



## **CAMBRIDGESHIRE & PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY: MINUTES**

**Date:** Wednesday, 26th July 2017

**Time:** 10.00am - 1.05pm

**Present:** J Palmer (Mayor)

Councillors A Bailey – East Cambridgeshire District Council (substituting for C Roberts), J Clark – Fenland District Council, S Count – Cambridgeshire County Council, J Holdich – Peterborough City Council, R Howe – Huntingdonshire District Council, K Price – Cambridge City Council (substituting for Councillor L Herbert), P Topping – South Cambridgeshire District Council, and M Reeve (Greater Cambridgeshire Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (GCGP LEP)).

**Observers:** Councillor J Ablewhite (Police and Crime Commissioner), G Howsam (substituting for J Bawden) (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group) and Councillor K Reynolds (Chairman, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority)

### **60. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Apologies received from Councillors L Herbert and C Roberts. There were no declarations of interest.

### **61. MINUTES – 28TH JUNE 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

### **62. PETITIONS**

No petitions were received.

### **63. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

One question had been received, and together with the response, was published and available at the following link: [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority meeting 26/07/2017](#)

**64. AMENDMENT TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Board considered a request to approve amendments to the membership of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, following recent resignations notified by Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council.

It was resolved unanimously to approve the following amendments to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2017/2018:

- (a) Appoint Councillor David Mason as a Member and Councillor Maureen Davis as substitute member;
- (b) Appoint Councillor Jan French as a Member;
- (c) That the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to accept future changes to membership of committees notified by constituent councils during the municipal year to ensure there was a full complement of members or substitute members at committee meetings, and to amend the constitution accordingly.

**65. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD**

The Board considered a proposal to create a non-voting co-opted community representative on the Board. It was noted that applications were encouraged from female candidates, ethnic minorities or those with a disability as they were under represented. The aim was to allow for some diversity on the Board. Attention was drawn to a revised appendix for this report, which was published on the website.

In discussing the proposal, it was acknowledged that the Board was comprised of a certain section of the community. However, a number of members had reservations about the proposal. The Board recognised that membership was likely to be subject to change as it had in the past. The County Council, for example, had recently had two female leaders who had been leaders in their local community first and then the Council. There was also concern as to how one particular community would be able to represent another on the Board.

It was suggested that an effective way to reach communities was through communication and consultation. A communication plan was therefore required. It was proposed that some work should be undertaken over the summer to address how communities should be represented on the Board. In conclusion, it was felt that community representation should be tackled in a different way with officers investigating the best approach.

Councillor Count proposed an amendment, seconded by Councillor Howe, to delete recommendations (a) and (b) and add a recommendation to examine the best way to reasonably involve the voice of all sections of our community in the decision making process, as early as reasonably possible. On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The Board was informed that the proposed allowance of £1500 for this role would have included all expenses.

It was resolved unanimously to recommend to:

examine the best way to reasonably involve the voice of all sections of our community in the decision making process, as early as reasonably possible.

## **66. OFFICER AND SUPPORT STRUCTURE**

The Board received a report setting out a proposed officer structure for the Combined Authority, and the arrangements for the provision of support services. The Mayor reminded the Board that the Authority had set an incredible pace to deliver his 100 day plan with only six members of staff, which compared to other combined authorities was extremely low. The proposal was for only fifteen officers and two members of staff to support the Mayor's office, which meant the Authority remained small and strategic.

The Chief Executive drew attention to the substantial job the Authority was expected to do in relation to the local economy and public sector reform over the next twenty years. Members were advised of the principles underpinning the proposed officer structure. It was proposed that there should be a framework of staff engaged in a flexible model of interim, secondment and permanent appointments. This included three directors to lead on the following priority programmes: Housing; Skills; and Transport and Infrastructure and other staff roles to support the senior leadership team.

Formal job evaluations had yet to be carried out in respect of these roles but attention was drawn to the salary levels detailed in the report. The indicative costs for the roles including on costs was £1,817.5k per annum in a full year of operation. This was an increase of £354.9k on the existing approved budget. It was important to bear in mind that every £1 in establishment costs would bring in £30 in new funding. The cost of these roles amounted to 1.56% of the turnover of the Combined Authority.

