



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.

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Katy Cole and Cllr Mark Goldsack.

Apologies were also received from Katy Davies, Business Board representative.

**2 Declaration of Interests**

Councillor Davey declared an interest by virtue of his role as a Director of Cambridgeshire United Football Club.

**3 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2026 were approved as an accurate record.

The Action Log was noted by the Committee.

**4 Public Questions**

No public questions were received.

**5 Forward Plan**

RESOLVED:

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

**6 Director's Highlight Report**

RESOLVED:

A. To note the contents of the report.

**7 Adult Skills Commissioning Strategy 2025-28 (Revised August 2026)**

RESOLVED:

To RECOMMEND that the Combined Authority Board:

A. Approve the revised Adult Skills Commissioning Strategy 2025-2028, attached

at Appendix A, as the strategic framework for commissioning devolved adult skills funding within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

- B. Endorse the continued use of a blended commissioning model, comprising both Grant Funding Agreements and Contracts for Services, recognising that different commissioning mechanisms are appropriate for different types of funding, provision and policy objectives.
- C. Approve the Authority's intention to ordinarily award Contracts for Services for periods of up to three years, where funding conditions permit, in order to provide greater stability, consistency and investment confidence across the skills sector.
- D. Delegate authority to the Assistant Director Skills & Employment, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer, to implement the Commissioning Strategy and determine the most appropriate commissioning mechanism for future funding opportunities in accordance with the principles set out within the strategy.

## 8 Adult Skills Funding Review Next Steps

RESOLVED to:

- A. Endorse a programme of four thematic deep dives into:
  - English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL);
  - Destinations and Progression;
  - Tailored Learning; and
  - Alignment of Adult Skills Provision with Priority Sectors.

**with social and economic implications included in all of the deep dives.**
- B. Agree that the findings from these deep dives be used to inform:
  - Future amendments to The Adult Skills Commissioning Strategy;
  - Adult Skills Fund funding rules and commissioning arrangements;
  - Performance management and assurance frameworks; and
  - Future strategic investment priorities.

## 9 Youth Employment and Participation Strategy (14-25): Emerging Strategic Direction and Progress Update

RESOLVED to:

- A. Note the progress made in developing the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Youth Employment and Participation Strategy (14-25), previously commissioned as a Youth Employment / NEET Strategy.
- B. Note the emerging strategic direction, including the proposed vision, strategic

framework and Theory of Change.

- C. Note the proposed next steps, including further stakeholder engagement, refinement of the delivery framework and development of a full draft strategy for future consideration.

## 10 Budget & Performance Report

### RESOLVED:

- A. To note the financial position of the Skills Division for the financial year 2026/27 to June 2026

## 11 Skills Board Update

### RESOLVED:

- A. To receive the Actions & Notes of the meeting of the Skills Board held on 3rd September 2026.

## 12 Work Programme

### RESOLVED:

- A. To note the Skills Committee Work Programme.

## 13 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 9 November 2026 at 10am in the CPCA Meeting Room, Pathfinder House PE29 3TN.

### **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 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.

For more information please contact: Democratic Services at  
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