



THE BUSINESS BOARD

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| BUSINESS BOARD | AGENDA ITEM No: 3.6 |
| 22 JULY 2019 | PUBLIC REPORT |

REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY OF PETERBOROUGH

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The Business Board is asked to note the following update that went via Skills Committee to Combined Authority Board in May and was approved in full by the Combined Authority Board.

| <u>DECISION REQUIRED</u> | |
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| Lead Member: | Councillor John Holdich |
| Lead Officer: | John T Hill – Chief Officer, Business Board |
| Forward Plan Ref: 2019 /10 | Key Decision: No |
| The Business Board is recommended to: (a) Note the findings of the reviews that were recommended and approved by the Combined Authority Board for the way forward for the University of Peterborough to be developed to meet the outcomes of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough independent Economic Review, Local Industrial Strategy and Skills Strategy. | Voting arrangements Simple majority of all Members |

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The report to the Skills Committee in May provided the findings from recent independent reviews. It was recommended that the CPCA Board gave approval

to move into the next stage of the project that will require concurrent work to achieve:

- (a) Agreement of a funding solution to:
- (b) Procure expert programme management consultants with experience and skills to deliver the University, and specifically the following activities to:
- (c) Run a University Delivery Partner selection process to confirm the best choice of academic partner to invest in, to develop and deliver the University defined by the Skills Strategy.
- (d) Carry out site assessments, planning preparation and permissions.
- (e) Work alongside CPCA officers to co-develop and produce the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the build.
- (f) Agree specific curriculum and delivery models to produce a resulting build specification.
- (g) Run a procurement competition for a design and build contractor.
- (h) Produce a Full Business Case with CPCA officers to lay down contracts for the build.
- (i) Initiate the build through integration and coordination with relevant spatial plans.

2.2 The Skills Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the following recommendation at its meeting on 3 April 2019. The Combined Authority Board is asked to approve the recommendations highlighted in bold below. The full report considered by the Skills Committee is available at the following link: [Skills Committee Meeting 03/04/2019](#)

2.3 To note based on the review findings the Combined Authority Board approved the following decisions at its meeting in May:

- (j) Running an academic partner review, comparison and selection process that included PRC, ARU and others.
- (k) Release £300,000 of capital funding identified in the 2019/20 Capital Programme to deliver items 3 and 5 of the programme outlined in Table B in the report and power is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Skills Committee, to approve/agree Officer Decision Notices to maintain the momentum in project delivery for items 3 of Table B – Timescales for commitment and spend of funding. Progress will be reported back to the Skills Committee in July.
- (l) Approve the release of £235,000 from the non-transport feasibility funding in the revenue budget for 2019/20 to deliver items 1, 2, 4 and 6 in Table B in the report and power is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Skills Committee, to approve/agree Officer Decision Notices to maintain the momentum in project delivery for items 1, 2 and 4 of Table B – Timescales for commitment and spend of funding. Progress will be reported back to the Skills Committee in July.
- (m) The Action Plan and Timescales set out, noting they both enable meeting the original objective of 2000 students on the Embankment site by 2022.

- (n) Officers procuring expert consultants to support the execution of that Action Plan to these timescales.
- (o) Agree to a review, through the Outline Business Case Process, of the current assumptions regarding:
 - i. The level of CPCA capital investment in the build; and
 - ii. The Governance Process of the University Programme.
- (p) Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to enter into the contractual relationships following the procurement of the external consultants required to undertake the activities specified.
- (q) The definition of the University as set out in 2.5 of the report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1. There are no financial implications.

3.2. This paragraph needs to be approved with the Chief Finance Officer (S151).

4.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1. The decision of the Combined Authority envisages that after due process further reports will be presented to the relevant Committees and Boards. At this point there are no specific legal implications to be reported upon.

5.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

5.1. There are no significant implications.

| <u>Source Documents</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|---|---|
| Skills Committee 3 April 2019: Agenda, reports and minutes | http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/meetings/skills-committee-2/?date=2019-04-03 |