

## Combined Authority Board Decision Summary

Meeting: 30 November 2022  
Agenda/Minutes: [Combined Authority Board](#)  
Chair: Statutory Deputy Mayor Anna Smith

Summary of decisions taken at this meeting.

### Part 1 - Governance Items

#### 1.1 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Mayor Dr Nik Johnson, Councillors Boden (substituted by Councillor Jan French), Conboy (substituted by Councillor Tom Sanderson), Fitzgerald (substituted by Councillor Steve Allen), and Police and Crime Commissioner Darryl Preston (substituted by John Peach, the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner).

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 1.2 Combined Authority Board and Committee Membership Update

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the appointment by Cambridge City Council of Cllr Anna Smith as its Board member on the Combined Authority Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/2023.
- b) Note the appointment by Cambridge City Council of Cllr Lewis Herbert as the substitute member on the Combined Authority Board for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.

- c) Note the appointment by Cambridge City Council of Cllr Simon Smith as one of its members for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- d) Note the appointment by Cambridge City Council of Cllr Jenny Gawthrope-Wood as its substitute member on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- e) Ratify the appointment by South Cambridgeshire District Council of Cllr Peter Sandford as the substitute member on the Housing and Communities Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- f) Ratify the appointment by South Cambridgeshire District Council of Cllr Bridget Smith as the member for Housing and Communities Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.
- g) Ratify the nomination of Cllr Bridget Smith by Cllr Anna Smith acting in the place of the Mayor as the Chair for Housing and Communities Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2022/23.

### 1.3 Minutes – 19 October 2022 and Action Log

The minutes of the meeting on 19 October 2022 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Statutory Deputy Mayor.

The Action Log was noted.

### 1.4 Petitions

No petitions were received.

### 1.5 Public Questions

Three public questions were received from Lily Rivers, a local resident; Robin Sutton, representing Friends of the Manor; and Richard Parkinson, a local resident. A copy of the questions and responses (when published) can be viewed [here](#).

## Part 2 – Improvement

### 2.1 Combined Authority Monthly Highlights Report: November 2022

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the content of this report.

### 2.2 Improvement Plan Update

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the progress made against the actions set out in the CPCA Improvement Plan for October.
- b) Note the development of arrangements for the Independent Improvement Board.

## Part 3 – Finance Reports

### 3.1 Budget Monitoring Report

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the financial position of the Combined Authority for the year to date.
- b) Note the increase to the Local Transport Grant following extension by the Department for Transport.

### 3.2 Draft 2023/24 budget and medium-term financial plan 2023 to 2027

It was resolved to:

a) Approve the Draft Budget for 2023/24 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2026/27 for consultation.

b) Approve the timetable for consultation and those to be consulted.

## Part 4 - Combined Authority Decisions

### 4.1 Greater South East Net Zero Hub

It was resolved to:

a) Recognise Agree the acceptance of the BEIS GSE Net Zero Hub MoU 2022 to 2025.

b) Delegate authority to the Interim Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into agreements and approve the budgets corresponding to the BEIS funding agreements for the delivery of new projects and pilots.

c) Delegate authority to the Interim Director of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to update the Net Zero Hub Board Terms of Reference and Accountable Body Agreement.

d) Delegate authority to the Net Zero Hub Board for the use of the grants where the decisions do not impact the Combined Authority budget or staffing arrangements.

e) Note the Greater South East Net Zero Hub bid into the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 challenge fund being run by BEIS and, if this is successful, agree to the mobilisation of the project, commence procurement, invite bids and award to successful bidders, and the creation of budget lines to expend the HUG2 funding.

### 4.2 Climate and Strategy Business Cases November 2022

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Business Case for Waterbeach Renewable Energy Network project and approve £2.7m from the subject to approval line in the medium-term financial plan (MTFP).
- b) Approve the Business Case for the Greater Cambridge Chalk Stream project and approve £300,000 capital and £120,000 revenue from the subject to approval line in the MTFP.
- c) Approve the revised expenditure profiles as set out in the Business Cases

#### 4.3 Local Nature Recovery Strategy Grant

It was resolved to:

Approve the creation of an expenditure budget to enable payment of £16,304 to Cambridgeshire County Council towards preparation for a Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

#### 4.4 Market Towns Programme Financial Update November 2022

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the latest financial position for the Market Towns Programme and approve revised project delivery profiles and extended completion forecasts as set out within the latest Market Towns Programme Delivery Tracker.
- b) Approve the reallocation of £195,000 from the cancelled Whittlesey Heritage Centre project to fund the four proposed community projects, subject to external appraisal and sign-off from the CPCA Performance and Risk Committee (PARC).
- c) Approve the submission of a funding application from Fenland District Council to the Combined Authority Board in January 2023 to consider the allocation of £255,750 towards progressing a Strategic Outline Business Case for Whittlesey Southern Relief Road.
- d) Approve the reallocation of any underspend from 'closed or completed' projects to cover the funding gap for the

Chatteris Museum and Community Centre project, and any other 'in delivery' projects requiring additional funds within the Programme portfolio, subject to sign-off from the CPCA Performance and Risk Committee (PARC) and Chief Finance Officer.

#### 4.5 Combined Authority Gainshare Equity Fund

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Full Business Case for the Growth Works Equity Fund and approve the drawdown of £10million Gainshare currently 'subject to approval' in the medium-term financial plan (MTFP).
- b) Delegate authority to Interim Associate Director Business in consultation with Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to complete procurement and contract with delivery partners to commence delivery of the fund.

