethsingha	Waste recycling	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	A briefing note be written and circulated to members of the Environment and Green Investment Committee looking at the ways in which the Council can continue to work with RECAP (Recycling Cambridgeshire and Peterborough) to support increased re-cycling, working closely with district and other partners.	Update: 12.09.2022 A paper has been produced and is now under development with the Combined Authority as a potential funding route. Once it has been redrafted, the paper will be shared with members of the Environment and Green Investment Committee.	Ongoing

Motions from Full Council on 19th July 2022

Councillor	Topic	Responsible Officer	Action	Update	Status
Councillor Hilary Cox Condron	Junk Food Advertising	Head of Procurement and Commercial	Strategy and Resources Committee to: Consider phasing out all forms of junk food advertising in County Council assets, such as roundabouts. The Council	Update: 21.09.2022 The Council's Advertising and Sponsorship Policy is now the responsibility of the newly formed Procurement and Commercial Team, its contents are being reviewed to ensure compliance with the motion and an updated	Ongoing

			<p>will aim to instead use the advertising space to promote health promoting products, which may mitigate any loss of income.</p> <p>Publish an advertising strategy that includes the Council's position on junk food, and consideration to environmentally damaging products (including industrially farmed animal products) in the context of the Council's net zero strategy, in addition to the exclusions currently included within the policy - such as gambling, alcohol and violence.</p> <p>Investigate the possibility of a County wide Low Carbon Policy for advertising and sponsorship, and model any resulting financial impact.</p>	<p>policy will be presented to the Council's Corporate Leadership Team for approval.</p> <p>The only contract sitting under this policy currently is the roundabout contract. This is mid-term, discussions have been started with the current contractor regarding compliance with the motion and the updated policy but the ability to remove non-compliant advertising will depend on the contracts that our supplier has with their advertising partners. When the contract is re-procured, compliance with the motion and the updated policy will form part of that process. The responsibility for identifying new income opportunities is currently under discussion.</p>	
		Chief Executive	<p>Work collaboratively with District Councils to have a joined-up approach to this issue via the Cambridgeshire Public Service Board, given that Districts have responsibility for applying national planning policy on</p>	<p>Update: 16.09.2022</p> <p>The Chief Executive will update the Cambridgeshire Public Service Board at the next meeting for which he is in attendance and open a dialogue about a potential system approach.</p>	Ongoing

			advertising planning restrictions.		
		Chief Executive	Ask the Chief Executive to write to the Secretaries of States for Health and Social Care, and Digital, Culture, Media and Sport asking to consider a ban on junk food advertising nationally in council owned spaces and public spaces more broadly.	Update: 04.10.2022 Issuing this letter was paused, pending new ministerial appointments. It was issued on 7 October 2022.	Complete
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Work collaboratively with the Local Government Association to promote best practice in this area.	Update: 31.08.2022 Officers are in dialogue with the LGA who have provided contact details of other councils that are looking at similar bans. This is now being reviewed.	Ongoing
Councillor Mark Goldsack	Speed Limits	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Produce a report for a future meeting of the Highways and Transport Committee on principles for the location of buffer zones, on how the process for local applications can be simplified and promoted to applicants, and on options for facilitating the installation of buffer zones where locally supported, whether through the LHI process or by other means. detailing a review of all National Speed Limit access	Update: 12.09.2022 A paper will be presented to the Highways and Transport Committee in March 2023.	Ongoing

			roads that lead into 30MPH road inhabited areas.		
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Meanwhile, ask the current LHI Working Group to consider how requests for buffer zones could be more effectively met within the LHI process.	<p>Update: 30.08.2022</p> <p>Speed management buffer zones will continue to be managed through the LHI process and will be managed alongside other locally generated schemes through the modified LHI process. The LHI Working Group produced a report with further details for the Highways and Transport Committee meeting on 4 October 2022.</p> <p>(Agenda Item 5 - Local Highways Improvement Member Working Group Report)</p>	Complete
Councillor Ros Hathorn	Travel Infrastructure	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	<p>The Highways and Transport service to:</p> <p>Prioritise developing active travel specific maintenance measures within the Highways Operational Standards (HOS) and explore ways in which ongoing maintenance requirements can be removed as a barrier to good scheme design.</p> <p>Undertake a review of the highway hierarchy used to deliver the asset management maintenance programme to ensure it reflects active travel</p>	<p>Update: 12.09.2022</p> <p>Work is underway to review maintenance intervention levels and response times within the network hierarchy to understand how the Council is supporting active travel through its day-to-day maintenance activities. This work aims to identify whether changes can be made to more actively and positively support active travel through maintenance within current funding.</p>	Ongoing

			growth and the ambitions of the Council.		
		Chief Executive	<p>Support Active Travel England's talk of a 'new golden age of walking and cycling' Active Travel England update, and asks the Chief Executive to write to the Department of Transport and Active Travel England to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outline the Council's concerns that councils' will not be able to deliver the active travel infrastructure necessary for this without a commitment from government to fund the maintenance of an expanding network of ambitious new generation cycleways and footways; ○ lobby for explicit inclusion of active travel infrastructure in the DfT maintenance block funding formula. ○ Lobby for active travel to be included as a priority within the Highway Maintenance Incentive fund. 	<p>Update: 06.09.2022</p> <p>A letter was sent by the Chief Executive to the Department of Transport on 15 August 2022.</p> <p>A response was received on 30 August 2022, which was shared with the proposer and seconder of the motion.</p>	Complete

		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Fully utilise the planning process to secure the highest quality developer infrastructure to meet the ambitions and aspirations of Cambridgeshire and agrees to strive for a more ambitious approach to schemes being developed currently so it can deliver better active travel schemes earlier.	<p>Update: 30.08.2022</p> <p>Sustainability is embedded within National Planning Policy, which is set by the Government.</p> <p>The Council utilises the planning process to deliver its high ambition for cycling by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Local Plan (strategic) policies • Setting clear requirements, informed by national guidance such as LTN 120Pre-Application guidance to developers to shape proposals early • Comprehensive scoping and review of application Transport Assessment • Securing direct delivery of high-quality infrastructure within development sites, and on the wider highway network, which the NPPF planning tests can be satisfied • Securing financial contributions towards strategic active travel investment, where appropriate and justified against the NPPF planning tests • Developing the local Active Travel Strategy and associated pipeline, the implementation of which will be facilitated through the land use planning process. <p>Planning policy stipulates that planning authorities can only refuse applications on highways grounds where there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe.</p>	Complete
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Councillor Alex Beckett	Pavement Parking	Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Prepare a paper for Strategy and Resources Committee proposing a group of pilot areas in Cambridge City for TRO implementation, outlining the costs required to implement.	Update: 12.09.2022 Traffic Management / Policy and Regulation scheduled to meet with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Highways and Transport Committee to discuss pilot areas and most effective delivery route for a trial. Other actions below will be subject to the outcome of those discussions.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Strategy and Resources Committee to assess this paper and provide a budget for implementation and enforcement of this work to prevent informal pavement parking within the city.	Please see above.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	Highways and Transport Committee to assess the impact of this trial upon its implementation.	Please see above.	Ongoing
		Executive Director for Place and Sustainability	If successful, the highways department should expand this work and bring a further paper to Highways and Transport Committee for all urban areas within Cambridgeshire with informal pavement parking, when it is appropriate to do so (mindful that Civil Parking Enforcement powers are needed to locally enforce the TRO).	Please see above.	Ongoing

Report of the Staffing and Appeals Committee – Appointment of an interim Monitoring Officer

To: County Council

Date: 18th October 2022

From: Chief Executive

Purpose: The purpose of this report is to notify Council of the outcome of the selection process carried out by Staffing and Appeals Committee to appoint an interim Monitoring Officer, and to seek approval for the recommended candidate.

