



To: Councillor Lewis Herbert Leader and Executive Councillor  
for Strategy and Transformation  
Report by: Chief Executive  
Relevant scrutiny Strategy & Resources  
committee: Scrutiny Committee 3/07/2017  
Wards affected: ALL

## **COMBINED AUTHORITY UPDATE**

### **Not a Key Decision**

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#### **1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the activities of the Combined Authority since the last meeting of Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee in March 2017.

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Executive Councillor is recommended to
- (a) report the contents of this report to the scrutiny committee
  - (b) provide a verbal update at the meeting on issues considered at the 28 June meeting of the Combined Authority
- 2.2 To agree to provide informal briefings with group leaders and Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny representatives, if requested, using the process set out in paragraph 7.6.

#### **3. Mayoral Election**

- 3.1 The first Mayoral election for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough took place on 4 May 2017. James Palmer (Conservative) was elected Mayor with 56.9% of the vote after a second round ballot against Rod Cantrill (Liberal Democrat). Mr Palmer is the former Leader of East Cambridgeshire District Council.

#### **4. Meetings of the Combined Authority**

- 4.1 The first meeting of the Combined Authority Board took place on 20 March and a further meeting on 26 April. The minutes of both meetings are attached at Appendix A and B. The business of both

meetings was primarily focused on constitutional and other decisions relating to the set-up and running of the Combined Authority.

4.2 The Annual meeting of the Combined Authority took place on 31 May.

4.3 At that meeting the following decisions were confirmed:

#### 4.4 Member of the Board and Substitutes

<b>Nominating Body</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Cambridge City Council	Cllr Lewis Herbert	Cllr Kevin Price
Cambridgeshire County Council	Cllr Steve Count	Cllr Roger Hickford
East Cambridgeshire District Council	Cllr Charles Roberts	Cllr Anna Bailey
Fenland District Council	Cllr John Clark	Cllr Will Sutton
Huntingdonshire District Council	Cllr Robin Howe	Cllr Daryl Brown
Peterborough City Council	Cllr John Holdich	Cllr Wayne Fitzgerald
South Cambridgeshire District Council	Cllr Peter Topping	Cllr Nick Wright
GCGP LEP	Mark Reeve	To be advised

#### 4.5 Mayoral and Combined Authority portfolios

<b>Cabinet</b>	<b>Key areas of responsibility</b>
Mayor  James Palmer	Chair of Combined Authority Securing more power & investment into Cambridgeshire & Peterborough including future devolution deals Public sector reform
Deputy Mayor (statutory)  Cllr Robin Howe	Chair of Investment Group Economic & Productivity Strategy International trade, inward investment and business development
Deputy Mayor (constitutional)  Cllr John Holdich	Chair of Delivery Group Working with the LEP to develop the future industrial sectors of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Tourism

Fiscal  Cllr Steve Count	Strategic fiscal planning Investment Strategy Budget setting and monitoring Vice-Chair of Investment Group
New Homes & Communities  Cllr Peter Topping	Housing Strategy Housing Programmes to drive up housing supply Strategic relationship with housing providers, developments and builders Sustainable communities and community infrastructure Vice-Chair of Delivery Group
Transport & Infrastructure  Cllr Charles Roberts	Local Transport Plan Delivery of growth infrastructure including the key route network Key transport partnerships including Network Rail and private sector Safe, secure and sustainable transport including buses Member of Delivery Group
Employment & Skills  Cllr John Clark	Skills Strategy – matching skills to high quality jobs Promoting skills and apprenticeship excellence Key partnerships with universities and higher education Cambridgeshire & Peterborough apprenticeships Member of Delivery Group
Strategic Planning  Cllr Lewis Herbert	Non-statutory spatial plan Chair of Land Commission – supply of public sector land Supporting disadvantaged communities and individuals to benefit from growth and prosperity Energy and clean growth Member of Investment Group

#### 4.6 Co-opted Organisations

Organisation	Named representative
The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire	Jason Ablewhite (Commissioner)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority representative	To be advised
Clinical Commissioning Group representative	Jessica Bawden Director of Corporate Affairs

#### 4.7 Membership of Working Groups

##### **Investment Working Group**

Deputy Mayor (Cllr Howe) Chair

Fiscal (Cllr Count) Vice-Chair

Strategic Planning (Cllr Herbert)

LEP Chair (Mark Reeve)

##### **Delivery**

Deputy Mayor (Cllr Holdich) Chair

New Homes (Cllr Topping) Vice-Chair

Employment & Skills (Cllr Clark)

Transport & Infrastructure (Cllr Roberts)

#### 5. Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees

- 5.1 The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members. The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting for to maintain political balance.
- 5.2 Constituent Councils have nominated the Members and substitute Members listed below for the municipal year 2017/18 based on the political balance across the county in May 2017.

