



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH**
COMBINED AUTHORITY

PAUL BRISTOW MAYOR
OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE
& PETERBOROUGH

Reports from Constituent Council Representatives on the Combined Authority

The following meetings have taken place in January 2026

Funding Committee, 5 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Funding Committee \(January\)](#)

Audit and Governance Committee, 13 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: CANCELLED

Transport Committee, 14 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Transport Committee \(January\)](#)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 15 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Overview and Scrutiny Committee \(January\)](#)

Skills Committee, 19 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Skills Committee \(January\)](#)

Growth Committee, 21 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Growth Committee \(January\)](#)

Combined Authority Board, 28 January 2026

Councillor: [REDACTED]

Decision Summary Link: [Combined Authority Board \(January\)](#)



Any key decision/s set below will come into force and may be implemented after 5.00pm on the fifth clear working day after publication of the decision, unless they are called-in [see note on call in below], with the exception of any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED:

- A. The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

4 Single Assurance Framework Business Case Approvals: Officer Decisions

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the Officer business cases and change request decisions for projects less than £2m under the Single Assurance Framework.

5 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED:

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting when the Peterborough Bus Depot Outline Business Case item was to be discussed. This was on the grounds that the appendices relating to this item contained exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed.

6 Single Assurance Framework Business Case Approvals: Funding Committee Decisions

RESOLVED:

- A. To recommend to the Board the approval of the Full Business Case and £3,659,000 for the Delivery of Digital Connectivity Strategy 2025-29 (years 2-4) programme, along with slippage of £400k from the existing 2025/26 budget to 2026/27, and approve delegation to the Executive Director, Place and Economy to sign the Grant Funding Agreement in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer.
- B1. To recommend to the Board the approval of the preferred option 2 for the cancellation of the Business Growth and Social Impact Fund - Stream 1 (delivered by FSE) as set out within the change request.
- B2. To delegate authority to the Executive Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to undertake and finalise discussions with the contractor with the aim of securing a mutually agreed exit plan which is in line with either option approved by the Funding Committee.
- B3. To consider recommending any reallocation to the Local Growth Plan Delivery

Fund to support delivery of projects which are similarly related to Gainshare outputs and outcomes

- C. To extend the delivery timeline to 31 October 2026 for the Ramsey Great Whyte Produce Hub.

To recommend to the Board:

- D1. Approval of the Peterborough Bus Depot Outline Business Case; which will then be further developed into a Full Business Case in 2026.
- D2. Approval of the sum of up to £7.6m funded through Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) capital funding and MHCLG capital grant for further development and land acquisition.
- D3. Approval to spend up to £1m of the allocated sum to progress the next stages of the work to produce a Full Business case (and related costings and fees) and to pay an option or offer fee as outlined in the paper
- D4. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive and the Mayor, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer, to proceed to make an offer to acquire and/or acquire an option on a freehold land or property and finalise any further terms necessary to enable completion – noting that the negotiated land purchase agreement will return to Board for final approval.

7 Work Programme

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the Funding Committee's Work Programme.

Notes:

Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.

Five Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may call-in a key decision of the Mayor, the Combined Authority Board or an Officer for scrutiny by notifying the Monitoring Officer, except for any key decision on a matter dealt with under the special urgency provisions set out in the Constitution which may be implemented immediately.

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3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

5 Forward Plan

RESOLVED

A. That the Combined Authority Forward Plan be noted.

6 Director's Highlight Report

RESOLVED:

A. To note the contents of the report.

7 Contracted Bus Services Review Framework

RESOLVED:

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Beckett it was resolved:

A. To recommend to the Combined Authority Board to undertake **appropriate** resident engagement on the proposals affecting contracted bus services, as set out in section 2.5. **and 2.6, and to include the routes listed below (formerly shown in recommendation B)**

- 13B Nosterfield End to Linton
- 19A Cambridge to Landbeach
- 117 and 129 Ely to Upware and Ely to Black Horse Drove
- 65 St Neots to Buckden

*Text in **bold** denotes additional wording to the recommendation.

Recommendation B was withdrawn.

8 Work Programme

RESOLVED:

A. That the Transport Committee Work Programme be noted.

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1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Harvey, Cllr Davis substituted by Cllr Foice-Beard.

2 Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interests made.

3 Public Questions

There were no public questions.

4 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 13th November 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

5 Corporate Performance Report

The Committee received the report and scrutinised the performance information relating to Key Performance Indicators in the Interim Outcomes Framework and the Most Complex Programmes and Projects and noted progress to evaluate the impact of the Devolution Deal Investment Fund in a Gateway Review.

6 Budget Working Group Report

The Committee received the report from the budget working group and agreed to feedback a recommendation around the budget working group's concerns about the declining revenue and capital reserve levels, despite some additional grant funding being noted at the meeting. The committee requested that a response from the Mayor and Board outlining how the Combined Authority will secure its financial future, ideally supported by a financial forecast be provided.

7 Questions and Recommendations to the CA Board

The Committee agreed that the O&S Chair should attend the CA Board on the 28th January to feedback the committee's response to the budget consultation.