Recommendation: To approve the appointment of the interim Monitoring Officer, pending the conclusion of the permanent recruitment process.

Officer contact:

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Member contacts:

Names: Councillor Edna Murphy
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Tel: 01223 706398

1.0 Background

- 1.1 On 2nd August 2022 the Staffing and Appeals Committee met to interview candidates for new roles in the Council's senior leadership team following the Council approved restructure. The current Monitoring Officer and shared Director of Law and Governance will leave the Council's employment on 30th November 2022 on grounds of redundancy.
- 1.2 An internal appointment was not made and consequently the role was advertised externally along with other vacant posts in the leadership team from 15th September 2022.
- 1.3 Given the statutory nature of this role, it is essential that an interim Monitoring Officer and Service Director: Legal and Governance is engaged until a permanent appointment is in post, which is likely to be in March/April 2023, due to notice periods.

2.0 Process To Date

- 2.1 Following initial screening by the Chief Executive, the Staffing and Appeals Committee interviewed one candidate, Linda Walker, for the interim role on 13th September 2022 and was unanimous in its view that she was a strong, experienced candidate and very well suited to the role. Ms Walker has been provisionally offered and accepted the role, on an interim basis, in principle and subject to Full Council approval.
- 2.2 Ms Walker is a highly experienced lawyer, Council Monitoring Officer and specialist in organisational review, corporate governance, member engagement and the resolution of complaints, with a track record of success in shared services, private practice, and the public sector. She has significant experience working with and advising elected members on all aspects of Local Government law and associated governance issues.
- 2.3 For the duration of the interim arrangements the role will continue to report into the Chief Executive rather than moving into the new Strategy and Partnerships Directorate. This move will take effect with the permanent appointment.
- 2.4 Furthermore, the move of the Audit and Risk Management team into Legal and Governance will also be put on hold until the permanent appointment is made. This will remain in Finance and Resources at this time, managed by the Section 151 Officer, enabling the Interim Monitoring Officer to focus purely on legal, democratic services and information governance.
- 2.5 Under Section 4 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended), the Council has a legal duty to appoint one of its officers as Head of Paid Service. Under the Council's Constitution this role is performed by the Chief Executive. The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) Regulations 2001 and the Council's Constitution provide that Full Council must approve the appointment of the Council's Head of Paid Service.

- 2.6 The Council's Officer Employment Procedures Rules further set out that Full Council will approve the appointment of the Monitoring Officer, following the recommendation of such an appointment by the Staffing and Appeals Committee.
- 2.7 The Officer Employment Procedure Rules, aligned to the Council's Constitution state the following:
- (a) The Full Council will approve the appointment of the Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) following the recommendation of such an appointment by the Staffing and Appeals Committee.
 - (b) The Full Council may only make or approve the appointment of the Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer or the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) where no well-founded objection has been made by any member of the Staffing and Appeals Committee.
- 2.8 In recommending the approval of the engagement of the interim Monitoring Officer / Service Director: Legal and Governance, Council is advised that given the unanimous recommendation to appoint to the role by the Staffing and Appeals Committee, there were no well-founded objections raised.

3.0 Source documents

- 3.1 [The Council's Constitution](#)
- 3.2 [Staffing and Appeals Committee - 2 August 2022](#)

Proposed Changes to the Constitution

To: County Council

Date: 18th October 2022

From: The Monitoring Officer

Purpose: To present to Full Council for consideration and approval proposed changes to the Council's Constitution proposed by the Constitution and Ethics Committee.

The current Constitution is on the Council's website at [Constitution](#).

Recommendation: Full Council is asked to approve:

- (i) amendments to the requirement to stand in the Council Procedure Rules;
- (ii) amendments to petition and public question requirements;
- (iii) a delegation to declare casual vacancies;
- (iv) removal of the requirement for members to sign attendance sheets;
- (v) the granting of authority for the delegation of functions to other local authorities to policy and service committees, where appropriate; and
- (vi) amendments to delegations to appoint representatives to outside bodies.

Officer contact:

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Member contacts:

Names: Councillor Sebastian Kindersley
Post: Chair of Constitution and Ethics Committee
Email: skindersley@hotmail.com
Tel: 01223 706398

1. Background

- 1.1 The Local Government Act 2000 requires all local authorities to have a constitution that covers standing orders, delegation processes and a code of conduct for councillors. Changes to the Council's Constitution are considered by the Constitution and Ethics Committee before being recommended to Full Council for approval.
- 1.2 Following an annual review of the Constitution to ensure it remained updated, the Constitution and Ethics Committee considered, at its meeting on 27 September 2022, the following proposed changes set out in this report.

2. Standing to Speak at Council Meetings

- 2.1 Rule 19.1 of Chapter 4-1 (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution, sets out the requirements for standing to speak at Council meetings as follows:

19.1 Standing to Speak

When a member speaks at Full Council they must stand and address the meeting through the Chair. If more than one member stands, the Chair will ask one to speak and the others must sit. Other members must remain seated whilst a member is speaking unless they wish to make a point of order or a point of personal explanation.

- 2.2 The Equality Act 2010 and the Council's Single Equality Strategy 2018-2022 seek to prevent discrimination, harassment and victimisation at work based on nine protected characteristics, including disability.
- 2.3 Full Council has previously agreed to suspend Rule 19.1 of Chapter 4-1 (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution at Council meetings. This was to enable members' voices to be picked up by the microphone system. To ensure that the Constitution aligns with the Equalities Act 2010 and the Single Equality Strategy, it is recommended by the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Business Partner to amend Rule 19.1 as follows (deletions in strikethrough, additions in bold):

19.1 Standing to Speak

A member may indicate their wish to speak and shall wait to be called by the Chair. When a member **is called by the Chair** to speak at Full Council they must stand **if able** and address the meeting through the Chair. ~~If more than one member stands, the Chair will ask one to speak and the others must sit. Other members must remain seated whilst~~ **Whilst** a member is speaking ~~unless they,~~ **other members who** wish to make a point of order or a point of personal explanation, **must indicate their wish to the Chair who will then call them to speak.**

- 2.4 The above wording is proposed to meet the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 and the Council's Single Equality Strategy but still retain the respect for the meeting. It should be noted that when a member remains seated, they will be presumed unable to stand and will not be challenged.
- 2.5 Chapter 4-1 (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution also sets out the protocol for the Chair to stand at Council meetings as follows:

19.2 Chair Standing

When the Chair stands during a debate, any member speaking at the time must stop and sit down. The meeting must be silent.

