



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

JAMES PALMER
CAMBRIDGESHIRE &
PETERBOROUGH MAYOR

Agenda Item No: 1.9

Combined Authority Monitoring and Evaluation Framework 2021

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board

Meeting Date: 27th January 2021

Public report: Yes

Lead Member: Mayor James Palmer

From: Paul Raynes, Director of Delivery and Strategy

Key decision: No

Forward Plan ref: N/A

Recommendations: The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:
a) Adopt the monitoring and evaluation framework for 2021.

Voting arrangements: A simple majority of Members present and voting

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to draw the Board's attention to the main elements of the Combined Authority's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and adopt the framework in accordance with the devolution deal.
- 1.2 The Combined Authority is committed, as part of its assurance framework (see section seven, page 10 of the CPCA Assurance Framework) to implementing effective monitoring and evaluation so that it is able to:
 - Provide local accountability to the public by demonstrating the impact of locally devolved funding and the associated benefits being achieved.
 - Comply with external scrutiny requirements i.e., to satisfy conditions of the Devolution Deal.
 - Understand the effectiveness of policies or investments and to justify reinvestment or modify or seek alternative policy.
 - Develop an evidence base for input into future business cases and for developing future funding submissions.

2. Background

- 2.1 The original devolution deal that created the Combined Authority includes a requirement that the Authority maintains a monitoring and evaluation framework. The main purpose of the framework is to ensure that initiatives funded by the authority are properly assessed after implementation to check that they achieve the stated benefits for residents, business and the economy.
- 2.2 Each year the authority is required to submit a draft of the framework for comment to government; the attached version was submitted in November. The understanding is that the existence of the Authority's local framework should then exempt the area from duplication or further compliance with other monitoring frameworks attached to national funding streams administered via the deal.
- 2.3 Significant progress has been made with the framework since it was first discussed with government in October 2018. This reflects feedback received each time and progress with the CPCA's project programme. Changes to the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework since the version approved by the Board in spring 2020 are as follows:
 - The framework has been adjusted to reflect the most recent CPCA Business Plan.
 - All projects now have evaluation logic-models, and the key priority ones have been revised and included within the appendix of this framework (and submitted to government).
 - Where appropriate (projects nearing or in the delivery stage), evaluation plans have been put in place, and several of these plans have progressed to have delivery

against them.

- As well as individual logic models, where projects overlap or it makes sense to group them (i.e. geographically) due to joint aims or outcomes, overarching logic models have been produced. These are clearly marked in the appendix.
- The framework reflects progress with external nationally led evaluations relevant to the Combined Authority, such as Gainshare and Transforming Cities Fund;
- Additional content suggested by government during 2020, such as additional detail on indicators, evaluation approaches and counterfactuals (where appropriate) has been included.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The framework requires each project to have a clear budget line committing funding to monitoring and evaluation. In the case of a road scheme this might be funding for automatic traffic counters or in the case of the University for Peterborough funding for evaluators to track the first cohorts of learners. This might, alternatively, be a budget for commissioning an external evaluation. The expenditure on monitoring and evaluation should be proportionate to the value of the project being evaluated. This will be included as part of the overall project budget.

4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 The maintenance of the monitoring and evaluation framework is specifically mentioned as part of the wider assurance framework for the Combined Authority (see section seven, page 10 of the CPCA Assurance Framework).

5. Other Significant Implications

- 5.1 None

6. Appendices

- 6.1 Appendix 1 – Monitoring and Evaluation Framework 2021 for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.
- 6.2 An accessible version of this appendix is available on request from democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk