



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

# **CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Time:** 11am

**Location:** Fenland District Council

**Present:**

Cllr Andy Coles  
Cllr Alex Miscandlon  
Cllr Anne Hay  
Cllr Jocelyn Scutt  
Cllr Kevin Price  
Cllr Pippa Heylings  
Cllr Lorna Dupre  
Cllr Alan Sharp  
Cllr Mike Humphrey  
Cllr Markus Gehring

Peterborough City Council  
Fenland District Council  
Fenland District Council  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
South Cambs District Council  
South Cambs District Council  
East Cambs District Council  
East Cambs District Council  
Huntingdonshire District Council  
Cambridge City Council

**Officers:**

John Hill  
Dermot Pearson  
Emma Powley

Chief Executive  
Interim Monitoring Officer  
Interim Scrutiny Officer

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies received from:

Cllr Conboy, substituted by Cllr Humphrey  
Cllr Murphy

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interests made.

### **3. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

At this juncture of the meeting, the Committee discussed the process on reporting back of information and the responses to questions raised by members of the Committee at Board.

Members of the Committee agreed that there be a standard item on all future Overview and Scrutiny Agenda; 'Feedback from the Board'.

Members requested that 10 working days after each Board meeting, the answers to all questions asked at Board be collated and circulated.

In response to a question asked about access to confidential and exempt information, the Interim Monitoring Officer referred to Section 14.3 of the Transparency Rules at Chapter 6 — *Transparency Rules, Forward Plan and Key Decisions* of the Constitution which explained the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's access arrangements.

#### **4. Public Questions**

The Chair confirmed that there had been no questions received from members of the public.

#### **5. Review of the Combined Authority Board Agenda**

The Committee reviewed the agenda due to come to Board on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

The Committee agreed to raise the following questions to the Board:

##### **1.7 Business Board Allowances**

- a) Was there any reason for using the East Cambs IRP over any other panel from the other Constituent Council.
- b) By providing the Business Board members with an allowance, will there be a domino effect or an expectation that other bodies and appointed commissioners will receive an allowance?
- c) How does the workload of the LEP members differ from that of the Business Board to warrant the post being remunerated?
- d) What responsibilities will the Vice-Chair have and what will be the frequency of their deputising responsibility?
- e) Why are the allowances being backdated?
- f) The role of 'Business Board member' has been advertised already which states, Board Members will be remunerated. Does this not pre-determine the decision of the Board as they have yet to agree to the recommendation.
- g) What steps are being taken to exceed the government recommendations with regards to equality and representation on the Board – to include a greater percentage of women?
- h) Could the Business Board consider 'rolling' appointments to support continuity of the knowledge and expertise.

##### **2.1 Budget Monitoring**

- a) Appendix 2 of the Budget Monitoring report refers to 'Passporting'. Can clarification be given on the meaning of this?

### **3.1 Affordable Housing Programme Scheme**

- a) Can the Board explain the varying levels of grant between projects in the Affordable Housing Programme and the significant difference between cost per affordable unit under the revolving loan scheme?

#### **3.1.1 £100m Affordable Housing Programme Scheme Approvals July 2019 - Werrington, Peterborough**

- a) Can a definition or some clarity be given with regards to the term 'affordable rent'?

#### **a) Housing Development Company - Approval of Shareholder Agreement**

- a) The Committee have some concerns that the power of Mayor over Housing Company will lack scrutiny and consider there to be a need for increased transparency.
- b) Will Scrutiny be able to have access to the exempt information (both reports and minutes) in order to properly scrutinise (eg of pay of CEO) especially in light of the number of Boards that are being set up at the Combined Authority.

### **3.3 Cambridge Autonomous Metro - July 2019**

- a) What lessons have been learned from previous boards in terms of recruitment and diversity and are these going to be applied to the Partnership Board and all other future Boards that are established?
- b) Will the CAM Partnership Board consult with stakeholders including residents and environmental groups?
- c) What is the level of confidence with regards to the financial viability of the Outline Business Case given the budget changes outlined in the report?

### **3.4 A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Consultation response**

- a) How will the CPCA work with Highways England to address the issues raised in the draft response to the consultation with regards to biodiversity?

### **3.6. A Vision for Nature**

- a) How will the vision for nature be delivered in the decision-making process?
- b) Do the Board consider that there is a need for more conservation bodies to be involved and consulted with?
- c) What consideration has been given to Climate change and the effects of this is if they are to increase rich wildlife areas and promote better access to natural areas
- d) What are the risks of GMO considering they do not compliment and counteract bio-diversity?
- e) What capacity does the CPCA have to deal properly with climate change?

## **6) Combined Authority Forward Plan**

The Committee confirmed that they were pleased that the publication of the Board Forward Plan had been amended to allow the Overview and Scrutiny Committee the opportunity to examine the document in a more manageable timeframe.

## **7) Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

The Committee received the report which outlined the work programme for the committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

The Committee noted that there would be a presentation from one of the joint Chief Executives at the next meeting on the Review of the Constitution and an opportunity for a question and answer session.

## **8) Date and Location of the next Committee meeting:**

The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 at 11:00am, Kreis Viersen Room, Shire Hall, Cambridgeshire County Council.

The pre-meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 would be held at 10am in Room 128, Shire Hall, Cambridge.

The meeting concluded at 1.07pm