- 2.6 This raises similar concerns around disability inclusion. Therefore, it is proposed to amend the rule as follows (additions in bold, deletions in strikethrough):

19.2 ~~Chair Standing~~ Halting Debate

When the Chair ~~stands during~~ **indicates a wish to halt** a debate **with the gavel**, any member speaking at the time must stop ~~and sit down~~. The meeting must be silent.

3. Petitions and Public Questions

- 3.1 The Council's Single Equality Strategy 2018-2022 Objective B is to 'promote equality and inclusion through fair and accessible services. In addition, under the public sector equality duty within the Equality Act 2010, those subject to the equality duty must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard for encouraging participation from and minimising disadvantages suffered by individuals or groups with protected characteristics.
- 3.2 Section 9.3 of Chapter 4-1 (Council Procedure Rules) of the Constitution states that members of the public wishing to ask a question at a Council meeting should provide their address. Section 9.4 states that petitions submitted to the Council should state the postal address and email of the petition organiser. These requirements, as written, prevent individuals without either a fixed address or access to email from engaging in the democratic process, and could therefore disproportionately affect people and communities with certain protected characteristics.
- 3.3 The public question procedures of other local authorities do not generally require an individual to provide details of their address. It is proposed that the Council adopts this practice by removing the explicit requirement to provide their postal address.
- 3.4 The petition procedures of other local authorities also require the address of a petition organiser in order that they can verify identity. However, this requirement prevents an individual without a fixed address from being

designated petition organiser and inhibits communities without fixed addresses from submitting a petition.

- 3.5 Enabling petition organisers to provide any form of contact, rather than specifically requiring a postal address and email, would allow contact and consequent verification of their local identity to occur, while reducing the possibility of indirect discrimination. Therefore, it is proposed to remove this specific requirement from the petition scheme.
- 3.6 These changes would also be reflected in Chapter 4-4 (Procedure Rules for Committee and Sub-Committee Meetings) of the Constitution.

4. Casual Vacancy

- 4.1 The Local Government Act 1972, Section 85 (1) and 86 declares that local authorities must publicly declare any casual vacancies should a member fail to attend a meeting for six consecutive months, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the local authority before the expiry of that period.
- 4.2 In May 2022, the Association of Democratic Services Officers, Association of Electoral Administrators and the Lawyers in Local Government released a report recommending councils delegate this authority to the proper officer in order that the declaration could be made expediently.
- 4.3 It is therefore proposed to delegate this authority to the Service Director: Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer), in consultation with the Chair of Council. This would be included in Chapter 3D (Scheme of Delegation) of the Constitution as set out below:

Authority to declare vacancies in office and give public notice of a casual vacancy, in consultation with the Chair of the Council (or in their absence the Vice-Chair) and subject to noting at the next Full Council meeting.

5. Recording Attendance

- 5.1 Rule 17 of Chapter 4.1 (Council Procedure Rules) in the Constitution, sets out the requirements for recording attendance at Council meetings as follows:

17. Record of Attendance

All members present during the whole or part of a meeting must sign their names on the attendance sheets before the conclusion of every meeting to assist with the record of attendance.

- 5.2 While additional precautions were in place for the Covid-19 pandemic, the requirement for members to sign their name was not enforced. Attendance is registered during the meeting by Democratic Services and recorded in the minutes. This record is confirmed by the meeting recording and electronic voting system, which automatically records councillors in attendance for each

vote. It is therefore proposed to remove Rule 17.

6. Delegations to Other Authorities

- 6.1 Chapter 3A (Allocation of Responsibility for Functions - Full Council and Committees) and Article 10 (Joint Arrangements) in the Constitution state that decisions to delegate functions to another local authority are reserved to Full Council; whereas decisions as to whether functions are delegated from another local authority to the Council can be made by the relevant committee.
- 6.2 On 19 July 2022, Full Council delegated functions relating to Section 53 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 to Norfolk County Council. Delegations of this nature are sought when there is a statutory process or decision that affects cross-boundary investigations. Such delegations are generally uncontroversial and requiring Full Council approval can delay decision-making.
- 6.3 In order to expedite the decision-making process, it is proposed the Council grants authority to policy and service committees for the delegation of functions to other local authorities, where considered appropriate by the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair of the Constitution and Ethics Committee.
- 6.4 The following changes are proposed for Article 10 (Joint Arrangements) (additions in bold):

10.04 Delegation to and from other Local Authorities

- 1. The Council may delegate functions to another local authority. **The decision to delegate to another authority shall be reserved to the relevant policy and service committee of Council unless it is of such significance it should remain a decision of the Council. This will be determined by the Service Director: Legal and Governance, in consultation with the Chair of the Constitution and Ethics Committee.**
 - 2. Other local authorities may delegate functions to the Council and the decision whether or not to accept such a delegation from another local authority shall be reserved to the relevant **policy and service** committee of Council.
- 6.5 The following change is proposed for Chapter 3A (Allocation of Responsibility for Functions - Full Council and Committees) (addition in bold):

2. Council Functions

Only the Council will exercise the following functions:

- s) Delegating **significant** functions to other local authorities as described in Article 10 of this Constitution.

7. Appointments to Outside Bodies

- 7.1 Section 9.04 of Article 9 (Advisory Process) of the Constitution states that appointments to outside bodies are the responsibility of Full Council, but this responsibility may be delegated to the policy and service committees.
- 7.2 The policy and service committees have previously delegated the authority to approve nominations to their lead officers. This ensures that appointments can be made in between committee meetings if required. When appointments are made by an officer, the chair of the relevant committee is consulted and the appointments are subsequently reported to the committee at its next meeting.
- 7.3 These officer delegations are currently not recorded in the Constitution. It is therefore proposed to include the following delegation to all executive directors and directors, including the Executive Director of Finance and Resources /Section 151 Officer in Chapter 3D (Scheme of Delegation):

To approve nominations to outside bodies, in consultation with the chair of the relevant committee (or in their absence the vice chair).

- 7.4 Full Council retains responsibility for appointing to a number of outside bodies, including the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Greater Cambridge Partnership, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority, the County Councils Network Council, and the Local Government Association. There is currently no equivalent delegation for an officer to approve a nomination to these bodies between Council meetings. It is therefore proposed to include the following delegation to the Chief Executive in Chapter 3D (Scheme of Delegation):

To approve nominations to outside bodies, in consultation with Group Leaders, except where appointment to those bodies has been delegated to committees.

8. Constitution and Ethics Committee

- 8.1 The Constitution and Ethics Committee met on 27 September 2022 and considered and approved unanimously all the proposals.

