



THE BUSINESS BOARD

BUSINESS BOARD	AGENDA ITEM No: 1.4
30 APRIL 2018	PUBLIC REPORT

PROPOSALS FOR MEMBERSHIP OF BUSINESS BOARD AND ACHIEVING PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH THE COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. In October 2017 the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, James Palmer, wrote to the Chair of the former Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership to propose a greater alignment between the two organisations. That was the start of a process which led to a new local enterprise partnership for the area, the Business Board.
- 1.2. The Business Board has been meeting in shadow form to develop a new approach to supporting businesses and economic growth in the region. Its proposal is to create a bolder vision for the Business Board which will strengthen the voice of businesses across the region, offers business a real opportunity to shape and influence the future growth of the area and act within a single policy framework with the Combined Authority.
- 1.3. This report sets out the proposals being developed by the Business Board to secure its longer term membership for consultation with those councils within its geography, with business leaders and with the Combined Authority.

<u>DECISION REQUIRED</u>	
Lead Member:	Councillor Charles Roberts, Chair of the Business Board and Economic Growth Portfolio Holder of the Combined Authority
Lead Officer:	Kim Sawyer, Legal Counsel and Monitoring Officer
Forward Plan Ref: N/A	Key Decision: No
1. The Business Board is asked to note that the geography of the Combined Authority and the former Local Enterprise Partnership are not aligned and	Simple majority of all Members

therefore further consultation with the Combined Authority, constituent councils of the former LEP area and private sector members is required before the permanent membership of the Business Board can be agreed.

2. The Business Board is asked to agree that a further report will be brought to the Business Board in June concerning the membership of the permanent Business Board.
3. The Business Board is asked to note that these decisions are being taken in the context of the LEP review by Government which is expected shortly.
4. The Business Board is recommended to consult with the Combined Authority, the constituent councils of the former LEP geography and the private sector members of the Business Board on the initial proposals by the Shadow Board that:
 - (a) that the membership should be based on the principles in 2.10 below
 - (b) the Board should consist of up to 8 private sector board members, particularly industry leaders active in the following sectors:
 - a) Agri-food, drink and horticulture
 - b) Advanced manufacturing and materials
 - c) Life Sciences
 - d) Digital and the creative industries
 - (c) Agree that one of the private sector board members will be appointed specifically to represent the interests of the Small / Medium Size Businesses (SME) sector and one private sector member will represent the education sector.
5. The Business Board is recommended to propose to the Combined Authority Board that initially two public sector members should be appointed to the Business Board to include:
 - (a) the Mayor of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority in accordance with the Devolution Deal; and
 - (b) the Economic Growth Portfolio Holder of the Combined Authority;

2. BACKGROUND

Board Membership

- 2.1. The Government's Assurance Framework for Local Enterprise Partnerships is the key document for determining the membership of any Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The Assurance Framework places restrictions on the process and appointment of Board members. The majority of any board must be representatives of the private sector, and the Chair must also be from the private sector. One member of the board should represent and engage with the small business sector.
- 2.2. The National Guidance on LEP Assurance frameworks requires Local Enterprise Partnerships and the Combined Authority, as the accountable body, to agree an assurance framework. The local framework must be clear and unambiguous about who has authority for decision making.
- 2.3. The Assurance Framework sets out the requirement for strong private and public sector partnership working. The Shadow Business Board has been meeting to consider the requirements of the Assurance Framework and the best means of achieving a successful private – public partnership across the area of this Business Board.

Strengthening the voice of the Private Sector on Business Board

- 2.4. The Shadow Business Board proposed a strong business led strategic partnership body responsible for promoting and developing economic growth. A Business Board consisting of majority private sector membership will ensure a clear focus on business needs.

The voice of the Private Sector on the Combined Authority Board

- 2.5. The voice of the private sector on the Combined Authority Board is particularly important as the Business Board will be making recommendations to and advising the Combined Authority Board as its accountable body.
- 2.6. The Combined Authority Board currently consists of the nine voting members including the Mayor, seven local authorities in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough area and a representative of the Business Board (formally the GCGPEP) (usually the Chair). Under the articles of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 the Chair of the Business Board has voting rights on the Combined Authority Board.

Strengthening the voice of councils outside the combined authority area

- 2.7. The geography of the former LEP area and the Combined Authority are not aligned. This will require consultation with the constituent councils of the

former LEP and those of the Combined Authority to ensure that there is appropriate representation on the Business Board.

