

CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES

Date: Monday, 26 July 2021

Time: 11.00 a.m.

Location: Drama Studio, Burgess Events and Conference Centre, One Leisure, Westwood Road, St Ives PE27 6WU

Present:

Cllr D Dew	Huntingdonshire District Council
Cllr S Corney	Huntingdonshire District Council
Cllr L Dupre (Chair)	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr A Sharp	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr D Baigent	Cambridge City Council
Cllr M Davey	Cambridge City Council
Cllr M Atkins	Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr M Goldsack	Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr A Coles	Peterborough City Council
Cllr S Nawaz	Peterborough City Council
Cllr A Miscandlon	Fenland District Council
Cllr A Hay	Fenland District Council
Cllr P Fane	South Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr A Van de Weyer	South Cambridgeshire District Council

Officers:

Rochelle Tapping	Deputy Monitoring Officer, Combined Authority
Anne Gardiner	Scrutiny Officer, Combined Authority

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr J. Rippeth substituted by Cllr P. Fane.

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 No declarations of interest were made.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 28 June 2021 were agreed as an accurate record.
- 3.2 A matter arising from the minutes was raised with regard to the coin-toss to elect the Chair of the Committee. It was raised that the Combined Authority Constitution does not have provision for a coin-toss to be used to elect a Chair; and that the coin-toss was conducted not in full view of the Committee. The Deputy Monitoring Officer responded that the coin-toss is lawful and proportionate but that she would liaise with the Monitoring Officer to understand whether there are any steps that need to be taken and report back to the Committee.

4. Public Questions

- 4.1 There were no public questions.

5. Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) Update

5.1 Ed Hammond, Deputy Director for Centre for Governance and Scrutiny attended the meeting via zoom to present his report and answer questions from the committee members.

5.2 Members were appreciative of the update and the following points were discussed:

- The receipt of updates on an ongoing basis to take ownership of issues forward
- The Combined Authority is undertaking a governance review which might have an impact upon the scrutiny review. Any changes following the governance review, and review of the Constitution will have to be factored into scrutiny
- Two of the lead members from the last administration are no longer Committee members and ongoing Task and Finish Group membership will have to be amended to allow for changes within the membership
- Timelines for new activity due to a new Mayor and Chief Executive will be required by the Committee
- Best-practice in terms of other Mayoral Question Times at other Combined Authorities. Ed Hammond suggested Greater Manchester and West Midlands as good examples
- As well as Mayoral Question Time there should be the option to receive general Mayoral updates if the need to highlight specific areas of work to the Committee was needed. Therefore, the Committee would reserve the right to invite the Mayor to Committee, as and when necessary
- The recommendations had been worded to allow the committee the freedom of choice when it comes to how they should wish to design their working arrangements.

5.3 The Chair suggested the Committee undertake interim arrangements in terms of lead members and this was AGREED. The following members of the Committee were appointed to the following lead member roles unanimously, on an interim basis, pending the full implementation of the new O&S arrangements and governance review:

Transport: Cllr Dave Baigent
Skills: Cllr Andy Coles and Cllr Alex Miscandlon
Housing: Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer
Climate Change and Environment: Cllr Michael Atkins
Business Board: Cllr Doug Dew
CAM Task and Finish Group: Cllr Mike Davey
Bus Review Task and Finish Group: Cllr Anne Hay

5.4 The Chair stated the arrangements be formalised, and rapporteurs be appointed, at a public meeting to be arranged in October as the November Committee meeting will select the Task and Finish Group topics for the municipal year. The Scrutiny Officer would circulate the lead member role description to the Committee.

5.5 There was consensus amongst the Committee that the Mayoral Question Time in September would greatly assist in formulating a work programme for the year.

- 5.6 Ed Hammond was thanked by the Chair for his ongoing contribution to the Committee.

6. Combined Authority Board Agenda

- 6.1 The Committee raised no questions for the meeting of the Combined Authority Board to be held on Wednesday, 28 July 2021.
- 6.2 The Committee AGREED that the Chair and Vice-Chair, when meeting the Mayor, should raise the 71 commitments agreed with the government in the devolution deal to gain a better understanding of them in terms of Mayoral priorities. This would enable the Committee to keep the commitments under review.
- 6.3 It was AGREED that the Chair and Vice-Chair receive assurance from the Mayor that there will be engagement with all constituent authorities on the refreshed transport plan.
- 6.4 There was discussion on the decision by the Board of One CAM Limited to cease work on the CAM programme, and the processes that led to this course of action. The Deputy Monitoring Officer stated she would discuss this with the Monitoring Officer as well as what is meant by the term “maximise the value of lessons learned” in appendix 1 of item 3.1 on the Combined Authority Board agenda. The Deputy Monitoring Officer would report back to the Committee in writing.

7. Combined Authority Forward Plan

- 7.1 It was agreed that the interim lead members would scan the Forward Plan for any items of interest to bring back to the Committee.

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

- 8.1 The Committee will next meet in formal session on Monday, 27 September 2021 at 11:00, and a venue will be confirmed. This meeting would be the first with a Mayoral Question Time. There will be an informal meeting of the Committee on Monday, 23 August as preparation for the September Mayoral Question Time.
- 8.2 A public meeting will be added to the Committee’s calendar on Monday, 25 October 2021, at a venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 12:01