

<b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM No. 6</b>
<b>19 NOVEMBER 2018</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director of Resources	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Seaton, Resources Portfolio Holder	
Contact Officer(s):	Steve Crabtree, Chief Internal Auditor	Tel. 384557

## COMBINED AUTHORITY OVERVIEW

<b>R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> Pete Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director of Resources	<b>Deadline date:</b> N/A
<b>It is recommended that Audit Committee:</b>	
1. Note the decision making arrangements adopted by the Combined Authority.	

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to Audit Committee as a specific request by the Chair of Audit Committee at the September 2018 meeting.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee (agreed at Full Council) set out the key roles of the Committee including the following "2.2.2.9 *To commission work from Internal Audit and External Audit*".
- 2.2 The purpose of this report provides an overview to Members of the Committee as to decision making arrangements adopted at the Combined Authority.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
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### 4. COMBINED AUTHORITY

#### 4.1 Background

- 4.1.1 Established in March 2017, and following the election of the Mayor, members of the Board have held portfolio positions grouped according to the functions of the Mayor and the Combined Authority.
- 4.1.2 The Mayor allocated the portfolio responsibilities to each member of the Board with the exception of the local enterprise partnership member, who held no portfolio.
- 4.1.3 Portfolio holders do not have any executive powers and their key role is to leader on key work streams. They were supported in their roles by the Chief Executive / Directors who provide technical support to the members' leadership role.

4.1.4 As the CPCA evolved it was evident that some portfolio responsibilities were broader than others; time commitments were restrictive and also turnover of membership impacted. In addition, the Local Enterprise Partnership was incorporated into the CPCA.

## 4.2 **Updated Decision Making**

4.2.1 The arrangements were reviewed in July 2018 and proposed decision making arrangements around committees in the three key areas / largest portfolios of the Combined Authority functions: transport, housing and skills. **Appendix A** highlights the amended committee structure. Furthermore, proposals put forward highlighted that Board Portfolio holders would be expected to Chair their respective committees. Changes were reflected in the Constitution which was referred to the Board and agreed in September 2018.

4.2.2 Overall, the Board retains the strategic decision making; agreement of the budget and approving the work programmes and business cases.

4.2.3 Committees oversee the operation of the specific functions following referral from the Board. For example, the Board would agree the various transport or infrastructure projects and the Transport Committee would oversee its progress and delivery. The Committee would also be able to make recommendations back to the Board.

4.2.4 The Business Board represents the Local Enterprise Partnership for the area. This is independent of the CPCA and is a private sector / public sector partnership to focus on the key business sectors and oversee the delivery of the Local Industrial Strategy. Membership is predominantly private sector, including an independent Chair, with representation from the CPCA by the Mayor and the Portfolio for Economic Growth. Similarly, decisions made at the Business Board will need ratification by the main Board.

## 5. **CONSULTATION**

5.1 This report and accompanying appendices have been issued to the Acting Corporate Director of Resources.

## 6. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

6.1 That Audit Committee understanding the decision making arrangements adopted by the CPCA.

## 7. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 To address business request from Chair at the previous committee meeting.

## 8. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

8.1 None.

## 9. **IMPLICATIONS**

### **Financial Implications**

9.1 None.

### **Legal Implications**

9.2 None.

## **Equalities Implications**

9.3 None

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

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- CPCA Constitution
- CPCA Committee Papers

## **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix A: CPCA Committee Structure / Responsibilities

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