



## Combined Authority Mayoral Elections 2021

To:	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board
Date:	24 March 2021
Public Report:	Yes
Lead Member:	Mayor James Palmer
From:	John Hill, Chief Executive and Combined Authority Returning Officer
Key Decision:	No
Forward Plan ref:	n/a
Recommendations:	The Combined Authority is recommended to note the cost estimates for the 2021 Mayoral Elections
Voting Arrangements:	A simple majority of all Members present and voting

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 To advise the Board of the estimated costs of administering the 2021 Combined Authority Mayoral elections.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 The CPCA Board appointed John Hill, Chief Executive, as Combined Authority Returning Officer for the 2021 elections. The Board requested latest estimates of the total cost of the elections across the Mayoral Combined Authority area. These costs are wholly borne by the Combined Authority.
- 2.2 There are also City, Cambridgeshire County and Police and Crime Commissioner elections taking place on 6 May 2021. Costs have been apportioned accordingly as detailed in the attached spreadsheet.
- 2.3 Overall the estimated cost of all elections have been increased to meet public health COVID 19 guidelines. The Government has indicated that local authorities will receive funding to cover these additional costs. It is not yet clear on the mechanisms of this grant and whether this will apply to Combined Authorities. The M9 are currently requesting clarification on this matter.

## 3. Financial implications

- 3.1 The latest cost estimates, which are being utilised for the payment of advance to administering authorities are detailed in Appendix 1. The estimated cost of the 2021 Mayoral elections are £1.1 million compared to a budget allocation of £1.04 million, although any payment of grant to the CPCA will reduce this deficit. Any shortfall in funding will need to be paid for from revenue reserves.

## 4. Legal implications

- 4.1 The legal framework for the appointment of the Combined Authority Returning Officer (CARO) and associated matters were detailed in a report to the Board on [27 January 2021 at Agenda Item 1.7 - Appointment of Combined Authority Returning Officer](#)

## 5. Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – Cost Estimates (as at March 2021) 2021 Elections.
- 5.2 Accessible version available on request from [Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk)

## 6. Background papers

- 6.1 [Combined Authority Board 27 January 2021 - Agenda Item 1.7 - Appointment of Combined Authority Returning Officer](#)