



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

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Dear Nik,

Congratulations on your recent election as Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. We look forward to working with you to support your local priorities and wider economic growth as we recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

You may be aware that, prior to local elections, the Government was working with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) to review progress on the Authority's investments as part of our national Gateway Review process. We are pleased to inform you that, following this work, CPCA has passed the first of its scheduled Reviews, successfully unlocking the next 5-year tranche of Investment Funds. As set out in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal document, this amounts to funding of £100 million from Government over the next five years, starting in 2021-22.

The former Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government, Simon Clarke MP, wrote to your predecessor and the Combined Authority Board on 13 July 2020 setting out clear expectations for where improvements should be made in CPCA's internal and external working arrangements. While we are pleased that your officers have worked with my officials to strengthen the authority's governance and transparency arrangements, the Gateway Review did highlight the need to continue to improve local partnership working. We are pleased to see that improving cooperation and collaboration is one of your priorities as Mayor. As Minister Clarke set out, this is an essential component of the area's future success and consensus and a shared vision amongst local partners will be key to delivering on the Combined Authority's ambitions.

We also expect the Combined Authority's programmes to continue to demonstrate positive outcomes and that future funding will continue to support greater investment opportunities and local priorities and boost the wider economic growth in our country, particularly as we move forward out of the Covid-19 restrictions. The next Gateway Review will emphasise the impact of completed interventions in its evaluation of performance, with an expectation to evidence outcomes as well as outputs for completed interventions. Further advice on this will be provided later in the year.

We trust that this gives you the certainty to continue investing in your programmes and look forward to seeing the progress and impact of the projects as the Combined Authority moves into its next phase.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the other members of the Combined Authority Board.