9. Source documents

- 9.1 [The Council's Constitution](#)
- 9.2 [Council Meeting Minutes, 19 July 2022](#)
- 9.3 Part 3.4, [AEA LLG ADSO, Casual Vacancy Failure to Attend Meetings Report, 10 May 2022](#)

Cambridgeshire County Council

Appointments to Outside Bodies: County Council Appointments

Name of Outside Body	Meetings per Annum	Reps Appointed	Representative(s)	Guidance Classification	Contact Details
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority	11	1	Leader of the Council – Councillor Lucy Nethsingha (LD) Substitute: Councillor Elisa Meschini (L)	Other Public Body	Democratic Services Room 117 Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP richenda.greenhill@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee	11	2	Councillor Mark Goldsack (C) Councillor Michael Atkins (LD) Substitutes: Councillor Steve Count (C) Councillor Piers Coutts (LD)	Other Public Body	Anne Gardiner Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority anne.gardiner@cambridgeshire-ca.gov.uk
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority – Audit and Governance Committee	5	1	Councillor Graham Wilson (LD) Substitute: Councillor Michael Atkins (LD) Councillor Piers Coutts (LD)	Other Public Body	Anne Gardiner Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority anne.gardiner@cambridgeshire-ca.gov.uk

Name of Outside Body	Meetings per Annum	Reps Appointed	Representative(s)	Guidance Classification	Contact Details
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority	3	13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Simon Bywater (C) Councillor Ian Gardener (C) Councillor John Gowing (C) Councillor Mac McGuire (C) Councillor Kevin Reynolds (C) Councillor Mandy Smith (C) Councillor Michael Atkins (LD) Councillor Sebastian Kindersley (LD) Councillor Edna Murphy (LD) Councillor Philippa Slatter (LD) Councillor Bryony Goodliffe (L) Councillor Catherine Rae (L) Councillor Simone Taylor (Ind) 	Other Public Body	Dawn Cave Democratic Services dawn.cave@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel The role of the panel is to scrutinise the Police and Crime Commissioner.	7	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Steve Tierney (C) Councillor Anna Bradnam (LD) Councillor Stephen Ferguson (Ind) Substitutes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Mark Goldsack (C) Councillor Graham Wilson (LD) Councillor Tom Sanderson (Ind) <i>Proportionality advised by Peterborough City Council</i>	Other Public Body representative	Jane Webb Peterborough City Council jane.webb@peterborough.gov.uk
County Councils' Network Council	3-4	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Steve Count (C) Councillor Lucy Nethsingha (LD) Councillor Elisa Meschini (L) Councillor Tom Sanderson (Ind) 	Unincorporated Association	Simon Edwards Local Government House, Smith Square, London, SW1P 3HZ

Name of Outside Body	Meetings per Annum	Reps Appointed	Representative(s)	Guidance Classification	Contact Details
East of England Local Government Association	1 minimum	1	Leader of the Council – Councillor Lucy Nethsingha (LD)	Unincorporated Association	Cheryl Davenport West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds IP33 3YU
Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	Quarterly	1	Councillor Elisa Meschini (L) (Substitute – Councillor Neil Gough (LD))	Other Public Body	Wilma Wilkie Greater Cambridge Partnership wilma.wilkie@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly	Quarterly	3	<i>Political proportionality of Cambridgeshire County Council seats on the Assembly shall reflect that amongst the Council's elected members for the divisions within South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council administrative boundaries and that the representatives shall be drawn from those divisions and will be appointed on the nomination of the relevant Group Leaders</i> Currently: 1. Councillor Alex Beckett (LD) 2. Councillor Claire Daunton (LD) 3. Councillor Neil Shailer (L)	Other Public Body	Wilma Wilkie Greater Cambridge Partnership Wilma.Wilkie@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Name of Outside Body	Meetings per Annum	Reps Appointed	Representative(s)	Guidance Classification	Contact Details
Local Government Association National representative body of all Local Authorities	3-4	4	1. Councillor Steve Count (C) 2. Councillor Lucy Nethsingha (LD) 3. Councillor Elisa Meschini (L) 4. Councillor Tom Sanderson (Ind)	Unincorporated Association	Fatima de Abreu Member Services Assistant Local Government Association



Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority

Reports from Constituent Council Representatives on the Combined Authority

Audit and Governance Committee
30 June 2022 and 29 July 2022
Councillor Graham Wilson

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
25 July 2022
Councillor Mike Atkins
Councillor Mark Goldsack

Combined Authority Board
27 July and 31 August 2022
Councillor Lucy Nethsingha

The above meetings have taken place in June, July, and August 2022.

Audit and Governance Committee – 30th June 2022 and 29 July 2022

The Audit and Governance Committee met on 30th June 2022 and 29th July 2022; the decision summaries are attached as Appendices 1 and 2.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25th July 2022

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 25th July 2022; the decision summary is attached as Appendix 3.

Combined Authority Board – 27th July and 31st August 2022

The Combined Authority Board met on 27th July and 31st August 2022; the decision summaries are attached as Appendices 4 and 5.

The agendas and minutes of the meetings are on the Combined Authority's website – Link in the appendices.

Audit and Governance Committee Decision Summary

Meeting: 30 June 2022

Agenda/Minutes: [Audit and Governance Committee – 30 June 2022](#)

Chair: John Pye (Chair and Independent Person)

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
1	Apologies and Declarations of Interests	Apologies were received from Cllr Harvey, substituted by Cllr Atkins. No disclosable interests were declared.
2	Election of Vice- Chair	RESOLVED: That Cllr Wilson be elected Vice-Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2022-23.
3	Chair's Announcements	Councillors Ali, Corney, Harvey and Smith were welcomed as the new members of the Committee. The Chair announced that he had cleared the agenda for today's meeting to focus on the response to the Ernst and Young (EY) letter. The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny had been invited to attend the meeting and listen to the debate as the two committees would have to work in harmony over the next year in overseeing the CPCA's response to the External auditors' letter and DHULC involvement.

