



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board: Minutes

Date: Wednesday 22nd March 2023

Time: 10.00am to 1.51pm

Venue: Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon PE29 3TN

Present: Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

Councillor A Smith (Statutory Deputy Mayor) – Cambridge City Council,
Councillor A Bailey – East Cambridgeshire District Council, Councillor
S Conboy – Huntingdonshire District Council, Councillor
W Fitzgerald – Peterborough City Council, A Plant – Chair of the Business
Board, Councillor T Sanderson - Cambridgeshire County Council and
Councillor B Smith – South Cambridgeshire District Council

Co-opted Members:
(non-voting) J O'Brien – Integrated Care System and J Peach, Deputy Police and
Crime Commissioner (from 12.23pm)

Apologies: Councillors C Boden, L Nethsingha (substituted by Councillor T
Sanderson) and E Murphy and D Preston (substituted by J Peach)

Part 1 – Governance items

361. Announcements, apologies for absence and declarations of interest

The Mayor paid tribute to Statutory Deputy Mayor Councillor Anna Smith for stepping in and leading the work of the Combined Authority during his time away to receive medical treatment. This had given him much time to reflect, and he looked forward to getting back to work with the Board and with the wider Combined Authority family.

He welcomed Nick Bell - Executive Director for Resources and Performance, Richard Kenny - Executive Director for Economy and Growth, Kate McFarlane - Head of Policy and Executive Support and Alison Marston - Head of Democratic Services, to their first meetings since joining the Combined Authority (CPCA).

There was a significant number of items on the agenda relating to transport, which reflected the volume of work being undertaken by the CPCA and its partners in this area. Since the Board meeting in January, the Combined Authority had been successful in attracting significant additional funding to the area. This included £47.85m Levelling Up Fund Round 2 funding for Peterborough Station Quarter, £169k Local Transport Fund 2 money to assist in the development of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, and a £89k Local Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Capability grant that would support the CPCA and partners to make a bid for LEVI funding later in the year. An Active Travel Lead had been appointed and would be in post early in the summer. They would be tasked with establishing an Active Travel Scrutiny Group to examine all CPCA schemes and initiatives to ensure it continued to deliver for the people of the region. They would also provide a steer regarding the employment of an Advocate to push the case for active travel for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, both internally and externally with central Government and stakeholders. The CPCA had been one of 30 authorities to be ranked highly at 2 in Active Travel England's first review, with many authorities scoring only 1. Rating 2 was a recognition of *'strong local leadership with clear plans that form the basis of an emerging network'*, with elements already in place. This excellence rating was critical to the CPCA's ambitions to increase walking, cycling and wheeling networks within its mixed rural, urban and city areas as it would guide how funding and other resources were allocated. Finally, in relation to buses, the response to the Bus Strategy consultation had been extremely positive and provided the CPCA with a mandate to deliver against its aims and objectives.

Apologies for absence were noted as recorded above.

There were no declarations of interest.

362. Membership Update

Two changes were reported to the published papers. Huntingdonshire District Council's substitute member of the Employment Committee would revert to Councillor Tom Sanderson from 22nd March 2022 and Cambridgeshire County Council's substitute member for the Combined Authority Board would be Councillor Tom Sanderson.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Statutory Deputy Mayor Councillor Smith, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the appointments by Huntingdonshire District Council of Councillor Jon Neish as the member and Councillor Stephen Corney as the substitute on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- b) Note the appointment by Huntingdonshire District Council of Councillor Lara Davenport-Ray as the substitute member for the Employment Committee ~~for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23~~ **from 13th March 2023 to 21st March 2023 inclusive.**

- c) **Note the appointment by Huntingdonshire District Council of Councillor Tom Sanderson as the substitute member of the Employment Committee from 22nd March 2023 for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.**
- d) Note the appointment by Peterborough City Council of Councillor Jackie Allen as the representative for the Employment Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- e) **Note the appointment by Cambridgeshire County Council of Councillor Tom Sanderson as substitute member of the Combined Authority Board for the remainder of the municipal year.**

[**Bold text** indicates additional resolutions made at the meeting. ~~Struck through-text~~ indicates wording removed from published recommendations]

363. Minutes – of the meetings on 25th January 2023 and the Extraordinary meeting on 8th February 2023 and the minutes action log

The minutes of the meetings on 25th January and 8th February 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor. The minutes action log was noted.

364. Petitions

No petitions were received.

365. Public questions

A public question was received from Roxanne de Beaux, Chief Executive of Camcycle. A copy of the question and response are attached at Appendix 1.

366. Senior Appointments

The report contained an appendix which was exempt 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). The public interest in maintaining the exemption was deemed to outweigh the public interest in its publication. No member of the Board wished to discuss the exempt appendix.

The Interim Chief Executive stated that there had been a full and open appointment process including long-listing and short-listing of candidates, and candidate engagement with stakeholders. The Employment Committee had met on 20th May 2023 to conduct interviews and had unanimously endorsed the recommended candidate.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved by a majority to:

- a) Note the contents of this report.
- b) Receive and agree the recommendation made by the Members of the Employment Committee at the meeting on 20th March 2023 that the preferred candidate be appointed to the position of Chief Executive: Rob Bridge

Part 2 – Activity highlights

367. Combined Authority Monthly Highlights Report: February 2023

The monthly highlights report set out the Combined Authority's day to day business and achievements. Since publication, the Government's budget announcement had been made. This included proposals by the Chancellor to initiate fresh devolution discussions following the new deals forged with the West Midlands and Greater Manchester Combined Authorities. The M10 group of combined authority mayors would open that discussion later in the week when they met with the Secretary of State, and there would need to be discussions locally between the CPCA and its partners on what was desirable and achievable in this context for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The funding decisions before the Board evidenced Government recognition of the CPCA as an improving partner. For example, the Net Zero Hub had been struggling in summer and autumn of 2022 and had needed to return significant funds to Government. This contrasted with the current position where the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) had agreed to extend the deadline for the LAD3 programme, and an announcement was expected later that day of a two year HUG2 grant to the CPCA worth between £82m and £156M. The CPCA has also passed its annual audit of the delivery of European Social Fund (ESF) monies. The Government had announced its intention to consult on future arrangements for local enterprise partnerships (LEPs). Locally, the CPCA would remain the lead authority for its LEP (the Business Board), but the reduction in core funding for LEP administration would be an issue.

