Combined Authority Board: Decision Summary

Meeting: Wednesday 29 November 2023 Published: Monday 4 December 2023

Decision Review deadline: Friday 8 December 2023



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 Announcements, Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Edna Murphy and from Darryl Preston (John Peach substituting).

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Combined Authority Membership Update September 2023

It was resolved unanimously to:

- A Note the appointment by Cambridgeshire County Council of Councillor Bradnam as the Member and Councillor Atkins as the substitute on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the remainder of the municipal year 2023-24.
- B Note the change in membership and substitutes at the Combined Authority Board and its thematic committees following the change in leadership at Peterborough City Council on 1 November 2023.
- C Note the change in membership and substitutes from the Conservative Group at Peterborough City Council on the Combined Authority's regulatory committees and.
- D Note the temporary change in substitute by Fenland District Council for the Audit and Governance Committee meeting on 17 November 2023.
- E Note the temporary change in substitute representative of the Labour Party on the Human Resources Committee on 16 November 2023.
- F Note the appointment of a Peterborough 1st representative to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee from Peterborough City Council.

3 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings on 20 September 2023 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

The minutes action log was noted.

4 Petitions

No petitions were received.

5 Public Questions

Three public questions were received in advance of the meeting in accordance with the procedure rules in the Constitution. A copy of the questions and responses can be viewed here when available.

6 Forward Plan

It was resolved to:

A Approve the Forward Plan for November 2023

7 Breach of Members' Code of Conduct by Mayor Nik Johnson

It was resolved to:

A Note the findings of the Hearing Panel, subcommittee of the Audit & Governance Committee

14 Draft 2024/25 Corporate Strategy and Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024/2028

It was resolved to:

- A Note the developing draft Corporate Strategy following refresh
- B Approve the Draft Budget for 2024-25 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024-25 to 2027-28 for consultation.
- C Approve the timetable for consultation and those to be consulted.

18 Recommendations from Transport and Infrastructure Committee

It was resolved to approve all the recommendations as set out below:

Local Transport and Connectivity Plan

A Approve the Local Transport and Infrastructure Plan

Bus Strategy Update

- A approve the proposals for the 19 tendered bus services which were placed under review.
- B approve the preferred way forward for the allocation of the BSIP+ funding

BP Roundabout Non-Motorised User (NMU) Crossing Study

A to approve the funding of £550,000 for the next stage of this project, from within the MTFP. The funding will be from £1.8m subject to approval unallocated active travel capital funding for 2024/25 to fund further appraisal work (Stage 2 in para 3.5).

DEFRA's Air Quality Bid

- A approve the drawdown of Air Quality Grant funding
- B approve the delegation of authority to the Assistant Director Transport to enter into a contract with sub-contractors named in the bid, subject to procurement, and in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Monitoring Officer.

Depot for Electric Buses, Peterborough

- A approve the drawdown of £200,000 from the 'subject to approval' budget to the 'approved budget' to meet expenses yet to be incurred by Peterborough City Council (PCC) to commission further feasibility work, investigate governance and funding models, establish site infrastructure requirements, and formulate a site specification.
- B delegate authority to the Executive Director of Place and Connectivity in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer, to enter into a grant funding agreement with PCC for the feasibility study.

8 Combined Authority Chief Executive Highlights Report

It was resolved to:

A Note the contents of this report.

9 Improvement Plan Update

It was resolved to:

- A Note the progress on the key areas of concern identified by the External Auditor in June 2022 and in the Best Value Notice received in January 2023
- B Note the observations on progress following the meeting of the Independent Improvement Board meeting on 21 November

10 Single Assurance Framework: Confirmation and Implementation

It was resolved to:

- A To note the clearance of the Single Assurance Framework by Government
- B To approve the amendments made to the Single Assurance Framework as set out in 3.5
- C To approve the terms of reference for the Investment Committee at Appendix B
- D To approve that the Investment Committee replace the Shareholder Board in the governance arrangements of the Combined Authority from the 2024 AGM onwards

