

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY CABINET MEETING HELD 27 JUNE 2016

PRESENT:

Cabinet Members: Councillor Holdich (Chair), Councillor Elsey, Councillor Fitzgerald, Councillor Goodwin, Councillor Hiller, Councillor Lamb, Councillor Seaton, Councillor Smith and Councillor Walsh

Cabinet Advisors: Councillor Casey and Councillor Stokes

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

STRATEGIC DECISIONS

3. THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH DEVOLUTION PROPOSAL, GOVERNANCE REVIEW AND SCHEME

Cabinet received a report which requested that consideration be given to the outcomes of discussions held at a meeting of Full Council, prior to determining a number of recommendations relating to a combined authority for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, with a directly elected Mayor.

Council had met directly before the Cabinet meeting and Cabinet were requested to endorse the Review, approve the content of the Devolution Deal and the draft Governance Scheme and to approve the arrangements for public consultation on the Governance Scheme and to authorise the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to provide the Secretary of State with a summary of consultation responses in due course and to progress any further matters as required in connection with the proposed Deal.

It was a legal requirement that Cabinet met to approve the consultation process.

Cabinet debated the report and in summary, key points raised and responses to questions included:

- During the meeting of Full Council, Members had raised issues regarding health. In response to these comments, it was advised that health would be a future consideration;
- It would be important that the Mayor be flexible, possibly spending time in each area of the region;
- In the Full Council meeting, Members had expressed concern with regards Peterborough only having one vote and therefore being outvoted on issues affecting the city. In response it was commented that trust needed to be placed in the arguments being put forward by officers for investment in the city; and
- With regards to comments raised during the Full Council meeting relating to the nature of the consultation, it was clarified by the Legal Officer that the finer

detail of the consultation process would be refined through the Devolution Working Group.

Cabinet considered the report and **RESOLVED:**

1. To consider and endorse the conclusions of the outcome of the Governance Review that the establishment of a Combined Authority with a Mayor for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area would be likely to improve the exercise of statutory functions in that area.
2. To approve the content of the Devolution Deal proposal and confirm that this replaced in its entirety the East Anglia Devolution Agreement signed in March 2016.
3. To approve the draft Governance Scheme and authorise the Chief Executive to make any appropriate revisions to the draft Scheme before publication as she may consider appropriate in consultation with the Leader and in liaison with the other Chief Executives of constituent authorities and to take all necessary actions to progress any matters arising from this report.
4. To approve the arrangements for public consultation on the Governance Scheme and authorise the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of Council to provide the Secretary of State with a summary of the consultation responses in due course and to circulate that summary to all members of the Council.
5. To convene a further meeting of the Executive to take place in October 2016 to consider whether to give consent for the Secretary of State to bring forward an Order to establish a Mayoral Combined Authority covering the area of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To consult on a scheme for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area, with a directly elected Mayor, in order to devolve powers from Government to a combined authority.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Governance Review considered a number of alternative options.

Chairman
20.15pm – 20:20pm