Councillor B Smith asked that the Board should be actively involved in early activity around 'Devo 2', including co-production with officers to ensure that it reflected the shared vision of elected members. She was meeting the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUCH) the following week and, with the Mayor's agreement, would raise this issue then. The Interim Chief Executive acknowledged the request for early Board involvement, but cautioned that the timeframe would be set by central government. In his judgement, this was likely to be around a year to eighteen months.

Mr O'Brien noted the far-reaching implications regarding the new settlements for Greater Manchester and the West Midlands and would want to see the CPCA involved in the next wave of discussions.

The Statutory Deputy Mayor highlighted that the original devolution deals had primarily transferred existing local authority powers to combined authorities, whilst the new deals

with Greater Manchester and the West Midlands made new powers available to those bodies.

Councillor B Smith commented that LEPs worked closely together and that there would be an impact on the Business Board if its partner LEPs faced a period of instability. She asked whether any jobs would be at risk locally. The Chair of the Business Board stated that from his discussions with officials the direction of travel was clear. The Business Board was fortunate in already being nested within the CPCA, but he acknowledged that there would be a period of instability for other LEPs and that this was a matter of concern for LEP chairs.

The Chair of the Business Board noted that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough had not been included in the twelve areas identified in the Budget for investment zones. However, conditions locally reflected those set out by central government and he urged that this should be pursued to establish why Cambridgeshire and Peterborough had not featured in the current round and to press its case for future consideration. The Interim Chief Executive stated that there had been no bidding process for the investment zones announced in the Budget Statement, but there had been a clear statement that Government remained open to further discussions around this. Board members had expressed concern around the potential loosening of environmental protections in the previous iteration of investment zones. The newly appointed Executive Director for Economy and Growth had been involved in work around this in previous roles, and the Interim Chief Executive suggested an early discussion with the Board to inform what would be a substantial piece of work. Councillor Fitzgerald stated that Peterborough City Council was already in active discussion with Government around its ambitions in this area. **Action required**

It was resolved to:

Note the content of this report.

Part 3 - Finance

368. Budget Monitor Report March 2023 [KD2023/005]

The budget monitor report for March was published on 15th March 2023 having been accepted by the Mayor as a late report on the following grounds:

- i. Reason for lateness: Publication was delayed due to report authors awaiting clarification on review points from officers to enable the Executive Director to sign off the reports.
- ii. Reason for urgency: Both reports needed to be presented at this Board meeting as the recommendations within them, if approved, would enable unspent 'slippage' budgets to be carried forward for use in the new financial year and for updated Treasury strategies to be followed.

The report provided an update on the CPCA's financial position to the end of January 2023 based on actual income and expenditure. The Board's approval was sought for the carry forward of unspent budget for 2023/24 and to merge three Adult Education budget lines. The latter recommendation had been unanimously endorsed by the Skills Committee at its meeting on 6th March 2023. A significant underspend was forecast in relation to both revenue and capital budgets, and this was set out in detail in Appendix 4 alongside all material variances. Some slippage on capital projects was unavoidable, but a number of recurrent themes had been identified which the CPCA would work with constituent councils and delivery partners to address. Some subject to approval budget lines had not yet been brought to the Board for approval, and it was recommended that these were slipped to 2023/24. None were time sensitive and there was no risk of clawback. An internal audit review had been commissioned to look at providing more up to date figures in future and discussions were taking place with the constituent councils' chief finance officers about streamlining processes to facilitate this. A separate review had been commissioned around internal processes and it was hoped to see the outcome of that informing the figures in the next report.

Councillor Bailey noted that two months after setting a budget that included a Mayoral precept the CPCA was looking at a budget variance of £23.4m. She considered it was rather shocking to have pressed ahead with the precept when there was headroom to be had. She asked whether the bus services which had been tendered within the budget were included specifically within the bus budget or whether it was general budget slippage that might be paying for re-tendered bus services. The Executive Director for Resources and Performance stated that only c£169k of revenue finance had been available to support bus services as most of the revenue underspend was in the form of ring-fenced grants and so not available to support bus services. Officers would provide a note on the second point. The tendering of bus services should come out of levy-funded schemes, but if there was any overspend on that it would need potentially to be taken from other sources. **Action required**

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the financial position of the Combined Authority for the year to date.
- b) Approve the draft slippage figures as set out in appendices 1&2 and summarised in paragraphs 3.5 and 5.7.
- c) Approve to merge the three budget lines as set out below:
 - 1) AEB Innovation Fund – Revenue;
 - 2) AEB Provider Capacity Building; and
 - 3) AEB Strategic Partnership Development
- d) Note the correction to LAD 3 and HUG 1 capital and revenue budgets and the national extensions agreed to both programmes.

369. Treasury Management Strategies 2023/24

The treasury management strategies report 2023/24 was published on 15th March 2023 having been accepted by the Mayor as a late report on the following grounds:

- i. Reason for lateness: Publication was delayed due to report authors awaiting clarification on review points from officers to enable the Executive Director to sign off the reports.
- ii. Reason for urgency: Both reports need to be presented at this Board meeting as the recommendations within them, if approved, will enable unspent 'slippage' budgets to be carried forward for use in the new financial year and for updated Treasury strategies to be followed.