In discussing the report, the Board:

- thanked officers for helping establish the Combined Authority and for the speed of implementation of the Mayor's 100 day plan. It was acknowledged that the current officer staffing structure was unsustainable given the scale of the work and speed required. It was important to note that the Authority would be able to attract more Government funding if it was efficient and had a track record of delivery. It was acknowledged that the formal job evaluations for the new roles had not been carried out before the Authority was being asked to approve the budget. Formal job descriptions were necessary in order to attract the right people at the right price. There was also a need to consider resilience in relation to direct employment. It was therefore important to approve the budget because it was not cost effective for the Authority to slow down.
- highlighted the need to avoid duplicating posts with other organisations. It was noted that the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) was also appointing a lead focussing on education. The Chief Executive reported that the Combined Authority would be linking up with organisations such as the GCP to avoid appointing

duplicate posts. This time limited post provided an opportunity to look at how organisations dealt with skills and rationalise accordingly in order to achieve benefits and efficiencies. One Member suggested appointing someone from outside Cambridgeshire who had no vested interests. The Portfolio Holder for Employment and Skills drew attention to the confusion regarding the delivery of skills at a national level. He acknowledged the importance of avoiding duplication so that more money was targeted at delivery. He asked to be involved in the appointment process.

- suggested that public sector reform would address the issue of duplication and provide savings. It was possible that some of the costs could be cost neutral if the Authority utilised what was already there in other organisations. The Mayor raised the need to bring back proposals for full public sector reform as these savings would dwarf the size of the Authority's budget.
- drew attention to the scale of pay and remuneration proposed for the new roles. One Member expressed concern that the rates proposed for the Directors were higher than for some Chief Executive posts who had larger budgets to manage. The Chief Executive reported that a formal evaluation would be carried out against each job description and pay would be comparable with other benchmarks. One Member reported that the pay and remuneration detailed in the report was comparable to pay scales proposed, in the Municipal Journal, for a skills appointment for the West Midlands Combined Authority.
- noted concern from one Member that the budget set before the mayoral elections would now be increased. Members were informed that the budget set in March had been based on the best available information. The Mayor's 100 day plan had crystallised the need for resource. However, it was important to bear in mind that the Combined Authority was a lean authority and would remain so. The comparison with other Combined Authorities had shown that the Authority was currently so lean that it was impacting on delivery. It was therefore important to mitigate the gap between forecasted budget and costs.
- acknowledged that the Director roles would drive forward the work of the Combined Authority. There needed to be clear outcomes associated with these appointments. One Member expressed a preference for fixed term contracts.
- suggested that the Authority should look to obtain more independent assurance from, for example, the Centre for Public Scrutiny and/or National Audit Office. The Chief Executive reported that in relation to the contract for the University of Peterborough, the Combined Authority was validating reports received from the contractor.
- highlighted the need to appoint to the staffing structure as and when needed. However, it was important to note that the Authority needed to invest to invest as without this officer structure it could not deliver.
- requested clarification of the role of the Communication Manager which was required to work closely with the post of the Mayor's political assistant. The Chief Executive reported that the Communication Manager would be operating on behalf of the Combined Authority and would not be a political appointment.

- requested clarification of the remuneration of the Political Assistant, which was set by law. It was noted that the maximum amount under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 which could be paid to a Political Assistant was £34,986.
- queried whether the Programme Managers need personal assistants.

It was resolved by a majority to:

- (a) Approve proposals in respect of the officer structure as set out in this report
- (b) Confirm the arrangements for the provision of support services

## **67. FORWARD PLAN**

The Board noted a revised Forward Plan of Executive Decisions dated 24 July 2017, which had been circulated that day. The Mayor stated that the Forward Plan was updated on a regular basis and was available online for public inspection (a copy of the current version is available at the following link <https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccclive/Documents/PublicDocuments.aspx>)

It was resolved unanimously to:

approve the Forward Plan of Executive Decisions.

## **68. DEVELOPMENT OF A CENTRE FOR SKILLS AND APPRENTICESHIPS**

The Portfolio Holder for Employment and Skills presented a report detailing a conceptual format to create an ambitious vision to connect all work that was taking place across the Combined Authority area in respect of skills and employment, bringing it under the umbrella of a Centre for Skills, and creating an Apprenticeship Hub over three stages. He drew attention to the flaws in the current centralised national skills system. This proposal would offer greater opportunity to reduce the fragmentation and duplication that currently existed, which would enable maximisation of funding opportunities and have the greatest impact for the local area in terms of developing higher level skills and enabling growth. Attention was drawn to the proposed vehicle, options and governance arrangements.

