

CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY Decision Summary

Meeting: 29th November 2017

http://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/meetings/combined-authority-board-29-november-2017/

Item	Topic	Decision
	Part 1 – Governance Items	
1.1	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	Apologies received from Councillor Holdich, substituted by Councillor Fitzgerald, and Councillor Topping, substituted by Councillor Nick Wright.
Item	Topic	Decision
1.2	Minutes – 25th October 2017	It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of 25th October 2017 as a correct record.
1.3	Petitions	None received.
1.4	Public Questions	None received.

1.5	Forward Plan	It was resolved to approve the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions dated 20 November 2017.
1.6	Membership of the Combined Authority – Amendments	It was resolved to note the following appointments made by Huntingdonshire District Council for the remainder of the municipal year 2017/2018:
		(a) Councillor Graham Bull to replace Councillor Robin Howe as its Member to the Combined Authority;
		(b) Councillor Ryan Fuller as Councillor Graham Bull's substitute to the Combined Authority.
		The Board also noted that the Mayor had appointed Councillor Charles Roberts as his statutory Deputy Mayor.
	Part 2 – Key Decisions	
2.1	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Strategic Bus Review	The purpose of this report was to ask the Board to agree to a strategic review of bus services within the Combined Authority area.
		Buses have the potential to provide economic and social benefits by connecting people with jobs, shops and facilities; they can minimise social isolation; and can reduce congestion on some of our busiest roads. Many bus services are run successfully on a commercial basis but there are also a significant minority of services, particularly in rural areas and those provided for people with disabilities, which are only viable currently through public subsidy.
		Considerable work has already been undertaken to improve the operational efficiency of the existing bus service. However, significant further operational improvements are unlikely to be achieved using existing delivery models without considerable public sector subsidy. Such investment is likely to offer a diminishing return and is unlikely to deal with the underlying issues.
		This paper proposed that a strategic study is undertaken. It will: ☐ Review the existing network and service – including its strengths and weaknesses;

	 □ Develop strategic options for bus services of the future – taking account of other strategic transport initiatives, so that any proposals can be seen as part of a whole transport solution. New technology and innovative solutions from across the UK and the world will also be considered; □ Assess franchising and other operational models – and their relevance and value to this area' □ Consider transition arrangements for new, future operational models
	An important feature of the review will be engagement with all stakeholder groups across the area including bus providers and Local Authorities.
	For the purpose of this report buses are defined as services that provide on road passenger transport provision either via a traditional bus or a smaller tailored accessible vehicle
	It was resolved to:
	a) Agree to undertake a Bus Review within the scope and terms of reference set out in this report.
	b) Agree a total budget allocation of £150,000 to undertake the Bus Review.
	c) Note the intention to use this Bus Review to inform a future Combined Authority Bus Strategy which would be developed as part of the future Local Transport Plan.
	d) Note that the Bus Review would seek to recognise the issues faced in certain areas of Cambridgeshire following the recent withdrawal of some commercial services.
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	Part 3 – Other Decisions	
3.1	Transport Update	The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 conferred the local transport planning powers on the Combined Authority creating the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority as the local transport authority. This report set out how transport functions are currently delivered; considered future delivery models; and requested the approval of a statutory instrument which enabled the Combined Authority to levy the upper tier authorities for the cost of delivering the transport functions. It was resolved to: a) Note that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, as the local transport planning authority, delegated its transport powers and transport funding to Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council for 2017/18; b) Agree to report back to the Board in December on the implications of the Combined Authority assuming the decision making powers for strategic transport planning matters and the impact of that for the upper-tier authorities and other bodies c) Approve the draft Statutory Instrument (Appendix 1) enabling the Combined Authority
		to levy the upper tier authorities for delivery of the transport functions
3.2	Adult Education Budget Devolution: Transitional Arrangements and Resourcing	The devolution of the Adult Education Budget (AEB) represented a central component of the skills agenda for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA). The AEB brings together what were previously three separate funding streams into a single budget, comprising of: the non-apprenticeship part of the Adult Skills Budget community learning discretionary learner support It has been suggested that successful localisation of this budget could allow the CPCA greater flexibility and responsiveness in addressing the region's skills needs. Although full devolution was originally scheduled for the 2018/19 academic year, it had become apparent that this was no longer feasible without substantial risks to learners and providers. Consequently, the Department for Education (DfE) had proposed two transitional options for the 2018/19 academic year before full devolution in 2019/20. The

		DfE has subsequently written to all Mayoral Combined Authorities requesting formal confirmation of their chosen transitional option. This paper detailed and contextualised the options available and recommended the basis for how CPCA work with the DfE during the 2018/19 academic year. To ensure that the CPCA was prepared for full devolution in 2019/20, a significant amount of preparatory work was required to satisfy the DfE's 'readiness criteria' for the transfer of AEB powers. The report also outlined the level of additional resource required to ensure that CPCA has the specialist knowledge and capacity to prepare for AEB devolution. It was resolved to: (a) Note the steps taken to prepare the Combined Authority for full devolution of the Adult Education Budget in time for the 2019/20 academic year; (b) Agree the Combined Authority's approach to working with the Department for Education during the proposed 'transitional' 2018/19 academic year; and (c) Agree £40,000 of extra resource to ensure that the Combined Authority was equipped to prepare for AEB devolution.
3.3	Appointment of Legal Counsel & Monitoring Officer, and Loan of Chief Executive	The purpose of this report was to ask the Board to appoint Kim Sawyer as Legal Counsel and Monitoring Officer following the recommendation of the Employment Committee. It was resolved to: (a) appoint Kim Sawyer as Legal Counsel and Monitoring Officer, (b) note that the Mayor had exercised his general power of competence on behalf of the Combined Authority to agree to loan the Chief Executive to the Greater Cambridgeshire Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership on a part time and interim basis.
3.4	Budget Update Report – 2017-18	Constituent members when agreeing to the establishment of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) considered the resource allocations from

		central government and the initial expenditure plans which have since been further developed. This report provides an update of the 2017/18 budget. It was resolved to: 1. Note the budget updates as requested for approval in other Board reports on this meeting's agenda. 2. Note the budget update made under delegated authority as set out in paragraph 3.5. 3. Note the updated budget and indicative resources for 2017/18 and 2018/19 to
	Part 4 – Date of Next Meeting	2020/21 as set out in Appendices A and B
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4.1	Date of Next Meeting	It was resolved to note the date of the next meeting – Wednesday 20 December 2017 at 10.30 am in Committee Rooms 1 & 2, Cambridge City Council, Guildhall, Cambridge