Treasury management strategies and the minimum revenue provision statement were brought to the Board annually for approval and showed how capital expenditure would be funded over time. The drafts had been reviewed by the Audit and Governance Committee in December and had been recommended for the Board's approval.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor B Smith, it was resolved unanimously to:

a) Approve the following financial strategies:

- i) The Capital Strategy 2023-24
- ii) The Investment Strategy 2023-24
- iii) The Treasury Management Strategy 2023-24

b) Approve the Minimum Revenue Provision statement for 2023-24.

Part 4 – Improvement

370. Improvement Plan Update

The report set out progress against the improvement plan and the outcomes achieved during the previous three months. The corporate plan had been approved by the Board in January and provided a golden thread with day to day work. The senior staffing structure was now in place following the appointments of a new chief executive and two new executive directors and additional support put in place for the Mayor. Staffing was more stable, with more permanent appointments made. Work had been reframed to ensure that improvement activity was clear and relevant, that any areas for future work were identified and that there was a focus on embedding lasting change. There was still lots to do, but progress was being made.

Lord Kerslake was stepping down as Chair of the Independent Improvement Board (IIB) with immediate effect due to ill health. Julie Spence OBE QPM, Lord Lieutenant of

Cambridgeshire, would be stepping in temporarily and further information around future arrangements would be provided in the next fortnight. The Mayor endorsed Board members' wish to acknowledge the significant amount which Lord Kerslake had done during his short period at the helm of the IIB and would write on behalf of the Board to thank him. **Action required**

Councillor B Smith referenced the consistent issue over time with long Board agendas and late papers, and emphasised the need to address this in order to get full engagement from Board members. The Chair of the Business Board concurred, suggesting the production of short documents with more detail laying behind them.

Councillor Bailey expressed surprise that there was no feedback on governance breaches, in order to be open and transparent. The Interim Director of Transformation Programme stated that there had been correspondence around this and that broader work was on-going. The concerns which Board members had asked to be shared with the IIB had been passed on.

The Statutory Deputy Mayor thanked the Interim Director of Transformation Programme for her thoughtful and strategic work. The Mayor endorsed this, commenting that the organisation felt positive and the staff enthused.

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the outcomes delivered at the end of the initial three-month period against the outcomes set out in the report to Board in October 2022.
- b) Note progress across the improvement programme in February 2023 as set out in the highlight report attached as Appendix 1.
- c) Note the stocktake undertaken and proposed reframed focus for improvement activity as set out in paragraph 4 and Appendix 2.
- d) Note the resignation of the Independent Improvement Board Chair with immediate effect and the arrangements underway to find a replacement.

371. Combined Authority Governance Arrangements

A correction to the voting arrangements was reported. Recommendations a), b), c), g) h) and i) would, if approved, result in changes to the Constitution. As such, these were subject to special voting arrangements and would require a vote in favour by at least two-thirds of Board members or their substitutes present and voting.

The findings of an independent review of governance had been endorsed by the Board in July 2022, with a report in October 2022 setting out specific governance outcomes. The recommendations before the Board aligned with those previous reports and included a summary of intended objectives. The purpose was in part to support Board members by clarifying the strategic role of the Board and establishing decision-making committees. Changes to report formats, enhancements to lead member roles and addressing the size of agendas and quality of reports would also support further

improvement. Thanks were expressed to Councillor Edna Murphy, Lead Member for Governance, for her valuable guidance on the proposals and content of the report.

Councillor B Smith asked for more information around the make-up of the Business Board and the review of its terms of reference. The Chair of the Business Board stated that the aim was to take a fresh look at this, including around the involvement of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), the not for profit sector and democratic representation. Officers stated that the proposals included increasing CPCA elected member representatives on the Business Board to include the Mayor, the Lead Member for Economic Growth and the Lead Member for Skills and Employment. They also included a request that the Business Board lead work to consider its future membership.

Councillor Bailey expressed her thanks to the Governance Improvement Lead for a careful and thoughtful piece of work.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Conboy, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the Combined Authority Board Terms of Reference/ Key Functions set out in Appendix A.
- b) Approve proposed changes (including Terms of Reference attached at Appendices B to D) to Thematic Committees set out in 3.6.1 to 3.6.6 of this report.
- c) Approve Terms of Reference for a Human Resources Committee set out in Appendix E.
- d) Approve the Leaders Strategy Meeting Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix F.
- e) Approve the creation of the informal advisory groups as noted in 3.9.1 of this report.
- f) Approve the Calendar of Meetings set out in Appendix G.
- g) Approve the change in role of the Business Board set out in 3.11 of this report.
- h) Approve Business Board Key Functions and CPCA Membership attached at Appendix H for inclusion in Business Board Terms of Reference.
- i) Endorse actions set out in 3.14 to 3.18 of the report in support of progressing new role and functions for the Business Board.

372. Review of the Constitution

The proposed amendments to the Constitution set out in the report had been presented to a Leaders' strategy meeting and to the Audit and Governance Committee and had

been supported. The draft had also been circulated to the monitoring officers of the constituent councils and four comments had been received which had been considered. Changes included providing clarity around Board members asking questions on notice at meetings and a mechanism for making referrals to the Audit and Governance Committee. The Constitution was a living document which needed to be reviewed regularly. New protocols around social media and data protection had not yet been finalised and would be brought to a future meeting.

Councillor Bailey commented that she had not had time to review the proposals in full, and might abstain from voting. A number of changes had been collated by the previous monitoring officer, and she sought confirmation of whether those were included in the document before the Board. The Interim Monitoring Officer stated that she was unsure whether this was the case and sought confirmation from another officer who confirmed they understood this to be the case.

Councillor Fitzgerald asked why it was proposed that committee decisions which were deadlocked would no longer be referred to the Board for decision, but would instead be deemed not to have been carried. The Interim Monitoring Officer stated that, having looked at the practice in other combined authorities, it was her view that the matter failed as no consensus had been achieved. This did not mean that the decision could not be taken to a subsequent meeting. Councillor Fitzgerald further noted that it was proposed that the Mayor would now have speaking rights at committee meetings and asked the rationale for this change. The Interim Monitoring Officer stated that this would allow the Mayor to take up a role as a non-voting member on all committees where they were entitled to do so and where they were not already a member. She had looked at other combined authority constitutions in relation to this.