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
		<p>The Chair had had a very constructive online meeting with the newly appointed interim Chief Executive, Gordon Mitchell, and was reassured that Mr Mitchell had the necessary experience to deal with the issues facing the CPCA.</p> <p>The Committee's Annual Report had been successfully reported to the Board at their meeting on Monday 27 June.</p>
4	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Action Notes	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) That the minutes of the meeting of 11 March 2022 be approved.</p> <p>b) That the actions from the previous meeting be noted.</p>
6	Engagement with Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) on Auditors' value for money (VFM) risk letter	<p>Jon Alsop, Head of Finance, introduced the report which provided the Committee with an update of the CA's engagement with DLUHC following the letter that the external auditors, EY, had written to the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee, reporting that they had identified a significant weakness in the authorities' governance.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>It was unanimously agreed that the Committee make the following recommendations to the Combined Authority (CA) Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the CA Board seek external advice in formulating an action plan to address the significant areas of concern identified by the external auditor. 2. That the CA Board, as a priority, considers its own ways of working. The Committee found it difficult to see how the required changes in culture, governance, leadership and capacity could be identified and delivered without the Combined Authority Board demonstrating collective leadership, acting as

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
		<p>a board.</p> <p>3. That the Interim Chief Executive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. obtains appropriate external advice, support and facilitation to drive the required culture change at the Combined Authority, recognising the need for a consensus of ownership by the Board ii. reconsiders the terms of reference for the Improvement Panel, which were currently not fit for purpose iii. commits to rapidly building the Senior Management Team capacity of the organisation. iv. attends A&G Committee in July to report on progress. <p>4. That the CPCA consult the Internal/External Auditors to help develop a baseline of where the CA needs to be in regard to the proposed action plan.</p>
7	Member Officer Protocol	<p>Jodie Townsend, Interim Head of Governance introduced the report outlining the proposed new member officer Protocol.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>The Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agreed the content for inclusion in a Member Officer Protocol for recommendation to the Combined Authority Board b) Requested that the Combined Authority Board consider the Member Officer Protocol at the earliest opportunity, for adoption into the Constitution in support of relevant Codes of Conduct c) Asked Officers to develop a social media protocol for Members and Officers at the earliest opportunity.

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
10	Date of next meeting	The Committee would next meet on Friday, 29 July 2022 at 10:00 at Pathfinder House, Huntingdon.

Audit and Governance Committee Decision Summary

Meeting: 29 July 2022

Agenda/Minutes: [Audit and Governance Committee – 29 July 2022](#)

Chair: John Pye (Chair and Independent Person)

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
1	Apologies and Declarations of Interests	Apologies were received from Cllr Ali, Cllr Corney and Cllr Wilson. Cllr Coutts attended as a substitute for Cllr Wilson. No disclosable interests were declared.
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Action Notes	RESOLVED: i. That the minutes of the meeting of 30 June 2022 be approved subject to the following addition: <i>Members asked for officers' feedback on how capacity shortfalls had affected delivery.</i>
3	Improvement Framework including Review of Governance	Gordon Mitchell, Interim Chief Executive introduced the report which provided an update on the development of an Improvement Plan and associated next steps for the Combined Authority, following consideration of an Improvement Framework report by the Board on 27 July 2022.

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
		<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Improvement Framework Report, including the Review of Governance, and the CA Board's response to it, be noted.</p>
4	Corporate Risk Register	<p>Chris Bolton, Head of Programme Management Office introduced the report which asked the Committee to review the revised risk register.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Review of Corporate Risk Register and Risk Management Strategy report be noted.</p>
5	Internal Audit Progress Report	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Internal Audit progress report for 2020/21 be noted.</p>
6	Internal Audit Annual Report	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the draft Internal Audit Annual Report for 2021/22 be noted</p>
7	Internal Audit Plan 2022-23	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approves the topics of the reviews proposed in the CA Audit Plan for 2022/23 ii. Recommends that officers adopt a flexible approach and give priority to work that helps the improvement journey.

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
		That RSM will: iii. Forewarn the Committee of any potential issues it has, or foresees, with delivery against the Plan.
8	Draft Narrative Report and Annual Governance Statement 2021/22	RESOLVED: That the Committee: Note the draft narrative report 2021/22 and the draft Annual Governance Statement and recommend that a post end of year comment detailing latest developments be included in the final report.
9	CPCA Local Authority Trading Companies	RESOLVED: That the update on the Combined Authority Trading Companies be noted.
10	Work Programme	RESOLVED: That the work programme be noted.

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Decision Summary

Meeting: 25 July 2022

Agenda/Minutes: [Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 25 July 2022](#)

Chair: Cllr Lorna Dupré

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
1.	Apologies & Declarations of Interest	<p>Cllr R Robertson, Cambridge City Council substituted by Cllr S Smith Cllr A Van de Weyer, South Cambridgeshire District Council, substituted by Cllr Fane Cllr M Goldsack, Cambridgeshire County Council.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
2.	Public Questions	There were no public questions.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Action Log	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 28 March 2022 were approved as a correct record.</p> <p>The Chair asked that outstanding Transport Update item noted in the Action Log and the Climate Change item be further discussed under the work programming agenda item.</p>
4.	Improvement Framework	<p>Gordon Mitchell, Interim Chief Executive introduced the report outlining the recommendations that would be made to the Board at their meeting on Wednesday.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p>

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
		The Committee noted the report and gave their support to the recommendations to the Board outlined in the report.
5.	Business & Skills Update	<p>The Committee received a report which updated members of the Committee on the strategic direction and performance of existing contracts within Business and Skills at the Combined Authority.</p> <p>RESOLVED That the Committee note the Business and Skills Update Report.</p>
6.	Budget Setting Process	<p>Jodie Townsend, Interim Head of Governance, introduced the report the purpose of which was to set out a proposal for consideration that would allow the Committee more involvement in the budget setting process moving forward.</p> <p>RESOLVED That:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Committee agree the budget scrutiny process for 2022/23 as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report. b. Cllr Sharp be appointed the Lead Member for Finance and Budgetary issues. c. The 26 August reserve meeting date be used, in part, to receive an early report on the budget and in preparation for further discussion on the budget at the Committee's September meeting.
7.	Combined Authority Forward Plan	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>The Committee noted the Forward Plan</p>

Item	Topic	Decision <i>[None of the decisions below are key decisions]</i>
8.	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The reserve meeting date of 26 August be confirmed, and the following items added to the agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory Budget Report • The Improvement Framework • Update on Warm Homes and The Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LAD2) • Update on the Bus Review, including the 905 Service and the DRT service 2. The scoping document for the review of the Governance of the CPCA's Housing Programme be noted and that it be added to the Work Programme.
9.	Date and Time of Next Meeting	The next meeting would be on Friday 26 August 2022 at 11:00. The venue would be Pathfinder House, Huntingdon.

Combined Authority Board Decision Summary

Meeting: 27 July 2022

Agenda/Minutes: Combined Authority Board - 27 July 2022

Chair: Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Combined Authority Board Annual Meeting: Decision Statement

Part 1 - Governance Items

1.1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Smith, substituted by Councillor J Williams and Police and Crime Commissioner D Preston, substituted by Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner J Peach.

Councillor C Boden declared an interest in Item 2.1: Budget Monitor Report July 2022 as a Trustee of FACT, which provided the No.68 bus route in Wisbech on a non-profit basis.

Professor A Neely declared an interest in relation to Item 5.1: Active Travel Cambridgeshire, in that he is a member of the Greater Cambridge Partnership Board. Professor Neely took part in the debate of the report, but did not vote.

1.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Combined Authority Board 20 May 2022, Minutes of the Combined Authority Annual Meeting 8 June 2022 and Action Log

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting on 20 May 2022 were deferred to 31 August 2022 for approval.

The minutes of the annual meeting on 8 June 2022 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

The Action Log was noted.

1.3 Petitions

No petitions were received.

