**Combined Authority Board: Decision Summary** 

Meeting: Wednesday, 22 January 2025 Published: Friday, 24 January 2025

Decision Review Deadline: Monday, 3 February 2025



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 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Al Kingsley (with Nitin Patel substituting) and Councillor Edna Murphy.

## 2 Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the meetings on 13 November 2024 and 13 December 2024 were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Mayor. The Action Log was noted.

### 3 Declaration of Interests

Councillor Chris Boden declared an interest as a trustee of FACT Community Transport.

#### 4 Announcements

There were no announcements made.

### 5 Public Questions

No public questions were received.

### 6 Petitions

No petitions were received.

# 7 Forward Plan

It was resolved to:

A Approve the Forward Plan for January 2025

### 8 Combined Authority Membership Update

It was resolved to:

- A Note the temporary change in substitute member from East Cambridgeshire District Council on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee at the 28 November 2024 meeting.
- B Note the temporary change in substitute member from Peterborough City Council on the Combined Authority Board at the 13 December 2024 meeting.
- C Note the change in substitute appointments from Huntingdonshire District Council on the Combined Authority's Environment and Sustainable Communities, and Skills and Employment Committees.
- D Note the appointment of substitute member from Cambridge City Council on the Combined Authority's Audit and Governance Committee.
- E Note the temporary change in substitute member from Cambridge City Council on the Combined Authority's Skills and Employment Committee at the 20 January 2025 meeting.

# 9 Combined Authority Chief Executive Highlights Report

It was resolved to:

A Note the contents of the report

# 10 Mayor's Budget

It was resolved to:

- A Note the proposed Mayoral budget for 2025-26, including the proposal to maintain the precept at £36 for a Band D property, and to provide comments to the Mayor regarding the proposed Mayoral Budget.
- B Approve the draft Mayoral Budget, including the proposed Mayoral precept noted above.
- C Delegate minor changes to the Mayor's budget, due to finalisation of council tax base figures, to the Executive Director of Resources.

## 11 Draft 2025/26 Corporate Strategy and Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025-2029

It was resolved to:

- A Note the consultation feedback received during the consultation period including the feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as set out in paragraph 2.26.
- B Approve the draft Corporate Strategy following its refresh subject to the inclusion of the final financial information once the budget is approved.
- C Approve the use of the Programme Response Fund in 2024-25 and 2025-26 to support the requirements of the English Devolution White Paper with any underspend on the Fund in 2024-25 being set aside in an earmarked Response Reserve.
- D Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve the draw down of the Programme Response Fund in 2024-25 and 2025-26, and the earmarked Response Reserve, in relation to costs arising as a result of addressing the English Devolution White Paper.
- E Approve the inclusion of the "Connect to Work" Get Britain Working initial funding of £100k split across 2024-25 and 2025-26. See paragraph 2.23.
- F Approve the Draft Budget for 2025-26 and the Capital Programme & Medium-Term Financial Plan 2025-26 to 2028-29 as contained in Appendices C, D and E and including project reprofiling set out in Appendix F, subject to the reduction of the bus subsidy funding by £313k and a corresponding reduction of £313k in the transport levy to be divided between Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council using the existing formula.
- G Approve a 2% increase in the Transport Levy for 2025-26 totalling £14,039,563 £10,277,774 from Cambridgeshire County Council and £3,761,789 from Peterborough City Council. Approve a 0.27% reduction in the Transport Levy for 2025-26 totalling £13,726,563 £10,048,640 from Cambridgeshire County Council and £3,677,923 from Peterborough City Council.
- H Approve the usage of the 2025-26 BSIP revenue grant allocation to fund an extension of the local single journey bus fare cap beyond 31 March 2025 as set out in paragraphs 2.54 and 2.55, noting that the additional costs associated with the £2 fare cap retention from January to March 2025 will be the first call on the transport underspend in 2024-25.
- I Note the Mayor's intention to allocate Highways Maintenance grants totalling £37,369,000 to Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council in line with the Department for Transport formula for determining each Council's share resulting in the allocations of £29,793,213 and £7,575,787 respectively with more detail set out in paragraph 2.24.

J Delegate any minor changes required to the budget before 1 April 2025 to the Executive Director of Resources including the inclusion of grant announcements made prior to 1 April 2025.

### 12 Investment Committee Papers

It was resolved to:

- A Approve the change request and budget increase of £2m for the Cygnet Bridge project.
- B Approve the concept proposal for the CPCA Strategic Investment and Innovation Growth Fund and for it to be developed into a business case as the next stage.
- C Approve the concept proposal for Littleport Business and Community Centre and for it to be developed into a business case as the next stage.
- D Note the Chief Executive Approval Decisions from December 2024.
- E Note the decisions from Investment Committee held on 16 December 2024.

## 13 Greater South East Net Zero Hub - Overview of programmes, finance and governance

It was resolved to:

A Note the overview of the Greater South East Net Zero Hub (GSENZH) including an overview of programmes, finance and governance

#### 14 Committee Calendar 2025/26

It was resolved to:

A Approve the calendar of meetings for the 2025/26 Municipal Year

#### Notes:

- a) Statements in **bold type** indicate additional/amended 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.