Councillor Fitzgerald asked about the addition of arrangements for Board members to ask questions on notice at Board meetings. The Interim Monitoring Officer stated that, as the Constitution was currently drafted, Board members could not ask questions on notice of other members of the Board. The changes proposed had clarified a mechanism by which Board members could ask questions of the Mayor, Lead Members and other Board members. Councillor Bailey asked whether this change facilitated asking questions on items not on the agenda. The Interim Monitoring Officer stated that it was proposed that Board members would be able to ask other members of the Board questions about items on the meeting agenda or in the minutes without notice. Questions on notice could relate to any matters, provided that they were submitted in writing four clear working days before the meeting.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved by a majority to:

Approve and adopt the recommended revisions to the Constitution detailed in this report.

Part 5 - Combined Authority Decisions

373. Local Transport Model Full Business Case [KD2023/014 Special Urgency]

This key decision report was added to the meeting agenda on 21st March 2023 under special urgency arrangements. The full business case and funding for the Local Transport Model was agreed by the Board in January 2023 and this further report sought a formal delegation of authority to officers to progress this.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with Cambridgeshire County Council.

374. Climate Action Plan Annual Report [KD2022/081]

Councillor B Smith, Lead Member for the Environment and Climate Change, welcomed the progress made by constituent councils and spoke of the importance of ensuring that the CPCA's work aligned with that of the Ox-Cam partnership to lever in the money needed to progress at scale.

The Chair of the Business Board welcomed the recognition of the importance of all sectors engaging in this process. He referenced the work being done by Anglian Water and the importance of working collectively to maximise benefits.

Councillor Conboy commented that she would be interested to see what partner councils were doing and to share learning. Much had already been achieved in Huntingdonshire, but the challenge was to push hard to do more. This included seeking the views of young people as tackling climate change was an important issue to many of them. Councillor B Smith described an event being planned in which young people would play a key part.

Councillor Bailey welcomed the annual report, but felt that whilst it contained a lot of information around engagement and business plans there was less detail about the delivery of change on the ground. She considered the RAG ratings to be quite generous, and felt that some quick wins were needed in the community to get people engaged and involved. She did not recall any comms activity around this. Officers stated that the monitoring information in the report was based on national data which was two years out of date, but that the area was not yet on a secure pathway to net zero. An engagement group had been established, but there would be further reflection around engagement and comms in light of this feedback. In relation to delivery, it would be important to be ready to pursue funding options as they emerged.

Councillor B Smith thanked Board members for their input and fair challenge around sharing learning and promoting the good work being done. She would reflect on this.

On being proposed by Councillor B Smith, seconded by the Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note progress on the Climate Action Plan 2022-2025.
- b) Support the changes to the Climate Action Plan set out in Appendix 1.
- c) Support the alignment of reporting data on carbon and greenhouse gas emissions.

375. Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership

The Board was invited to confirm the CPCA's intention to become a member of the Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership and to agree key appointments. The Chair of the Business Board welcomed the proposals, but felt that the potential value of the support of members of the Business Board was not recognised. He wanted to highlight this resource given the Business Board's new role in providing strategic advice to the CPCA.

Councillor Fitzgerald spoke of the need to avoid the partnership being Cambridge and Oxford-centric if it wanted to achieve wider buy-in. He felt that a focused set of shared objectives should be established.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Confirm the Combined Authority's intention to become a member of the Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership.
- b) Agree to the appointment of the Mayor as the Combined Authority representative on the Pan Regional Partnership.
- c) Agree to nominate the Lead Member for the Environment and Climate Change to represent the Combined Authority on the Environment Working Group of the Partnership.
- d) Agree to nominate the Statutory Deputy Mayor, Lead Member for Economic Growth, to represent the Combined Authority on the Economy Working Group of the Partnership.

376. Property Acquisition for Peterborough Bus Depot [KD2023/001]

The report contained a number of appendices which were exempt 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 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. No member of the Board asked to discuss the exempt appendices.

A short-notice bidding round had been announced by the Department for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) in December, and the CPCA had recently been advised that its application for funding to establish a depot for electric buses in Peterborough had been successful. The award had been subject to a requirement to commit funding by the end of the 2022/23 financial year, but DLUHC had subsequently extended that timeline. Officers recommended acquiring an option on a potential site to allow technicalities to be worked through at an appropriate pace.

Councillor Fitzgerald spoke of his expressed desire for cleaner, greener buses in Peterborough. He welcomed the proposal before the Board which would create breathing space to look at the site which had been identified and possible alternative sites. He emphasised that this represented the start of a longer journey which would require significant additional funding and support from Government and the CPCA to see the project through to completion. Officers stated that options agreements were commonly used by developers to assess a site's suitability. The CPCA had been working collaboratively with Peterborough City Council (PCC) and the proposal demonstrated good public sector asset management. The cost of the electricity infrastructure needed to support electric buses was significant, so consideration was being given to council vehicles also using the infrastructure to maximise its use. It would also put PCC in a good position for ZEBRA 2 funding.

The Mayor voiced his support for PCC's ambition on this and welcomed the agile response to the bidding round.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Identify a site at Nursery Lane, Peterborough, as a potential option to serve as a depot for electric buses.
- b) Authorise the acquisition of an option to acquire freehold property and delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive in consultation with the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to finalise any further terms necessary to enable completion.

