

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY PROCEDURE

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

COMBINED AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS

The Mayor intends to make a Key Decision on 25 March 2020 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.

"Key Decision" means a decision, which in the view of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the Combined Authority is likely—

- (i) to result in the Combined Authority or the mayor incurring significant expenditure, or the making of significant savings, having regard to the combined authority's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- (ii) to be significant in terms of its effects on persons living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the combined authority;

Due to Government guidance on social distancing and the Covid-19 virus it will not be possible to hold a physical meeting of the Combined Authority Board on 25 March 2020 as intended and until there is a change in the law to allow local government formal meetings to take place on-line without a physical meeting an alternative decision-making process is required. Any virtual meeting of the Combined Authority Board which was held at the present time would not be a lawful meeting of the Board and any decisions made on that basis would not be valid. The decisions which would have been decided on 25 March 2020 by the Combined Authority Board will now be made by the Mayor using his General Power of Competence, at a virtual meeting in consultation with the members of the Combined Authority Board, at 10.30am on 25 March 2020.

In these circumstances, the Special Urgency procedure set out in the Order applies and the Key Decision may only be made if the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee agrees that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

The Key Decision relates to the Combined Authority's response to the Covid-19 virus. The urgency of the decision arises from the need for the Combined Authority to consider its response to the Covid-19 virus and to the most recent government guidance immediately.

The Chair of the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee has agreed that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

The Order requires that as soon as reasonably practicable after the agreement of the Chair of Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been obtained that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred, a notice must—

- (a) Be made available to the public at the offices of the combined authority setting out the reasons why the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred; and
- (b) publish that notice on the combined authority's website

This document is the required notice.

Dermot Pearson

Interim Monitoring Office

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

24 March 2020