

Extraordinary Meeting of the Combined Authority Board: Decision Statement

Meeting: Friday 20 May 2022, reconvened Wednesday 8 June 2022

Published: Thursday 30 June 2022

Each key decision set below will come into force and may be implemented after 5.00pm on the fifth clear working day after the publication of the decision, unless it is called-in [see note on call in below].

Part 1 - Governance Items

1.1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

On Friday 20 May 2022 apologies for absence were received from Mayor Dr Nik Johnson; Councillor Bridget Smith, substituted by Councillor John Williams; Professor Andy Neely, Acting Chair of the Business Board; and Jan Thomas, Integrated Care Partnership.

On the resumption of the meeting on 8 June 2022 apologies for absence were received from Mayor Dr Nik Johnson; Councillor Chris Boden; Councillor Bridget Smith, substituted by Councillor John Williams; Councillor Edna Murphy, Fire Authority and Jan Thomas, Integrated Care Partnership.

There were no declarations of interest.

1.2 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

2.2 Part 2 – Combined Authority Decisions

Exclusion of the press and public

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

- 2.1 1. In light of the matters listed in Confidential Appendix 1 [at exempt appendix 3 to this report], **and the full investigation process already underway following a decision under the Member Conduct Complaints Procedure by the Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer**, the CPCA Board: ~~invites Dr Nik Johnson to consider voluntarily suspending himself as Mayor of the Combined Authority until all of the matters referred to in Confidential Appendix 1 [at exempt appendix 3 to this report] are procedurally concluded.~~

- a) **fully supports that investigation process and does not support or welcome any interference or prejudgement by Board members during that process, or see any justification to cause the Mayor himself to prejudge the outcome.**
- b) **supports, on its conclusion, consideration of any recommendations by the Combined Authority and its Audit and Governance Committee and that any such recommendations are published, according to the clear and proper review processes defined in the Constitution.**

2.3 Transition Planning

It was resolved:

1. In relation to the Chief Executive Officer to:

a) Approve Recommendation 1a.

2. In relation to the Acting Chief Executive Officer to:

a) Note the contents of the delegation made in respect of the outgoing Chief Executive Eileen Milner, to Paul Raynes.

b) Note that a settlement recommendation will be issued to the Board shortly relating to the resignation of Paul Raynes.

3. In relation to interim arrangements:

a) To note the proposals set out in this report regarding the appointment of an interim CEX.

4. In relation to interim arrangements – Improvement Board:

a) To note the recommendations set out in this report relating to the establishment of an Improvement Board for CPCA

~~a) To agree in principle to the establishment of an Improvement Board~~

~~b) To authorise Officers to work further with DLUHC and LGA to make necessary arrangements to convene an Improvement Board, building on the draft ToRs set out in this report~~

~~c) To invite Officers to provide a further update on this matter to members.~~

b) To mandate the Head of Paid Service and the S73 Chief Finance Officer, working together with the CPCA chief executives' group, to open discussions with DLUHC about the options for assistance in response to

the concerns raised in the Authority's external auditors' letter dated 1 June 2022 and report back to the Board by its next meeting date.

5. In relation to the Member Officer Protocol:

- a) Agree to follow the principles set out in the DRAFT Member Officer Protocol attached at Appendix A pending the formal adoption following review by the Audit and Governance Committee.
- b) Request that the Audit & Governance Committee review the DRAFT Member Officer Protocol and make recommendations on its content to the Board for consideration at the earliest opportunity

Notes:

- a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.
- b) Five Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may call-in a key decision of the Mayor, the Combined Authority Board or an Officer for scrutiny by notifying the Monitoring Officer.

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