

Combined Authority Board Decision Summary

Agenda/Minutes: [Combined Authority Board 28 July 2021](#)

Meeting: Wednesday 28 July 2021

Part 1 - Governance Items

1.1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L Nethsingha (substituted by Councillor E Meschini) Councillor B Smith (substituted by Councillor N Gough) and Councillor E Murphy.

Mr Adams made a declaration of interest in relation to Item 4.4: Business Board Expenses and Allowances Scheme in relation to his role as Chair of the Business Board. Mr Adams left the meeting for the duration of this item and the vote.

1.2 Minutes of the Combined Authority Board meeting on 30 June 2021

The minutes of the meeting on 30 June 2021 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

1.3 Petitions

No petitions were received.

1.4 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

1.5 Forward Plan

The Combined Authority Forward Plan was noted.

1.6 Lead Member Responsibilities

It was resolved to:

- a) Note and agree the responsibilities for the Environment and Climate Change lead member portfolio, subject to the adding the following wording:
 - i. To act as Lead and champion in the cause of:
- b) Note and agree the responsibilities for the Public Health lead member portfolio, subject to the adding the following wording:
 - ii. To act as Lead and champion in the cause of:
 - iii. To promote reductions in health inequalities across the Combined Authority area.
- c) Note and agree the Mayor's nominations to the new lead member portfolios:
 - i. Councillor Chris Boden: Lead Member for Public Health
 - ii. Councillor Bridget Smith: Lead Member for the Environment and Climate Change

1.7 Appointment process for two Independent Persons

It was resolved to:

Agree the appointment process and role description to recruit two Independent Persons, subject to the following amendment being made:

The Independent Person will not be:

~~An active~~ A member of a political party.

1.8 Appointment of Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Members Allowance Scheme

The report was withdrawn.

1.9 Performance Report and Devolution Deal Update

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the latest Performance Dashboard
- b) Note the update against Devolution Deal Commitments

Part 2 - Finance

2.1 Budget Monitor Report: July 2021

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the financial position of the Combined Authority for the year to date.
- b) Approve the recommendation from the Business Board to amend the budgets for the Local Growth Fund (LGF) management costs for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

Part 3 – Combined Authority Decisions

3.1 Future Transport Strategy and One CAM Limited

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the decision of the Chief Executive to stop task orders in relation to the delivery of the work of One CAM Limited.
- b) Note the recommendation of the Board of One CAM Limited that the work of the company be suspended until a comprehensive review of the One CAM programme and the Local Transport Plan be completed and authorise a material reduction in the activity of One CAM Limited pending a final decision in relation to the CAM Programme.
- c) Request that the Chief Executive and the Director of Delivery and Strategy bring a report to the September meeting of the Combined Authority Board recommending future steps in relation to the One CAM project and the further use or permanent closure of One CAM Limited
- d) Request that the Chief Executive and the Director of Delivery and Strategy bring a further update on revisions to the Local Transport Plan to the Board in September along with the outcome of a review on the use of consultants in the delivery of this work.

3.2 Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) Phase 2

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the contents of this paper.
- b) Delegate authority for the Director of Delivery and Strategy, in consultation with the Chair of the Transport Committee, to prepare, submit and publish a business case to the Department for Transport (DfT) for the ZEBRA Phase 2 application for alternative fuel buses and necessary infrastructure.

3.3 Phase 3 University of Peterborough – Masterplan and Short-Term Financing

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve a £100,000 grant to Peterborough City Council (PCC), to contribute to the £300,000 Master Planning works,
- b) Give consent as the majority shareholder in the Peterborough HE Property Company Limited (Prop Co 1) to allow Prop Co 1 to consider and approve a short term cashflow financing proposal for Phase 3 of the University of Peterborough (UoP).