<b>Council</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Substitute</b>
Huntingdonshire District Council	Councillor Robin Carter (Cons) Councillor Terry Hayward (Ind)	Councillor Peter Bucknell (Cons) Councillor Dick Tuplin (Ind))
East Cambridgeshire District Council	Councillors Mike Bradley (Cons) Councillor Alan Sharp (Cons)	Councillors Julia Huffer (Cons) Councillors Chris Morris (Cons)
South Cambridgeshire	Councillor Alex Riley (Cons)	Cllr Grenville Chamberlain (Cons)

District Council	Councillor John Batchelor (LD)	Cllr Philippa Hart (LD)
Fenland District Council	Councillor Fred Yeulett (Cons) Councillor Mark Buckton (Cons)	Councillor David Mason (Cons)
Cambridge City Council	Councillor Dave Baigent (Lab) Councillor Rod Cantrill (LD)	Cllr Mike Sargeant (Lab) Cllr Ysanne Austin (LD)
Cambridgeshire County Council	Councillor Hudson (Cons) Councillor Nethsingha (LD)	Councillor Harford (Cons) Councillor Jenkins (LD)
Peterborough City Council	Councillor David Over (Cons) Councillor Ed Murphy (Lab)	Councillor Bisby (Cons) Councillor Jamil (Lab)

5.3 The Combined Authority is required to establish an Audit Committee. When agreeing the constitution, the Board agreed that the Audit and Governance Committee should have seven constituent members, one Member from each Constituent Council, together with one Independent person.

5.4 Mr Alan John Pye was appointed as the independent person for a term of four years ending May 2021. Mr Pye has a wealth of knowledge and experience in similar positions. He has recently held the position of non-Executive Director and Chair of the Audit Committee of the Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust. He has also been an independent member of the Cambridgeshire Police Authority.

## **6. Housing**

6.1 There two pots of housing money covered by the devolution deal: £100m for the wider geography and £70m ring-fenced for Cambridge.

6.2 South Cambridgeshire District Council has been appointed as the lead partner to deliver the £100m programme and to develop a Housing Strategy for the Combined Authority. Work is underway to identify the initial sites for investment and to move forward other aspects of the work programme. Progress on this work stream will be reported to the Combined Authority in July.

Cambridge City Council is the lead partner on the delivery of the £70m affordable housing programme. Reports on this programme are taken to Housing Scrutiny committee.

## **7. Forward Plan for the Combined Authority and Scrutiny of the Council's representative**

- 7.1 It was agreed at Civic Affairs in February that the Council's representative on the Combined Authority would be subject to regular post-decision scrutiny at each Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee. The activities of the Combined Authority are a standing item on each agenda. The two Combined Authority overview and scrutiny members are also invited to attend this meeting.
- 7.2 Key decisions to be made by the Combined Authority and the Mayor are to be listed within a forward plan at least 28 clear days before being made. (It should be noted that there will also be provision for urgency decisions within the Combined Authority's constitution where it is impractical to include a decision within the forward plan or where no prior notice can be given before making the decision).
- 7.3 All Members have been sent links to the agendas for previous Combined Authority meetings. The agenda for 31 May included the Forward Plan of items for the meeting to be held on 28 June. The agenda for the 28 June will include forward items for the July meeting so there will be an opportunity for the scrutiny committee to discuss items on that Forward Plan at its meeting on 3 July. We will circulate this agenda to all members when published.
- 7.4 The current Forward Plan for the Combined Authority is attached at Appendix C. We will recirculate an updated version of the plan, if there have been any changes when the agenda for 28 June is published.
- 7.5 As the Combined Authority is meeting on a monthly cycle, it is not possible to pre-scrutinise all issues the Council's representative may be considering at scheduled meetings of the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee. It was agreed at Civic Affairs that an arrangement should be put in place to enable group leaders to meet informally with the Council's Combined Authority representative and Overview and Scrutiny representatives to discuss any issues of interest in between formal scrutiny committee meetings.
- 7.6 It is suggested that the process for this going forward should be:

1. The Combined Authority Forward Plan is circulated to Group Leaders and Overview and Scrutiny representatives once a month following publication.
2. If a Group leader wishes an informal briefing meeting they must notify Democratic Services within 5 days of receipt of the Forward Plan.
3. Democratic Services will consult on potential dates with the Council's representative on the Combined Authority (or their Deputy if appropriate), Group Leaders and the two Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny representatives. If any individual does not want to attend they may opt not to be consulted on dates or to take part in the briefing.
4. A briefing will be arranged to take place before the meeting of the Combined Authority. This may be through a conference call if face-to-face meetings are difficult to accommodate due to existing diary commitments.

## **8. Implications**

### **(a) Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this update report.

### **(b) Staffing Implications**

There are no direct staffing implications for the City Council from this update report.

The Housing Development Agency is leading on delivery of the £70m council house building programme for the City Council. The Chief Executive is leading on the overall housing workstream with officers from South Cambridgeshire.

Martin Whiteley has been appointed interim Chief Executive of the Combined Authority – final interviews for a permanent appointment will take place in late June.

### **(c) Equality and Poverty Implications**

There are no equality and poverty implications from this update report. An EqIA has not, therefore, been produced for this report.

### **(d) Environmental Implications**

There are no environmental implications from this update report.

(e) **Procurement**

There are no procurement implications from this update report.

(f) **Consultation and communication**

The Combined Authority will continue to issue communications around progress with the devolution deal as appropriate and consults on its work at appropriate points.

(g) **Community Safety**

There are no community safety implications from this update report.

## **9. Background papers**

9.1 These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Agenda for Combined Authority meetings: 20 March, 26 April and 31 May 2017.

## **10. Appendices**

Appendix A	Minutes of Combined Authority meeting 20 March 2017
Appendix B	Minutes of Combined Authority meeting 26 April 2017
Appendix C	Combined Authority Forward Meetings plan

## **11. Inspection of papers**

11.1 To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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