In welcoming the proposal to simplify the skills system, the LEP representative highlighted the need to avoid overwriting or pausing what was already happening. It was suggested that a review of the end-to-end skills system should be employer-led. It was also important to note that skills access had a wider economic geography than just the combined authority area. The business community therefore required any review to be done with them rather than to them. The Board was informed that the LEP had approved, at a recent meeting, funding for Opportunity Peterborough. Other Members acknowledged the importance of employer-led activity, and the need to incorporate best practice. It was suggested that consultation should take place with existing providers with the sharing of data bases to be encouraged. It was important to bear in mind that this report would drive the growth agenda, which would result in jobs, over the next twenty years.

The CCG representative drew attention to the lack of workforce to deliver social care. He was very keen to transform the current workforce so it was fit for the future. Members acknowledged the importance of providing skills for life to ensure people were fit for work as this would enable them to live their life without support from the public sector. It was suggested that funding should follow the student, and that courses should be based on what was needed rather than popularity; this was a role for the authority's Education Committee. The Mayor acknowledged the importance of the relationship with schools and reported that he would talk to the Secretary of State to upgrade their role and to reward them for getting pupils into apprenticeships. He congratulated officers for generating 524 apprenticeships as part of the Government's Apprenticeship Employer Grant.

It was resolved unanimously to:

In relation to the proposal for a Centre for Skills:

1. Approve a review of the end-to-end skills system,
2. Note that the Chief Executive would work alongside the LEP and other partners to undertake this as a joint review,
3. Note that a proposal would be brought forward for a new skills system alongside a skills strategy by February 2018.

In relation to Apprenticeships:

note the success of generating 524 new apprentices in the last 12 months, and in order to continue that success:

4. Approve £692,000 funding in order to build on the Apprenticeship Employer Grant (AGE) for Small and Medium Enterprises, to deliver a further 575 apprenticeships across the Combined Authority area,
5. Approve the development of a detailed options appraisal for an Apprenticeship Hub to be brought to the September meeting.

## **69. CAREER AND PROGRESSION INNOVATION PILOT**

The Portfolio Holder for Employment and Skills presented a report detailing a new Innovation Pilot to address the shortage of skilled workers in the Health and Care Sector. The Authority had successfully negotiated additional funding of over £5m that would help over 2,100 workers develop their skills and advance their position in order to progress both their pay and career. Attention was drawn to how the pilot would work in practice, the governance model and what was needed of the Local Authorities involved. In conclusion, the Portfolio Holder thanked officers and partners for working hard to achieve this funding.

One Member expressed his excitement at this pilot which went to the heart of the significant issues being experienced in the County. The CCG representative had already commented on the severe staff shortage in this sector, which this pilot would help address. The impact of automation on areas of deprivation could result in higher unemployment. This pilot would tackle the problem of staff shortages by providing employment for those affected by automation. However, there was one significant

caveat. Areas of deprivation such as Wisbech had the poorest infrastructure. If these residents were going to work in the Health and Care Sector, it was important that they had decent transport to enable them to access job opportunities.

It was noted that the pilot was subject to final agreement by Government. The Chief Executive reported that it had been agreed but a date was still awaited for the announcement. The Board commented that the Government had doubled the amount of funding for this pilot, it was suggested that it should be extended to teachers if successful. One Member raised the need for the Combined Authority rather than the Department for Work and Pensions to control the funding for the scheme. It was noted that the Authority would have control over the funding.

In welcoming this pilot, it was reported that it would also help address low productivity across the country. Since the 2008 financial crash, gross domestic productivity was less than 18%. If this pilot was successful, it could be applied to other interventions. The Police and Crime Commissioner highlighted the link between areas of deprivation and criminality. Career progression was key to improving people's lives. The Combined Authority could play a key role in tackling deprivation fundamentally across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It was important to note that 150 streets out of 16,500 streets accounted for 60% of crime. The outcomes of this pilot were therefore wider than those outlined in the report. There was a need to identify the benefit to the public purse by capturing the whole system cost.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- a) note that – subject to final agreement by Government – the Combined Authority had been awarded an additional £5.2m funding from Government to deliver a Pay and Progression Pilot for the Health and Care Worker Sector
- b) note that the pilot would create an additional 600 new apprenticeships in the area and provide an additional £20m of net present public value
- c) agree the proposed model of governance and delivery arrangements for the pilot
- d) note the expectations on each of the constituent councils and the LEP in the Combined Authority area
- e) delegate to the Chief Executive authority to take all necessary action, in consultation with the portfolio holders of the Delivery Group, to meet any grant conditions imposed by Department of Works and Pensions (DWP), provided that the action taken does not exceed the funding envelope.

