



Any key decision/s set below will come into force and may be implemented after 5.00pm on the fifth clear working day after publication of the decision, unless they are called-in, with the exception of any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

## **1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest**

Apologies were received from Mayor Dr Nik Johnson, Ms Belinda Clarke, Cllr Dee Laws and Cllr Nigel Simons who was substituted by Cllr Hussain.

Cllr Dupre declared an interest in item 9 as Chair of the Environment and Green Investment Committee at Cambridgeshire County Council.

## **2 Election of Vice-Chair**

The Chair had received an expression of interest for the position of Vice-Chair from Cllr Davenport -Ray who was proposed by Cllr Hussain and seconded by Cllr Goodearl. There being no further nominations the matter was put to the vote and unanimously approved.

### RESOLVED:

That Cllr Lara Davenport-Ray be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee.

## **3 Minutes and Action Log**

The minutes of the meeting on 13 March 2023 were approved as an accurate record but the following comment was made in response to an action that was identified to request that the Audit report on the Housing Loans be circulated to the Committee:

*This action was considered inappropriate as no such report had been circulated to members of the Audit & Governance Committee. However, draft minutes from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 20 March 2023 recorded that the Housing and Communities Committee had initiated a review into the housing loans which would complete the internal audit review of the whole of the Affordable Housing Programme. Cllr Van de Weyer suggested that it would benefit the work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee if that Committee could be consulted on the scope of the remaining review.*

*A review of loan activities would be conducted when the matter of the remaining loan concluded as stated at paragraph 5.1 of the Housing Loans report being heard later on in the agenda*

## **4 Public Questions**

No public questions were received.

## **5 Affordable Housing Programme – Update on Implementation**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

a) The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee noted the report.

## **6 Community Homes Support**

RESOLVED: Decision referred up to the next meeting of Combined Authority Board as the vote was tied (3 for: 3 against)

- a) To recommend to the Combined Authority's Board that the Combined Authority discontinues providing a support service and further grant funding to community homes groups from 31 July 2023.
- b) To authorise an extension of the agreement with Eastern Community Homes to provide a support service to community homes groups from 30th June 2023 to 31 July 2023 on existing terms.

## **7 Community Homes Grant Applications**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) Award a grant of £15,000 to support a community homes proposal in Great Staughton.
- b) Decline an application for a community homes grant of £5,335 received from Suvanna Cohousing Ltd to support a community homes proposal in north Cambridge.
- c) Decline an application for community homes grant of £57,494 received from It Takes a City Community Land Trust to support a proposal to provide accommodation for homeless people at Hills Avenue, Cambridge.
- d) Decline an application for a community homes grant of £29,654 received from It Takes a City Community Land Trust to support a proposal to provide accommodation for homeless people at Fen Ditton.

## **8 Sustainable Land Use Advice**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) Note the outcome of a consultation on the scope of a sustainable land use advice service
- b) Request a business case for the advice service that aligns with the Local Nature Recovery Strategy programme of activity

## **9 Local Nature Recovery Strategy (KD2023/021)**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) To accept new burdens funding of £309k from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) for the preparation of a Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- b) To allocate this funding of £165k in 2023/24 and £144k in 2024/25 to the LNRS Approved Budget line of the Medium Term Financial Plan
- c) To agree the outline programme as set out in Appendix A
- d) To delegate to the Executive Director of Place and Connectivity to agree operational delivery arrangements with Cambridgeshire County Council
- e) To note the arrangements for the involvement of constituent councils

## **10 Climate Action Plan**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) Note current progress on the Climate Action Plan
- b) Support the proposal for a climate engagement event in the autumn
- c) Approve the arrangements for an officer group to approve applications under the Climate Change Care Homes Programme.

**11 Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Framework (KD2023/022)**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) Agree the scope of activity to inform a Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Framework
- b) Allocate the budget of £130k in 2023/24 to the Non-statutory Spatial Framework Approved Budget line of the MTFP to progress this work

**12 Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee Agenda Plan**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) The Environment and Sustainable Communities Committee noted the Agenda Plan.

**13 Housing Loans Update**

RESOLVED (UNANIMOUS):

- a) The Environment and Sustainable Communities noted the current position in respect of the outstanding loan repayments required to fund the 2021-2022 Affordable Housing Programme.

**14 Date of next meeting**

The Committee had been due to meet on Monday 3 July but this date had been cancelled due to lack of business and therefore the date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 11 September.