



Report title: CAM Task and Finish Group Update

To: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date: 22 March 2021

Public report: Yes

Lead Member: Cllr Mike Davey
Chair of CAM Task and Finish Group

From: Anne Gardiner
Scrutiny Officer

Recommendations: The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- a) Note the update from the Task and Finish Group
- b) Close the Task and Finish group as it currently stands
- c) Approve a new CAM Task and Finish group with an updated Terms of Reference be created by the new committee post election.

Voting arrangements: A simple majority of all Members

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report provides an update for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the work done by the Task and Finish Group since the last update in December 2020. The report is the final report of the group before the end of the municipal year and recommends that the working group as it currently stands is concluded with the recommendation that another CAM Task and Finish Group with updated Terms of Reference is created following the elections in May.

2. Background

- 2.1 In May 2020 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approved an extension to the work of the Task and Finish Group to continue its work into this municipal year as its work could not be concluded as, at the time, the full initial public consultation results remained confidential. There were also outstanding key questions on delivery, financing and the technology to deliver the project that remained unanswered until the final OBC is published.
- 2.2 The Group have held four sessions since then and have provided updates to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as requested. Updates were taken to the October and December meetings last year with the following points being made:

- The T&F Group can state it has received a comprehensive update from officers. There is greater clarity on how the CAM Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) approved at the 30 September meeting of the Combined Authority Board, relates to the Steering Committee of the CAM, and advisory committees as well as the CA Board itself.
- The T&F Group is satisfied following discussions on the design and consultation phases of the project. It has also received detail on potential routes and vehicles and how these will tie in with the Cambridge to Cambourne (C2C) routes and with South East Transport.
- The T&F Group has met with Simon Wright and Lord Robert Mair.
- The T&F Group was updated on the design and delivery phases. It also heard of the 18 strategies being developed covering integrated transport, procurement, funding and finance, technical processes, health and safety, employment, assurance, and programme management.
- The T&F Group was reassured about the engagement that now exists between the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) and the Combined Authority at member level whilst acknowledging that this has always been the case at officer level.

Progress Since Last Update

- 2.3 The Task and Finish Group met with Lord Mair at a session held on the 23rd February 2021 and received responses to questions on the following three areas in relation to the Special Purposes Vehicle One CAM Ltd:

- Governance, accountability and transparency
- Budgets
- Political Management

- 2.4 Governance, accountability and transparency

The T&F were reassured that everything that would be decided by the directors of One CAM Ltd would be reported to the CA Board, all decisions would be in the public domain as all minutes from meetings would be published. There would be small team of officers at the Combined Authority which would act as a link between the SPV and the Combined Authority, with the SPV reporting monthly to the CPCA.

Lord Mair advised that there had already been meetings with partner organisations including the GCP and there was a real want for there to be close collaboration on the project.

The T&F Group were advised that the route for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to provide scrutiny would be through the processes in existence to scrutinise the CA Board as all decisions would be reported to the CA Board as the sole shareholder.

2.5 Budgets

The T&F Group were reassured that budgets and in particular salaries for senior staff were being carefully compared to similar projects across the country.

2.6 Political Management

The T&F Group were assured by officers that the One Cam Ltd would be removed from the politics and would only respond to policy as set by the Combined Authority and other partners organisations.

The SPV would create options taking into considerations around cost benefit, environmental factors to create a public transport system which would be reliable, affordable and publicly acceptable.

2.7 The Task and Finish Group were advised that the SPV would be recommencing the Business Case process in April.

Role for the Task and Finish Group

2.8 The Task and Finish Group have continued their work into the year 2020 as there were outstanding queries around delivery, financing and the technology. The meetings held with Simon Wright, Lord Mair and other officers have subsequently provided answers to these areas and therefore the Task and Finish Group felt that it would be appropriate to disband the group as it was currently formed.

2.9 The Task and Finish discussed the next steps for the group and agreed that it was important for scrutiny of the SPV One CAM to be central for the Overview and Scrutiny's work programme going forward into the new municipal year and therefore recommends to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee that a new working group be set up with the new committee membership after the election with an updated Terms of Reference.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 None

4. Legal Implications

4.1 None

5. Background Papers

5.1 [Task and Finish Group Update – Oct 2020](#)

5.2 [Task and Finish Group Update – Dec 2020](#)