## **70. STRATEGIC TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE AREA'S KEY GROWTH CORRIDORS: RAPID, MASS TRANSPORT AND STRATEGIC OPTIONS APPRAISAL**

The Board received a report detailing a proposal for a Strategic Options Appraisal into rapid, mass transport options for Cambridge City and the surrounding travel to work area in conjunction with the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). The Appraisal

would consider both the Inner City and scalable and extendable options for the wider area. Attention was drawn to a map on page 62 illustrating a high-level schematic of both the Inner City and the wider Cambridge area. Consultants would be appointed to provide expert independent advice on the most viable solution for the City and surrounding area. Appendix one set out the study brief for the appraisal.

One Member raised the need to advise the consultants not to rule out transport modes which did not have a track record because it was important not to rule out the optimum solution. There was also a need for the consultants to measure various options against the Authority's strategic priorities rather than options being influenced by cost driven solutions. It was important that the strategic priorities led the options appraisal. Another Member commented that the Board was being asked to agree a total budget allocation of up to £100,000, which meant that the whole budget did not have to be spent. It was noted that the total GCP allocation was £150,000.

In discussing stakeholder engagement, it was important to bear in mind the experience of the people who had been involved in the City Deal. The Authority had to be alive to the views of the people in and around Cambridge. In response to a query, the Mayor reported that this proposal would not impact on the Wyton development. It was noted that the proposal would enhance the market towns as well as connect the radial spokes. In parallel, the Authority should be looking to evaluate objectively the return on its investment in relation to the creation of economic environs.

One Member raised the need to learn lessons from previous contracts such as the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway (CGB), and stressed the importance of using experienced contracts lawyers. In response, the County Council representative reported that the CGB was very successful with over 4 million travellers. The contract had also stood up well to challenge with the contractor offering an out of court settlement. The same contract would be used to pursue funding for repairing defects.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Commission a strategic options appraisal study into rapid, mass transport options for Cambridge City and the surrounding travel to work area in conjunction with the Greater Cambridge Partnership Board.
2. Agree a total budget allocation of up to £100,000 in 2017/18 for the delivery of the strategic options appraisal study.
3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport & Infrastructure and in conjunction with the Chair of the Greater Cambridge Partnership Board, to award a contract for the study provided that the collective value of the contract does not exceed the approved budget allocation.

## **71. FUTURE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN**

The Board received a report setting out the need to draw together into one plan the Local Transport Plans for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Attention was drawn to the approach to developing a new Local Transport Plan. There would be a budget allocation of up to £200,000 for 2017/18 and £300,000 in 2018/19 for the delivery of a



new plan. There would also be a 7-10 year rolling programme for major schemes to be developed.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Commission the development of a new Local Transport Plan for the Combined Authority.
2. Agree a total budget allocation of up to £500,000 in 2017/18 and 2018/19 for the delivery of the new Local Transport Plan.
3. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Transport & Infrastructure, to commission the development of the new Local Transport Plan including requisite third party specialist inputs provided that the value of the commissioned services does not exceed the approved budget allocation.

## **72. HOUSING INVESTMENT FUND PROGRAMME: QUICK WINS**

The Portfolio Holder New Homes and Communities presented a report setting out an initial portfolio that accelerated the delivery of affordable housing. The first phase of schemes would see delivery in each of the constituent council areas targeted by the Government funding of £100m secured to deliver 2,000 affordable homes across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Attention was drawn to 11 schemes from six providers which would provide 253 homes. These homes had been selected by applying shortlisting criteria detailed in Section 3.6 of the report. It was noted that these homes would accommodate lower paid key workers who would support the maintenance of key public services in higher value market areas. The Authority grant per unit was £18k, and there would be shared ownership and affordable rent homes. It was noted that the scheme rules to manage investment over the next few years would be presented to the next meeting.

The Board welcomed the report which provided an even handed approach to all areas within the Combined Authority area. Members were reminded that Cambridge City was not included as it had a separate ring-fenced grant of £70m for affordable housing. The Chief Executive reported that this funding had been passported to the City Council to act on behalf of the Combined Authority. However, the Combined Authority was responsible for accounting back to government.

