



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

# **CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**Date:** Monday, 22 June 2020

**Time:** 11.00 a.m.

**Location:** Virtual Meeting via the Zoom Platform

### **Present:**

Cllr S Corney	Huntingdonshire District Council
Cllr P Jordan	Huntingdonshire District Council
Cllr L Dupre (Chair)	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr A Sharp	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr M Gehring	Cambridge City Council
Cllr K Price	Cambridge City Council
Cllr D Connor	Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr J Scutt	Cambridgeshire County Council
Cllr A Coles	Peterborough City Council
Cllr E Murphy	Peterborough City Council
Cllr D Mason	Fenland District Council
Cllr A Miscandlon	Fenland District Council
Cllr P Fane	South Cambridgeshire District Council

### **Officers:**

Robert Parkin	Chief Legal and Monitoring Officer, Combined Authority
Susan Hall	Governance Assistant, Combined Authority
Roberta Fulton	Programme Manager, Combined Authority
Robert Fox	Scrutiny Officer, Combined Authority (Minute taker)

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

1.1 Apologies were received from: Cllr P Heylings (substituted by Cllr P Fane); Cllr A Hay and Cllr G Chamberlain.

### **2. Confirmation of Membership of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

2.1 It was reported that since the last meeting two constituent authorities had held Annual General Meetings. As a result, Cllr Steve Corney has replaced Cllr Douglas Dew as a member for Huntingdonshire District Council; and Cllr David

Mason has replaced Cllr Alex Miscandlon as a member for Fenland District Council.

- 2.2 The Chair expressed her thanks to Cllrs Dew and Miscandlon for their work on this Committee and passed on the Committee congratulations to Cllr Miscandlon on being elected as Chairman of Fenland District Council.

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest.

### **4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

- 4.1 The minutes of the last meeting held on 29 May 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

### **5. Public Questions**

- 5.1 There were no public questions.

### **6. Co-option of an Independent Member from a Constituent Authority**

- 6.1 Robert Parkin, Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer introduced the report and outlined the rationale behind the Combined Authority not including Independent members when considering the political proportionality of Committees. The Combined Authority Board has provided the opportunity of co-opting an Independent member to the Committee.
- 6.2 The Chair stated it was for the Committee to consider whether to appoint an Independent member to the Committee; however, such a member would have no voting rights or be counted towards the quoracy of the Committee.
- 6.3 The Chair reminded the Committee that such an appointment was also considered last year when the Committee decided against such an appointment on the basis that such a member would not have voting rights. Independent members are not included in committee proportionality consideration as they are not members of either a national political party or assembled as a 'group'.
- 6.4 Following discussion, in which there was general agreement that an Independent member is not co-opted due to the restrictions on any membership, it was:

#### **AGREED:**

- 6.5 That an Independent member is not co-opted onto the Committee.
- 6.6 That the Monitoring Officer enquire of the Combined Authority Board what representations, if any, have been made at government level to reconsider the legislative barrier to the inclusion of Independent members when considering political proportionality for Combined Authorities.

### **7. Lead Member Appointment**

- 7.1 The Chair introduced the item and stated the Committee should consider a Lead Member to shadow the Business Board give the importance of that body related to

Covid-19 recovery as well as the local economy in general and the dispersal of funds.

- 7.2 Following discussion there was full Committee support for a Lead Member to shadow the Business Board. Two members stated they would be willing to nominate themselves for the position. It was agreed that the existing lead member job description be circulated by the Scrutiny Officer. Following this, interested members should contact the Scrutiny Officer by the end of June 2020. This would enable those members who had given their apologies to this meeting the opportunity to express any interest.

## **8. Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme**

- 8.1 The Chair introduced the report and referred members to the two appendices; one outlining the work programme as it is currently drafted, and the other which followed a meeting of the Lead Members which considered potential future items from the project register of the Combined Authority.
- 8.2 The Chair stated the work programme has still to timetable the Chairs of the Executive Committees, the Mayor of the Combined Authority and the Combined Authority Directors into the schedule.
- 8.3 Following discussion, items not currently on the work programme which should be scheduled, were agreed as:
- A10 Dualling
  - Ely Capacity Enhancements
  - Digital Connectivity

### **AGREED:**

- 8.4 That the items outlined in 8.3, above, be scheduled into the work programme.
- 8.5 That the updated work programme be presented to the next Committee meeting
- 8.6 That a further horizon scanning item be scheduled for December 2020 to consider the work programme to April 2021.

## **9. CPCA Project Register**

- 9.1 Roberta Fulton, Programme Manager, was in attendance with a report updated from the previous meeting outlining the completed projects and those no longer proceeding. The report also included, for additional information, the closure process.
- 9.2 The Committee noted the report and requested an update to be provided in September 2020 and then quarterly, thereafter.

## **10. Combined Authority Forward Plan**

- 10.1 The Lead members discussed the agenda for the Executive Committee meetings in June/July. These were mainly a watching brief, and any questions following the publication of agenda would be forwarded to the relevant Committees.

10.2 The next meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will agree questions to the Combined Authority Board meeting being held on 5 August 2020.

10.3 The Forward Plan was noted.

**11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

11.1 The next meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is Monday, 27 July 2020 at 11.00 a.m. This will be a virtual meeting via the Zoom platform.

11.2 The remaining meetings this municipal year, following the 27 July meeting, will be on:

Monday, 28 September 2020  
Monday, 26 October 2020 (fallow month)  
Monday, 23 November 2020  
Monday, 14 December 2020  
Monday, 25 January 2021  
Monday, 22 February, 2020 (fallow month)  
Monday, 29 March 2021  
Monday, 26 April 2021 (fallow month)

All meetings to commence at 11.00 a.m.

The meeting closed at 12.17 p.m.