Combined Authority Board: Decision Summary

Meeting: Wednesday 31 January 2024 Published: Monday 5 February 2024

Decision Review deadline: Friday 9 February 2024



Any key decision/s set below will come into force and may be implemented after 5.00pm on the fifth clear working day after publication of the decision, unless they are called-in [see note on call in below], with the exception of any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Darryl Preston (John Peach substituting).

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Combined Authority Membership Update September 2023

It was resolved unanimously to:

- A Note the appointment by Peterborough City Council of Councillor Chris Harper as the substitute member from Peterborough 1st on the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- B Note the temporary change in substitute member from Peterborough City Council on the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on 17 January 2024.
- C Note the change in substitute member from Cambridge City Council on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 29 November 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

The minutes action log was noted.

4 Petitions

No petitions were received.

5 Public Questions

6 Forward Plan

It was resolved to:

A Approve the Forward Plan for January 2024

7 Combined Authority Chief Executive Highlights Report

It was resolved to:

A Note the contents of this report.

8 Committee Calendar

It was resolved to:

A Approve the calendar of meetings for the 2024/25 Municipal Year

9 Mayor's Budget

It was resolved to:

- A Note the proposed Mayoral budget for 2024-25, including the proposal to increase the precept by £24 per annum to £36 for a Band D property, and to provide comments to the Mayor regarding the proposed Mayoral Budget
- B Approve the draft Mayoral Budget, including the proposed Mayoral precept noted above.
- C Note the proposed routes to be funded by the proposed precept and the process by which these routes will be finalised and approved
- D Delegate minor changes to the Mayor's budget, due to finalisation of council tax base figures, to the Executive Director of Resources and Performance

10 Draft 2024/25 Corporate Strategy and Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024/2028

It was resolved to:

- A Note the consultation feedback received during the consultation period running from 30th November 2023 to 15th January 2024
- B Approve the draft Corporate Strategy following the refresh subject to the inclusion of the final financial information once the budget is approved.
- C Approve the Draft Budget for 2024-25 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024-25 to 2027-28 as contained in Appendices C and D
- D Delegate any minor changes required to the budget to the Executive Director of Resources and Performance.

11 Improvement Plan Update

It was resolved to:

- A Note the progress made over November and December against stated areas of improvement identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and Best Value Notice received in January 2023 as reported to the CA Board on 31 May 2023, set out in paragraphs 2.2 to 2.8.
- B Note the feedback from the Chair, Independent Improvement Board following its meeting on 16 January 2024 set out in Appendix B.
- C Note the outcome of the recent Internal Review of the Project planning and delivery improvement programme set out in paragraph 2.9.
- D Note the proposed transition from the current Improvement plan to transformation activity, embedded across and down through the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority where delivery against the Improvement plan has been completed; as set out in paragraph 2.10
- E Note the intention to review the current role and focus for the Independent Improvement Board as set out in paragraph 2.11.

12 Budget Update Report January 2024

It was resolved to:

A Note the financial position of the Combined Authority

13 Recommendations from Transport and Infrastructure Committee

It was resolved to approve all the recommendations as set out below:

Bus Strategy Update

A Approve the proposals for the two remaining tendered bus services which were placed under review and the bus services which data was previously unavailable.

Peterborough Station Update

A Approve the Outline Business Case and approve the commencement of the Full Business Case (subject to approval from the Department for Transport).

14 Recommendations from Skills and Employment Committee

It was resolved to approve all the recommendations as set out below:

Skills Bootcamps 2024-25 FY

- A To note the Combined Authority's Grant Proposal to the Department for Education (DfE) in September 2023 for £2,899,390 to deliver (Wave Five) Skills Bootcamp provision during the 2024-25 Financial Year and to note that we received confirmation from the DfE on 12 December 2023 that our Grant Proposal has been successful.
- B To accept the full grant funding offer from the DfE of £2,899,390 and approve corresponding expenditure across two budgets; one for the training funding allocation totalling £2,635,800 and one for the management funding allocation totalling £263,580 of the Wave Five Skills Bootcamps in the 2024-25 budget.
- C To delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to:
 - Arrange for the awards and enter into grant funding agreements or service contracts with training providers to deliver Wave Five Skills Bootcamps. This can either be with existing providers, or where the Combined Authority follows a procurement exercise compliant with the Combined Authority's Constitution and procurement legislation.
 - Extend and/or vary contracts with existing providers where appropriate.

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting on the grounds that exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, would be discussed and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed. That is, information relating to an individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption was deemed to outweigh the public interest in the information's release.

15 Subsidiary Company Update

Officers updated the Board members on time sensitive matters related to the Peterborough R&D Property Company Limited (PropCo2).

Notes:

- a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.
- b) Five Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may call-in a key decision of the Mayor, the Combined Authority Board or an Officer for scrutiny by notifying the Monitoring Officer, except for any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

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