- 2.8. The representation on the Business Board must be seen in the context of the LEP review which is ongoing. DCLG and BEIS ministers commissioned a wider review into LEP's following reports from the National Audit Office on the governance of Local Enterprise Partnerships in 2017. Given that the outcome of the review is expected shortly, it would be wise if no decisions regarding the public sector membership of the Business Board were made until the impact of the review is understood.
- 2.9. During this interim period however it is clear that the devolution deal of 2016 to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough anticipated that the elected Mayor should be a member of the Business Board. This recommendation is therefore made to the Board. In addition it is also being recommended that the Economic Portfolio Holder for Growth and Economic Strategy should be a member of the Business Board to ensure that there are links across the policy areas of the two bodies.
- 2.10. Consultation with all public sector bodies will begin immediately and the Business Board is asked to agree that the following principles form the basis of any discussions regarding membership:
 - (a) That the Business Board is predominantly business sector led to give a clear voice to business and gain the confidence of the business community
 - (b) That the Mayor will be represented on the Business Board (in accordance with the devolution deal) but should have no special voting rights
 - (c) That the Business Board membership should focus on place and key sectors to drive economic growth,
 - (d) That all members should operate cross sector with a collective sense of responsibility
 - (e) That good public-private partnership operates across the Business Board and the Combined Authority
 - (f) That the democratic accountability for decisions remains with the Combined Authority as the Accountable Body
 - (g) That the Business Board operates cross sector focusing on strategic outcomes

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. There are no financial implications

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. The voting membership of the Combined Authority is set down in the Order that created it.

- 4.2. By virtue of the Order, the Business Board will nominate one of its Members, normally the Chair, to be a Member of the Combined Authority and another Member to act in the absence of the appointed Member (the Substitute Member).
- 4.3. The Combined Authority will appoint the Business Board Member and the Substitute Member. Each appointment shall be for a one year term.
- 4.4. The Devolution Deal stated that the Mayor will be a member of the LEP, alongside the other members of the Combined Authority, recognising the importance of the LEP role and the private sector in growth strategies or delivery. (Page 7)

5. SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Business Board must comply with the diversity and equality requirements of the National Assurance Framework.

6. APPENDICES

- 6.1. Appendix 1 – Geographical boundaries of the Business Board and Membership of the Combined Authority

Source Documents
List background papers: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/600239/Cambridgeshire_and_Peterborough_Devolution_Deal.pdf Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017 https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2017/9780111153291/contents

Geographical boundaries of the Business Board and Membership of the Combined Authority

Members of the Combined Authority

- 6.2. The Combined Authority will be the accountable body for the Business Board. The Board currently consists of the following voting members:
- (a) a directly elected Mayor;
 - (b) an elected Member appointed by each of the seven Constituent Councils;
 - a. Cambridge City Council; •
 - b. Cambridgeshire County Council; •
 - c. East Cambridgeshire District Council; •
 - d. Fenland District Council; •
 - e. Huntingdonshire District Council; •
 - f. Peterborough City Council; and •
 - g. South Cambridgeshire District Council.
 - (c) a representative of the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership ("the LEP").
- 6.3. The above membership is set down in the Order creating the Combined Authority.
- 6.4. The Combined Authority also has the power to appoint non-voting co-opted members and non-constituent council members to the board. Whilst the Board has not yet appointed any non-constituent councils, it has appointed three non-voting co-opted members representing:
- (a) The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire;
 - (b) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority representative;
 - (c) Clinical Commissioning Group representative.
- 6.5. All members and co-opted members may appoint a named substitute to act in their absence.

Authorities within the Local Enterprise Area

Council	District	Areas
Cambridgeshire County Council	Cambridgeshire	
Cambridge DC	Cambridge	
East Cambs DC	East Cambridgeshire	Ely, Littleport and Soham
Fenland DC	Fenland	Wisbech, March Wittlesey & Chartteris
Huntingdonshire DC	Huntingdonshire	Huntingdon, St Ives & St Neots
South Cambs DC	South	Cambourne

	Cambridgeshire	
Peterborough City Council	Peterborough	

Local Authorities within the Local Enterprise Area and outside the Combined Authority Area

Council	District	Areas
North Hertfordshire DC'	North Hertfordshire	Royston
South Kesteven DC	South Kesteven (Lincs)	Grantham, Stamford, Bourne and Market Deeping.
Rutland County Council	Rutland	Oakham
St Edmundsbury Borough Council	St Edmundsbury (W Suffolk)	Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill
Forest Heath District Council	Forest Heath (W Suffolk)	Newmarket & Mildenhall
Uttlesford DC	Uttlesford (Essex)	Saffron Walden, Great Dunmow, Stansted Mountfitchet and Thaxted,
BC of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk	West Norfolk & King's Lynn	Spalding, Crowland, Donington, Holbeach, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge
South Holland DC	South Holland (Lincs)	