- E To note the constitutional amendments set out in 4.11 to 4.19 as a result of SAF
- F To support the implementation of SAF as detailed in 5.14 as follows:
 - Between January May 2024: Roll out of SAF Phase 1
 - From 2024 AGM: Appointments to Investment Committee & roll out of SAF Phase 2 and Phase 3
- G To note that the implementation of the SAF will have implications in the PMO service and team design including additional resourcing needs.
- 11 Revisions to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Constitution Scheme of Delegation

It was resolved to:

A Approve the proposed update to the Scheme of Delegation of the Combined Authority.

12 Corporate Performance Report Q2 2023/24

It was resolved to:

- A Scrutinise performance information relating to the Combined Authority's Corporate Key Performance Indicators.
- B Scrutinise performance information relating to the Combined Authority's Most Complex Programmes and Projects.
- C Scrutinise performance information relating to the Combined Authority's Headline Priority Activities.
- D Note progress to evaluate the impact of the Devolution Deal Investment Fund in a Gateway Review.
- 13 Budget Update Report November 2023

It was resolved to:

- A Note the financial position of the Combined Authority
- B Approve the proposed use of unbudgeted Treasury Management loan interest to fund the proposals set out in section 6.
- C The Combined Authority Board on the Mayor's intention to allocate additional in-year highways maintenance funding to the two local highways authorities, and the amended anticipated figures for 2024-25, as set out in section 7.
- 15 Appointment of a Director to CPCA Subsidiary Company Peterborough Higher Education Property Company Ltd (PropCo1)

It was resolved to:

- A Appoint Claire Paul, Assistant Director of Skills, CPCA as a director of Peterborough Higher Education Property Company Ltd (PROPCo1)
- 16 Statutory and Senior Appointments

It was resolved to:

- A Note the contents of this report.
- B To note the recommendation made by the Members of the HR Committee at the meetings on 16 **March November** 2023 that the preferred candidate be appointed to the position of Executive Director (Place and Connectivity).
- C Delegate to the Chief Executive the function of agreeing with the successful candidates the terms and conditions of appointment, including associated start date and any other requirements and actions necessary to finalise arrangements.
- D To note that the recruitment for the position of Director of Legal and Governance led to no appointment being made.

17 Recognising Care Experience as an Equally Protected Characteristic

It was resolved to:

- A Agree that 'care experience' will be treated as if it were a Protected Characteristic by the Combined Authority under the Equalities Act 2010.
- B Agree that oversight of support to Care Leavers falls within the remit of the Employment and Skills Committee.
- C Encourage all organisations on the CA Board to explore what more they can do to support care leavers and to share best practice.

19 Exclusion of the Press and Public

It was resolved that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that the next report contains exempt information under Part 1 of Schedule 12A the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and that it would not be in the public interest for this information to be disclosed. The public interest in maintaining the exemption must be deemed to outweigh the public interest in its publication.

20 Greater South East Net Zero Hub: Local Net Zero Accelerator Programme MoU

It was resolved unanimously to

- A Agree the acceptance of the Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, Local Net Zero Accelerator Programme MoU 2023 to 2026.
- B Delegate authority to the Director of Resources & Performance in consultation with the Monitoring Officer to finalise the details of the Net Zero Places MoU and to enter into the MoU
- C Delegate authority to the Director of Resources & Performance to approve budgets, undertake procurement or other activities as required to meet the requisites of the MoU, entering into agreements and awarding grants for programme delivery. Such approvals or decisions to be reported to the next meeting of the Combined Authority Board on the exercise of that delegation.
- D Delegate authority to the Director of Resources & Performance to award grants to the three places, Manchester Combined Authority (up to £7million), West Midlands Combined Authority (up to £7 million) and York (up to £2 million) and procure a financial support service as specified in the MOU (up to £3m).

Notes:

- a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.
- b) 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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