



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Agenda Item No. 1.4

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board
Wednesday 25 August 2021

Public questions

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
1.	Rod Hart, on behalf of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Climate Action Coalition	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	<p>In light of the recent stark and terrifying Code Red warning given to us by the United Nations IPCC in their AR6 report and given that continuous growth on a finite planet is impossible and that “green growth” is an oxymoron.</p> <p>Isn't it time for the Combined Authority to seriously challenge two of its key ambitions namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. doubling the size of the local economy2. accelerating house building rates to meet local and UK need <p>Neither of these two ambitions are sustainable, the need is unsubstantiated and they will have the effect of massively increasing the regions CO2 emissions which are already well above the UK national average.</p>

No.	Question from:	Question to:	Question:
2.	Dorothy Ball, local resident	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	<p>Given the urgency for emission reduction of which last week's IPCC report reminded us, and the change in transport habits triggered by the pandemic, is duelling the A47 still really a priority?</p> <p>We all like to travel easily, but :</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">new roads nearly always increase traffic</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">the huge costs of becoming carbon neutral mean we should not spend limited resources on inessential projects, particularly when these increase emissions.</p>
3.	Antony Carpen, local resident	Mayor Dr Nik Johnson	<p>I have received a letter from Cambridge MP Daniel Zeichner containing a response from The Minister for Skills & Apprenticeships regarding the founding of new adult education colleges. She has confirmed that powers to create new institutions are held by the Secretary of State for Education, alongside powers to provide funding for their creation.</p> <p>I have written on my blog about the call from the House of Commons' Chair of the Education Select Committee for a new generation of adult education colleges. I have also written about how a new college on the eastern edge of Cambridge could not only benefit one of the most economically deprived wards in the county (Abbey Ward in Cambridge) but also serve residents in the northern and eastern villages around the city in both South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire district councils. Please could you ask your officials to work with members on the skills committee to assess the possibility of applying to the Secretary of State for the necessary powers and funds to establish such a college - mindful of the existing local planning process for the next local plan, and in particular whether there is any appetite from local industry (via the various networks and trade associations) to create and co-fund a new facility that can help us overcome the skills shortages that you are acutely aware of.</p>