1.4 Public Questions

One public question was received from CamCycle from Roxanne De Beaux, Executive Director of Camcycle. A copy of the question and response (when published) can be viewed on the [meeting webpage](#).

1.5 Membership of Combined Authority 2022-23

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the appointment by South Cambridgeshire District Council of Councillor John Williams as its substitute member on the Combined Authority Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/2023, replacing Councillor Brian Milnes.
- b) Appoint Councillor Edna Murphy as a co-opted member of the Combined Authority Board for 2022/23 representing the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority and Councillor Mohammed Jamil as substitute member.
- c) Appoint Alex Plant as the Business Board member of the Combined Authority Board for 2022/23, and Professor Andy Neely as the substitute member.
- d) Approve the appointment of Councillor Bridget Smith of South Cambridgeshire District Council as the nominated substitute member for the Mayor and Lead Member for Economic Growth for the Business Board
- e) Note and agree the Mayor's nomination to Lead Member responsibilities for Lead Member for Governance as set out in paragraph 2.9 of this report

Part 2 – Finance

2.1 Budget Monitor Report July 2022 2021-22 Outturn

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the outturn position of the Combined Authority for the 2021- 22 financial year, including £2m of single pot revenue savings and £1.8m capital savings.
- b) Approve the updated requested slippage of unspent project budgets on the approved capital programme of £51.3m and on the revenue budget of £8.4m.

Part 3 – Mayoral Decisions

3.1 Recycled Local Growth Fund (LGF) Project Funding Awards: MDN 38-2022

It was resolved to note Mayoral Decision Notice MDN38-2022: Recycled Local Growth Fund (LGF) Category 2 funding approval.

Part 4 - Combined Authority Decisions

4.1 Improvement Framework

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the recommendations of the Audit & Governance Committee set out in paragraph 2.7 to 2.12 of this report and provide a response as requested.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive for the recruitment and appointment of additional resources, including interim Chief Officers and interim Statutory Officers (as defined within the constitution) as set out in paragraph 3.5 to 3.15 of this report.

- c) Delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive to finalise the senior management structure of the Authority as set out in paragraph 3.16 to 3.18 of this report.
- d) Acknowledge the scope and scale of the intended self-assessment exercise set out in this report and recognition of the scale of the current issues facing the Combined Authority.
- e) Support the self-assessment exercise set out in this report and provide comment on its content, noting the intention to conclude this work and report back to Board at its scheduled meeting on 21 September 2022.
- f) Allocate the use of up to £750,000 from the CPCA Response Fund to enable that money to be utilised on scoping, developing and delivering work relating to CPCA Improvement Activity, and delegate authority to spend to the Interim Chief Executive.
- g) Note the review of governance and ways of working attached at Appendix A.
- h) Request that the Board, and the Chairs of Audit & Governance Committee and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, receive regular updates on all improvement action.

4.2 Climate and Strategy Business Cases July 2022

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Business Case for the Huntingdon Biodiversity For All project and approve £1.2m CPCA capital investment and £150,000 revenue from subject to approval line in the MTFP.
- b) Approve the Business Case for the Fenland Soil project and approve drawdown of £100,000 from the subject to approval line in the MTFP for Climate Commission.
- c) Note the progress of the Waterbeach Renewable Energy Network project.

4.3 Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the final draft Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Investment Plan.
- b) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to make minor final refinements to the Local Investment Plan and to submit that final version to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities before the 1 August 2022 deadline.
- c) Delegate authority to Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to make amendments to the Local Investment plan based on any feedback from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and after consultation with the Cambridgeshire Public Service Board.

4.4 North Cambridgeshire Training Centre Infrastructure Funding

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Business Case for North Cambridgeshire Training Centre additional Infrastructure works and approve £347,000 Grant from the Transforming Cities Fund.
- b) Note formal commitment by project Lead to increase outputs by at least 10% across all learners using the centre per year until 2030 secured by a revised grant funding agreement.
- c) Seek a financial contribution from Metalcraft towards the infrastructure costs.

4.5 Cambridgeshire Peterborough Growth Company Limited (Growth Co) Allotment of New Shares to the Combined Authority

It was resolved to:

Give approval to the Cambridgeshire Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited (Growth Co) to issue 400,000 additional £1.00 shares to the Combined Authority in return for investment of the £400,000 of Recycled Local Growth Fund.

Part 5 - Transport and Infrastructure Committee recommendations to the Combined Authority

5.1 Active Travel (Cambridgeshire)

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the drawdown of the relevant share of the £753,000 of Active Travel Funding from the Medium-Term Financial Plan to complete a programme of active travel improvements in Cambridgeshire, as delivered by Cambridgeshire County Council.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to conclude a Grant Funding Agreement with Cambridgeshire County Council to enable work to progress.

5.2 Transport Model Replacement

It was resolved to:

- a) Agree the change in delivery for a new transport model with Cambridgeshire County Council being commissioned to lead the delivery of the model on behalf of all partners;

- b) Agree the changes to the spending objectives for the initial transport model budget. Previously approved budget will now be committed to modelling activities of:
 - i. Collection of data to populate current and future transport models; and
 - ii. Preparation of a full business case for the design and build of a new transport model.
 - iii. Retention of residual to be put towards model development (together with additional funding identified within the 2022/23 MTFP).
- c) Note the future arrangements for the review of the model, full business case, and sign-off of medium term financial plan (MTFP) funds (subject to approval) at a future date.

5.3 Peterborough Electric Bus Depot

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the current position in relation to the Peterborough Bus Depot Relocation.
- b) Support the proposal to investigate alternative options for the provision of a bus depot in Peterborough.
- c) Agree a £40,000 drawdown from the £150,000 in the STA revenue budget, to progress this project in a timely manner.

5.4 A141 St Ives Outline Business Case

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the release of £6m funding for the delivery of the Outline Business Case.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport and Chief Finance Officer to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with Cambridgeshire County Council.

5.5 East Anglian Alternative Fuels Strategy (EAAFS)

It was resolved to approve a six week public consultation on the EAAFS.

Part 6 - Business Board recommendations to the Combined Authority

6.1 Growth Works Management Review July 2022

It was resolved to note the Growth Works programme performance up to 31 May 2022 (Q6 is April 2022 to 30th June 2022).

Part 7 - Governance Reports

7.1 Member Officer Protocol

It was resolved to:

- a) Agree the Member Officer Protocol attached at Appendix A for adoption into the Constitution.
- b) Note the intention to review the Protocol within 6 months.
- c) Note the intention to develop a Social Media Protocol to support the Member Officer Protocol.

7.2 OneCAM Ltd Audit Report

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the One CAM Audit Report.
- b) Note the key findings and actions in the report.

7.3 Performance Report

It was resolved to note the latest performance report.

7.4 Annotated Forward Plan

It was resolved to approve the Annotated Forward Plan.

