

County Council – 19th March 2024

## Item 5 – Petitions

Text of the petition titled ‘Disband the GCP and move it’s responsibilities and delegated powers to the control of the Mayoral Combined Authority’ containing 258 signatures

### Petition Overview:

“The County Council works with the government and partners to disband the GCP and move it’s responsibilities and delegated powers to the control of the Mayoral Combined Authority, whilst ringfencing the £40m a year it now receives, specifically to the existing geography of Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire.

We, the undersigned, believe the GCP have lost all credibility with the residents they are supposed to represent.

We have seen too much money wasted on failed or poorly managed schemes such as:

### Briefly:

- the East Road "wands"
- the Dutch roundabout
- the Congestion Charge failure, nearly £5m
- following above, a proposed ULEZ
- Milton Road
- Histon Road
- illegal footpaths
- "smart" traffic lights that are creating hold ups
- Mill Road Bridge closure (on hold following legal challenge)
- cycling schemes' failures
- bus improvements' failures.

Currently, there is too much duplication and too many failures costing too much money.

Consultation results and brilliant suggestions have been ignored.

The Mill Road Bridge closure decision resulted in a costly legal challenge.

Residents within and outside the GCP area were failed by this unelected body by the outright refusal by the GCP assembly and board to debate the contributions of more than 24,000 residents’ responses to their own consultation.

Residents of South Cambridgeshire were let down by the GCP abandoning plans for a Foxton travel hub and segregated CSET, but not pursuing the improvements now available.

They sought to destroy a historic orchard whilst refusing to examine alternative proposals. After the failure of the STZ, they let residents of the city down by then hastily pursuing a new war against private motorists.

Proposals include restricting freedom of movement with the introduction of gate controls across the city, preparing the groundwork for an unnecessary new ULEZ Tax by seeking to redefine air quality requirements.

The GCP and the CPCA share common aims but have duplicated bureaucracy that can be slimmed down.

Duplicated and conflicted decision making prevents the public from uniting behind one unified solution.

By agreeing to disband the GCP, moving it's responsibilities into the CPCA, the savings made could be transferred to public transport improvements.

Please help deliver a better and more coherent future by signing this petition.”