377. Market Towns Programme: Supporting Community-Owned Businesses and Social Enterprises in Rural Hinterlands – Full Business Case [KD2022/050]

The Board was invited to approve the full business case for Phase 2 of the CPCA Market Towns programme, to be funded through a £2.5m gainshare capital investment. Phase 1 had seen the CPCA invest £13.1m across eleven market towns in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Phase 2 would run over two financial years and build on this work by continuing to support and grow social enterprises in market towns and high streets. It would also support work with social enterprise providers across the region to increase outreach to rural locations, and with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) providers through pop-up outreach events around the region.

[John Peach joined the meeting at 12.23pm]

Councillor B Smith asked whether the CPCA was ready as an organisation to deliver on this and whether work had been done to identify a need, given that local authorities (LAs) already supported community assets and the Greater Cambridge Partnership and Form the Future were already active in the STEM space. She also emphasised the importance of monitoring value for money and having measurable outcomes of success. Officers stated that more people were working from home now and were more engaged with their local communities and this initiative was looking to harness that. Significant engagement had taken place through social enterprise providers, although no direct engagement with LAs. The CPCA's input would complement what was already happening. A number of key performance indicators had been identified and it was intended to produce and publish a prospectus which would set out the programme's aims and measures.

The Statutory Deputy Mayor welcomed the work on projects to support market towns, describing it as exciting. She judged there was a need for a strong sense of what good would look like. There were a number of initiatives of this type happening in Cambridge and the City Council would be happy to share learning and good practice.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

Approve the full business case for Phase 2 of the CPCA Market Towns Programme requesting £2,500,000 of CPCA gainshare funding to support Social Enterprise in market town areas.

378. Market Towns Programme: Approval of Final Project Proposal (Funding Call 10 – March 2023) [KD2022/081]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bailey, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Approve the final project proposal received under Market Towns Programme from Huntingdonshire District Council to the sum of £802,150 for the towns of Huntingdon and St Ives.
- b) Consider the request received from Huntingdonshire District Council to extend the grant longstop completion date for the St Neots Masterplan (Phase 1) project from 31st March 2023 to 31st March 2024.

379. Capital Investment for Affordable Housing at Fanshawe Road, Cambridge [KD2023/011]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Approve £1M of grant funding to be awarded to Cambridge City Council for a redevelopment project at Fanshawe Road.

- b) Monitor delivery and outcomes.

380. Greater South East Net Zero Hub Local Energy Advice Demonstrator Projects [KD2023/012]

On being proposed by Councillor B Smith, seconded by the Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Agree the acceptance of the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, Local Energy Advice Demonstrators (LEAD) Projects MoU 2022 to 2025.
- b) Delegate authority to the Director of Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to finalise the details of the LEAD MoU and to enter into the LEAD MoU.
- c) Delegate authority to the Director of Place and Connectivity, upon the recommendation of the Hub Board, to approve the award of grants for the LEAD project where the decisions do not impact the Combined Authority budget or staffing arrangements and to execute the corresponding grant agreements. Such approvals or decisions to be reported to the next meeting of the Combined Authority Board on the exercise of that delegation.
- d) Delegate authority to the Director of Place and Connectivity, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, to approve the budgets corresponding to the LEAD MoU.
- e) Agree the variation to the Net Zero Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to incorporate the additional strategic projects and funding detailed in paragraph 2.12 of this report.
- f) Delegate authority to the Director of Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to finalise and execute the variation of the Net Zero MoU.
- g) Delegate authority to the Director of Place and Connectivity, upon the recommendation of the Hub Board, to approve the award of grants, contracts and agreements arising out of the Net Zero MoU where the decisions do not impact the Combined Authority budget or staffing arrangements and to execute the corresponding grants, contracts and agreements. Such approvals or decisions to be reported to the next meeting of the Combined Authority Board on the exercise of that delegation.
- h) Approve the establishment of a Retrofit project board, based on the terms of reference and governance framework for the Sustainable Warmth project board and delegate authority to the Director of Place & Connectivity, in consultation with the Lead Member for the Environment and Climate Change, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to agree the specific terms of reference and governance framework.

381. Part 6 - Transport Reports

The transport reports at Part 6 of the agenda had all been discussed at the Transport and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) meeting on 15th March 2023, but the committee was unable to formally approve them due to the absence of a representative from Peterborough City Council. However, an indicative vote had been taken on each report and all recommendations had been endorsed unanimously by those present.

Councillor Fitzgerald offered his apologies to members of the Transport and Infrastructure Committee and to members of the public attending the TIC meeting. Peterborough City Council's representative on the committee had been unable to attend the meeting due to the serious illness of a close relative and a substitute could not be found in time to attend.

The Statutory Deputy Mayor had chaired the TIC meeting and described it as a long meeting with a large number of questions from members of the public on challenges around bus services and the impact this had on their lives.

382. Local Transport and Connectivity Plan

The Board was advised that members of the Transport and Infrastructure Committee (TIC) had provided some feedback on the draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP). In response, the narrative would be made punchier and more positive, and the pictures and maps used would be reviewed and updated. Officers would continue to engage with the constituent councils, including on the localised sections of the plan.

Councillor Bailey commented that East Cambridgeshire District Council (ECDC) had provided detailed feedback on Appendix 3 and that she was disappointed that there were some omissions. These included cycling and walking feasibility studies commissioned by ECDC, no mention of work around dualling of the A10 and missing text on page 9. As the document made reference to congestion charging and workplace parking schemes she would be unable to support it as ECDC had passed a motion against such measures. There were lots of other demand management strategies that were not mentioned in the draft and her preference would be for those references to be removed as she felt they pre-empted matters. There were also several references to improving air quality in East Cambridgeshire. There were no issues in relation to minimum air quality standards in East Cambridgeshire and she would like that made clear. The Interim Head of Transport stated that references to A10 dualling and walking and cycling feasibility studies would be included in the section relating to East Cambridgeshire, and that officers were happy to have further conversations around that. Government had said that the CPCA needed to consider whether measures such as congestion charging were a fit at local level and that by doing so it would not be penalised. The list of demand management strategies included in the draft LTCP was based on insight from Government and had not been generated internally. Officers would continue to socialise the draft LTCP and engage with constituent councils ahead of it being brought back to the Board for decision in May.

