



CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY – SHADOW OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No.6
	PUBLIC REPORT

**TITLE: REVIEW OF CONSTITUTION – CHAPTER 6 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM :	
Lead Officer	Kim Sawyer, Interim Monitoring Officer
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>The Shadow Committee are asked to review and comment on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Chapter 6 Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Constitution(b) the definition of a key decision.	

1. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to consult the Committee on the scrutiny arrangements as set out in Chapter 6 of the constitution.
- 1.2 It also consults the Committee on the definition of a key decision.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 By law, Combined Authorities must set up an overview and scrutiny committee. The Combined Authority's scrutiny arrangements must comply the Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2017. This Order was made on 27 January and comes into force on 8 May 2017. The Order is attached. (Appendix 1)
- 2.2 The Order includes rules about membership and political balance, the appointment of the Chair, and powers to refer matters to the committee, including call in arrangements.
- 2.3 Chapter 6 of the Constitution (Appendix 2) sets out the proposed scrutiny arrangements and has been drafted to comply with the Order. The Board on 20 March, approved this chapter for consultation with the shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee before it is formally established at the annual meeting.



- 2.4 The Committees' views are requested and will be reported back to the next meeting of the Board in April.

Key Decisions and Forward Plan

- 2.5 By Law, the Combined Authority must publish details of any key decisions to be taken by the Combined Authority 28 days in advance. A key decision may be taken by the Board, the Mayor or an Officer as set out in the constitution.

- 2.6 A "key decision" means a decision, which in the view of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is likely to:

(a) result in the Combined Authority spending or saving a significant amount, compared with the budget for the service or function the decision relates to; or

(b) have a significant effect on communities living or working in an area made up of two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area.

- 2.7 Following informal consultation with the Board, the Board recommends that a decision which results in a significant amount spent or saved will be considered to be a key decision if that amount is £500,000 or over.

- 2.8 These decisions would be subject to call in. The Board would welcome the shadow Overview and Scrutiny Committee's views on the proposed limit.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 These are dealt with in the report.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATION

- 5.1 N/A

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 6.1 Agenda and minutes for meetings of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority Board are available on the Cambridgeshire County Council website.

7. APPENDICES

- 7.1 Appendix 1 – The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016

- 7.2 Appendix 2 - Chapter 6 Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Constitution