



## Appointment of Lead Members

To: Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Meeting Date: 25 October 2021

Public report: Yes

From: Anne Gardiner  
Scrutiny Officer

Recommendations: The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended to

- a) Confirm the appointments of members to the roles of Lead Members for the Housing, Skills and the Transport & Infrastructure Committees, the Business Board and Climate Change & Environment
- b) Discuss whether to continue with the arrangements for the Lead Members for the CAM and Bus Reform Review.

Voting arrangements: A simple majority of all Members

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to ask the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to confirm the appointments for the Lead Member Roles to shadow the work of the Housing, Skills and Transport Committee and the Business Board.
- 1.2 Confirm the appointment for the new Lead Member role for Climate Change and Environment.
- 1.3 Discuss whether the appointments for the two Task and Finish Group Lead members should continue in their interim role or to end these in light of the new rapporteur role agreed.



## 2. Background

2.1 At their meeting in July the Committee decided to undertake interim arrangements in terms of lead members. The following members of the Committee were appointed to the following lead member roles unanimously, on an interim basis, pending the full implementation of the new O&S arrangements:

Transport: Cllr Dave Baigent

Skills: Cllr Andy Coles and Cllr Alex Miscandlon

Housing: Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer

Climate Change and Environment: Cllr Michael Atkins

Business Board: Cllr Doug Dew

2.2 The Committee also agreed that there should be members to shadow the work of the previous two Task and Finish groups to ensure any follow up work in these areas was picked up. The following members were appointed on an interim basis:

CAM Task and Finish Group: Cllr Mike Davey

Bus Review Task and Finish Group: Cllr Anne Hay

2.3 The Committee are requested to confirm lead members for:

- Housing and Communities Committee
- Transport and Infrastructure Committee
- Skills Committee
- Business Board
- Climate Change and Environment

2.4 The Committee are requested to discuss if they would like for the Task and Finish Group Lead Members to continue in their current roles or to reappoint these as rapporteurs with specific tasks to report back to the Committee at a future date.

2.5 Role Descriptions for Lead Members and Rapporteur Roles are at Appendix 1.

2.6 Members should also consider the conflict of interest advice, in paragraphs 2.9 and 2.10, below.

2.7 A conflicts protocol is being developed and will be presented to the Committee for review and approval at the December meeting of the Committee. It should also be noted that the Combined Authority constitution is currently undergoing review, and the approach on conflicts will be factored into that work. The protocol will take account of the MHCLG Statutory Guidance on Overview and Scrutiny in Local and Combined Authorities, May 2019 which gives direction on who should, or should not, sit on a scrutiny committee and is clear that



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“Authorities should articulate in their constitutions how conflicts of interest between executive and scrutiny responsibilities should be managed” and the protocol will reflect that.

2.8 Annex 1 of Chapter 19 of the Combined Authority’s current Constitution states:

“You need to register your interests so that the public, Authority employees and fellow members know which of your interests might give rise to a conflict of interest. The register is a document that can be consulted when (or before) an issue arises, and so allows others to know what interests you have, and whether they might give rise to a possible conflict of interest”, it continues “It is also important that the public know about any interest that might have to be declared by you or other members, so that decision making is seen by the public as open and honest. This helps to ensure that public confidence in the integrity of local governance is maintained.”

2.9 The above paragraph is important in terms of the appointment of Lead Members. For example, if they are on the executive of their constituent authority it might be seen they would be in a conflicted position if they are a lead member for the Committee for a field in which they have decision-making powers, or influence at City/County/District level.

2.10 Therefore, the recommendation in terms of conflict position is that any member of the Committee to be appointed into a role of Lead Member should avoid conflicts of interest and should not be a member of the Executive of a constituent authority or be a Chair of a Committee which has delegated powers from Full Council for the portfolio/field they are appointed as Lead Member. For example, if a Member is the Cabinet Member for the Highways portfolio at their constituent authority they should not be Lead Member for Transport; or if they are the Housing Committee Chairman they should not be Lead Member for Housing. It is suggested that any Member of the Committee in a Executive role at a constituent authority declares this at this meeting, and any subsequent meeting if they have been recently appointed to such a position.

2.11 The nature of the Rapporteur role is different from that of a Lead Member and care should be exercised when Members are carrying out these duties to avoid possible conflicts of interest.

2.12 Lead members appointments should reflect the political balance and geographical make-up of the Committee to ensure a balanced view, in so far as this is possible.

### 3. Financial Implications



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3.1 In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, no remuneration is to be payable by the Combined Authority to its members including Lead Members of the Overview and Committee.

## 4. Legal Implications

4.1 None

## 5. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Role Description for Lead Members & Rapporteurs

## 6. Background Papers

- 6.1 [O&S Agenda & Minutes – July 2020](#)
- 6.2 [O&S Report – Lead Members January 2020](#)
- 6.3 [O&S Agenda & Minutes November 2020](#)
- 6.4 [O&S Agenda & Minutes February 2021](#)
- 6.5 [Business Board – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021](#)
- 6.6 [CA Board Report – March 2021](#)
- 6.7 [O&S Report – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021](#)