Councillor Fitzgerald expressed similar concerns regarding the language around congestion charging, commenting that he could not support the LTCP without knowing more about what this meant for Peterborough. Officers stated that the current iteration of the LTCP already included references to demand management, and that the draft before the Board was for comment only at this stage and was not committing the CPCA to anything.

Councillor B Smith commented that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's carbon emissions were currently 25% higher than the national average due to transport emissions, and that the CPCA would need to be able to demonstrate that it had considered demand management strategies if it failed to meet its carbon reduction target.

Councillor Bailey asked for a response outside of the meeting on what was happening with the loss of the Lynn Road cycling lane. **Action required**

The Statutory Deputy Mayor spoke of TIC members' interest in connectivity beyond the Combined Authority area, as well as within it.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note and comment on the updated draft of the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan.
- b) Approve the Digital Policy.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

383. Bus Strategy 2023 [KD2023/006]

The Board was invited to approve the Bus Strategy, agree to officers obtaining quotes for three replacement local bus contracts and awarding contracts using pre-determined criteria for the period ending March 2024 and to delegate authority to the Executive Director for Place and Connectivity to tender and procure further local bus services subject to approved funding being in place.

Councillor Bailey asked about the pre-determined criteria referenced in recommendations c) and d), whether the bus framework was being used and whether it was proposed that every service that was handed back would be re-procured. She asked for more information on the funding envelope, and expressed nervousness that nothing would be brought back to the Board when tenders were received. Officers stated that there had been positive engagement and feedback on the Bus Strategy in response to the consultation exercise, with 80% support. It remained a relatively high-level document. With regards to re-tendering, the aim was to maintain current services and service levels in the short-term while a network review was undertaken, pending

longer-term decisions on the future shape of the service. A revised document would be brought back later in the year.

Councillor Fitzgerald commented that Peterborough City Council (PCC) had responded to the consultation, but not all its comments were reflected in the strategy. There was no reference to a park and ride in Peterborough, the transition to low emission buses and whether consideration had been given to introducing minimum standards now, and options those with reduced mobility. He referenced the CPCA's failure to attract bus service improvement plan (BSIP) funding, and his view that there was enough ambition and detail in Peterborough's ambitions if that bid was submitted. Public questions at the recent Transport and Infrastructure Committee had referenced demand for rural bus services around Peterborough, and PCC would be supportive of those being introduced. The Statutory Deputy Mayor described public questions at TIC as a powerful and productive session. She had spoken to some of those attending and had offered a site visit and further discussions and a reassurance that residents would be heard. She would be happy to brief Councillor Fitzgerald on this outside of the meeting.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved by a majority to:

- a) Note the outcome of the public consultation and support for the Bus Strategy.
- b) Approve the Bus Strategy.
- c) Agree to obtaining competitive quotes for three replacement local bus contracts and award contracts, using pre-determined criteria, for the period ending March 2024.
- d) Delegate to the Executive Director for Place and connectivity in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer, authority to tender and procure for further local bus services subject to there being approved funding.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

384. Alternative Fuel Strategy

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Note and comment on the draft Electric Vehicle Implementation Strategy.
- b) Approve the East Anglian Alternative Fuel Strategy.
- c) Approve the drawdown to approved from subject to approval the £88,560 from the Local Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Capability Grant.

- d) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council LEVI Capability Fund.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

385. Active Travel Fund 4 [KD2023/002]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Note the contents of the Active Travel Fund 4 bid.
- b) Approve the drawdown of Active Travel Fund 4 funding, subject to Active Travel England (ATE) approving the bid.
- c) Subject to Active Travel England approving the bid, delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council following consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Monitoring Officer.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

386. Transforming Cities Fund Replacement Projects [KD2023/009]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Approve the drawdown of £2,500,000 from 'subject to approval budget' to 'approved budget' from the Transforming Cities Fund for Centre of Green Technology.
- b) Approve the drawdown of £2,860,000 from 'subject to approval budget' to 'approved budget' from the Transforming Cities Fund for the Capital Replacement Schemes.
- c) Approve transfer £3,441,880 from 'subject to approval budget' to 'approved budget' from the Fengate Access Study to A1260 Junction 32 / 3 project.
- d) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement for the Centre Green Technology (Inspire Education Group), TCF Capital Replacement Schemes (CCC) and A1260 Junction 32/3 (PCC).

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

387. Peterborough Station Quarter [KD2023/003]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Subject to approval from the Department for Transport of the business case, accept the funding offer letter upon notification of funding from the Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The authority has provisionally been awarded the sum of £47,850,000 for Peterborough Railway Station Quarter Project which is intended to be spent between 2023 - 2026.
- b) Subject to acceptance of the grant offer letter, to approve the release of funding of £47,850,000, funding to be released in phased stages of up to £5 million at a time, to Peterborough City Council to enable the development of the Business Cases and construction of the station improvements and local area.
- c) Provide regular updates to the Combined Authority Board each time a £5 million spend has been made from the available funding.
- d) Delegate the authority to the Interim Director of Place and Connectivity to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with Peterborough City Council, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

388. Lancaster Way Non-Motorised User Crossing

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Approve the drawdown of £100,000 from subject to approval budget to approved budget for an options study to be carried out to investigate the opportunity for crossing.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into Grant Funding Agreements with Cambridgeshire County Council.

The vote in favour included the representatives of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

The meeting adjourned from 1.10 to 1.17pm.

By recommendation to the Combined Authority Board

389. Part 7 - Recommendations from the Skills Committee

The Board was advised that all recommendations had been supported unanimously by the Skills Committee at its meeting on 6th March 2023.