8 **Rapporteur Reports**

The Committee received updates from the rapporteurs for the Thematic Committees.

9 **Forward Plan**

The Committee reviewed and noted the CA Forward Plan.

10 **Work Programme**

The Committee agreed to approve the work programme.

11 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for:

Informal O&S meeting: 12th February 2026

O&S Committee Meeting: 3rd March 2026.

Notes:

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2 Declaration of Interests

Councillor M Goldsack declared an interest in Minute No. 11 in relation to the project by West Suffolk College to create a new health and science and education centre as former Chair of Soham Football Club.

3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

4 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

5 Combined Authority Forward Plan

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the CPCA's Forward Plan for January 2026.

6 Director's Highlight Report

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the report.

7 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Corporate Plan 2025 - 2029 – Jobs Objective

RESOLVED:

- A. To receive and note an in-depth overview of the Jobs Objective within the Combined Authority's Corporate Plan 2025-2029.
- B. To note that a more detailed paper will be submitted in March 2026, including key performance indicators and metrics. This will be shared in line with the publication of the 2026-27 Annual Business Plan – due to be approved by Board in January 2026.

8 Building on the Youth Guarantee Policy: Developing a NEET Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (Discussion Paper)

RESOLVED: (Unanimous)

- A. To review, provide feedback and endorse the proposal for a NEET Strategy for 14–25-year-olds in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- B. That subject to broader agreement from Public Sector Leaders, the Leaders Strategy Group and wider stakeholders, such as the Youth Guarantee Programme Board, the Skills Committee will receive a logic model, resource requirements and an action plan at its meeting in March 2026.

9 Youth Guarantee Programme Update

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the ongoing progress of the Authorities 'Youth Guarantee Trailblazer' Programme; including confirmation of Year 2 funding and the planned transition to a structured, results-driven delivery model, and the ongoing sharing of information on funded provision, referral pathways, and partner contacts to support joined-up delivery and improved outcomes for young people.

10 Adult Skills Funding Review Progress Report

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the progress of the Adult Skills Funding Review and provide comments / feedback on the draft report, noting that a final version of the report will be brought to the Skills Committee in March 2026.

11 FE Cold Spots

RESOLVED:

- A. To note progress with the Further Education (FE) Cold Spots Skills Capital Programme.
- B. To note that the Skills Committee will receive a further progress report in March 2026.

12 Digital Badging Strategy

RESOLVED: (Unanimous)

- A. To note the update on the Digital Badging Strategy and forward plans / focus for delivery in 2025/26 and 2026/26.
- B. To endorse the proposed Digital Strategy and recommend it to the Combined Authority Board for approval.

13 Paid Internship Programme Update

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the update on the Paid Internships Performance and delivery in 2025/26.

14 **Careers Hub Performance Update**

RESOLVED:

- A. To receive the update on the activities of the Region's Careers Hub, including its performance in the 2024/25 academic year and its focus for delivery in 2025/26.

15 **Skills Board - Revised Terms of Reference**

RESOLVED: (Unanimous)

- A. To review and provide feedback on the proposed terms of reference for the Skills Board.
- B. To approve the revised terms of reference for the Skills Board at Appendix A.

16 **Work Programme**

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the Committee's Work Programme.

17 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 9 March 2026. The meeting venue is CPCA Meeting Room, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon.

Notes:

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3 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

6 Director's Highlight Report

RESOLVED:

- A. To note the content of the report.

7 Spatial Development Strategy Update

RESOLVED:

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Beckett it was unanimously resolved to:

- A. Note that the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 has become law, with commencement powers to follow, probably in June 2026.
- B. Note progress in development work being undertaken by the Combined Authority in responding to the Planning & Infrastructure Act.
- C. Recommend that the Committee, subject to its feedback/comments, agree that a response to the consultation on the Draft National Planning Policy Framework be finalised, in consultation with the Chair and Mayor, for submission to MHCLG by the consultation closing date of 10 March 2026.

9 Review of Terms of Reference

RESOLVED:

On being proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bailey it was unanimously resolved to:

- A. Review and comment on proposed amendments to the Terms of Reference as shown in Appendix A.
- B. Recommend to the Combined Authority Board that the revisions are accepted, **subject to final approval by the Chair**, and incorporated into the Combined Authority's Constitution.

*text in **bold** denotes additional wording to the recommendation.

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1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Councillor Bridget Smith (Councillor John Williams substituting), Councillor Anna Bailey (Councillor Julia Huffer substituting), Councillor Chris Morris, Robin Porter (Dorothy Gregson substituting) and from Darryl Preston.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meetings held on 26 November 2025 and 18 December 2025 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor. The Action Log was noted.

3. Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interests made.

5. Public Questions

No public questions were received in advance of the meeting.

6. Petitions

No petitions were received.