Combined Authority Board Decision Summary

Meeting: 31 August 2022

Agenda/Minutes: [Combined Authority Board - 31 August 2022](#)

Chair: Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Combined Authority Board Annual Meeting: Decision Statement

Part 1 - Governance Items

1.1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Conboy, substituted by Councillor T Sanderson.

Councillor C Boden declared an interest in Item 1.4: Public Questions, as a Cambridgeshire County Council appointed Trustee of FACT, which provides the No.68 bus route in Wisbech.

1.2 Minutes – 27 July 2022 and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting on 27 July 2022 were deferred to 21 September 2022 for approval.

The Action Log was noted.

1.3 Petitions

No petitions were received.

1.4 Public Questions

Three public questions were received from Councillor S Hoy, Cambridgeshire County Councillor, Fenland District Councillor and Leader of Wisbech Town Council; Councillor B Hunt, East Cambridgeshire District Council; and G James, local resident. A copy of the questions and responses (when published) can be viewed on the [meeting webpage](#).

Part 2 – Combined Authority Decisions

Key Decision added under Special Urgency Arrangements

Multiply – The Approach to Programme Delivery (KD2022/052)

It was resolved to:

- a) Accept the Multiply grant funding of £3,999,186 from the Department for Education and approve the creation of a new budget line in the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years as per Table A in Appendix 1 to this report, subject to receipt of the grant funding offer letter from the DfE.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Associate Director of Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to commission, enter into and sign grant funding agreements and contracts for services to the providers listed in Tables D and E in Appendix 1 to this report for 'on-menu' delivery and further allocations for 'off-menu', subject to receipt of the grant funding agreement.
- c) Approve the funding allocations to Further Education colleges, local authority Institutes of Adult Learning and procured Independent Training Providers (ITPs), subject to receipt of grant funding from the DfE.
- d) Approve the approach to programme management of Multiply and note the analysis of numeracy levels in the sub-region.

2.1 Green Home Grant LAD2 (KD2022/039)

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the ongoing work with BEIS to manage the recovery plan for the Green Homes Grant (LAD2 programme) and the revised forecast covering the scheme extension by an additional three months to complete installations by 30 September 2022.
- b) Approve the return of additional underspend to BEIS of £33.35m that is detailed in an MOU variation attached as Appendix 1.
- c) Delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer and the S73 Officer to return any remaining unspent capital funds at scheme end in line with the revised MOU and scheme conditions.

2.2 Sustainable Warmth Budget (KD2022/049)

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the ongoing challenges and work to manage the recovery plan for the Sustainable Warmth project and the revised forecast covering the scheme to complete installations by 31 March 2023.
- b) Approve the return of underspend to BEIS of £62,619,025 that is detailed in an MOU variation attached as Appendix 1.
- c) Delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to return any remaining unspent capital funds at scheme end in line with the original MOU and scheme conditions.
- d) Approve the establishment of a Sustainable Warmth (Retrofit) project board, based on the outline structure in this paper and delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with the Lead Member for the Environment and Climate Change, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to agree terms of reference.

2.3 Changing Futures

It was resolved to:

Approve the allocation of funds from the corporate response fund of £60,000 per annum for three years (2022-2025, total £180,000) in support of the collaborative Changing Futures project to Cambridgeshire County Council - the accountable body.

Part 3 – Governance Reports

3.1 Forward Plan

It was resolved to approve the Forward Plan for August 2022.

Part 4 – Exempt Matters

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the report contains exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, 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 its publication.

4.1 EXEMPT Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Combined Authority Board 20 May 2022

The minutes of the meeting on 20 May 2022 were deferred to 21 September 2022 for approval.

4.2 EXEMPT Employment Matters Part 1

It was resolved to:

1. In relation to Paul Raynes, Director of Delivery and Strategy:

- a) Approve Recommendation 1a.

2. In relation to interim arrangements:

- a) To note the proposals set out in this report regarding cover arrangements for Director Delivery & Strategy (6.1.2).

4.2 EXEMPT Employment Matters Part 2

It was resolved to:

1. In relation to Robert Parkin, Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer):

- a) Approve recommendation 1a.

2. In relation to interim arrangements:

- a) To note the proposals set out in this report regarding cover arrangements for Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer) (6.1.2).

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH FIRE AUTHORITY UPDATE

TO: Cambridgeshire County Council

FROM: Chair, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

DATE: 18 October 2022

1. WORLD MENOPAUSE AWARENESS DAY

- 1.1 We share today's Council meeting with World Menopause Awareness Day (WMAD). The theme of WMAD this year is 'continuing the conversation' which is a very apt theme for where the Service is at in their journey to make CFRS an even more supportive employer for women going through this transition in their lives.
- 1.2 An 'open to all' event to raise awareness of what the Service has done to date, what support is currently available and exploring what still needs to be done has been organised. It will be an opportunity for anyone - line managers who have women in their teams, men whose partners are over 40 and approaching the perimenopause/menopause age and women who are going through the menopause or who aren't there yet but want to find out more - and is yet another example of how the Service strives to be an inclusive, supportive employer and how those within it can be a supportive colleague, line manager or partner.

2. OPERATIONAL RESPONSE REVIEW PROJECT

- 2.1 I wanted to take this opportunity to provide an update on the above project. It has two clear areas of focus;
- **Service improvements** – looking into our current practices in terms of efficiency and effectiveness centering around the communities we serve and our employees. This also includes identifying opportunities to highlight any areas where change will allow existing finances and resources to be used in a different way.
 - **Financial contingency** - identifying options to reduce our budget if required to and highlighting the level of impact and risk this will cause.
- 2.2 With regard to service improvements, there are currently 21 workstreams that are assigned to challenging the current ways of working. A few highlights of some of the work that has been happening over recent months include but is not limited to:
- **Resourcing** - recently there has been a great deal of focus on a service Operational Degradation Procedure along with Response to Seasonal and Spate conditions The recent period of increased call volumes has challenged

our operational resources and in turn allowed us to gather some great information to challenge our current resource planning assumptions.

- **Most serious incidents** – within our new mobilising system there are a number of categories in which calls are placed. This provides the system the ability to offer resources for higher risk calls while on route to a lower risk call; decisions around how this will work in practice are still ongoing. In the meantime the Service has been working to understand what the Category 1 and 2 calls (life risk and higher risk) look like in terms of demand. The aim then will be to use this information to understand demand profiling to ensure our ability to meet the highest risk calls is met.
- **Equipment** – the Service has started exploring options in relation to 4x4 capacity within the county and reviewing the current specialist appliances.