One Member drew attention to the innovative model used by Palace Green Homes. Community Land Trusts were a different way of delivering housing development from within the community. *Councillor Bailey declared a disclosable pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct as a Director of Palace Green Homes and did not vote on this item. Councillor Holdich also declared a disclosable pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct as a Director of Cross Key Homes and did not vote on this item.*

Another Member commented that it was not uncommon for there to be slippage on such schemes. However, it was important to note that the Authority was granting money on the basis of schemes being delivered quickly. There was therefore a need to obtain direct assurance as part of the contract that the houses would be delivered within timescale. The Portfolio Holder confirmed that funding would only be released once the

developer had satisfied certain criteria. It was suggested that 50% of the funding should be predicated on completion.

In conclusion, the Mayor thanked Stephen Hills, Director of Housing at South Cambridgeshire District Council, and officers of the Combined Authority for their work on this proposal.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Commit grant funding of £4.56m for the initial portfolio of affordable housing schemes
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Portfolio Holders of the Delivery Group to approve the release of grant funding on application for draw down of the funds by the providers and take all necessary steps to ensure delivery of the affordable housing schemes
3. Note the intention to bring forward detailed proposals for the management of the Housing Investment Fund including the rules, procedures and levels of delegation, to the Combined Authority Board in September 2017.

### **73. HOUSING STRATEGY**

The Portfolio Holder New Homes and Communities presented a report detailing a proposal to develop a Housing Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for the next twenty years which would address the current housing challenges facing the area. The principles of the strategy would include an ambitious plan to deliver over 100,000 new homes including 40,000 affordable homes by 2037. The strategy would drive innovation and solution-focused approaches, and explore further opportunities for CLTs. It was also important to improve standards in existing homes and encourage the best use of all homes. The Authority needed to engage in building communities which took account of a wide range of housing needs, and would be working with the Housing Finance Institute to achieve this.

The Police and Crime Commissioner welcomed the inclusion of the vulnerable and excluded such as those leaving care or prison as this would enable them to lead more stable lives. The CCG representative emphasised the importance of focussing on the health and wellbeing of communities in order to avoid storing up problems for the future. One Member highlighted the need to achieve as much as possible within the next ten rather than twenty years in order to buck the historical trend in house building. The Mayor acknowledged that the ability to deliver infrastructure was key in relation to house building.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Agree the approach to developing the Housing Strategy
2. Agree a budget allocation of up to £150k in 2017/18 for the development of the Housing Strategy

## **74. INVESTMENT STRATEGY AND FUND**

The Portfolio Holder for Fiscal Strategy presented a report setting out the principles which should form the centre of an Investment Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The funding devolved to the Combined Authority totalled around £770m over the next three years. This left a funding gap between the resources available to the Authority and investment needs of the area. It was proposed to establish a Fund that built on the financial package from Government that formed the basis of the Devolution Deal. The purpose of this Fund would be to attract further public and private sector investment, and to target resources into specific programmes and projects. It was proposed to take three projects which set out at a high-level the aspirations of the Combined Authority to market in order to assess the potential for private and public sector investment to unlock them.

Members queried the reasons behind the three projects being selected. It was noted that none of the projects could be achieved unless the Authority aligned itself to test the market. Members were informed that all three projects were capable of being monetised. It was possible to get two levels of measured return relating to economic return or social economic return.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Approve the features and principles of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Investment Strategy;
2. Approve the establishment of a Fund to attract further public and private sector investment;
3. Agree that the following key strategic projects were in the CPCA pipeline were taken to market to assess their potential for private and public sector investment:
  - a) Dualling of the A47
  - b) Wisbech Garden Town
  - c) Cambridge Rapid Mass Transport
4. Approve a budget of £25,000 to carry out this work.

## **75. THE NON-STATUTORY SPATIAL PLAN FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH**

The Board was informed of the need for a Non Statutory Spatial Plan (NSSP) to enable the Combined Authority to reflect spatially across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough its vision, objectives, and growth and investment priorities. Members were informed that it was not about replacing the local planning process or responsibilities. Instead it provided additional understanding to enable the Authority to have an overview of the supply of land for new homes and jobs. It would connect the Authority's plans with those beyond Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's boundaries. It would also give the Authority the ability to map the totality of new infrastructure requirements.