7. Forward Plan

It was resolved to:

- A Approve the Forward Plan for January 2026

8. Combined Authority Membership Update

It was resolved to:

- A Note the temporary substitute from Cambridgeshire County Council on the Combined Authority's Funding Committee on Monday 5 January 2026.
- B Note the changes to the Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Membership from Cambridgeshire County Council
- C Note the temporary substitute from East Cambridgeshire District Council on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee on 5 March 2026.
- D **Note the changes to the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee membership from Peterborough City Council.**

9. Chief Executive Highlights Report

It was resolved to:

- A Note the content of the report

10. Q2 Corporate Performance Report

It was resolved to:

- A Note performance information relating to the Combined Authority's Key Performance Indicators in the Interim Outcomes Framework (IOF).
- B Note performance information relating to the Combined Authority's Most Complex Programmes and Projects.
- C Note progress to evaluate the impact of the Devolution Deal Investment Fund in a Gateway Review.

11. Mayor's Budget - KD2025/022

It was resolved to:

- A Note the proposed Mayoral budget for 2026-27, including the proposal to maintain the precept at £36 for a Band D property, and to provide comments to the Mayor regarding the proposed Mayoral Budget.
- B Approve the draft Mayoral Budget, including the proposed Mayoral precept noted above (noting the process set out at Appendix 1 of this report and also addressed in the Legal Implications section below).
- C Delegate minor changes to the Mayor's budget, due to finalisation of council tax base figures, to the Executive Director of Resources.

12. Proposed 2026/27 Budget and Annual Business Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2026-2030 - KD2025/21

It was resolved to:

- A Note the consultation feedback received during the consultation period including the feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in section 8.
- B Note the draft Annual Business Plan 2026/27 as set out in section 2.3.
- C Approve the proposed budget for 2026/27 and the Capital Programme and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2026/27 to 2029/30 as set out in the report and contained in appendices 3, 4 and 5 including the project reprofiling set out in appendix 8.
- D Approve the Transport Levy for 2026/27 totalling £14,741,542 consisting of £10,791,663 from Cambridgeshire County Council and £3,949,879 from Peterborough City Council, noting this includes a 1% increase which will be used to support the Tiger Pass.
- E Approve the targeting of the programme response fund to provide revenue capacity for the delivery of the Local Growth Plan, with delegation to the Chief Executive to approve spend. See paragraph 6.9.
- F Approve the 2026/27 Treasury Management Strategy, Non-Treasury Management Strategy, Capital Strategy and MRP statement as set out in section 9 and appendix 11.
- G Delegate any minor changes required to the budget, and financial strategies, before 1 April 2026 to the Executive Director Resources (Chief Finance Officer), including additional grant announcements made prior to 1 April 2026.
- H Digital Connectivity
In line with the Single Assurance Framework, approve the Full Business Case and funding of £3,659,000 for the Delivery of the Digital Connectivity Strategy 2025-29 (years 2-4) programme, along with slippage of £400k from the existing 2025/26 budget in to 2026/27, and approve delegation to the Executive Director, Place and Connectivity, to sign the Grant Funding Agreement in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer.

I Business Growth and Social Impact Fund

In line with the Single Assurance Framework:

1. Approve the preferred option for the cancellation of the Business Growth and Social Impact Fund - Stream 1 (delivered by FSE) as set out within the change request.
2. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Economy and Growth, in consultation with the Executive Director Resources (Chief Finance Officer) and Monitoring Officer, to undertake and finalise discussions with the contractor with the aim of securing a mutually agreed exit plan which is in line with either option approved by the Funding Committee.
3. Consider recommending any reallocation to the Local Growth Plan Delivery Fund to support delivery of projects which are similarly related to Gainshare outputs and outcomes.

J Peterborough Bus Depot

In line with the Single Assurance Framework:

1. Approve the Peterborough Bus Depot Outline Business Case; which will then be further developed into a Full Business Case in 2026.
2. Approve the sum of up to £7.6m funded through Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) capital funding and MHCLG capital grant for further development and land acquisition.
3. Approve spending up to £1m of the allocated sum to progress the next stages of the work to produce a Full Business case (and related costings and fees) and to pay an option or offer fee as outlined in the paper
4. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive and the Mayor, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Executive Director Resources (Chief Finance Officer), to proceed to make an offer to acquire and/or acquire an option on a freehold land or property and finalise any further terms necessary to enable completion – noting that the negotiated land purchase agreement will return to Board for final approval.

13a Review of Adult Skills Funding - KD2025/070

It was resolved to:

- A Provide comments/feedback on the draft report.

13b Digital Badging Strategy - KD2025/085

It was resolved to:

- A Approve the proposed Digital Badging Strategy

14a Contracted Bus Service Review – KD2025/081

It was resolved to:

- A Undertake appropriate resident engagement on the proposals affecting contracted bus services, as set out in section 2.5 and 2.6 and to include the routes listed below where services are due to be considered with a Tiger on Demand solution:
 - 117 and 129 Ely to Upware and Ely to Black Horse Drove
 - 65 St Neots to Buckden
- B To recommend to the Combined Authority Board to approve the following routes listed below identified in the framework for withdrawal:
 - 13B Nosterfield End to Linton
 - 19A Cambridge to Landbeach

Details and mitigations for these routes are set out in section 2.3 of the paper.

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