

REPORT TITLE: Combined Authority Update

To:

Cllr Mike Davey, Leader of the Council

Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee, 10th February 2025

Report by:

Lynne Miles, Director of Place & Economy

Tel: 01223 457358 Email: Lynne.Miles@Cambridge.gov.uk

Wards affected:

(All)

Director Approval: Lynne Miles, Director of Place & Economy, confirms that the report author has sought the advice of all appropriate colleagues and given due regard to that advice; that the equalities impacts and other implications of the recommended decisions have been assessed and accurately presented in the report; and that they are content for the report to be put to the Executive Councillor for decision.

1.	Recommendations
1.1	<p>It is recommended that the Leader:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite the Council's representative on the Combined Authority Board, Councillor Anna Smith, to provide an update on the work of the Board and issues considered at the meeting of the Combined Authority Board held on 22nd January 2025. 2. Invite the Combined Authority's Assistant Director Skills and Employment to give an overview of the CPCA's work on skills and employment.
2.	Purpose and reason for the report
2.1	<p>This is a regular report to the Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee providing an update on the activities of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) Board.</p>

3.	Alternative options considered
3.1	Not applicable
4.	Background and key issues
4.1	<p>The decision sheet from the Combined Authority Board meeting on the 22nd January is attached at Appendix A.</p> <p>The decision sheet for the Combined Authority Board meeting on the 6th February will be circulated to members of this committee if it is published ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>The CPCA Chief Executive’s update report to the CPCA Board at the 22nd January is appended for information at Appendix B.</p> <p>The CPCA Forward Plan, for January 2025 is attached at Appendix C. Members of the Committee may wish to highlight any areas of particular interest coming to forthcoming meetings to the Council’s representative on the Board.</p>
4.2	A presentation on the CPCA’s work on skills is attached at Appendix D. The CPCA’s Assistant Director Skills and Employment has kindly agreed to join this committee meeting to provide an overview of this work to the committee.
4.3	The Government published a white paper on English Devolution in December. It proposes a range of new responsibilities and opportunities for what in future will be known as Strategic Authorities. The Combined Authority and its partner councils (including Cambridge City Council) will be working through the implications of the white paper in the coming months.
4.4	At its meeting on 16 th December 2024, the CPCA’s Investment Committee resolved to approve the Full Business Case and £1m Revenue to deliver the Greater Cambridge Impact Investment Fund project.
8.	Implications

8.1	Relevant risks
	None
	Financial Implications
8.2	The CPCA's decision to allocate £1m to Greater Cambridge Impact has helped build the size of that pot and will inform the City Council's decision whether to confirm its own contribution of £800,000 to GCI in this year's Council Budget. The CPCA's allocation, potentially also increases the likelihood of other investors following suit.
	Legal Implications
8.3	None.
	Equalities and socio-economic Implications
8.4	None.
	Net Zero Carbon, Climate Change and Environmental implications
8.5	None.
	Procurement Implications
8.6	None.
	Community Safety Implications
8.7	None.
9.	Background documents
9.1	English Devolution White Paper . Record of decision of CPCA Investment Committee meeting, 16 th December 2024

10.	Appendices
10.1	Appendix A – Decision Sheet from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Board meeting on 22 January 2025 Appendix B – Update report to the CPCA Board meeting on 22 January from the CPCA Chief Executive Appendix C – CPCA Forward Plan, January 2025 Appendix D – Presentation on the work of the CPCA on skills and employment
	To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact Lynne Miles, tel: 01223 457358, email: Lynne.Miles@Cambridge.gov.uk