

Chapter 10 - Housing and Communities Committee

1. Governance

1.1. The Combined Authority has appointed a Housing and Communities Committee. The committee is an executive committee of the Combined Authority Board. It takes decisions within the strategic and budgetary framework agreed by the Combined Authority Board.

2. Introduction

2.1. The Housing and Communities Committee operates within the terms agreed by the Combined Authority Board.

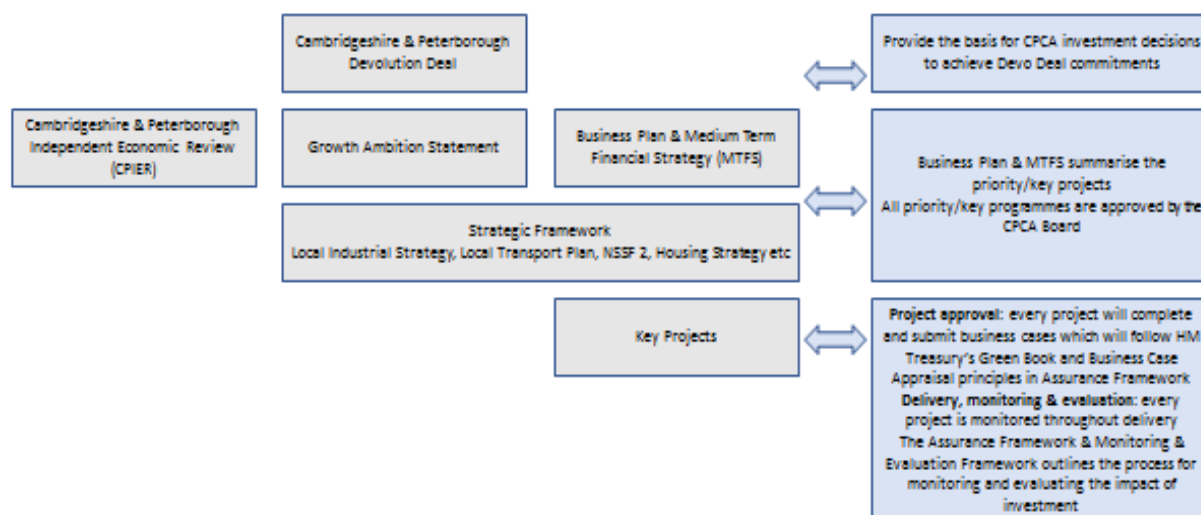
2.2. The Combined Authority Board retains responsibility for agreeing its strategies, key priority projects and the budget as set out in Chapter 4 of the Constitution (for example Annual Business Plan, Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Housing Strategy). These are known as 'reserved matters' or "the budget and policy framework".

2.3. The Committee has responsibility for agreeing housing and community policies and projects within the budget and policy framework set by the Combined Authority Board.

2.4. The Committee shall have responsibility for ensuring all programmes and projects comply with the Assurance Framework, and that they are monitored and evaluated in accordance with the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

2.5. The Committee can initiate proposals for the Combined Authority Board to consider.

2.6. The budget and policy framework is summarised below:



3. Terms of Reference

Functions

3.1. The Housing and Communities Committee may make recommendations on the following matters to the Combined Authority Board (reserved matters):

- (1) Housing Strategy
- (2) Any other matters reserved to the Combined Authority Board.

3.2. The committee shall exercise the Combined Authority's functions for the following:

3.2.1. Oversee the development and management of the Housing Strategy and any other key strategies reserved to the Combined Authority Board, including consultation and engagement processes, and making recommendations to the Board.

3.2.2. Oversee the development of, and approve all policies arising from the Housing Strategy.

3.2.3. Ensure all programmes and projects are within the scope of the strategic and budget framework approved by the Board.

3.2.4. Ensure effective engagement and consultation is in place and can be evidenced.

3.2.5. Approve the commissioning of delivery partners where this is required,

3.2.6. Authorise the staged release of budget for housing projects to be funded from:

(a) £100m Affordable Housing Programme, allocated for affordable housing within the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority area to include:

- £60m grant funding - £40m revolving funding, allocated to the Housing Company

(b) £70m Affordable Housing Programme allocated to Cambridge City Council.

3.2.7. Act as Accountable Body for the release of the Housing Infrastructure Funding for the Cambridge Northern Fringe East housing project.

3.2.8. Consider the Business Plan, Annual Accounts and Shareholders Agreement for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Development Company and make recommendations to the Combined Authority Board.

3.2.9. Oversee the development and approve all other housing and community programmes and projects not reserved to the Combined Authority Board including but not limited to those relating to:

(a) Culture and Tourism

(b) Oversee delivery of the Connecting Cambridgeshire Project by Cambridgeshire County Council

3.2.10. Ensure all programmes and projects comply with the Assurance Framework and are monitored and evaluated in line with the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

3.2.11. Matters initiated by the committee can be referred to the Board.

3.2.12. The Combined Authority Board may decide to refer further individual matters to the committee.

4. Strategic and Budget Framework

4.1. The Committee should ensure schemes contribute and meet the targets in the agreed strategic and budget framework. Any decisions must be within the parameters agreed by the Board.

5. Accountability

5.1. The committee is accountable to the Combined Authority Board.

6. Membership

6.1. The Housing and Communities Committee shall comprise eight members to include the Mayor or his/her nominee and a Board Member from each of the seven constituent councils or their nominee. The Chair must be a Board member.

6.2. Where the Mayor does not take up his/her appointment on a committee. The membership shall be seven members comprising a Board member from each of the seven constituent councils or their nominees.

6.3. The Combined Authority Board shall appoint the committee and substitute members. With the exception of the Chair, Board members may nominate another member from their constituent council to be a member of the committee in their place. The Board member shall also nominate a named substitute member. Nominations are in consultation with the Mayor and subject to approval by the Board. In principle, neither the Mayor nor the Board will seek to exercise their voting rights to veto or vote against the appointment of constituent council members to executive committees. See also Chapter 11, paragraph 2 of the procedure rules of executive committees and Chapter 4 paragraph 4.4.

6.4. Co-opted Members of the Combined Authority Board should receive an open invite to all executive committees to enable them to attend for items of interest. If a co-opted member wishes to attend and speak at the meeting, they should notify the relevant Chair prior to the meeting. The rights and responsibilities of co-opted members as set out in the relevant paragraphs in chapter 2 paragraph 5 of the constitution apply to committees.

7. Lead Director

7.1. The Lead Director for the Committee is:

(a) Director Housing

8. Working Groups

8.1. The Committee may establish informal working groups to assist with the delivery of its objectives. These groups are non-decision making groups of Members of the Committee and officers.

8.2. The remit and terms of reference for any such subordinate body shall be approved by the committee.