

Item

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority - Update



To:

Councillor Lewis Herbert, Leader and Executive Councillor for Strategy and Transformation

Committee:

22 January 2018, Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee

Report by:

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Wards affected:

Abbey, Arbury, Castle, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, King's Hedges, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Edith's, Romsey, Trumpington, West Chesterton

Not a Key Decision

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the activities of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) since the 9 October meeting of Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2 It also attaches a consultation paper from the CPCA on its budget for 2018/19. The closing date for comments is 17 January 2018.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Executive Councillor is recommended:
 - (a) To provide an update on issues considered at the meetings of the Combined Authority held on 25 October, 29 November and 20 December 2017.

- (b) To provide an update on any comments made to the Combined Authority in response to the consultation on its draft budget.

3. Background

- 3.1 Meetings of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority were held on 25 October, 29 November and 20 December 2017. The decision sheets from the meetings are attached in the appendices for the committee's consideration.

4. Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership

- 4.1 During 2017 the National Audit Office conducted an investigation of the GCGP LEP. Consequently, the Government lost confidence in the leadership of GCGP LEP and funding for its programmes was withheld. At a meeting of the GCGP LEP held on 19 December the LEP Board agreed to wind itself up as a company. The implications of this were considered at the meeting of the CPCA held on 20 December.
- 4.2 It is proposed that a new Local Enterprise Partnership be established, known as the Business Board, with representation from the key business sectors that will deliver the national and local Industrial Strategy. It will be incorporated as a new company limited by guarantee. The Business Board will comprise a diverse group of business leaders and it will also continue to have public sector representation, including local authority representatives.
- 4.3 The purpose of the Business Board will be to deliver strategic advice to the Combined Authority. Its chair will continue to have representation on the Combined Authority Board with prescribed voting rights and the Mayor will also sit in the Business Board.
- 4.4 The Combined Authority will become the Accountable Body for all business growth funding streams from 1 April 2018. This responsibility will transfer from Cambridgeshire County Council.
- 4.5 The make-up of the Business Board will include senior representation from the following business sectors:
- Digital and Technology
 - Engineering and Manufacturing
 - Agriculture and Food
 - Environment and Water
 - Life Sciences and Pharma

- Housing
- Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
- Education

4.6 It is envisaged that the staffing of the LEP will be merged with that of the Combined Authority to form a single administration. Proposals on this will go back to the Combined Authority in the New Year.

5. Combined Authority Consultation on its Budget

5.1 The Combined Authority approved its draft budget for consultation purposes at its meeting held on 20 December. The following bodies are being consulted in accordance with the Combined Authority's Budget Framework:

Cambridge City Council
 Cambridgeshire County Council
 East Cambridgeshire District Council
 Fenland District Council
 Huntingdonshire District Council
 Peterborough City Council
 South Cambridgeshire District Council
 Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership
 CPCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee

5.2 The Combined Authority says that it wants to hear the opinions of all residents, partner organisations, businesses and other interested parties as part of the budget setting process and their response to the following question: **“Do you have any comments to make on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority draft budget for 2018/19?”**

5.3 The consultation will close on Wednesday, 17 January 2018 and the Combined Authority Board will be provided with feedback on the consultation process at their meeting of 31 January 2018.

5.4 The consultation paper is attached at Appendix D. This does not include the separate draft Mayoral Budget of £212,000 which was approved by the CA Board. The Mayor is not intending to raise a separate precept.

5.5 As the response to the consultation paper needs to be submitted before the meeting of the scrutiny committee, Group leaders and city members

of the CPCA Overview and Scrutiny committee were invited to make any comments directly to the Leader on this issue. An update will be provided at the meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

6. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications as the Mayor is not intending to raise a precept and the CPCA will not be levying partner authorities.

(b) Staffing Implications

There are no direct staffing implications from this update report.

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

An EqlA has not been produced as there are no direct equality and poverty implications from this update report.

(d) Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications from this update report.

(e) Procurement

There are no procurement implications from this update report.

(e) Consultation and communication

The Combined Authority will continue to issue communications about its activities and consult on its work.

(f) Community Safety

There are no community safety implications from this update report.

7. Background papers

7.1 The background papers used in the preparation of this report are listed in the appendices below.

8. Appendices

Appendix A Decision sheet for CPCA meeting 25.10.2017

Appendix B Decision sheet for CPCA meeting 29.11.2017

Appendix C Decision sheet for CPCA meeting 20.12.2017

Appendix D CPCA consultation paper on Budget 2018/19

Appendix E Combined Authority Forward Meetings plan

9. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report, please contact Antoinette Jackson, Chief Executive. Tel: 01223 457001, email: antoinette.jackson@cambridge.gov.uk.