### Part 5 – Transport and Infrastructure Committee Recommendations to the Combined Authority

#### 5.1 Call-in of decision by the Transport and Infrastructure Committee: Demand Responsive Transport

The Board did not agree the recommendations contained in the report, neither was an alternative decision made. Therefore, the substantive decision remains that made by the Transport and Infrastructure Committee on Demand Responsive Transport on 16 November 2022.

#### 5.2 Bus Strategy (KD2020/058)

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the Bus Strategy to allow for a 6-week public consultation.
- b) Delegate the responsibility to the Interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to submit the final Bus Service Improvement Plan to central government in a timely manner,

following review by the Transport and Infrastructure Committee and approval by the Combined Authority Board.

### 5.3 A16 Norwood Improvements Outline Business Case (KD2022/042)

It was resolved to:

Approve the drawdown of £1.2 million from the Medium-Term Financial Plan for the development of the Full Business Case and to delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport to enter into a Grant Funding Agreement with Peterborough City Council following consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

### 5.4 Transforming Cities Fund (KD2022/035)

It was resolved to:

- a) Agree the recommended capital replacement schemes for the Transforming Cities Fund.
- b) Delegate authority to the Interim Head of Transport to inform the Department for Transport of the revised TCF programme with the expectation that the fund will be allocated in full.
- c) Delegate authority to the interim Head of Transport in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer to ensure the timely sign off for the Grant Funding Agreements with the County Council and other delivery partners, thereby reducing any potential delay in the programme.

### 5.5 Wisbech Rail Next Steps (KD2022/014)

It was resolved to:

Approve the drawdown of £80,000 from the Medium-Term Financial Plan for the development of an Options Assessment Report and to delegated authority to the Interim Head of Transport to enter into a Development Services agreement with Network Rail following consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

## 5.6 Snailwell Loop (Newmarket Curve)

It was resolved to:

Approve £150k of the current £500k subject to approval budget to enable continued development of the project and slip the balance into 2023-24.

## Part 6 – Skills Committee Recommendations to the Combined Authority

### 6.1 University of Peterborough, Delivery Update and Future CPCA Role (KD2022/029)

It was resolved to:

- a) Note the progress of the development of the University of Peterborough, the opening and operation of the phase 1 building to students by ARU Peterborough and its initial and potential performance against the original business plan objectives.
- b) Note the future role of the Combined Authority in the next few months in the further evolution and development of the University through the following:
  - i. Preparation and submission for approval of the Phase 3 full business case including a review of the University's original quantitative objectives set at the Phase 1 full business case, with further recommendations about how to reset these for effective monitoring of the new University.
  - ii. Update and preparation of the University Programme Business Case including partners strategy for delivery.
  - iii. Supporting and managing the preparation and submission of an outline planning application for a scheme to articulate the vision to potentially expand the University campus beyond the phase 3.



- iv. To review the business plan and approach to lettings for the phase 2 building to achieve the best outcome.

## 6.2 Growth Works Performance Review

It was resolved to:

Approve the implementation of proposed six recommendations from the programme review as outlined at section 8 of the report. These are:

- i. Increase the jobs to be created from the £3m European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) funded grant programme from 400 to 1240;
- ii. Reduce the Growth Coaching Service new jobs target to 1417 to provide capacity to continue to support existing clients;
- iii. Re-allocate 500k of the contracted funding and 454 jobs output target from the Growth Coaching budget line to the Inward Investment service line to give a new total jobs output of 1262 across the Inward Investment contract line;
- v. Revise the focus of the skills brokerage model from longer term culture change to medium term output deliverables to deliver required learning outcomes, apprenticeship starts and European Social Fund (ESF) key performance indicators;
- iv. Approve a more realistic alignment of Growth Works for Skills with the emergent needs of local businesses.

## Part 7 – Housing and Communities Committee Recommendations to the Combined Authority

### 7.1 Digital Connectivity Programme Reprofiting

It was resolved to:

Approve the re-profiling of the Digital Connectivity Programme budget as below:

	<b>2022-3</b>	<b>2023-4</b>	<b>2024-5</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Original Budget</b>	2,118,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	5,118,000
<b>Revised Budget</b>	1,262,000	1,943,000	1,913,000	5,118,000

## Part 8 – Business Board recommendations to the Combined Authority

### 8.1 Strategic Funds Management Review November 2022

It was resolved to:

Decline the Project Change Request for the South Fens Enterprise Park project, and for funding to be clawed back in line with the existing grant agreement.

## Part 9 – Governance Reports

### 9.1 Governance of CPCA Subsidiary and Fully Owned Companies – Shareholder Board

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve the creation of a Shareholder Board to ensure that CPCA subsidiary companies act in the interests of the CPCA as shareholder, member and / or lender and contribute to the Authority's objectives.
- b) Note the draft Terms of Reference at set out at Appendix 2 and delegate approval of final terms to the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Lead Member for Governance, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

## 9.2 Forward Plan November 2022

It was resolved to approve the Forward Plan for November 2022.

## Part 10.1 – Exempt Matters

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the report contained exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed. That is, information relating to an individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The public interest in maintaining the exemption was deemed to outweigh the public interest in its publication.

## 10.2 University of Peterborough - Proposal to offer a loan to R&D Company 2 Delivering the University Phase 2 Building

It was resolved to:

- a) Approve recommendation a).
- b) Approve recommendation b).

### 10.3 Transition Arrangement: Resignation of Officer

It was resolved to note the report.

### 10.4 Exempt minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Combined Authority Board on 20 May 2022

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Combined Authority Board on 20 May 2022 were signed by the Statutory Deputy Mayor.

### 10.5 Exempt minutes of the Combined Authority Board meeting on 31 August 2022

The minutes of the meeting on 31 August 2022 were signed by the Statutory Deputy Mayor.