- 2.3 The project continues to prove that we are a very lean organisation that will struggle to absorb any further financial restraints but it has allowed the Service to re-scope some of its planning assumptions and the team continue to visit stations to discuss concepts and to identify any further ideas that could support the continued development and improvement of the organisation.
- 2.4 With regard to financial contingency, the financial position continues to remain unclear and the Service has worked to identify options to reduce the budget if the need arises. A business continuity financial contingency plan is currently being expanded to identify wider options to include various levels of cuts (graded according to impact from low or no impact to inability to meet our statutory functions.) It is expected to be presented to the Fire Authority in November.
- 2.5 This type of planning has become even more of a priority with rising inflation, the potential for cost of living pay increases over our budgeted 2% and potential cuts to our government grant in the next comprehensive spending review period.
- 2.6 Both the Chief Fire Officer and myself as Chair of the Authority have written to Lord Greenhalgh, the then Minister of State for Building Safety and Fire raising our concerns about long term future financial planning and urging Government to provide clarity for the medium term next year to ensure the Authority can plan effectively and also requesting that the mechanism for allowing fire authorities flexibility around Council Tax precept increases is reviewed.
- 2.7 We have also written to our Members of Parliament and those that chose to reply firstly paid tribute to the remarkable work of our firefighters in response to the record setting temperatures during the summer, stating that the heatwave served as an exacting test of our national resilience and contingency planning and how proud they were that fire services across the country rose to the challenge so successfully. They also recognised people's anxiety over rising prices and inflation and offered assurances that the Government will continue to listen and to ensure that the policies in place do help those who need it most.

- 2.8 The national pay negotiations also pose another real threat, the threat of industrial action. The NFCC has stated that they support the principle of a significant uplift in pay through a funded pay settlement for firefighters and the National Employers have expressed their view that uniformed employees deserve a significant uplift in pay, however the issue of affordability for fire and rescue services prevents this. The Chair of the Employers' Side of the National Joint Council has asked the Home Office to consider additional funding to support an increased pay offer for Grey Book employees, as they have with the police service pay award. They have asked for prompt consideration of the request to achieve this outcome. At the time of writing a 2% pay offer was unanimously rejected by the Fire Brigades Union (FBU) who, in the absence of a further offer, are shortly expected to ballot their membership about strike action. I have participated in different national discussions, at 'Chiefs and Chairs' meetings convened by the HMICFRS and also within the LGA's Fire Commission, looking at a range of challenges facing the Service at this time.
- 2.9 As a result of this, the Service has initiated its business continuity industrial action plan to ensure that it can maintain its legal duty to provide a fire and rescue service as set out within the Civil Contingencies Act. I am assured that the Service are in a position to achieve this with the support of a range of personnel from across the Service, although we recognise this cover will not be to the level of normal arrangements that we have in place.

3. HOME OFFICE WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Council may be aware that the long-awaited Home Office open consultation seeking views on proposals to 'introduce system wide reform that will strengthen fire and rescue services in England' recently took place. The Government says it wants to ensure that fire and rescue services are given the tools and support to tackle the ever-changing challenges that communities face and the reform is explained in three sections:
- **People** - proposals seek to clarify the role of the firefighter and to build a culture that welcomes every member of our community,
 - **Professionalism** - to provide greater development and leadership opportunities to all fire service staff, no matter how experienced they are,
 - **Governance** - to explore the potential in providing operational independence to Chief Fire Officers.
- 3.2 The Authority submitted a joint response with the Service; the Government is now analysing all responses received and we await the outcomes, noting that we have reviewed our standing orders and created more operational independence to the Chief Fire Officer than previously.
- 3.3 Part of the consultation includes an outline plan to commission an independent review into the current pay negotiation process and consider if it is fit for a modern emergency service. Our position is that we support a properly funded and appropriate cost of living uplift for all our staff whilst recognising that if it isn't

funded we will need to find anything that exceeds 2% from existing budgets (see also Paragraph 2.4 above).

4. HER MAJESTY'S INSPECTORATE OF CONSTABULARY AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES (HMICFRS) – RESULTS AND NEXT ROUND OF INSPECTIONS

- 4.1 Since our last report to Council, the tranche two HMICFRS results have been published (July 2022). There has been another mixed picture with 11 of the 15 services in the second tranche getting one or more 'Requires Improvement', a couple getting one or more 'Inadequate' and one service getting an 'Outstanding' in one of the 11 subcategories. Three services got 'Good' in all 11 subcategories. This puts CFRS in the top six of the 28 fire and rescue services who have now had their inspection results published; this is a fantastic achievement considering we are a small fire and rescue service with a low cost per head of the population.
- 4.2 The Service has already progressed in all of the areas it had flagged as areas it could improve in. As Chair of the Authority I, along with all Members of the Authority, genuinely look forward to discussing this progress when the inspection team return for our next inspection in early 2023.

5. MAJOR INCIDENTS – SUMMER HEATWAVE

- 5.1 The summer months proved to be extraordinarily busy, placing unprecedented demand on the Service and challenging a number of areas of our operational response. The record-breaking July heatwave in particular reminded us all of what fire and rescue services can increasingly expect to face as climate change tightens its grip, and the challenges this presents to the Service, and indeed its general resourcing model, now and in the future.
- 5.2 In July alone, the Service call handlers dealt with nearly 800 calls, including 300 between 1400 and 1700 hours on 19 July when they were assisting other services. On that day, the temperature officially reached 39.9C at Cambridge University Botanic Garden while a new national record of 40.3C was set in Coningsby, Lincolnshire.
- 5.3 As multiple field fires broke out amid the extreme heat, fire engines were sent to 92 incidents in Cambridgeshire - the highest number since at least 2009, when the current recording system was implemented. On an average July day, the Service would expect to attend 25! For long periods in the afternoon, almost every available fire engine was committed to an incident, which is unprecedented. Our combined fire control was under immense pressure and at one stage, the duty call handlers were providing mobilising support for not only Cambridgeshire and Suffolk but also from London, Greater Manchester and Yorkshire.
- 5.4 May I highlight one of the occasions when more than 50 firefighters battled a huge blaze in Haddenham; about 200 acres of farmland, including bales, hedgerow and crops, were affected in the fire which required the attention of crews from Cottenham, Ely, Cambridge, Littleport, Chatteris, March, Sawtry,

Wisbech, the Peterborough Volunteer Fire Brigade, Stanground, Dogsthorpe and the south roaming fire engine, along with the water carrier from Ramsey and a crew from Wickhambrook in Suffolk. A massive joint effort!



- 5.5 Along with the Chief Fire Officer and all members of the Fire Authority, I am immensely proud of the people we have in the Service. Everyone has demonstrated their passion for serving the community and giving their best but also being there to help one another. In the lead up to the extreme weather many of our On-Call staff responded to our requests for support and the Service was able to increase its On-Call availability to between 12 and 20 appliances throughout both days. It was also really heartening to see residents interacting with us and sending us their praise and thanks. They clearly recognise the conditions firefighters have been working in and it means a great deal that people take the time to show us their support.

And finally

Since the last report to Council we have been visited by Her Majesty's High Sheriff for Cambridgeshire, Mrs Caroline Bewes, who presented the Service with a special award for keeping communities safe during the pandemic.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Source Documents	Location	Contact Officer
Fire Authority Minutes 2022 Various	Fire Service HQ Hinchingsbrooke Cottage Huntingdon	Dawn Cave dawn.cave@cambridgeshire.gov.uk 01223 699178