390. Skills Grant Funding allocations and policy changes for 2023-24
[KD2022/076]

The Board was advised that an additional officer recommendation had been included at recommendation e) to approve the 'Earnings Boost' policy that the Education and Skills Funding Agency had announced on 1st March 2023, in-year for the current academic year 2022/23 and for 2023/24, to match funding policy in non-devolved areas. This was due to a national funding change made by the Department for Education after the Skills Committee had met and was needed to avoid disadvantaging colleges and providers operating in devolved areas. A delegation was sought to the Associate Director for Skills to support an agile response.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve the Adult Education Budget and Free Courses for Jobs funding allocations to Learning Organisations for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 academic years as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- b) Approve the Multiply funding allocations to Learning Organisations for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years as set out in Appendix A to this report.
- c) Delegate authority to the Interim Associate Director for Skills in consultation with Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to sign Grant Funding Agreements with the Learning Organisations set out in Appendix A to this report for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 academic years in respect of the Adult Education Budget and Free Courses for Jobs and the financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 for Multiply
- d) Delegate authority to the Interim Associate Director for Skills to vary grant funding agreements based on performance by up to 25 per cent of the value in 2023/24 and 2024/24 for AEB, Free Courses for Jobs (FCFJ) and Multiply
- e) Approve the proposed devolved funding policy changes set out in Appendix C this report, for the 2023/24 academic year to increase funding for learning organisations and implements the national changes for 2024/25, as set out in Appendix B. In addition, to approve the 'Earnings Boost' policy that ESFA announced on 1 March 2023, in-year for the current academic year 2022/23 and for 2023/24, to match funding policy in non-devolved areas.
- f) Approve the increase to the AEB top slice from 3.4% to 5%.

391. Expansion of the Careers Hub [KD2023/010]

This key decision report was added to the Forward Plan on 10th March 2023 under general exception arrangements.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

It was resolved to:

- a) Accept the grant funding offer on the notification of funding from the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) for the continuation of the Careers Hub. Grant funding is expected to be in the sum of approximately £292,000 for the financial year 2023/2024.
- b) Accept future grant funding that is awarded by the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) in addition to core funding, up to the value of £95,000 for projects aligned to strategic priorities.
- c) Allocate 5 months of CEC funding to part-fund the 4 full-time equivalent (FTE) roles within the Growth Works service for the period of August to December 2023.
- d) Allocate £112,000 of Corporate Rapid Response Funding as match funding for the period of January to August 2024 as Growth Works funding ceases and the start of UK Shared Prosperity Funding.
- e) Delegate authority to the Interim Associate Director of Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into contracts and grant funding agreements.

392. Growth Works Performance Review

The Board was invited to note the Growth Works Programme Year Two Review and Performance Data to Q8 (16 December 2022).

Councillor B Smith commented that it would be good to get a better understanding of how this was working at district level, with more granularity and information on the benefits delivered. Councillor Fitzgerald concurred, commenting that there were more questions to be answered on growth works and its value for money and whether it was still fit for purpose. The Associate Director of Skills stated that she understood that reports by district would be circulated in due course. An independent review was being commissioned into the growth works programme and that the Board would see the outcome of that.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Note the Growth Works Programme Year Two Review and Performance Data to Q8 (16 December 2022).

393. Shared Prosperity Fund Implementation Plan

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

- a) Approve the UK-SPF Implementation Plan.
- b) Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy & Growth to approve in consultation with local authority partners, the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer the changes set out at 3.3 of the Skills Committee report.
- c) Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy & Growth to approve in consultation with local authority partners, the Chief Finance Officer & Monitoring Officer for Minor Changes as set out in Appendix 1a and supported by the DLUHC Guidance included in the Appendix 1b.
- d) Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Economy & Growth to approve in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer & Monitoring Officer to enter into Grant Funding Agreements associated with the projects set out in the Implementation Plan.

Part 8 - Recommendations from the Business Board

394. Profile of Investments

On being proposed by the Chair of the Business Board, seconded by the Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

Note the content of the Local Growth Fund investment update.

395. Economic Growth Strategy Implementation Plan

On being proposed by the Chair of the Business Board, seconded by the Mayor, it was resolved unanimously without debate to:

Approve the Economic Growth Strategy Implementation Plan.

396. Growth Hub Backfill Funding for 2023-24 [KD2023/008]

The Chair of the Business Board stated that the report was seeking contingency funding to sustain delivery of the Growth Hub for the period April 2023/24. That was no longer required so, with the agreement of the Board, the report was withdrawn.

Part 9 – Governance Items

397. Combined Authority Subsidiary Company Director Appointments

The Board was invited to appoint a number of directors to Combined Authority subsidiary companies to ensure resilience and to facilitate the closedown of some companies where appropriate.

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Appoint one of the Deputy Mayors as a Director of Angle Holdings Limited to build resilience in overseeing and supporting the orderly closure of the company.
- b) Agree the appointment of two members of the Executive Team within the CPCA as a Directors of Angle Holdings and Angle Developments (East) to oversee and support the orderly closure of the companies.
- c) Agree the appointment of two members of the Executive Team within the CPCA as a Director of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Business Growth Company Limited (GrowthCo) to replace an outgoing director of the company and to build resilience.
- d) Agree the appointment of a member of the Executive Team within the CPCA as a Director of the Peterborough HE Property Company Limited (PropCo1) to ensure quoracy of CPCA membership of the Board of that company.

397. Delegations to Officers [KD2023/013]

The Board was invited to approve a number of officer delegations to facilitate the delivery of Combined Authority business during the period to the next Board meeting.

