TO THE CHAIR OF THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THE COMBINED AUTHORITIES (OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND AUDIT COMMITTEES) ORDER 2017

GENERAL EXCEPTION PROCEDURE

APPROVAL OF FURTHER CAPITAL GRANT TO CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Transport and Infrastructure Committee (TIC), by delegation from the Combined Authority are authorised to approve any additional budget and Covid risk subject to ratification of that budget at the next Combined Authority Board meeting. The TIC, under the above delegation intends to make a Key Decision for which 28 days' notice has not been given and which has not previously been published on the Combined Authority's Forward Plan of Key Decisions as required by Article 11 of the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017. In those circumstances, the Key Decision may only be made after the Combined Authority's Monitoring Officer has informed the Chair of the Combined Authority's Overview & Scrutiny Committee by notice in writing of the matter about which the Key Decision is to be made and the Key Decision may only then be made after 5 clear days have elapsed following the publication of this Notice.

The Key Decision relates to approving a further capital grant to Cambridgeshire County Council of £722,527 for the Lancaster Way project (including an allowance of £500,00 against the risk of increased costs due to the impact of Covid-19 safe working), on condition that the scheme starts on site in June 2020.

This recommendation will be considered by the TIC at its extraordinary meeting on 15 May 2020.

It has not been practical to comply with Article 11 and provide 28 days notice of the Key Decision in the Forward Plan due to the further cost pressures being identified by County Council officers on the evening prior to the April Combined Authority Board Meeting, which was after the March TIC that recommended the Combined Authority Board approve a further capital grant of £1,168,243 for the project. As an interim solution, at the April meeting, the Combined Authority Board approved a new additional budget of £1,168,243 but also delegated authority to the TIC to approve any additional budget at an extraordinary meeting.

If the making of this Key Decision were to be postponed beyond the scheduled extraordinary meeting date, as the next TIC meeting is scheduled for July 2020 (after the intended scheme start date), making the decision then, would delay the scheme proceeding to schedule. For this reason, the decision is required as soon as possible, and it is not practical to give 28 days notice of the Key Decision in the Forward Plan.

Robert Parkin

Monitoring Officer

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

6 May 2020