



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Agenda Item No. 1.4

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board
Wednesday 27 October 2021

Public questions

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Rod Hart, Housing Lead, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Climate Action Coalition	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	<p>Many Local Authorities, within the Combined Authority catchment area, have declared a Climate Emergency, albeit with pitifully late and thoroughly unambitious dates of 2050</p> <p>Yet these same Local Authorities continue to sanction the building of houses with very poor environmental standards, no energy efficiency technologies and gas boilers that are incapable of meeting the climate emergency targets, that they themselves have declared, without lengthy and expensive retrofitting.</p> <p>Will the members of the Combined Authority act now to only support new building work that meets zero carbon standards? Will this Board also, with immediate effect, query all building programmes approved by Local Authorities that do not meet zero carbon standards? If not, can the Board explain why it will not do this, knowing the impact this poor quality housing will have on the health and finances of future generations?</p> <p>Please be of no doubt that we do not have time to wait for the formulation of new local plans or for changes to be made to national or local planning policy.</p>

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
			<p>Supplementary comment: I would like you and everyone at this meeting to be aware that you are responsible for bringing in climate catastrophe for future generations.</p>

No.	Response from:	Response to:	Response:
1.	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	Rod Hart, Housing Lead, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Climate Action Coalition	<p>As Mayor, I see climate change and public health as my key priorities.</p> <p>The scale of the challenge for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on mitigating and adapting to the changing climate has been clearly set out in the first report of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate. I agree that we have to be careful how we deliver growth. The Independent Commission agreed that the growth objective was not incompatible with responding to climate change, depending on how it was delivered. Our collective challenge is to support our businesses and residents in this move to low carbon growth.</p> <p>Having access to decent and affordable accommodation is fundamental. Housebuilding is not keeping up with demand, putting pressure on housing prices that remain far out of reach for many. It is important that the development industry is encouraged to bring forward more housing. But looking ahead, these should be net zero homes in neighbourhoods across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that offer a good quality of life whilst both mitigating and adapting to climate change. We cannot put the genie back in the bottle, but if we get any financial support from government for a further Combined Authority housing programme I will certainly be seeking the support from the Board for schemes being supported by the Combined Authority to have early implementation of the 2025 future homes standards.</p> <p>Response to supplementary comment: We have a responsibility to mitigate against climate catastrophe, and I will work with the Board and groups like your own on this.</p>