

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Decision Summary

Meeting: 28th September 2020

Agenda/Minutes: [Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 28 September 2020](#)

Chair: Cllr Lorna Dupré

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting

Item	Topic	Decision [None of the decisions below are key decisions]
1.	Apologies	Apologies were received from: Cllr Grenville Chamberlain (South Cambridgeshire County Council) substituted by Cllr Heather Williams; and Cllr Kevin Price (Cambridge City Council).
2.	Declarations of Interest	Cllr Ed Murphy declared an interest on item 6 (Wisbech Rail Project Update) due to work he has conducted on behalf of ASLEF in the rail sector.
3.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record. The responses to the questions the Committee asked at the last CA Board meeting would be added as an appendix to the minutes on the Combined Authority meetings website.
4.	Public Questions	There were no public questions received.
5.	The Chair of the Independent Commission on Climate Change	Baroness of Brown of Cambridge was in attendance. The Chair of the Commission highlighted the progress made by the Commission in its three meetings to date and confirmed the membership of the Commission. Members of the Committee asked questions of the Chair of the Commission.

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		<p>An interim report from the Commission is scheduled for February 2021 with the final report with recommendations expected in the early summer of 2021.</p> <p>The Commission will have a web presence and a logo has been agreed.</p> <p>The Chair of the Commission stated she would be happy to return to the Committee when the interim report has been published.</p>
6.	Wisbech Rail Project Update	<p>The update was noted and it was suggested that a further update for the Committee would be available between November 2020 and January 2021 (to be confirmed).</p> <p>A link to the Network Rail consultation on Ely capacity area enhancements would be shared with Committee members.</p>
7.	CAM Metro Task and Finish Group Update	<p>The Chair of the Task and Finish Group was not in attendance at the meeting. Therefore, other Task and Finish Group members updated the Committee. There had been good progress on the work in the spring; however, the Task and Finish Group has had difficulty in obtaining data related to consultations that have taken place.</p> <p>There was an overall concern about transparency expressed and the publication of papers for the CA Board meeting on 30 September is the first time the Task and Finish Group has seen relevant documentation. It is hoped now documentation has been published the Task and Finish Group can make further progress and a meeting will be scheduled for early October with a report forthcoming to the next meeting of the Committee.</p>
8.	Combined Authority Board Agenda: Wednesday, 30 September	The following questions to the Board were agreed:

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		<p data-bbox="860 240 1921 320">Item 1.6 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Constitution</p> <p data-bbox="958 328 1912 432">What representations has the Combined Authority made to central government on the long-standing issue of the quoracy of Combined Authority Committees, and what has been the response?</p> <p data-bbox="958 440 1966 544">In line with the seven Nolan Principles of Public Life, is there a commitment for the Business Board to be more transparent and to hold meetings in public session?</p> <p data-bbox="860 552 1877 632">Item 3.1 Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro Special Purpose Vehicle Shareholder Agreement</p> <p data-bbox="958 639 1977 959">The Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee would wish to place on record its concerns about the transparency of the CAM Special Purpose Vehicle, and about the lack of timely access to information regarding the CAM scheme in general. Will the Combined Authority give the Committee the assurance that members of the Committee will be provided with information and access to officers in a timely manner, and that the Special Purpose Vehicle will operate openly and transparently? This would include the provision of exempt information to members of the Committee on a 'need-to-know' basis.</p> <p data-bbox="860 967 1458 1007">Item 3.2 A10 Junctions and Dualling</p> <p data-bbox="958 1015 1977 1150">If the Department of Transport funding decision on dualling is negative will the whole £2m for the Outline Business Case still be required? And in that situation, would the Combined Authority proceed with a junctions-only option, and in what timescale?</p> <p data-bbox="860 1158 1839 1198">Item 3.3 Market Towns Programme Investment Prospectus</p> <p data-bbox="958 1206 1977 1310">It appears that there is nothing in the proposals which affect Chatteris. Is this a timing issue and, if so, when is it envisaged that funding applications for Chatteris will be considered?</p>

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		<p>Have there been any project proposals that when independently appraised did not reach the pass mark, and, if so, what were these proposals?</p> <p>Can the projects be economically justified in the current climate? What is the process for developing these applications? Who is involved and how can residents and local organisations be involved and contribute to the development of proposals?</p> <p>Item 4.3 Bus Reform As with our question for Item 3.1, will the Combined Authority Board give an assurance of transparency to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as this programme continues? The Committee has a Task and Finish Group which provided a series of recommendations last year and is committed to reporting back to the Committee at the end of this municipal year.</p> <p>Items 5.1 and 5.2 How can it be ensured that there will be no duplication of work with that being undertaken by the Greater Cambridge Partnership on these measures?</p> <p>With that in mind will the Board commit to ensuring the most productive use of collaboration between the Combined Authority, the GCP, Cambridgeshire County and Peterborough City Councils, and district councils?</p> <p>Can the Combined Authority update the committee on the virement of resources to Covid-19 and its effectiveness?</p>

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9.	CPCA Project Register	The Project Register was noted. Resolved: i) That future quarterly reports include an additional columns to indicate a) expected end date of project ; b) the future dates detail of the project are going to Executive Committees or the CA Board; and c) a RAG rating indicating that project are proceeding as expected (or not).
10.	Lead Member Questions to Executive Committees	Cllr Andy Coles confirmed the questions he was content with the answers to the questions he had provided to the last Skills Committee. It was agreed that a meeting of Lead Members, the Chair of the Committee and the Scrutiny Officer take place prior to the next round of Executive Committees in order to consider questions to those Committees. This meeting is proposed for 2 November at 10.00 a.m.
11.	Combined Authority Forward Plan	The CA Forward Plan was noted
12.	Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme	The Work Programme was noted. Resolved: i) The next appearance by the Chair of the Independent Commission on Climate Change be initially scheduled for February 2021. ii) A further update on the CAM Metro Task and Finish Group will be presented to the October 2020 meeting of the Committee.
13.	Date of Next Meeting	Monday, 26 October 2020 at 11.00 a.m. with a pre-meeting for Members at 10.00 a.m.

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