



HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No: 1.5
13 JANUARY 2020	PUBLIC REPORT

THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1. At its meeting on 11 November 2019 the Housing and Communities Committee considered a report on its revised terms of reference which arose from the amendments to the Constitution agreed by the Combined Authority Board at its meeting on 25 September 2019 and which took effect on 1 November 2019.
- 1.2. At its meeting the Committee requested a further report on its terms of reference to provide greater clarity on:
 - 1.2.1 The Communities element of the Committee's remit; and
 - 1.2.2 Which bodies could make the decisions on the use of the various elements of Affordable Housing funds;

<u>DECISION REQUIRED</u>	
Lead Member:	[TBC]
Lead Officer:	Dermot Pearson, Interim Legal Counsel and Monitoring Officer
Forward Plan Ref: N/a	Key Decision: No
The Housing and Communities Committee is recommended to: (a) Consider the clarification provided on the terms of reference of the Committee.	Voting arrangements Simple majority of all Members

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1. At its meeting on 11 November 2019 the Housing and Communities Committee considered a report on its revised terms of reference which arose from the amendments to the Constitution agreed by the Combined Authority Board at its meeting on 25 September 2019 and which took effect on 1 November 2019.

2.2. At its meeting the Committee requested a further report on its terms of reference to provide greater clarity on:

2.2.1 The Communities element of the Committee's remit; and

2.2.2 Which bodies could make the decisions on the use of the various Housing funds;

The Communities Element of the Committee's Remit

2.3. The Constitution at Chapter 10 deals with the Committee and at paragraph 3.2.9 includes in the Combined Authority functions which the Committee is to exercise:

Oversee the development and approve all other housing and community programmes and projects not reserved to the Combined Authority Board including but not limited to those relating to:

(a) Culture and Tourism

(b) Oversee delivery of the Connecting Cambridgeshire Project by Cambridgeshire County Council

Combined Authority Board Role in Allocating Housing Funding

2.4. The approval of all loans to third party businesses including wholly owned subsidiaries of the Combined Authority is reserved to the Combined Authority Board by the Constitution. This would include all loans made via the £40m revolving fund either to individual developers or to the Combined Authority's development company Angle Developments (East) Limited.

The Role of Housing and Communities Committee in allocating Housing Funding

2.5. The Committee will allocate grants from the £60m element of the £100m affordable housing programme which is not allocated to the £40m revolving fund. These grants are currently made to private development schemes which deliver affordable housing but as the Angle Developments (East) Limited

begins operations then grants will be either made to the limited company on the basis set out below or to private development schemes.

The Role of Angle Developments (East) Limited

- 2.6. Angle Developments (East) Limited has been established by the Combined Authority Board in order to identify development opportunities to develop land for affordable housing either via direct development (securing an interest in a site and developing it) or joint ventures with developers, the voluntary sector or the public sector.
- 2.7. This will be achieved by Angle Developments (East) Limited identifying individual opportunities to deliver affordable housing, developing a business case, seeking approval from its Board of Directors and if funding is required from the Combined Authority then approval will be required from the Board of Angle Holdings Limited and then either the Combined Authority Board or the Committee as above.

Summary of Decision Making on the Affordable Housing Programme

- 2.8. The table below identifies the relevant decision making body for the different types of funding available under the £100m Affordable Housing Programme.

Type of Funding	Type of Applicant	Decision Making Body
Grant Funding from the £60m Fund	Developers from the private, public and voluntary sector. [Including Angle Developments (East) Limited].	Housing & Communities Committee
Loan Funding from the £40m Revolving Fund	Developers from the private, public and voluntary sector. [Including Angle Developments (East) Limited].	The Combined Authority Board
Non-loan investments from the £40m Revolving Fund [including equity investments]	Developers from the private, public and voluntary sector. [Including Angle Developments (East) Limited].	Housing & Communities Committee

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The Combined Authority's Investment Strategy is being developed for approval by the Combined Authority Board. This document will set out in more detail a service investment strategy which would cover investments made by the

Combined Authority including loans which are intended to promote the objectives of the Combined Authority rather than on a purely commercial basis.

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The Combined Authority has the ability to lend under the "power to invest" set out in section 12 of the Local Government Act 2003 as well as under the general power of competence granted by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, provided that funding is compliant with European state aid rules.
- 4.2. In making any such investment the Combined Authority is required to have regard to the government's statutory guidance on Local Government Investment (issued under section 15 of the Local Government Act 2003) and specific guidance published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

5.0 APPENDICES

- 5.1. None

<u>Background Papers</u>	<u>Location</u>
Report to the meeting of the Housing & Communities Committee on 11 November 2019	Committee Report Nov 2019