Councillor B Smith voiced some concerns around the proposal to delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive Officer for the commissioning of a refresh of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review (CPIER). She considered delegating the scoping of this work to be ill-advised and would prefer the Board to have sight and sign-off of the scope. She asked for more information around the timing and purpose of the refresh, and felt that the Business Board should be engaged in this work. She had strong views on the need for the refresh to be completely independent and suggested a Member workshop. Councillor Bailey expressed similar views, commenting that she thought it had been agreed that there would be an addendum to the existing CPIER. The Interim Chief Executive stated that the original CPIER had been a substantial piece of work. The work proposed was on a smaller scale and would involve refreshing the document and updating data. He was

mindful of the need to engage with Board members and offered an assurance that the draft would be shared with them.

The Chair of the Business Board stated that the CPIER was now outdated and that a refresh would have the benefit of the insights of the Independent Commission on Climate. From a Business Board perspective, he saw merit to a refresh and to having an up to date evidence base.

The Mayor stated that the commissioning of a refresh would be done in consultation with himself or the Statutory Deputy Mayor and that they would ensure that the Board's views were represented.

The Statutory Deputy Mayor commented that a delegation was being sought so that decisions could be made in a timely way. There was nothing in the recommendations to preclude a Member workshop being arranged, and asked that this request should be noted. Action required

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy Mayor, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Agree delegated authority to the Interim Associate Skills Director in consultation with the Lead member for Skills for approval of the Local Skills Improvement Plan.
- b) Agree delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Mayor or Deputy Mayor as appropriate for the commissioning of the refresh of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Economic Review.
- c) Agree delegated authority to the Executive Director for Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer for the retendering of any bus routes which an operator gives notice that it will cease to provide between 22 March and the next meeting of the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.
- d) Agree delegated authority to the Executive Director for Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer to approve commencement and mobilisation of the delivery of activities and associated spend allocated to the 2023-24 year as set out in the approved Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) proposal for Local Growth Capacity Funding.
- e) Agree delegated authority to the Executive Director for Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer to determine splitting the extra £125k awarded to the Authority as additional local growth capacity support funds across the three agreed work strands, and to approve commencement and mobilisation of delivery of those activities.

398. Forward Plan

With the consent of the meeting, it was resolved without discussion to:

Approve the Forward Plan for March 2023.

Part 10 – Exempt Matters

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the grounds that the report contained 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 was 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.

399. Redundancy of staff

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Statutory Deputy, it was resolved unanimously to:

Approve recommendation a).

400. Changes to Peterborough R&D Property Company Ltd [KD2023/007]

On being proposed by the Mayor, seconded by the Chair of the Business Board, it was resolved unanimously to:

- a) Approve recommendation a).
- b) Approve recommendation b).
- c) Approve recommendation c).
- d) Approve recommendation d).
- e) Approve recommendation e).

(Mayor)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board: 22 March 2023

Public question

	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Roxanne De Beaux Chief Executive, CamCycle	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	<p>In June 2021, this Board accepted the recommendation from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate to reduce the car miles driven on our roads by 15% by 2030 to help cut carbon emissions.</p> <p>There is a lot to do in seven years to achieve that level of modal shift from driving to more sustainable travel options including public transport, walking and cycling. And even that target is not ambitious enough if our region is to play its part supporting the UK government target of cutting emissions by 78% by 2035.</p> <p>Camcycle would like to ask, when will options for the transport Net Zero pathway mentioned in item 2.8 be published and does item 2.22 imply that the Greater Cambridge Partnership proposal for a Sustainable Travel Zone will be an essential part of this pathway?</p> <p>Also, in light of agenda item 5.2 Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership, we'd like to call for the Varsity Way segregated walking and cycling route to become a key part of any plans between these regions.</p>

	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	Roxanne De Beaux Chief Executive, CamCycle	As demonstrated by the draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, the Combined Authority is committed to the achievement of a 15% reduction in car mileage to help cut carbon emissions and meet our overarching vision, aims and objectives. Independent assessment commissioned by the Combined Authority demonstrates that this target is a suitable level of ambition.

			<p>Analysis shows that an ambitious programme of realistically deliverable interventions should achieve the Combined Authority target, but that it will still leave a residual gap in cumulative emissions against the County Council's pathway. Where appropriate, we will consider, develop and implement a range of measures. Of the measures tested, avoid measures – that is, improved digital connectivity and spatial planning - and demand management, like pricing strategies and physical measures, have been found to have the greatest influence.</p> <p>The route hierarchy articulated within the emerging Local Transport and Connectivity Plan further demonstrates our commitment to modal shift through the development and implementation of a 'Shift, Avoid, Improve' approach across the region. As part of this, the Combined Authority will deliver an improved active travel network and has successfully secured additional funding to support our ambitions in this. As demonstrated by our rating of '2' awarded by Active Travel England, there is <i>'strong local leadership with clear plans that form the basis of an emerging network'</i>. But we must not rest on our laurels as there is still more to do in relation to active travel.</p> <p><u>Supplementary question without notice from Roxanne De Beaux:</u></p> <p>Could we have an indication from the Combined Authority around progress towards bus franchising, and communicating to the public where you are at with that and how it might integrate with other transport strategies. I know from the recent big consultation we've had those pieces between County, the Greater Cambridge Partnership and the Combined Authority and what the Combined Authority's part to play in that around buses has been a bit unclear. Also, thank you very much for the updates. We are very excited to hear that an Active Travel Lead is on the way.</p> <p><u>Response to supplementary question without notice from Mayor Dr Johnson:</u></p> <p>First, I will promise to get officers to give you a more detailed answer outside of the meeting, but if I can leave you with a positive I would say that bus franchising has always been an ambition for me as I campaigned to become Mayor and since I was elected. It is something that is at the forefront of the ambition of our Combined Authority and as we are moving</p>
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			<p>forward we will need to work closely with Peterborough City Council and the County Council and all the constituent members to really deliver. Not just on improvements to bus networks, but that we can deal with the issues of rural isolation. We have over the course of the last year seen what can happen when the current system fails our community, and I don't think any of us here want to see that happen again. The direction of travel is very much one of working together, and at the moment around bus franchising. But a more substantial answer will be sent.</p>
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