

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority  
St Marys Street, Huntingdon, PE29 3TN

Matthew Pennycook MP  
Minister for Housing and Planning  
Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government

*Sent via email*

27 January 2026

Dear Matthew,

We are writing to express our shared support for a Mayoral Development Corporation that could maximise Peterborough's opportunities for growth, and to ask for a meeting to discuss these plans.

At the end of last year, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority produced an ambitious Growth Plan. As Mayor, Paul has promoted Peterborough as a centre for growth, and the city is one of four Opportunity Zones in the plan. Similarly, as an MP, Andrew has consistently promoted the need for skills and investment in Peterborough.

Peterborough sits within two of the UK's most important economic corridors - the UK Innovation Corridor to London and the Ox-Cam Corridor. A Development Corporation massively expanded Peterborough over 20 years from 1968 to 1988. The concept is understood locally. A new delivery body could help to regenerate our City Centre, build thousands of much needed homes, create well paid jobs, and deliver new facilities and amenities for local people. It would fully align with the Government's ambition for new homes, regional growth and breaking down the barriers to opportunity. We are putting political differences aside and working together on this plan alongside Peterborough City Council and Homes England.

Already, by working collaboratively, the Combined Authority, local MPs and the City Council have delivered a new University for Peterborough, secured funding and a business case for the Peterborough Station Quarter, and most recently secured Growth Mission Funding for our new swimming pool and sports quarter. There remain several sites across the City Centre that, if considered as an overall master plan, could release 68 hectares of developable land and the potential for over 4,000 homes and 25,000 square metres of commercial space. This could open opportunities for a new home for Peterborough United, a concert venue, and new retail and hospitality space. The potential of the North Westgate site could finally be realised for homes and retail, the University would continue to grow, the river enhanced as a place for leisure and tourism, and a new market delivered for Peterborough. These are just some of the ideas we would welcome the opportunity to discuss with you.

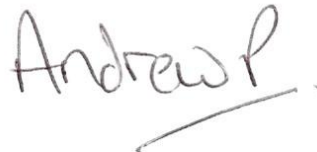
We share an ambition for Peterborough's great potential and want to share that with you. We are ready to work together with other local partners to deliver on that potential. We are

located just 45 minutes by fast train to London and on the A1 corridor. The City has close access to innovation hubs in Cambridge and to the best agricultural land in the country. It was no mistake that past generations and Governments invested in the City as a place for growth. And Peterborough delivered for the UK. It's time to do that all over again.

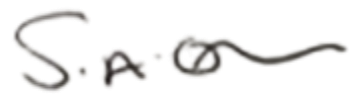
Yours sincerely,



**Paul Bristow**  
Mayor of Cambridgeshire  
and Peterborough



**Andrew Pakes MP**  
Member of Parliament for  
Peterborough



**Cllr Dr Shabina Qayyum**  
Leader of Peterborough City  
Council



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH**  
COMBINED AUTHORITY

**PAUL BRISTOW**  
MAYOR OF  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
& PETERBOROUGH

**PETERBOROUGH**  
The logo for Peterborough City Council, featuring a stylized green and blue wave or ribbon shape.  
CITY COUNCIL