Members welcomed the report which provided an excellent way forward. It was noted that there was value here to create gross value tax receipts in areas of the county which

were underperforming. The NSSP provided a vision of the future that if the Authority did all these things this was the return it could expect.

One Member queried the powers of the Mayor in relation to publically held land. This was important if the Authority wanted to join up land to maximise the benefits for the community. The Chief Executive reported that these powers were not connected to the NSSP. The Combined Authority had purposely not sought statutory powers and it was noted that it had been decided not to take compulsory purchase powers at this stage. One Member raised the need to ask for these powers as a last resort if development was being held up. The Mayor acknowledged the need to make this request.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Note the purpose and value of the Non Statutory Spatial Plan (NSSP) for the achievement of the Combined Authority's vision and objectives;
2. Agree the approach outlined to undertake the development of the Non-Statutory Spatial Plan for the Combined Authority area;
3. Note that work on producing the first part of the NSSP was to be completed by no later than February 2018 in parallel with other key work streams; and
4. Approve a budget of up to £150,000 to support the necessary work to develop the first part of the NSSP, including sufficient officer capacity and external support.

## **76. BUDGET UPDATE**

The Board received an update report to the 'Budget Report 2017/18 to 2018/19' as presented to its last meeting. In response to a query regarding the potential unrecoverable VAT liability, it was noted that VAT was being dealt with via a temporary method.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. Note the budget updates as requested for approval in other Board reports on this meeting's agenda.
2. Note the updated budget and indicative resources for 2017/18 and 2018/19 as set out in Appendix A.

## **77. APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER AND SECTION 151 OFFICER**

The Mayor agreed to take this report based on urgency grounds as the Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) for the Combined Authority, John Harrison, had resigned. The Authority was statutorily required to have in post a Chief Finance Officer appointed under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Authority was asked to appoint an interim statutory Chief Finance Officer for the Combined Authority from amongst the constituent Council's Chief Finance Officers.

The Mayor thanked John Harrison, and wished him well for the future. It was noted that a report would be presented to the next meeting.

It was resolved unanimously to:

- (a) appoint a Chief Finance Officer from amongst the constituent Councils Chief Finance Officers; and
- (b) report the named appointee to the September meeting of the Board.

## **78. REPORT FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

The Mayor agreed to take this report based on urgency grounds as Overview and Scrutiny Committee had only met two days before the Board meeting and would want to put the revised arrangements in place at its next meeting, which was before the next Board meeting in September. Members agreed to allow the Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Terry Hayward, to speak to the Board.

Attention was drawn to the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which produced the following responses from the Board:

- the need for any recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be written down and considered at the relevant report rather than as one item.
- the Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be in attendance to answer any questions the Board might wish to ask, at the discretion of the Mayor.

Councillor Count proposed an amendment, seconded by Councillor Price, to replace recommendation 1 with the following: consider any written recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Board at consideration of the relevant report, and that the Chair was available to answer any questions the Board might wish to ask, at the discretion of the Mayor. On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried.

The Mayor reported that the ability of Overview and Scrutiny to provide overview was vital to the development of the Combined Authority. The Committee would be presented with the draft four year plan when available. Other Members commented on the value of the overview function of the Committee. One Member asked that the Committee ensure the two member appointments for one Portfolio Holder did not ask the same questions.

It was resolved unanimously to:

1. consider any written recommendation from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Board at consideration of the relevant report, and that the Chair was available to answer any questions the Board might wish to ask, at the discretion of the Mayor.
2. that should a further Combined Authority Plan be proposed, following the end of the first 100 day plan, that plan was developed in consultation with the Overview

and Scrutiny Committee and that all future similar plans brought forward were also developed in consultation with the Overview and scrutiny Committee.

3. to note that the Committee had agreed to appoint shadow portfolio holders from within the Overview and Scrutiny Committee membership (Appendix 1);
4. to note that the Committee had heard from the Mayor and two portfolio holders at their last two meetings. The Committee welcomed discussions with the portfolio holders and would propose that for future meetings:
  - a) the Portfolio Holders should prepare a 10 minute presentation for the Committee;
  - b) the Committee will send questions to portfolio holders in advance of the meeting but may ask a number of supplementary questions.

#### **79. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was resolved unanimously to note the date of the next meeting: Wednesday 27 September 2017 at 10.00am at Cambridge City Council, The Guildhall, Market Hill, Cambridge CB2 3QJ

Mayor