3.4 Market Towns Programme - Approval of Change Requests for Huntingdonshire and East Cambridgeshire to extend funding expenditure timelines

It was resolved to:

- a) approve the request received from Huntingdonshire District Council to extend the funding timeline on their Market Towns budget allocation of £3,100,000 to March 2024 as match investment to the St Neots Future High Street Fund Scheme.
- b) approve the request received from Huntingdonshire District Council to extend the funding timeline and spend profile on their remaining budget allocation of £609,655 to March 2023 for St Neots Masterplan (Phase 1).
- c) approve the request received from East Cambridgeshire District Council to extend the funding timeline on their remaining Market Towns budget allocation of £2,144,000 to March 2023 for the towns of Ely, Soham and Littleport.

3.5 March – Future High Streets Funding Bid: Additional Combined Authority Match Funding

It was resolved to:

- a) Consider the four options identified from the independent appraisal report in response to Fenland District Council's application for an additional £1.1m of Combined Authority funding towards the March Future High Streets Fund Programme under Market Towns Programme.

- b) Approve the additional £1,100,000 requested by Fenland District Council (Option 1), subject to the business case being received by the Board.

3.6 Digital Skills Bootcamps

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the contract for Skills Bootcamps, Wave 2 Lot 1 and associated funding for the delivery of Digital Bootcamps in the East of England. The contract value is £1,826,250 with delivery of the Bootcamps to be complete by 31st March 2022.
- b) Delegate to the Director of Business & Skills, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer, authority to award and enter into contracts with consortia partners.

3.7 Angle Holdings - Directorship

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the removal of Mr James Palmer as a director of Angle Holdings Limited;
- b) Approve the appointment of Mayor Dr Nik Johnson as a director of Angle Holdings Limited;
- c) Note that Angle Holdings Limited will complete the appointment, and relevant regulatory filings.

3.8 Investment Fund Gateway Review

It was resolved to:

Note Ministers' decision that the Combined Authority Investment Fund has passed its first Gateway Review, and the consequent confirmation of the next tranche of £100 million Gainshare funding.

3.9 Active Travel Management

It was resolved to:

- a) Agree the approach to submitting active travel funding proposals to the government set out in this paper.

By recommendation to the Combined Authority

Part 4 – Business Board recommendations to the Combined Authority Board

4.1 Strategic Funding Management Review July 2021

It was resolved to:

- a) Reject the Project Change Request for the Wisbech Access Strategy Project.
- b) To note that officers will work with Wisbech Access Strategy Project lead to explore all implications and consequences of next steps for the project and report to next Combined Authority Board meeting.
- c) Note the other programme updates contained in the report to the Business Board on 14 July 2021.
- d) Support, in principle, the use of £1.88m of existing medium term financial plan (MTFP) budget to complete design work and land acquisitions for the three remaining schemes within the Wisbech Access Strategy project, subject to the business case being received by the Board.

4.2 Business Board Annual Report and Delivery Plan

It was resolved to:

- a) approve the Business Board's Annual Report (2020-21) and Annual Delivery Plan (2021-22), and approve submission of both documents to the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS);
- b) approve a new budget of £15k to implement design work to develop and produce a publishable version of the Annual Report and Delivery Plan, and digital platform, to better communicate and showcase achievements of the Business Board, to be funded from Enterprise Zones Reserve Fund.

4.3 Business Board Performance Assessment Framework and Recruitment Process

It was resolved to:

Approve the use of the Enterprise Zones Reserve Fund to fund the evaluation of the Business Board and individual private sector members, to a maximum budget cap of £35k (plus VAT).

4.4 Business Expenses and Allowances Scheme

It was resolved to:

Approve an amendment to be made to the Business Board Expenses and Allowances Scheme to include the option for members to forgo remuneration payments.

4.5 High Performance Computing Study and Roadmap

It was resolved to:

Approve £46,000 Enterprise Zone Reserve funding to commission the development of a feasibility study for the High-Performance Computing and Artificial Intelligence capability to support the Digital cluster development across the Greater Cambridge and wider Combined Authority area.