

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - Decision Summary

Meeting: 28 October 2019

Agenda/Minutes: Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 28th October 2019

Chair: Cllr Lorna Dupre

Appendix 4

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Item	Торіс	Decision [None of the decisions below are key decisions]
1.	Apologies	Apologies received from:
		Cllr Connor, Cllr Scutt and Cllr Gehring, Cllr Heylings (substituted by Cllr Fane)
2.	Declaration of Interests	There were none.
3.	Minutes	The minutes of the meeting held on the 23 September 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chair.

4.	Public Questions	There were no public questions received.
5.	Mayor of the Combined Authority	The Mayor for the Combined Authority was welcomed to the Overview and Scrutiny meeting. Members asked the Mayor a series of questions to which they received responses, including:
		In response to a question about the progress of the Mayor's transport plans, the Mayor explained that a survey conducted to look at whether the Metro in Peterborough was feasible, came back as positive. The Mayor noted he had been working hard to find a way to get the Metro beyond the South of Cambridgeshire and noted that he had had positive conversations with Homes England and Urban & Civic to explore options of bringing the Metro from St Ives to Alconbury.
		The Mayor further explained that he was wishing, through the Combined Authority, to create a better bus service and had been working since the initial Bus Review to improve relationships between the Combined Authority and Cambridgeshire's major player – Stagecoach. The Mayor explained the Combined Authority had already seen a positive trial at Addenbrooke's Hospital for a reduced bus rate for NHS staff, and Stagecoach had agreed to move that trial to other areas.
		In a response to a further question regarding the carbon neutral growth, the Mayor noted that policies put forward by the Combined Authority would allow to create carbon neutral growth and further stressed that the plans that he and the Combined Authority advocated, were a significant way forward in creating a new environmental standard not only for Cambridgeshire but for the UK as well.
		In response to a question about the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), the Mayor acknowledged that the housing solution in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was not a "one size fits all" solution and that the Combined Authority needed to create a solution to best fit the entirety of the area. The

		Mayor further explained that traditional ways of developing homes, through Market and Social Housing Associations, had not provided the housing necessary to prevent the housing crisis in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Mayor further stressed that the Combined Authority needed to create other possible ways to deliver the housing required and that the Combined Authority was leading the way in trying to bring new models into the market. Responding to a question on the status of Thomas Cook's former employees, the Mayor informed Members of a meeting he had had with Thomas Cook recently and the quick action of the Combined Authority by holding a jobs' fair with over 110 companies.
6.	Update from the Task and Finish Group	As the Chair of the Task & Finish Group, Cllr Price updated Members on the last CAM Metro Task & Finish Group meeting that took place on 11 September 2019 at Cambridgeshire County Council.
		RESOLVED:
		 a) That the update from the Chair of the Task & Finish Group for the CAM Metro be noted.
		 b) That the outstanding actions, as well as responses to questions, would be followed up with officers and provided to the Chair of the CAM Metro Task & Finish Group.

7.	Governance (decision-making) Review	 The Interim Monitoring Officer presented the report and outlined key proposed solutions to issues raised at the O&S Committee meeting in September. RESOLVED: a) That the recommendations in the Governance Review Report be accepted, with the number of lead Members for each Executive Committee be reduced to one, instead of two. b) That the Committee would invite the Chairs of the Executive Committees to attend meetings of the Committee on a rotation basis. c) That the lead Members for Executive Committees are to be: Cllr Coles – Skills Executive Committee, shadowed by Cllr Miscandlon; Cllr Murphy – Housing and Communities Executive Committee.
8.	Review of Combined Authority Board Agenda	 The Committee reviewed the agenda for the Combined Authority Board meeting on Wednesday 30 October 2019 and identified questions to the Board as below: <u>2.1 Budget Monitor Update</u> Q: In light of the Budget Monitoring Report indicating that a lot of projects are slipping, what are the reasons for this? <u>3.1 100k Homes and Community Land Trusts (CLTs)</u> Q: With only 935 Community Land Trust homes built so far in the whole country and the 56 affordable homes funded through the £40m revolving fund, is too much emphasis being put on Community Land Trusts rather than the more tried and tested use of housing associations, when there is a crisis for affordable

housing in parts of the Combined Authority area? How does the Combined Authority intend to encourage the Constituent Councils to promote CLTs?
Transport Plan
Q: What funding options are being looked as part of the Outline Business Case for the CAM Metro?
<u>Transport levy</u> Q: Given the financial difficulties both the County Council and the Peterborough City Council have been facing, please can you clarify whether transport levy funding passed back to those councils is ringfenced for transport functions?
Employment and departure of the former CEO and CFO
Q: Audit and Governance Committee had been asked to carry out a review of the employment and dismissal procedures relating to the departures of the former Chief Executive and Chief Finance Officer. Can there be a confirmation of what progress has been made or if this has now been completed?
Climate Emergency
Q: Does the Combined Authority intend to declare a Climate Emergency?
RESOLVED:
a) That the CA Board agenda be noted.
 b) That the questions be submitted to the Combined Authority Board at its meeting on 30 October 2019.

9.	Combined Authority Forward Plan	The Committee considered the Combined Authority Forward Plan.
		RESOLVED:
		a) That the Combined Authority Forward Plan be noted.
		 b) That the Transport and Infrastructure Executive Committee Chair and lead officer be invited to the Committee meeting in December.
		 c) That the Budget Item be allocated as a new Standing Item for the next three Committee meetings.
10.	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	The Committee received the report which outlined the Work Programme for the Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.
		The Committee asked for the following items to be added to the Work Programme:
		 i) Budget (November, December and January) ii) Transport – Chair and officer to attend the Committee meeting in December iii) Housing (November)
		 iv) Programme Development – Cohesion issues and tackling inequality v) Climate Change
		RESOLVED:
		That additional items identified be added to the Committee Work Programme.
11.	Date and Location of the next Committee meeting	The Committee agreed that the next meeting would be held on the 25 November 2019 at 11:00am, Huntingdonshire District Council.

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